

2016 Proceedings  
Midwest Deer & Wild Turkey Study Group Meeting  
August 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Carrollton, Kentucky



Submitted by:  
Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources



**MIDWEST**  
Association of  
Fish & Wildlife  
Agencies

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Iowa	
Kansas	
Kentucky	
Missouri	
Nebraska	
North Dakota	
Ohio	

## **Background**

The Midwest Deer and Wild Turkey Study Group (MDWTSG) meeting is an annual gathering of wildlife managers sanctioned by and affiliated with the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Primary objectives of the meeting include dissemination of deer and wild turkey management strategies, discussion of emerging or existing issues associated with deer and wild turkey management, and coordination of regional deer and wild turkey management or research efforts. The meeting location rotates among the Midwestern states that are active within the group.

Forums such as the MDWTSG meeting provide valuable opportunities for state deer and turkey biologists to become acquainted with emerging issues and exchange information and ideas related to deer and turkey research and management. The need for state fish and wildlife agencies to establish and maintain deer and turkey biologist positions and support travel of these biologists to the annual MDWTSG meeting is imperative for exchanging information to promote quality wildlife management and research in each state. It is more important than ever that state agencies are at the forefront of issues related to deer and turkey management in order to protect the heritage and recreational opportunities of hunting for future sportsmen and sportswomen.

## **Meeting Time and Place**

The Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) hosted the 2016 MDWTSG meeting at the General Butler State Resort Park in Carrollton, Kentucky on August 22-25. The MDWTSG appreciates the financial support provided by the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) and the Nation Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) in sponsoring the evening socials. Additionally, we thank Cabela's for donating gift cards.

## **Attendance**

Fifty-1 participants attend the 2016 meeting, including state deer and turkey biologist from 13 Midwest member states (Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin) and attendees from other organizations and institutions including the NWTF, the QDMA, the NDA, Michigan State University, South Dakota State University and the University of Kentucky. A complete list of attendees and contact information for deer and turkey state biologists are available in Table 1.

## **Executive Summary**

Attendees at the 2016 MDWTSG meeting were welcomed by Steve Beam, KDFWR Wildlife Director. Following the meeting introduction, there were seven presentations that occurred during the joint session, including the following topics:

- Hunter Legacy
- Field to Fork
- Disease
- Midwest Deer Metrics
- State of Kentucky Deer
- State of Wild Turkey
- Kentucky Access Programs

Following the joint session, a number of presentations were given during both the deer and wild turkey break-out sessions. These topics included:

- Deer Vulnerability
- Deer Mortality
- National Deer Alliance Update
- QDMA Update
- DMAP
- County Deer Advisory Councils
- Deer Dynamics
- Dispersal Rates and Path Selection of Deer in an Agriculture Landscape
- NWTf Update
- Learn to Hunt Programs/Turkey Tracts
- Population Ecology of Wild Turkeys in Northern Missouri
- Changing Turkey Management Zones
- Direction following the 11<sup>th</sup> Turkey Symposium

State status reports were presented in both the deer and wild turkey break-out sessions.

## Business Meeting

The Business Meeting was conducted as a joint session involving both deer and wild turkey program leaders. The 2017 MDWTSG meeting will be hosted by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

