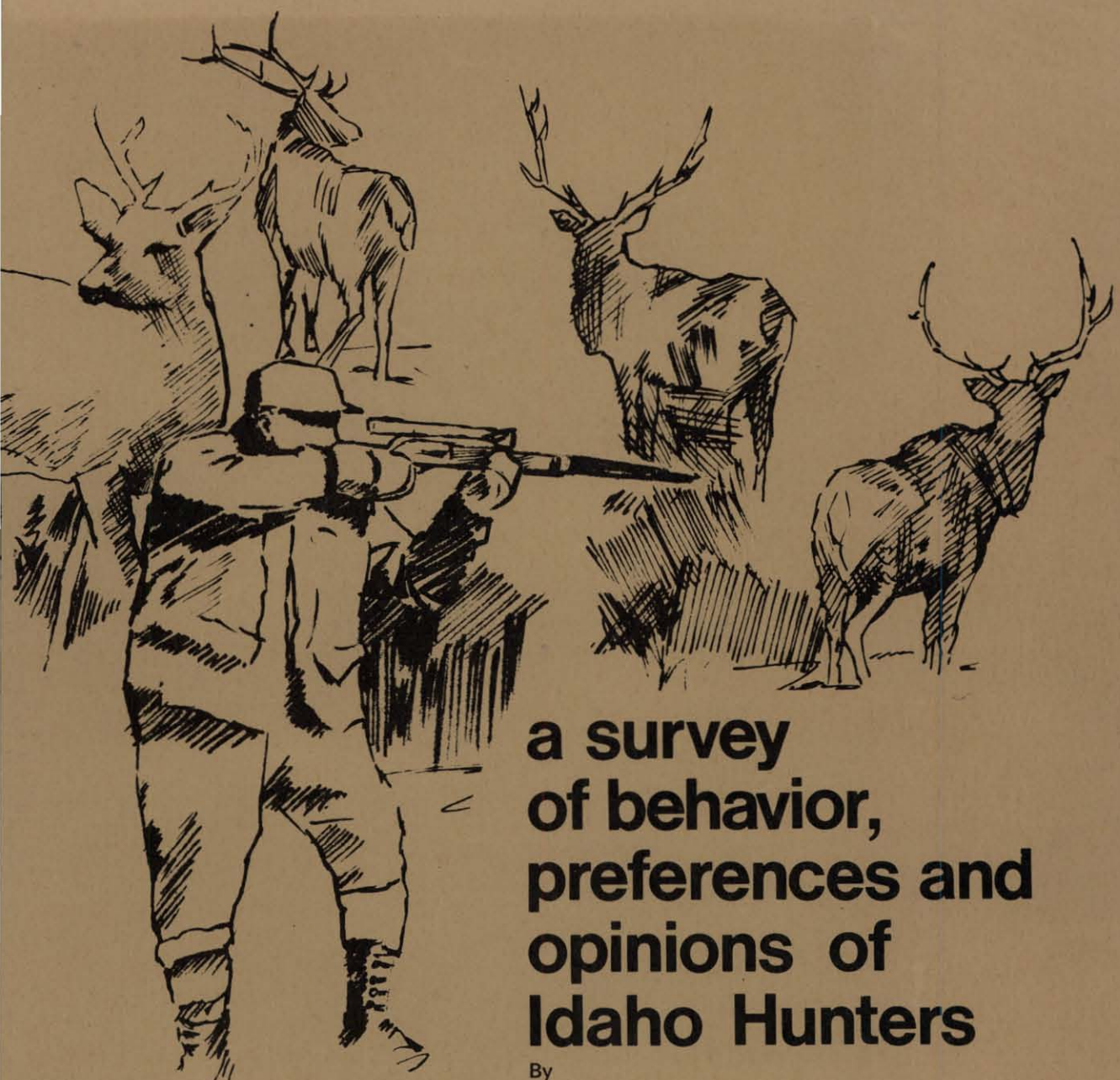




Forest, Wildlife and Range  
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# a survey of behavior, preferences and opinions of Idaho Hunters

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**A SURVEY OF  
BEHAVIOR, PREFERENCES, AND OPINIONS  
OF IDAHO HUNTERS**

by

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A Final Report

from

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of the

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

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## ABSTRACT

We conducted a questionnaire survey to describe the people who hunted in Idaho, their hunting activities and their preferences and opinions on management issues. We mailed questionnaires to 7,602 people with resident licenses and 2,638 with non-resident licenses to hunt in Idaho during 1971. Sixty-one percent of the residents and 71% of the non-residents completed and returned their questionnaires.

In 1971, 215,000 people purchased licenses to hunt in Idaho. Residents comprized 91% of the licensed hunters and nearly half the non-residents came from California. Most (76-92%) of the resident males in the 20-50 age groups purchased hunting licenses in 1971. More than half the resident hunters had incomes of \$7-15,000, but income was not an important factor in the decision of residents to purchase a hunting license. Non-residents who hunted in Idaho had larger incomes on average than residents.

Residents accounted for 92-97% of the days hunted for the major game species in 1971. Hunting for elk (and deer incidentally) amounted to 24% of the days reported by residents and 39% of non-residents. Hunting for deer, pheasants and ducks by residents amounted to 15, 17 and 17% respectively, of the days they hunted. The distribution of hunting within Idaho was related to the species sought and area of residence.

More than half (54-63% depending on type hunting) the residents who responded had hunted in Idaho six or more years and 46% of the non-residents were hunting in Idaho for the first time. Forty-three percent of the residents reported they hunted primarily for meat with only 2% after a trophy. Non-residents hunted mainly for relaxation, challenge of the hunt, trophy and opportunity to get out-of-doors.

Most residents (73%) preferred big game hunting over upland bird (19%) or waterfowl (9%) hunting. Nearly all (97%) of the non-residents with the combination or deer only licenses preferred big game hunting while 75% of those with the bird license preferred upland bird hunting. Fifty-seven percent of the residents preferred to hunt deer when big game hunting while 80% of the non-residents with the combination license preferred elk. Pheasants and ducks were the most preferred species of upland

birds and waterfowl. Many residents had no preference in the type deer or elk they bagged while more than half the non-residents preferred a large buck or bull, an attitude consistent with their reason for hunting (to bag a trophy).

A majority of residents ranked their hunting in Idaho as satisfactory or excellent, but one-third of the hunters ranked their big game hunting as unsatisfactory. Satisfaction with hunting was related to success in bagging an animal or birds. Residents listed lack of game, too many hunters, and not bagging game as the primary reasons for their dissatisfaction with hunting.

Nearly half the residents and one-fourth the non-residents expressed a lack of confidence in the game count and game kill information provided by the Idaho Fish and Game Department. A majority of the residents, with an opinion, thought Department personnel satisfactorily managed Idaho wildlife, but 42% wanted better management for deer, 38% for elk, and 20% for pheasants.

Most residents (86%) preferred to restrict the number of out-of-state hunters in Idaho. A majority of residents who knew the Idaho Fish and Game Commission policy on out-of-state hunters thought the Commission should have restricted the number of non-residents further. Forty percent of the residents thought competition with out-of-state hunters while hunting big game in 1971 was not noticeable or not objectionable while 33% believed there was too much competition. More than half the non-residents thought they should have equal opportunity with residents to hunt wildlife in states such as Idaho with large areas of federal land. Nearly three-fourths of the residents indicated they would pay more for hunting licenses and tags to make up for lost revenue if Idaho significantly restricted the number of out-of-state hunters.

In southern Idaho, most residents preferred the noon opening for pheasants rather than the early morning time, regardless of occupation. A majority of residents thought a limited number of hen pheasants should be harvested under special regulations. Opinion on providing hunting with game farm pheasants was evenly split, half of those with an opinion thought it was a good program and half thought it was a

poor program and should be discontinued.

A majority of the residents who thought they knew the policy and had an opinion approved of the current policy of the Fish and Game Department with regard to regulating big game numbers (" . . . number which natural range will support . . . ") and emergency winter feeding (" . . . only as a last resort."). Half the residents, however, thought the Department should attempt to increase big game herds through supplemental winter feeding. A majority of the residents thought the amount and condition of vegetation on the winter range was the proper basis for managing big game populations and that it was necessary to distribute supplemental salt for big game animals.

Ten percent of the residents wanted big game herds managed for "quantity" hunting, 21% wanted "quality" hunting, and 41% wanted both types of hunting available. Residents were

evenly split on shorter seasons or controlled hunts to restrict the harvest of big game animals. To increase the deer harvest, half the residents preferred to increase season length and half wanted extra tags, but there were differences between zones of the state.

Most residents (75%) and non-residents (73%) thought no more roads were needed for big game hunting in Idaho. Forty-eight percent of the residents thought there were already too many roads, no new ones should be constructed and some of the existing roads should be closed.

Law enforcement, habitat improvement, and emergency winter feeding were the activities of the Department that the largest proportion of residents thought were most important. Predator control, game farms, and access to hunting areas were the three activities a significant number of people thought should receive less emphasis from the Department.



## INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the public has become more interested in the policies and programs of public resource agencies. Administrators of these agencies found they needed better input from the public when choosing between the available management alternatives. Resource managers can no longer choose unilaterally and autocratically, however well intentioned, between alternative uses of publicly owned resources.

With this survey we sought information from members of the public who use Idaho wildlife resources for hunting. Fish and game managers needed a better description of the people who hunt in Idaho, their hunting activities and their opinions and preferences on important issues related to hunting and management of wildlife in Idaho.

Traditionally, fish and game managers in Idaho obtained their public input from personal contacts with local sportsmen and periodic attendance at the local, regional or statewide wildlife association meetings. However, only a small proportion of the people who hunted in Idaho during the early 1970's participated in organized clubs. The Idaho Fish and Game Commission held public hearings in conjunction with their periodic meetings to obtain public input but relatively few people took advantage of the opportunity to attend what often developed into "gripe sessions."

Traditional methods of obtaining public opinions and preferences on wildlife matters restricted the input to a relatively small group of "especially interested" people. In 1971, Idaho Fish and Game Department administrators decided to seek information from a larger, more diversified group of the hunting public regarding selected topics of special concern. They requested us (personnel of the Idaho Cooperative Fishery Unit) to conduct a questionnaire survey of Idaho hunters because of our experience with such surveys.

We recognize that the answers to many of our questions might be termed "gut reactions" because we did nothing more than ask the people to choose between alternatives. The people had to rely on their experiences and knowledge of the situation to answer the questions. In most cases we suspect the people were not as fully aware of the trade-offs associated with each alternative and did not have the type of information available to

the wildlife manager. Some people changed their minds on some issues when presented with the trade-offs and additional information (See Bjornn, 1975 A).

## SURVEY METHODS

We selected a sample of people who purchased Idaho hunting licenses in 1971, mailed them a questionnaire (and follow-ups if necessary) and then summarized their answers with the aid of a computer.

### Questionnaire Preparation and Content

Initially, wildlife managers in Idaho submitted to us their ideas of the questions to ask the public and the problems on which they needed public input. We then formulated a number of questions and met with the headquarters staff of the Idaho Fish and Game Department to select the topics to include in the survey and the precise wording of each question.

The questionnaire (Figure 1) contained questions to obtain four types of information: 1) demographic data on the people in the sample, 2) data on their behavior and activities while hunting, 3) their opinions and preferences on selected problems and possible management alternatives and 4) data on the economic expenditures of people related to hunting in Idaho.

### Sample Size

Our initial sample consisted of 10,240 people selected from the stubs of the five resident and non-resident license classes (Table 1). Nearly four percent of the names and addresses obtained from the stubs were not adequate for delivery by the U. S. Post Office so our net sample size was 9,841 people or 4.6% of the licenses sold in 1971.

The number of people we included in the sample from each license class was based on the expected rate of return for each class (information from previous surveys), number of license holders in each class and number in each residence zone.

We drew our sample from the resident license stubs systematically so the number of

**GOOD MANAGEMENT  
REQUIRES GOOD INFORMATION**



**A SURVEY  
of  
RESIDENT  
IDAHO  
HUNTERS**

College Of Forestry, Wildlife  
And Range Sciences  
University of Idaho  
Moscow

Dear Hunter:

This questionnaire is designed to assess your preferences and attitudes on a number of key issues and problems in Idaho wildlife management, your expenditures while hunting in Idaho, and to provide background information to help us describe people who hunt in Idaho. This is an opportunity for you to participate in decisions regarding the future management of wildlife in Idaho. Please take the time to provide us with the information requested.

Thank you.

1. How many years have you hunted each category of game in Idaho, and which type of hunting do you most prefer (Rank from 1 to 3)? Then list the one species in each category that you most prefer to hunt.

	Years Hunted		Preferred Species
	Hunted	Rank	
Big Game	_____	_____	_____
Upland Birds	_____	_____	_____
Waterfowl	_____	_____	_____

2. Rank (1 to 3) the three most important sources of your information about hunting and fishing regulations and wildlife management programs in Idaho:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Hunting and fishing magazines
- \_\_\_\_\_ Newspapers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Television
- \_\_\_\_\_ Radio
- \_\_\_\_\_ License vendors
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fish and Game Department regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Idaho Wildlife Review
- \_\_\_\_\_ Friends-hunting companions
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sportsmen club meetings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other (List) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Please estimate the number of miles your personal vehicle was driven in Idaho during SEPTEMBER, 1971, when you hunted:

	Miles driven
Big Game	_____
Upland Birds	_____
Waterfowl	_____

4. For each species of wildlife you hunted in Idaho during SEPTEMBER, 1971, please list the number of days you hunted in each area (See Map).

Species Hunted	Days Spent Hunting in Each Area:			
	Area		Days	
Only Elk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Only Deer	_____	_____	_____	_____
Deer & Elk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Antelope	_____	_____	_____	_____
Ducks	_____	_____	_____	_____
Geese	_____	_____	_____	_____
Chukars	_____	_____	_____	_____
Quail	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pheasant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Forest Grouse	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____	_____
(List)	_____	_____	_____	_____

5. Please indicate if you hunted in Idaho during SEPTEMBER, 1971. If you bagged some game, list the species and number taken.

	Hunted in September?		Species and number bagged
	Yes	No	
Big Game	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Upland Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Waterfowl	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

6. Why do you go hunting? Rank in order of importance (1 to 3) the three major reasons why you hunt with "1" the most important.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Meat
- \_\_\_\_\_ Trophy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Companionship
- \_\_\_\_\_ Isolation
- \_\_\_\_\_ Observe Wildlife
- \_\_\_\_\_ Relaxation-change of pace
- \_\_\_\_\_ Opportunity to get out of doors
- \_\_\_\_\_ Challenge of the hunt
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do not hunt
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other (List) \_\_\_\_\_

7. If you hunt for big game, which type of animal do you most prefer? (Check ONE for each species).

	Deer	Elk	Antelope
No preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fawn, calf, or kid	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does or cow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small buck or bull	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Large buck or bull	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Please mark the term below which best describes your degree of satisfaction with your hunting in Idaho (Check ONE in each game category)

	Big Game	Upland Birds	Waterfowl
Unsatisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No Opinion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. If you were not completely satisfied while hunting in Idaho, which reason was the most responsible for your lack of satisfaction? Check the single most important reason for each game category.

	Big Game	Upland Birds	Waterfowl
Did not bag game sought	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Too many hunters in the area hunted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not enough game	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outfitter and guide services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(describe)

10. Which of the following best expresses your feeling regarding out-of-state hunters and hunting of wildlife in Idaho? (Check ONE)

- Allow unrestricted numbers of out-of-state hunters in Idaho.
- Restrict the number of out-of-state hunters in Idaho.
- No Opinion.

If you believe out-of-state hunters should be restricted, which of the following do you prefer? (Check One)

- Out-of-state hunters should be allowed to hunt only in those areas where residents do not adequately harvest the game.
- Restrict the number of out-of-state hunters to 20% , 10% , or 5%  of all hunters.
- No out-of-state hunters should be allowed to hunt in Idaho.

11. If you hunted in Idaho during 1971, which of the categories below best describes your experiences with regard to competition with the out-of-state hunters? (Check ONE for each game category)

	Big Game	Upland Birds	Waterfowl
Not noticeable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noticeable, but not objectionable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Too much competition from non-residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No Opinion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. Which of the following best expresses your feeling regarding the Fish and Game Commission's limitation on the number of out-of-state big game hunters in 1971? (Check ONE)

- Should have allowed more out-of-state hunters.
- Should have reduced the number of out-of-state hunters further.
- Allowed about the right number.
- Do not know about restrictions.
- No Opinion.

13. If the number of out-of-state hunters were significantly restricted, would you be willing to pay increased annual fees to help make up for the lost revenue from license and tag sales?

	If yes, how much?			
	No	\$1	\$3	\$5 More
Hunting Licenses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elk Tag	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deer Tag	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. Which of the following best describes your views regarding the distributing of supplemental salt for big game in certain areas? (Check ONE)

- Necessary and should be continued or expanded.
- Unnecessary and should be curtailed or stopped.
- No Opinion.

Figure 1. — Questionnaire sent to people who purchased licenses to hunt in Idaho during 1971.





Table 1. — The number of Idaho hunting licenses sold in 1971, people in initial sample, people in sample with undeliverable addresses, net number of people in sample (adjusted for undeliverables), percentage of people with licenses who were included in sample, number of questionnaires returned with usable information, percentage of people in sample who returned questionnaires and the returned questionnaires as a percentage of the licenses sold.

License class	Licenses sold		Number in sample				Questionnaires returned		
	Number	Percentage of grand total	Initial number	Number of undeliverables	Net number	Percentage of licenses	Number	Percentage of net number in sample	Percentage of licenses sold
<b>Resident</b>									
Combination (01)	123,953	57.6	4801	175	4626	3.7	2961	64.0	2.4
Hunting only (02)	<u>71,491</u>	33.2	<u>2801</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>2673</u>	3.7	<u>1469</u>	55.0	2.1
Total	195,444	90.9	7602	303	7299	3.7	4430	60.7	2.3
<b>Non-resident</b>									
Combination (10)	9,612	4.5	1260	35	1225	12.7	947	77.3	9.9
Birds only (11)	6,130	2.9	839	43	796	13.0	533	67.0	8.7
Deer only (17)	<u>3,845</u>	1.8	<u>539</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>521</u>	13.6	<u>361</u>	69.3	9.4
Total	19,587	9.2	2638	96	2542	13.0	1841	71.0	9.4
Grand total	215,031	100.0	10,240	399	9841	4.6	6271	63.7	2.9

people in our sample from each residence zone (Figure 2 and Table 2) in Idaho was in approximate proportion to the number of licenses purchased by residents in each zone. The small number (149) of people in our sample from the Salmon River drainage zone reflected the small population in that zone. We accepted the smaller sample size from that zone because of the problems of finding stubs for residents of that zone and then properly weighting their responses.

We drew samples from the non-resident license stubs randomly without regard to residence zone for the bird hunting license and by residence zone for the combination and deer hunting licenses. We wanted 100 and 50 respectively, completed questionnaires from non-residents in each residence zone who purchased the combination and deer hunting licenses. We sent questionnaires to approximately 150 persons selected at random from each non-resident zone who had purchased the combination license and to 75 persons with deer licenses. The larger number of non-residents in our sample from the California and Wyoming-Nevada zones (Table 2) resulted from the larger number of persons in those zones who purchased bird hunting licenses.

The sample of 6,271 completed, usable questionnaires comprized 2.9% of all licensed hunters in 1971 (Table 1). We obtained

information from 2.3% of the residents and 9.4% of the non-residents. Although we included only 2.3% of the residents in the survey, the 4,430 questionnaires from residents were more than adequate from a statistical viewpoint. If we had chosen to select the sample in a random rather than systematic fashion we could have reduced the sample size for residents. The cost and difficulty of preparing the license stubs to permit random sampling were the main reasons we sampled in a systematic fashion and used the larger sample size.

Table 2. — The number of questionnaires mailed, number returned and percentage returned for each residence zone of survey.

Residence zones	Questionnaires		Percentage returned
	mailed	returned	
<b>In Idaho</b>			
1. Panhandle	871	538	61.8
2. Clearwater	853	544	63.8
3. Salmon	149	101	67.8
4. Southwest	2106	1223	58.1
5. Southcentral	1570	909	57.9
6. Southeast	2053	1115	54.3
<b>Outside Idaho</b>			
7. Washington	294	229	77.9
8. Oregon	247	188	76.1
9. California	460	312	67.8
10. Wyoming-Nevada	635	416	65.6
11. North Dakota-Arizona	240	193	80.4
12. Wisconsin-Texas	264	170	64.4
13. Michigan-Louisiana	245	164	66.9
14. Maine-Florida	253	169	66.8
Totals	10,240	6,271	



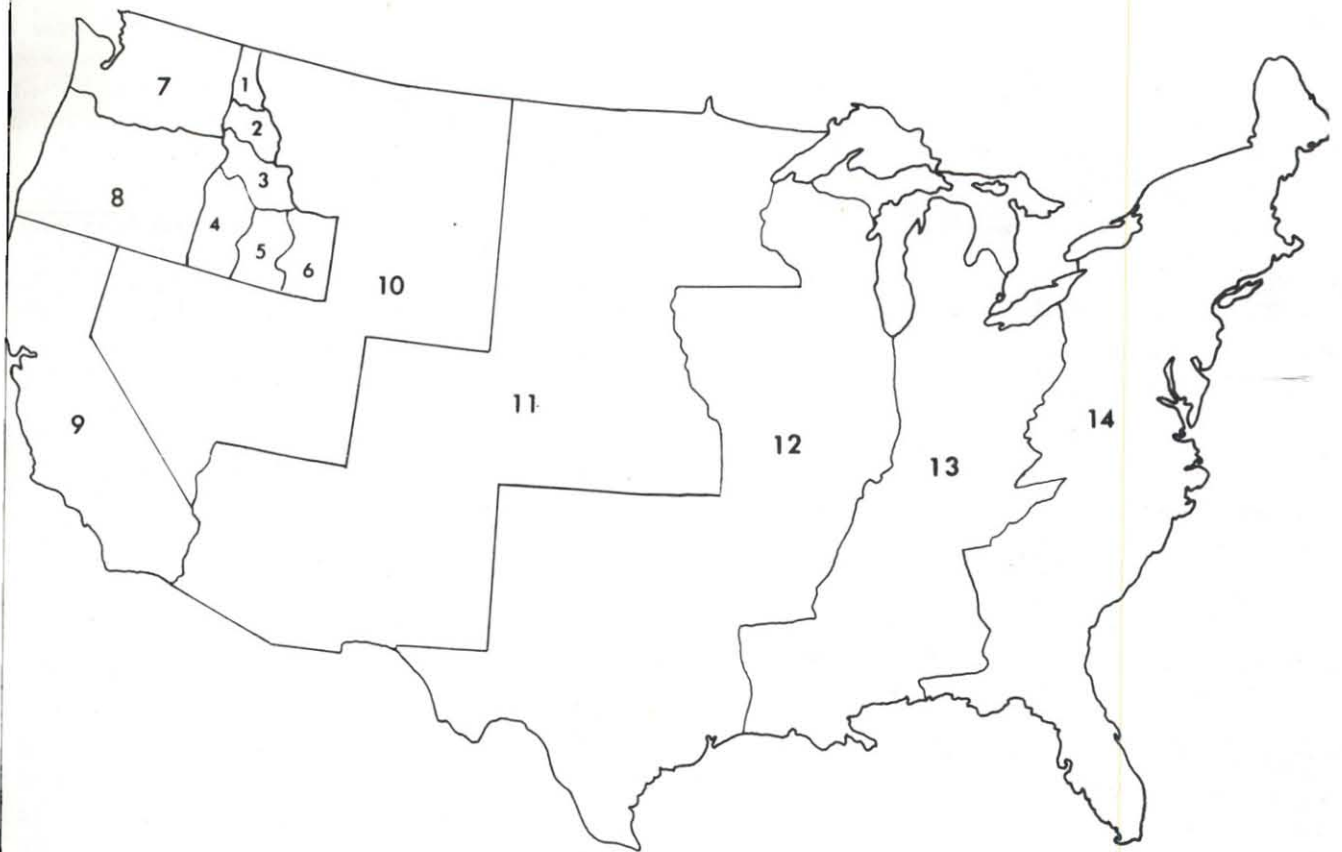


Figure 2. — Residence zones used in survey of people who hunted in Idaho in 1971.

### Mailing List Preparation and Mailing

Rather than send out all the questionnaires after the 1971 hunting season was completed, we mailed questionnaires after each of the four months of the season; September, October, November and December. Within 10 days after the end of each month we prepared a mailing list and mailed questionnaires, usually within 15 days, to a sample of people who had purchased licenses prior to the end of the previous month. For example, during the first 10 days of October we prepared a mailing list from the license stubs returned to the Fish and Game Department through October 5-8. We sampled on a monthly basis to improve the accuracy of the expenditure data and to assess changes in attitudes as the season progressed.

The mailing lists for residents and non-residents in each month's sample were prepared in two ways. The residents were selected systematically from the file of license stubs available at the end of each month.

License stubs were bound together in packets of 10 and we selected one stub from each packet included in the sample. For each month we calculated the number of packets required in the sample and randomly selected which license stub to pull from each packet. We selected a different license in each packet for each month to avoid sampling the same person more than once.

Once the stubs were selected, the name and address on the stub was entered on key punch cards along with a serial number. The serial number consisted of three parts: the license class (01, 02, 10, 11 or 17), the zone of residence (1 to 14) and an identification number. The key punch cards were sorted by license class and zone of residence and three sets of mailing labels were printed from the data on the cards.

The non-resident mailing list was selected randomly from the license stubs of the three non-resident license classes. The name and address on each non-resident hunting license

stub was entered on key punch cards along with a serial number. A random number deck was prepared each month (without replacement) and then matched with the key punch cards to select the persons in the sample. The selection of persons was stratified by residence zone for the combination and deer hunting licenses.

We sent approximately one-sixth of the questionnaires out after the months of September and December and one-third after the months of October and November because most of the hunting activity occurred during October and November (Table 3). We had adequate numbers of people in the sample from each month, license class and residence zone with the possible exception of the Salmon River

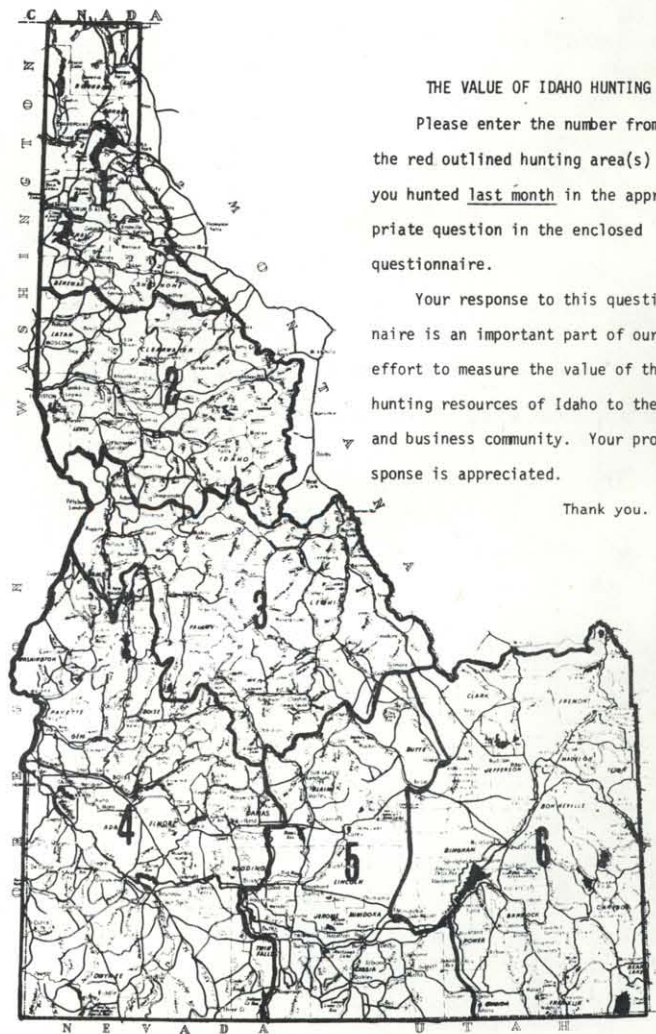
drainage zone for the months of September and December.

Once the mailing labels were prepared, the serial number was written on the bottom of an appropriate questionnaire (resident or non-resident) and it was placed in an envelope with a letter explaining the survey, a map (Figure 3) of the six areas in Idaho that related to questions in the questionnaire and a self-addressed envelope. One of the three labels was then placed on the envelope and the questionnaire was ready for mailing.

We usually mailed the questionnaires for each month between the 10th and 20th of the following month. Most people who returned the

Table 3. — The number of people we sent questionnaires to by month, license class and zone of residence.

