

1991 Michigan Fall Turkey Hunter Survey Results



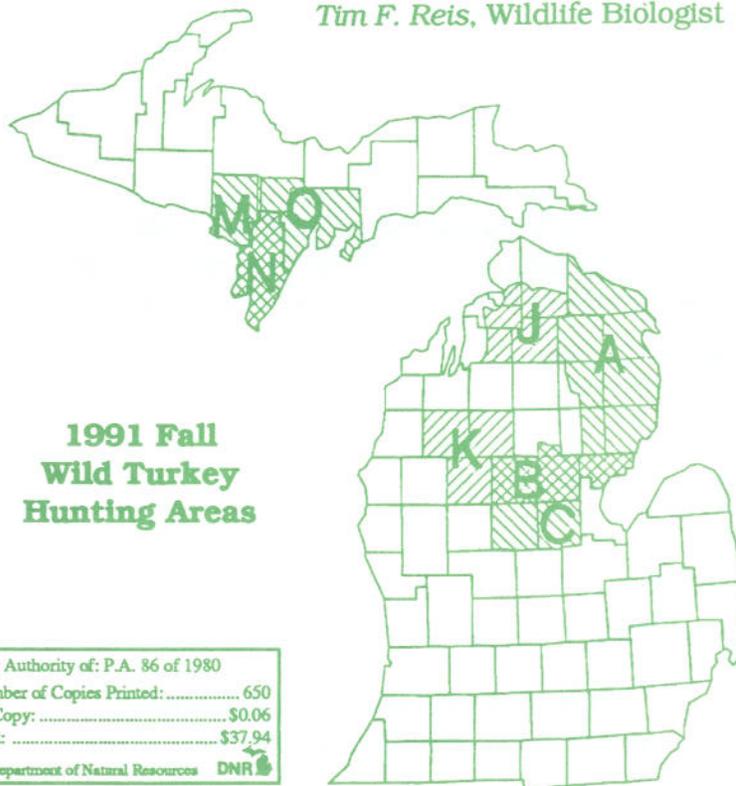
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Dear Turkey Hunter:

Thank you for your participation in the 1991 Fall Wild Turkey Hunter survey. Over 90 percent of the sampled hunters responded, making this a very successful study. As requested, the results are being made available to you.

Once again, **thank you** for your contribution to this study.

Tim F. Reis, Wildlife Biologist



**1991 Fall
Wild Turkey
Hunting Areas**

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The total area open in 1991 to fall turkey hunting was expanded by 26 percent to 15,437 square miles. A total of 12,375 permits were available, of which 11,634 were issued. Successful applicants were issued one harvest tag for a bird of any sex during the fall season. Hunters in Areas M and N were issued two harvest tags.

Eighty-seven percent (10,152) of the licensees actually hunted, and averaged about three days of hunting effort. Hunters harvested an estimated 5,014 turkeys, five percent more than in 1990. Hunter success increased from 42 to 44 percent.

Hunter satisfaction is used in the evaluation of the turkey management program. For the 1991 fall season, most (58%) hunters reported their hunting as "good." Twenty-two percent rated their fall turkey hunting as "poor", while the remaining hunters said it was neither "good" nor "poor."

Hunter numbers, hunting effort, and harvest are provided by management area. How hunters rated their fall turkey hunting based on their hunting success is presented below. The 1991 fall turkey hunting results are compared with the 1987-1990 seasons.

**How Successful vs. Unsuccessful
Turkey Hunters Rated Their Hunting Experience**

Tagged a Turkey	Very Good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very Poor
No	8%	26%	29%	20%	17%
Yes	45%	43%	9%	3%	0%
All Hunters	24%	34%	21%	12%	9%

The 1992 fall wild turkey hunting application deadline is August 1, 1992.

**Number of Hunters, Harvest, and Hunting Effort
1991 Michigan Fall Turkey Season**

Area	Number of Licensees	Number of Hunters	Harvest	Days of Effort	Days Hunted Per Hunter
A	6,000	5,277	2,205	17,467	3.3
B	1,200	1,061	388	3,568	3.4
C	819	649	233	2,226	3.4
J	900	789	397	2,620	3.3
K	900	776	334	2,430	3.1
Northern Unit	9,819	8,552	3,557	28,311	3.3
M	540	485	420	1,676	3.5
N	1,050	917	953	3,274	3.6
O	225	198	84	629	3.2
Upper Peninsula Unit	1,815	1,600	1,457	5,579	3.5
STATE TOTAL	11,634	10,152	5,014	33,890	3.3

Turkey trivia: *The largest wild turkey registered in Michigan weighed 27.1 pounds. It was taken in Menominee County during the 1990 Spring Season.*



How Recent Fall Wild Turkey Seasons Compare

	1987 ^a	1988	1989	1990	1991
Licenses Available	1,250	1,350	5,900	15,600	12,375
Licensees	948	1,022	5,497	11,903	11,634
Hunters	826	891	4,393	10,393	10,152
Turkey Harvest	233	837	2,015	4,785	5,014
Percent Juveniles	74	65	55	50	59
Percent Adults	26	35	45	50	41
Hunter-days	b	3,246	15,422	35,157	33,890
Hunter Success	27%	58% ^c	35% ^c	42% ^c	44% ^c
Area Open to Hunting (sq. mi.)	684	973	6,566	12,247	15,437

^a Results compiled from mandatory registration reports.

^b Data not available.

^c Percentage of hunters who took at least one bird.

Michigan Wild Turkey Harvest Fall Seasons

