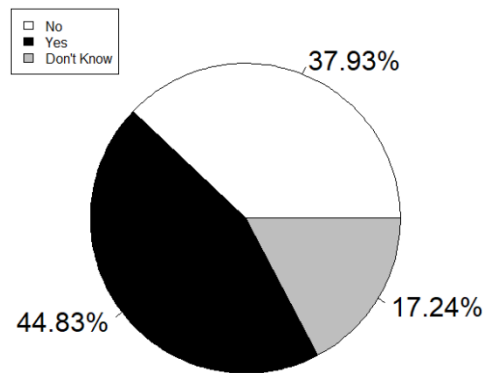


2024 Greater Sage-Grouse Landowner/Producer Survey Results

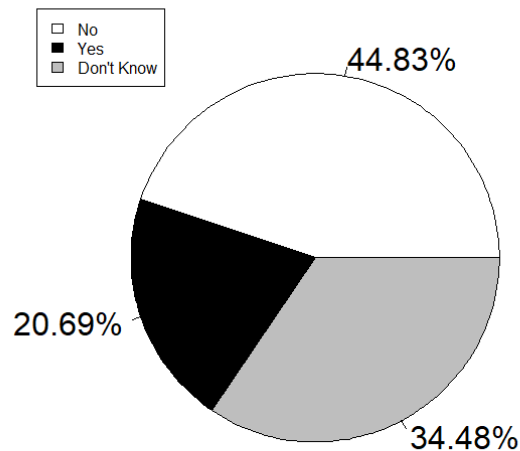
This survey was developed by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks to annually gather local information on factors that could influence sage-grouse abundance from landowners/producers within their current range in the state.

Approximately 100 greater sage-grouse landowner/producer surveys were distributed on 10 December 2024 with a return due date of 1 February 2025. We received 31 completed surveys.

Q1. Are there sage-grouse on the land you own/manage?



Q2. Are there active sage-grouse lek(s) on the land you own/manage?



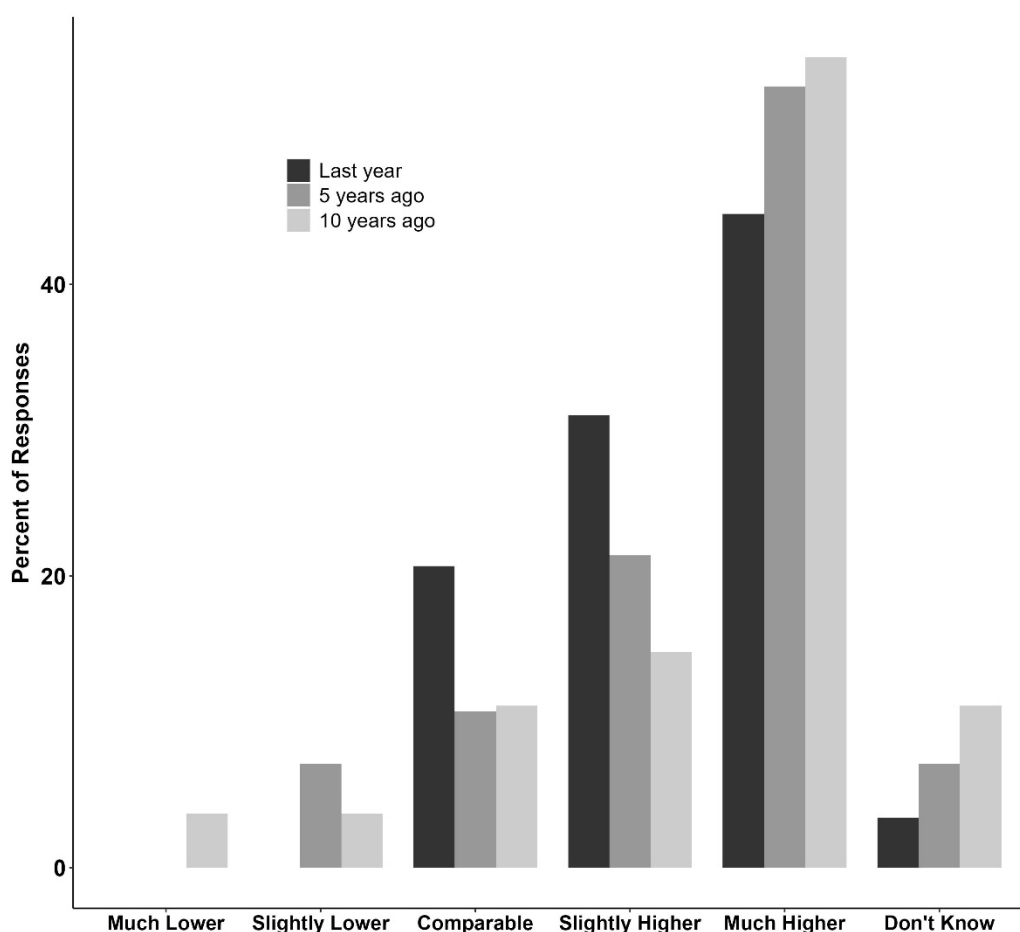
Q3. Were there any local catastrophic events which could have negatively impacted sage-grouse survival or reproduction during the past year? If so, please explain. *Examples could include but are not limited to hailstorms, floods, wildfire, etc. Maps or legal descriptions with a depiction of the event are encouraged.*