License class and residence zone	Questionnaires mailed by end of month			
	September	October	November	December
<b>Resident combination (01)</b>				
Panhandle	93	177	176	121
Clearwater	116	177	185	106
Salmon	13	32	30	18
Southwest	215	388	398	252
Southcentral	179	308	314	186
Southeast	254	414	397	252
Subtotal	870	1496	1500	935
<b>Resident hunt (02)</b>				
Panhandle	71	95	91	47
Clearwater	49	81	81	58
Salmon	9	22	15	10
Southwest	199	255	235	164
Southcentral	136	173	166	108
Southeast	157	210	218	151
Subtotal	621	836	806	538
<b>Non-resident combination (10)</b>				
Washington	27	54	54	27
Oregon	25	50	50	25
California	27	54	54	27
Wyoming-Nevada	25	50	50	25
North-Dakota-Arizona	25	50	50	25
Wisconsin-Texas	27	54	54	27
Michigan-Louisiana	27	54	54	27
Maine-Florida	27	54	54	27
Subtotal	210	420	420	210
<b>Non-resident bird (11)</b>				
Washington	3	33	14	11
Oregon	3	13	18	3
California	42	74	76	44
Wyoming-Nevada	79	132	138	66
North-Dakota-Arizona	1	12	14	3
Wisconsin-Texas	4	10	8	8
Michigan-Louisiana	3	1	5	2
Maine-Florida	3	7	5	4
Subtotal	138	282	278	141
<b>Non-resident deer (17)</b>				
Washington	12	23	24	12
Oregon	10	21	20	9
California	12	24	24	12
Wyoming-Nevada	10	20	20	10
North-Dakota-Arizona	10	20	20	10
Wisconsin-Texas	12	24	24	12
Michigan-Louisiana	12	24	24	12
Maine-Florida	12	24	24	12
Subtotal	90	180	180	89
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1919</b>	<b>3214</b>	<b>3184</b>	<b>1913</b>



**THE VALUE OF IDAHO HUNTING**  
Please enter the number from the red outlined hunting area(s) where you hunted last month in the appropriate question in the enclosed questionnaire.

Your response to this questionnaire is an important part of our effort to measure the value of the hunting resources of Idaho to the sports and business community. Your prompt response is appreciated.

Thank you.

Figure 3. — Map of Idaho included with the questionnaires to identify the six hunting areas used in the survey.



questionnaire did so within 20-30 days (Figure 4). As the questionnaires came back, we noted the serial number and destroyed the remaining two labels for that number. After three weeks, we prepared a second questionnaire with letter, map and return envelope for each label remaining in the second set of labels and mailed them to the non-respondents. We repeated this procedure a second time after an additional three weeks. We, therefore, sent questionnaires to people in the sample up to three times if they did not respond to the initial or second mailing.

We contacted resident non-respondents in our October sample a fourth time by asking Fish and Game Department Conservation Officers to deliver a fourth copy of the questionnaire. The Conservation Officers were instructed to contact the non-respondents, give

them the questionnaire, urge them to fill it out and then leave. The officers were not to wait for the questionnaire.

### Questionnaires Returned

The 6,271 questionnaires returned by people from all license classes amounted to a 63.7% return of the 9,841 actually mailed (excluding undeliverables, Table 1). The rate of return varied directly with the cost of the license (Table 4). Seventy-five percent of the people who purchased the \$135.00 non-resident, combination license returned their questionnaires after two follow-up contacts compared to only 48% for the residents who purchased the \$3.00 hunting license.

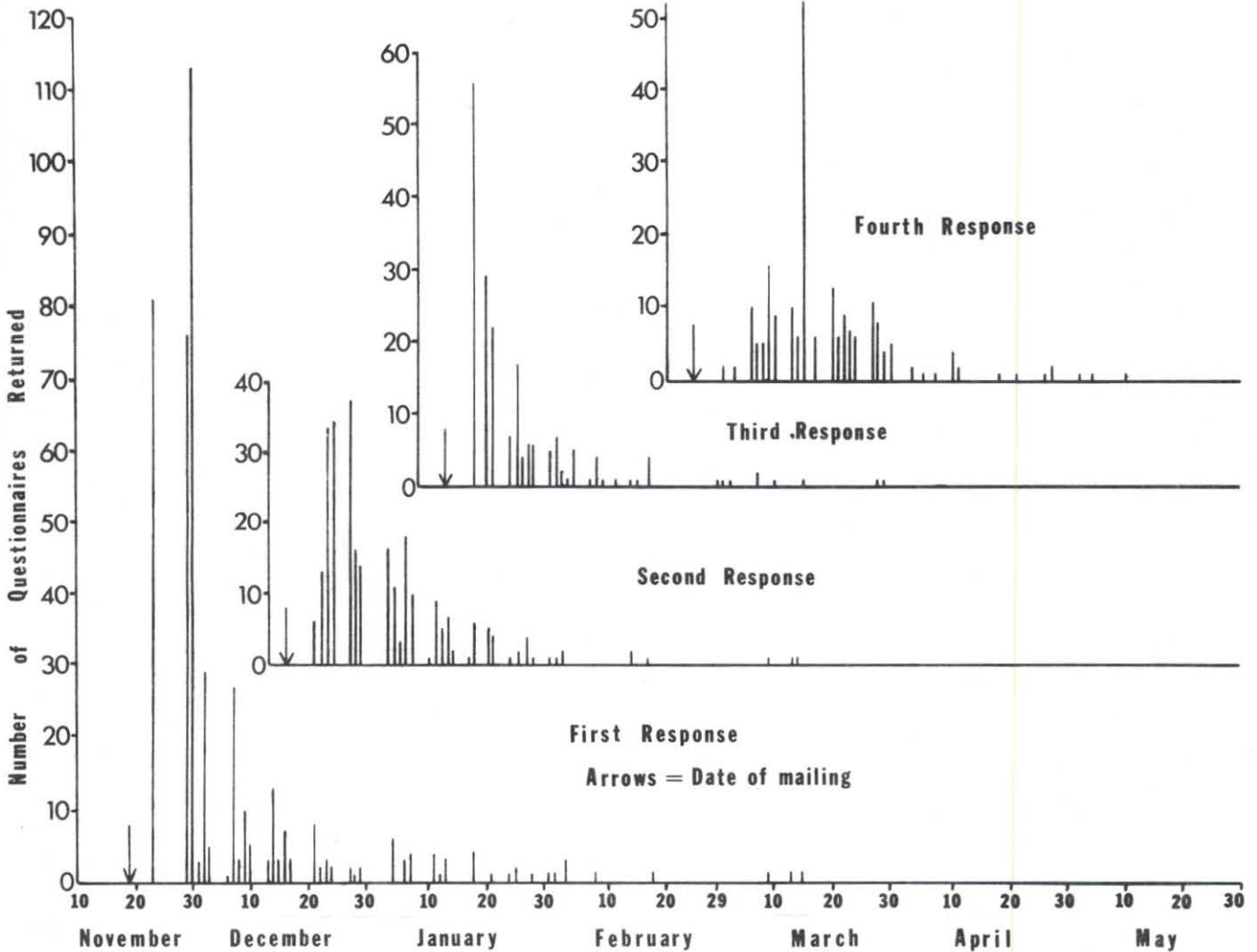


Figure 4. — The number of questionnaires returned by date from the first, second and third mailings and conservation officer followup for the October sampling of residents.



Table 4. — The number of questionnaires mailed initially and with each followup and the number and percentages returned. The third followup consisted of a personal contact by a conservation officer of the Idaho residents who had not responded to the questionnaire sent out for the October sampling period.

	License classes				
	Resident		Non-resident		
	Combination	Hunt only	Combination	Birds	Deer
Cost of license	\$6.00	\$3.00	\$135.00	\$35.00	\$75.00
<b>Initial mailing</b>					
Number mailed	4801	2801	1260	880	539
Number returned	1402	613	569	295	190
Percentage	29.2	21.9	45.2	33.5	35.3
<b>First follow-up</b>					
Number mailed	3493	2278	786	604	400
Number returned	1027	462	279	177	122
Percentage	29.4	20.3	35.5	29.3	30.5
Cumulative return	2429	1075	848	472	312
Percentage	50.6	38.4	67.3	53.6	57.9
<b>Second follow-up</b>					
Number mailed	2385	1748	497	419	269
Number returned	343	267	99	61	49
Percentage	14.4	15.3	19.9	14.6	18.2
Cumulative returns	2772	1342	947	533	361
Percentage	57.7	47.9	75.2	60.6	67.0
<b>Third follow-up</b>					
Number contacted	505	450			
Number returned	188	127			
Percentage	37.2	28.2			
Cumulative return	2960	1469			
Percentage	61.7	52.4			

With three contacts by mail in the October sample, 61% of the people who purchased combination licenses and 45% who had purchased hunting-only licenses had returned a questionnaire. Following the contact by officers 73 and 60% of the two groups returned questionnaires (Table 5).

Table 5. — The number of questionnaires mailed and the number and percentage returned by residents in the October sampling period.

	Resident	
	Combination	Hunt only
<b>Initial mailing</b>		
Number mailed	1496	836
Number returned	450	169
Percentage	30.1	20.2
<b>First follow-up</b>		
Number mailed	1148	704
Number returned	376	120
Percentage	32.8	17.0
Cumulative return	826	289
Percentage	55.2	34.6
<b>Second follow-up</b>		
Number mailed	758	572
Number returned	84	87
Percentage	11.1	15.2
Cumulative return	910	376
Percentage	60.8	45.0
<b>Third follow-up</b>		
Number contacted	505	450
Number returned	188	127
Percentage	37.2	28.2
Cumulative return	1098	503
Percentage	73.4	60.2

## Processing the Data

After the questionnaires had been returned, we transferred the data to key punch forms and then to punch cards for processing by computer. Programmers from the University Computer Center prepared programs to sort, weight and summarize the data.

Because our sampling and the response rates of people in each license class and/or residence zone were not uniform we had to weight the data whenever we combined data from different classes or zones. The weighting factors were the proportion of total licenses sold in each class or zone. Data from the non-resident combination and deer hunting license holders were weighted two or more times; once to combine data from zones and then from classes.

The data summaries we received from the computer center contained the responses to most questions by license class, zone of residence and by answers to other questions. The responses to some questions did not differ by license class or zone of residence and we did not include in this report the full data output in those cases.

## Non-response Bias

Since 37% of the people in our sample did not return a completed questionnaire, we had to determine if significant differences in attitudes and preferences existed between people who did or did not fill out and return a questionnaire. We evaluated the likelihood of differences in attitudes and preferences by comparing the responses of people who replied to the initial mailing and each follow-up. We also extrapolated a line through the plotted points of response — percentage of total sample to obtain an estimate of the response if 100% of the people in the sample had returned their questionnaires (Figure 5). We used the data from the October sampling period because we had three follow-ups in addition to the initial mailing and we obtained completed questionnaires from a large percentage of the people in the sample.

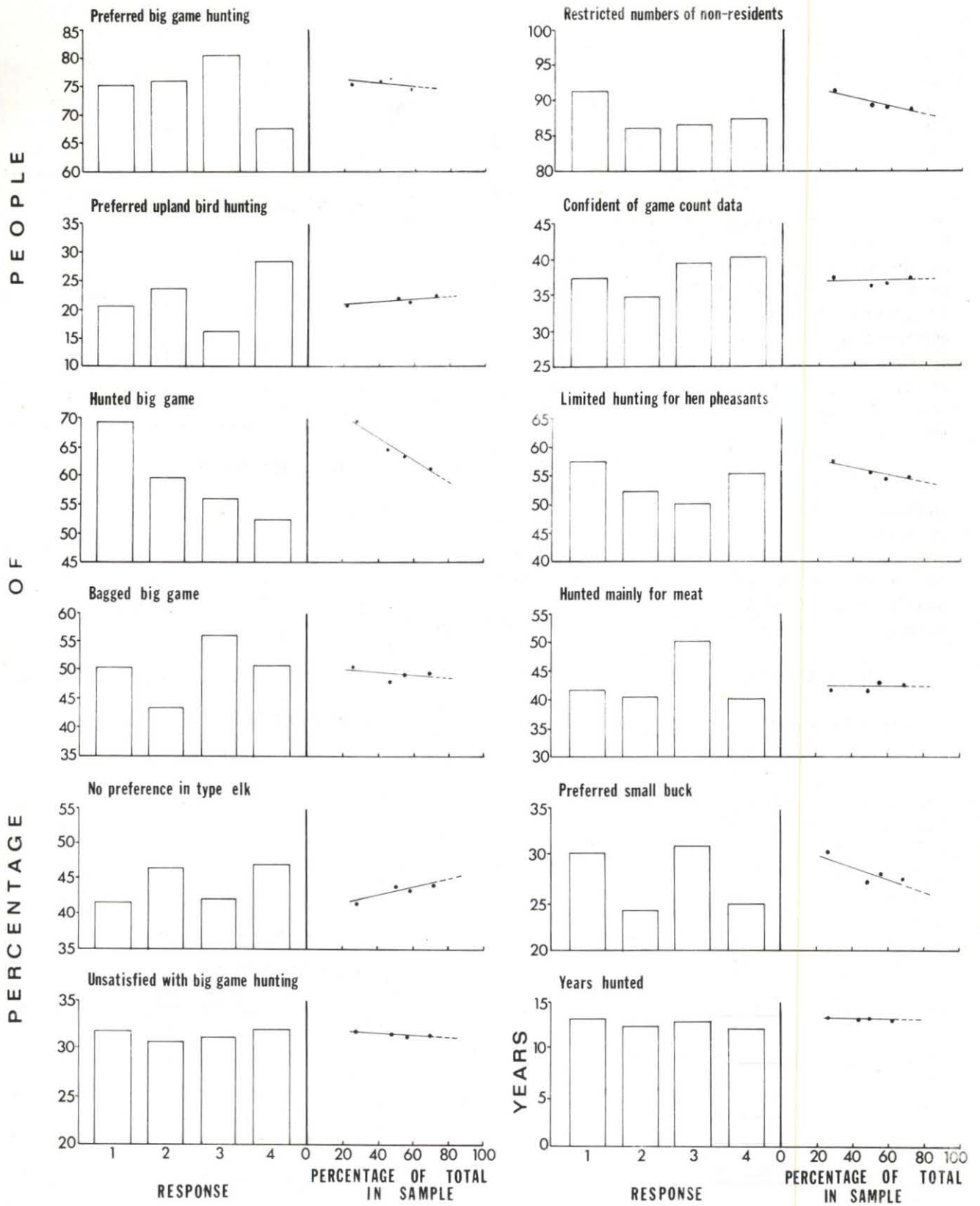


Figure 5. — The percentage of people who preferred big game hunting, etc., for the first, second, third or fourth response and the percentage for the cumulative response expressed as a percentage of the total sample.



The response of people to most questions in the questionnaire did not vary significantly regardless of whether they responded to the initial contact or one of the follow-up contacts (Figure 5). The percentage of people who had hunted for big game (Question 5) varied between the first and latter follow-up contacts. Sixty-nine percent of the people who responded to the first mailing of the questionnaire had hunted for big game in October, but only 52% of the people who responded after the fourth contact (by conservation officers) had hunted. If all people in the sample had responded, our estimated percentage who hunted big game in October would be approximately 55% (by extrapolating the regression line in Figure 5) rather than the 69% reported by respondents to the first mailing.

There were some small differences in responses to the attitude and preference questions between respondents to the first mailing, to all contacts and the projected response from all people in the sample (Figure 5). In all cases the differences in response were small and probably insignificant from a management viewpoint. We did not try to adjust the data for the small differences in non-response bias that might have been present.

### Response by Month

We sampled the hunters after each month of the hunting season primarily to improve the accuracy of the economic data we requested. By asking people to report their expenditures for only the previous month we hoped to avoid the inaccuracies of faulty memory. Some people in the survey reported hunting activity and/or expenditures for months other than for the one requested and we therefore obtained overestimates for the number of days hunted, miles traveled and non-durable expenditures. Because of these overestimates, we did not obtain full benefit from questions 3, 4, 5 and 31 (Figure 1).

We also wanted to see if attitudes and preferences changed during the season. Although there were some small differences in response, as illustrated in Figure 6, the differences were not significant from a management viewpoint. We combined the data for all months in the presentations of responses to the attitude and preference questions presented later in this report.

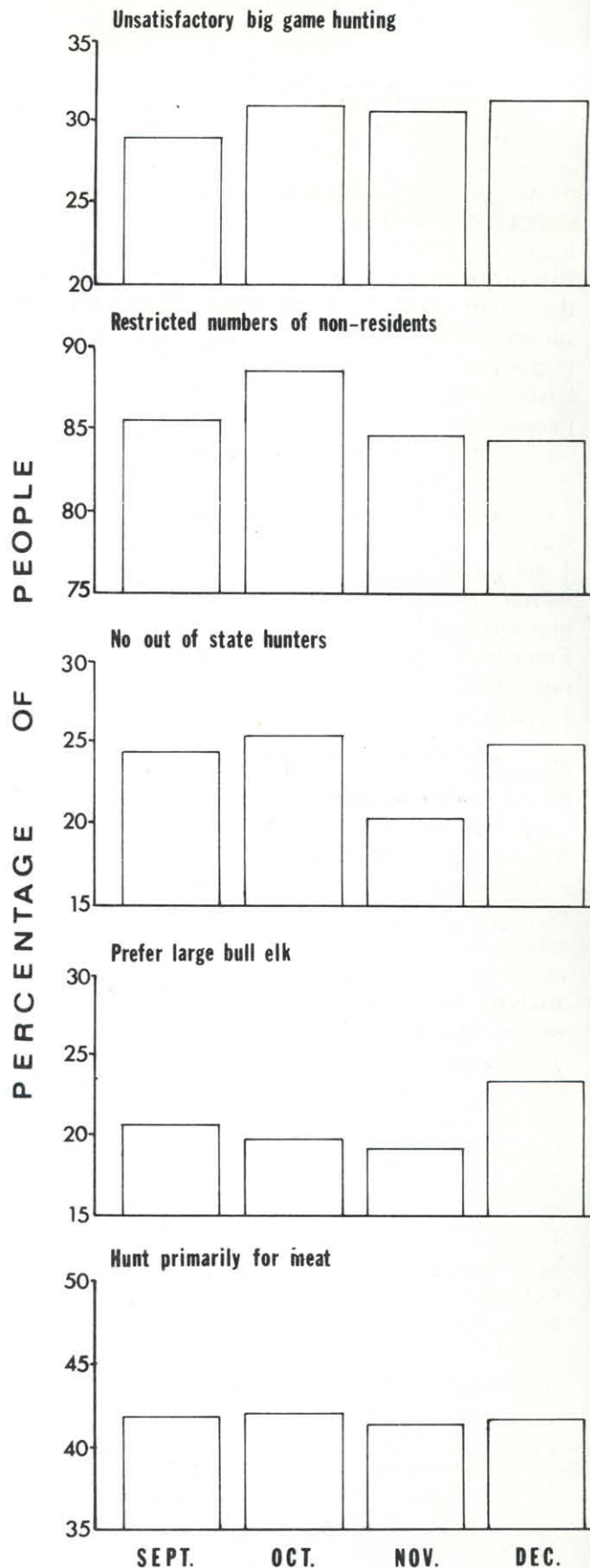


Figure 6. — Examples of the opinions and preferences of residents according to the month of sampling.



## Ranking of Preferences

In some of the questions we asked the people to rank in order of importance their sources of information, reasons for hunting and beliefs regarding management activities. Although we asked for a ranking of 1 to 3, with the item ranked 1 as most important, we summarized the data on the basis of most important (1) rankings. To see if an analysis based on composite rankings of the number of people who ranked each item as 1, 2, or 3 might have yielded different results, we analyzed question 20 (management activities) using composite rankings (Table 6). Law enforcement was the activity most frequently ranked number 1 followed by habitat improvement, emergency winter feeding, acquisition of wildlife areas, management programs, and predator control. Emergency winter feeding was the activity ranked either 1, 2 or 3 by the most people followed by habitat improvement, law enforcement, acquisition of wildlife areas, management programs and predator control. Based on the weighted score, law enforcement would lead as the most important activity followed by emergency winter feeding, habitat improvement, acquisition of wildlife areas, management programs and predator control. The relative importance of the various activities did not change significantly regardless of the analysis we used. Law enforcement, emergency winter feeding and habitat improvement ended up as close contenders for the most important activity ranking in all three methods of analysis.

Table 6. — The number of people who ranked each management activity with a 1, 2 or 3 and a weighted score for each activity obtained by multiplying the number of 1 rankings by 3, 2 rankings by 2, and 3 rankings by 1 and then summing the products.

Activity	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3	Total	Weighted score
Predator control	283	178	193	609	1263
Habitat improvement	543	429	385	1357	2872
Law enforcement	636	378	321	1335	2985
Management programs	271	396	311	978	1916
Game farms	46	67	108	221	380
Winter feeding	523	475	395	1393	2914
Land acquisition	273	423	306	1002	1971
Improved access	122	170	197	489	903
Information programs	84	132	259	475	775
Research and evaluation	92	142	273	507	833
Others	45	16	18	79	185

## THE IDAHO HUNTER

### Residence, Age, Sex, Occupation and Income

In 1971, 215,000 people bought licenses to hunt in Idaho. Ninety-one percent of the people were residents and 9% non-residents. Seventy-five percent of the residents who hunted in Idaho resided in the southern part of the state, while 66% of the non-resident hunters lived in surrounding states and California (Table 7). Californians comprised the largest single group of non-resident hunters (47%).

A high proportion of the males in the Idaho population purchased licenses to hunt or fish in 1971 (Table 8). In the age 20-49 age groups three-fourths or more of the males in Idaho purchased licenses in 1971. A large group of resident males with opinions and preferences which differ from those reported in the survey does not exist in Idaho because most males in Idaho older than 20 purchase hunting licenses. Only a small proportion (less than three percent) of the women in Idaho purchased hunting licenses in 1971, so we know little about their opinion and preferences regarding Idaho wildlife.

Table 7. — Residence of persons who purchased licenses to hunt in Idaho in 1971.

Zone of residence	Percentage of resident hunters	Zone of residence	Percentage of non-resident hunters
1. Panhandle	11.6	7. Washington	9.2
2. Clearwater	11.4	8. Oregon	2.4
3. Salmon	2.0	9. California	47.3
4. Southwest	28.1	10. Montana-Nevada	7.0
5. Southcentral	20.9	11. Minnesota-Arizona	4.3
6. Southeast	26.0	12. Wisconsin-Texas	11.3
		13. Michigan-Louisiana	9.7
		14. Maine-Florida	8.8
	100.0		100.0

Table 8. — The number of males of various ages living in Idaho during the 1970 census, males who purchased hunting licenses in 1971 and the estimated percentage of resident males in Idaho who purchased hunting licenses.

Age groups	Males in Idaho	Resident males who purchased licenses	Percentage of males who purchased license
Less than 19	148,160	33,606	22.7
20-29	48,454	40,468	83.5
30-39	37,307	34,310	92.0
40-49	38,126	29,559	77.5
50-59	36,953	22,697	61.4
60 and older	46,750	15,307	32.7

The age distribution of residents who purchased hunting licenses in 1971 differed from the age distribution of males in the Idaho population according to the 1970 census (Figure 7). A smaller proportion of the older members of the population purchased licenses compared to the age groups less than 30 years of age.

Residents who hunted in Idaho were younger on the average than non-residents (Figure 7). Sixty-two percent of the resident hunters were less than 40 years old and 57% of the non-resident hunters were 40 years of age or older.

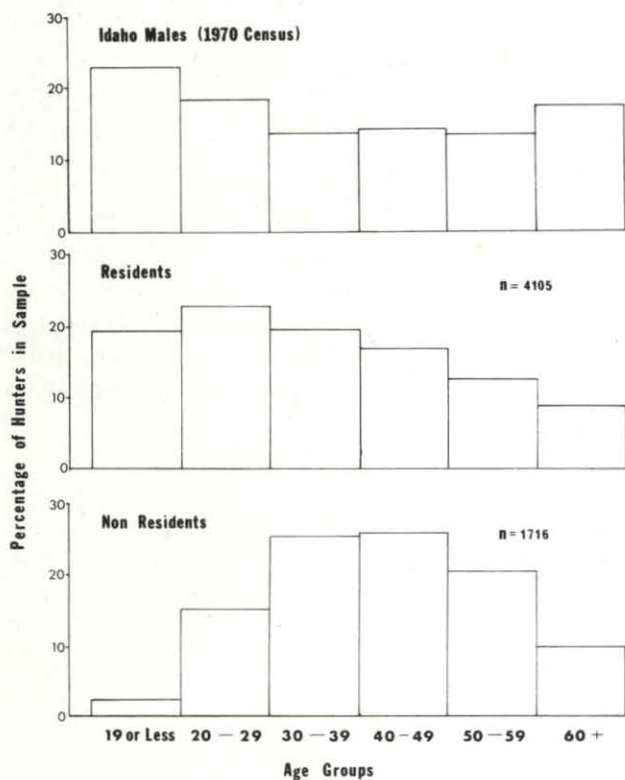


Figure 7. — Age distribution of Idaho males (1970 census), residents and non-residents in 1971 survey.

Hunting in Idaho in 1971 was mostly by males. Ninety percent of the residents and 98% of the non-residents who purchased licenses in Idaho were males.

Most (70%) people who hunted in Idaho had occupations classified as professional, operatives (small shop operators, etc), or craftsmen (Figure 8). The composition of hunters by occupation grouping was similar for both residents and non-residents. People that we classified as having professional or student

occupations made up a larger proportion of the resident license holders than in the male population classified during the 1970 census.

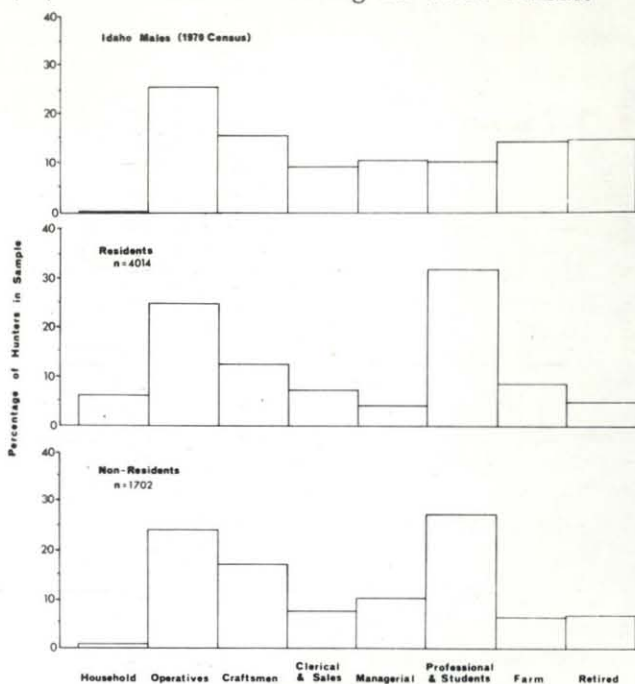


Figure 8. — Percentage of Idaho male (1970 census), residents and non-residents in various occupational groupings in the survey.

The distribution of resident hunters by income group was similar to the distribution nationwide and in Idaho with most people having incomes of \$7-15,000 (Figure 9). The income of Idaho residents was not an important factor in their decision to hunt. Non-residents who hunted in Idaho had larger incomes than resident hunters. The model groups of non-residents had incomes of \$10-20,000. Fifteen percent of the residents had incomes larger than \$15,000 in 1971 compared to 49.5% of the non-residents who hunted in Idaho.

### Distribution of Hunting Effort — 1971

The estimated number of days hunted for the major game species by residents comprised more than 90% of the total days of hunting in 1971 (Table 9, Question 4). Non-residents made up 12% of the elk hunters, put in 8% of the days expended for elk and bagged 17% of the elk killed. Nine percent of the deer hunters were non-residents, they put in 7% of the days hunted for deer and bagged 10% of the deer harvested.



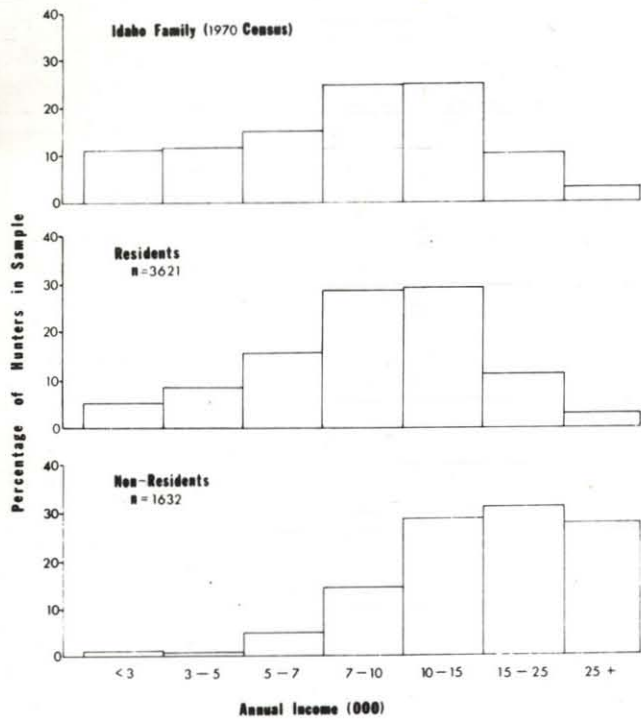


Figure 9. — Percentage of Idaho families (1970 census) and resident and non-resident families in 1971 survey with annual incomes as listed.

