

Determining Sex of Sharp-tailed Grouse



Males: yellow-orange eye comb, violet-purple throat patch. Display and call to attract hens (females). Typical display posture shown: tail erect, wings outstretched, eye comb and throat patch inflated. Top side of tail appears mostly white when displaying, with only the tip being brownish.



Females (hens): head and neck appears more slender than males and they lack both the eye comb and the throat patch. Top side of tail feathers more heavily barred with brown and black, does not appear mostly white as with males. Note: bottom of tail feathers are mostly white.



The feathers on either side of center on the female (left) are mottled. The same feathers on a male (right) are white on the ends and silvery-gray closer to the body.