See Appendix 1 for responses.

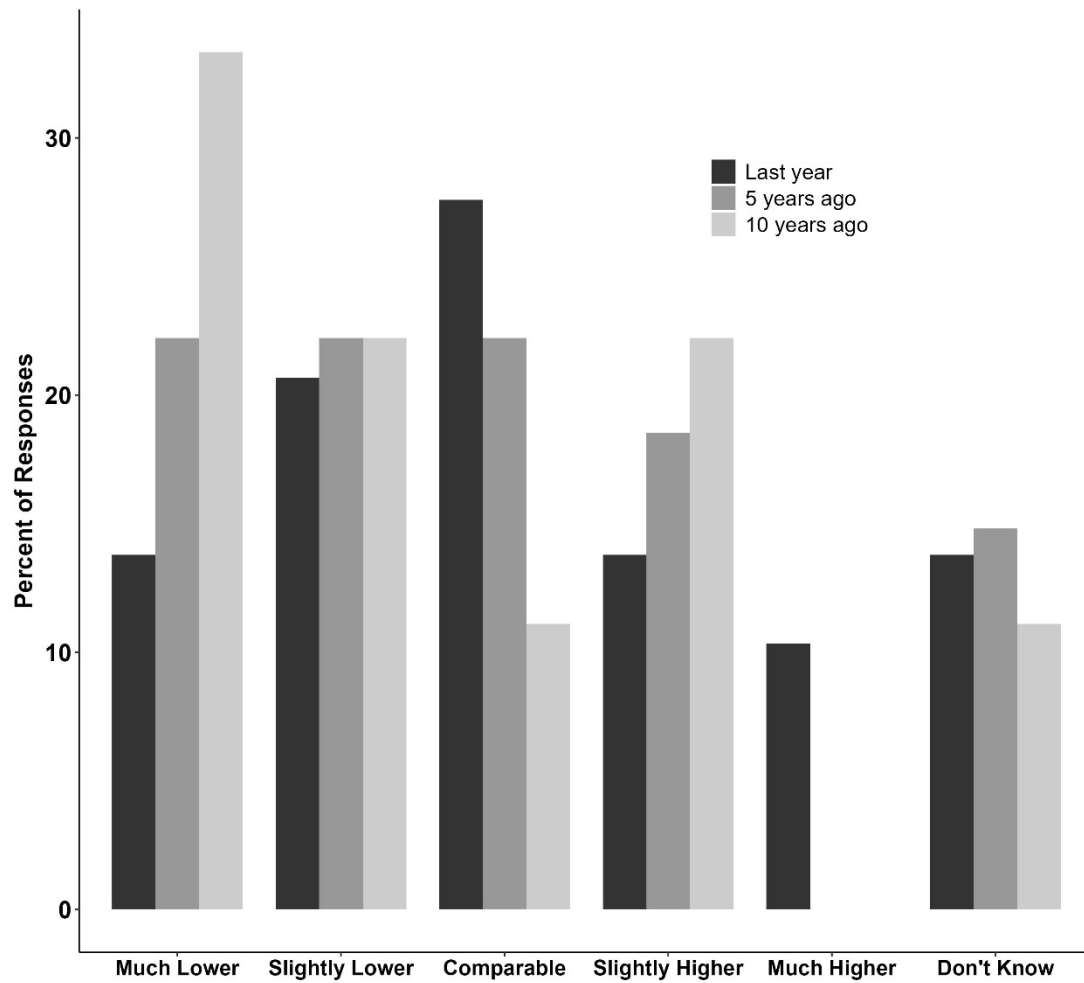
Q4. How would you describe habitat/range conditions during the 2024 growing season? *Please note any unusual flushes of sweetclover, cheatgrass, or other vegetation. Please note if drought conditions were present.*

