



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Mourning Dove

*Population Status, 2026*



## **Mourning Dove Population Status, 2026**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Division of Migratory Bird Management  
Branch of Assessment and Decision Support  
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**Photo** by Rebecca Ross.

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This report contains annual estimates of migratory bird abundance, harvest, and hunter participation and activity. Due to the large volume of data, the number of years, and geographic areas involved, data tables may be large and complex. Readers that may need help reading and interpreting the data, or that may need data presented in an alternative format to facilitate reading and interpretation, should contact the author at [mark\\_seamans@fws.gov](mailto:mark_seamans@fws.gov).

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# MOURNING DOVE POPULATION STATUS, 2026

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*Abstract:* This report summarizes information collected annually in the United States (US) on survival, fecundity, abundance, and harvest of mourning doves (*Zenaida macroura*). Information is provided for three management units: the Eastern (EMU), Central (CMU) and Western (WMU). An integrated population model was used to estimate absolute abundance, survival, and fecundity. Harvest and hunter activity were estimated from the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program. Estimates of absolute abundance have been available since 2007 and indicate that there were approximately 329 million doves in the US as of 1 September 2025. Abundance varied among management units in 2025: EMU 82,499,600 (95% CI = 66,192,900 to 102,516,200), CMU 200,486,000 (161,446,800 to 244,250,300), and WMU 46,438,400 (33,956,600 to 58,926,700). In 2025 estimates of mourning dove total harvest, active hunters, and total days afield in the US were: 15,517,700 (SE=375,400) birds, 948,500 hunters, and 3,041,000 (SE=61,900) days afield. In 2025 harvest and hunter activity at the management unit level were: EMU, 5,484,700 (SE=202,500) birds, 387,600 hunters, and 1,159,800 (SE=37,800) days afield; CMU, 8,903,000 (SE=309,500) birds, 468,000 hunters, and 1,657,700 (SE=48,000) days afield; and WMU, 1,130,000 (SE=64,100) birds, 92,900 hunters, and 223,500 (SE=10,000) days afield.

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The mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*) is one of the most abundant bird species in North America and is familiar to millions of people. Authority and responsibility for management of this species in the United States (US) is vested in the Secretary of the Interior. This responsibility is conferred by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 which, as amended, implements migratory bird treaties between the US and other countries. Mourning doves are included in the treaties with Great Britain (for Canada) and Mexico (US Department of the Interior 2013). These treaties recognize hunting as a legitimate use of the renewable migratory bird resource.

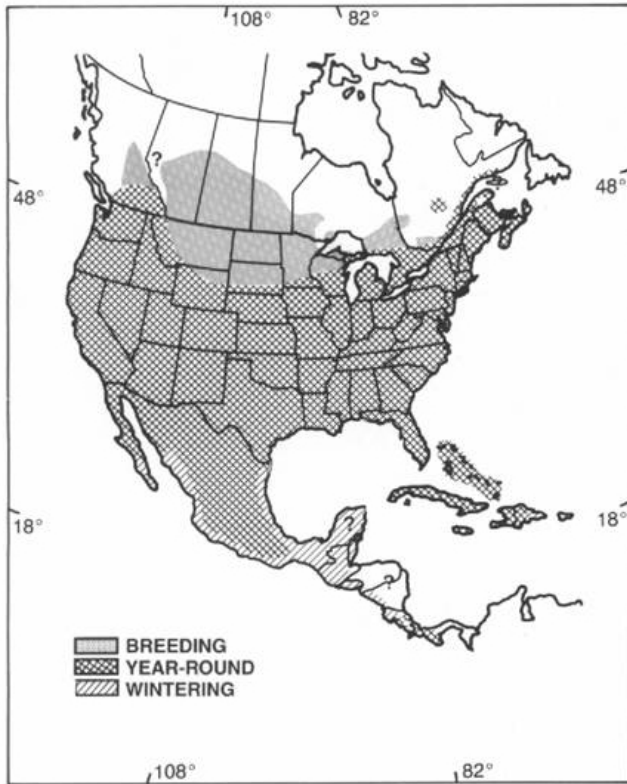
Maintenance of dove populations in a healthy, productive state is a primary management goal. Management activities include population assessment, harvest regulation, and habitat management. Each year tens of thousands of doves are banded and thousands of wings from harvested doves are analyzed to estimate annual survival, harvest rates, recruitment, and abundance. The resulting information is used by wildlife managers in setting annual hunting regulations (USFWS 2026; Appendix A).

## DISTRIBUTION

Mourning doves breed from southern Canada throughout the continental US into Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas and Greater Antilles, and in scattered locations in Central America (Peterjohn et al. 1994, Fig. 1). Although mourning doves winter throughout much of their breeding range, the majority winter in the southern US, Mexico, and south through Central America to western Panama (Aldrich 1993, Mirarchi and Baskett 1994).

## POPULATION MONITORING

Within the US, three zones contain mourning dove populations that are largely independent of each other (Kiel 1959; Fig. 2). These zones encompass the principal breeding, migration, and US wintering areas for each population. As suggested by Kiel (1959), these three zones were established as separate management units in 1960 (Kiel 1961). Since that time, management decisions have been made within the boundaries of the Eastern (EMU), Central (CMU), and Western (WMU) Management Units (Fig. 2). For this assessment the EMU was further divided into two groups of states



**Figure 1.** Breeding and wintering ranges of the mourning dove (adapted from Mirarchi and Baskett 1994).

for analysis of the North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS; Robbins et al. 1986) data; states permitting dove hunting were combined into one group (hunt) and those prohibiting dove hunting into another (non-hunt). Additionally, some states were grouped to increase sample sizes for BBS data analysis; Maryland and Delaware were combined, and Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont were combined to form a New England group. Even though Rhode Island is a hunt state, due to its small size and geographic location its data was included in this non-hunt group of states for analysis (Link et al. 2020, Sauer et al. 2020).

## Breeding Bird Survey

The BBS is completed in June and is based on routes that are 24.5 miles (39.4 km) long. Each route consists of 50 stops or point-count locations at 0.5-mile (805 m) intervals. At each stop, a 3-minute count is conducted whereby every bird seen or heard within a 0.25-mile (402 m) radius is recorded. Surveys start one-half hour

before the local sunrise and take about 5 hours to complete. Data for birds heard and seen at stops are combined for BBS analyses (Link et al. 2020, Sauer et al. 2020).

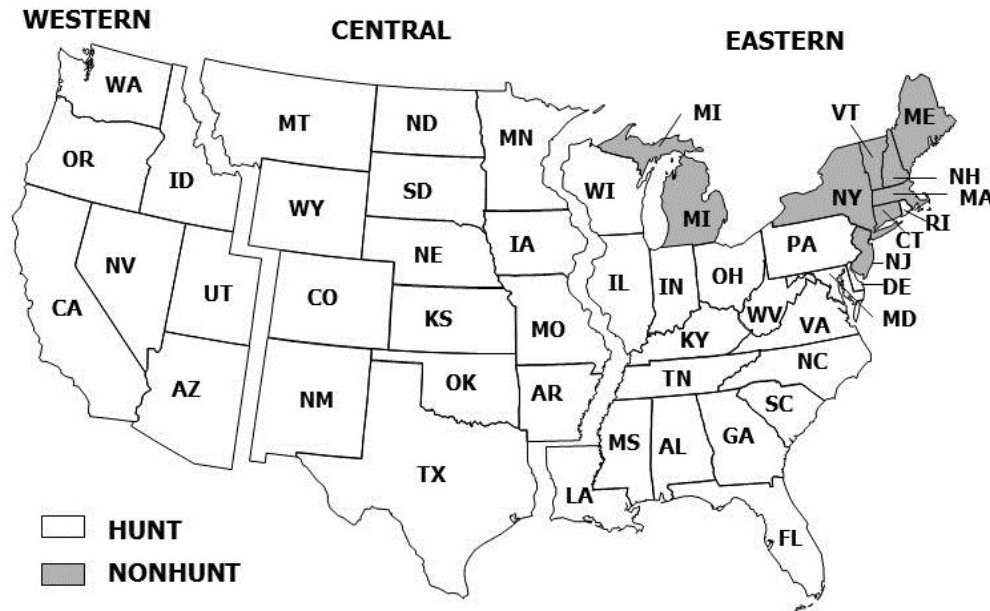
## Banding Program

A national banding program was initiated in 2003 to improve our understanding of mourning dove population biology and to help estimate the effect of harvest on mourning dove populations. Doves are banded in July and August in most of the lower 48 states. Band recoveries occur almost exclusively during the US hunting seasons which occur between 1 September and 31 January (Appendix A).

