

Natural Resources Commission Meeting

Policy Committee on
Wildlife and Fisheries

April 11, 2019

Proposed Orders

- For Information – NRC
 - Fall Turkey Regulations (Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 5 of 2019)
- For Action – NRC
 - Statewide Trout, Salmon, Whitefish, Lake Herring and Smelt Regulations (Fisheries Order 200.19A)

NRC Policy Committee on Wildlife and Fisheries

- Fisheries Chief Update
- Wildlife Chief Update
 - Fall Turkey Regulations
 - Furbearer Regulations/Fisher & Marten Update

Department of Natural Resources

Fisheries Division

Chief's Update

Jim Dexter, Chief

April 11, 2019

Wildlife Chief Update

Russ Mason

Wildlife Chief Update

- Released Pheasant Hunting
- Dedication of the Holly State Recreation Area Turkey Tracts
- Woodcock Wingbee



Thank You

Fall Turkey Regulations



Al Stewart, Upland Game Bird Program Leader
Wildlife Division
April 11, 2019

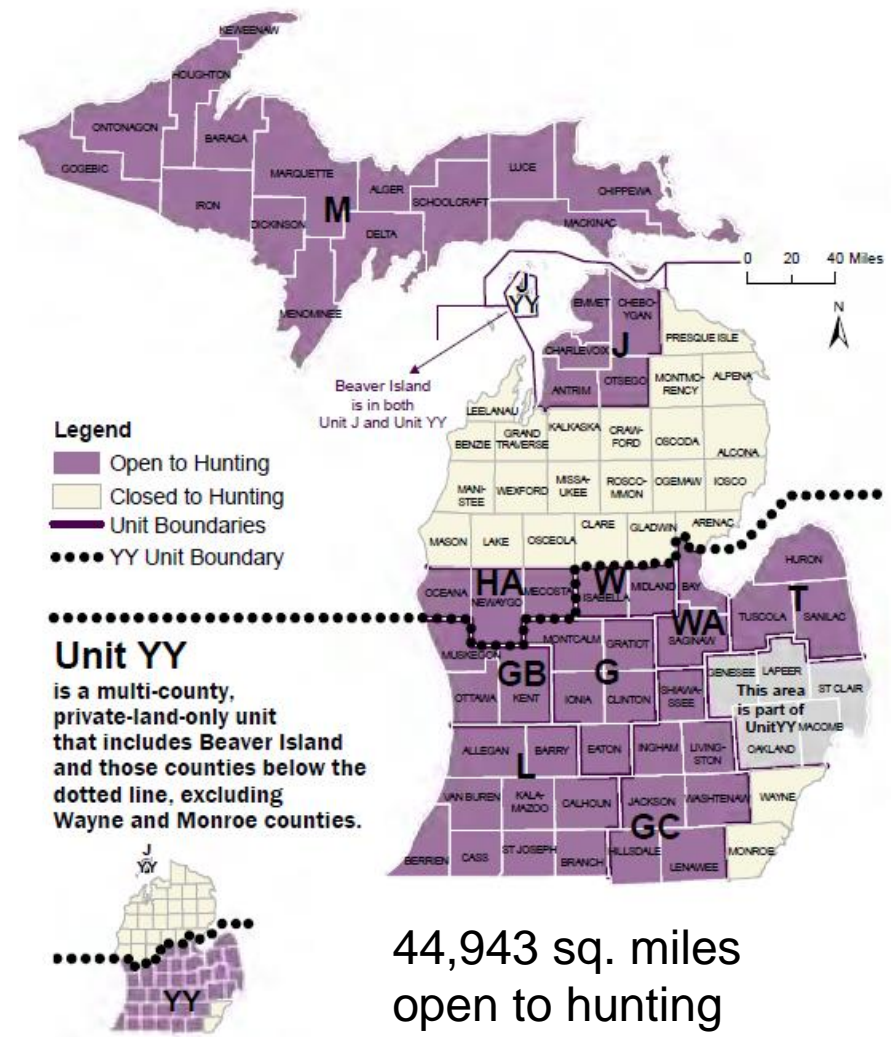
Proposed Fall Turkey Regulations



The fall turkey season goal is to maintain or reduce turkey populations to meet social and agricultural carrying capacities.