See Appendix 2 for responses.

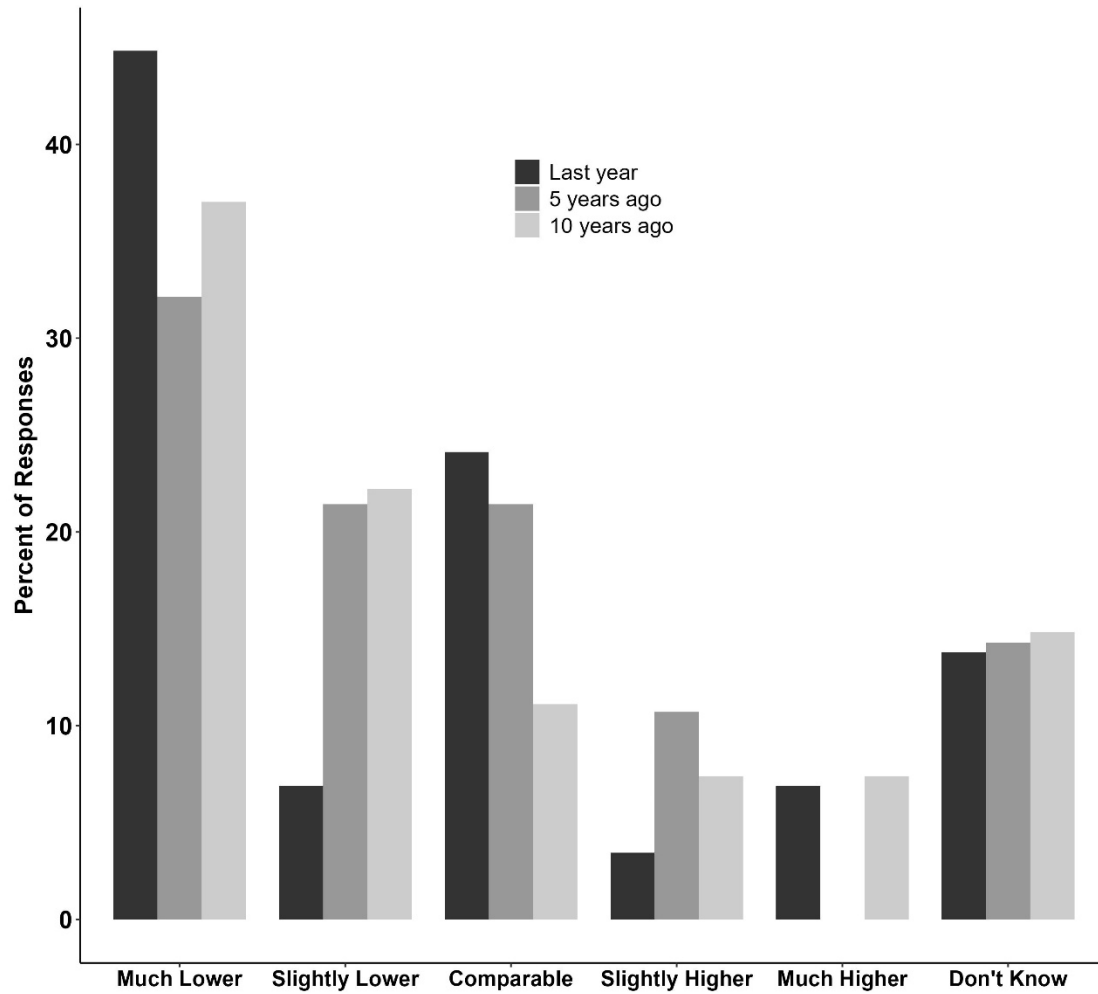
Q5. How would you describe the abundance of **coyote** in 2024 compared to each of the following timeframes?