Table 9. — The percentage of the estimated total days hunted for elk, deer, pheasants, ducks and forest grouse in Idaho during 1971 by residents versus non-residents.

Game hunted	Percentage of days	
	Residents	Non-residents
Elk	92.1	7.9
Deer	93.3	6.7
Pheasants	95.1	4.9
Ducks	97.4	2.6
Forest grouse	96.9	3.1

Table 10. — The percentage of the estimated total days hunted by residents and non-residents spent on the major game species.

Game hunted	Residents	Non-residents
Elk (and deer incidentally)	24.4	38.7
Deer only	15.0	19.9
Antelope	.4	.2
Pheasants	16.7	16.0
Chukars	5.9	5.3
Quail	3.9	2.6
Forest grouse	9.2	5.4
Ducks	16.8	8.3
Geese	7.7	3.7
	100.0	100.1

Of all the days spent hunting by residents in 1971, one-fourth were put in primarily for elk (with deer incidental) 15% for deer, 17% for each pheasants and ducks and 9% for forest grouse (Table 10, Question 4). Thirty-nine percent of the days spent hunting by non-residents were primarily for elk, 20% for deer and 16% for pheasants.

Residents distributed their hunting for elk throughout the state (Table 11, Question 4). The largest proportion of the days (26%) were hunted in the Clearwater zone followed by the Panhandle, Southwestern and Salmon. The Salmon and Clearwater zones, with only 2.0 and 11.4%, respectively, of the hunter population within the state, accommodated 45% of the days of elk hunting. Non-residents did most of their hunting for elk in the Salmon and Clearwater zones.

Hunting for deer by residents took place closer to home (Table 11). Most of the days non-residents spent hunting for deer only were spent in the Southeastern and Salmon zones.

Most of the days spent pheasant hunting by residents were expended in Southern Idaho (Table 11). Non-residents also hunted mainly in Southern Idaho but they concentrated in the Southcentral zone while residents put in the most days in the Southwestern zone.

The Panhandle zone supported the largest percentage of the days hunted for forest grouse by residents followed by the Clearwater and Southeastern zones (Table 11). Most hunting for forest grouse by non-residents took place in the Clearwater and Salmon zones, the same areas

Most hunting for ducks by residents took place in the Southern zones with 48% in Southwestern Idaho (Table 11). Non-residents expended the largest percentage of days for ducks in the Southeastern zone.

### Years Hunted in Idaho

Most residents had hunted in Idaho six or more years and most non-residents five or fewer years (Figure 10). Nearly half (46%) of the non-residents hunting big game were hunting in Idaho for the first time.

In general, residents who purchased the hunting only license and non-residents who purchased the deer hunting only license had hunted big game fewer years in Idaho than



Table 11. — The percentage of the days hunted by residents and non-residents for elk (primarily but deer also), deer, pheasants, forest grouse and ducks in each zone of the state in 1971 and the distribution of the statewide hunter population.

Species hunted	Percentage in each zone of state						Total percent
	Pan-handle	Clear-water	Salmon	South-western	South-central	South-eastern	
Resident hunters	11.6	11.4	2.0	28.1	20.9	26.0	100.0
Days hunted for:							
<u>Elk (deer incidentally)</u>							
Residents	21.1	26.0	18.9	19.1	2.5	12.4	100.0
Non-residents	9.4	38.4	36.9	2.8	1.3	11.2	100.0
<u>Deer only</u>							
Residents	18.0	9.0	6.4	32.1	10.6	24.0	100.1
Non-residents	3.5	8.1	30.3	14.6	9.1	34.5	100.1
<u>Pheasants</u>							
Residents	2.4	4.2	1.3	43.1	30.0	19.0	100.0
Non-residents	0	2.2	0	27.9	55.0	14.9	100.0
<u>Forest grouse</u>							
Residents	40.2	19.7	8.6	13.8	3.3	14.4	100.0
Non-residents	7.9	40.7	33.3	2.7	5.3	10.1	100.0
<u>Ducks</u>							
Residents	6.1	1.7	2.3	48.1	20.8	21.0	100.0
Non-residents	1.1	0	1.7	19.9	30.3	47.0	100.0

those who purchased the combination licenses (Table 12). Residents with the combination

license had also hunted upland birds and waterfowl more years than residents with the hunting only license. Non-residents with the bird hunting license had hunted upland birds and waterfowl more years than non-residents with the combination license.

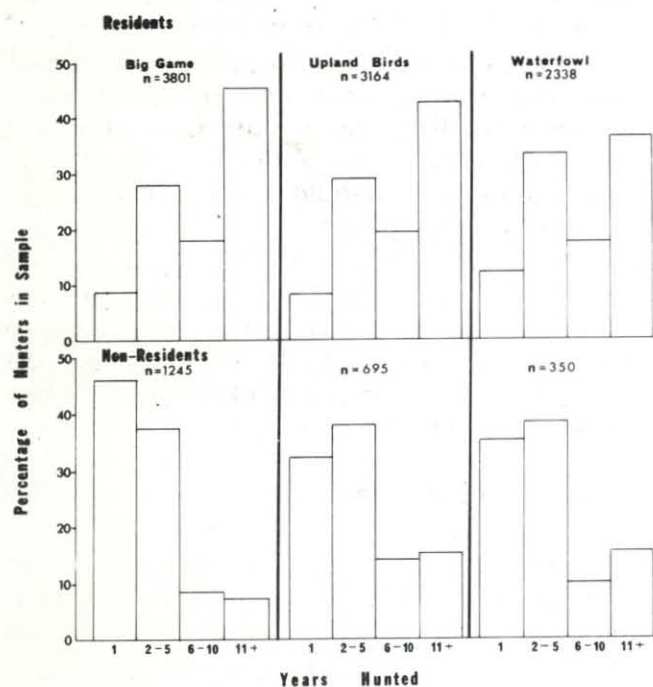


Figure 10. — The percentage of residents and non-residents in survey who had hunted 1, 2-5, 6-10, or 11 or more years for big game, upland birds or waterfowl in Idaho.

Table 12. — The percentage of people who hunted big game, upland birds or waterfowl in Idaho 1, 2-5, 6-10, or 11 or more years.

Type game and license	Number in sample	Years hunted (% of people)			
		1	2-5	6-10	11+
<b>Big game</b>					
Residents	3801	8.9	28.0	7.9	45.2
Combination	2554	6.7	23.4	17.5	52.5
Hunt only	1247	12.6	36.0	20.0	32.4
Non-residents	1245	46.0	37.8	8.9	7.3
Combination	902	44.4	37.2	9.7	8.7
Deer only	343	50.0	39.4	6.8	3.9
<b>Upland birds</b>					
Residents	3164	8.6	29.2	19.3	42.9
Combination	2141	5.6	24.8	19.0	50.1
Hunt only	1023	13.6	36.5	19.8	30.2
Non-residents	695	32.9	38.2	13.9	15.0
Combination	219	37.1	37.7	12.0	13.1
Birds only	476	26.3	38.5	17.4	17.8
<b>Waterfowl</b>					
Residents	2338	12.1	33.4	17.7	36.8
Combination	1590	9.1	30.5	16.9	43.5
Hunt only	748	17.3	38.5	19.0	25.3
Non-residents	350	35.6	38.7	10.0	15.7
Combination	114	41.9	38.7	8.2	11.3
Birds only	236	25.6	38.8	12.8	22.8

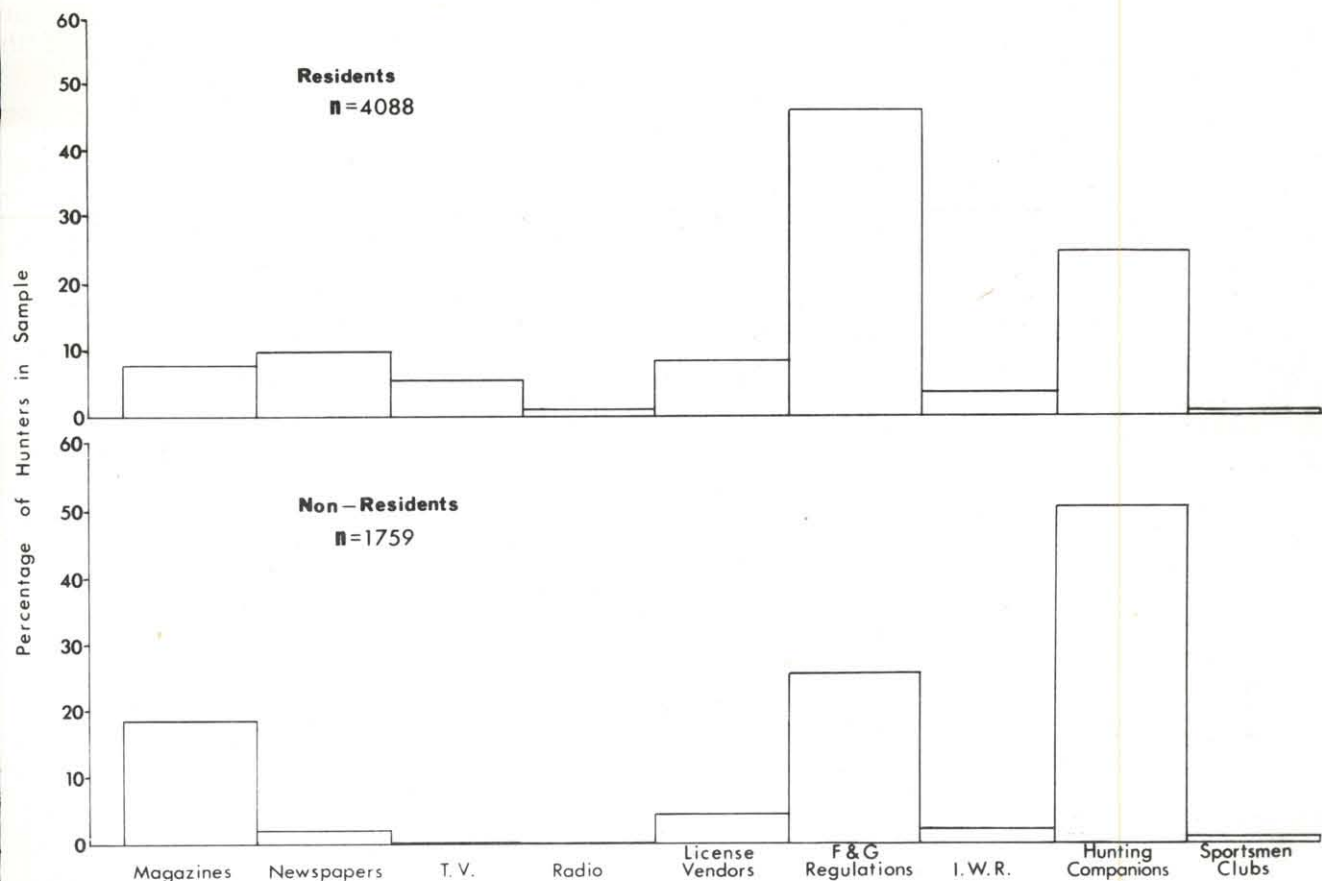


Figure 11. — The percentage of resident and non-resident hunters who ranked magazines, newspapers, etc., as their most important source of information about hunting regulations and wildlife management programs.

### Source of Information on Hunting and Wildlife

People who hunted in Idaho in 1971 received most of their information about hunting regulations and wildlife management programs from Fish and Game Department regulations and hunting companions (Figure 11). Forty-seven percent of the residents thought Fish and Game Department regulations were their most important source of information with 25% relying on their friends and hunting companions. For half the non-residents, their friends and hunting companions were the most important source of information, 25% relied on Fish and Game Department regulations and 18% on hunting and fishing magazines. Few hunters ranked radio, television or the Idaho Wildlife Review as their most important source of information.

The age of hunters and number of years they had hunted had some effect on the sources

of information they considered most important (Table 13). Although hunters in all age groups and with little or much experience thought Department regulations and hunting companions were their most important source of information, more of the older hunters thought newspapers were their most important source of information and they also relied more on Idaho Wildlife Review. Hunters with little or no experience relied more on companions for hunting information than those with 11 or more years of experience.

In the regular survey questionnaire, 5% or less of the respondents ranked "Idaho Wildlife Review," a magazine published bimonthly by the Fish and Game Department, as their most important source of information. In a special survey (Bjornn, 1975) conducted at the same time, 20% of the resident respondents indicated they received the magazine, 32% had read it and 48% had not seen it (Figure 12). The



Table 13. — The percentage of resident hunters who ranked the following sources of information on hunting and fish and wildlife management in Idaho as their most important sources by age group and years of hunting.

Group	Number in sample	Source of Information (%)									
		Magazines	Newspapers	Television	Radio	License vendors	Department regulations	Wildlife Review	Hunting companions	Club meetings	Oth
<b>Age group</b>											
Less than 20	722	9.2	7.5	6.4	1.8	7.2	37.5	3.9	28.9	0.9	3.8
20-29	899	5.1	6.0	4.0	1.2	7.1	50.0	2.8	25.8	0.9	2.5
30-39	733	5.3	7.7	4.8	1.1	6.9	51.2	3.6	22.9	0.7	2.2
40-49	671	5.6	11.1	4.2	0.6	8.2	48.7	3.9	20.9	1.4	3.3
50-59	512	9.7	16.7	6.7	1.8	8.0	49.7	4.2	22.6	1.1	1.6
60+	333	17.1	18.4	6.3	1.7	12.8	42.7	6.9	27.2	0.7	2.4
<b>Years hunted</b>											
1	375	6.6	9.2	6.9	2.0	8.0	38.2	2.9	29.8	.9	3.1
2-5	1096	7.3	8.5	6.1	1.3	7.3	42.5	3.0	28.8	.6	3.7
6-10	696	7.2	7.9	5.0	1.2	6.9	50.7	4.0	23.1	.7	2.4
11+	1735	7.1	11.2	4.2	1.3	9.2	50.7	4.5	20.9	1.3	2.2

subscription list for "Idaho Wildlife Review" contained 22,000 names in 1975 which would amount to 10% of the number of licensed resident hunters. Not all copies of the "Review" go to licensed hunters so that less than 10% of the resident licensed hunters receive a copy. Some people may have considered themselves as receiving the magazine if it came to the household they lived in. If, in fact, 20% of the residents "receive" the "Idaho Wildlife Review" and 30% read it occasionally, it still ranked low as a source of information on hunting and wildlife management programs. We may have contributed to the low rating of the "Review" as a source of information on management programs by the way we worded the question. We would not expect the "Review" to be a top source of information on hunting regulations.

### Reasons for Hunting

In response to the question "Why do you go hunting?" 42.7% of the residents indicated their most important reason was meat (Figure 13). Relaxation, opportunity to get out-of-doors and challenge of the hunt were the primary reasons for most of the remaining resident hunters. Only 1.5% of the resident hunters listed trophy as the most important reason they hunted.

Meat was the main reason for hunting for only 13% of the non-resident hunters (Figure 13). Most non-residents listed relaxation, challenge of the hunt, trophy or opportunity to get out-of-doors as their primary reasons for hunting.

Nearly one-fourth of the non-residents who purchased the big game licenses hunted mainly for a trophy while only 1% of the non-residents who purchased the bird license hunted for a trophy (Table 14).

Nearly 63% of the residents of the Salmon River zone in Idaho hunted primarily for meat compared to only 38% of the residents from southwest and southeast Idaho (Table 14). Few of the residents, regardless of zone of residence, hunted primarily for a trophy. The percentage of non-residents with the combination license from the Montana-Nevada zone who hunted primarily for meat was double (26.7%) the percentage of all non-residents with that license.

Meat was the primary reason for hunting for half the residents, regardless of age, but relaxation, chance to get out-of-doors and

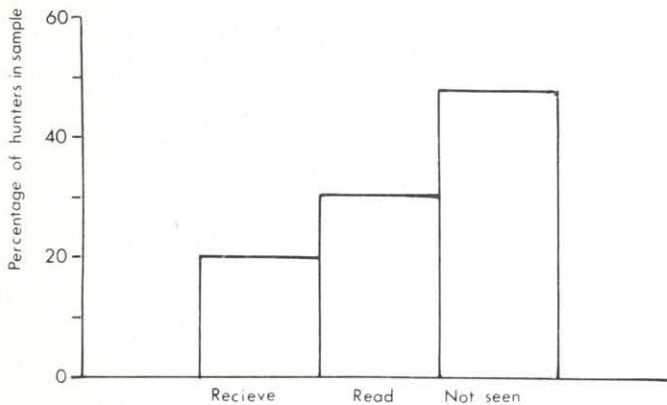


Figure 12. — The percentage of hunters in sample who received "Idaho Wildlife Review," had read it, and who had not seen the magazine.



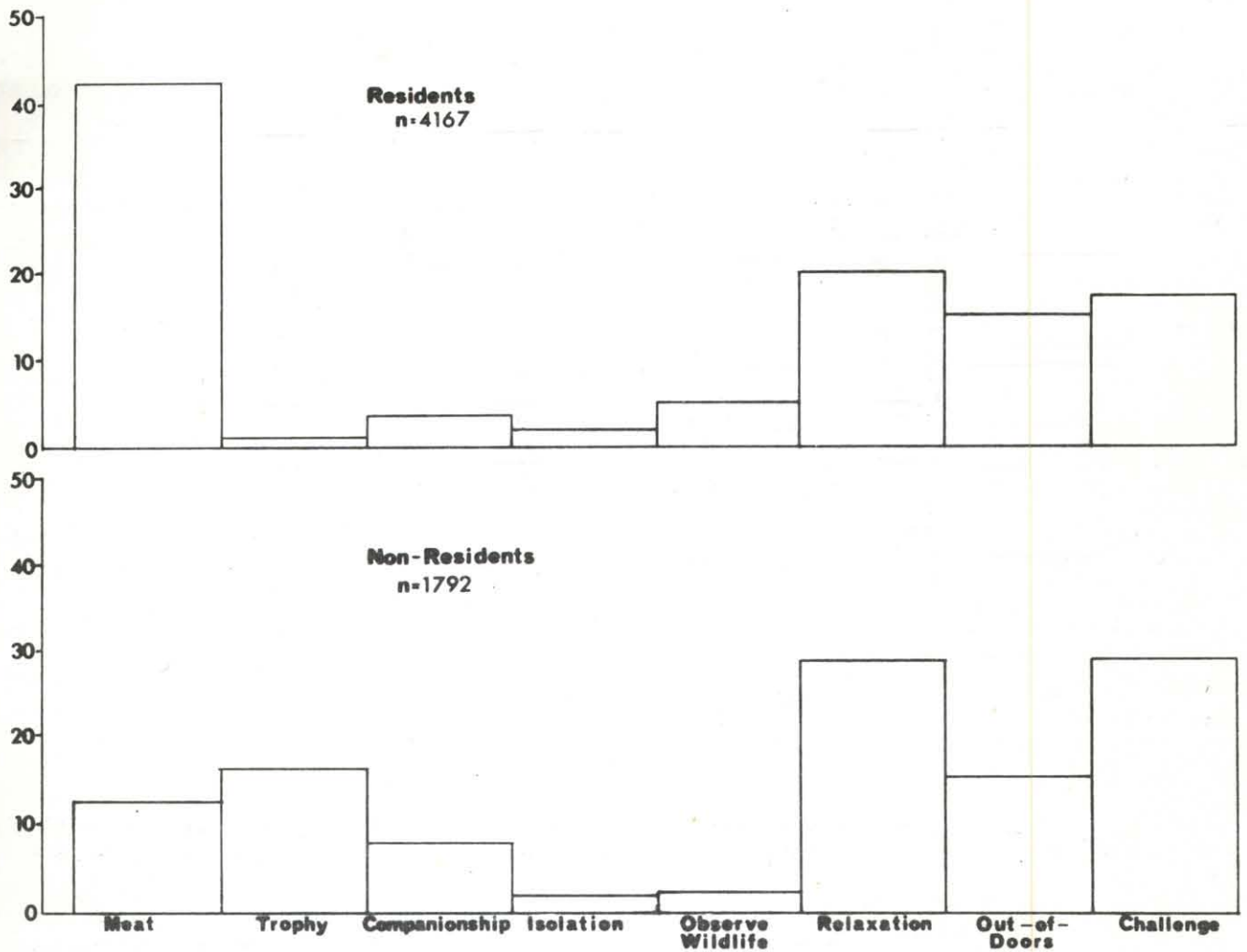


Figure 13. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who listed meat, trophy, etc., as their primary reason for hunting.

companionship were listed by more of the older people in the sample as their primary reasons for hunting (Table 15). Meat was the primary reason for hunting for 47% of the residents who listed big game as the type hunting they preferred but only 23-25% of the residents who preferred upland bird or waterfowl hunting listed meat as the primary reason for hunting.

The groups of hunters who listed their hunting as unsatisfactory in 1971 contained the largest percentage of hunters who hunted primarily for meat. Forty-eight percent of the people who listed their big game hunting as unsatisfactory also listed meat as their primary reason for hunting (Table 15). Thirty-seven percent of the people who listed their big game hunting as excellent listed meat as the most important reason for hunting.

### Type Hunting Preferred

Most residents (73%) listed big game as the type hunting they most preferred (Figure 14). The Panhandle and Salmon River residence zones contained the largest percentage of people who preferred big game hunting (88%) compared to 63-65% of the people in southwest and southcentral Idaho. One-fourth of the hunters in southwest and southcentral Idaho preferred upland bird hunting compared to only 8 and 11 percent of those from Panhandle and Salmon zones. Southwest Idaho had the largest percentage of people who preferred to hunt waterfowl (12%) and the Salmon zone had the least (1%).

Residents who purchased the combination or hunting only licenses differed little, if at all,

Table 14. — The percentage of people in the sample who listed meat, trophy, etc., as their most important reasons for hunting in Idaho.

License class and zone of residence	Number in sample	Reason for hunting (% of people)							
		Meat	Trophy	Companion-ship	Isolation	Observe wildlife	Relaxation	Out-of-doors	Challenge of hunt
<b>Residents</b>	4167	42.7	1.5	3.6	2.0	5.0	19.9	15.6	17.5
Panhandle	508	51.2	0.6	2.5	2.0	3.9	17.4	13.7	18.0
Clearwater	506	50.9	1.3	3.2	1.7	4.2	15.2	14.3	16.1
Salmon	95	62.7	1.9	2.3	2.9	4.3	16.7	6.4	14.9
Southwest Idaho	1165	37.7	1.2	4.2	2.6	6.2	20.0	16.8	18.8
Southcentral Idaho	846	43.6	1.7	3.0	1.7	4.9	24.1	13.6	16.6
Southeast Idaho	1046	37.9	2.2	4.5	1.3	4.3	20.5	18.4	17.5
<b>Non-residents</b>									
<b>Combination license</b>	915	12.1	22.5	5.6	2.2	2.5	23.9	12.6	29.2
Washington	130	12.3	9.2	5.4	2.3	3.1	33.1	20.0	29.2
Oregon	112	8.0	15.2	9.8	5.4	2.7	29.5	11.6	23.2
California	116	15.5	23.3	4.3	1.7	1.7	24.1	12.1	27.6
Wyoming-Nevada	101	26.7	15.8	5.9	1.0	4.0	21.8	10.9	25.7
North Dakota-Arizona	122	9.8	13.9	5.7	2.5	1.6	23.8	14.8	34.4
Wisconsin-Texas	113	8.9	23.9	8.9	2.7	2.7	22.1	14.2	37.2
Michigan-Louisiana	106	6.6	24.5	6.6	2.8	3.8	25.5	12.3	27.4
Maine-Florida	115	4.4	37.4	4.4	2.6	2.6	24.4	7.0	27.8
<b>Bird license</b>	526	10.1	1.3	12.7	2.3	2.7	25.0	20.9	26.6
<b>Deer license</b>	351	17.6	24.8	4.9	0.7	1.4	21.1	12.5	29.1

Table 15. — The percentage of licensed resident hunters by age, type hunting preferred, and satisfaction with hunting who listed meat, trophy, etc., as their most important reasons for hunting in Idaho in 1971.

Group	Number in sample	Most important reason for hunting (% of people)							
		Meat	Trophy	Companion-ship	Isolation	Observe wildlife	Relaxation	Out-of-doors	Challenge of hunt
<b>Age group</b>									
Less than 20	681	47.3	2.4	3.9	2.1	5.7	9.4	14.5	26.6
20-29	786	50.1	1.5	2.5	3.1	5.1	7.2	17.2	21.1
30-39	660	49.3	2.0	2.6	3.3	4.0	15.8	19.3	19.1
40-49	543	51.4	1.3	5.4	2.1	4.9	17.0	18.2	17.1
50-59	410	52.1	1.9	7.3	1.2	7.6	12.7	21.1	16.6
60+	292	54.9	0.	10.3	2.2	6.7	12.2	25.3	18.1
<b>Type hunting preferred</b>									
Big game	2575	47.2	1.7	2.7	1.6	3.5	17.2	13.2	17.1
Upland birds	633	23.5	0.8	5.6	2.9	5.1	27.7	20.1	19.1
Waterfowl	332	25.4	1.2	4.0	4.6	6.1	23.0	21.6	20.1
<b>Satisfaction with hunting</b>									
<b>Big game</b>									
Unsatisfactory	1336	48.4	1.8	3.6	2.0	4.8	18.9	13.8	17.1
Excellent	514	37.1	2.4	3.0	2.5	5.7	15.1	17.1	21.1
Satisfactory	1741	44.0	1.1	3.4	1.8	4.7	20.4	16.1	16.1
No opinion	570	30.8	0.9	4.9	2.1	5.4	25.4	17.4	18.1
<b>Upland birds</b>									
Unsatisfactory	611	43.3	1.4	3.2	2.4	5.1	21.0	13.1	16.1
Excellent	760	33.6	1.0	2.9	2.1	5.2	21.4	16.9	21.1
Satisfactory	1645	37.1	1.7	3.7	2.2	4.1	21.5	17.8	18.1
No opinion	1143	56.7	1.4	4.1	1.5	5.9	16.2	13.1	14.1
<b>Waterfowl</b>									
Unsatisfactory	341	40.9	1.6	4.4	2.7	5.1	20.4	10.7	19.1
Excellent	639	34.5	0.8	3.0	2.3	5.8	20.1	17.0	20.1
Satisfactory	1102	34.4	2.1	3.2	2.0	5.1	21.2	18.5	18.1
No opinion	2076	50.1	1.3	4.0	1.8	4.6	19.1	14.4	15.1



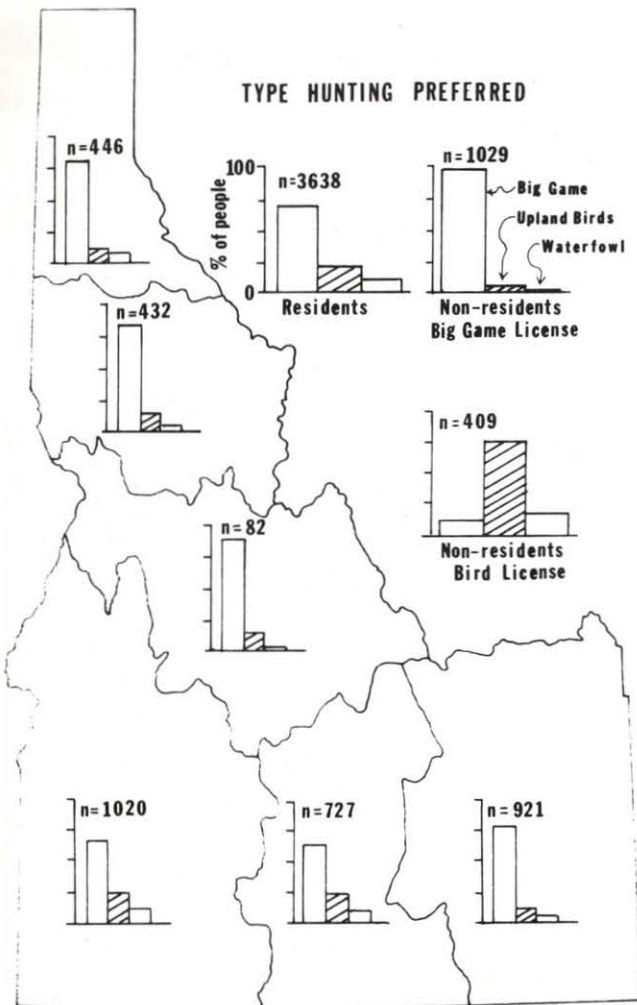


Figure 14. — The percentage of residents by residence zone and non-residents by type of license who ranked big game, upland bird or waterfowl as the type hunting they most preferred.

in the type hunting they preferred (Table 16). Non-residents who purchased the combination and deer license were mostly people who preferred to hunt big game (96-97%). Seventy-five percent of the non-residents who purchased the upland bird license preferred to hunt upland birds (15%) waterfowl and (12%) big game.