**Table 1: List of Participants**

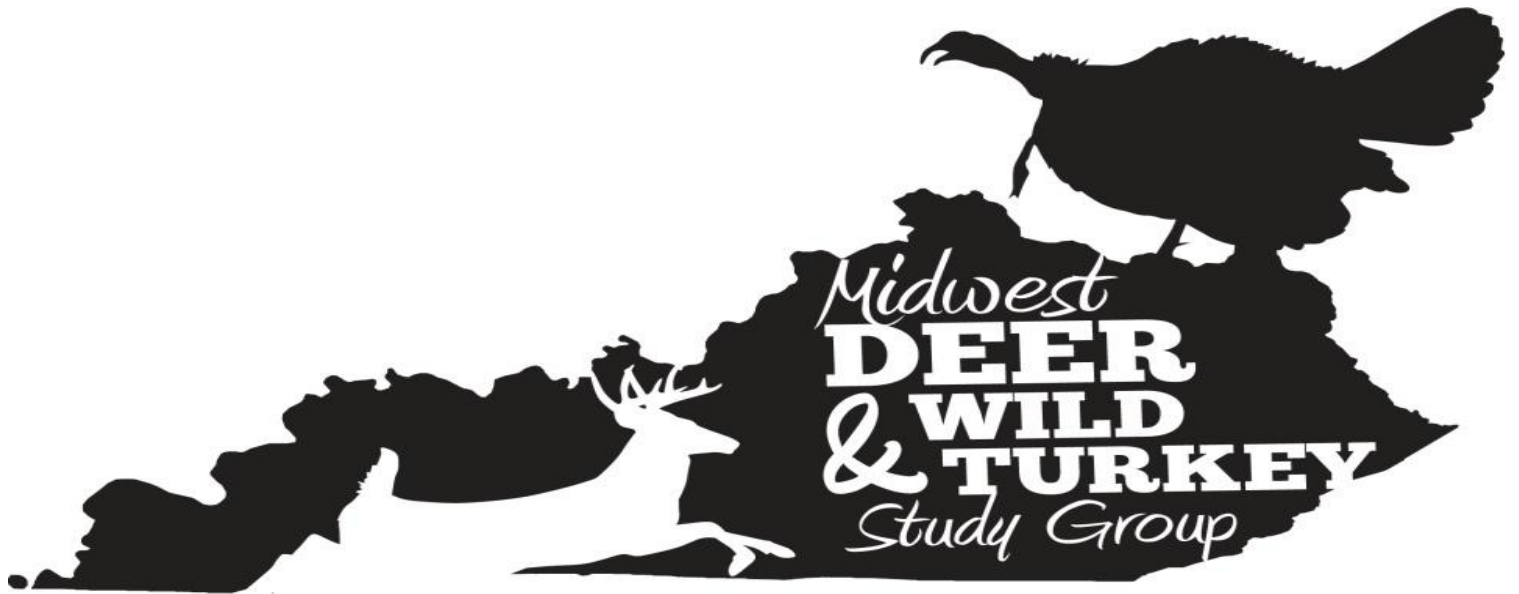
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**Table 2: Previous Midwest Deer & Wild Turkey Study Group Meeting Locations**

Year	State	Location	Date
1977	Missouri	Missouri Fountain Grove Wildlife Area	January 17-19
1978	Wisconsin	Wisconsin Wyalusing State Park	January 16-17
1979	Iowa	Iowa Rathburn Fish Hatchery	January 15-18