Banding goals for each state (stratified by Bird Conservation Region [BCR] within each state) are based on a power analysis that estimated sample sizes necessary to achieve a desired precision in estimates of population growth rate at the management unit (MU) level (Otis 2009). A weighting factor based on the median BBS index during 1966–2008 was used to determine banding goals for each state within the MUs. Within states, the amount of area in each BCR and associated median BBS indices were used to determine sample size allocation. Placement of banding stations is left to the judgment of each state's dove banding coordinator.

## Harvest Survey

The Harvest Information Program (HIP) was cooperatively developed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state wildlife agencies to provide reliable annual estimates of hunter activity and harvest for all migratory game birds (Elden et al. 2002). The HIP sampling frame consists of all migratory game bird hunters. Under this program, state wildlife agencies collect the name, address, and additional information from each migratory bird hunter in their state and send that information to the USFWS. The USFWS then selects stratified random samples of those hunters and asks them to voluntarily provide detailed information about their hunting activity. For example, hunters selected for the mourning dove harvest survey are asked to complete a daily diary about their mourning dove hunting and harvest during the current year's hunting season. Their responses are then used to develop nationwide mourning dove harvest estimates. HIP survey estimates of mourning dove harvest have been



**Figure 2.** Mourning dove management units with 2024-25 hunt and non-hunt states.

available since 1999. Although estimates from 1999–2002 have been finalized, the estimates from 2003–2021 from the paper survey and 2022 and after for the online survey should be considered preliminary as refinements are still being made in the sampling frame and estimation techniques.

## Parts Collection Survey

Age of individual doves can be determined by examination of their wings (Ruos and Tomlinson 1967, Braun 2014). Mourning dove wings are obtained during the hunting season and provide estimates of recruitment (number of young per adult in the population), which can be used to inform harvest management. In 2007, the USFWS initiated the national Mourning Dove Parts Collection Survey, which expanded the geographical scope of earlier state-based surveys.

The survey design for mourning dove wing collection follows that of waterfowl (Raftovich et al. 2023). The sampling frame is defined by hunters who identify themselves as dove hunters when purchasing a state hunting license and who were active dove hunters the previous year.

Each year, state and federal biologists classify wings during a 2-day wingbee. Wings of harvested mourning doves are classified as juveniles (hatch-year birds [HY]) or adults (after-hatch-year birds [AHY]). A significant

portion of wings are classified as unknown age where molt has progressed to a late stage. These harvest age ratios (HY/AHY) are used to estimate recruitment rates (population age ratio) after accounting for uncertainty related to unknown-age wings (Miller and Otis 2010) and age-specific vulnerability to harvest (Koons et al. 2024).

## METHODS

## Estimating Survival, Harvest, Recruitment, and Abundance

Integrated population models (IPMs; Besbeas et al. 2002, Schaub and Abadi 2011) were used to estimate time-varying demographic rates and abundance of doves in each MU (Koons et al. 2024). The demographic process model started on 1 September and ended 31 August of the next year. The general model structure was as follows: the population (abundance) 1 September declined to a post-harvest population based on harvest mortality; the post-harvest population grew or declined to 31 August in the subsequent year based on annual non-hunting mortality and recruitment.

The IPMs jointly analyzed multiple datasets within a Bayesian framework to model harvest and harvest rates, abundance, population growth rates, mortality unrelated to harvest, and recruitment. The IPMs used random effects alongside spatial fixed effects to account

for heterogeneity in demographic parameters across US states in each MU. This approach permits scaling of inference to the MU scale. Each IPM subcomponent, except recruitment, started with a base model that allowed age-specific independent spatial and temporal estimates of demographic parameters. While holding other model subcomponents constant, each subcomponent was constrained, based on biological hypotheses, to examine spatial (constant, latitude, or longitude) and temporal (constant, year-independent, or linear time trends) effects. Bayesian model selection was used to select the best fit for these spatial and temporal model structures for each MU. Density dependence was also modeled for each MU by examining the relationship over the period of study between recruitment and survival during the non-hunting period with abundance at the beginning of the non-hunting period (Koons et al. 2024). Statistical support for individual spatial and temporal effects was evaluated based on the fraction of its posterior distribution that was greater or less than zero.

Capture-recovery (CR) data was used in the IPMs to inform annual estimates of survival, harvest rate, and differential vulnerability of age classes to harvest. Only known age doves (HY or AHY) banded and released in July or August 2007–25 were used in the analysis. Encounters were restricted to hunter-shot recoveries during the legal hunting season. For each MU the base model allowed age-specific (AHY versus HY) differences in non-hunting mortality that were the same in each state. An overall annual mean non-hunting mortality estimate for a MU was modeled by weighting each state’s non-hunting mortality estimates. Weights were a function of a state’s BBS indices between 2015–2019 and the amount of dove habitat in a state relative to the cumulative weight of other states in the MU. The same base parameterization with weighted estimation was used to model harvest mortality. Band recovery probabilities were derived by multiplying harvest rates by pertinent estimates of band reporting rates (Sanders and Otis 2012, Seamans unpublished data).

Parts collection survey (PCS) data from the first 14 days of September during the years 2007–25 was used to inform recruitment (number of chicks recruited into the hunting season per adult) in each MU. Wing samples scored as an unknown age during the survey were assigned age based on molt progression if the wing sample allowed (*see* Miller and Otis 2010). The approach for modeling spatio-temporal variation in recruitment did not consider an age effect because it

was assumed HY birds did not breed. PCS data were also adjusted for differential vulnerability to harvest for modeling of recruitment. Differential vulnerability was estimated as the ratio of HY to AHY direct recovery rates. Direct recovery rates were modeled as constant over time, allowed to vary spatially (among states), and the overall mean for an MU was modeled as a weighted estimate (the weighting approach was the same as for estimating non-hunting mortality).

To estimate absolute annual abundance, the IPMs made use of a Lincoln index that relied on annual harvest rate and harvest estimates. Harvest rates were estimated within the IPM while estimates of harvest and their uncertainty were from the HIP. The annual abundance estimates provided a look at population dynamics over time in each MU. Within the IPMs, absolute abundance and BBS indices were integrated via common realized population growth rates between consecutive years. Estimates of abundance can be found in this assessment and in the [Flyway Data Books](#).

## RESULTS

### Breeding Bird Survey

Annual BBS indices were used in the IPMs, however, BBS trend estimates calculated outside of the IPMs are presented in Table 1. The BBS results indicated that during the last 59 years relative abundance increased in the EMU non-hunt states and in the entire EMU but were unchanged in the hunt states (Table 1). Over the last 10 years indices of relative abundance remained unchanged in the EMU non-hunt states and declined in the hunt states and the entire EMU. The BBS indicated that the relative abundance of doves decreased in the CMU over the last 59 years and remained unchanged over the most recent 10 years (Table 1). The BBS suggested that relative abundance decreased in the WMU over the last 59 years but remained unchanged over the most recent 10 years (Table 1).

### Harvest Survey

Preliminary results of mourning dove harvest and hunter activity from HIP for the 2024–25 and 2025–26 hunting seasons are presented in Tables 2 and 3, respectively. Current (2025–26 season) HIP estimates indicate that in the US about 15.5 million mourning doves were harvested by about 949 thousand hunters who spent about 3.0 million days afield. The EMU and

CMU total harvest represented 35% and 57%, respectively, of the national harvest of doves while the WMU represented 7% (Table 3). Additional information about HIP, survey methodology, and results can be found in annual reports ([link](#)).