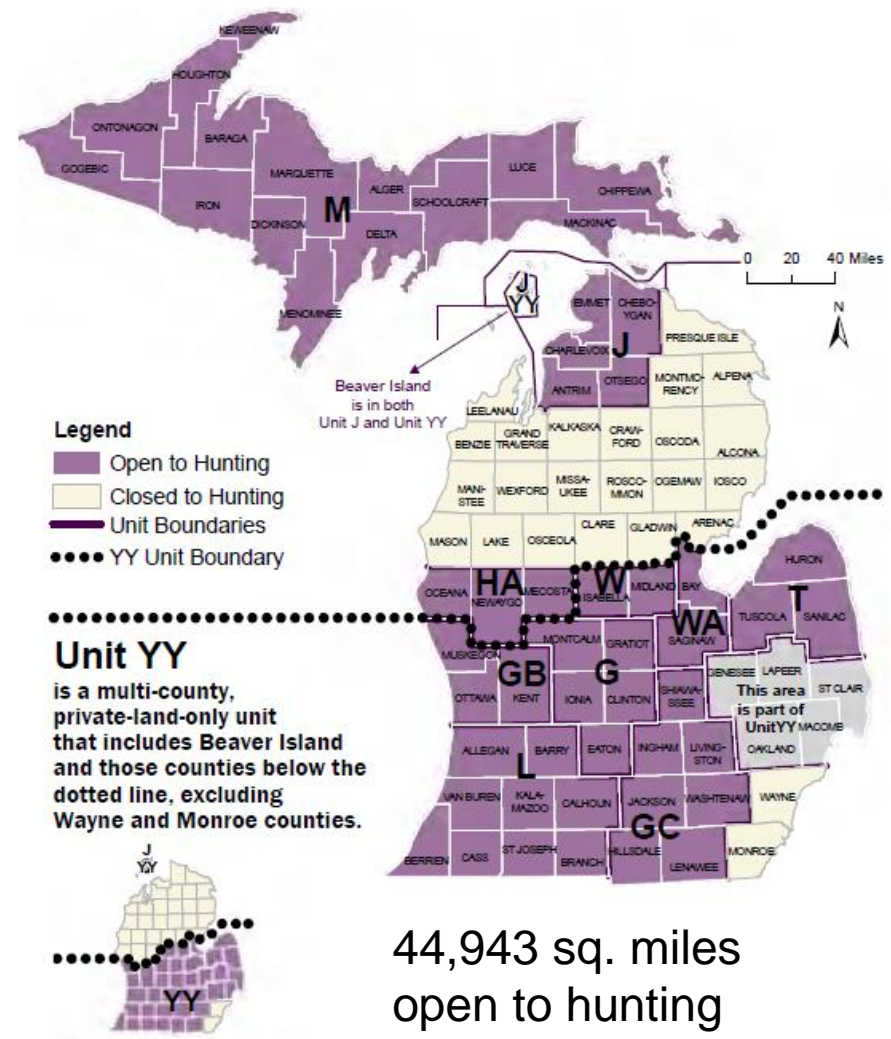
Proposed Fall Turkey Regulations

- Total of 51,350 licenses available
- Total of 4,650 general licenses available for TMU's G, GB, GC, J, L, M, T, WA, and W
- Maintain existing license quotas
 - TMU G: 200 licenses
 - TMU GB: 250 licenses
 - TMU GC: 200 licenses
 - TMU J: 1,500 licenses
 - TMU L: 500 licenses
 - TMU M: 1,500 licenses
 - TMU T: 200 licenses
 - TMU W: 200 licenses
 - TMU WA: 100 licenses



Proposed Fall Turkey Regulations

- Maintain a private land quota of 1,700 licenses for TMU HA
- Maintain a private land only license quota of 45,000 licenses for TMU YY
- No changes to the application process for limited-quota hunt TMUs or leftover license sales
- Maintain the one-license-per-day per hunter purchase limit for leftover licenses when available



Thank You



2020 Furbearer Regulations Issues Marten/Fisher Update

Adam Bump

Furbearer Regulations Cycle

- 2-year cycle, even years
- Use a “running list” to select issues for each review year
- Get priority issues from stakeholders and staff

Issues for 2020

- Review Beaver/Otter Regulations
 - Increase otter bag limits statewide
 - Expand beaver season in LP to April 30/Consider having spring beaver season in southern Michigan
 - Spring beaver/otter and nuisance beaver
 - Beaver/otter season- spring

