Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Universal

Barrel Length: 24"

Twist: 1-10"

Components:

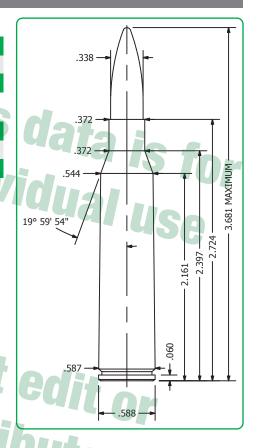
Case: Nosler

Trim-to Length: 2.714"

Primer: WLRM

Remarks:

Also known as the 8.58x71mm, the 338 Lapua Magnum was introduced to the civilian market in 1987. Originally intended as a long-range sniper round for military use, Lapua felt the cartridge would also appeal to big game hunters. Sako has chambered hunting rifles for the new round, and it has indeed caught the attention of hunters wanting a potent medium-bore magnum. Offering performance levels substantially above those of the proven 338 Winchester Magnum, the Lapua cartridge



provides ballistics similar to those of the 340 Weatherby. Originally based on a modernized 416 Rigby case, the Lapua was one of the forerunners of the current trend to omit the unnecessary (and potentially troublesome) belted head design.

Considering Sierra's line of high ballistic coefficient 338 bullets, the Lapua seems to offer a tremendous amount of potential to the long-range hunter. The 215 grain Spitzer Boat Tail and 225 grain Spitzer should prove best for smaller big game species, while the 250 grain will be the choice for heavier species such as elk, moose and bear. Sierra's 250 and 300 grain MatchKings will serve the needs of long-range tactical shooters and competitors out to extreme ranges.

The end of the millennium saw a flurry of new cartridge development, and the 338 bore size was not ignored. The number of new slow-burning powders that have hit the market have increased and improved dramatically. In essence, these new powders have opened up possibilities in performance that were previously unattainable. The Lapua offered significant improvement in velocity and energy levels over most of the existing factory chamberings.

	Bullet Cali	iber We	ight Ty	pe			C.O.A.L.
	#2610 .33	88" 21	5gr. SB	Т			3.575"
Powder ∨ Velocit	ty > 2650	2750	2850	2950	3000	3050	3100
IMR 4350		76.3	79.9	83.3	85.0	86.7	
RE 19		10	84.4	87.8	89.6	91.5	93.3
IMR 4831	60	80.3	83.4	87.0			
H4831sc			83.9	87.8	89.8	91.9	
IMR 4955 End.		79.3	83.1	87.1	89.1		
RE 22		81.1	84.7	88.0	89.6	91.1	92.6
N560		82.1	85.3	88.6	90.3	92.0	93.8
N165			88.6	92.3	94.1	95.8	
RE 23			83.4	87.0	88.7	90.4	92.0
RE 25			91.0	94.3	95.8	97.3	98.8
IMR 7977 End.	41	88.9	91.9	95.0	96.6	98.2	
H1000	Va		89.9	93.2	94.9	96.7	98.4
RE 26			86.7	89.6	91.1	92.6	94.0
Magnum			93.3	97.5	99.5	101.5	103.4
Retumbo			94.1	97.0	98.6	100.2	102.0
RE 33	94.9	98.0	100.7	103.2	104.4	105.4	
Energy Ft. Lbs	3352	3610	3877	4154	4296	4440	4587
			- 9	111			
Special Load	Powder	Gra	ins \	/elocity	fps E	inergy F	t. lb
Accuracy Load	N560	93.8	3	3100	4	1587	
Hunting Load	RE 19	93.3	3	3100	4	1587	
K	edi	ST					