## Survival and Harvest Rates

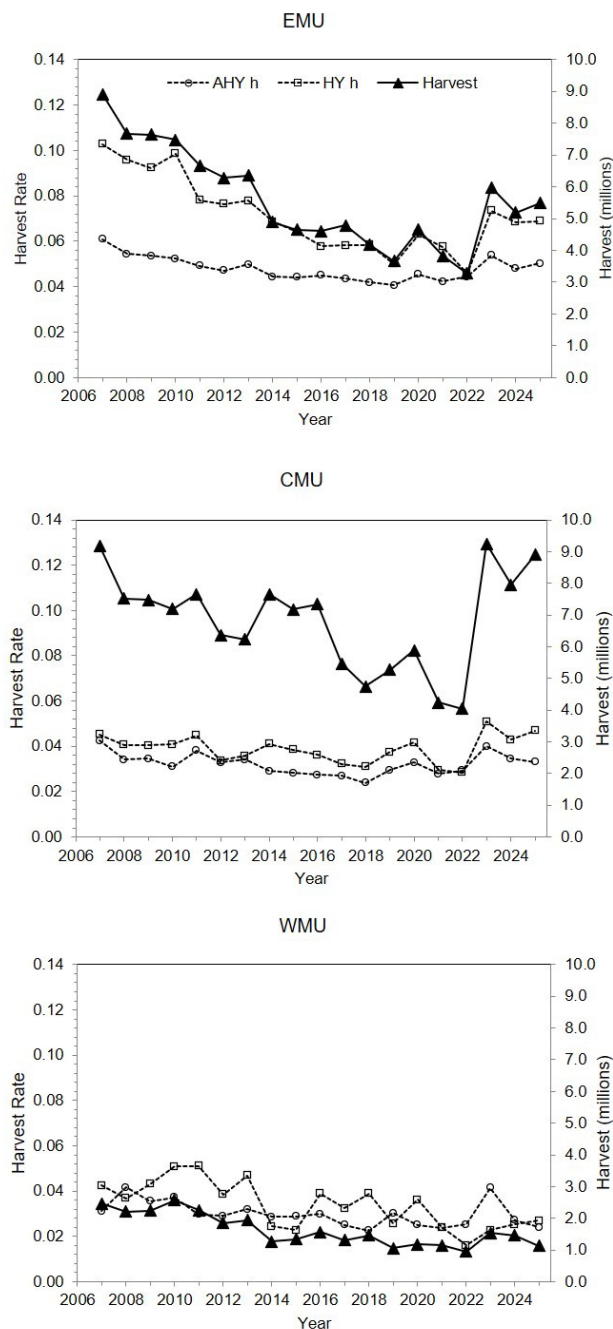
During July and August from 2007 to 2025, 338,650 known age doves were banded in the EMU, 320,368 in the CMU, and 163,399 in the WMU. There have been 21,125, 14,837, and 5,377 recoveries of known-age birds that were reported shot during the hunting season in the EMU, CMU, and WMU, respectively.

Annual survival and harvest rates were estimated with the IPMs. Long-term average survival of HY and AHY doves was higher in the CMU than the other two MUs (Table 4). Annual harvest rate was higher for HY individuals than AHY individuals in each MU (Fig. 3, Table 4). Long-term average harvest rates for each age-class (HY and AHY) were greater in the EMU than in the other MUs (Fig. 3, Table 4).

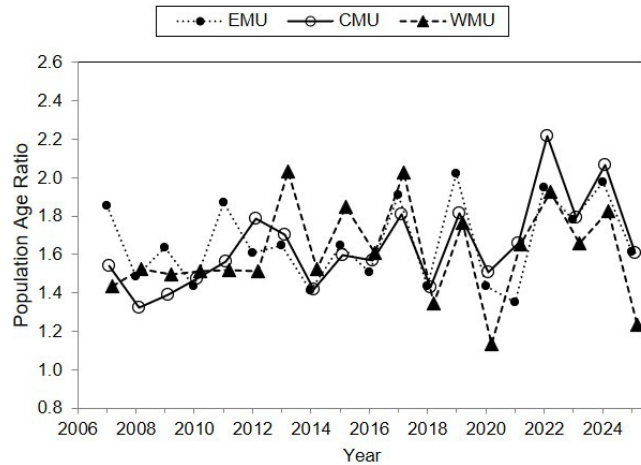
## Recruitment Rates

A total of 264,313 wings were obtained from 2007 to 2025 from doves harvested prior to September 15<sup>th</sup>. Recruitment rates were estimated with the IPMs. Average annual recruitment rates were similar among the MUs (Table 5). Recruitment rates were higher in the EMU than the other two MUs in earlier years, and the rates in the WMU were lower in some years than the other two MUs (Fig. 4). In 2025, the age ratio estimates in the EMU and CMU were near their long-term averages while the WMU estimate was lower than its long-term average (Fig. 4, Table 5).

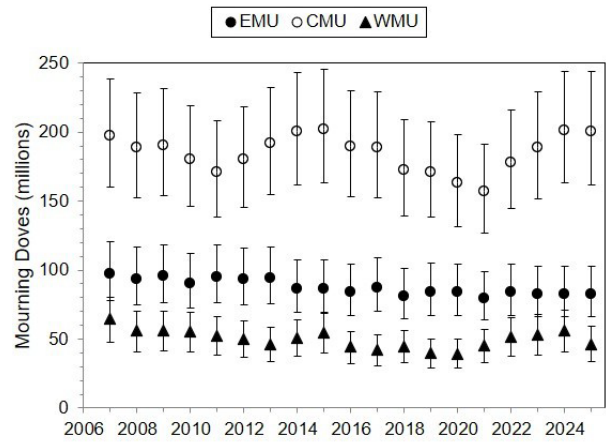
Sample sizes were sufficient to calculate precise estimates of recruitment rate for all states, except Rhode Island. Age ratios for Florida are not estimated because hunting seasons there do not start until late September each year. At this late date most wings cannot be aged due to molt progression, precluding accurate estimates of age ratio.



**Figure 3.** Estimated mourning dove total annual harvest (▲) and harvest rates (h) for hatch-year (□) and after-hatch-year (○) age-classes in the Eastern (EMU), Central (CMU), and Western (WMU) Management Units, 2007–25.



**Figure 4.** Estimated mourning dove fall population age ratios for each management unit, 2007–25.



**Figure 5.** Estimates and 95% credible intervals of mourning dove absolute abundance by management unit and year, 2007–25.

## Absolute Abundance

Estimates of absolute abundance from the IPMs are available beginning in 2007 (Fig. 5, Table 6). The most recent estimates indicate that there were 331 million mourning doves in the US immediately prior to the 2025–26 hunting season. Abundance estimates were similar in 2025 compared to 2024 for the EMU and CMU, whereas abundance decreased in the WMU from 2024 to 2025.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

State wildlife agencies and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) cooperated to collect the data presented in this report. The 2025 fall Mourning Dove Wingbee was not held in person, but rather wings were shipped to individual state agencies who held mini wingbees. Special appreciation is extended to the following individuals: N. Fyffe and L. Harding (AZ), T. Bidrowski, L. Buehler, V. Cikanek, A. Friesen, and A. Lyon (KS), J. Duguay, J. Olszak, and R. Temple (LA), L. Fendrick (OH), and O. Fitzsimmons (TX). The Branch of Monitoring and Data Management within the Division of Migratory Bird Management (USFWS) (S. Catino, T. Ceaser II, S. Chandler, T. Cooper, L. Heckstall, R. Raftovich, R. Rau, A. Walter, and N. Zimpfer) were all major contributors for the Parts Collection Survey and/or the Harvest Information Program. L. Walker (US Geological Survey Bird

Banding Lab) provided band and encounter data. J. Hostetler (USGS) provided BBS results. P. Devers, R. Rau, F. Rivera-Milán, and T. Sanders (USFWS) reviewed a draft of this report.

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**Table 1.** Estimated trend<sup>a</sup> (percent change per year and lower and upper 95% credible intervals or CI) in mourning dove abundance indices based on Breeding Bird Survey data for management units and states during long-term (1966–2025) and recent 10-year (2016–2025) periods. ‘N’ is the number of routes with  $\geq 1$  mourning dove detection in at least one year.