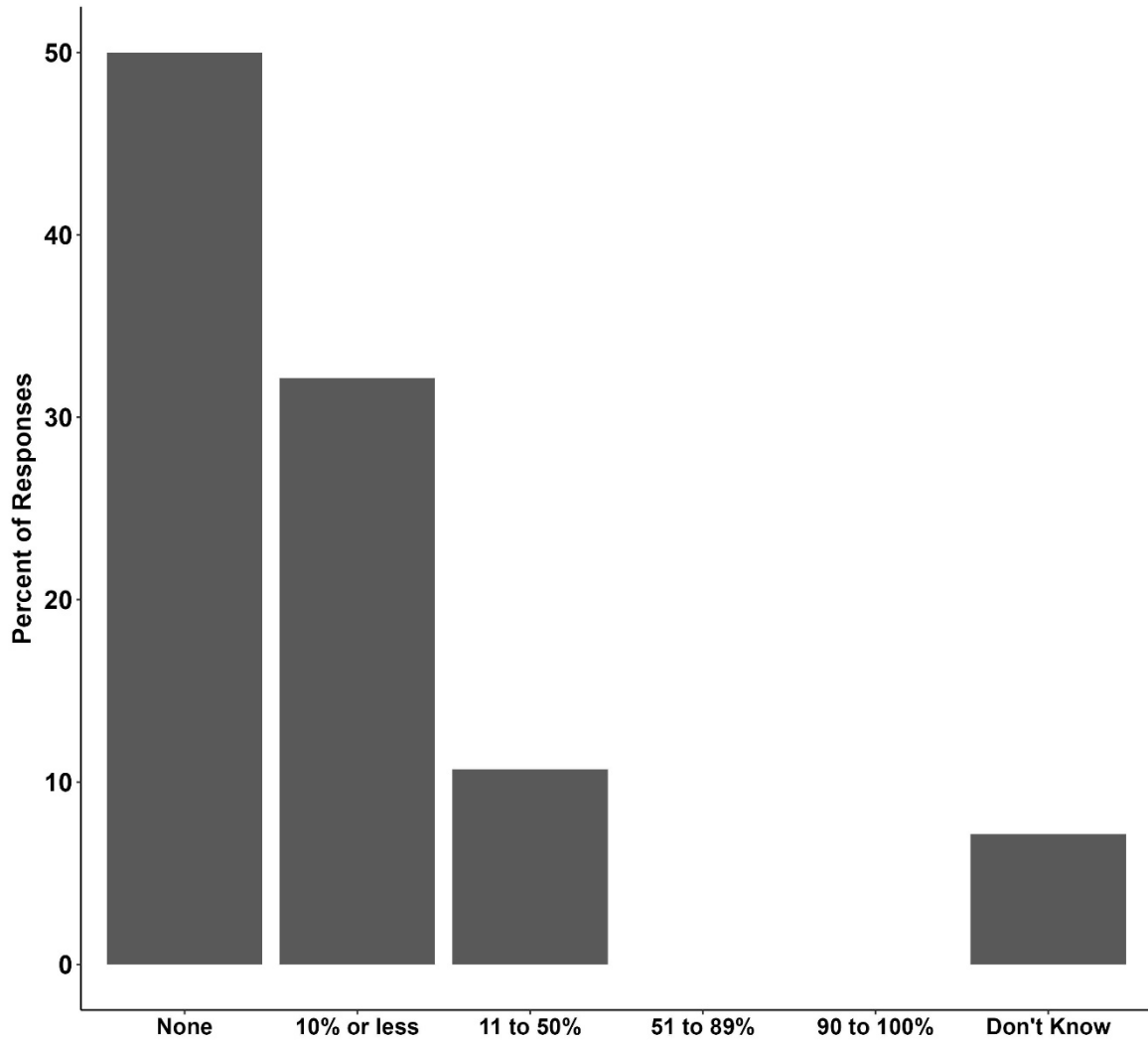
Q6. How would you describe the abundance of **red fox** in 2024 compared to each of the following timeframes?



