



STATE OF MICHIGAN



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING

REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: September 15, 2008
RESUBMITTED: October 13, 2008

<p><u>A P P R O V E D</u></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">, 20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">(ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSION)</p>

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Spring Wild Turkey Season Units
Wildlife Conservation Order No. 19 of 2008

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director and the Commission to issue orders to manage wild animals in this state.

Discussion and Background:

In 2007 and 2008, hunt units were consolidated, quotas were established, and boundary changes were made to improve spring turkey hunting opportunity for Michigan hunters. Furthermore, legal descriptions were written to assure opening hunt days would fall annually on a Monday. Based on the satisfaction of Michigan turkey hunters and the desire to maintain stability, regulations are proposed to remain constant for a minimum of three years.

However, two technical errors have been noted related to the previous changes to the Wildlife Conservation Order. First, Cheboygan County was accidentally omitted from the description for hunt unit J. Second, the actual dates were not removed from the hunting dates for hunt number 301 for unit ZZ. These technical errors are being corrected by this proposed amendment.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
Keith J. Charters, Chair • Mary Brown • Hurley J. Coleman, Jr. • Darnell Earley • John Madigan • J. R. Richardson • Frank Wheatlake

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Recommendation:

This order was submitted for information on October 9, 2008, at the Natural Resources Commission Meeting. This item appeared on the Department's September 27, 2008, calendar and may be eligible for approval on November 6, 2008.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division

Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest, Mineral and Fire Management

Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Arminda S. Koch
Resource Management Deputy

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 19 of 2008

By authority conferred on the Natural Resources Commission and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources by sections 40107 and 40113a of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.40107 and 324.40113a, it is ordered that effective November 7, 2008, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

3.300a Wild turkey population, harvest quotas.

Sec 3.300a. (1) The spring wild turkey hunt seasons and quotas for general licenses valid on all land within the listed unit shall be as follows:

SPRING WILD TURKEY HUNT SEASONS AND QUOTAS LIMITED QUOTA HUNT PERIODS

General Licenses

HUNT NUMBERS	OPEN UNIT	MAXIMUM LICENSE QUOTA
101	A ¹	5,500
102	E ²	850
103	E ³	850
104	F ²	2,500
105	F ³	2,500
106	J ²	2,000
107	J ³	2,000
108	K ²	4,000
109	K ³	4,500
110	M ⁴	8,000
111	ZA ²	1,200
112	ZA ³	1,200
113	ZA ⁵	1,200
114	ZA ⁶	1,200
115	ZB ²	400
116	ZB ³	450
117	ZB ⁵	450
118	ZB ⁶	450
119	ZC ²	500
120	ZC ³	500
121	ZC ⁵	500
122	ZC ⁶	500
123	ZD ²	10
124	ZD ³	10
125	ZD ⁵	10
126	ZD ⁶	10
127	ZE ²	500
128	ZE ³	500
129	ZE ⁵	500
130	ZE ⁶	500
131	ZF ²	1,300
132	ZF ³	1,300
133	ZF ⁷	3000

- ¹ Season begins on Monday closest to April 20 and continues for 14 days.
- ² Season begins on Monday closest to April 20 and continues for 7 days.
- ³ Season begins 7 days after the Monday closest to April 20 and continues for 7 days.
- ⁴ Season begins on the Monday closest to April 20 and continues through May 31.
- ⁵ Season begins 14 days after the Monday closest to April 20 and continues for 7 days.
- ⁶ Season begins 21 days after the Monday closest to April 20 and continues through May 31.
- ⁷ Season begins 14 days after the Monday closest to April 20 and continues through May 31.

(2) The spring wild turkey hunt seasons and quotas for private land only licenses which are not valid on county, state or federal lands, except that they may be used to hunt Fort Custer military lands with permission, shall be as follows:

LIMITED QUOTA HUNT PERIODS
Private Land Only Licenses

HUNT NUMBERS	OPEN UNIT	MAXIMUM LICENSE QUOTA
301	ZZ ¹	65,000

- ¹ Season begins on Monday closest to April 20 and continues for 14 days.

(3) All applicants for hunt number 234 (Open season-season begins 14 days after the Monday closest to April 20 and continues through May 31), shall be guaranteed a statewide hunting license valid on all land ownerships in spring turkey management units, except public lands in southern lower peninsula wild turkey management unit (unit ZZ). Applicants for hunt number 234 may hunt Fort Custer military land with permission.

(4) Hunt number 234 may be purchased during the application period, selected by the applicant as a choice during the application period, or purchased by an applicant that was not chosen in the license lottery. Individuals who purchase the hunt number 234 license during the application period will not be charged the \$4.00 application fee. After the application period, hunt number 234 will be available to unsuccessful applicants only.

(5) If any limited quota licenses remain after the drawing, unsuccessful applicants may purchase one leftover license on a first-come, first-served basis for a one-week period. Any quota licenses that remain after this one-week period will be made available to all hunters on a first-come, first-served basis.

(6) The wildlife division chief may recommend to the director the need for any appropriate significant changes in quotas based on experience with population densities, hunter satisfaction levels, hunter application rates, or survey results. The director, in consultation with the chairman or vice-chairman of the natural resources commission, may make changes in quotas in a turkey management unit to address this new information

- (7) It is unlawful to purchase more than one Michigan spring turkey hunting license.

12.610 “Spring wild turkey management unit J” defined.

Sec. 12.610. “Spring wild turkey management unit J” means all of Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, and Otsego counties, and Bois Blanc island (including Gull island, Sand island, and all other small islands within quarter mile of Bois Blanc island) in Mackinac county.

Issued this 6th day of November, 2008.

Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Keith J. Charters, Chairman
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

