

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Wildlife Programs Branch

## 2008 Annual Bear Take Report

### Summary:

The 2008 black bear hunting season closed nine days earlier than last season when the Department received 1,700 report cards on December 9, 2008. This season is the first since 2001 that harvest numbers have reached their limit in the first two weeks of December. Over the past seven years the season has consistently closed within the last two weeks of the month. The License and Revenue Branch reported 25,631 bear tags sold this season: 25,367 resident tags and 264 non-resident tags. Non-resident tag sales increased by .02% over last years reported sales. This season 2,028 black bears were harvested and overall hunter success was 7.9%. The success rate is .5% higher than last year's figures.

The most effective hunters reported 43.9% success using trailing hounds. The use of trailing hounds is consistently reported as the most successful method for harvesting bears. Hunters reporting taking a bear while deer hunting accounted for the second highest success rate at 34.2%. While figures for success rates with trailing hounds have decreased by 3.1% since last season, hunters reporting taking a bear while deer hunting experienced greater success than last year with an increase of 3.1%. Archery hunters reported success rates consistent with previous years' figures at 7.6%.

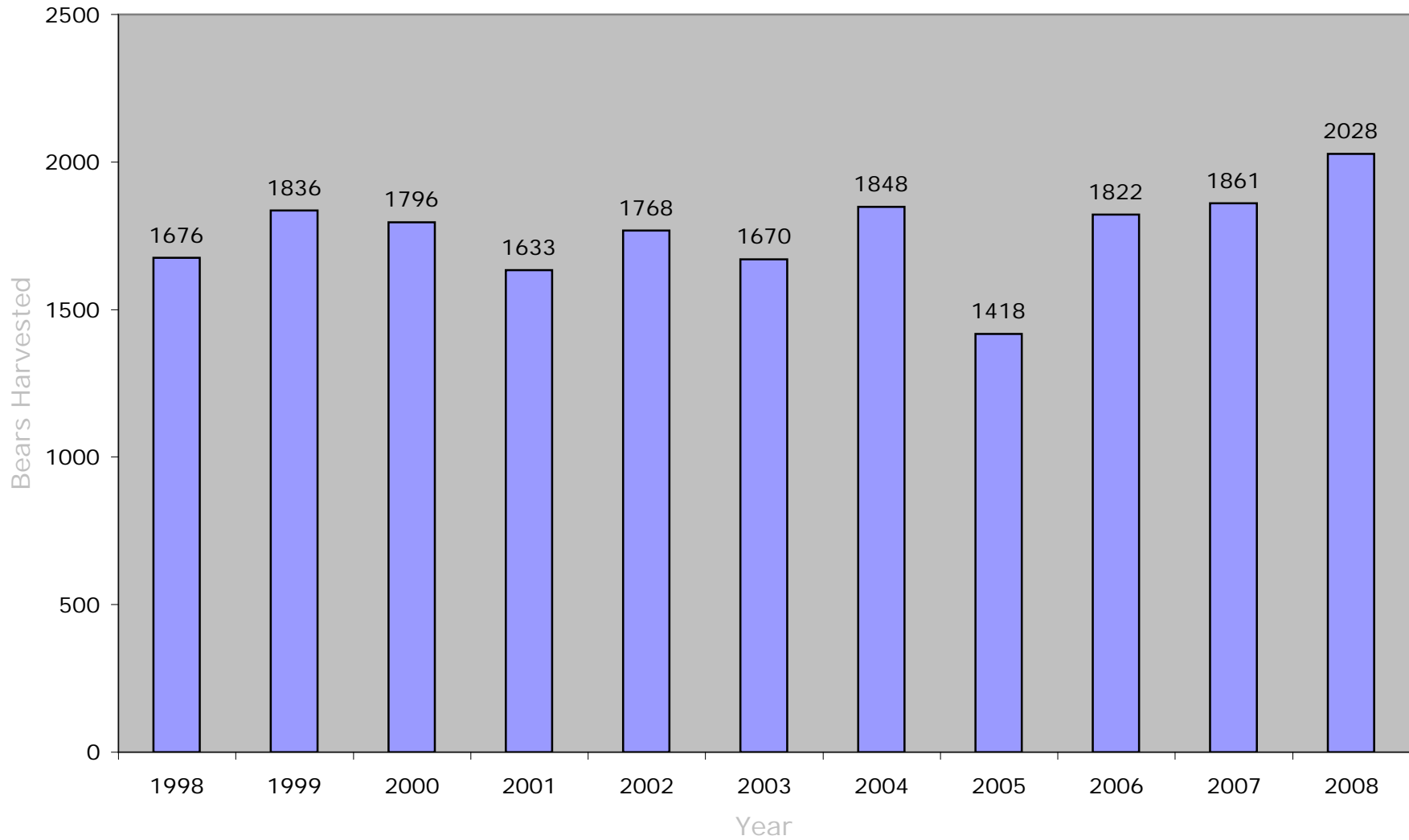
Comparable to the past, successful hunters spent an average of 4 days in the field and 18.6% of these hunters took a bear on private land. Unsuccessful hunters spent an average of 7 days hunting. Harvest opportunities proved to be most abundant in Siskiyou County; figures total 10.6% of the statewide harvest. Shasta and Humboldt counties are not far behind with harvest figures totaling approximately 7.7% each. Reported figures demonstrate that 59.2% of bears harvested were male and 37.3% were female.