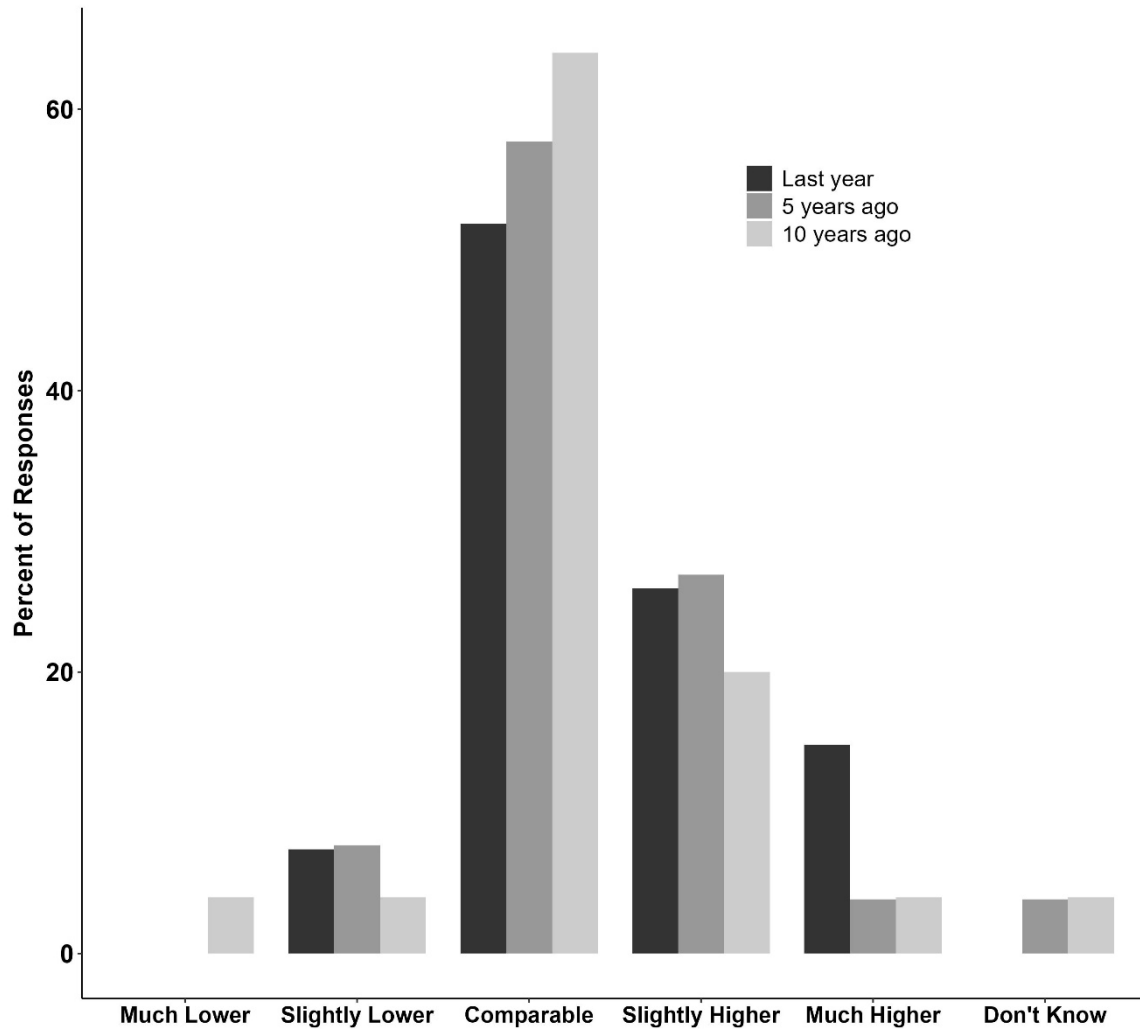
Q7. How would you describe the abundance of **red fox compared to coyote** in 2024 for each of the following time frames?



