



Article by: Jamie Mangrum

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Feather River Sports 25lb Trigger Pull Gauge

The pull weight of mil-surp firearms far exceeds the ranges found in commercial firearms. The trigger in the military firearm is very specialized.

Recently we published a great article written by Mark Trope on building a home made trigger pull gauge. The article is called [Trigger Weight: Measuring Trigger Pull in a Mil-Surp Rifle](#).

In Mark's article he makes the following statements:

Unfortunately, most commercial gauges don't have enough range to measure the trigger pull weight in mil-surp rifles.

Article after article that I have written for Surplusrifle.com, I have had to describe the trigger pull of my mil-surp firearms in relative terms. I have had to guess what weight the pull of the trigger actually was, in each case.



Making sure the Russian capture 98k is not loaded and cocking the bolt.



Resetting the gauge to zero.

The reason for the guessing?

Like Mark said, commercially manufactured trigger gauges, when tested on a mil-surp firearm with a heavy-weight trigger pull, measure well beyond the measurement capability of the scale.

After the article was published I received the following email correspondence in response:

In the recent article by Mark Trope, he made mention of the fact that no one makes a scale that will weigh above 12lbs. Well here at feather river sports



Pulling on the 98k's trigger.

we make two scales one in the ten pound increment and one that will measure up to 25lbs. (see web site) The latter, was a special request by the gunsmith at the California highway patrol academy, We designed this scale so that they could have all their AR-15 in compliance at a 12lb. trigger pull weight.

For those who might want further info. On this product they can contact us at the following:

www.featherriversports.com or at the these #s 1-530-533-3049 or our fax # 1-530-533-3428.

Please pass this information onto your readers as we would very much appreciate it.

BTW - Timney Triggers will be selling this scale exclusively for around \$35. Also this model of scale will soon also have a kilogram scale on one side of the indicator as well as the pound scale.

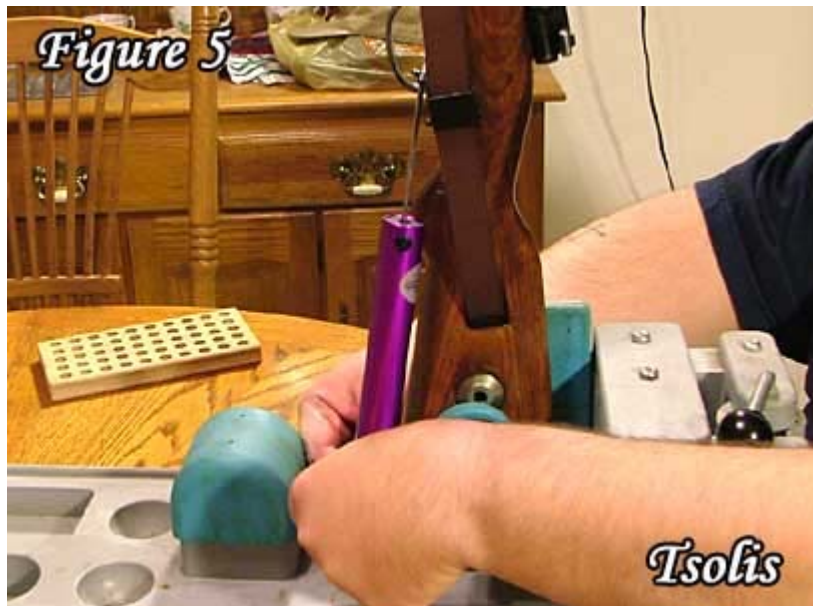
*Timney Triggers
3940 West Clarendon Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85019
Phone (602)274-2999
Fax (602)241-0361*

*Best regards,
Mike Murrish ,v.p. feather river sports*

I wrote back that I was very interested in testing the 25 lb. gauge.

Literally the next day a box was waiting on my doorstep.

On a side note:
Surplusrifle.com has a new



The exact moment the trigger broke.

photographer. My daughter Maija is now in college and has a job (*thank god!*). She no longer has the time to help out on the site with taking photos. I thank her for all of the assistance and the endless patience she has showed me over the past two years.



The 98k's trigger only measured 6lbs!

Believe me, she has shown **a heck of a lot** of patience with me! I think I have prepared her for the most difficult boss you could ever work for! :) Maija in her time as our photographer has taken over 10,000 photos for the site.