Seventy-three percent of the resident hunters ranked big game as their preferred type of hunting. Small business operators (82%), craftsmen (80%), farmers (78%) and retired people (76%) had larger than average percentages of people who preferred big game hunting while clerical and sales and professional

occupations had only 62% who preferred big game hunting. Upland game birds were listed as the preferred type of hunting by 19% of all occupations but ranged from 12% among the small business operators to 29% of those in the clerical and sales occupations. Waterfowl as the preferred type hunting ranged from 3% in the household occupations to 15% in the professional groups (Table 17).

Table 16. — The preferred type hunting by residents and non-residents who purchased Idaho hunting licenses during 1971.

Residence and license	Number in sample	Type hunting preferred (% of people)		
		Big game	Upland bird	Waterfowl
<u>Residents</u>	3638	72.6	19.3	8.8
Combination	2419	74.5	18.2	8.4
Hunt only	1219	69.2	21.3	9.5
<u>Non-residents</u>	1438	70.1	24.0	5.1
Combination	750	97.2	3.4	0.4
Birds	409	11.5	75.1	14.0
Deer	279	95.8	2.0	2.3

Table 17. — The preferred type of hunting of people who hunted in Idaho in 1971 by occupation.

Group	Number in sample	Type hunting preferred (% of people)		
		Big game	Upland bird	Waterfowl
<u>Occupation</u>				
Household	199	84.6	14.4	2.9
Small business	839	82.2	12.1	6.3
Craftsmen	431	79.9	13.2	7.5
Clerical and sales	247	62.1	28.9	10.9
Managerial	149	71.7	21.2	10.1
Professional and students	1143	62.1	24.9	14.4
Farm	276	77.9	18.6	6.2
Retired	138	75.7	21.5	5.4

### Preferred Species and Type Animal

Fifty-seven percent of the residents on a statewide basis listed deer as their preferred species of big game (Figure 15). In the Panhandle and Clearwater zones in north Idaho 65 and 60%, respectively, of the residents listed elk as their preferred big game animal. In south Idaho most people (61-68%) preferred deer.

Most non-residents (80%) who purchased the combination license preferred to hunt elk while 74% of those who had the deer license listed deer as the big game animal they preferred (Figure 15).



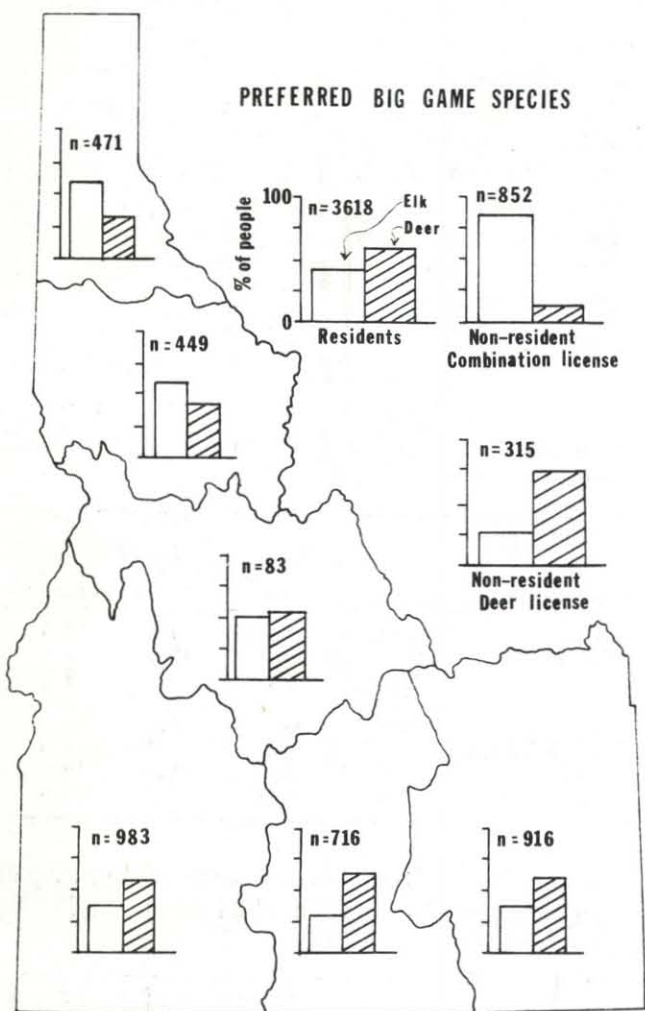


Figure 15. — The preferred species of big game of residents statewide and within each residence zone and of non-residents who purchased the combination and deer licenses in 1971.

For the entire state, 67% of the residents listed pheasants as the upland bird species they preferred (Figure 16). Forest grouse were preferred by the largest percentage of people in the Panhandle and Salmon zones with pheasants the most preferred species by most people in the other zones. Chukars were most popular in the Salmon and southwest zones. Only a few people listed quail as their most preferred species.

Most residents and non-residents listed ducks as their preferred type of waterfowl (Table 18). A larger percentage of the people who purchased the combination licenses preferred geese compared to those with the hunting only or bird licenses.

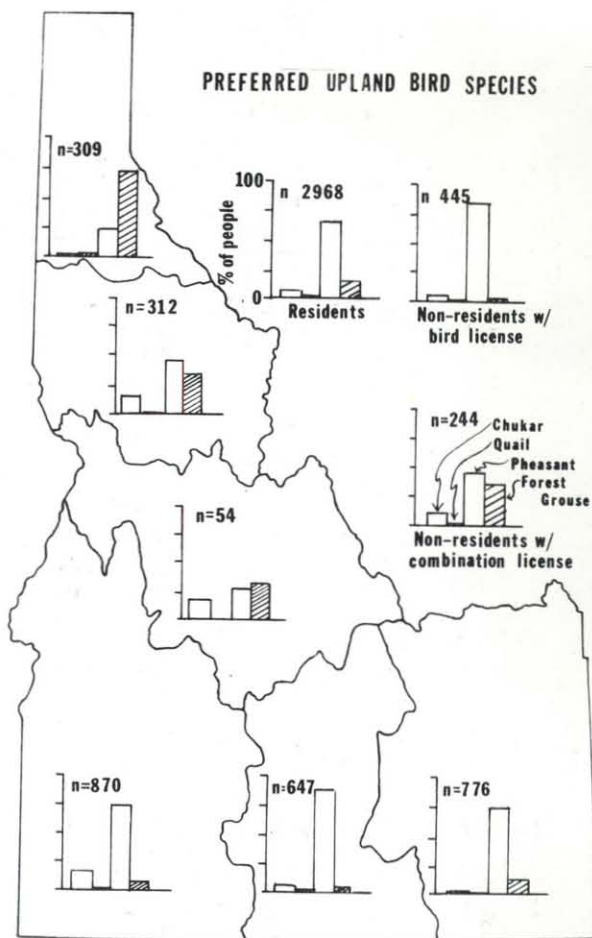


Figure 16. — The preferred species of upland birds of residents on a statewide basis and each zone of residence and of non-residents with the combination and bird licenses in 1971.

Table 18. — The preferred species of waterfowl of resident and non-resident hunters.

Residence and license	Number in sample	Percentage who preferred	
		Ducks	Geese
<u>Residents</u>	2153	73.8	26.2
Combination	1435	71.6	28.4
Hunt only	718	77.6	22.4
<u>Non-residents</u>			
Combination	141	64.8	35.2
Hunt only	192	77.0	23.0

A large percentage of the resident hunters indicated they had no preference in the type of deer, elk or antelope they killed (Figure 17).

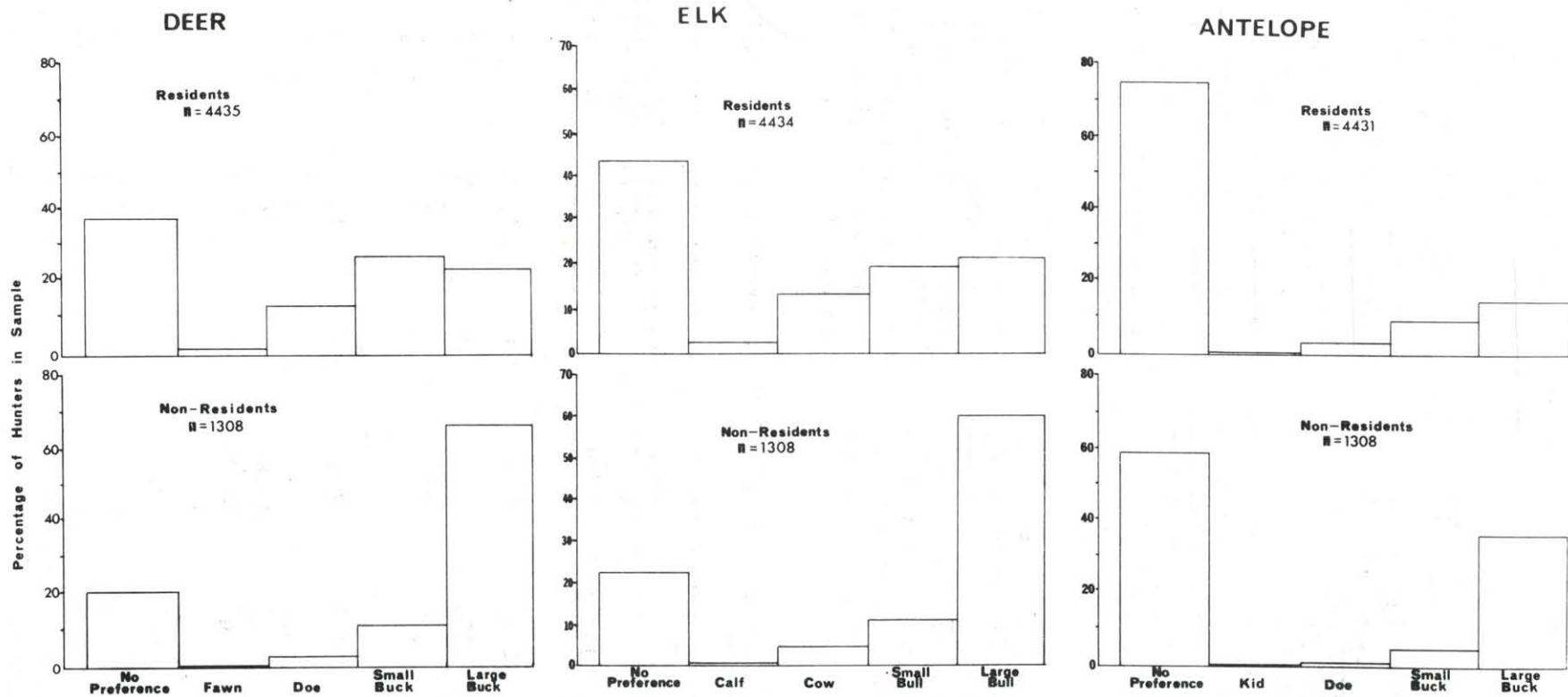


Figure 17. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who preferred various types of animals when hunting deer, elk, and antelope.

The relatively small percentage of residents who preferred a large buck or bull and the large percentage who had no preference is an additional expression that many residents were hunting primarily for meat. Most non-residents (66%) on the other hand, listed a preference for a large buck or bull a further expression that obtaining a trophy was a primary reason for hunting for many out-of-staters.

Among non-residents, more people with the combination license preferred a large bull than people with the deer license (Table 19). A large proportion of the non-residents with the deer license indicated no preference in type of elk they preferred, but many wanted a large buck.

Many residents hunting elk or deer for the first time indicated no preference in the type animal they bagged while the percentage of hunters which preferred a cow or small bull elk or small buck deer increased with more years of hunting (Table 20). These preferences again reflected the desire of residents to obtain good meat rather than a trophy.

There was no clear relationship between the degree of satisfaction with big game hunting and the type animal residents preferred (Table 20). The group of people who classed their hunting as excellent contained the largest percentage of people who preferred a large buck or bull, but the differences were small.

Residents from the six zones in Idaho differed some in the type deer or elk they preferred (Table 16). More of the residents from the Salmon zone preferred a small buck deer or small bull elk compared to people from the other zones. Southeast and southcentral residents had more people that preferred large bucks or large bulls.

When we compared the type animal residents preferred with their primary reason for hunting (Table 16) only the people who were hunting primarily for a trophy had a markedly different preference for the type animal they bagged. As expected, 77% of the trophy hunters preferred a large buck deer and 64% preferred a large bull elk.

Table 19. The type of big game animal the people preferred to kill.

Big game species license and residence class	Number in sample	Type of animal preferred (% of people)				
		No preference	Fawn, kid or calf	Doe or cow	Small buck or bull	Large buck or bull
<b>Deer</b>						
Residents	4435	37.0	1.6	12.7	26.4	22.3
Non-residents	1308	20.0	0.5	3.0	10.2	66.4
Combination	947	22.5	0.6	3.2	9.7	63.9
Deer	361	13.8	0.3	2.3	11.2	72.6
<b>Elk</b>						
Residents	4434	44.0	2.4	13.6	19.0	21.0
Non-residents	1308	22.9	0.6	4.7	11.5	60.3
Combination	947	18.6	0.1	4.1	11.6	65.7
Deer	361	33.8	2.0	6.3	11.4	46.7
<b>Antelope</b>						
Residents	4431	74.6	0.6	3.0	7.9	13.8
Non-residents	1308	58.9	0.1	1.0	4.4	35.6
Combination	947	60.6	0.1	0.7	2.9	35.7
Deer	361	54.6	0.3	1.6	8.3	35.4



Table 20. — The type elk or deer preferred by residents grouped by years of hunting, satisfaction with hunting, zone of residence, and reason for hunting.

Group	Number in sample	Type animal preferred (% of people)									
		Deer					Elk				
		No preference	Fawn	Doe	Small buck	Large buck	No preference	Calf	Cow	Small bull	Large bull
Years hunted											
1	326	36.5	0.8	14.0	24.9	23.9	48.7	2.2	11.4	15.0	22.7
2-5	1034	30.4	1.3	13.6	26.4	28.3	39.7	1.9	12.1	17.8	28.5
6-10	696	26.0	1.7	15.3	30.2	26.8	36.7	2.5	17.4	19.5	23.9
11+	1745	30.1	2.0	14.5	31.2	22.2	34.2	3.2	17.5	24.9	20.2
Degree of satisfaction											
Unsatisfactory	1357	32.2	1.9	15.1	27.1	23.7	37.3	2.8	16.7	20.6	22.6
Excellent	531	24.9	1.7	12.2	30.1	31.1	32.9	2.1	14.5	20.7	29.8
Satisfactory	1788	27.9	1.6	14.0	31.8	24.8	36.8	2.6	14.5	23.3	22.8
No opinion	755	75.9	0.7	5.7	10.0	7.8	80.8	1.4	5.4	4.8	7.6
Zone of residence											
Panhandle	537	43.6	0.2	14.2	25.5	15.3	40.1	2.2	19.0	22.0	16.6
Clearwater	545	41.5	0.9	14.1	24.6	18.9	46.2	2.6	17.1	18.0	16.1
Salmon	101	26.7	2.0	12.9	35.6	22.8	32.7	2.0	21.8	30.7	12.9
Southwest	1223	37.8	1.6	16.5	16.6	18.7	45.5	2.1	14.1	18.3	19.9
Southcentral	910	34.3	1.8	8.1	28.0	27.8	45.5	2.9	10.8	16.6	24.3
Southeast	1117	33.8	1.7	10.9	27.0	26.7	42.2	2.5	10.3	20.7	24.4
Reason for hunting											
Meat	1583	32.1	1.7	16.9	29.1	20.3	41.1	2.5	18.7	20.7	17.0
Trophy	50	17.8	0	0	5.6	76.6	27.5	0	0	8.3	64.3
Companionship	115	35.5	2.4	16.7	29.7	15.7	37.6	8.7	14.1	19.8	19.9
Isolation	73	30.1	0	9.6	36.9	23.5	34.3	1.3	15.1	28.7	20.6
Observe wildlife	150	33.2	2.0	8.2	29.0	27.6	45.9	2.0	8.6	16.9	26.6
Relaxation	759	36.5	2.1	13.0	27.1	21.3	41.7	2.8	13.2	20.6	21.7
Out-of-doors	620	34.3	1.4	11.8	29.1	23.3	42.5	2.7	13.6	19.2	22.0
Challenge of hunt	730	31.7	1.6	10.7	25.1	30.9	36.9	1.9	9.3	20.5	31.4

## Satisfaction with Hunting

A majority of hunters (especially those with an opinion) ranked their hunting in Idaho as either satisfactory or excellent (Figure 18). Nearly one-third of the hunters ranked their big game hunting as unsatisfactory but less than 14% listed upland bird or waterfowl hunting as unsatisfactory. Satisfaction with hunting did not vary significantly between residence zones in Idaho.

A larger proportion of the non-residents who came to Idaho primarily for upland bird hunting ranked their bird hunting as excellent compared to the opinions of resident hunters (Table 21). The proportion of residents and non-residents who were satisfied or unsatisfied with their big game and waterfowl hunting was similar. Most non-residents who purchased the combination license had no opinion on satisfaction with upland bird or waterfowl hunting.

Satisfaction with hunting for Idaho residents was influenced by participation and success (Table 22). Twenty-two percent of the residents who hunted big game and bagged an animal (no difference between deer or elk) ranked their hunting as excellent compared to 10% of those who hunted but did not bag an animal. Twenty-seven percent of the people who hunted and bagged an animal still considered their hunting as unsatisfactory.

Table 21. — The degree of satisfaction of people who purchased licenses to hunt big game, upland birds and waterfowl in Idaho in 1971.

Type hunting, residence and license	Number in sample	Degree of satisfaction (% of people)			
		Unsatisfactory	Excellent	Satisfactory	No opinion
<b>Big game</b>					
Residents	4432	30.5	12.0	40.4	17.1
Non-residents	1308	30.0	17.3	47.8	5.0
Combination	946	28.1	16.7	50.1	5.0
Deer	361	34.5	18.9	41.8	4.8
<b>Upland birds</b>					
Residents	4433	13.9	17.8	38.3	30.1
Non-residents	1474	3.9	21.4	26.3	48.5
Combination	942	2.5	7.6	15.9	74.0
Bird	532	6.1	43.1	42.5	8.4
<b>Waterfowl</b>					
Residents	4429	7.8	14.9	25.6	51.5
Non-residents	1473	2.2	8.0	12.3	76.7
Combination	942	1.1	3.4	6.0	89.5
Bird	531	3.9	17.5	22.1	56.5

Table 22. — The satisfaction with hunting in Idaho by residents who did or did not hunt or bag the game they sought.

Type hunting and success	Number in sample	Satisfaction with hunting (% of people)			
		Unsatisfactory	Excellent	Satisfactory	No opinion
<b>Hunted big game</b>					
Yes	1960	35.6	15.0	45.2	4.3
No	2201	27.5	10.0	38.0	24.5
<b>Bagged animal</b>					
Yes	853	26.9	21.9	47.7	3.5
No	1107	42.4	9.6	43.2	3.5
<b>Hunted upland birds</b>					
Yes	1791	16.3	28.9	49.6	5.3
No	2246	12.9	10.7	32.3	44.3
<b>Bagged birds</b>					
1	58	21.2	21.2	51.2	6.3
2-5	331	15.4	24.2	55.3	5.1
6-10	210	8.0	36.9	52.6	2.6
11+	184	7.7	50.5	38.6	3.3
<b>Hunted waterfowl</b>					
Yes	898	11.2	36.8	46.0	6.0
No	3030	7.4	10.0	21.5	61.1
<b>Bagged birds</b>					
Ducks	573	9.2	41.2	46.3	3.4
Geese	95	8.3	34.0	53.2	4.1

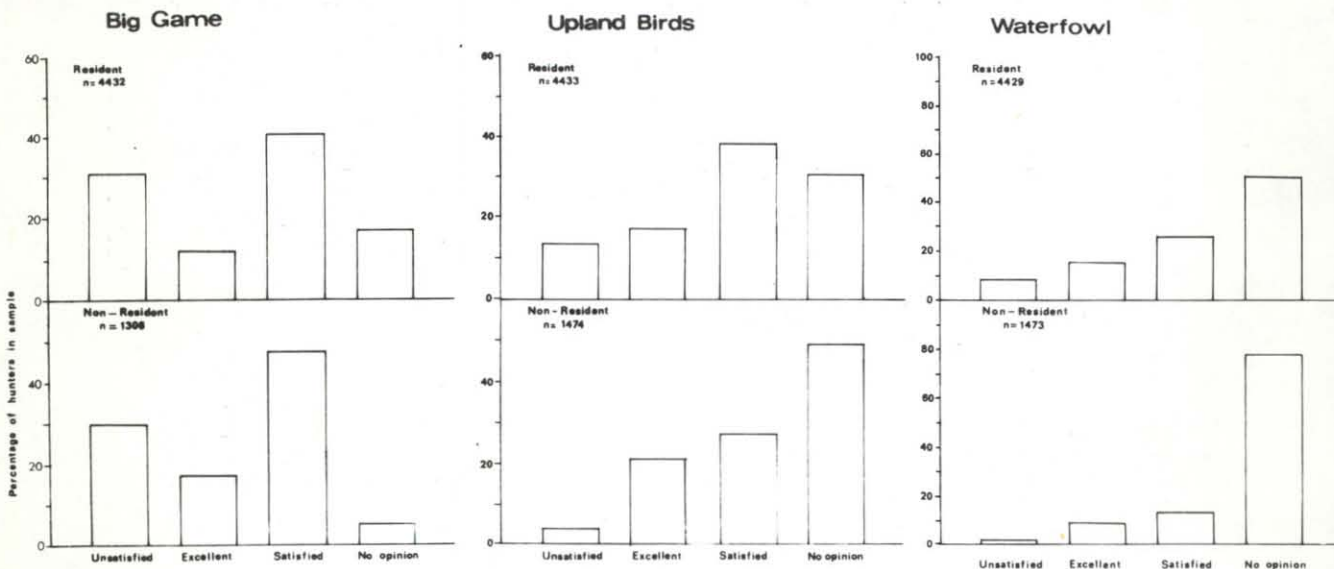


Figure 18. — The degree of satisfaction of residents and non-residents with their hunting in Idaho.



Satisfaction with upland bird hunting for residents was related to the number of birds they bagged (Table 22). Twenty-one percent of the hunters who bagged one bird ranked their hunting excellent while 51% of those who bagged 11 or more birds considered their hunting excellent. Most people who hunted waterfowl considered the hunting as excellent or satisfactory and groups who bagged ducks or geese had similar proportions in each satisfaction ranking.

More of the hunters who had hunted 11 or more years for big game, upland birds or waterfowl ranked their hunting as unsatisfactory and fewer had excellent hunting compared to those who had hunted fewer years (Table 23). The largest shift in satisfaction with hunting and years hunted occurred among big game hunters.

#### Reasons for Dissatisfaction

Most resident hunters listed lack of game, too many hunters and not bagging game as the primary reasons for their dissatisfaction with

hunting in Idaho in 1971 (Table 24). A few residents were dissatisfied with their hunting because of weather and access problems, particularly the upland bird and waterfowl hunters.

Table 23. — The degree of satisfaction with hunting in Idaho of resident hunters based on years of hunting.

Type hunting and years hunted	Number in sample	Degree of satisfaction (% of people)			
		Unsatisfactory	Excellent	Satisfactory	No opinion
<b>Big game</b>					
1	334	26.6	12.3	42.7	18.3
2-5	1057	28.2	14.3	47.5	9.9
6-10	704	20.8	17.5	45.0	6.7
11+	1760	39.1	11.3	42.9	6.7
<b>Upland bird</b>					
1	257	13.1	28.8	44.0	14.1
2-5	904	16.0	24.2	48.3	11.4
6-10	609	15.4	28.5	46.0	9.2
11+	1395	19.9	20.0	50.5	9.7
<b>Waterfowl</b>					
1	272	8.8	20.6	37.7	32.9
2-5	772	10.5	29.1	40.0	20.4
6-10	409	11.4	31.1	40.2	17.2
11+	880	13.7	22.5	45.1	18.6

Table 24. The most important reasons people were dissatisfied with hunting big game, upland birds or waterfowl in Idaho in 1971.

Type hunting, residence and license	Number in sample	Reason for dissatisfaction (% of people)					
		Did not bag game	Too many hunters	No game	Weather	Outfitter and guides	Access
<b>Big game</b>							
Residents	2683	20.3	28.2	40.4	9.1	0.1	1.9
Non-residents	782	24.4	4.8	36.4	22.3	9.3	2.9
Combination	570	26.0	4.7	31.7	24.6	10.8	2.2
Deer	212	20.4	5.0	48.3	16.5	5.4	4.5
<b>Upland birds</b>							
Residents	1689	9.7	37.3	34.3	9.6	0.1	9.2
Non-residents	229	14.1	13.6	29.8	31.0	0.5	11.4
Combination	60	19.2	10.4	31.7	35.0	0.4	3.1
Birds	169	6.0	18.6	26.8	24.6	0.5	23.5
<b>Waterfowl</b>							
Residents	990	14.5	28.2	24.3	27.5	0.0	15.5
Non-residents	103	16.1	8.1	23.4	25.1	0.3	20.0
Combination	30	17.5	2.8	25.5	29.7	0.5	12.7
Birds	73	13.9	16.5	20.3	17.7	0.0	31.7

Forty percent of the big game hunters who listed a reason for dissatisfaction ranked lack of game as the primary cause. Too many hunters was the main problem for 28% of the unsatisfied big game hunters and failure to bag a big game animal was listed as the primary cause of dissatisfaction by another 20%. Access and outfitter and guides were not a problem to residents who hunted big game.

Of the upland bird hunters who listed reasons for dissatisfaction with hunting, 37% ranked an excessive number of hunters as their most important reason, 34% listed lack of birds and 10% were unhappy because they did not bag some birds. Weather and access problems were the main cause of dissatisfaction for the remaining 19% of the residents.

An excessive number of hunters led to dissatisfaction for 28% of the residents who hunted waterfowl, 24% listed lack of waterfowl and 15% failure to bag waterfowl as the primary causes of their dissatisfaction. Eighteen percent of the waterfowl hunters reported weather as their primary cause for dissatisfaction and 16% listed access.

Many non-residents also listed lack of game and failure to bag game as a primary cause for dissatisfaction while hunting in Idaho but fewer non-residents than residents listed an excessive number of hunters as the main cause for dissatisfaction (Table 24). More non-residents than residents listed weather, access and outfitter and guides services as primary reasons for dissatisfaction with hunting in Idaho.

Lack of game and failure to bag a big game animal were the primary reasons for dissatisfaction listed by non-residents who hunted big game. Thirty-two percent of those with the combination license listed lack of game as the primary cause for dissatisfaction, 26% listed failure to bag an animal, 25% weather, 11% outfitter and guide services, 5% excessive numbers of hunters and 2% access. Non-residents with the deer license listed lack of game and failure to bag game more often than those with the combination license and they listed weather and outfitter and guide services less often.

Access was listed by 24% and 32% of the non-residents with bird licenses as the primary problem which caused their dissatisfaction with upland bird and waterfowl hunting, respectively (Table 24). Non-resident bird hunters also listed

lack of birds, too many hunters and weather as causes for their dissatisfaction with bird hunting in Idaho in 1971.

### Confidence in Game Counts and Harvest Estimates

Nearly half the residents and one-fourth of the non-residents lacked confidence in the game count and game kill information provided by the Idaho Fish and Game Department (Figures 19 and 20). About one-third of the residents and nearly 40% of the non-residents had confidence in the figures with about 15% of the residents and 35% of the non-residents without an opinion on the subject.

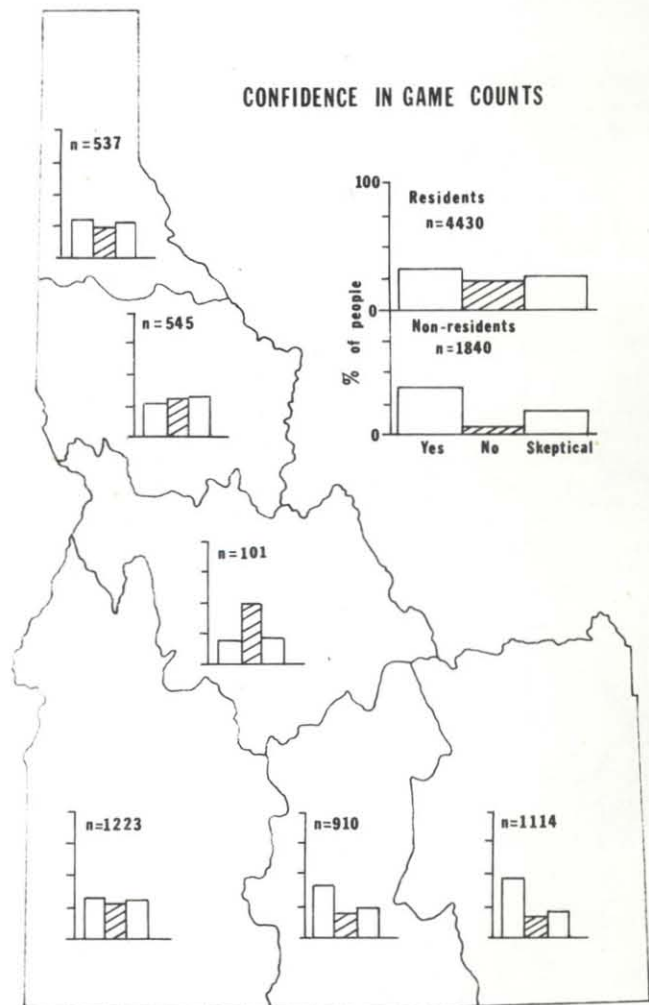


Figure 19. — The percentage of people who did, did not have confidence, or were skeptical of Idaho Fish and Game Department game counts. Those with no opinion excluded from figure but comprise remainder of 100%.