| Management Unit & State  | 59-year<br>N | 59-year<br>Trend | 59-year<br>Lower CI | 59-year<br>Upper CI | 10-year<br>N | 10-year<br>Trend | 10-year<br>Lower CI | 10-year<br>Upper CI |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Eastern                  | 1,827        | 0.16             | 0.07                | 0.26                | 1,422        | -0.60            | -0.93               | -0.27               |
| Hunt states              | 1,397        | 0.09             | -0.01               | 0.19                | 1,115        | -0.62            | -0.99               | -0.25               |
| AL                       | 104          | -0.64            | -0.93               | -0.33               | 104          | 0.19             | -1.00               | 1.44                |
| DE-MD                    | 90           | 0.44             | 0.20                | 0.68                | 64           | 1.72             | 0.70                | 2.81                |
| FL                       | 103          | 1.66             | 1.20                | 2.12                | 103          | -0.73            | -2.28               | 0.86                |
| GA                       | 109          | -0.33            | -0.65               | -0.03               | 109          | -0.25            | -1.22               | 0.73                |
| IL                       | 104          | 0.10             | -0.27               | 0.46                | 104          | -0.25            | -1.40               | 0.92                |
| IN                       | 66           | -0.36            | -0.74               | 0.01                | 66           | 1.21             | -0.17               | 2.67                |
| KY                       | 58           | 0.54             | 0.18                | 0.90                | 58           | -0.47            | -1.93               | 1.09                |
| LA                       | 96           | 1.62             | 1.12                | 2.12                | 96           | 0.52             | -1.22               | 2.32                |
| MS                       | 54           | -0.87            | -1.44               | -0.27               | 54           | -4.35            | -6.78               | -1.99               |
| NC                       | 95           | -0.03            | -0.36               | 0.29                | 95           | -1.62            | -2.69               | -0.58               |
| OH                       | 79           | 0.49             | 0.15                | 0.83                | 79           | -1.39            | -2.80               | 0.12                |
| PA                       | 128          | 0.97             | 0.65                | 1.28                | 128          | -1.04            | -2.11               | 0.01                |
| SC                       | 47           | -0.54            | -1.00               | -0.10               | 47           | -1.59            | -3.37               | 0.15                |
| TN                       | 48           | -0.38            | -0.69               | -0.06               | 48           | -0.69            | -2.23               | 0.82                |
| VA                       | 62           | -0.14            | -0.51               | 0.22                | 62           | 0.56             | -0.67               | 1.95                |
| WI                       | 96           | 1.20             | 0.84                | 1.56                | 96           | -0.03            | -1.33               | 1.29                |
| WV                       | 58           | 2.73             | 2.18                | 3.31                | 58           | -2.28            | -4.29               | -0.23               |
| Non-hunt states          | 430          | 0.85             | 0.63                | 1.06                | 307          | -0.47            | -1.22               | 0.29                |
| MI                       | 91           | 0.44             | 0.03                | 0.83                | 91           | 0.05             | -1.37               | 1.50                |
| New England <sup>b</sup> | 169          | 1.50             | 1.16                | 1.85                | 127          | -1.75            | -2.88               | -0.60               |
| NJ                       | 44           | -0.01            | -0.47               | 0.45                | 44           | 0.79             | -0.86               | 2.48                |
| NY                       | 126          | 1.35             | 1.02                | 1.67                | 126          | -0.47            | -1.82               | 0.87                |
| Central                  | 1,287        | -0.29            | -0.67               | -0.15               | 1,087        | 0.13             | -0.32               | 0.59                |
| AR                       | 57           | -0.59            | -1.08               | -0.13               | 57           | -4.43            | -6.52               | -2.40               |
| CO                       | 149          | -0.23            | -0.72               | 0.28                | 149          | -0.06            | -1.69               | 1.61                |
| IA                       | 38           | -0.30            | -0.73               | 0.11                | 38           | -4.31            | -6.12               | -2.53               |
| KS                       | 67           | -0.04            | -0.39               | 0.33                | 67           | 0.00             | -1.47               | 1.50                |
| MN                       | 80           | -0.51            | -0.91               | -0.11               | 80           | 0.63             | -0.84               | 2.16                |
| MO                       | 95           | -0.85            | -1.24               | -0.49               | 95           | -0.90            | -2.09               | 0.30                |
| MT                       | 99           | -0.03            | -0.53               | 0.52                | 99           | 2.66             | 0.91                | 4.52                |
| NE                       | 73           | -0.05            | -0.43               | 0.36                | 73           | 0.85             | -0.63               | 2.46                |
| NM                       | 86           | -0.57            | -3.46               | 0.23                | 86           | 0.70             | -1.09               | 2.54                |
| ND                       | 51           | 0.88             | 0.48                | 1.29                | 51           | 4.13             | 2.58                | 5.68                |
| OK                       | 60           | -0.82            | -1.22               | -0.42               | 60           | -0.56            | -2.23               | 1.14                |
| SD                       | 58           | 0.43             | -0.02               | 0.85                | 58           | 1.02             | -0.68               | 2.80                |
| TX                       | 241          | -0.59            | -0.89               | -0.31               | 241          | -0.86            | -1.90               | 0.20                |
| WY                       | 133          | -0.45            | -1.03               | 0.11                | 133          | 0.55             | -1.05               | 2.18                |
| Western                  | 746          | -0.97            | -1.29               | -0.67               | 554          | 0.95             | -0.09               | 2.01                |
| AZ                       | 89           | -1.21            | -1.96               | -0.50               | 89           | 0.52             | -1.71               | 2.78                |
| CA                       | 256          | -0.74            | -1.12               | -0.35               | 256          | 1.19             | -0.44               | 2.83                |
| ID                       | 49           | -0.60            | -1.48               | 0.38                | 49           | 5.33             | 1.99                | 8.81                |
| NV                       | 46           | -1.18            | -2.12               | -0.29               | 46           | -3.13            | -7.30               | 1.17                |
| OR                       | 121          | -0.69            | -1.37               | -0.02               | 121          | 4.43             | 2.23                | 6.62                |
| UT                       | 103          | -1.69            | -2.55               | -0.85               | 103          | -0.75            | -2.88               | 1.39                |
| WA                       | 82           | -0.16            | -0.82               | 0.39                | 82           | 0.05             | -1.85               | 1.78                |

<sup>a</sup> There is evidence of a positive trend if the lower CI > 0 and there is evidence of negative trend if the upper CI < 0. If the CI contains 0, then there is inconclusive evidence about trend in abundance.

<sup>b</sup> New England consists of CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT; RI is a hunt state but was included in this group for purposes of analysis.

**Table 2.** Preliminary estimates and their standard errors (SE) of mourning dove harvest and hunter activity during the 2024–25 hunting season<sup>a</sup>. Data rounded to the nearest 100.

| Management Unit<br>& State | Harvest    | Harvest<br>SE | Active<br>hunters | Active<br>Hunters SE | Hunter days<br>afield | Hunter<br>days afield<br>SE | Harvest per<br>hunter <sup>b</sup> | Harvest<br>per hunter<br>SE |
|----------------------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Eastern                    | 5,193,100  | 140,200       | 382,100           | † <sup>c</sup>       | 1,033,600             | 26,800                      | † <sup>c</sup>                     | † <sup>c</sup>              |
| AL                         | 542,000    | 52,500        | 35,000            | 2,100                | 77,300                | 6,100                       | 15.48                              | 1.8                         |
| DE                         | 46,600     | 5,000         | 3,000             | 200                  | 8,300                 | 700                         | 15.65                              | 1.9                         |
| FL                         | 140,000    | 25,900        | 11,000            | 1,600                | 34,400                | 4,900                       | 12.75                              | 3.0                         |
| GA                         | 786,000    | 62,100        | 49,700            | 3,000                | 144,500               | 12,300                      | 15.81                              | 1.6                         |
| IL                         | 164,800    | 17,300        | 17,900            | 1,400                | 40,700                | 3,800                       | 9.19                               | 1.2                         |
| IN                         | 167,700    | 20,500        | 11,200            | 1,000                | 32,300                | 3,500                       | 15.02                              | 2.3                         |
| KY                         | 347,400    | 28,900        | 20,300            | 1,100                | 55,900                | 4,500                       | 17.08                              | 1.7                         |
| LA                         | 289,900    | 36,600        | 18,900            | 1,600                | 48,700                | 4,700                       | 15.37                              | 2.3                         |
| MD                         | 97,100     | 11,200        | 7,500             | 1,200                | 23,800                | 4,700                       | 12.91                              | 2.5                         |
| MS                         | 340,200    | 40,800        | 24,800            | 2,400                | 57,000                | 7,500                       | 13.74                              | 2.1                         |
| NC                         | 589,900    | 41,900        | 46,500            | 2,800                | 110,100               | 8,400                       | 12.68                              | 1.2                         |
| OH                         | 180,900    | 24,000        | 15,600            | 1,300                | 52,000                | 5,400                       | 11.58                              | 1.8                         |
| PA                         | 141,300    | 15,500        | 21,800            | 1,800                | 67,700                | 7,000                       | 6.49                               | 0.9                         |
| RI                         | 200        | 200           | 100               | 0                    | 200                   | 100                         | 1.36                               | 1.3                         |
| SC                         | 570,100    | 50,300        | 30,700            | 2,200                | 97,400                | 8,900                       | 18.58                              | 2.1                         |
| TN                         | 436,100    | 44,700        | 32,100            | 2,400                | 78,600                | 6,800                       | 13.59                              | 1.7                         |
| VA                         | 274,100    | 10,000        | 21,800            | 400                  | 54,400                | 1,700                       | 12.58                              | 0.5                         |
| WI                         | 68,700     | 20,900        | 13,300            | 1,500                | 48,500                | 8,900                       | 5.16                               | 1.7                         |
| WV                         | 10,200     | 5,600         | 1,100             | 400                  | 1,700                 | 700                         | 9.38                               | 6.3                         |
| Central                    | 7,954,500  | 234,000       | 467,300           | † <sup>c</sup>       | 1,551,800             | 43,500                      | † <sup>c</sup>                     | † <sup>c</sup>              |
| AR                         | 290,800    | 37,500        | 20,800            | 1,800                | 48,100                | 5,700                       | 13.98                              | 2.2                         |
| CO                         | 142,300    | 17,200        | 11,000            | 900                  | 30,100                | 3,700                       | 12.9                               | 1.9                         |
| IA                         | 74,500     | 10,800        | 6,500             | 700                  | 18,800                | 3,400                       | 11.38                              | 2.1                         |
| KS                         | 643,100    | 46,100        | 35,100            | 1,600                | 108,900               | 9,000                       | 18.33                              | 1.6                         |
| MN                         | 58,900     | 11,400        | 11,700            | 1,600                | 43,000                | 7,500                       | 5.03                               | 1.2                         |
| MO                         | 241,400    | 37,300        | 22,300            | 2,300                | 56,300                | 8,500                       | 10.83                              | 2.0                         |
| MT                         | 37,600     | 3,500         | 3,200             | 200                  | 9,100                 | 700                         | 11.68                              | 1.2                         |
| NE                         | 242,100    | 23,500        | 13,600            | 1,000                | 46,100                | 4,800                       | 17.76                              | 2.2                         |
| NM                         | 41,300     | 6,500         | 5,100             | 800                  | 15,900                | 2,500                       | 8.02                               | 1.7                         |
| ND                         | 135,100    | 9,800         | 8,100             | 300                  | 25,700                | 1,300                       | 16.65                              | 1.3                         |
| OK                         | 522,600    | 71,800        | 31,100            | 2,400                | 103,800               | 11,300                      | 16.79                              | 2.6                         |
| SD                         | 149,300    | 20,300        | 8,200             | 900                  | 24,700                | 3,700                       | 18.28                              | 3.2                         |
| TX                         | 5,360,100  | 207,400       | 289,000           | 7,100                | 1,017,100             | 38,100                      | 18.54                              | 0.8                         |
| WY                         | 15,400     | 1,900         | 1,600             | 100                  | 4,400                 | 500                         | 9.83                               | 1.3                         |
| Western                    | 1,459,700  | 73,000        | 97,600            | † <sup>c</sup>       | 263,300               | 11,500                      | † <sup>c</sup>                     | † <sup>c</sup>              |
| AZ                         | 516,200    | 39,900        | 29,800            | 1,700                | 80,700                | 5,300                       | 17.32                              | 1.7                         |
| CA                         | 731,200    | 58,500        | 45,300            | 2,100                | 115,600               | 8,900                       | 16.14                              | 1.5                         |
| ID                         | 92,200     | 6,800         | 7,800             | 300                  | 27,000                | 1,600                       | 11.81                              | 0.9                         |
| NV                         | 17,800     | 4,800         | 2,700             | 400                  | 5,400                 | 900                         | 6.67                               | 2.1                         |
| OR                         | 14,400     | 3,400         | 1,700             | 300                  | 4,900                 | 1,000                       | 8.45                               | 2.3                         |
| UT                         | 20,300     | 4,300         | 4,700             | 600                  | 14,100                | 3,600                       | 4.31                               | 1.1                         |
| WA                         | 67,700     | 14,600        | 5,600             | 900                  | 15,600                | 2,800                       | 12.03                              | 3.3                         |
| United States              | 14,607,200 | 282,400       | 947,000           | † <sup>c</sup>       | 2,848,700             | 52,400                      | † <sup>c</sup>                     | † <sup>c</sup>              |

