

**NWTF Technical Committee Representatives' Report - PA Chapter NWTF
Board of Directors Meeting, August 4, 2007**

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Harvest Management

The preliminary spring 2007 harvest, calculated from report cards, not including special spring license, was approximately 39,500. This is down 7% from the 2006 preliminary harvest of 42,700, but is similar to the previous 3-year average preliminary harvest of 39,250. Of the 7,620 special spring turkey license holders, 3 weeks after the close of the hunting season 1,263 hunters had reported harvesting a second turkey (compared to 1,270 of 8,041 second license holders by the same time last year). Second license holders are required to mail their report card regardless of whether they harvested a turkey, which is similar to DMAP. A reminder letter was mailed to 1,000 of the 4,407 nonrespondents. Similar to last year, thus far approximately 95% of these nonrespondents did not harvest a second turkey. We will determine the success rate of nonrespondents to calculate the harvest of the remaining nonrespondents.

Final harvest figures for spring and fall 2006 will be available for the October Board meeting.

Wild Turkey Spring Harvest Rates and Annual Survival Rates Study

Data analyses are continuing for the second year of the 4-year study. The study is progressing well, with a fairly good distribution of banding across WMUs. Table 1 shows the number of turkeys banded and harvested each year in Pennsylvania, by WMU and age of turkey.

Turkey Summer Sighting Survey

All Wildlife Conservation Officers (WCOs) currently are conducting this annual survey where they record the number of turkeys seen and miles driven in their state vehicle on a daily basis during June, July and August. Survey results provide an index to the turkey population by Wildlife Management Unit, and will be reported at the October Board meeting.

Michaux State Forest Turkey Summer Sighting Surveys

These 6 survey routes (30 miles each) also are conducted June, July and August. The June surveys yielded the highest number of turkeys seen per mile driven during June for the 10 years the surveys have been conducted. Additionally, Bureau of Forestry staff sightings have yielded the most poults seen per hen during June for the 8 years we have been collecting these data. However, we have 2 more months of data collection before conclusions can be made regarding the breeding season.

Table 1. Number of male turkeys leg-banded and harvested in Pennsylvania in 2006 and 2007 by Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) and age.

WMU	2007					2006					
	Banded			Harvested		Banded		Harvested in 2006		Harvested in 2007	
	Juvenile	Adult	Recaptures	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Banded as Juvenile	Banded as Adult
1A	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1B	12	15	1	2	9	19	5	7	2	4	1
2A	10	6	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
2B	4	12	0	1	4	4	0	1	0	1	0
2C	17	12	0	6	2	6	27	2	10	2	5
2D	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
2E	1	1	0	0	0	0	9	0	5	0	4
2F	0	18	0	0	5	6	3	1	0	4	1
2G	9	7	2	0	3	3	6	1	0	1	0
3A	4	5	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0
3B	9	10	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0
3C	1	8	0	0	0	0	20	0	7	0	4
3D	3	19	0	1	6	20	4	5	1	4	1
4A	13	5	0	3	5	1	26	0	8	0	2
4B	7	6	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
4C	6	17	0	0	9	14	11	2	6	3	2
4D	17	13	0	2	4	20	3	2	0	5	0
4E	23	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
5A	3	5	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5B	2	8	0	0	2	0	8	0	5	0	0
5C	11	7	0	5	3	9	11	5	6	1	3
NY								1			
Total	154	180	3	26	62	107	139	27	53	25	23