	Bullet Cali	ber We	ight Ty	pe			C.O.A.L.
	#2620 .33	8" 225	āgr. SF	PΤ			3.575"
Powder ∨ Velocity	> 2550	2650	2750	2850	2900	2950	3000
IMR 4350		73.3	76.8	80.6			
RE 19			80.9	84.8	86.9	89.2	
IMR 4831		76.8	80.3	84.0			
H4831sc			78.7	82.7	84.8	87.1	
IMR 4955 End.		76.7	79.9	83.5			
RE 22			81.1	84.6	86.4	88.1	
N560		78.8	82.6	86.1	87.8	89.3	90.8
N165			83.7	87.7			
RE 23			79.1	82.8	84.7	86.7	
RE 25			87.4	91.1	92.9	94.6	96.2
IMR 7977 End.		85.6	89.0	92.1	93.7	95.1	
H1000				88.0	90.2	92.5	
RE 26			82.2	85.8	87.6	89.2	90.8
Magnum			89.4	93.9	96.0	98.0	99.9
Retumbo			87.4	91.0	92.8	94.7	96.6
RE 33	101		95.1	98.7	100.5	102.2	104.0
US869	98.8	102.7	106.4	109.8			
Energy Ft. Lbs	3248	3508	3778	4057	4201	4347	4496
rodi							
Special Load	Powde	er Grai	ins \	/elocity	fps E	nergy l	t. lb
Accuracy Load	RE 25	96.2	2 - 3	3000	4	496	
Hunting Load	N560	90.8	3 3	3000	4	496	

	Bullet Cali	iber Wei	ight T	ype			C.O.A.L.
	#2600 .33	88" 250	Ogr. S	ВТ			3.580"
	#2650 .33	88" 250	Ogr. H	PBT Mat	ch		3.680"
Powder ∨ Veloc	ity > 2350	2450	2550	2650	2750	2850	2900
RE 19	40	T		78.4	82.0	85.6	87.3
IMR 4831		71.1	74.8	78.5	82.2		
H4831sc				77.2	81.2	85.5	
IMR 4955 End.			72.3	76.0	79.9		
RE 22	ATT I	111	73.1	76.5	80.2	84.1	
N560			77.0	80.4	83.8	87.2	89.0
N165			76.7	80.5	84.5		
RE 23			72.2	76.2	80.1	84.1	
IMR 7828ssc			76.1	79.5	83.1		
RE 25				83.0	86.9	90.6	92.3
IMR 7977 End.			82.3	86.0	89.4	92.7	
H1000				81.6	85.8	89.9	91.9
RE 26				79.2	83.0	86.9	88.8
Magnum				85.7	90.0	93.9	95.8
Retumbo				83.5	88.0	91.8	93.6
RE 33				87.6	94.6	99.9	102.0
US869	90.1	94.1	97.9	101.7	105.5	109.1	
Energy Ft. Lbs	3065	3331	3609	3898	4197	4508	4668
				Sep.	171		
Special Load	Powder	Grai	ins	Velocity	fps E	nergy F	t. lb
Accuracy Load	Retumbo	93.6	3	2900	4	668	
Hunting Load	RE 19	87.3	3	2900		668	·
Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.							



Bullet Caliber Weight Type C.O.									
#9300 .338" 300gr. HPBT Match							3.680"*		
*requires 1 x10" twist or faster twist									
Powder ∨ Velocity	> 2250	2350	2450	2550	2600	2650	2700		
IMR 4831	67.6	71.0	75.3						
H4831sc		69.9	74.3			1	1		
IMR 4955 End.	67.4	70.8	74.5						
RE 22		70.7	74.7	78.5					
N560		73.1	77.0	80.8	82.8				
N165	68.6	72.7	41			0			
RE 23			73.6	77.7		7:			
IMR 7828ssc		73.5	77.1	80.9		<u> </u>			
RE 25			79.1	83.4	85.4				
IMR 7977 End.		78.1	81.8	85.5					
H1000			77.4	82.1					
RE 26		72.1	75.6	79.5	81.5				
Magnum			81.5	86.2	88.4				
Retumbo			79.1	83.5	85.7				
RE 33				90.0	92.1	94.1	96.1		
US869			96.0	99.9	101.8	103.5			
Energy Ft. Lbs	3372	3678	3998	4331	4502	4677	4855		
Kodi									
Special Load Powder Grains Velocity fps Energy Ft. lb									
Accuracy Load IMR 7828ssc 80.9 2550 4331									
Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.									