<sup>a</sup>Hunter number estimates at the management unit and national levels may be biased high because the HIP sample frames are state specific; therefore, hunters are counted more than once if they hunt in >1 state. Variance is inestimable.

<sup>b</sup>Seasonal harvest per hunter.

<sup>c</sup> No estimate available.

**Table 3.** Preliminary estimates and their standard errors (SE) of mourning dove harvest and hunter activity during the 2025–26 hunting season<sup>a</sup>. Data rounded to the nearest 100.

| Management Unit & State | Harvest    | Harvest SE | Active hunters | Active Hunters SE | Hunter days afield | Hunter days afield SE | Harvest per hunter <sup>b</sup> | Harvest per hunter SE |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Eastern                 | 5,484,700  | 202,500    | 387,600        | † <sup>c</sup>    | 1,159,800          | 37,800                | † <sup>c</sup>                  | † <sup>c</sup>        |
| AL                      | 590,300    | 58,700     | 37,800         | 2,400             | 94,300             | 7,900                 | 15.63                           | 1.8                   |
| DE                      | 29,400     | 4,200      | 2,700          | 200               | 7,500              | 900                   | 10.70                           | 1.7                   |
| FL                      | 163,400    | 29,100     | 14,600         | 2,200             | 49,400             | 9,700                 | 11.22                           | 2.6                   |
| GA                      | 829,200    | 84,100     | 46,700         | 3,500             | 142,800            | 16,600                | 17.77                           | 2.2                   |
| IL                      | 187,200    | 22,000     | 17,900         | 1,700             | 54,300             | 6,800                 | 10.44                           | 1.6                   |
| IN                      | 212,000    | 29,200     | 14,400         | 1,200             | 54,900             | 6,900                 | 14.70                           | 2.4                   |
| KY                      | 353,300    | 42,500     | 20,000         | 1,200             | 53,200             | 4,800                 | 17.63                           | 2.4                   |
| LA                      | 397,100    | 64,600     | 27,300         | 2,700             | 74,500             | 10,000                | 14.56                           | 2.8                   |
| MD                      | 79,400     | 17,800     | 6,900          | 1,300             | 15,800             | 3,100                 | 11.53                           | 3.4                   |
| MS                      | 367,200    | 91,300     | 14,100         | 1,200             | 50,400             | 8,600                 | 26.00                           | 6.9                   |
| NC                      | 557,200    | 51,500     | 47,700         | 2,900             | 132,500            | 14,600                | 11.68                           | 1.3                   |
| OH                      | 250,200    | 38,800     | 19,300         | 1,800             | 63,400             | 8,800                 | 12.97                           | 2.4                   |
| PA                      | 146,200    | 26,400     | 22,200         | 2,200             | 93,200             | 12,800                | 6.60                            | 1.4                   |
| RI                      | 2,000      | 800        | 200            | 100               | 700                | 200                   | 9.65                            | 4.8                   |
| SC                      | 622,700    | 68,600     | 40,100         | 3,000             | 119,800            | 12,300                | 15.52                           | 2.1                   |
| TN                      | 392,600    | 59,500     | 24,000         | 2,200             | 63,800             | 7,100                 | 16.33                           | 2.9                   |
| VA                      | 241,200    | 12,300     | 20,600         | 500               | 59,000             | 2,400                 | 11.71                           | 0.7                   |
| WI                      | 59,600     | 19,900     | 10,700         | 1,700             | 29,200             | 5,600                 | 5.57                            | 2.1                   |
| WV                      | 4,400      | 2,600      | 400            | 200               | 1,100              | 500                   | 12.33                           | 9.1                   |
| Central                 | 8,903,000  | 309,500    | 468,000        | † <sup>c</sup>    | 1,657,700          | 48,000                | † <sup>c</sup>                  | † <sup>c</sup>        |
| AR                      | 286,400    | 41,300     | 18,500         | 2,200             | 49,000             | 7,900                 | 15.47                           | 2.9                   |
| CO                      | 112,700    | 13,600     | 12,100         | 1,200             | 25,200             | 2,900                 | 9.32                            | 1.4                   |
| IA                      | 74,700     | 15,400     | 6,700          | 1,000             | 18,800             | 2,800                 | 11.12                           | 2.9                   |
| KS                      | 387,800    | 48,400     | 24,200         | 1,900             | 70,900             | 7,000                 | 16.05                           | 2.4                   |
| MN                      | 63,000     | 15,100     | 7,400          | 1,300             | 20,700             | 4,400                 | 8.48                            | 2.5                   |
| MO                      | 452,800    | 61,800     | 28,100         | 2,600             | 92,900             | 14,200                | 16.09                           | 2.7                   |
| MT                      | 33,500     | 3,600      | 3,500          | 200               | 11,400             | 1,200                 | 9.65                            | 1.2                   |
| NE                      | 189,100    | 20,000     | 11,800         | 1,000             | 38,700             | 3,800                 | 15.96                           | 2.2                   |
| NM                      | 73,100     | 28,400     | 4,500          | 1,100             | 16,300             | 4,100                 | 16.36                           | 7.4                   |
| ND                      | 121,800    | 9,500      | 7,900          | 400               | 26,400             | 1,800                 | 15.47                           | 1.4                   |
| OK                      | 370,000    | 56,300     | 23,300         | 2,400             | 86,800             | 13,200                | 15.91                           | 2.9                   |
| SD                      | 144,300    | 24,300     | 7,500          | 900               | 23,800             | 3,200                 | 19.31                           | 4.0                   |
| TX                      | 6,581,300  | 286,700    | 311,000        | 8,500             | 1,171,400          | 41,700                | 21.16                           | 1.1                   |
| WY                      | 12,600     | 2,200      | 1,600          | 100               | 5,300              | 800                   | 8.09                            | 1.5                   |
| Western                 | 1,130,000  | 64,100     | 92,900         | † <sup>c</sup>    | 223,500            | 10,000                | † <sup>c</sup>                  | † <sup>c</sup>        |
| AZ                      | 423,500    | 45,600     | 29,200         | 2,100             | 81,600             | 7,500                 | 14.49                           | 1.9                   |
| CA                      | 521,300    | 40,100     | 41,900         | 2,300             | 82,700             | 5,300                 | 12.43                           | 1.2                   |
| ID                      | 77,800     | 5,500      | 8,600          | 300               | 27,300             | 1,700                 | 9.01                            | 0.7                   |
| NV                      | 20,200     | 5,600      | 2,300          | 500               | 6,500              | 1,300                 | 8.82                            | 3.1                   |
| OR                      | 7,400      | 2,400      | 3,000          | 700               | 5,600              | 1,700                 | 2.49                            | 1.0                   |
| UT                      | 21,900     | 5,000      | 4,600          | 700               | 11,700             | 2,100                 | 4.72                            | 1.3                   |
| WA                      | 58,000     | 18,300     | 3,200          | 700               | 8,100              | 2,100                 | 18.22                           | 7.1                   |
| United States           | 15,517,700 | 375,400    | 948,500        | † <sup>c</sup>    | 3,041,000          | 61,900                | † <sup>c</sup>                  | † <sup>c</sup>        |