The percentage of residents who had confidence in the Department's game count and kill information varied throughout the state (Figures 19 and 20). The southeast and southcentral zones of the state had the largest percentage of people with confidence in the count and kill data (37-46%) and the Salmon (19-21%), Clearwater (27%) and Panhandle (25-33%) zones had the smallest percentage of people. People in the Salmon and Clearwater zones were particularly skeptical of the game count data with 72% and 57% of the hunters from those zones, respectively, expressing no confidence or skepticism in the count data.

Confidence in Department game counts and harvest figures was highest among the youngest

age group of hunters (Table 25). Nearly half the residents in the less than 20 age groups expressed confidence in the counts and 43% in the kill data. The age groups over 20 all contained similar proportions of people with confidence in the Department data.

People who preferred big game hunting had the least confidence in the count and kill data and upland bird hunters had the most confidence (nearly half the people) (Table 25). Only one-third of the big game hunters had confidence in the game count and harvest data and 68% had no confidence or were skeptical. Waterfowl hunters who expressed no confidence or skepticism outnumbered those with confidence in the data.

The group of hunters who rated their hunting as excellent contained the largest percentage of people with confidence in the game count and harvest data while those who rated their hunting as unsatisfactory had the least people with confidence (Table 25). Sixty-percent of the people who rated big game hunting as excellent had confidence in game counts compared to 32% who expressed lack of confidence or skepticism. Only 20-21% of the big game hunters who rated their hunting as unsatisfactory expressed confidence in the Department's figures.

## OPINIONS OF IDAHO HUNTERS

### Satisfaction with Management

A majority of the residents and non-residents, who had an opinion, thought Idaho Fish and Game Department personnel were doing a satisfactory job of managing the major wildlife species in Idaho (Table 26, Question 21). For some species of wildlife many of the people (up to 51% of the residents) had no opinion on the Department's performance in managing the wildlife.

Although a majority of the residents with an opinion thought Department personnel were doing a satisfactory job of managing Idaho wildlife, 34% (42% of those with an opinion) thought they were not doing a satisfactory job of managing deer, 38% (49% of those with an opinion) were not satisfied with the management of elk and 20% (29% of those with an opinion) wanted better management for pheasants (Table 26). Most residents who had an

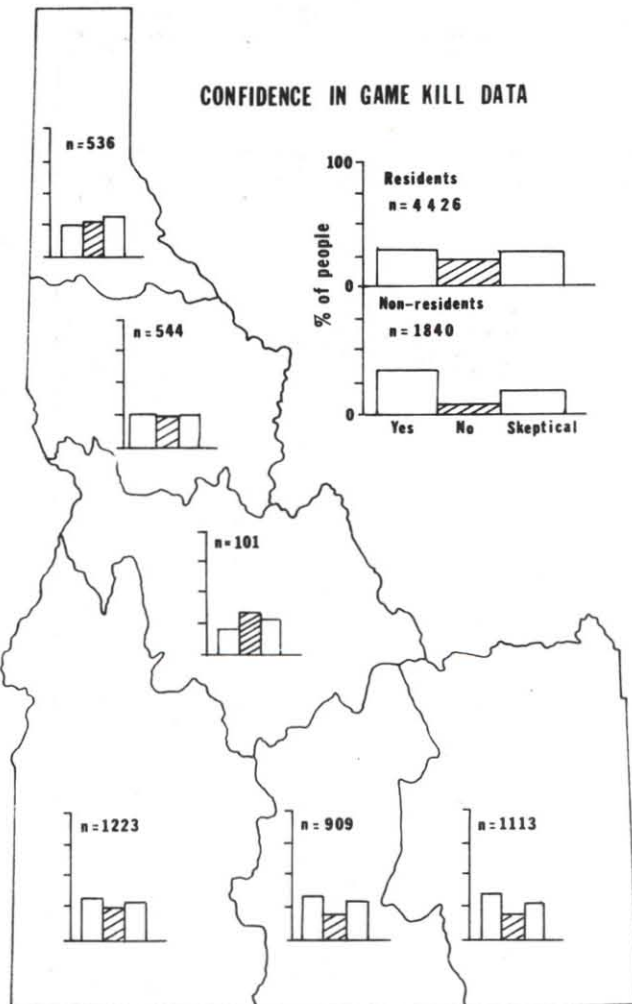


Figure 20. — The percentage of people who did, did not, or were skeptical of Idaho Fish and Game Department kill information. Those with no opinion excluded from figure but comprise remainder of 100%.

Table 25. — The percentage of resident hunters who did or did not have confidence in the game counts and harvest figures released by the Idaho Fish and Game Department grouped by age, preferred type of hunting and satisfaction with hunting.

Group	Confidence in game harvest (% of people)					Confidence in game harvest (% of people)				
	Number in sample	Yes	No	Skeptical	No opinion	Number in sample	Yes	No	Skeptical	No opinion
Age group										
Less than 20	755	49.2	18.7	21.1	11.0	754	42.5	22.1	22.9	12.5
20-29	937	36.1	23.5	31.2	9.2	936	32.6	23.8	32.5	11.1
30-39	807	36.3	25.5	28.9	9.3	806	32.0	24.0	30.8	13.2
40-49	699	32.5	27.9	29.3	10.3	699	32.0	23.8	30.4	13.8
50-59	539	34.4	26.5	28.2	10.9	539	30.5	25.9	26.0	17.6
60+	366	35.9	23.2	24.3	16.6	365	30.9	18.4	21.2	29.4
Preferred type of hunting										
Big game	2612	34.8	27.1	29.5	8.5	2609	30.7	26.4	31.3	11.6
Upland bird	684	48.2	16.2	24.6	10.9	683	46.4	14.5	25.2	13.9
Waterfowl	340	42.3	20.4	27.1	10.2	340	39.2	19.6	28.2	13.0
Satisfaction										
<u>Big game</u>										
Unsatisfactory	1356	20.1	45.1	28.4	6.4	1355	21.0	38.4	29.1	11.5
Excellent	531	59.8	10.3	21.8	8.0	531	47.8	14.3	27.2	10.8
Satisfactory	1785	43.0	16.6	30.6	9.8	1783	37.8	18.6	30.4	13.2
No opinion	754	35.5	8.4	16.1	40.0	753	30.4	7.9	15.7	46.1
<u>Upland bird</u>										
Unsatisfactory	619	26.6	39.6	26.4	7.4	618	23.8	37.4	28.9	9.9
Excellent	782	53.6	15.9	23.0	7.6	782	46.1	16.7	26.1	11.0
Satisfactory	1695	37.1	22.6	30.5	9.9	1693	34.5	22.3	30.3	12.9
No opinion	1328	31.2	20.4	23.0	25.3	1327	26.2	18.8	22.6	32.5
<u>Waterfowl</u>										
Unsatisfactory	350	28.6	38.3	27.3	5.8	350	28.9	34.1	27.9	9.1
Excellent	660	48.2	19.4	24.9	7.6	659	42.4	19.8	27.2	10.7
Satisfactory	1132	38.9	23.0	28.1	10.0	1132	34.9	23.6	28.9	12.7
No opinion	2281	33.6	22.0	25.8	18.6	2278	29.2	20.5	26.1	24.2



Table 26. The percentage of residents and non-residents who thought the Fish and Game Department was or was not doing a satisfactory job of managing wildlife in Idaho. People with no opinion not given in table but comprise difference between sum of yes and no replies and 100%.

Wildlife species	Resident hunters			Non-resident hunters		
	Number in sample	Percentage of people		Number in sample	Percentage of people	
		Yes	No		Yes	No
<b>Big game</b>						
Deer	4436	47.1	34.0	1308	47.3	22.5
Elk	4436	39.2	38.2	1308	43.7	22.6
Trophy Animals	4436	37.3	14.6	1308	25.2	9.5
Antelope	4432	39.7	9.0	1308	20.3	15.1
<b>Upland bird</b>						
Pheasants	4435	50.1	20.4	563	64.8	7.8
Sage Grouse	4434	43.4	14.0	563	31.3	7.3
Forest Grouse	4434	43.1	13.1	563	25.8	3.7
Chukar	4434	47.0	9.2	563	38.5	5.7
<b>Waterfowl</b>	4430	49.0	9.9	563	43.2	6.8

opinion were satisfied with the Department's management of trophy animals, antelope, sage grouse, forest grouse, chukar, partridge and waterfowl.

The proportion of residents who thought personnel of the Fish and Game Department were doing a good job of managing wildlife in Idaho varied between the zones of the state (Table 27, Question 21). A majority of the residents with an opinion in the Salmon and Southwestern zones thought Department personnel were not doing a good job of managing deer. The Department's management of elk was not satisfactory for a majority of the residents who had an opinion in the Clearwater, Salmon and Southwestern zones.

The number of years of hunting experience was a factor in the proportion of residents who had an opinion on the Department's management of wildlife in Idaho (Table 28, Question 21). Residents with 11 or more years of experience hunting big game were evenly split on the Department's management of deer (44% satisfied and 44% not satisfied). Nearly half were not satisfied with the management of elk.

Most residents with only a few years of hunting experience approved of the Department's management of all wildlife species.

A large percentage of the residents who listed their big game, upland bird or waterfowl hunting as unsatisfactory also thought Department personnel were not doing a satisfactory job of managing deer, elk, pheasants and waterfowl (Table 29, Question 21). Most people who listed their hunting as excellent or satisfactory thought the Department was doing a satisfactory job of managing all the wildlife species.

#### Non-resident Hunters in Idaho

In recent years, many residents of Idaho have expressed concern about the number of non-resident hunters allowed to hunt in Idaho. The number of non-residents who purchased licenses to hunt big game in Idaho reached a peak in 1969 when 14,325 people purchased the combination license and 4,569 purchased the deer only license (Table 30). In 1969, non-residents comprised 11.5% and 16.7% of the

Table 27. — The percentage of residents in each zone who thought Fish and Game Department personnel were doing a satisfactory job of managing wildlife in Idaho.

Wildlife species	Number in sample	Satisfactory management (% of people)		
		Yes	No	No opinion
<b>Deer</b>				
Panhandle	538	53.3	27.9	18.8
Clearwater	545	45.3	35.1	19.6
Salmon	101	22.8	68.3	8.9
Southwestern	1223	38.7	41.6	19.7
Southcentral	910	48.4	32.3	19.3
Southeastern	1117	55.0	26.8	18.2
<b>Elk</b>				
Panhandle	538	46.5	35.1	18.4
Clearwater	545	33.0	47.9	19.1
Salmon	101	26.7	64.4	8.9
Southwestern	1223	33.7	41.4	24.9
Southcentral	910	39.6	35.2	25.2
Southeastern	1117	45.4	31.9	22.7
<b>Trophy animals</b>				
Panhandle	538	33.5	12.8	53.7
Clearwater	545	32.8	13.6	53.6
Salmon	101	30.7	32.7	36.6
Southwestern	1223	35.1	15.2	49.7
Southcentral	910	38.6	14.6	46.8
Southeastern	1117	43.1	13.6	43.3
<b>Antelope</b>				
Panhandle	537	23.1	6.0	70.9
Clearwater	545	21.1	5.1	73.8
Salmon	101	37.6	20.8	41.6
Southwestern	1222	35.9	10.7	53.4
Southcentral	910	47.5	12.1	40.4
Southeastern	1115	54.7	6.9	38.4
<b>Pheasant</b>				
Panhandle	538	28.8	21.0	50.2
Clearwater	545	24.4	35.1	40.5
Salmon	101	34.7	21.8	43.5
Southwestern	1223	55.3	19.8	24.9
Southcentral	910	65.2	14.6	20.2
Southeastern	1116	55.9	18.4	25.7
<b>Sage grouse</b>				
Panhandle	538	24.0	10.2	65.8
Clearwater	545	24.0	13.2	62.8
Salmon	100	42.0	17.0	41.0
Southwestern	1223	44.2	13.5	42.3
Southcentral	910	57.7	12.6	29.7
Southeastern	1116	49.5	17.8	32.7
<b>Forest grouse</b>				
Panhandle	538	37.2	17.8	45.0
Clearwater	545	35.6	20.0	44.4
Salmon	100	38.0	27.0	35.0
Southwestern	1223	43.2	10.5	46.3
Southcentral	910	46.0	8.8	45.2
Southeastern	1116	47.1	12.6	40.3
<b>Chukar</b>				
Panhandle	538	26.4	5.2	68.4
Clearwater	545	42.6	9.9	47.5
Salmon	100	51.0	12.0	37.0
Southwestern	1223	53.9	9.5	36.6
Southcentral	910	52.3	10.1	37.6
Southeastern	1116	47.2	9.4	43.4
<b>Waterfowl</b>				
Panhandle	536	34.3	8.8	56.9
Clearwater	545	25.5	11.2	63.3
Salmon	100	44.0	8.0	48.0
Southwestern	1221	51.4	12.5	36.1
Southcentral	910	59.7	8.7	31.6
Southeastern	1116	56.3	7.9	35.8

deer and elk hunters in Idaho, and harvested 11.9% and 20.3% of the deer and elk, respectively. In 1971, the Idaho Fish and Game Commission limited the sales of non-resident combination licenses (elk and deer) to 5% of the total resident hunting license sales for the previous year and sales of deer only licenses to 2% of resident sales.

Sales of non-resident licenses for bird hunting had not been restricted by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission. The number of

non-residents who hunted birds (primarily pheasants) in Idaho increased only 300 from 1969 to 1973 (Table 30).

**Restriction of the number of non-resident hunters** — Most resident hunters (86%)

answering the questionnaire indicated a preference to restrict the number of out-of-state hunters in Idaho (Table 31, Question 10). Only 3% of the resident hunters expressed a willingness to allow unrestricted numbers of out-of-staters to hunt in Idaho and 11% had no opinion on the question. Resident hunters who purchased either the combination or hunting only licenses did not differ in their preferences regarding the restriction of out-of-state hunters. The preference to restrict out-of-state hunters in Idaho was consistent in all zones of the state.

Half of the out-of-state hunters thought Idaho should restrict the number of non-resident hunters (Table 31). One-fourth of the non-residents indicated Idaho should allow unrestricted numbers of out-of-staters to hunt in Idaho and the other fourth had no opinion on the question.

More of the non-residents who hunted big game (combination and deer only) thought Idaho should restrict out-of-state hunters than those who hunted upland birds or waterfowl (Table 31). The proportion of out-of-staters who thought Idaho should restrict out-of-state hunters also varied by residence zone. A large percentage (72% of those with the combination license and 85% with the deer license) of the non-residents who came from Zone 10 (Nevada, Utah, Wyoming and Montana) who hunted big game in Idaho and had an opinion thought that Idaho should restrict out-of-staters. Only 44% of the out-of-staters from Zone 10 who purchased the bird license and had an opinion thought Idaho should restrict the number of out-of-state hunters.

The attitude that Idaho should restrict the number of out-of-staters who hunt in Idaho was consistent throughout all categories of residents (Table 32). Approximately 90% of the residents wanted out-of-staters restricted regardless of type hunting preferred, reason for hunting, occupation, income, satisfaction with hunting, reason for dissatisfaction or hunting success of the residents. Residents who listed their competition with non-residents while big game hunting as "not noticeable" had a smaller



Table 28. The percentage of resident hunters who thought the Idaho Fish and Game Department was or was not doing a satisfactory job of managing various game species grouped by years of hunting.

Species hunted	Satisfied with management by department	Years of hunting			
		1	2-5	6-10	11+
<u>Big game</u> (number in sample)		334	1058	704	1761
<u>Deer</u>	Yes	57.2	55.1	52.7	44.4
	No	22.2	29.8	38.2	44.1
	No opinion	20.6	15.1	9.1	11.5
<u>Elk</u>	Yes	46.3	46.7	45.2	36.5
	No	24.5	34.7	41.1	49.1
	No opinion	29.2	18.6	13.8	14.4
<u>Trophy animal</u>	Yes	34.4	39.5	39.8	40.6
	No	13.5	15.2	16.9	15.8
	No opinion	52.0	44.6	43.3	43.6
<u>Antelope</u>	Yes	38.8	41.1	43.0	43.5
	No	7.3	9.7	11.8	8.8
	No opinion	53.9	49.2	45.2	47.7
<u>Upland birds</u> (number in sample)		258	904	609	1395
<u>Pheasants</u>	Yes	59.9	56.5	59.7	59.1
	No	17.8	24.6	26.2	24.7
	No opinion	22.3	19.0	14.1	16.2
<u>Sage grouse</u>	Yes	53.0	48.2	51.1	51.5
	No	6.6	17.3	16.5	17.4
	No opinion	40.3	34.5	32.4	31.1
<u>Forest grouse</u>	Yes	48.5	48.5	53.0	51.3
	No	7.2	15.5	13.7	16.2
	No opinion	44.3	36.0	33.2	32.5
<u>Chukar</u>	Yes	50.6	50.3	57.1	59.2
	No	6.9	11.1	11.8	10.0
	No opinion	42.5	38.6	31.1	30.8
<u>Waterfowl</u> (number in sample)		273	771	410	881
	Yes	64.4	64.4	66.5	64.7
	No	8.1	12.7	15.8	15.1
	No opinion	27.5	22.9	17.7	20.1

Table 29. The percentage of resident hunters who thought the Idaho Fish and Game Department was or was not doing a satisfactory job of managing various game species grouped by their reported satisfaction with hunting.

Species hunted	Satisfied with management by department	Satisfaction with hunting (% of people)			
		Unsatisfactory	Excellent	Satisfactory	No opinion
<u>Big game</u> (number in sample)		1356	531	1787	756
<u>Deer</u>	Yes	26.2	76.5	61.9	29.3
	No	63.4	16.2	25.3	14.5
	No opinion	10.4	7.3	12.8	56.3
<u>Elk</u>	Yes	20.4	71.0	50.2	25.4
	No	67.0	18.6	31.9	14.5
	No opinion	12.6	10.4	17.9	60.1
<u>Trophy animals</u>					
	Yes	32.4	51.3	43.4	22.5
	No	22.0	11.8	12.6	7.9
	No opinion	45.7	36.9	44.0	69.6
<u>Antelope</u>					
	Yes	34.9	56.1	46.1	21.9
	No	14.4	8.9	6.7	4.9
	No opinion	50.7	35.0	47.2	73.2
<u>Upland birds</u> (number in sample)		618	783	1696	1329
<u>Pheasants</u>	Yes	33.5	76.6	61.2	28.3
	No	47.1	13.0	21.0	11.3
	No opinion	19.4	10.4	17.8	60.4
<u>Sage grouse</u>	Yes	31.9	63.1	53.1	24.9
	No	29.8	11.4	14.3	8.0
	No opinion	38.3	25.6	32.6	67.1
<u>Forest grouse</u>	Yes	36.7	58.6	52.6	25.1
	No	31.7	8.9	12.0	8.0
	No opinion	31.6	32.6	35.4	66.9
<u>Chukar partridge</u>	Yes	43.7	63.9	57.3	25.6
	No	19.9	8.9	8.2	5.6
	No opinion	36.4	27.3	34.5	68.8
<u>Waterfowl</u> (number in sample)		350	660	1129	2282
	Yes	36.2	84.1	67.8	31.7
	No	36.0	7.4	12.4	5.2
	No opinion	27.8	8.5	19.8	63.1

proportion of people (82%) who favored restricting non-residents than those who thought competition existed. Nearly all of the residents (94%) who were dissatisfied with big game hunting because of "too many hunters" wanted the number of out-of-state hunters restricted. The attitude of residents regarding the restriction of non-resident hunters was similar

for upland bird and waterfowl hunting groups so we listed only the groupings for big game under competition experience, reasons for dissatisfaction, hunting participation and success and satisfaction with hunting.

We also asked people who wanted to restrict the number of non-resident hunters to indicate the manner in which they wanted them



Table 30. — The number of residents and non-residents who purchased licenses to hunt in Idaho, percentage of deer and elk hunters who were non-residents and the percentage of deer and elk harvested by non-residents.

Year	Resident licenses sold		Non-resident licenses sold			Non-residents (% of total)			
						Hunters		Harvest	
	Combination	Hunt only	Combination	Deer only	Birds	Deer	Elk	Deer	Elk
1966	103,149	63,841	8,312	2,118	4,425	8.0	12.5	7.9	20.9
1967	104,198	65,865	8,745	3,185	4,120	8.0	12.4	9.0	19.6
1968	109,700	68,789	11,735	3,579	5,029	9.7	15.1	10.6	21.3
1969	116,385	71,296	14,325	4,569	6,560	11.5	16.7	11.9	20.3
1970	121,616	69,421	11,930	4,917	5,320	10.4	14.7	10.9	19.0
1971	123,953	71,491	9,612	3,845	6,130	8.5	12.0	10.0	17.0
1972	128,607	71,695	9,591	2,944	7,749	7.3	11.3	8.1	18.4
1973	140,960	74,022	9,772	3,386	6,854				

Table 31. — The percentage of people in our sample who preferred to (1) allow unrestricted numbers, (2) restrict the number, or (3) had no opinion on the restriction of numbers of out-of-state hunters in Idaho.

Residence, license and zone of residence	Number in sample	Allow unrestricted numbers	Restrict the number	No opinion
Residents	4425	2.9	86.0	11.1
Combination	2954	3.0	86.2	10.9
Hunt only	1471	2.8	85.0	11.4
Non-residents	1840	24.1	47.6	28.3
Combination	946	22.5	50.9	26.6
7. Washington	132	33.3	46.2	20.5
8. Oregon	120	17.5	60.8	21.7
9. California	121	18.2	53.7	28.1
10. Wyoming-Nevada	105	22.9	58.1	19.1
11. North Dakota-Arizona	126	19.8	59.5	20.6
12. Wisconsin-Texas	114	24.6	54.4	21.1
13. Michigan-Louisiana	110	22.7	41.8	35.5
14. Maine-Florida	118	28.0	40.7	31.4
Birds only	533	27.4	38.4	34.3
7. Washington	44	27.3	34.1	38.6
8. Oregon	29	27.6	44.8	27.6
9. California	140	27.1	47.1	25.7
10. Wyoming-Nevada	269	33.1	26.4	40.5
11. North Dakota-Arizona	21	14.3	47.6	38.1
12. Wisconsin-Texas	12	25.0	41.7	33.3
13. Michigan-Louisiana	7	0.0	71.4	28.6
14. Maine-Florida	11	0.0	54.6	45.5
Deer only				
7. Washington	53	15.1	58.5	26.4
8. Oregon	39	12.8	61.5	25.6
9. California	51	21.6	56.9	21.6
10. Wyoming-Nevada	42	11.9	66.7	21.4
11. North Dakota-Arizona	45	15.6	62.2	22.2
12. Wisconsin-Texas	44	31.8	38.6	29.8
13. Michigan-Louisiana	47	36.2	36.2	27.7
14. Maine-Florida	40	32.5	52.5	15.0

restricted. Twenty-nine percent of the residents preferred to restrict out-of-state hunters to areas where residents did not adequately harvest the game and 71% wanted to limit the number to a proportion of all hunters (Table 33, Question 10). Nine percent of the people were willing to allow non-residents to make up 20% of all hunters, 19% would allow 10% of the hunters to be non-residents, 27% wanted only 5% non-residents and 17% wanted no non-resident hunters in Idaho. If we assume residents could

adequately harvest the game from all areas of the state then 45% of the resident hunters would prefer that no out-of-staters be allowed to hunt in Idaho and 72% think non-residents should make up no more than 5% of the hunters.

Non-residents differed from residents in the proportion of hunters they thought non-residents should comprise (Table 33). Forty-nine percent of the non-residents thought out-of-staters should make up at least 20% of all Idaho hunters. Only 1% of the non-residents thought Idaho should exclude all non-resident hunters.

The percentage of residents who wanted to limit out-of-state hunters to less than 5% of all hunters did not vary significantly between hunters who preferred big game, upland bird or waterfowl hunting (Table 34). More of the residents who were unsatisfied with their hunting wanted out-of-staters restricted in number to a smaller proportion of all hunters than hunters who ranked their hunting satisfactory or excellent.

**Commission policy on limitation of non-residents** — Nearly 50% of the residents thought the Idaho fish and Game Commission should allow fewer non-residents than their 1971 policy (Table 35). Less than 2% of the residents wanted more out-of-state hunters than the policy allowed and 19% thought the number allowed was about right. Seventeen percent of the people indicated they did not know the Commission's policy and 15% had no opinion.

Table 32. — The attitude of residents regarding the restriction of out-of-state hunters in Idaho, when grouped by type hunting preferred, reason for hunting, occupation, income, competition experience with non-residents, reason for dissatisfaction, hunting success and satisfaction with hunting.

Group	Number in sample	Attitude toward restriction (% of people)		
		Unrestricted numbers	Restricted numbers	No opinion
<b>Type hunting preferred</b>				
Big game	2608	3.1	91.1	5.8
Upland bird	685	2.5	89.6	7.9
Waterfowl	339	4.3	86.6	9.1
<b>Reason for hunting</b>				
Meat	1578	2.0	90.2	7.8
Trophy	50	1.4	90.5	8.1
Companionship	115	3.4	88.2	8.4
Isolation	73	5.5	85.0	9.6
Observe wildlife	148	4.2	89.8	6.0
Relaxation	758	4.1	87.9	8.0
Opportunity out-of-doors	620	4.2	87.6	8.2
Challenge of hunt	729	2.4	90.8	6.8
<b>Occupation</b>				
Household	244	3.0	90.2	7.3
Small business	996	3.1	88.7	8.3
Craftsmen	508	2.2	90.6	7.1
Clerical-sales	281	3.1	91.4	5.5
Managerial	162	4.1	87.3	8.7
Professional	1270	2.4	90.1	7.5
Farm	344	4.2	86.2	9.7
Retired	201	4.1	84.4	11.5
<b>Income</b>				
Under \$3,000	187	3.2	79.1	17.7
\$3,000-4,999	292	3.4	87.0	9.6
\$5,000-5,999	552	2.5	91.1	6.3
\$7,000-9,999	1021	2.8	90.5	6.7
\$10,000-14,999	1025	2.5	91.0	6.6
\$15,000-19,999	317	2.5	90.2	7.3
\$20,000-24,999	113	4.6	90.7	4.7
\$25,000+	107	7.1	88.1	4.7
<b>Competition experience</b>				
<b>Big game</b>				
Not noticeable	770	7.4	81.6	11.0
Noticeable	994	2.8	92.5	4.8
Too much	1441	0.9	96.6	2.5
No opinion	1217	2.6	71.4	26.0
<b>Reason for dissatisfaction</b>				
<b>Big game hunters</b>				
Did not bag game	278	2.2	86.7	11.2
Too many hunters	319	1.9	94.2	4.0
Not enough game	502	4.6	88.9	6.6
Weather	108	5.4	87.8	6.8
Outfitter-guide services	2	0.0	100.0	0.0
Access	17	0.0	90.0	9.1
<b>Hunted big game</b>				
No	2197	3.1	84.6	12.3
Yes	1958	2.7	90.7	6.6
Did not bag game	1937	2.8	90.3	6.9
Did bag game	921	2.9	91.2	5.9
<b>Satisfaction with hunting</b>				
<b>Big game</b>				
Unsatisfactory	1352	2.7	91.3	6.1
Excellent	531	4.3	89.8	5.9
Satisfactory	1782	2.8	90.7	6.6
No opinion	754	2.8	62.0	34.2

Table 33. — The type restriction of non-resident hunters preferred by residents and non-residents who thought Idaho should restrict the number of out-of-state hunters.

	Residents	Non-residents
Number in sample	3841	892
<b>Type restriction</b>		
Restrict to certain areas	28.6%	22.0%
Restrict to proportion of all hunters	71.4	78.0
20% of all hunters	9.2	49.4
10% of all hunters	18.9	20.9
5% of all hunters	26.7	6.5
0% of all hunters	16.6	1.2

Only 7% of the non-residents thought the Commission should have allowed fewer out-of-state hunters, 15% wanted more non-residents, 39% thought the Commission allowed the correct number and 18% didn't know the policy (Table 35).

Residents who reported objectionable competition with non-residents while hunting in 1971 were more inclined to think the Commission should have allowed fewer out-of-state hunters (Table 36). Eighty-one percent of the residents who reported "too much" competition with non-resident hunters thought the Commission should have reduced further the number of out-of-state hunters. Less than 40% of the residents in the other competition categories wanted fewer non-resident hunters.

