

Hi There,

We are biologists from the Conservation Genetics Lab at Boise State University in Boise, Idaho, USA. We are collecting wings from hunted Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse across their range for DNA analyses. With these samples, we hope to understand how populations of Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse are related to one another, and also better understand their diversity across their range. This information will help inform conservation of this species in the future.

We are keen to collect tissue from Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse wings from British Columbia to better understand the diversity of these birds in Canada and how it may be different from those in the United States. If you are hunting these birds and would like to participate in this research, you can do so with the following easy steps:

- 1) Remove a single wing from your hunted bird and place it in a paper envelope or zip lock bag. This can be done by twisting the wing from the bird itself and securing it inside the bag. One wing per bag, please.
- 2) On the outside of the envelope or bag, clearly write:
 - a. The **date of harvest**.
 - b. The **location of harvest**. Location data is critical for this research. Record the Management Unit (MU) of harvest. If possible, please also include a detailed geographic descriptor (e.g., road intersections in nearest town), or even better, the GPS coordinates of the harvest taken with your phone.
 - c. Optional: your name and contact details.
- 3) Store the sample in a freezer and keep frozen until it is delivered to a drop-off location (Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship regional office in Kamloops or Willams Lake, or at the Front Counter BC office in 100 Mile House.)

Have questions? Feel free to reach out to principal investigator Dr. Stephanie Galla (stephaniegalla@boisestate.edu) and PhD researcher Morgan Calahan (morgancalahan@boisestate.edu) for further details.

Thank you, and Happy Hunting!

Keen to learn more about the Conservation Genetics Lab? Scan the following QR code for our website.