<sup>a</sup>Hunter number estimates at the management unit and national levels may be biased high because the HIP sample frames are state specific; therefore, hunters are counted more than once if they hunt in >1 state. Variance is inestimable.

<sup>b</sup>Seasonal harvest per hunter.

<sup>c</sup> No estimate available.

**Table 4.** Estimates of long-term annual survival and harvest rate of mourning doves by management unit and state that banded doves, 2007–25. Estimates by age-class: hatch-year (HY) and after-hatch-year (AHY). SD is the standard deviation of the posterior probability distribution for an estimate.

| Management Unit<br>& State | HY<br>Survival | HY<br>Survival<br>SD | AHY<br>Survival | AHY<br>Survival<br>SD | HY Harvest<br>Rate | HY<br>Harvest<br>Rate SD | AHY<br>Harvest<br>Rate | AHY<br>Harvest<br>Rate SD |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Eastern                    | 0.282          | 0.095                | 0.401           | 0.031                 | 0.082              | 0.041                    | 0.056                  | 0.028                     |
| AL                         | 0.291          | 0.069                | 0.414           | 0.032                 | 0.096              | 0.041                    | 0.062                  | 0.014                     |
| DE                         | 0.370          | 0.187                | 0.346           | 0.088                 | 0.161              | 0.068                    | 0.129                  | 0.058                     |
| FL                         | 0.330          | 0.205                | 0.454           | 0.060                 | 0.039              | 0.021                    | 0.026                  | 0.009                     |
| GA                         | 0.293          | 0.063                | 0.406           | 0.026                 | 0.125              | 0.037                    | 0.071                  | 0.014                     |
| IL                         | 0.300          | 0.035                | 0.390           | 0.053                 | 0.063              | 0.010                    | 0.042                  | 0.017                     |
| IN                         | 0.212          | 0.091                | 0.400           | 0.073                 | 0.075              | 0.037                    | 0.063                  | 0.014                     |
| KY                         | 0.286          | 0.046                | 0.401           | 0.065                 | 0.074              | 0.027                    | 0.056                  | 0.011                     |
| LA                         | 0.333          | 0.051                | 0.433           | 0.045                 | 0.093              | 0.021                    | 0.055                  | 0.017                     |
| MD                         | 0.266          | 0.062                | 0.369           | 0.062                 | 0.096              | 0.034                    | 0.086                  | 0.022                     |
| MS                         | 0.271          | 0.046                | 0.401           | 0.040                 | 0.134              | 0.039                    | 0.084                  | 0.025                     |
| NC                         | 0.234          | 0.063                | 0.365           | 0.078                 | 0.105              | 0.037                    | 0.062                  | 0.018                     |
| OH                         | 0.251          | 0.050                | 0.400           | 0.069                 | 0.049              | 0.015                    | 0.034                  | 0.013                     |
| PA                         | 0.257          | 0.074                | 0.381           | 0.111                 | 0.038              | 0.015                    | 0.025                  | 0.012                     |
| SC                         | 0.313          | 0.050                | 0.409           | 0.031                 | 0.097              | 0.027                    | 0.060                  | 0.013                     |
| TN                         | 0.233          | 0.046                | 0.389           | 0.039                 | 0.130              | 0.038                    | 0.076                  | 0.013                     |
| VA                         | 0.216          | 0.109                | 0.410           | 0.052                 | 0.032              | 0.023                    | 0.038                  | 0.012                     |
| WI                         | 0.321          | 0.290                | 0.390           | 0.082                 | 0.020              | 0.018                    | 0.016                  | 0.007                     |
| WV                         | 0.303          | 0.060                | 0.413           | 0.060                 | 0.048              | 0.019                    | 0.039                  | 0.016                     |
| Central                    | 0.314          | 0.094                | 0.489           | 0.076                 | 0.039              | 0.032                    | 0.030                  | 0.026                     |
| AR                         | 0.255          | 0.074                | 0.429           | 0.084                 | 0.078              | 0.034                    | 0.058                  | 0.015                     |
| CO                         | 0.317          | 0.088                | 0.506           | 0.111                 | 0.014              | 0.009                    | 0.025                  | 0.010                     |
| IA                         | 0.227          | 0.051                | 0.436           | 0.078                 | 0.066              | 0.025                    | 0.047                  | 0.016                     |
| KS                         | 0.266          | 0.060                | 0.459           | 0.063                 | 0.060              | 0.017                    | 0.050                  | 0.011                     |
| MN                         | 0.394          | 0.101                | 0.560           | 0.102                 | 0.036              | 0.037                    | 0.024                  | 0.007                     |
| MO                         | 0.147          | 0.053                | 0.351           | 0.045                 | 0.121              | 0.041                    | 0.101                  | 0.027                     |
| MT                         | 0.328          | 0.098                | 0.513           | 0.082                 | 0.018              | 0.008                    | 0.014                  | 0.007                     |
| ND                         | 0.433          | 0.087                | 0.605           | 0.064                 | 0.017              | 0.006                    | 0.012                  | 0.005                     |
| NE                         | 0.283          | 0.046                | 0.473           | 0.077                 | 0.032              | 0.013                    | 0.031                  | 0.011                     |
| NM                         | 0.406          | 0.103                | 0.574           | 0.118                 | 0.008              | 0.014                    | 0.007                  | 0.003                     |
| OK                         | 0.232          | 0.040                | 0.403           | 0.091                 | 0.061              | 0.024                    | 0.054                  | 0.020                     |
| SD                         | 0.443          | 0.094                | 0.526           | 0.131                 | 0.042              | 0.010                    | 0.030                  | 0.010                     |
| TX                         | 0.362          | 0.071                | 0.482           | 0.144                 | 0.053              | 0.018                    | 0.035                  | 0.018                     |
| WY                         | 0.369          | 0.108                | 0.551           | 0.088                 | 0.007              | 0.003                    | 0.005                  | 0.003                     |
| Western                    | 0.288          | 0.077                | 0.446           | 0.035                 | 0.035              | 0.015                    | 0.034                  | 0.014                     |
| AZ                         | 0.321          | 0.093                | 0.427           | 0.102                 | 0.024              | 0.012                    | 0.016                  | 0.006                     |
| CA                         | 0.277          | 0.068                | 0.441           | 0.046                 | 0.055              | 0.015                    | 0.053                  | 0.018                     |
| ID                         | 0.315          | 0.129                | 0.473           | 0.125                 | 0.026              | 0.010                    | 0.020                  | 0.010                     |
| NV                         | 0.271          | 0.142                | 0.463           | 0.119                 | 0.045              | 0.024                    | 0.039                  | 0.021                     |
| OR                         | 0.249          | 0.130                | 0.431           | 0.108                 | 0.036              | 0.025                    | 0.037                  | 0.022                     |
| UT                         | 0.313          | 0.388                | 0.449           | 0.119                 | 0.016              | 0.034                    | 0.015                  | 0.006                     |
| WA                         | 0.286          | 0.067                | 0.444           | 0.085                 | 0.053              | 0.017                    | 0.043                  | 0.020                     |

**Table 5.** Estimated annual age ratios (juveniles per adult) for the previous two years and the long-term average (LTA, 2007–25) by management unit and state based on the Parts Collection Survey. Age ratios are corrected for unknown age wings and differential vulnerability. LCI and UCI are lower and upper 95% credible intervals.