**Competition with out-of-state hunters** — Forty percent of the residents thought competition with out-of-state hunters while hunting big game in 1971 was either not noticeable or noticeable, but not objectionable. Thirty-three percent of the residents reported too much competition with non-residents and 28% had no opinion on the subject (Figure 21, Question 11). With regard to upland bird and waterfowl hunting, a large percentage of the residents had no opinion about competition with non-residents and less than one-third of those with an opinion thought there was too much competition.

The Salmon and Panhandle zones had the largest percentage of residents who reported too much competition with non-residents while hunting big game (Figure 22). In the Salmon River zone 47% of the residents reported too much competition with out-of-state hunters and only 10% thought the competition was not noticeable. Because of the small population in the Salmon River zone, a large percentage of the hunters in that zone are traditionally non-residents.

The type hunting residents preferred was related to their views of competition with out-of-state hunters. Thirty-seven percent of the residents who preferred big game hunting thought there was too much competition compared to 24% of those who preferred upland bird hunting and 12% of those who preferred waterfowl (Table 37).

The number of years residents had hunted



Table 34. — The percentage of resident hunters grouped by the type hunting they preferred and their satisfaction with hunting, who thought non-resident hunters should be limited to areas where residents not adequately harvest game or to a percentage of all hunters.

Group	Number in sample	Limit non-residents to		Percentage of all hunters			
		Special areas	Percentage of all hunters	20	10	5	0
<b>Hunting preferred</b>							
Big game	2390	30.4	69.6	8.2	17.4	26.9	15.6
Land bird	614	27.7	72.3	10.6	20.5	24.9	14.3
Waterfowl	301	23.7	76.3	7.5	22.7	26.6	18.4
<b>Satisfaction with hunting</b>							
<b>Big game</b>							
Unsatisfactory	1246	26.7	73.3	7.3	14.5	29.4	21.0
Excellent	482	30.3	2.1	9.1	17.9	25.2	15.3
Satisfactory	1642	29.5	1.5	9.6	21.3	24.9	13.3
No opinion	483	29.2	2.5	10.6	18.9	21.1	17.8
<b>Land bird</b>							
Unsatisfactory	580	28.7	1.5	6.8	14.4	28.2	20.4
Excellent	712	27.9	2.5	10.1	18.6	26.1	14.8
Satisfactory	1533	27.1	1.4	9.1	22.3	25.5	14.7
No opinion	1008	31.2	1.4	8.8	14.7	25.2	18.7
<b>Waterfowl</b>							
Unsatisfactory	328	25.9	1.6	5.5	15.2	29.6	22.2
Excellent	604	27.1	1.2	9.0	18.8	28.8	15.2
Satisfactory	1034	27.2	1.8	10.3	18.8	26.0	15.9
No opinion	1866	30.4	1.6	8.7	18.6	24.3	16.5

Table 35. The percentage of people with various views on the Idaho Fish and Game Commission policy on limitation of out-of-state big game hunters.

License classes	Sample size	Opinions on commission policy (% of people)				
		Allow more	Allow fewer	Correct number	Did not know policy	No opinion
Residents	4378	1.7	47.6	18.5	16.9	15.4
Combination	2519	1.9	48.1	11.1	14.7	16.1
Hunt only	1459	1.4	46.6	17.3	20.6	14.1
Non-residents	1307	14.5	6.7	38.5	18.4	21.9
Combination	947	15.1	5.6	37.1	16.7	25.5
Deer only	360	13.0	9.5	42.0	22.9	12.7

Table 36. The views of residents grouped by the competition they experienced with out-of-state big game hunters in Idaho during 1971 regarding the Fish and Game Commission policy on restriction of out-of-state hunters.

Group	Sample size	Opinions on commission policy (% of people)				
		Allow more	Allow fewer	Correct number	Did not know policy	No opinion
<b>Competition experience</b>						
Not noticeable	759	4.9	13.6	30.3	23.9	16.2
Not objectionable	983	2.4	38.6	34.3	17.8	6.9
Too much	1439	0.2	80.9	6.6	9.7	2.5
No opinion	1196	1.0	29.6	12.2	20.1	37.0

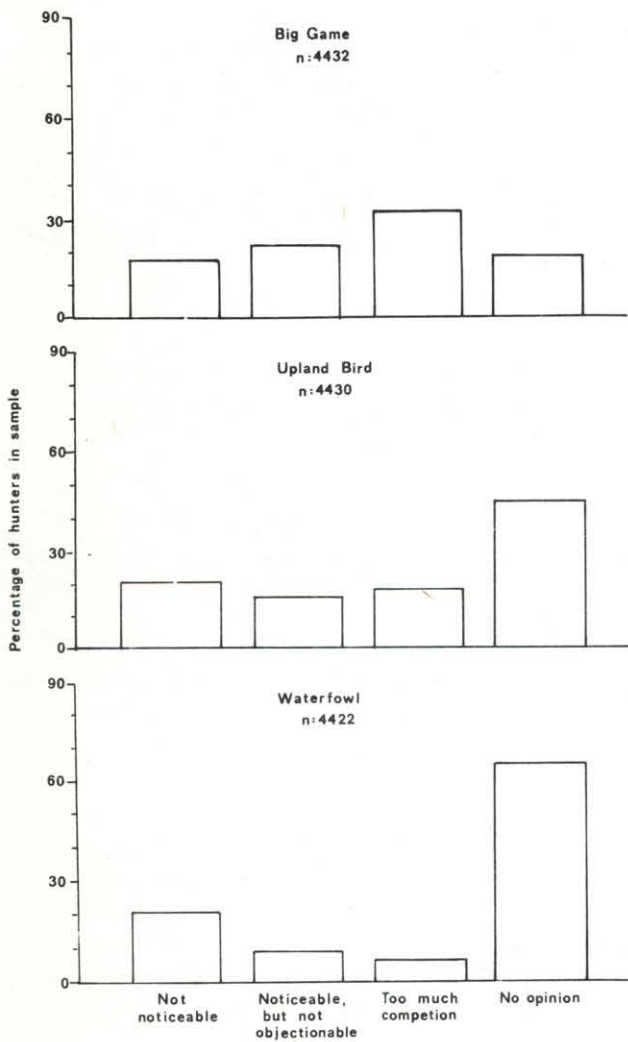


Figure 21. — The percentage of residents who thought competition with non-residents while hunting big game, upland birds or waterfowl in Idaho in 1971 was not noticeable, noticeable but not objectionable, too much, or had no opinion.

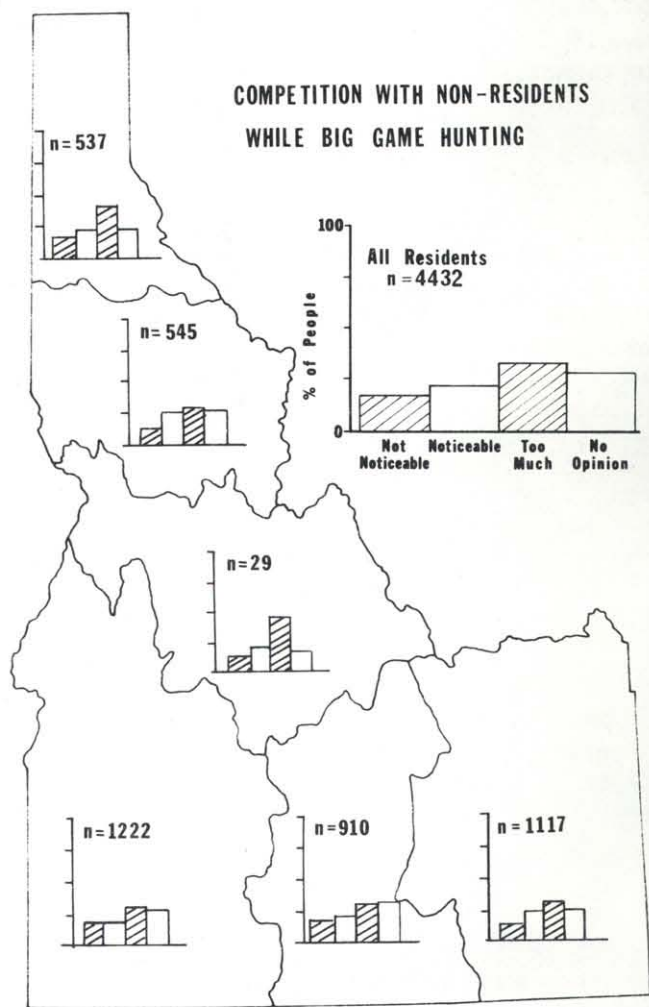


Figure 22. — The percentage of residents by zone of residence who thought competition with out-of-state hunters while hunting big game in 1971 was not noticeable, noticeable but not objectionable, too much, or had no opinion.



big game and upland birds in Idaho was a factor in their views of competition with out-of-state hunters. Residents who thought there was too much competition with out-of-state hunters when hunting big game or upland birds were most numerous among those who had only hunted one year (Table 37).

The group of people who ranked their hunting as unsatisfactory contained more people who reported too much competition with non-residents than the groups who ranked their hunting as satisfactory or excellent (Table 37). Fifty percent of the residents who reported they were not satisfied with their big game hunting thought there was too much competition with out-of-state hunters. Only 26% of those who ranked their hunting excellent thought there was too much competition.

Table 37. — The percentage of people grouped by years they hunted, type hunting they preferred, and their satisfaction with hunting who thought competition with out-of-state hunters was not noticeable, noticeable but not objectionable, too much, or had no opinion when hunting in Idaho during 1971.

Group	Number in sample	Competition with out-of-state hunters (% of people)			
		Not noticeable	Not objectionable	Too much	No opinion
<b>Hunting preference</b>					
Big game	2613	20.1	26.6	37.4	15.9
Upland bird	685	27.8	26.7	24.2	21.3
Waterfowl	339	44.7	17.4	12.1	25.8
<b>Years hunted (big game)</b>					
1	375	19.5	25.7	18.1	36.7
2-5	1096	21.6	27.3	29.4	21.8
6-10	696	19.7	29.0	33.5	17.9
11+	1735	18.3	21.2	37.9	22.5
<b>Satisfaction with hunting</b>					
<b>Big game</b>					
Unsatisfactory	1356	14.5	21.9	49.6	13.9
Excellent	531	30.0	29.6	25.8	14.9
Satisfactory	1785	20.6	28.2	31.3	20.0
No opinion	756	6.8	4.1	10.5	78.6
<b>Upland bird</b>					
Unsatisfactory	619	24.9	17.4	26.5	31.2
Excellent	783	32.4	26.6	24.3	16.7
Satisfactory	1695	28.4	20.9	21.1	29.6
No opinion	1328	4.3	2.8	5.2	87.7
<b>Waterfowl</b>					
Unsatisfactory	350	34.1	13.2	13.8	38.8
Excellent	660	46.3	19.7	9.6	24.5
Satisfactory	1129	35.8	15.2	10.4	38.6
No opinion	2277	4.8	1.3	1.7	92.2

### Hunting state-owned wildlife on federal land

— In the questionnaire sent to non-residents we substituted a question on hunting state-owned wildlife versus federal land for the one on competition with non-residents (Question 11). The question was worded as follows:

Idaho wildlife is owned by the state but much of the big game range is federal land.

Which of the following best expresses your views on out-of-staters and hunting of wildlife in Idaho? (*Check one*)

- \_\_\_ Residents should have preference in hunting for wildlife, with out-of-staters allowed to hunt only if residents cannot harvest the necessary game.
- \_\_\_ The number of out-of-staters should be limited to a fixed percentage of the total of resident hunters.
- \_\_\_ Out-of-staters should have equal opportunity with residents to hunt wildlife in states like Idaho with large areas of federal land.
- \_\_\_ No opinion.

A majority of the non-residents thought they should have equal opportunity with residents in hunting wildlife in a state like Idaho with large areas of federal land (Table 38). Twenty-eight percent of the non-residents thought Idaho should limit non-resident hunters in Idaho and six percent thought hunting should be limited only to residents. The slight difference in attitudes of people who purchased the bird license versus those with the combination or deer license may reflect the realization that most pheasant hunting takes place on private land.

**Proportion of out-of-state hunters** — In a special questionnaire (See Bjornn, 1975 A) to residents, we included information on the proportion of elk and deer hunters who were non-residents and asked the people to indicate if they thought the proportion was too high, about right, or too low. The question was worded as follows:

Listed below is the calculated percentage of elk and deer hunters in Idaho who were from out-of-state and their portion of the total harvest. Note that the relative abundance of out-of-state deer and elk hunters reached a peak in 1969 when 11.5% of the deer hunters and 16.7% of the elk hunters in Idaho that year were out-of-staters.

Out-of-staters have harvested 8-12% of the deer and 9-12% of the elk in recent years.

Table 38. The percentage of non-resident hunters who believed that residents should have preference in hunting for wildlife in Idaho, that the number of non-resident hunters should be limited, that non-residents should have equal opportunity with residents and those that had no opinion.

License	Number in sample	Non-resident hunting opportunity in Idaho (% of people)			
		Limit to residents	Limit non-residents	Equal opportunity	No opinion
Non-residents	1743	6.3	28.3	53.2	12.3
Combination	946	4.9	30.4	55.5	9.2
Bird	436	9.3	23.9	46.0	20.8
Deer	361	4.9	29.9	58.8	6.5

Year	Percentage of out-of-state hunters		Percentage harvest by out-of-state hunters	
	Deer	Elk	Deer	Elk
1966	8.0	12.5	7.9	20.9
1967	8.0	12.4	9.0	19.6
1968	9.7	15.1	10.6	21.3
1969	11.5	16.7	11.9	20.3
1970	10.4	14.7	10.9	19.0

Many of the out-of-state elk hunters use the services of outfitters and guides and are, therefore, somewhat more successful than resident elk hunters.

We estimate out-of-staters will comprise 8-10% of the deer hunters and 12-14% of the elk hunters who hunted in Idaho during 1971.

Which of the following best expresses your feelings regarding the proportion of elk and deer hunters in Idaho who are out-of-staters?

	Deer hunters	Elk hunters
Percentage out-of-staters too high	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Percentage out-of-staters about right	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Percentage out-of-staters too low	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No opinions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Half the residents in the special survey

thought the proportions of out-of-state elk (12% in 1971) and deer (8.5% in 1971) hunters were too high, 30% thought the proportions were about right and less than 5% thought they were too low (Figure 23). The replies of residents to this question in the special questionnaire and to question 12 on commission policy in the regular questionnaire were reasonably consistent (Figure 23 and Table 35). Approximately half the residents in the regular survey thought the Commission should have restricted non-resident hunters to a smaller number and 19% thought the number was about right. Seventeen percent of the residents didn't know the Commission policy regarding out-of-state hunters in the regular questionnaire (Table 35). In the special questionnaire results, 30% of the people thought the proportion of non-resident hunters was about right indicating that many of the people in the regular survey who didn't know the policy thought the number was about right when they were given the information (Figure 23 and Bjornn, 1975 A).

**Restriction of non-residents - increased fees**

— Nearly three-fourths of the residents indicated they would pay more for hunting licenses and tags to make up lost revenue if Idaho significantly restricted the number of out-of-state hunters (Table 39). One-fourth of the people were willing to pay an additional five dollars for a license or tags. Residents who purchased the less expensive hunt only license were as willing to pay additional fees as were people who purchased the combination license



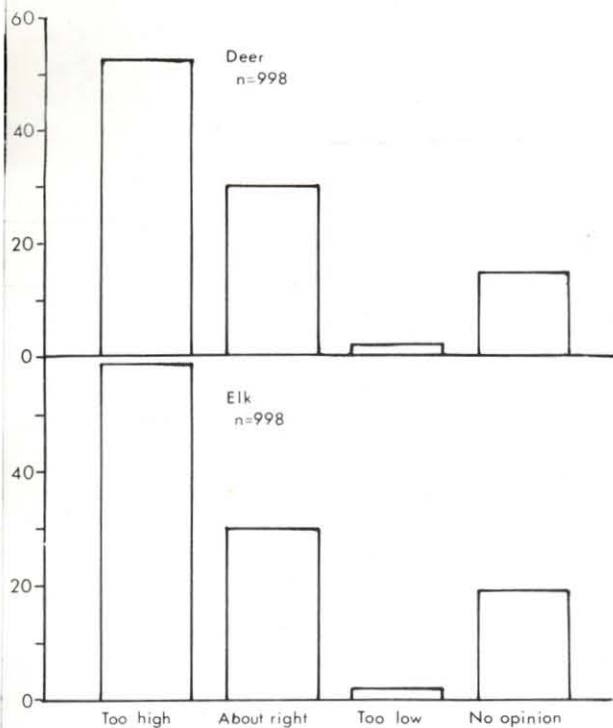


Figure 23. The percentage of residents who thought the proportion of out-of-state deer and elk hunters in Idaho was too high, about right, too low, or had no opinion.

Table 39. — The percentage of residents who purchased licenses in 1971 who were willing to pay more for licenses and tags to hunt in Idaho if the number of non-residents were significantly restricted.

License class	Number in sample	Percentage willing to pay more	Percentage of people willing to pay specified additional amount			
			\$1	\$3	\$5	More
Residents						
License	3895	69.3	21.7	20.3	17.6	9.8
Elk tag	3536	71.6	25.9	19.4	17.6	8.7
Deer tag	3600	70.9	32.6	19.4	11.6	7.3
Combination						
License	2586	69.0	20.1	20.2	18.3	10.3
Elk tag	2366	72.2	25.4	19.4	18.3	9.1
Deer tag	2396	71.1	32.6	18.7	12.1	7.6
Upland only						
License	1309	70.0	24.6	20.3	16.2	8.8
Elk tag	1170	70.6	26.9	19.2	16.4	8.0
Deer tag	1204	70.7	32.6	20.5	10.7	6.8

Fewer residents from the Salmon River residence zone were willing to pay increased fees than people in any other zone of the state (Figure 24). Only 54-55% of the people from the Salmon River zone were willing to pay more for licenses and tags compared to 69-73% from the other zones.

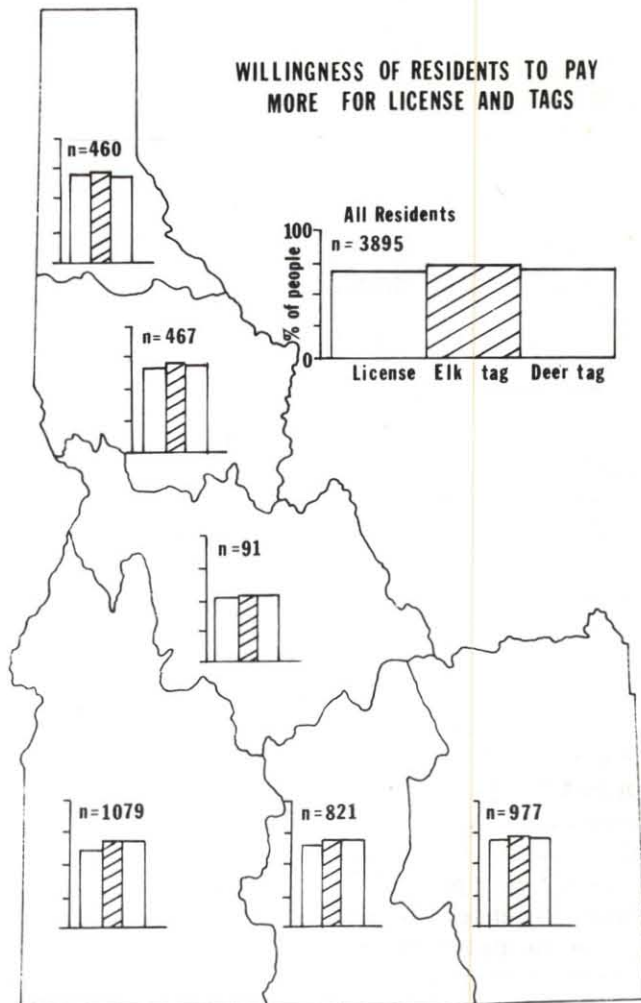


Figure 24. — The percentage of residents by zone who were willing to pay more for licenses or tags if the number of out-of-state hunters were restricted.

Most non-residents were not willing to pay increased fees to hunt in Idaho (Table 40). Seventeen percent of the non-residents who purchased the combination license (\$135) and 20% of those with the deer license (\$75) were willing to pay more to hunt big game. Twenty-five percent of the out-of-staters with the bird license (\$35) were willing to pay more for upland bird hunting.

The residents who reported "too much" competition with out-of-state hunters were more willing to pay increased fees for licenses or tags than those who reported that competition was not noticeable (Table 41). More than three-fourths of the group who reported too much competition would pay more compared to 57-59% of those who did not notice

competition with out-of-state hunters. The type hunting preferred had little influence on the willingness of residents to pay more for licenses and tags.

Table 40. — The percentage of non-residents who were willing to pay more for licenses to hunt big game, upland birds and waterfowl in Idaho in 1971.

License class	Number in sample	Percentage willing to pay more	Percentage of people willing to pay specified additional amount				
			\$10	\$25	\$50	\$100	More
<b>Non-residents</b>							
Big game	1211	17.4	4.0	6.3	4.4	1.9	0.8
Upland birds	714	13.5	8.7	3.1	1.2	0.4	0.2
Waterfowl	519	11.7	8.5	1.8	0.8	0.5	0.2
<b>Combination</b>							
Big game	881	16.5	3.4	6.5	3.5	2.1	1.0
Upland birds	338	6.0	4.0	2.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Waterfowl	302	5.0	4.3	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0
<b>Bird license</b>							
Upland birds	376	25.4	16.1	4.8	3.0	1.0	0.5
Waterfowl	217	22.2	15.1	3.8	3.0	1.0	0.5
<b>Deer license</b>							
Big game	330	19.8	5.7	5.5	6.8	1.6	0.1

Table 41. — The percentage of resident hunters grouped by their experience of competition with out-of-state big game hunters in Idaho during 1971 and their hunting preference who would or would not pay an increased annual fee for hunting licenses or elk or deer tags if the number of out-of-state hunters were restricted.

Group	Number in sample	Willing to pay increased fees (% of people)					
		No	Yes	If yes, how much?			
				\$1	\$3	\$5	More
<b>Competition experience</b>							
<u>Hunting license</u>							
Not noticeable	719	40.6	59.4	20.3	18.0	13.6	7.5
Not objectionable	931	29.9	70.1	22.1	21.4	18.3	8.2
Too much	1349	22.7	77.4	22.0	21.5	20.9	13.0
No opinion	895	35.4	64.6	22.2	19.2	15.0	8.3
<u>Elk tag</u>							
Not noticeable	659	41.6	58.4	23.1	17.6	10.9	6.8
Not objectionable	898	26.3	73.7	29.6	20.4	17.0	6.7
Too much	1300	19.9	80.1	27.2	20.1	21.9	10.9
No opinion	678	34.0	66.0	21.8	18.4	16.9	8.9
<u>Deer tag</u>							
Not noticeable	679	42.1	57.0	30.8	14.7	7.2	5.2
Not objectionable	913	27.2	72.8	36.7	18.7	12.3	5.1
Too much	1315	20.6	79.4	33.7	22.4	13.6	9.7
No opinion	692	34.5	65.5	27.2	19.4	11.2	7.8
<b>Hunting preference</b>							
<u>Big game</u>							
Hunting license	2406	30.2	69.8	22.4	19.4	17.9	10.2
Elk tag	2297	27.7	72.3	26.9	19.5	17.7	8.2
Deer tag	2333	29.0	71.0	34.0	19.0	11.1	6.9
<u>Upland bird</u>							
	646	29.3	70.7	19.2	24.5	16.7	10.4
<u>Waterfowl</u>							
	318	23.6	76.4	25.3	23.9	18.0	9.1

### Management of Pheasants

**Noon opening** — The pheasant season in southern Idaho opens at noon and 48% of all residents in the survey favored the noon opening while 22% wanted the season to open at

daylight and 30% had no opinion (Figure 25). In northern Idaho, most residents did not have a strong preference for either a noon or early morning opening. In southern Idaho, however, most residents preferred the noon opening. Fifty percent of the non-residents with the bird license preferred the noon opening, 33% the early morning opening and 17% had no opinion. More of the hunters with many years of experience hunting upland birds preferred the noon opening than hunters with few years of experience (Table 42).

A majority of people in southern Idaho preferred the noon opening regardless of their occupation (Table 43). As expected, a large proportion of the farmers preferred the noon

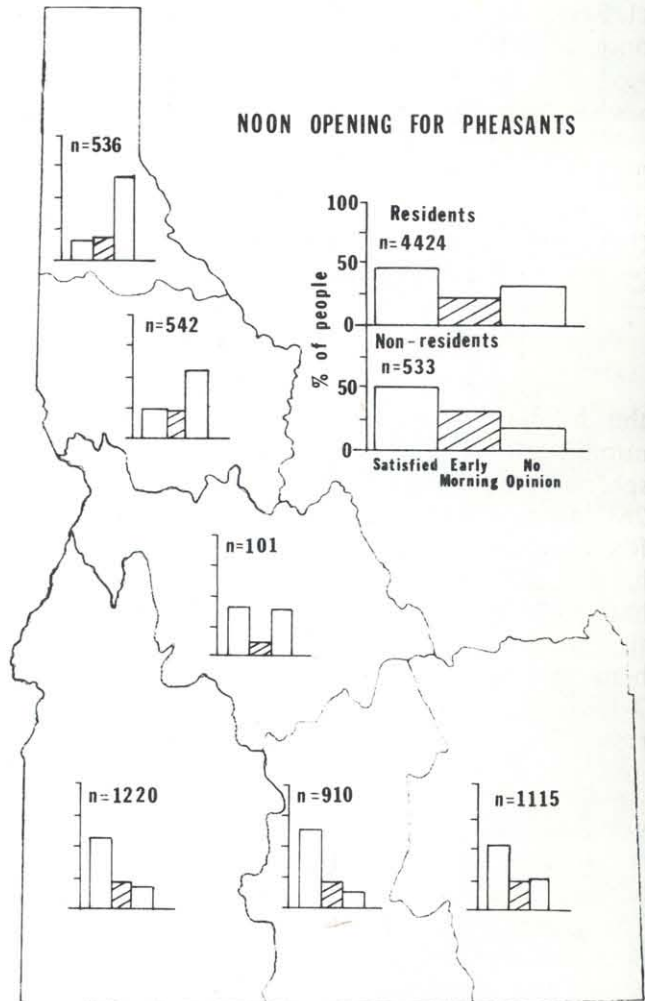


Figure 25. — The percentage of residents and non-resident bird hunters who preferred a noon or early morning opening for the pheasant season in southern Idaho.



opening but the proportion was not any larger than for many other occupational groups.

Table 42. — The percentage of residents grouped by years they had hunted upland birds who preferred the noon or early morning opening for pheasants in southern Idaho.

Years of upland bird hunting	Number in sample	Opening time (% of people)		
		Noon	Early morning	No preference
1	258	42.1	35.8	22.0
2-5	901	44.5	32.0	23.5
6-10	608	57.5	23.7	18.8
11+	1392	63.6	19.8	16.6

Table 43. — The percentage of residents (with combination license) of various occupation classes and residence zones who preferred the noon opening in southern Idaho.

Occupation class	Preferred the noon opening			
	Clearwater zone	Southwest zone	Southcentral zone	Southeast zone
Household	16.0	61.7	67.7	46.7
Small business	23.0	62.3	63.0	62.4
Craftsmen	19.2	66.3	68.8	64.7
Clerical and sales	16.7	67.1	78.1	65.2
Managerial	20.0	76.7	82.8	65.5
Professional and student	26.0	56.0	63.6	50.0
Farm	23.3	63.2	74.2	70.5
Retired	29.6	70.8	71.4	65.5

**Hunting of hen pheasants** — A majority of the hunters in the survey thought a limited number of hen pheasants should be taken under special regulations, seasons or bag limits (Figure 26). In the Panhandle, Clearwater and Salmon River zones, most residents favored a limited harvest of hen pheasants but a large proportion had no opinion on the subject. Only 16-22% of the residents from the various zones thought hens should not be hunted at any time and 7-13% thought hens should be hunted without restriction.

Most residents with an opinion, regardless of years of experience, type hunting preferred, or reason for hunting, thought limited hunting for hen pheasants should be allowed (Table 44). The group of people who ranked their upland bird hunting as unsatisfactory had a larger proportion of hunters who thought there should be no hunting for hens than those who had satisfaction or excellent hunting. The residents who hunted for a trophy also had a large proportion of people who thought hens should not be hunted.

