

## RESIDENT Bird Dog Training Survey (2024)

There were N=311 Resident Bird Dog Training License Holders in the ALS System at the time of implementing the survey. Three hundred of those individuals had email address information.

An online survey was sent to all 300 residents who had an email address. Two hundred fifty-two residents opened the emailed survey invitation to complete the online survey. Forty-three invites were unopened. Five email addresses bounced. In total, there were 177 respondents to the survey resulting in a 60 percent survey response rate.

- Forty percent (N=70) reported they trained dogs this past year in Montana using live wild game birds NOT raised in captivity.
- Four percent of residents who trained dogs reported they trained dogs **COMMERCIALY** this past year in Montana using live wild game birds NOT raised in captivity.
  - One resident trained dogs in Region 1 commercially:
    - Two dogs, trained 30 days mostly on publicly owned lands and mostly before the upland game bird season, trained on mountain grouse. No horses used.
  - Two residents trained dogs in Region 4 commercially:
    - Average of 10 dogs (range: low 8 – 12 high), trained an average of 75 days. Fifty percent mostly on publicly owned lands and 50 percent mostly on privately owned lands. Fifty percent mostly before the upland game bird season and 50 percent mostly after the upland game bird season. One hundred percent trained on gray partridge, 50 percent sharp-tailed grouse, 50 percent pheasants, 50 percent sage grouse, and 50 percent mountain grouse. Fifty percent used horses.
- Ninety-six percent of residents who trained dogs reported they trained dogs **NON-COMMERCIALY** this past year in Montana using live wild game birds NOT raised in captivity.
  - Three residents trained dogs in Region 1 non-commercially:
    - Average of 1.7 dogs (range: low 1 – 3 high), trained an average of 30 days. One hundred percent mostly on publicly owned lands. One hundred percent equally both before/after the upland game bird season. Thirty-three percent trained on sharp-tailed grouse and 100 percent pheasants. Zero percent used horses.
  - Six residents trained dogs in Region 2 non-commercially:
    - Average of 1.6 dogs (range: low 1 – high 2), trained an average of 7 days. Forty percent mostly on publicly owned lands, 40 percent mostly on privately owned lands, and 20 percent equally on both privately/publicly owned lands. Sixty percent mostly before the upland game bird season, 20 percent mostly after the upland game bird season, and 20 percent equally both before and after the upland game bird season. Twenty percent trained on gray partridge, 20 percent pheasants, 60 percent mountain grouse, and 40 percent other. Zero percent used horses.
  - Twenty-two residents trained dogs in Region 3 non-commercially:
    - Average of 1.8 dogs (range: low 1 – 6 high), trained an average of 20 days. Sixty-four percent mostly on publicly owned lands, 4 percent mostly on privately owned lands, and 32 percent equally on both privately/publicly owned lands. Fifty-nine percent mostly before the upland game bird season, 9 percent mostly after the upland game bird season, and 32 percent equally both before and after the upland game bird season. Fifty-nine percent trained on gray partridge, 23 percent sharp-tailed grouse, 55 percent pheasants, 9 percent sage grouse, and 36 percent mountain grouse. Four percent used horses.

- Twenty residents trained dogs in Region 4 non-commercially:
  - Average of 2.4 dogs (range: low 1 – 6 high), trained an average of 29 days. Forty percent mostly on publicly owned lands, 45 percent mostly on privately owned lands, and 15 percent equally on both privately/publicly owned lands. Twenty-five percent mostly before the upland game bird season, 15 percent mostly after the upland game bird season, and 60 percent equally both before and after the upland game bird season. Seventy percent trained on gray partridge, 85 percent sharp-tailed grouse, 55 percent pheasants, 20 percent sage grouse, and 20 percent mountain grouse. Fifteen percent used horses.
- Seventeen residents trained dogs in Region 5 non-commercially:
  - Average of 2 dogs (range: low 1 – 6 high), trained an average of 14 days (excludes one respondent who reported training 365 days). Forty-seven percent mostly on publicly owned lands and 53 percent equally on both privately/publicly owned lands. Twenty-five percent mostly before the upland game bird season, 15 percent mostly after the upland game bird season, and 60 percent equally both before and after the upland game bird season. Eighty-two percent trained on gray partridge, 88 percent sharp-tailed grouse, 35 percent pheasants, 6 percent sage grouse, 12 percent mountain grouse, and 6 percent other. Twelve percent used horses.
- Ten residents trained dogs in Region 6 non-commercially:
  - Average of 2.6 dogs (range: low 1 – 6 high), trained an average of 17 days. Fifty percent mostly on publicly owned lands, 20 percent mostly on privately owned lands, and 30 percent equally on both privately/publicly owned lands. Ninety percent mostly before the upland game bird season and 10 percent equally both before and after the upland game bird season. Seventy percent trained on gray partridge, 100 percent sharp-tailed grouse, 60 percent pheasants, and 20 percent sage grouse. Zero percent used horses.
- Four residents trained dogs in Region 7 non-commercially:
  - Average of 2.5 dogs (range: low 1 – high 4), trained an average of 13 days. Twenty-five percent mostly on publicly owned lands, 50 percent mostly on privately owned lands, and 25 percent equally on both privately/publicly owned lands. Fifty percent mostly before the upland game bird season and 50 percent equally both before and after the upland game bird season. Fifty percent trained on gray partridge, 25 percent sharp-tailed grouse, and 75 percent pheasants. Zero percent used horses.