| Management Unit & State | 2024 Age Ratio | 2024 LCI | 2024 UCI | 2025 Age Ratio | 2025 LCI | 2025 UCI | LTA Age Ratio |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|----------|---------------|
| Eastern                 | 1.977          | 1.711    | 2.228    | 1.614          | 1.376    | 1.808    | 1.637         |
| AL                      | 2.199          | 1.444    | 3.320    | 1.431          | 0.959    | 2.054    | 1.585         |
| DE                      | 3.030          | 0.643    | 17.145   | 3.194          | 0.663    | 19.685   | 2.190         |
| GA                      | 2.077          | 1.495    | 2.990    | 1.609          | 1.150    | 2.340    | 1.749         |
| IL                      | 1.793          | 1.177    | 2.543    | 1.455          | 0.968    | 2.019    | 1.494         |
| IN                      | 2.188          | 1.475    | 3.487    | 2.201          | 1.452    | 3.670    | 1.862         |
| KY                      | 2.193          | 1.494    | 3.298    | 1.383          | 0.938    | 2.038    | 1.655         |
| LA                      | 2.006          | 1.268    | 3.218    | 1.782          | 1.121    | 2.874    | 1.680         |
| MD                      | 2.420          | 1.162    | 5.784    | 2.326          | 1.155    | 5.598    | 1.947         |
| MS                      | 3.096          | 1.890    | 5.479    | 1.545          | 0.888    | 2.775    | 1.956         |
| NC                      | 2.175          | 1.515    | 3.375    | 1.834          | 1.287    | 2.844    | 1.788         |
| OH                      | 1.785          | 1.095    | 2.788    | 1.530          | 0.939    | 2.396    | 1.441         |
| PA                      | 1.345          | 0.569    | 2.637    | 1.061          | 0.443    | 2.052    | 1.149         |
| SC                      | 1.624          | 1.057    | 2.482    | 1.888          | 1.232    | 2.912    | 1.642         |
| TN                      | 2.498          | 1.633    | 4.327    | 2.155          | 1.394    | 3.703    | 1.977         |
| VA                      | 1.753          | 1.088    | 2.801    | 1.304          | 0.764    | 2.166    | 1.570         |
| WI                      | 0.731          | 0.251    | 1.722    | 1.052          | 0.399    | 2.250    | 1.091         |
| WV                      | 1.500          | 0.610    | 3.279    | 1.232          | 0.525    | 2.662    | 1.271         |
| Central                 | 2.069          | 1.764    | 2.171    | 1.606          | 1.367    | 1.837    | 1.676         |
| AR                      | 3.102          | 1.415    | 3.279    | 1.658          | 0.833    | 1.949    | 1.917         |
| CO                      | 1.873          | 1.076    | 2.983    | 1.657          | 0.743    | 2.105    | 1.750         |
| IA                      | 2.242          | 1.557    | 2.248    | 2.088          | 1.310    | 2.105    | 1.887         |
| KS                      | 2.460          | 0.763    | 1.566    | 2.065          | 0.759    | 1.508    | 1.805         |
| MN                      | 0.904          | 0.871    | 1.710    | 1.312          | 0.898    | 1.793    | 1.489         |
| MO                      | 3.650          | 1.493    | 2.454    | 2.413          | 1.297    | 2.097    | 2.483         |
| MT                      | 2.257          | 1.584    | 2.450    | 1.342          | 1.476    | 2.378    | 1.395         |
| ND                      | 1.254          | 2.062    | 2.980    | 1.294          | 1.703    | 2.594    | 1.447         |
| NE                      | 1.962          | 2.025    | 4.448    | 1.859          | 0.759    | 1.465    | 1.500         |
| NM                      | 1.160          | 2.042    | 3.318    | 1.112          | 1.491    | 2.295    | 1.032         |
| OK                      | 2.985          | 0.467    | 1.671    | 1.060          | 0.554    | 2.940    | 2.298         |
| SD                      | 1.906          | 1.709    | 2.910    | 1.643          | 1.626    | 2.866    | 1.545         |
| TX                      | 2.588          | 2.634    | 5.264    | 1.850          | 1.631    | 3.625    | 1.852         |
| WY                      | 2.064          | 2.000    | 5.061    | 1.423          | 1.204    | 2.288    | 1.321         |
| Western                 | 1.826          | 1.590    | 2.090    | 1.231          | 1.062    | 1.423    | 1.665         |
| AZ                      | 1.531          | 1.213    | 1.908    | 0.886          | 0.691    | 1.128    | 1.213         |
| CA                      | 2.686          | 2.195    | 3.356    | 1.534          | 1.268    | 1.843    | 2.052         |
| ID                      | 1.346          | 0.952    | 1.796    | 1.555          | 1.142    | 1.972    | 1.644         |
| NV                      | 1.643          | 1.039    | 2.692    | 1.654          | 1.047    | 2.731    | 1.641         |
| OR                      | 1.358          | 0.734    | 2.244    | 1.074          | 0.606    | 1.707    | 1.823         |
| UT                      | 1.074          | 0.594    | 1.813    | 0.798          | 0.310    | 1.624    | 1.310         |
| WA                      | 2.125          | 1.388    | 3.298    | 2.194          | 1.490    | 3.268    | 1.932         |

<sup>a</sup> Standard deviations for estimates do not incorporate additional uncertainty from correction factors for unknown age wings.

**Table 6.** Estimates of absolute abundance and their 95% credible intervals (CI) of mourning doves on 1 September each year for each management unit (Eastern=EMU, Central=CMU, and Western=WMU) in the US, 2007–25.

| Year | EMU Abundance | EMU 95% Lower CI | EMU 95% Upper CI | CMU Abundance | CMU 95% Lower CI | CMU 95% Upper CI | WMU Abundance | WMU 95% Lower CI | WMU 95% Upper CI |
|------|---------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| 2007 | 97,260,389    | 77,958,848       | 120,396,478      | 197,361,897   | 160,247,384      | 238,479,322      | 64,802,508    | 47,533,598       | 80,449,881       |
| 2008 | 93,686,839    | 75,003,919       | 116,348,748      | 188,658,833   | 152,321,537      | 228,837,056      | 55,862,278    | 40,974,121       | 69,827,341       |
| 2009 | 95,449,665    | 76,293,138       | 118,467,203      | 190,326,085   | 153,983,304      | 231,268,400      | 55,879,024    | 41,089,442       | 69,944,234       |
| 2010 | 90,512,023    | 72,626,118       | 112,226,512      | 180,364,347   | 145,850,231      | 219,031,836      | 55,104,102    | 40,482,578       | 69,198,610       |
| 2011 | 95,154,086    | 76,162,807       | 118,184,910      | 171,291,166   | 138,571,031      | 207,944,475      | 52,485,844    | 38,376,595       | 66,081,992       |
| 2012 | 93,360,347    | 74,772,289       | 115,708,727      | 180,004,219   | 145,403,034      | 218,054,351      | 50,142,117    | 36,802,490       | 62,915,593       |
| 2013 | 94,230,293    | 75,431,201       | 116,722,853      | 191,635,893   | 154,904,828      | 232,645,662      | 46,108,580    | 33,563,563       | 58,157,470       |
| 2014 | 86,723,270    | 69,624,955       | 107,774,678      | 200,334,716   | 161,825,408      | 243,588,508      | 50,968,171    | 37,383,209       | 63,807,284       |
| 2015 | 86,508,089    | 69,362,931       | 107,346,536      | 202,189,729   | 163,486,692      | 245,483,473      | 54,284,355    | 39,716,315       | 68,418,923       |
| 2016 | 83,756,577    | 67,321,959       | 103,936,874      | 189,665,636   | 153,380,171      | 230,366,422      | 44,249,753    | 32,223,796       | 55,766,299       |
| 2017 | 87,563,389    | 69,798,980       | 108,751,553      | 189,165,821   | 152,718,344      | 229,360,026      | 41,983,028    | 30,635,706       | 53,116,583       |
| 2018 | 80,882,387    | 64,938,694       | 100,969,513      | 172,609,328   | 139,589,037      | 209,273,909      | 44,577,396    | 32,604,935       | 56,206,776       |
| 2019 | 84,340,038    | 67,244,888       | 104,718,533      | 171,234,851   | 138,544,005      | 207,455,633      | 39,539,789    | 28,879,650       | 49,909,381       |
| 2020 | 83,981,652    | 67,324,909       | 104,285,642      | 163,059,682   | 131,626,182      | 198,392,468      | 39,250,085    | 28,663,718       | 49,685,120       |
| 2021 | 79,384,211    | 63,584,534       | 98,561,541       | 157,174,380   | 126,991,939      | 190,972,074      | 45,459,104    | 32,878,530       | 57,329,828       |
| 2022 | 84,019,035    | 67,392,180       | 104,139,463      | 178,345,326   | 144,409,969      | 216,194,015      | 51,755,154    | 37,655,584       | 65,617,671       |
| 2023 | 82,859,191    | 66,488,241       | 102,814,785      | 188,722,758   | 151,848,795      | 229,304,789      | 53,350,442    | 38,689,801       | 67,873,593       |
| 2024 | 82,544,529    | 65,939,827       | 102,384,702      | 201,682,621   | 163,017,657      | 244,312,236      | 56,252,998    | 40,680,598       | 71,310,709       |
| 2025 | 82,499,589    | 66,192,890       | 102,516,240      | 200,485,969   | 161,446,802      | 244,250,274      | 46,438,371    | 33,956,634       | 58,926,724       |

