

North American Wild Turkey Management Plan

The wild turkey (*Meleagris gallapavo*), the largest gallinaceous bird in North America, exists in a variety of habitats throughout its range. This once abundant bird was almost forced to extinction in the early 1900s through unregulated hunting and improper land management. Today, the wild turkey population is more than 7 million birds strong thanks to state, federal and provincial agencies and hunters across North America who supported restoration efforts. Currently wild turkeys can be found in 49 states, 7 provinces and across Mexico.

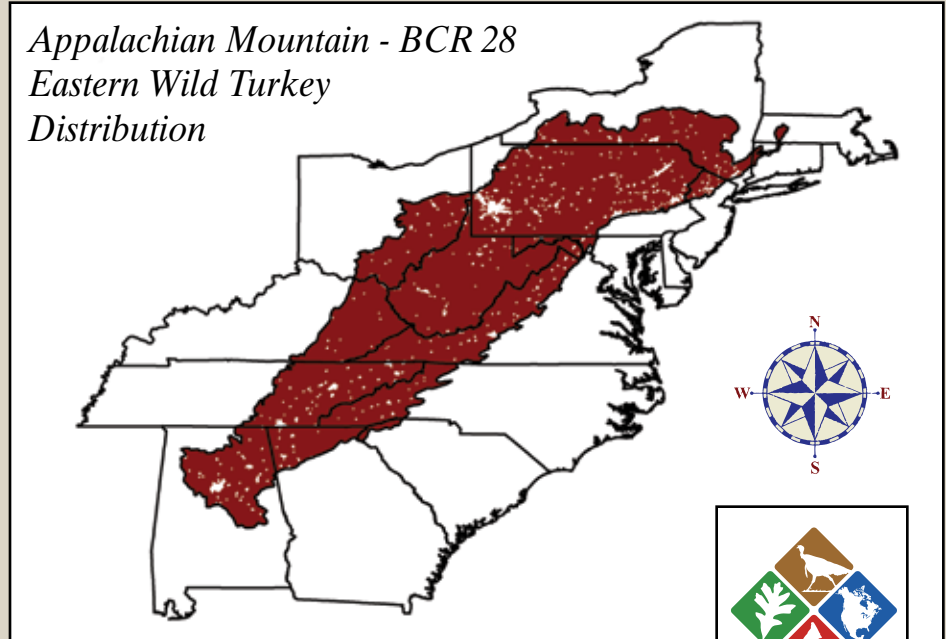
As the restoration of the wild turkey in the United States and Canada is coming to an end we are embarking on an enormous planning process: – The North American Wild Turkey Management Plan: An Integrated Approach to Wildlife Management (Plan).

Mission: To ensure that wild turkey populations and associated habitats are managed and conserved to benefit all associated wildlife species through collaborative conservation

The Plan is ambitious in design and structure to adjust to the delicate balance between people and wildlife conservation. For example, the Plan's international framework (North American Bird Conservation Initiative) builds on historical wildlife managers' successes and demonstrates the importance of monitoring and evaluating programs (past, present, and future) to provide accurate and relevant science based support for wildlife conservation.

The Plan also emphasizes development and

*Appalachian Mountain - BCR 28
Eastern Wild Turkey
Distribution*



maintaining of existing partnerships between like-minded non-governmental organizations, corporations and state, federal and provincial land management agencies to garner support for across-the-board cooperation. This cooperation is paramount to conserve wild turkeys and other wildlife that co-exist across North America.



The North American Wild Turkey Management Plan Supports:

- Long term habitat improvements and restoration
- Ecosystem health
- Wild turkey restoration and expansion
- Wild turkey research
- Monitoring and evaluation (past, present and future accomplishments)
- Conservation easements
- Strategic land acquisition
- Hunter access to public/private land
- Upholding our hunting heritage
- Partnership development
- Threatened and endangered species management and recovery

For more information please contact:

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Supporting/Contributing Agencies and Organizations

Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD)
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA)
Georgia Pacific (GP)
Resource Management Services (RMS)
South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR)
Resident Game Bird Working Group, AFWA
Partners In Flight (PIF)
US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
US Geological Survey (USGS)
US Forest Service (USFS)
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Wildlife Management Institute (WMI)
National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf)
ESRI
Hulsey, McCormick and Wallace, Inc.
Alabama State Chapter, NWTf
Indiana State Chapter, NWTf
Kansas State Chapter, NWTf
Maine State Chapter, NWTf
Mississippi State Chapter, NWTf
Nebraska State Chapter, NWTf
North Dakota State Chapter, NWTf
New Jersey State Chapter, NWTf
New York State Chapter, NWTf
Oklahoma State Chapter, NWTf
Oregon State Chapter, NWTf
Pennsylvania State Chapter, NWTf
South Dakota State Chapter, NWTf
Wisconsin State Chapter, NWTf



Long glass lizard (*Ophisaurus attenuatus*)

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE



Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

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White-tail deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

MATT LINDLER