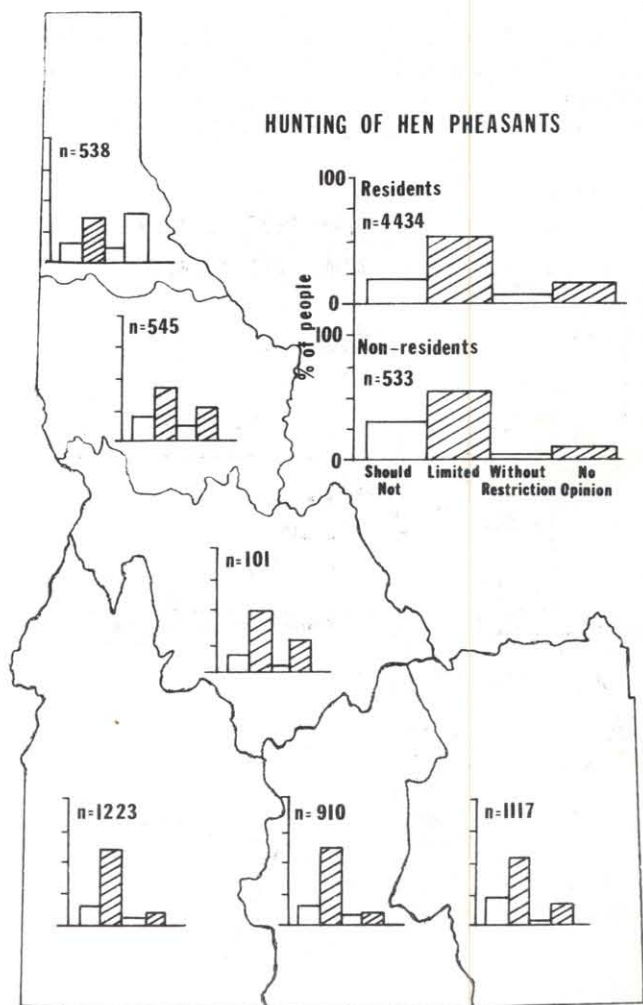


Figure 26. — The percentage of residents (statewide and from various zones) and non-residents who thought hen pheasants should not be hunted, thought limited numbers of hens should be harvested, thought hens should be hunted without restrictions, or had no opinion.

**Game Farm Pheasants** — Nearly half of the residents had no opinion on the question of providing hunting with pheasants produced in a game farm (Figure 27). Of those who expressed an opinion, about half thought providing hunting with game farm pheasants was a good program and should be continued and the other half thought it was a poor program and should be discontinued. In the Panhandle zone where the pheasant hunting is almost entirely dependent on pheasants produced in game farms, the people were evenly split on the question as they were in southern Idaho where game farm birds contribute little to the total harvest.

Nearly half of the non-residents with the bird license thought the Department should continue to provide hunting by releasing pheasants reared on game farms (Figure 27).

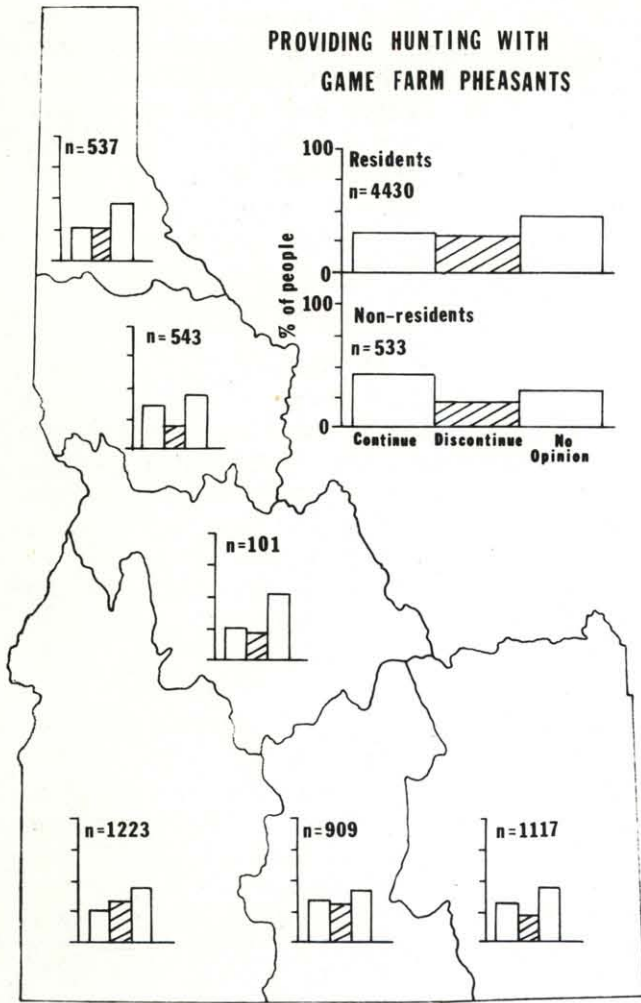


Figure 27. — The proportion of residents and non-resident bird hunters who thought providing hunting with game farm produced pheasants should be continued or discontinued.

Approximately one-third of the residents regardless of years of experience, satisfaction with upland bird hunting or reason for hunting thought hunting provided by game farm pheasants was a good program and should be continued (Table 45). A smaller proportion of the residents who preferred to hunt big game or hunted mainly for a trophy thought hunting for game farm pheasants was a good program compared to those who preferred to hunt birds or hunted for other reasons.

Table 44. — The percentage of resident hunters who thought hen pheasants should or should not be hunted in Idaho grouped by years of hunting, type hunting preferred, satisfaction with upland bird hunting and reason for hunting.

Group	Number in sample	Hunting of hen pheasants (% of people)			
		Should not	Limited hunting	Without restriction	No opinion
<b>Years of hunting upland birds</b>					
1	258	22.8	55.2	9.0	13.0
2-5	904	18.9	59.0	12.0	10.0
6-10	609	19.6	63.3	8.9	8.1
11+	1395	20.8	61.9	9.4	7.9
<b>Type hunting preferred</b>					
Big game	2613	19.1	54.0	9.3	17.6
Upland bird	685	19.7	65.0	10.4	5.0
Waterfowl	340	19.3	66.0	8.2	6.5
<b>Satisfaction with upland bird hunting</b>					
Unsatisfactory	619	25.8	51.8	10.8	11.5
Excellent	785	17.7	66.7	10.2	5.4
Satisfactory	1699	19.1	63.0	9.5	8.4
No opinion	1330	13.5	36.0	7.0	43.5
<b>Reason for hunting</b>					
Meat	1583	17.3	52.8	10.4	19.6
Trophy	50	38.0	47.2	5.3	9.5
Companionship	115	23.5	53.8	6.9	15.9
Isolation	73	21.7	59.2	10.9	8.3
Observe wildlife	150	21.5	56.1	6.2	16.2
Relaxation	759	19.0	58.9	9.9	12.2
Out-of-doors	620	16.9	60.6	10.9	11.6
Challenge of hunt	730	20.9	57.8	6.5	14.9
Do not hunt	50	16.4	40.0	1.5	42.0
Other	37	17.4	51.1	17.4	14.1

Table 45. — The percentage of resident hunters who thought hunting provided by game farm pheasants was or was not a good program that should or should not be continued, grouped by years of hunting upland birds, type hunting preferred, satisfaction with upland bird hunting and reason for hunting.

Group	Number in sample	Hunting provided by game farm pheasants (% of people)		
		Continue	Discontinue	No opinion
<b>Years of hunting upland birds</b>				
1	258	38.0	26.5	35.5
2-5	903	32.2	29.6	38.2
6-10	609	29.6	35.3	35.2
11+	1393	36.7	31.7	31.5
<b>Type hunting preferred</b>				
Big game	2611	28.4	28.7	42.9
Upland bird	685	37.2	31.4	31.4
Waterfowl	340	33.4	34.4	32.2
<b>Satisfaction with upland bird hunting</b>				
Unsatisfactory	619	36.8	31.1	32.1
Excellent	785	31.4	35.7	33.0
Satisfactory	1698	35.4	28.5	36.1
No opinion	1327	17.6	16.8	65.5
<b>Reason for hunting</b>				
Meat	1581	28.7	25.0	46.3
Trophy	50	18.8	51.4	29.8
Companionship	115	32.0	29.8	38.2
Isolation	73	23.2	49.2	27.6
Observe wildlife	150	31.3	28.1	40.5
Relaxation	758	34.8	26.6	38.6
Out-of-doors	620	33.9	30.2	36.0
Challenge of hunt	730	29.3	29.7	41.0
Do not hunt	50	18.0	19.9	62.1
Other	37	40.9	22.2	36.9



## Management of Big Game Herds

**Current policies of department** — A majority of the people in the survey who had an opinion approved the current policy of the Department with regard to regulating big game numbers (Figure 28, Question 22). In the Salmon River zone 50% of the residents disapproved of the Department's policy and in the Clearwater zone the proportion of people who disapproved equaled the proportion who approved.

Nearly one-third of the residents throughout the state did not know the Department's policy on regulating big game numbers (Figure 28). We

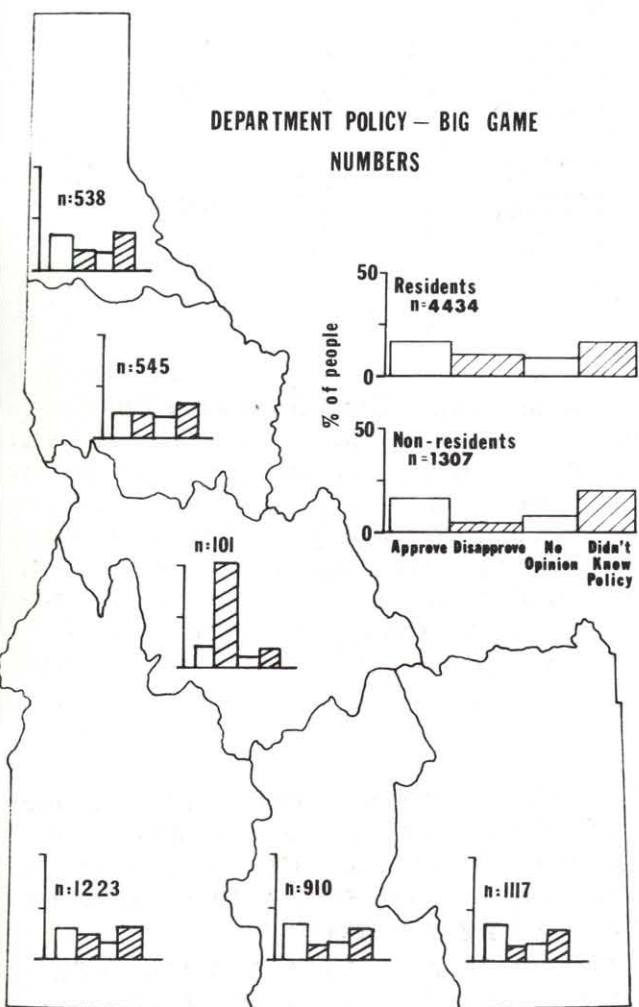


Figure 28. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who approved, disapproved, had no opinion, or did not know the Fish and Game Department's policy on regulating big game numbers.

did not inform the people in this survey of the Department's policy but we did in a special survey as listed below (Bjornn, 1975).

“The current policy of the Idaho Fish and Game Department is to attempt to regulate the abundance of big game animals in each area at the number which the natural winter range will support during normal winters. During emergency situations and severe winters, the animals will be herded, baited, or live trapped and moved to areas with natural feed if possible. Emergency winter feeding will be undertaken only as a last resort.”

With regard to the Department's policy on emergency winter feeding of big game, a majority of the people who knew the policy or had an opinion approved the policy (Figure 29, Question 22). Nearly one-third of the residents did not know the policy on winter feeding as briefly stated in the preceding paragraph. The Salmon and Clearwater River zones had the largest proportion of residents who disapproved of the policy on winter feeding.

### Supplemental feeding to increase herds —

About half the people in the survey thought the Department should attempt to increase big game herds through supplemental winter feeding (Table 46, first part of Question 22). Nearly one-third thought the Department should not attempt to increase big game herds in excess of the natural capacity of the winter range and 17% had no opinion on the question.

The opinions of people regarding supplemental winter feeding to increase big game herds varied, some based on the number of years they had hunted big game, their

Table 46. — The percentage of licensed hunters who thought the Department should or should not attempt to artificially increase the abundance of deer and elk through supplemental winter feeding.

Residence and license	Number in sample	Supplemental winter feeding (% of people)		
		Should not	Should	No opinion
Residents	4433	32.4	50.5	17.1
Combination	2963	34.5	48.7	16.7
Hunt only	1470	28.7	53.5	17.8
Non-residents	1308	29.1	55.6	15.3
Combination	947	29.7	54.6	15.8
Deer only	361	27.6	58.3	14.2

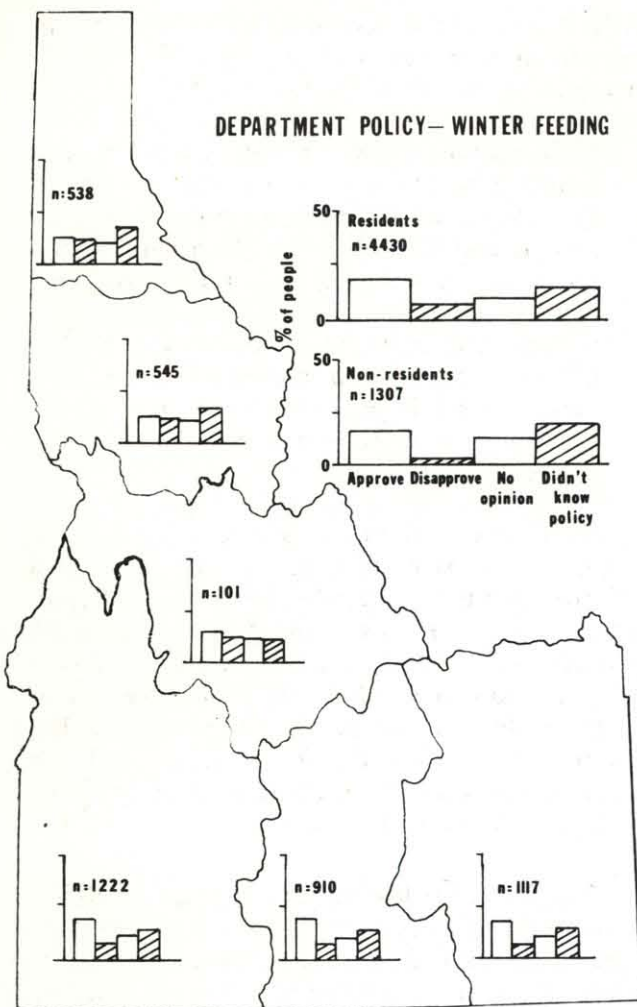


Figure 29. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who approved, disapproved, had no opinion, or did not know the Fish and Game Department's policy on winter emergency feeding of big game.

satisfaction with hunting, their primary reason for hunting and occupation (Table 47, Question 22). The groups of residents who reported few years of hunting experience, unsatisfactory big game hunting and hunting primarily for meat or trophy had the largest proportions of people who thought the Department should increase big game herds through supplemental winter feeding. Groups with many years of hunting experience, excellent hunting, who hunted mainly for companionship or isolation and were farmers, managers, retired or professionals had the smallest proportion of people who thought the Department should increase big game herds through supplemental winter feeding.

Table 47. — The percentage of resident hunters who thought the Idaho Fish and Game Department should or should not attempt to increase big game herds by supplemental winter feeding, grouped by years they hunted big game, satisfaction with their big game hunting, their main reason for hunting, and their occupation.

Group	Number in sample	Supplemental winter feeding (% of people)		
		Should not	Should	No opinion
<b>Years hunted big game</b>				
1	327	31.7	55.1	13.3
2-5	1033	29.9	57.6	12.5
6-10	696	37.0	51.5	11.5
11+	1745	37.4	52.5	10.2
<b>Satisfaction with big game hunting</b>				
Unsatisfactory	1357	25.5	66.4	8.1
Excellent	531	43.1	45.9	11.0
Satisfactory	1787	38.3	49.5	12.2
No opinion	756	23.4	27.7	48.8
<b>Reason for hunting</b>				
Meat	1582	29.9	56.9	13.2
Trophy	50	26.9	59.3	13.7
Companionship	115	42.8	39.3	18.0
Isolation	73	43.9	39.8	16.2
Observe wildlife	150	34.6	52.1	13.3
Relaxation	759	37.6	47.8	14.7
Out-of-doors	620	39.7	47.2	13.1
Challenge of hunt	730	30.7	55.6	13.7
<b>Occupation</b>				
Household	246	29.6	57.8	12.6
Small business	997	30.1	57.0	13.0
Craftsmen	510	34.7	54.1	11.2
Clerical-sales	281	34.9	57.9	7.2
Managerial	162	39.8	46.9	14.4
Professional	1270	36.9	49.8	13.4
Farm	348	38.9	47.3	13.8
Retired	201	36.5	45.9	17.6

**Winter range - basis for management** — A majority of the residents and non-residents thought the amount and condition of vegetation on big game winter range was the proper basis for managing big game populations (Table 48, Question 18). Seventeen percent of the residents did not think winter range vegetation was the proper basis for management of big game herds and 26% did not have an opinion on the question.

Table 48. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who believe the amount and condition of vegetation on big game winter range was or was not the proper basis for managing big game populations.

License class	Number in sample	Winter range-basis for management (% of people)		
		Yes	No	No opinion
Residents	4428	57.1	17.1	25.8
Combination	2960	58.9	16.2	25.0
Hunt only	1468	54.1	18.6	27.3
Non-residents	1307	62.0	12.4	25.6
Combination	946	61.3	13.2	25.5
Deer only	361	63.8	10.5	25.8



A smaller proportion of the residents who had hunted few years for big game thought winter range vegetation was the proper basis for managing big game than the hunters who had many years of hunting experience (Table 49, Question 18). The proportion of residents who thought winter range vegetation was the proper basis for management of big game herds was the same regardless of occupation.

Table 49. — The percentage of resident hunters who thought the amount and condition of vegetation on big game winter range was or was not the proper basis for managing big game populations grouped by years of hunting and occupation.

Group	Number in sample	Winter range-basis for management (% of people)		
		Yes	No	No opinion
<b>Years of hunting</b>				
1	327	56.1	16.6	27.3
2-5	1030	56.2	28.4	25.4
6-10	696	64.0	18.7	17.3
11+	1744	65.9	18.4	15.7
<b>Occupation</b>				
Household	246	57.0	28.8	23.8
Small business	996	60.9	19.3	19.8
Craftsmen	510	62.1	16.4	21.5
Clerical-sales	281	59.3	20.1	20.7
Managerial	162	64.0	15.2	20.9
Professional	1268	57.2	17.1	25.7
Farm	348	63.8	15.5	20.7
Retired	200	61.0	10.2	28.9

**Supplemental salt for big game animals** — A large proportion of the residents (61%) thought it was necessary to distribute supplemental salt for big game animals and that the program should be continued or expanded (Table 50, Question 14). Only 5% of the residents thought the distribution of supplemental salt for big game animals was unnecessary and 34% did not have an opinion on the question. A larger proportion (44%) of the non-residents had no opinion on the question, but 50% thought the distribution of salt for big game was necessary.

Two-thirds of the hunters who had hunted 6 or more years for big game thought it was necessary to distribute supplemental salt for big game, while only 56% of the hunters who had hunted only 1 year thought it was necessary (Table 51, Question 14). A smaller proportion of the residents who were retired or had managerial or professional occupations thought supplemental salt for big game was necessary compared to the people in the rest of the occupation groups.

Table 50. — The percentage of licensed hunters who believed there should be supplemental salting of big game, those who believed supplemental salting unnecessary, and those having no opinion.

License class	Number in sample	Supplemental salt (% of people)		
		Necessary	Unnecessary	No opinion
Residents	4435	60.8	4.9	34.3
Combination	2964	60.2	5.4	34.5
Hunt only	1471	61.9	4.2	34.0
Non-residents	1307	50.1	5.8	44.1
Combination	946	47.5	5.7	46.8
Deer only	361	56.7	6.2	37.2

Table 51. — The percentage of resident hunters who thought supplemental salt was or was not necessary for big game animals grouped by the number of years they had hunted and their occupation.

Group	Number in sample	Supplemental salt (% of people)		
		Necessary	Unnecessary	No opinion
<b>Years hunted</b>				
1	327	55.7	5.2	39.1
2-5	1034	60.3	4.6	35.1
6-10	696	67.8	5.3	26.9
11+	1744	67.1	5.9	27.0
<b>Occupation</b>				
Household	245	66.5	4.8	28.6
Small business	997	68.3	4.3	27.4
Craftsmen	511	66.4	5.4	28.2
Clerical-sales	281	61.9	2.7	35.4
Managerial	162	57.5	5.4	36.6
Professional	1270	58.5	5.4	36.1
Farm	347	65.2	6.2	28.6
Retired	201	55.5	10.6	33.9

**Quantity versus quality hunting** — Ten percent of the residents wanted the big game herds managed for quantity hunting which we described in the questionnaire as maximum harvest — open season with no restrictions on the number of hunters and a lower success rate (Table 52, Question 15). Twenty-one percent of the residents preferred the department to manage each herd for quality hunting which we described as trophy animals, less than maximum harvest of animals, low density of hunters through use of special permits and a higher rate of success. The largest proportion of hunters (41%) wanted some herds managed for quality hunting and some for quantity hunting.

The non-residents who hunted for big game were about evenly divided on preferring the herds managed for quality hunting or managed

for both quality and quantity hunting (Table 53, Question 15). Only 6% of the non-residents preferred management for quantity hunting.

Table 52. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who preferred to manage big game herds for quantity, quality, or both types of hunting.

Residence and license	Number in sample	Type herd management preferred (% of people)			
		Quantity	Quality	Both	No opinion
Residents	4437	9.8	20.5	41.3	28.4
Combination	2965	10.1	20.3	42.7	26.9
Hunt only	1472	9.4	20.7	38.9	31.1
Non-residents	1309	5.7	36.6	35.5	20.4
Combination	947	7.8	34.6	37.3	20.4
Deer only	362	6.8	41.9	30.9	20.5

Table 53. — The percentage of resident hunters who preferred quantity, quality, or both types of big game hunting grouped by their age, years of hunting, preferred type of hunting, satisfaction with big game hunting and reason for hunting.

Group	Number in sample	Type herd management preferred (% of people)			
		Quantity	Quality	Both	No opinion
<u>Age group</u>					
Less than 20	815	9.4	16.3	38.3	36.1
20-29	1004	8.2	22.3	46.5	23.1
30-39	858	8.2	23.9	47.1	20.9
40-49	751	11.8	20.8	41.5	25.9
50-59	617	11.4	21.7	35.1	31.8
60+	390	10.7	16.6	32.6	40.0
<u>Years of hunting</u>					
1	327	10.1	21.5	41.6	26.8
2-5	1034	9.0	20.0	45.2	25.9
6-10	697	7.9	21.9	49.5	20.7
11+	1745	12.2	23.4	43.2	21.2
<u>Type hunting preferred</u>					
Big game	2613	11.1	21.3	46.2	21.4
Upland bird	685	8.6	22.5	42.2	26.7
Waterfowl	340	7.8	23.8	43.5	24.9
<u>Satisfaction with big game hunting</u>					
Unsatisfactory	1357	12.0	26.8	39.2	21.9
Excellent	531	10.4	20.5	47.3	21.8
Satisfactory	1788	10.2	19.4	48.1	22.2
No opinion	755	4.4	11.6	25.1	58.9
<u>Reason for hunting</u>					
Meat	1713	11.4	17.4	40.4	30.8
Trophy	52	6.6	30.3	42.2	21.0
Companionship	123	5.7	25.1	38.8	30.5
Isolation	79	12.5	22.8	45.6	19.0
Observe wildlife	177	6.7	28.7	33.0	31.6
Relaxation	823	8.7	22.2	42.2	26.9
Out-of-doors	667	8.3	21.3	46.1	24.3
Challenge	801	10.1	21.0	40.6	28.4

**Methods of restricting or increasing harvest**

— A shorter general season was the preferred method of restricting the harvest of big game in most areas of the state except for south central and southeastern Idaho (Figure 30, Question 16). In south central Idaho most residents

preferred to restrict the big game harvest through controlled hunts in which the number of hunters would be regulated by a drawing and thus regulating the number of animals harvested but a longer season would be allowed. In Southeastern Idaho the residents were evenly split between the two methods of restricting the harvest. Only 12% of the residents had no opinion on the question.

The preferred method of restricting the harvest varied with the age, years of hunting big game, satisfaction with big game hunting, and the primary reason for hunting (Table 54, Question 16). The proportion of residents who preferred to restrict the harvest by reducing the

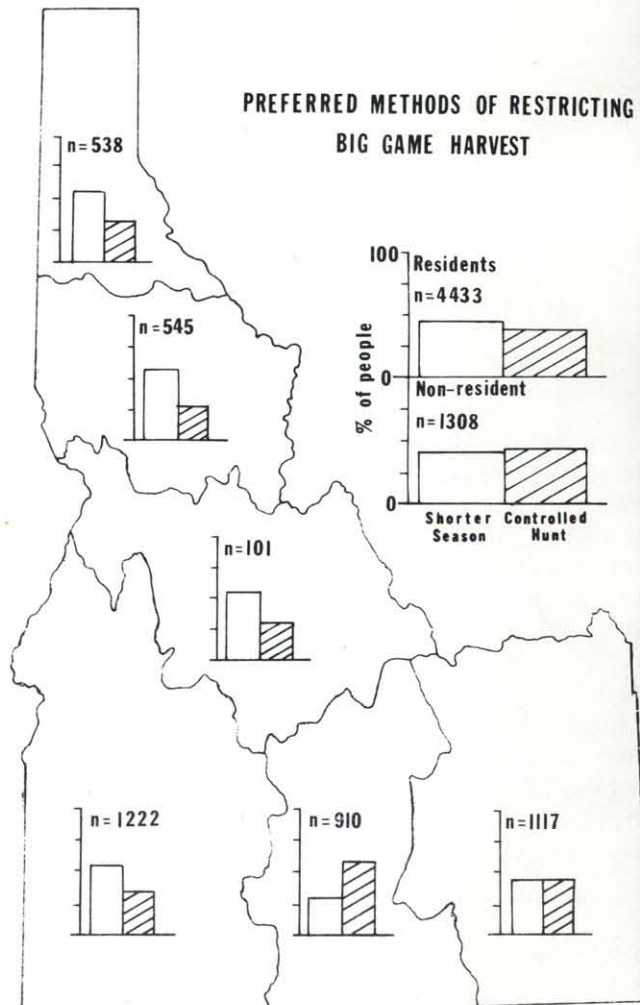


Figure 30. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who preferred to restrict the harvest of big game by shorter general seasons or controlled hunts.



Table 54. — The percentage of resident hunters who preferred to shorten the season or have controlled hunts to restrict the harvest of deer when necessary with grouping by age, years of hunting, satisfaction with big game hunting and reason for hunting.

Group	Number in sample	Preferred method of restricting harvest (% of people)		
		Shorten season	Controlled hunt	No opinion
<b>Age group</b>				
Less than 20	756	40.6	36.7	22.7
20-29	938	47.0	41.9	11.2
30-39	806	47.0	46.1	7.0
40-49	699	49.2	41.4	9.5
50-59	540	56.8	35.2	8.0
60+	366	57.9	24.0	18.1
<b>Years of hunting big game</b>				
1	327	38.0	44.9	17.1
2-5	1034	46.4	40.2	13.4
6-10	696	49.0	39.9	11.1
11+	1745	54.8	39.0	6.2
<b>Satisfaction with big game hunting</b>				
Unsatisfactory	1357	57.0	34.6	8.5
Excellent	531	45.9	45.0	9.1
Satisfactory	1788	46.8	42.9	10.3
No opinion	755	27.1	26.8	46.1
<b>Reason for hunting</b>				
Meat	1538	51.4	35.5	13.1
Trophy	50	39.1	51.2	9.7
Companionship	115	40.4	41.9	17.7
Isolation	73	53.4	42.5	4.2
Observe wildlife	149	53.5	33.2	13.4
Relaxation	759	45.4	44.2	10.5
Out-of-doors	620	46.0	41.7	12.3
Challenge of hunt	730	49.0	39.5	11.5
Do not hunt	50	35.8	28.2	36.0
Other	37	38.3	45.6	16.1

length of the hunting season increased from the youngest age groups up through the oldest age groups and from the people who had few years of hunting experience up to those who had many years of hunting experience. A larger proportion of the residents who reported unsatisfactory big game hunting preferred to restrict the harvest by a reduced season than those who had excellent or satisfactory experience hunting for big game. The people who had excellent or satisfactory hunting for big game were evenly split in preferring either a reduced season or a controlled hunt to restrict the harvest of big game. Fifty percent of the people who hunted primarily for a trophy preferred to restrict the harvest by means of a controlled hunt and only 39% preferred the reduced season length.

When an increased harvest of deer is necessary in a particular management unit 47% of the residents preferred to increase the length

of the season and allow 1 deer per hunter on the regular tag (Figure 31, Question 17). Forty-two of the residents preferred to provide extra deer tags so that hunters may take an additional deer when an increased harvest is necessary. Southeast Idaho was the only zone in the state where a majority of the people preferred to increase the harvest through the use of extra deer tags. Most non-residents (58%) also preferred to use extra deer tags to increase the harvest of deer. Thirty-three percent of the non-residents preferred to increase the season length.

