



Reporting Turkey Observations



Why does DEM Fish & Wildlife document turkey broods?

We survey turkey broods from July 1st to August 31st each year to gather information on productivity (number of offspring per female) and compare long-term reproductive success. This survey also provides biologists with an index of recruitment (the number of turkeys that survive to adulthood).

How to report an observation?

We rely on citizen scientists (that's you!) to collect state-wide turkey observations in Rhode Island each year.

You can submit observations via the following link, or the data sheet attached to this packet:

[Wild Turkey Survey](#)

Please submit paper data sheets by September 15th to the address listed below or email to Jennifer.Kilburn@dem.ri.gov

What are other important considerations when recording an observation?

- Record all observations from July-August
- Record all wild turkeys seen including hens, poults, males (jakes and gobblers), and turkeys that you couldn't identify as hens or males.
- Record each observation on a single line (see examples on data sheets)
- Record "yes" in the "Seen Before" column if you believe you have recorded the turkey(s) before.



Example Observations



Note: Poults are numbered to help with identification



Grey/blue head

Example 1

Adult hen with older poults

How to record:

Adult hens: 1, Poults: 6



Photo: P. Topham

Example 2

Poults no hen

How to record:

Adult hens: 0, Poults: 3

* Females can have a beard, but they will always have a grey head



Example Observations



Example 3

Adult hens with poults

How to record:

Adult hens: 2, Poults:
10



Photo: M. Black

Example 4

Adult hen no poults

How to record:

Adult hens: 1, Poults: 0



Photo: M. Stultz



Example Observations

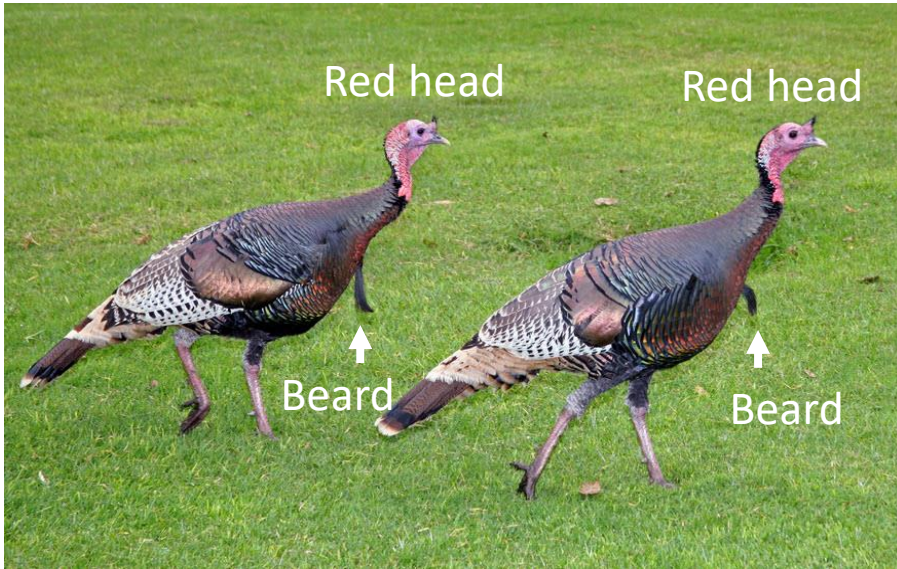


Example 5

Adult males

How to record:

Males: 2



Example 6

Adult hens no poults

How to record:

Adult hens: 5, Poults: 0





Wild Turkey Observation Data Sheet



Name:

Year:

Obs. #	Date	County	# Hens	# Poults	# Males	# Unknown	Seen Before
Ex. 1	7/1/2021	Kent	1	5			
Ex. 2	7/1/2021	Washington			4		
Ex. 3	7/3/2021	Kent	1	5			yes
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							



Wild Turkey Observation Data Sheet



Name:

Year:

Obs. #	Date	County	# Hens	# Poults	# Males	# Unknown	Seen Before
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							
29							
30							
31							



Wild Turkey Observation Data Sheet



Name:

Year:

Obs. #	Date	County	# Hens	# Poults	# Males	# Unknown	Seen Before
32							
33							
34							
35							
36							
37							
38							
39							
40							
41							
42							
43							
44							
45							
46							
47							
48							

