

# APPENDIX 1. Implementation schedule for turkey management plan for Pennsylvania, 2006-2015

(Progress from July 2009 – June 2010 listed at bottom of each page)

Objective and Strategies	By End of Fiscal Year (e.g., FY 2006 = July 06 – June 07)									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Population Objective										
Strategy:										
1.1 Provide spring and fall hunting opportunities while maintaining or enhancing populations at or below social carrying capacity	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
1.2 Use fall season lengths as primary means for managing populations	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
1.3 Assess turkey population status and trends	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
1.4 Collect age and sex information of harvested turkeys for spring and fall seasons		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
1.5 Implement spring gobbler hunter survey			■	■	●	●	●	●	●	●
1.6 Evaluate the new mid-Atlantic turkey population model for application in Pennsylvania, and implement in 2008		●	●	■	■	■				
1.7 If necessary, develop and implement research to collect data to validate the new population model			●	■	■					
1.8 Conduct the 4-year multi-state gobbler harvest and annual survival rate study	●	●	●	●	■					
1.9 Conduct a hen harvest and annual survival rate study.			■	■	●	●	●	●	●	
1.10 Determine if the sample units of WMUs provide reliable trends for harvest and summer sighting data			●	●	■					
1.11 Determine if the two-bird spring bag limit has any effect on the turkey age structure and, if needed, recommend regulation changes			●	●						
1.12 Develop standard solutions to nuisance turkey complaints		■	■	■	■					
1.13 Quantify turkey complaints by season, type and location		■	■	■	●	●	●	●	●	●
1.14 Train personnel in identifying agricultural damage caused by turkeys	■	■	■	■	■					
1.15 Define wild turkey social carrying capacity by WMU							●	●		
1.16 Develop a habitat suitability model as a tool in harvest and habitat management								●	●	●

**Progress:** ■ Delete for years specified. ■ Add for years specified.

1.1, 1.2, 1.3 – In progress for fall 2010, completed for 2009 and spring 2010; ongoing. – On Schedule. Fall harvest data typically available in early January.

1.4 – In progress via Game-Take Survey & on-line harvest reporting; being used as trend data. – Full implementation with 2010 License Year via PALS adding information to harvest report cards.

1.5 – Postponed but scheduled for spring 2011, regardless of no biometrician position filled. Work in conjunction with Bureau of I&E's human dimensions personnel.

1.6 – In progress – Behind Schedule. Progress continues with simulations run. Additional work to continue after winter trapping season.

1.7 – In progress – Behind Sched. Collecting productivity data via WCO Surveys (2008), age/sex harvest data, via on-line reporting (fall '09), harvest report cards (fall '10), & hen harvest rate data ('10-'13).

1.8 – In progress. –Final report completed summer 2010; manuscript completed Dec. 2010 and submitted for publication.

1.9 – In progress – Ahead of Schedule, federal, NWTF & PANWTF funding received. Legbanded 402 females winter & fall 2010, 84 with backpack satellite transmitters. Harvest & survival data being analyzed.

1.10 – In progress – Behind Schedule. Beyond time commitment due to hen study and other, higher priorities (fall turkey hunter survey, journal articles & presentations, etc). To be completed in FY2010.

1.11 – Completed. No effect; no regulation changes needed.

1.12 – In progress - Behind schedule. Low priority - SOP drafted & being implemented for handling nuisance complaints. Beyond time commitment. 3-year pilot study began Jan 2008 in SW Region to be completed June 2011, along with SOP.

1.13 – Postponed, possibly to be deleted due to low priority & successful implementation of draft SOP and nuisance study in SW Region. Was not able to incorporate into PGC standard bear complaint system.

1.14 – Postponed. To be completed by B.Eriksen, Low priority.

1.15 & 1.16 – Future strategies.

Objective and Strategies	By End of Fiscal Year (e.g., FY 2006 = July 06 – June 07)									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Habitat Objective										
Strategy:										
2.1 Determine turkey habitat management priorities for State Game Lands while considering habitat on adjacent properties	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2.2 Quantify habitat management practices that benefit turkeys on State Game Lands			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2.3 Evaluate efficacy of habitat management practices on State Game Lands, and recommend adjustments	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2.4 Develop at least two demonstration areas per Region to promote habitat management to other public agencies and private landowners	•	•	•	•						
2.5 Conduct at least one workshop or field trip per Region at a demonstration area				•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2.6 Develop and/or continue partnerships for habitat funding	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2.7 Provide technical information and assistance regarding turkey habitat management to other public land managers and private landowners	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2.8 Promote use of prescribed fire	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

**Progress:** • Delete for years specified. • Add for years specified.

**BWHM statewide conference during week of annual PGC/PANWTF Annual Meeting-FY 2009 updates to be provided by BWHM directly to PANWTF separate from this report.**

2.1 – Ongoing.