General bear season opened concurrently with general deer season in the A, B, C, and D, X8, X9A, X9B, X10 and X12 zones. In the remaining deer hunting X zones, bear season commenced on October 11, 2008. During the general deer season hunters were limited to one dog per hunter.

## 2008 Method of Take Summary

County	Trailing Hounds	While Deer Hunting	Archery
Alameda	0	0	0
Alpine	8	6	2
Amador	0	2	0
Butte	30	17	5
Calaveras	8	19	2
Colusa	0	2	0
Contra Costa	0	0	0
Del Norte	8	9	0
El Dorado	14	30	11
Fresno	10	33	12
Glenn	9	33	3
Humboldt	103	31	3
Imperial	0	0	0
Inyo	0	1	1
Kern	27	29	6
Kings	0	0	0
Lake	5	4	1
Lassen	10	2	2
Los Angeles	2	13	7
Madera	26	22	5
Marin	21	0	0
Mariposa	10	2	0
Mendocino	20	30	7
Merced	0	0	0
Modoc	1	1	0
Mono	4	41	1
Monterey	0	0	0
Napa	0	1	0
Nevada	4	10	3
Orange	0	0	0
Placer	12	14	4
Plumas	60	20	6
Riverside	0	0	0
Sacramento	0	0	0
San Benito	0	0	0
San Bernardino	5	13	2
San Diego	0	0	0
San Francisco	0	0	0
San Joaquin	0	0	0
San Luis Obispo	0	0	0
San Mateo	0	0	0
Santa Barbara	0	6	1
Santa Clara	0	0	0
Santa Cruz	0	0	0
Shasta	71	44	7
Sierra	21	13	3
Siskiyou	140	46	13
Solano	0	0	0
Sonoma	0	0	0
Stanislaus	1	4	0
Sutter	2	0	2
Tehema	39	44	2
Trinity	86	68	15
Tulare	64	40	18
Tuolumne	59	33	8
Ventura	0	10	1
Yolo	0	0	0
Yuba	12	2	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>STATEWIDE %</b>	<b>43.90%</b>	<b>34.20%</b>	<b>7.60%</b>