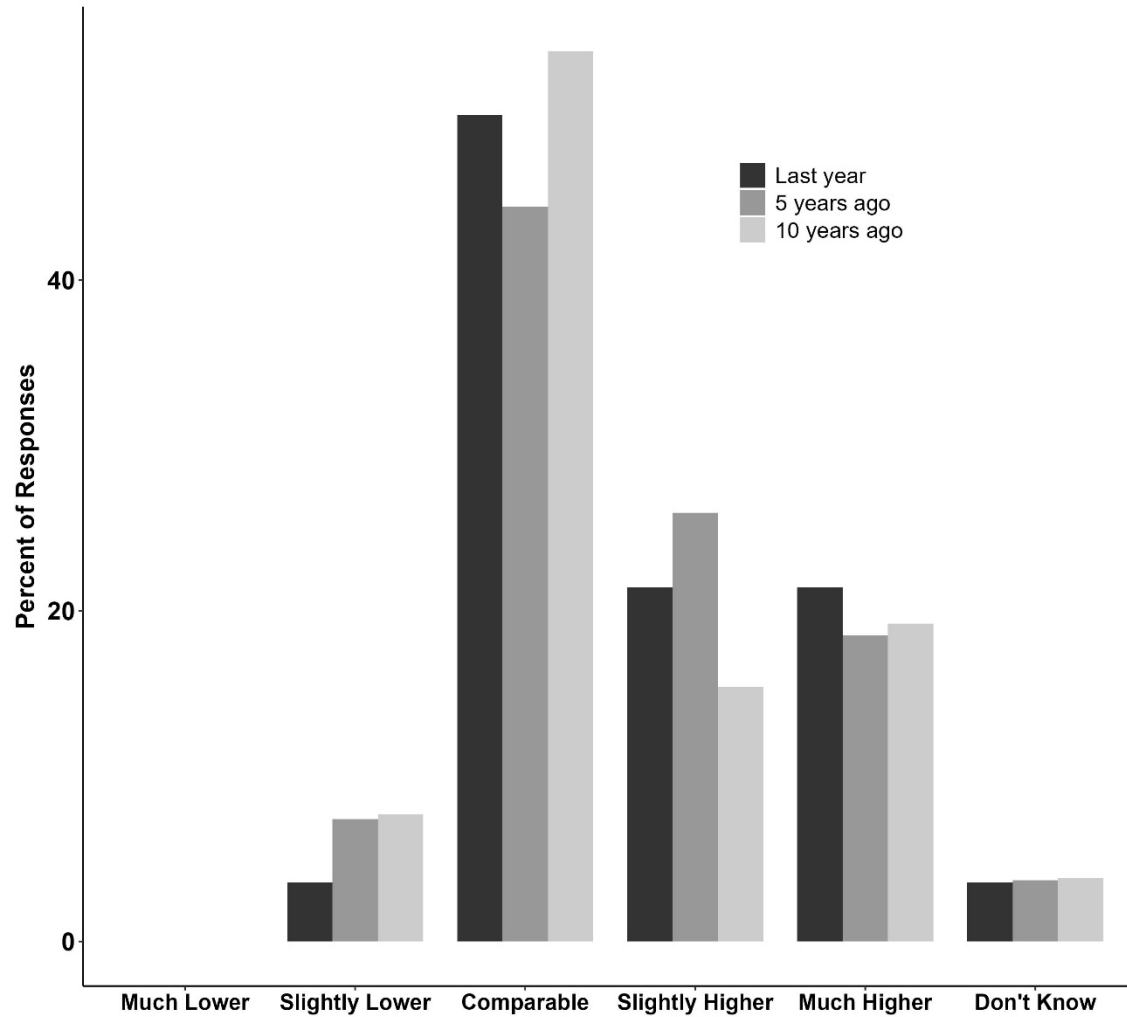
Q8. What percentage of coyote and red fox you observed had mange during the past year?



