

Regional Biologist Report
Bob Eriksen, NWTF Regional Biologist
August 1- September 30, 2011

Meetings and Presentations

- Participated in an update meeting on the Pennsylvania Game Commission deer management plan
- Assisted with the first “Fueling Conservation” fund-raising dinner in Pennsylvania
- Attended July Pennsylvania Chapter Board meeting and Presidents Leadership Weekend and presented power point updates
- Met with staff from the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to develop a partnership agreement for regional biologist support in that state
- Selected judges, arranged staffing and emceed the New Jersey Open Calling Contest at the Sussex County fairgrounds
- Attended the September Delaware and New Jersey Chapter Board meetings
- Attended the annual meeting of the Northeast Upland Game Bird Technical Committee held in Maryland
- Presented power points on all day spring hunting and an update on NWTF research, regional biologist and outreach programs to the Upland Game Bird Committee
- Participated in a week long strategic planning meeting for the NWTF Conservation Department
- Participated in a “Wild About Turkeys” teachers’ workshop held by the Pennsylvania Game Commission and New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife
- Assisted with a Super Fund banquet held by a new chapter, the Tri-County Longbeards in New Jersey
- Presented a spring gobbler hunting seminar at a WITO event in Bucks County, Pennsylvania
- Met with Pennsylvania regional directors to discuss conservation based fund raising and the Pennsylvania Strategic Plan
- Met with PGC Southeast Region land management and forestry personnel to review the site plan and discuss timing of a prescribed burn scheduled for next spring

Writing Projects

- Prepared letters in support of removing commercial fishing traps from artificial reefs in New Jersey
- Wrote three articles for the fall issue “Pennsylvania Turkey Talk”

Special Projects

- Traveled to Allegheny National Forest two times to check on progress on the Bobb’s Fork Stewardship Agreement and Martin Run Grant work

- Monitored and inspected chain saw site preparation work conducted by contractors as part of the Martin Run Project on Allegheny National Forest
- Processed payments for contract work on Allegheny National Forest
- Completed discussions on a Partnership Agreement with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry
- Picked up nesting and roosting boxes at the PGC Howard Nursery for use on Allegheny National Forest and delivered them to the forest offices
- Consulted with Pennsylvania Game Commission staff on fall turkey trapping, aging wild turkey poults and rocket net design
- Prepared and arranged for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between NWTF and the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife
- Finalized an agreement with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for support of our regional biologist position in the Old Dominion
- Assisted regional biologists with issues in their respective regions especially concerning NRCS contribution agreements in New York and New Hampshire
- Assisted District Field Supervisor Ray Smith with development of materials and a power point for a “Fueling Conservation” dinner held in Williamsport in August
- Prepared bills for equipment and supplies related to the current Pennsylvania fall harvest rate study and submitted bills to the chapter treasurer for payment
- Continued to consult with University of Delaware researchers on turkey telemetry monitoring and nest location techniques attending and participating in the graduate student’s committee exams

Super Fund and Outreach Fund Requests

- Processed 5 Pennsylvania Super Fund request forms, 1 New Jersey request and 1 request form from New Brunswick, Canada
- Processed 1 Outreach Fund requests for the Pennsylvania Chapter

Information Requests

- Handled 14 requests for information on gobbling, spring hunting, wild turkey nesting, aging wild turkeys, odd-colored wild turkeys, diseases, habitat management and wild turkey ecology