Issues for 2020

- Trapping only issues
 - Mink snaring
 - Keep incidental mink caught in colony traps
 - Trapping inside muskrat push-ups (allow)
 - Clarify body-gripping traps “in water” (330s)

Issues for 2020

- Hunting Only Regulations
 - Remove hunters orange requirement for predator hunting with dogs
 - Allow use of elevated platforms for nighttime predator hunting like it is during the day
 - Allow 10 round mags
 - Allow nighttime bobcat hunting

Marten and Fisher Monitoring

- Currently use a harvest mail survey
- All individuals that acquired a marten/fisher kill tag are sent a survey
- Provides indices (harvest-effort) that help track changes in the population
- Best data for most furbearers

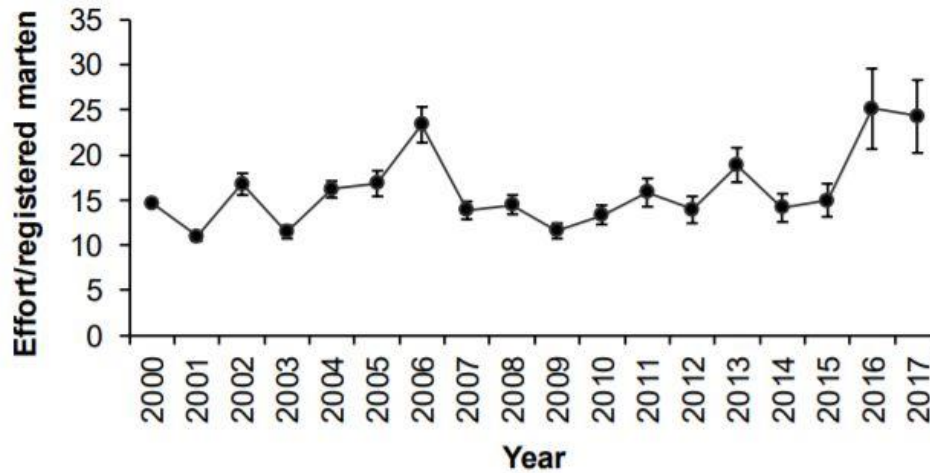


Figure 2. Estimated mean number of days required to harvest a marten in Michigan during 2000-2017. Vertical bars represent the 95% confidence interval. Estimates of effort/registered marten included only trappers targeting martens.

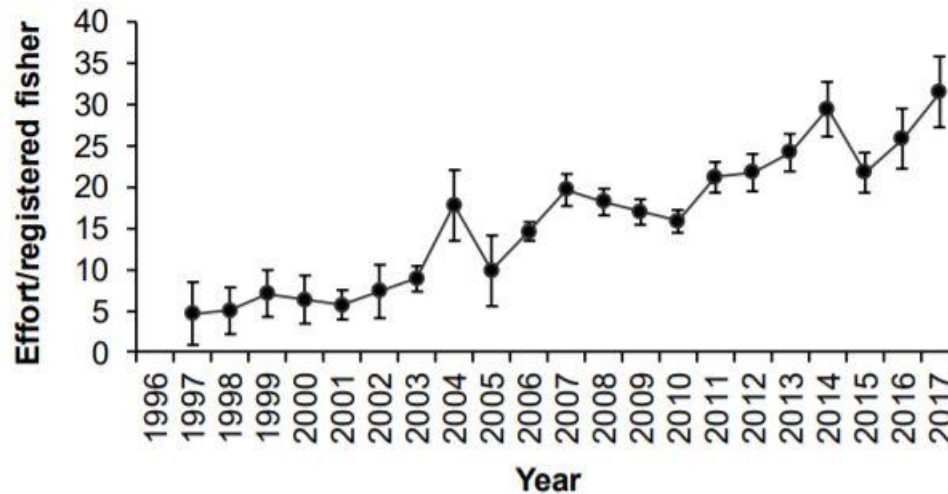


Figure 5. Estimated mean number of days required to harvest a fisher in Michigan during 1997-2017. Vertical bars represent the 95% confidence interval. Estimates of effort/registered fisher included only trappers targeting fishers.

Marten and Fisher Monitoring

- Developing a new model for each species that we hope will provide population information at a large scale (UP)
- If successful, data will be better than our current indices
- Hope to have a model in the next year to evaluate
- Same technique as bear model

Thank You