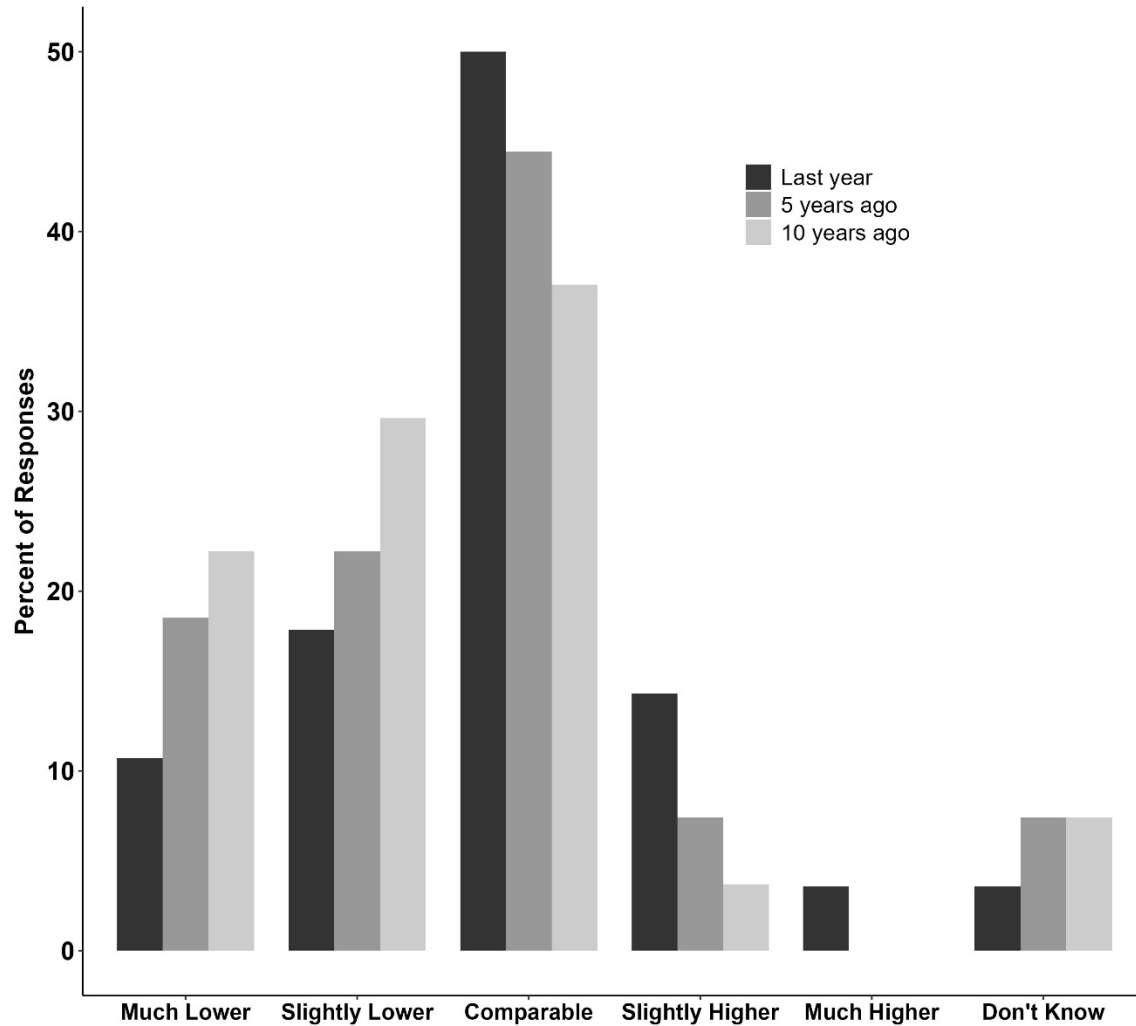
Q9. How would you describe the abundance of **mammalian predators** in 2024 other than red fox or coyote (e.g., raccoon, striped skunk, etc.) compared to each of the following time frames?



Q10. How would you describe the abundance of **raptors** (eagles and hawks) in 2024 compared to each of the following time frames?



Q11. How would you describe the abundance of **prey species** (e.g., jackrabbits, cottontail rabbits and rodents) in 2024 compared to each of the following timeframes?



Q12. Have you observed any activities that could be considered a disturbance to sage-grouse? *Please be specific regarding frequency, duration, and intensity of events.*

See Appendix 3 for additional responses.