2.2 – Ongoing, On Schedule.

2.3 – In progress. Habitat Management Manual.

2.4 – Behind schedule.

2.5 - To begin once Strategy 2.4 is underway.

2.6 – Ongoing. For 2010, PANWTF funded 37 of 56 habitat projects on SGLs = \$50,138 of their \$75,000 budget. US Fish & Wildlife Service Pittman-Robertson Habitat Grant approved as match for these projects.

2.7 – Ongoing.

2.8 – Ongoing.

Objective and Strategies	By End of Fiscal Year (e.g., FY 2006 = July 06 – June 07)									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Information & Education Objective										
Strategy:										
3.1 Survey hunters and other stakeholders regarding turkey populations and management issues		■	■	■			■	■		
3.2 Report research and management findings to the public through all forms of media	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
3.3 Provide educational information through all forms of media and speaking engagements	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
3.4 Develop and publish fact sheets		●	●	●	●	●				
3.5 Provide information to landowners about turkey behavior and depredation			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

**Progress:** ■ Delete for years specified. ■ Add for years specified.

3.1 – In progress. The 2008 survey completed (70% response rate, 9,105 mailed). Final report expected 2011. Annual PANWTF Turkey hunter coop. survey implemented spring 2009. 2010 Fall Turkey Hunter Survey mailed to 10,000 randomly selected hunters in early January with results for April 2011 BOC meeting. 2011 Spring Turkey Hunter Survey to be mailed June 2011 to determine spring harvests, hunter opinions & satisfaction.

3.2 – Ongoing. Annual reports on website, 10 news releases, 20+ articles from general media, preliminary gobbler study results presentations (5+) and final results (3), hen study presentations (3), 2008 PA Turkey Hunter Survey accepted for publication. Executive summary of hen harvest rate study published & updated, PGC video being created. In cooperation with Bureau of I&E & NWTF Reg'l Bio.

3.3 – Ongoing. In cooperation with BI&E, recorded 8 Radio PA segments regarding spring turkey season and turkey natural history and 8 news releases so far in FY2010, Turkey webpage updated, responded to 80 inquiries from public, 8 public programs on wild turkeys by turkey biologist & many programs by WCOs and NWTF Reg'l Bio & PCFWRU personnel at PSU. In cooperation with NWTF Reg'l Bio.

3.4 – Ongoing through 2011. In cooperation with NWTF Reg'l Bio.

3.5 – Limited progress. Low priority, beyond time commitment. In cooperation with PGC WCO's, Reg'l Bio's, NWTF Reg'l Bio. Turkey Biologist assisted with 3 nuisance turkey complaints.

Objective and Strategies	By End of Fiscal Year (e.g., FY 2006 = July 06 – June 07)									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Hunting Heritage/Hunter Safety Objective										
Strategy:										
4.1 Evaluate expanding hunter education to include optional & separate course on turkey hunting & safety			•	■	■					
4.2 Determine participation rates of various age segments of hunters and develop ways of increasing participation				■	■					
4.3 Assess and explore opportunities for continued development of the youth mentored hunting program	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
4.4 Consider expanding the youth spring gobbler season to an all-day season	■	■				■	■			
4.5 Consider implementation of expanded spring hunting opportunities	■	■	■	■	•	•	•	•	•	•
4.6 Maintain and expand the Game Commission's public access programs to promote and protect these privately owned lands open to public hunting	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
4.7 Acquire turkey habitat to expand hunting opportunities	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
4.8 Develop and distribute educational and hunter safety materials directly to turkey hunters		■	■	■	•	•	•	•	•	•
4.9 Investigate relationships between spring and fall hunter density and turkey hunter safety, and recommend regulation changes if necessary					•	•				
4.10 Conduct information and education programs to control turkey hunting related shooting incidents and promote wild turkey hunter safety/ethics	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
4.11 Monitor compliance with fluorescent orange turkey hunting regulations	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
4.12 Review orange requirements, evaluate regulatory alternatives, and, if appropriate, recommend changes to the spring season fluorescent orange turkey hunting regulations	•	•	■							
4.13 Assure that complete information on turkey hunting related shooting incidents are included in all International Hunting Education Association reports	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

**Progress:** ■ Delete for years specified. ■ Add for years specified.

4.1 – Federal Assistance grant program funding was used for new Successful Turkey Hunting curriculum, implemented in 2010. New, basic HTE curriculum implemented statewide.