### Ten Year Bear Take Summary

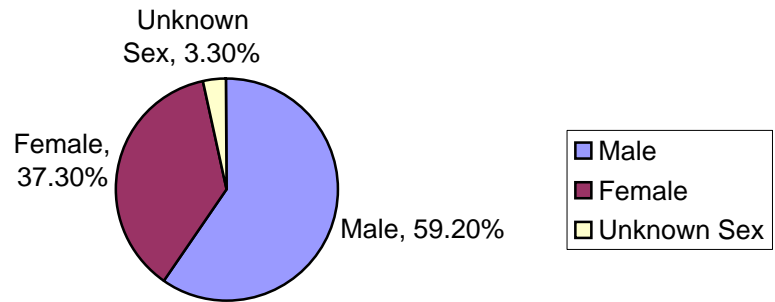


Ten Year Bear Take Summary Table

Ten Year Bear Take Summary											
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Alameda											
Alpine	10	26	19	5	5	8	9	11	23	17	16
Amador	1	3	0	0	0	1	2	5	5	9	3
Butte	28	48	38	39	51	45	30	47	45	61	59
Calaveras	13	12	19	17	19	20	36	9	12	33	30
Colusa	6	2	0	2	2	1	4	8	2	4	2
Contra Costa											
Del Norte	51	53	32	18	28	22	30	18	27	29	20
El Dorado	44	29	61	61	61	61	63	47	62	69	61
Fresno	62	70	94	78	78	86	99	59	79	77	63
Glenn	22	27	33	18	25	27	31	33	35	26	54
Humboldt	142	164	130	110	147	113	154	98	140	117	157
Imperial											
Inyo	1	3	5	2	5	2	2	1	4	4	2
Kern	34	32	79	85	76	68	59	18	40	33	74
Kings											
Lake	16	7	8	27	11	5	10	9	17	12	16
Lassen	22	30	19	13	8	26	18	18	20	18	13
Los Angeles	6	13	13	16	2	9	13	18	22	12	21
Madera	50	41	41	46	53	43	47	40	50	36	58
Marin											
Mariposa	15	30	20	35	27	24	34	24	17	42	18
Mendocino	102	91	93	122	78	74	85	56	112	66	67
Merced	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Modoc	0	6	6	3	4	3	0	2	4	4	2
Mono	6	4	10	10	9	2	11	12	11	21	57
Monterey											
Napa	0	0	2	0	2	4	1	2	1	3	1
Nevada	9	15	20	17	14	15	19	18	29	25	22
Orange											
Placer	36	32	38	37	34	38	49	30	41	41	31
Plumas	96	71	49	82	75	61	79	85	73	85	98
Riverside	2	2	4	2	5	3	2	0	2	0	
Sacramento											
San Benito											
San Bernardino	17	17	14	23	25	30	14	11	8	21	23
San Diego											
San Francisco											
San Joaquin											
San Luis Obispo											
San Mateo											
Santa Barbara	20	18	14	16	12	8	24	9	9	5	9
Santa Clara										3	
Santa Cruz											
Shasta	185	208	179	104	178	142	199	167	158	212	155
Sierra	12	33	31	34	28	16	19	33	25	31	38
Siskiyou	205	260	181	104	199	190	209	121	229	211	216
Solano											
Sonoma											
Stanislaus	5	4	6	1	2	3	0	2	5	1	7
Sutter											
Tehama	75	86	65	79	81	67	67	63	63	71	104
Trinity	186	242	190	198	179	201	224	185	237	169	174
Tulare	103	75	133	130	138	158	88	62	87	143	141
Tuolumne	60	46	103	66	60	66	73	57	71	104	110
Ventura	24	20	27	21	26	14	24	16	12	24	15
Yolo	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	0
Yuba	6	13	17	8	17	12	19	20	33	20	18
Total	1676	1836	1796	1633	1768	1670	1848	1418	1822	1861	2028
Bear Tags Sold	18475	18321	20620	19796	22157	22331	21000	23160	24076	25087	25631

\*Unknown counties included in total harvest

### Black Bear Harvest Percentages 2008



County	Male	Female	Unknown Sex
Alameda			
Alpine	8	7	1
Amador	3		
Butte	32	27	
Calaveras	21	8	1
Colusa	1	1	
Contra Costa			
Del Norte	10	11	
El Dorado	41	18	3
Fresno	42	21	1
Glenn	36	18	1
Humboldt	90	62	5
Imperial			
Inyo	3		
Kern	47	26	
Kings			
Lake	7	9	1
Lassen	10	5	
Los Angeles	12	10	
Madera	30	27	2
Marin			
Mariposa	14	2	3
Mendocino	41	26	1
Merced			
Modoc	1	1	1
Mono	33	25	
Monterey			
Napa	1		
Nevada	13	9	1
Orange			
Placer	39	13	
Plumas	51	43	5
Riverside			
Sacramento			
San Benito			
San Bernardino	14	10	
San Diego			
San Francisco			
San Joaquin			
San Luis Obispo			
San Mateo			
Santa Barbara	8	2	
Santa Clara			
Santa Cruz			
Shasta	82	63	8
Sierra	19	17	2
Siskiyou	132	75	9
Solano			
Sonoma			
Stanislaus	4	3	
Sutter	2		
Tehema	65	38	
Trinity	94	73	8
Tulare	96	44	2
Tuolumne	76	32	3
Ventura	4	11	1
Yolo			
Yuba	12	7	
Unknown County		11	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1202</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>% Statewide Harvest</b>	<b>59.20%</b>	<b>37.30%</b>	<b>3.30%</b>