Q13. Have you observed any **ravens** in 2024, and if yes, how many? Did you observe nesting activity? *Ravens are noticeably larger than the American Crow which is common to the area.*

See Appendix for 4 additional responses.

Appendix 1. Question 3

2024-03: We had a lack of rain fall since spring of 2024. We had 109 mph winds on July 4th that caused LOTS of tree damage & destroyed some buildings.

2024-04: Drought

2024-07: One hail storm. Hit a small area though

2024-08: It was a very dry year and available water was very limited.

2024-11: Extreme drought in 2024. Severe hailstorm and high winds(110 mph) on July 13, 2024

2024-12: Drought

2024-14: Drought this summer

2024-15: We had a D3 drought

2024-16: A major wildfire 8-10,000 acres burned July 30-August 1, 2024.T 20 N, R 4E.

2024-17: dry conditions

2024-18: D3 drought

2024-19: Drought

2024-20: Yes! Terrible drought

2024-22: Very Dry

2024-24: Too many eagles and hawks

2024-26: Drought

2024-27: D3 Drought

2024-30: Extreme Drought. No water in dams. Very little cover on the prairie except for sage brush. Very little dew in the mornings, sage grouse would come to farmstead looking for water!

2024-31: Severe drought with most damn dry

Appendix 2. Question 4

2024-02: Drought was present but we left plenty of cover. Water was low but available
2024-03: We did have a good sweet clover spring- but didn't last long. Drought thru most of the area.
2024-04: Drought.
2024-05: drought- a lot of cover from last years growth
2024-06: Drought
2024-07: Conditions were pretty good in spite of drought
2024-08: A severe drought was present
2024-10: drought conditions
2024-11: Extreme drought
2024-12: very dry conditions with limited forage
2024-14: drought all summer-nothing green
2024-15: Very short grass because of drought.
2024-16: Very severe drought the last two years
2024-17: poor. It was real dry
2024-18: D3 drought- nothing grew at all
2024-19: Drought
2024-20: Poor. Drought
2024-21: Droughty
2024-22: very dry
2024-23: Drought
2024-24: drought
2024-26: Limited Cover and Dry
2024-27: Poor. Severe Drought
2024-28: No rain
2024-29: Average
2024-30: Answered in Q3
2024-31: Not good with the drought

Appendix 3. Question 12

2024-02: Swift fox are around could affect population

2024-04: No

2024-05: No

2024-06: Coyotes kill a lot of them

2024-07: More eagles, fox, and coyotes. YOUR swift fox introduction has been very successful and they are killing a lot of birds including sage grouse!! You can blame the low numbers of sage grouse on everything else but the big problem is predation both avian and mammalian. Until these are controlled the sage grouse will never recover!!

2024-08: Extreme drought

2024-10: No

2024-11: turkey, sharptail grouse, hungarian partridge seem to have had a good hatch in 2024 I believe sage grouse are decimated by all the avian raptors we have, eagles, hawks and falcons

2024-12: No

2024-14: No

2024-15: Drought for the last 3 years

2024-16: Air Force Powder River Training Area. Too much noisy aircraft

2024-18: No

2024-19: No

2024-20: Drought

2024-21: No

2024-22: None

2024-23: More eagles more coyotes

2024-24: No

2024-25: Many coyotes

2024-26: None

2024-27: No

2024-28: Coyotes

2024-29: There was a tremendous number of sharp-tail this year

2024-30: No

2024-31: No

Appendix 4. Question 13

2024-02: just a few passing through

2024-04: no

2024-05: No

2024-08: I didn't notice any

2024-09: No

2024-10: No

2024-11: no

2024-12: No

2024-14: No

2024-15: no ravens

2024-16: Have not seen ravens. A large number of falcons chicken hawks that are damaging the bird population

2024-17: Many of them

2024-18: No

2024-19: No

2024-20: No

2024-22: None

2024-24: No

2024-25: None

2024-26: None Observed

2024-27: No

2024-28: No

2024-29: No

2024-30: No

2024-31: No

Additional Comments:

2024-03: Around the castle rock farming area (butte) the grouse & hungarian partridge population has really exploded! Yeah!!

2024-16: eagles-red headed buzzards coyotes red fox swift fox all kill a lot of birds.