4.2 – Postponed until full implementation of PALS.

4.3 – PANWTF working on fall turkey mentored youth program via sharing of harvest tag – legislation introduced and in Committee. Spring opportunities increased with all-day hunting second half of season beginning spring season 2011.

4.4 - Postponed due to all-day hunting during regular season for second half of the season, beginning spring 2011.

4.5 – Progress: Beginning Spring 2010, season extended to May 31. Beginning Spring 2011, all-day spring turkey hunting during the last two weeks of the season.

4.6 – Ongoing. As of June 2010 \_\_\_ properties (\_\_\_ acres) under agreement in Public Access programs.

4.7 – Ongoing. As of June 2010: \_\_\_ tracts involving \_\_\_ acres.

4.8 – In Progress Postponed until full implementation of PALS.

4.9 – Future (2010), obtain via PALS & Game-Take Survey.

4.10 – Ongoing, cooperative effort with NWTf. Advanced hunter education will address this as well. PANWTF turkey hunting success & safety brochure on PANWTF website.

4.11 – Ongoing. Calendar Year 2009: 183 violations prosecuted, 5% increase from CY's 2008 175 violations and CY 2007's 210 violations.

4.12 – Completed (slightly behind schedule) at April 2008 Board of Commission meeting.

4.13 - Ongoing Oversight provided by PGC within the agency to ensure reports are complete.

Objective and Strategies	By End of Fiscal Year (e.g., FY 2006 = July 06 – June 07)									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Wild Turkey Protection										
Strategy:										
5.1 Assess compliance with laws and regulations to protect the wild turkey resource	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
5.2 Use wild turkey decoys and other appropriate law enforcement tools to discourage road hunting and poaching, and utilize partnerships to assist with purchasing equipment	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
5.3 Seek legislation to increase penalties for serious violations	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cooperative Partnerships Objective										
Strategy:										
6.1 Assist states and Canadian provinces with wild turkey restoration through trap and transfers where feasible	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
6.2 Continue the partnership with the National Wild Turkey Federation	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

**Progress:**

*Complete updates to be provided by BWHM at PGC/PANWTF Annual Cooperative Meeting, June, 2010.*

Progress to June 1, 2010:

5.1 - Ongoing. 183 wild turkey violations in CY 2009.

5.2 – Ongoing. Used decoys 9 times in 2009, 9 citations issued, 24% of vehicles observed the facsimile and stopped their motorized vehicle. PGC SC Region and Michaux Yellow Breeches Chapter NWTF partnered in WMU 5A to have 2 decoys made by a local taxidermist. PGC Southwest Region and local sportsmen clubs partnered to have 2 mechanical turkey decoys made.

5.3 – In progress since Jan 2007; HB1859 and SB1200 authorizes PGC to join Interstate Wildlife Violators Compact, both approved by Senate and awaiting re-action by the full House due to amendments. PGC is supportive of all amendments. Commissioners amended Title 58, Section 131.8 to charge replacement costs for wildlife, \$300 for turkey.

6.1 – Completed and Ongoing. No requests for 2009 or 2010. 2006-2008 total transfers to South Dakota: 113.

6.2 – Ongoing. PGC grant to NWTF for Regional Biologist & WITO coordinator, NWTF Grant-in-Aid research fundings (2006-2009) & (2011 – 2013), PANWTF research funding for Tri-state gobbler study (2006-2009) and hen study (2010-2013), PANWTF habitat superfund & other Hunting Heritage projects especially I&E, cooperative events (JAKES, WITO, Wheelin’ Sportsmen) & strong relationship with PANWTF. Secured Federal P-R grant money for hen study (2010 – 2013) & to match PANWTF Habitat Superfund grants.