The proportion of hunters who preferred either method of increasing the harvest of deer did not differ based on the years of big game

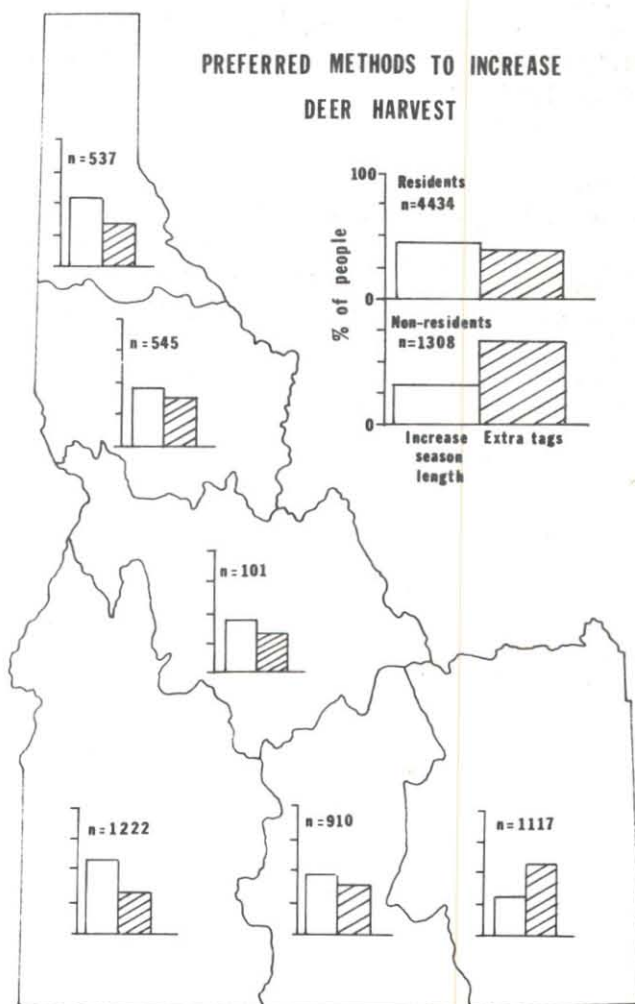


Figure 31. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who preferred to increase the deer harvest by increasing the length of the season or providing extra tags.

hunting (Table 55, Question 17). Fifty-six percent of the residents who ranked their big game hunting in 1971 as unsatisfactory preferred to increase the harvest by increasing the length of the season while only 38% preferred to issue extra tags. A majority of the hunters who ranked their hunting as excellent in 1971 preferred to provide extra tags to increase the harvest. Hunters who had unsatisfactory hunting wanted additional time to bag an animal and those who reported excellent hunting wanted the opportunity to bag additional deer. Except for the residents who hunted primarily for meat, a majority of the people who hunted for other reasons preferred to increase the season length to increase the harvest of deer. Forty-eight percent of the residents who hunted primarily for meat preferred to increase the harvest of deer by providing extra tags, a preference which was consistent with their reason for hunting.

Table 55. — The percentage of resident hunters who preferred to increase the length of the season or allow extra tags to increase the harvest of deer when necessary with response by years of hunting, satisfaction with big game hunting and reason for hunting.

Group	Number in sample	Preferred way to increase harvest (% of people)		
		Increase season	Extra tags	No opinion
<b>Years of hunting</b>				
1	327	47.3	45.1	7.6
2-5	1032	52.0	42.0	5.9
6-10	696	46.0	48.1	5.9
11+	1745	48.7	46.0	5.3
<b>Satisfaction with big game hunting</b>				
Unsatisfactory	1357	55.9	37.5	6.7
Excellent	530	43.7	53.0	3.2
Satisfactory	1787	46.8	48.0	5.3
No opinion	756	32.4	26.1	41.6
<b>Reason for hunting</b>				
Meat	1582	44.8	47.5	7.7
Trophy	50	53.7	36.6	9.7
Companionship	115	49.5	37.5	13.0
Isolation	73	62.8	33.1	4.1
Observe wildlife	150	52.1	37.2	10.7
Relaxation	759	51.9	40.4	7.7
Out-of-doors	620	48.2	43.2	8.6
Challenge of hunt	729	52.0	40.6	7.4
Do not hunt	50	42.4	25.7	31.9
Other	37	56.5	34.8	8.7

**Roads-big game huntings** — Most residents (75%) and non-residents (73%) thought no more roads were needed for big game hunting in Idaho. (Figure 32, Question 23). Forty-eight percent of the residents thought overcrowding

of big game hunting areas had already occurred because of too many roads and that no new roads should be constructed and some of the existing roads should be closed. Only 10% of the residents thought more roads should be constructed in big game areas to provide improved access and easier hunting. Twenty-seven percent of the residents thought present access to big game areas by roads was adequate and no more roads were needed. The belief that no more roads were needed in big game areas was uniform throughout all the zones of the state. A large proportion of the residents thought no more roads were needed where there were already too many roads regardless of

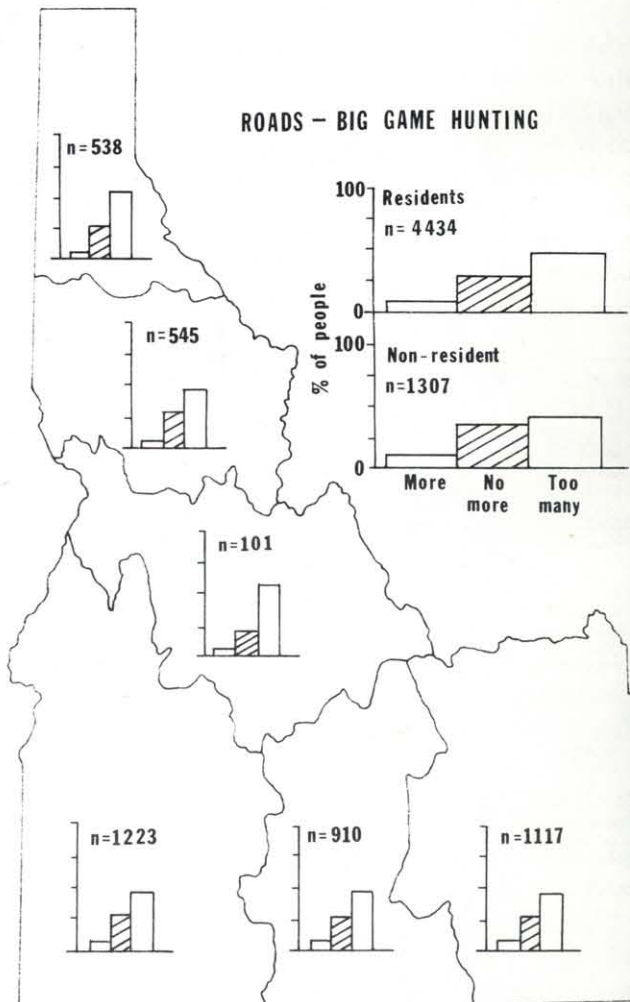


Figure 32. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who thought more roads were needed, no more were needed, or there were already too many roads with regard to big game hunting in Idaho.



their age, occupation, years of hunting, preferred type of hunting, satisfaction with hunting, or reason for hunting (Table 56, question 23). The proportion of residents who thought too many roads were present in big game areas decreased with increasing age group. More than 70% of the residents, regardless of age group, thought no more roads were needed or there were too many. Fifty-two percent of the residents who had hunted 11 or more years thought there were too many roads versus forty-one percent of the hunters who had hunted only one year. Of the residents who hunted primarily for trophy or for the isolation, 55 and 67% respectively thought there were too many roads in big game hunting areas. Only 4%

of the residents who hunted primarily for the isolation thought there should be more roads in big game areas.

### Bear Hunting

A majority of the residents and non-residents had no opinion on the time of year to hunt bears (Figure 33). In the Panhandle zone, where more people hunt bears, 40% preferred to hunt in the fall, 35% had no opinion and 13% wanted to hunt all year. In the Clearwater and Salmon River zones, 25-27% wanted to hunt in the fall, 18-21% wanted to hunt all year and 37-43% had no opinion.

Table 56. — The percentage of resident hunters who believed there should be more roads, no more roads were needed, there were too many roads or had no opinion on the question of roads as related to big game hunting by age group, occupation, years of hunting, hunting preference, satisfaction with hunting, and reason for hunting.

	Number in sample	Opinion regarding roads (% of people)			
		Need more	Do not need more	Have too many	No opinion
<b>Age group</b>					
Less than 19	756	8.5	26.4	53.3	11.9
20-29	938	6.0	31.0	54.6	8.4
30-39	807	13.0	27.4	50.2	9.4
40-49	699	13.2	28.2	47.4	11.1
50-59	540	9.9	28.1	48.4	13.6
60+	366	9.8	31.7	39.2	19.3
<b>Occupation</b>					
Household	246	14.1	27.9	43.6	14.8
Small business	997	9.7	28.3	50.5	11.5
Craftsmen	511	11.0	25.3	54.8	8.9
Clerical-Sales	281	10.8	28.3	51.0	9.9
Managerial	162	10.6	27.9	49.3	12.2
Professional-students	1270	8.5	29.4	50.5	11.6
Farm	348	10.7	30.8	46.9	11.7
Retired	201	11.5	27.6	43.1	17.8
<b>Years hunted</b>					
1	327	16.9	26.2	41.3	15.7
2-5	1034	9.0	29.6	50.3	11.1
6-10	696	7.6	29.0	55.9	7.5
11+	1745	10.9	27.8	52.4	8.9
<b>Hunting preference</b>					
Big game	2613	10.7	28.2	53.3	8.4
Upland bird	685	9.3	29.9	42.1	18.7
Waterfowl	340	7.1	27.1	50.2	15.6
<b>Satisfaction</b>					
Unsatisfied	1357	9.7	26.5	56.3	7.5
Excellent	531	10.2	33.8	50.1	5.9
Satisfied	1788	10.6	30.0	48.3	11.1
No opinion	756	6.7	15.2	28.4	49.7
<b>Reason for hunting</b>					
Meat	1584	10.2	28.8	48.9	12.2
Trophy	50	9.3	12.3	65.0	13.4
Companionship	115	11.6	29.9	39.7	18.8
Isolation	73	4.2	25.9	67.2	2.7
Observe wildlife	150	8.5	21.0	55.4	15.1
Relaxation	759	10.0	28.5	48.0	13.6
Out-of-doors	620	10.2	31.0	45.8	13.1
Challenge	730	9.8	25.4	54.7	10.1
Do not hunt	50	5.6	29.2	30.8	34.4
Other	37	8.7	28.9	43.0	19.5

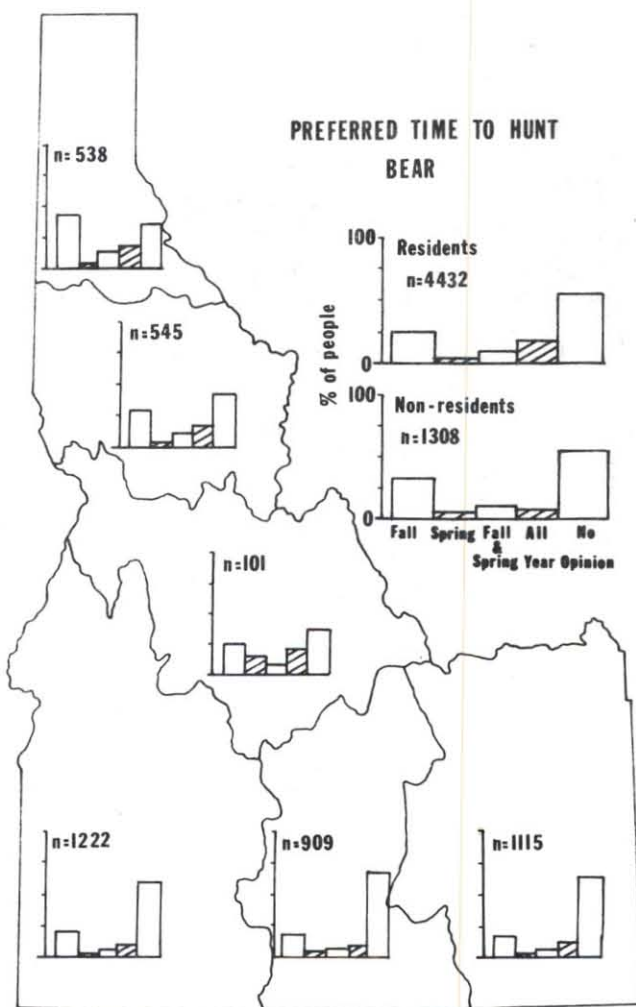


Figure 33. — The percentage of people who preferred to hunt bear in the fall, spring, fall and spring, all year, or had no opinion.

Thirty-three percent of the residents who had hunted 11 or more years for big game preferred to hunt in the fall compared to only 19% who had only hunted 1 year. A large percentage (54-58%) of the hunters with few years of hunting experience had no opinion on when to hunt bears (Table 57).

Table 57. — The percentage of resident hunters who preferred to hunt bear in the fall and/or spring or all year according to the number of years they hunted big game.

Years of hunting big game	Number in sample	When hunt bear (% of people)				
		Fall	Spring	Fall and spring	All year	No opinion
1	326	18.6	3.1	6.1	13.8	58.4
2-5	1032	21.6	4.5	8.2	11.4	54.3
6-10	696	27.9	4.2	9.9	12.3	45.7
11+	1745	32.6	2.5	5.1	14.5	45.3

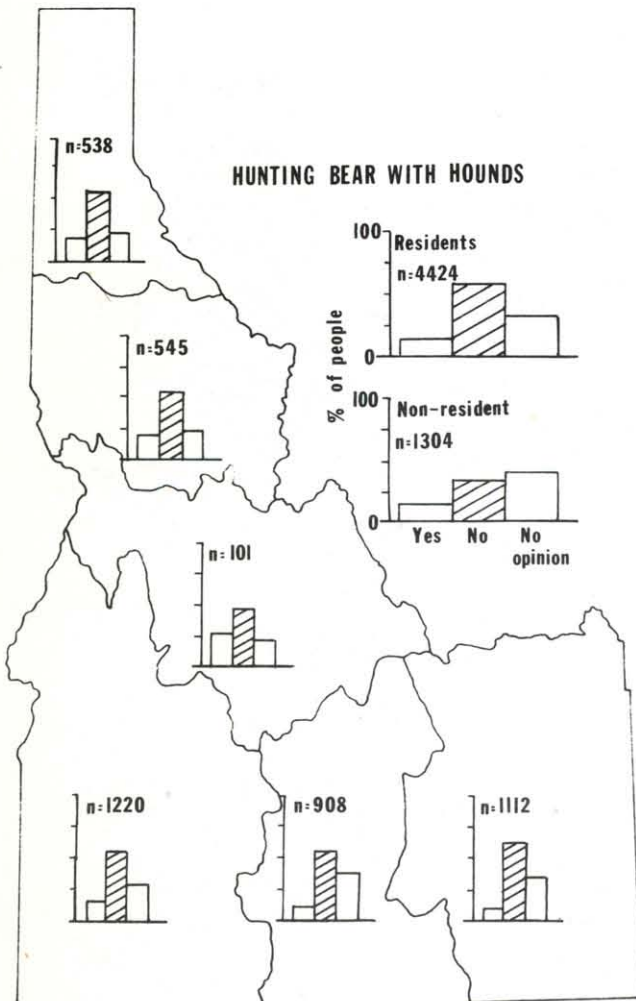


Figure 34. — The percentage of people who thought bears should or should not be hunted with hounds in Idaho.

A majority of residents thought bears should not be hunted with hounds (Figure 34). The Salmon River zone had the largest percentage of people who wanted to hunt bears with hounds and the south Idaho zones had the least.

The same proportion of residents thought bears should not be hunted with hounds regardless of the number of years of big game hunting experience (Table 58). Most hunters who thought bears should be hunted with hounds wanted to hunt in the fall, especially those with many years of experience.

### Programs of Fish and Game Department

Law enforcement, habitat improvement and emergency winter feeding were the activities of the Fish and Game Department ranked most important by 60% of the residents in the survey (Table 59). Twenty-three percent of the residents thought law enforcement was the most important activity, 19% ranked habitat and winter feeding as most important, 10% listed management programs and acquisition of wildlife areas as top priority and 8% thought predator control was the most important activity.

The percentage of residents who ranked the various activities as most important differed between zones of the state (Figure 35). In the Salmon River zone, 23% of the residents ranked predator control as the most important activity of the Department compared to only 7% of the people in the southern Idaho zones. Law enforcement, habitat improvement and emergency winter feeding were listed as the most important activities by the largest proportion of the people in all zones of the state.

Twenty-four percent of the non-resident who purchased the big game hunting licenses listed emergency winter feeding as the most important activity, 18% selected habitat improvement, 13% law enforcement, 11% management programs and acquisition of wildlife areas, 8% research and evaluation and 6% for each predator control and improve access (Table 59). Non-resident bird hunters differed from residents and non-resident big game hunters in their opinions of which activities were most important. The largest group of non-resident bird hunters (21%) ranked



le 58. — The percentage of resident hunters who thought bear should or should not be hunted with hounds, and if they should, when they should be hunted, grouped by years of hunting big game.

Years of hunting big game	Hunt with hounds			When hunt with hounds					
	Number in sample	Yes	No	No opinion	Number in sample	Fall	Spring	Fall and spring	All year
1	325	13.0	55.5	31.5	50	45.2	12.3	17.8	24.6
2-5	1031	14.7	58.1	27.3	188	41.3	16.2	17.3	25.2
6-10	696	16.4	57.9	25.7	132	52.0	13.6	16.7	17.6
11+	1743	15.7	58.6	25.7	322	52.6	9.1	11.4	26.9

habitat improvement as most important followed by 20% who ranked acquisition of wildlife areas as the number one activity. Only 8 and 7% of the non-resident bird hunters ranked law enforcement and predator control as the most important activity.

Table 59. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who listed the activities below as the most important activities for the Fish and Game Department.

Activity	Percentage of:		
	Residents	Non-residents	
		Big game hunters	Bird hunters
Number in sample	2833	601	307
Predator control	8.4	5.6	6.7
Habitat improvement	19.1	17.5	21.3
Law enforcement	22.5	12.7	7.9
Management programs	9.6	11.0	11.3
Game farms	1.6	1.0	6.1
Winter feeding	18.6	24.1	7.6
Acquisition of wildlife areas	9.6	10.7	19.5
Improved access	4.3	5.5	9.7
Public information programs	3.0	2.2	4.0
Research and evaluation	3.2	7.5	6.7

Residents who preferred big game hunting did not differ in opinions regarding the most important activities of the Department from upland bird hunters except in the activities of acquisition of wildlife areas and emergency winter feeding (Table 60). A larger proportion of the people who preferred big game hunting ranked winter feeding as the most important activity than those who preferred upland bird or waterfowl hunting. More of the people who preferred waterfowl hunting than those who preferred to hunt big game thought acquisition of wildlife areas was the most important activity.

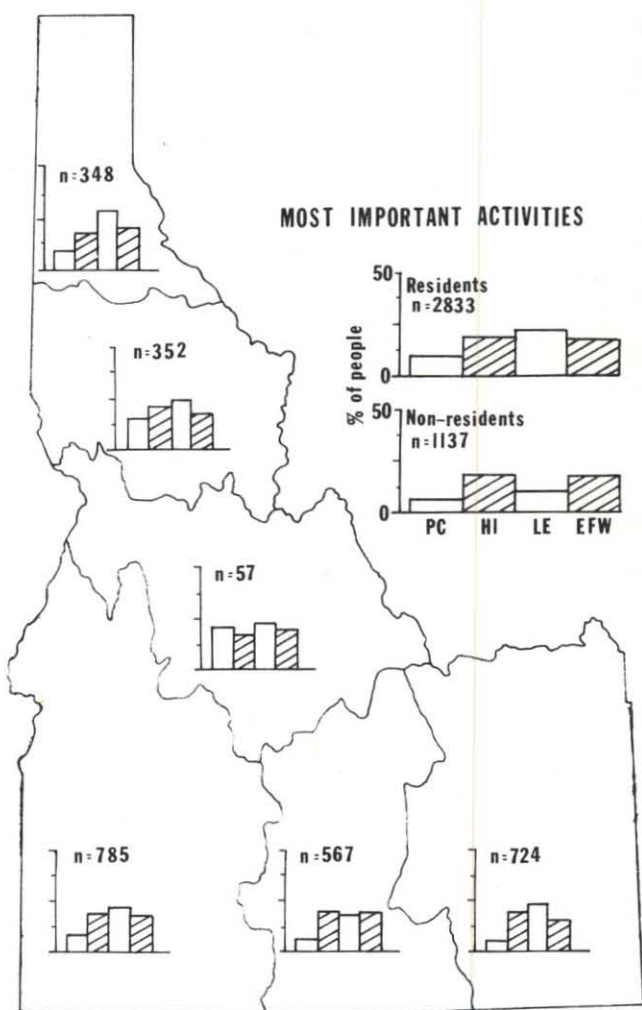


Figure 35. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who thought predator control (PC), habitat improvement (HI), law enforcement (LE), or emergency winter feeding (EFW) were the most important activities of the Idaho Fish and Game Department.

Table 60. — The percentage of resident hunters who ranked each of the activities listed below as the most important activity for the Fish and Game Department by years of hunting, hunting preference, and age.

Group	Number in sample	Fish and Game Department Activities (% of people)									
		Predator control	Habitat improvement	Law enforcement	Management programs	Game farms	Emergency winter feeding	Acquisition wildlife areas	Improved access	Public information	Research and evaluation
<u>Years of hunting</u>											
<u>Big game</u>											
1	228	5.6	12.5	25.7	8.4	1.4	21.7	9.5	7.6	4.6	3.5
2-5	742	8.3	16.2	23.2	9.1	1.8	19.6	10.1	4.4	3.4	3.5
6-10	500	7.2	19.4	21.4	10.0	1.6	18.4	11.0	5.4	3.2	2.4
11+	1154	9.5	22.6	21.5	9.6	1.8	17.5	8.5	2.7	2.7	3.3
<u>Upland bird</u>											
1	178	8.8	14.9	23.3	6.9	1.5	22.2	13.0	4.2	1.6	1.5
2-5	656	8.4	16.4	24.1	10.5	1.5	17.4	9.8	4.8	3.1	3.5
6-10	465	7.4	18.0	21.1	9.8	1.5	17.0	10.8	6.2	3.4	3.9
11+	958	8.3	24.8	20.9	9.4	2.3	15.1	10.2	2.8	2.6	3.2
<u>Waterfowl</u>											
1	200	9.6	16.6	27.0	6.1	0.6	18.0	11.7	5.7	2.5	2.2
2-5	571	9.8	17.0	22.1	10.0	1.8	18.8	10.2	3.5	2.8	4.0
6-10	305	6.9	21.2	21.6	8.8	1.3	16.1	11.2	6.0	3.3	3.6
11+	610	6.8	25.8	19.4	9.5	2.3	15.9	12.1	2.7	2.6	2.4
<u>Type hunting preferred</u>											
Big game	1862	7.7	19.3	23.1	9.5	1.0	20.3	8.8	4.1	2.6	3.2
Upland bird	490	9.2	20.3	22.6	8.6	3.7	13.5	10.4	5.7	3.3	3.1
Waterfowl	241	8.3	19.2	18.6	7.0	1.7	16.9	16.2	3.8	3.3	3.3
<u>Age group</u>											
Less than 20	587	11.1	54.7	20.6	8.8	1.6	20.7	7.1	5.8	2.8	2.2
20-29	693	5.4	43.9	23.8	8.7	1.6	22.2	11.9	3.9	3.6	3.5
30-39	573	7.2	44.8	17.5	9.5	1.7	17.2	12.0	5.1	2.9	5.3
40-49	472	8.2	47.6	21.1	11.7	1.7	15.1	9.8	3.2	2.2	2.3
50-59	344	11.9	48.2	22.4	8.9	2.9	12.6	5.1	3.7	4.8	1.8
60+	185	8.5	62.5	21.5	9.3	0.4	8.4	2.7	1.9	2.4	3.2



The opinions of residents of various age groups regarding most important activities differed little except on winter feeding and perhaps habitat improvement (Table 60). Fewer people in the older age groups ranked emergency winter feeding as the most important activity than in the younger age groups.

A majority of the people thought the Department should place more emphasis on all the activities listed except predator control, game farms and improved access to hunting areas (Table 61). Those three activities were the only ones a sizeable number of people (26-37%) indicated the department should deemphasize.

Table 61. — The percentage of residents and non-residents who believed the Fish and Game Department should place more, less, or no change in the emphasis on various activities.

Activity and residence	Number in sample	Emphasis on activity (% of people)		
		More	Less	No change
Predator control				
Residents	3195	27.6	26.0	46.5
Non-residents	981	23.9	23.1	53.0
Habitat improvement				
Residents	3251	74.8	2.1	23.1
Non-residents	1056	70.4	0.9	28.8
Law enforcement				
Residents	3357	61.8	1.9	36.3
Non-residents	1016	45.4	2.2	52.5
Management programs				
Residents	3214	57.0	4.2	39.8
Non-residents	1024	51.5	2.6	45.9
Game farms				
Residents	2925	22.2	34.8	43.0
Non-residents	881	24.1	26.1	49.8
Emergency winter feeding				
Residents	3466	76.0	3.0	21.0
Non-residents	1109	78.9	2.3	18.9
Acquisition of wildlife areas				
Residents	3134	68.4	3.9	27.7
Non-residents	1032	77.8	1.7	20.5
Improved access to hunting area				
Residents	3146	23.5	36.9	39.6
Non-residents	1002	31.0	28.1	41.0
Public information programs				
Residents	3100	46.6	10.2	43.2
Non-residents	968	54.0	7.3	38.7
Research and evaluation programs				
Residents	3063	55.7	8.2	36.1
Non-residents	979	67.0	3.0	30.0

Residents of different age, years of hunting experience and occupations differed in their opinions regarding the emphasis they thought the Department should place on predator control (Table 62). More of the older people and those with many years of hunting experience favored more emphasis on predator control compared to the younger or less experienced people. The retired and farm

occupation groups had the largest proportion of people who wanted more emphasis on predator control. The professional group had the smallest proportion of people who favored more predator control.

Table 62. — The percentage of resident hunters who believed the Fish and Game Department should place more, less, or no change in the emphasis on predator control grouped by age, years hunted, and occupation classes.

Group	Number in sample	Emphasis (% of people)		
		More	Less	No change
<u>Age groups</u>				
Less than 20	625	25.9	23.1	51.0
20-29	783	19.4	28.7	51.9
30-39	644	25.9	30.0	44.1
40-49	501	30.4	25.3	44.3
50-59	330	42.6	25.2	32.3
60+	204	44.8	15.6	39.5
<u>Years of hunting</u>				
<u>Big game</u>				
1	262	23.2	26.7	50.1
2-5	864	22.7	27.6	49.7
6-10	549	23.7	29.3	47.0
11+	1267	33.6	24.3	42.1
<u>Upland bird</u>				
1	221	20.6	25.6	53.8
2-5	745	21.1	28.0	50.8
6-10	492	25.6	30.7	43.7
11+	1042	28.0	26.7	45.3
<u>Waterfowl</u>				
1	221	20.0	27.9	52.1
2-5	633	21.6	29.0	49.4
6-10	338	23.6	35.2	41.2
11+	656	26.5	29.8	43.6
<u>Occupation</u>				
Household	171	28.7	30.9	40.9
Small business	733	32.7	20.3	47.0
Craftsmen	360	25.3	29.4	45.3
Clerical-sales	215	24.9	24.8	50.3
Managerial	113	23.3	31.9	44.8
Professional	1052	20.5	31.2	48.3
Farm	260	39.5	21.0	39.6
Retired	117	48.9	14.2	36.9

## DISCUSSION

The responses of the resident and non-resident hunters in this survey to questions on wildlife management issues were based on their knowledge and experiences. We did not provide information on the tradeoffs associated with each alternative choice of response to the questions. The responses of resident hunters differed on many questions from the responses of Department of Fish and Game employees, who also completed the same questionnaire

(Bjornn, 1975B). Some of the differences in opinions and preferences between resident hunters and Department employees was due to a difference in knowledge of Department policies or biological constraints, but the remainder of the difference resulted from differences in value systems between the two groups.

In a special survey (Bjornn, 1975A), we provided supplemental information with many of the issues in a questionnaire sent to another sample of resident hunters. The response of residents to questions involving a knowledge of Department policies or of the biological consequences of each choice tended to be more like that of Department employees when we supplied the residents with additional information. The supplemental information we provided in the special survey questionnaire had little effect on the response of residents to questions with choices based on social or economic judgments.

Most Idaho residents hunted mainly for meat while many non-residents hunted for a trophy. In British Columbia, Bowden and Pearse (1968) found just the opposite; residents tended to hunt for a trophy and non-residents consisted mostly of meat hunters. In a survey of hunters who used the Sawtooth area in central Idaho, Michalson (1973) reported that meat was the most important reason for hunting for 24% of the respondents. In our survey, 43% of the residents on a statewide basis and 12% of the non-residents hunted primarily for meat. In a Nevada survey, Garrett (1970) reported that half the residents thought there were too few deer,

but the number of hunters did not upset them. In Idaho, lack of game was the primary reason for dissatisfaction of 40% of the resident big game hunters and 28% complained of too many hunters.

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