**Appendix A.** Federal framework dates, season length, and daily bag limit for mourning dove hunting in the US by management unit (Eastern=EMU, Central=CMU, and Western=WMU), 1918–2025.

| Year                 | EMU Dates <sup>a</sup> | EMU Days        | EMU Bag         | CMU Dates <sup>a</sup>    | CMU Days        | CMU Bag         | WMU Dates <sup>a</sup> | WMU Days        | WMU Bag         |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1918                 | Sep 1–Dec 31           | 107             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15              | 106             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15           | 106             | 25              |
| 1919–22              | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 108             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15              | 106             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15           | 106             | 25              |
| 1923–28              | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 108             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 31              | 106             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15           | 106             | 25              |
| 1929                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 106             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 31              | 106             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15           | 106             | 25              |
| 1930                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 108             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15              | 106             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15           | 106             | 25              |
| 1931                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 106             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15              | 106             | 25              | Sep 1–Dec 15           | 106             | 25              |
| 1932–33              | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 106             | 18              | Sep 1–Dec 15              | 106             | 18              | Sep 1–Dec 15           | 106             | 18              |
| 1934                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 106             | 18              | Sep 1–Jan 15              | 106             | 18              | Sep 1–Dec 15           | 106             | 18              |
| 1935                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 107             | 20              | Sep 1–Jan 16              | 106             | 20              | Sep 1–Jan 05           | 107             | 20              |
| 1936                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 77              | 20              | Sep 1–Jan 16              | 76              | 20              | Sep 1–Nov 15           | 76              | 20              |
| 1937 <sup>b</sup>    | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 77              | 15              | Sep 1–Nov 15              | 76              | 15              | Sep 1–Nov 15           | 76              | 15              |
| 1938                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 78              | 15              | Sep 1–Nov 15              | 76              | 15              | Sep 1–Nov 15           | 76              | 15              |
| 1939                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 78              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 31              | 77              | 15              | Sep 1–Nov 15           | 76              | 15              |
| 1940                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 77              | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 31              | 76              | 12              | Sep 1–Nov 15           | 76              | 12              |
| 1941                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 62              | 12              | Sep 1–Oct 27              | 42              | 12              | Sep 1–Oct 12           | 42              | 12              |
| 1942                 | Sep 1–Oct 15           | 30              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 27              | 42              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 12           | 42              | 10              |
| 1943                 | Sep 1–Dec 24           | 30              | 10              | Sep 1–Dec 19              | 42              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 12           | 42              | 10              |
| 1944                 | Sep 1–Jan 20           | 58              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 20              | 57              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 25           | 55              | 10              |
| 1945                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 31              | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 30           | 60              | 10              |
| 1946                 | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 61              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 31              | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 30           | 60              | 10              |
| 1947–48 <sup>c</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Dec 3               | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 30           | 60              | 10              |
| 1949                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 30              | 10              | Sep 1–Nov 14              | 45              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 15           | 45              | 10              |
| 1950                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 30              | 10              | Sep 1–Dec 3               | 45              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 15           | 45              | 10              |
| 1951                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 30              | 8               | Sep 1–Dec 24              | 42              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 15           | 45              | 10              |
| 1952                 | Sep 1–Jan 10           | 30              | 8               | Sep 1–Nov 6               | 42              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 12           | 42              | 10              |
| 1953                 | Sep 1–Jan 10           | 30              | 8               | Sep 1–Nov 9               | 42              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 12           | 42              | 10              |
| 1954 <sup>d</sup>    | Sep 1–Jan 10           | 40              | 8               | Sep 1–Nov 9               | 40              | 10              | Sep 1–Oct 31           | 40              | 10              |
| 1955                 | Sep 1–Jan 10           | 45              | 8               | Sep 1–Nov 28              | 45              | 10              | Sep 1–Dec 31           | 45              | 10              |
| 1956 <sup>e</sup>    | Sep 1–Jan 10           | 55              | 8               | Sep 1–Jan 10              | 55              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 10           | 50              | 10              |
| 1957                 | Sep 1–Jan 10           | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 10              | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 10           | 50              | 10              |
| 1958–59              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 65              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 15              | 65              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 50              | 10              |
| 1960–61 <sup>f</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70 <sup>g</sup> | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15              | 60              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 50              | 10              |
| 1962                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70 <sup>g</sup> | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15              | 60              | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 50              | 10              |
| 1963                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70 <sup>g</sup> | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 15              | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 50              | 10              |
| 1964–67              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70 <sup>g</sup> | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15              | 60              | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 50              | 12              |
| 1968                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70 <sup>g</sup> | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15              | 60              | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 50              | 10              |
| 1969–70              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70 <sup>g</sup> | 18 <sup>h</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15              | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 50              | 10              |
| 1971–79              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70 <sup>g</sup> | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15              | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 50              | 10              |
| 1980                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70              | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 60              | 10              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70 <sup>j</sup> | 10 <sup>k</sup> |
| 1981                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70              | 12              | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 45 <sup>l</sup> | 15 <sup>l</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70 <sup>j</sup> | 10 <sup>k</sup> |
| 1982                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 45 <sup>m</sup> | 15 <sup>m</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 45 <sup>m</sup> | 15 <sup>m</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 45 <sup>m</sup> | 15 <sup>m</sup> |
| 1983–86              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60 <sup>m</sup> | 15 <sup>m</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 60 <sup>m</sup> | 15 <sup>m</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60 <sup>m</sup> | 15 <sup>m</sup> |
| 1987–07 <sup>n</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60 <sup>m</sup> | 15 <sup>m</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 60 <sup>m</sup> | 15 <sup>m</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60 <sup>o</sup> | 10              |
| 2008                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 60 <sup>m</sup> | 15 <sup>m</sup> | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60 <sup>o</sup> | 10              |
| 2009–13              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 70              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 70              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60 <sup>o</sup> | 10              |
| 2014                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 90              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 70              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60 <sup>o</sup> | 15              |
| 2015                 | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 90              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 70              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60              | 15 <sup>p</sup> |
| 2016–17              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 90              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 90              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60              | 15 <sup>p</sup> |
| 2018–25              | Sep 1–Jan 31           | 90              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15 <sup>i</sup> | 90              | 15              | Sep 1–Jan 15           | 60              | 15 <sup>p</sup> |

<sup>a</sup> From 1918–1947, seasons for doves and other “webless” species were selected independently and the dates were the earliest opening and latest closing dates chosen. Dates were inclusive. There were different season lengths in various states with some choosing many fewer days than others. Only bag and possession limits, and season dates were specified.

<sup>b</sup> Beginning in 1937, the bag and possession limit included white-winged doves in selected states.

<sup>c</sup> From 1948–1953, states permitting dove hunting were listed by waterfowl flyway. Only bag and possession limits, and season dates were specified.

<sup>d</sup> In 1954–1955, states permitting dove hunting were listed separately. Only bag and possession limits, and season dates were specified.

## **Appendix A. Continued.**

<sup>e</sup> From 1956–1959, states permitting dove hunting were listed separately. Framework opening and closing dates for seasons (but no maximum days for season length) were specified for the first time along with bag and possession limits.

<sup>f</sup> In 1960, states were grouped by management unit for the first time. Maximum season length was specified for the first time.

<sup>g</sup> Half days.

<sup>h</sup> More liberal limits allowed in conjunction with an Eastern Management Unit hunting regulations experiment.

<sup>i</sup> The framework extended to January 25 in Texas.

<sup>j</sup> 50–70 days depending on state and season timing.

<sup>k</sup> Arizona was allowed 12.

<sup>l</sup> States had the option of a 60-day season and daily bag limit of 12.

<sup>m</sup> States had the option of a 70-day season and daily bag limit of 12.

<sup>n</sup> Beginning in 2002, the limits included white-winged doves in all states in the Central Management Unit. Beginning in 2006, the limits included white-winged doves in all states in the Eastern Management Unit.

<sup>o</sup> 30–60 days depending on state (30 in Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington; 60 in Arizona and California).

<sup>p</sup> In Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and Utah daily limit is 15 mourning and white-winged doves in the aggregate. In Arizona and California daily limit is 15 mourning and white-winged doves in the aggregate, of which no more than 10 can be white-winged doves.

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