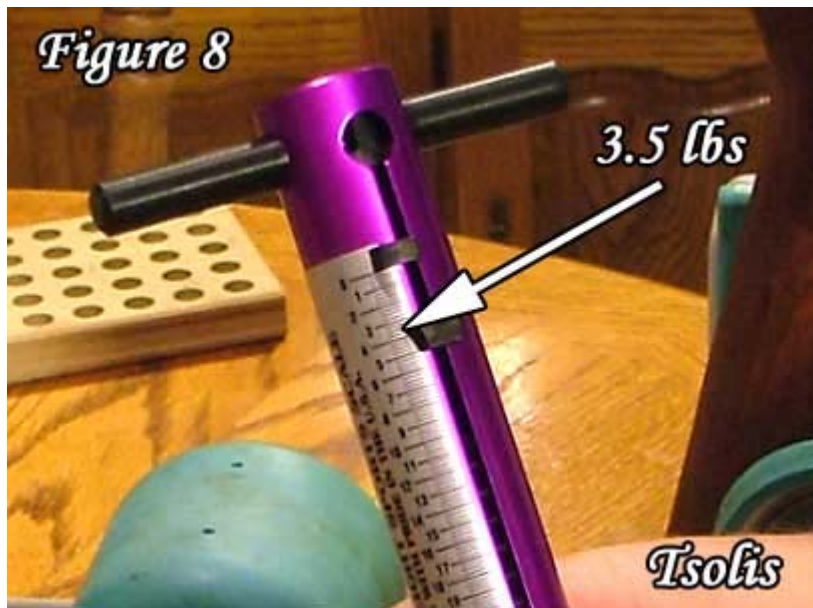
A long time friend, Tony Solis has taken over in her place (*but not as my daughter!*) and his photos are starting to show up on the site, as in this article. The familiar "MNM" initials on each photo has been replaced with "TSolis".

Welcome and thanks, Tony!

Tony was surprised to see the level of my enthusiasm when he came over to shoot photos. I basically had at least a dozen rifles and pistols lined up to test the trigger pull. Since we both have day jobs and taking



Next I tried testing the trigger pull of one of [John Huber's Mauser triggers](#).



3.5 lbs! Awesome!

photos of testing this many firearms' trigger pull would take until the wee hours of the morning to complete, I quickly came to my senses and trimmed down the list to five firearms.

I chose a 98k, Russian SKS, Albanian SKS, and Nagant 1895 Pistol - all with standard issue military triggers. I also added in a Yugo m48 Mauser with one of [John Huber's Mauser triggers](#) installed, for good measure.

I have purchased a couple other commercial trigger pull gauges over the years and on first examination of the Feather River gauge I came to the conclusion that it is a very well made device and should last as long as your interest in firearms (*and that is a lifetime, right?*).

I used my Tipton gun vise and locked the rifles in place, aiming straight up at the ceiling.

Safety Note: Before pulling the trigger on any firearm you need to make certain that the firearm is unloaded. **Remember - assume all firearms are loaded.**

First I tested a [Mauser 98k](#). I



My Russian SKS!

Mauser that I had installed one of [John Huber's Mauser triggers](#) and it broke at 3.5 lbs. Wow, that is a really light trigger pull!

My next type of firearm to test was a couple of **SKS carbines**. First I tried one of my Russian SKS and it broke at 6 lbs. That was expected. The Russian SKS carbines, in my experience, usually have pretty decent trigger pull over-all. Moving on to the Albanian SKS for which I described its trigger pull in a prior article as:

"Out of all of my SKS, my Albanian has the weightiest and roughest trigger pull. I don't have a trigger pull gauge, but I would have to guess the pull would measure somewhere in the VERY high teens. If not higher."

So, I was a little high in my guess when I said **in the VERY high teens**. It actually came in at 12 lbs, and this was after I had performed a [trigger job](#) and installed

cocked the bolt and then reset the trigger gauge to zero. Like other gauges the gauge works off of a spring. When you pull on the trigger it compresses the spring and pushes the indicator forward on the scale. When the trigger breaks, you stop pulling and the spring expands, leaving the trigger pull weight indicator where the exact trigger break occurred.

The 98k came in at 6 lbs. This is very reasonable for a military rifle.

Next I set up a [Yugo m48](#)



6lbs! Was I ever Surprised!

lighter springs.

Amazing!

Last, I decided to test the granddaddy of all trigger pulls: the m1895 Nagant pistol. I estimated that mine has at least a 10 lb pull in **single action** (*cock the hammer manually and then pull the trigger and it releases the hammer*) and probably twice that in **double action** (*pull the trigger and it both cocks and releases the hammer*).



The worst in my collection! I tested my m1895 Nagant pistol.

Well! I was wrong, but only by a hair. The Nagant came in at 12.25 lbs in single action mode and a whopping 19.5 lbs in double action. Now I know what T34 tanks were used for in the Soviet Army - to pull the trigger on the m1895 Nagant pistol. The folks that carried these things must have looked like Olympic weight lifters. At least the ones that accurately hit anything.

From this point forward you are going to see the Feather River trigger weight scale in a lot of the range reports on Surplusrifle.com to accurately tell the readers (*and not just make these wild a\$\$ guesses*) how many wrestlers you will need to pull the trigger on your new mil-surp rifle or pistol.



Single Action was 12.25 lbs, and Double Action weighed in at.....19.5 lbs!!!!

Great product Feather River and thank you for releasing something we can all use!

jlm;)

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