1980	Minnesota	Minnesota Whitewater State Park	January 21-24
1981	Indiana	Indiana Harrison-Crawford State Park	January 19-22
1982	Ohio	Ohio Lake Hope State Park	January 18-21
1983	Nebraska	Nebraska Louisville 4-H Camp	January 17-21
1984	Kansas	Kansas Camp Aldrich	January 16-19
1985	South	South Dakota Black Hills	May 7-10
1986	North	North Dakota Camp-of-the-Cross	January 20-23
1987	Michigan	Michigan Kellogg Biological Station	January 27-29
1988	Illinois	Illinois Touch of Nature	February 1-4
1989	Missouri	Missouri YMCA Camp of the Ozarks	January 23-26
1990	Wisconsin	Wisconsin Bethel Horizons Prairie Center	January 15-18
1991	Iowa	Iowa Conservation Education Center	January 14-17
1992	Minnesota	Minnesota Whitewater State Park	January 13-16
1993	Indiana	Indiana Harrison-Crawford State Park	January 11-14
1994	Ohio	Ohio Canter's Cave 4-H Park	January 30-February 2
1995	Nebraska	Nebraska Mahoney State Park	January 15-18
1996	Kansas	Kansas Camp Pecusa	January 14-16
1997	South	South Dakota Camp NeSoDak	August 24-27
1998	North	North Dakota Camp Grafton	August 9-12
1999	Ontario	Ontario Blue Springs Scout Reserve	August 15-18
2000	Michigan	Michigan Thunder Bay Resort	August 20-23
2001	Illinois	Illinois Dixon Springs Ag. Station	August 19-22
2002	Missouri	Missouri Conception Abbey	August 18-21
2003	Wisconsin	Wisconsin Bethel Horizons Prairie Center	August 24-27
2004	Iowa	Iowa Conservation Education Center	August 22-25
2005	Minnesota	Minnesota Eagle Bluff Envir. Learning Center	August 21-24
2006	Indiana	Indiana Camp Ransburg, BSA	August 20-23
2007	Ohio	Ohio Canter's Cave 4-H Park	August 19-22
2008	Nebraska	Nebraska Fort Robinson State Park	September 14-17
2009	Kansas	Kansas Rock Springs 4-H Camp	September 14-17
2010	North	North Dakota Camp Grafton	August 22-25
2011	Michigan	Michigan Ralph A. MacMullen Center	September 25-28
2012	South	South Dakota Custer State Park	October 16-19
2013	Illinois	Illinois Allerton Park	August 18-21
2014	Missouri	Missouri YMCA Camp of the Ozarks	September 9-12
2015	Wisconsin	Wisconsin Perlstein Conference Center	September 8-11
2016	Kentucky	General Butler State Resort Park	August 22-25



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## Midwest Deer & Wild Turkey Study Group Meeting

General Butler State Resort Park, Carrollton KY  
 Monday, August 22 – Thursday, August 25, 2016

# Agenda

### Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> (All times are Eastern Standard)

4:00-8:00 p.m.	Registration	Lodge Office
6:00 p.m.	Dinner	Lodge Dining Room
7:00 p.m.	Evening Social	Cabin 535

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### Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>

7:00-7:45 a.m.	Registration continued	Lodge Office
7:00-8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Lodge Dining Room

<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Joint Meeting (details below)</b>	<b>Conference Center</b>
8:00-8:10 a.m.	House Keeping Items Gabe Jenkins, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources	
8:10-8:15	Welcome Steve Beam, Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	
8:15-8:45 a.m.	Hunter Legacy: Jamie Cook, Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	
8:45-9:15 a.m.	Field to Fork: Brain Clark, Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	
9:15-9:45 a.m.	Disease: Iga Stasiak, Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	
9:45-10:00 a.m.	Break	
10:00-10:30 a.m.	Midwest Deer Metrics: What, How, and Why We Measure Robert Rolley, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	
10:30-11:00 a.m.	State of Kentucky Deer: Gabe Jenkins, Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	
11:00-11:30 a.m.	State of Kentucky Wild Turkey: Zak Danks, Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	
11:30- 12:00 p.m.	Kentucky Access Programs: Gabe Jenkins, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources	
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Lodge Dining Room
1:00-5:00 p.m.	Breakout Sessions (details below)	
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Free Time	
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Dinner	Stone Shelter
7:00 p.m.	Evening Social	Cabin 535



**Deer Breakout Session****Conference Center**

- 1:00-2:00 p.m. Deer Vulnerability: Rebecca Cain, Michigan State University
- 2:00-2:20 p.m. Deer Mortality: Joe McDermott, University of Kentucky
- 2:20-2:40 p.m. National Deer Alliance Update: Nick Pinizzotto, NDA
- 2:40-3:00 p.m. QDMA Update: Kip Adams, Director of Outreach
- 3:00-3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:15-3:45 p.m. DMAP: Kevin Wallenfang, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- 3:45-4:15 p.m. County Deer Advisory Councils: Kevin Wallenfang, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- 4:15-4:30 p.m. Deer Dynamics: Dan Storm, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- 4:30-5:00 p.m. Dispersal Rates and Path Selection of Deer in an Agriculture Landscape: Matt Springer, University of Kentucky

**Wild Turkey Break Session****Conference Center**

- 1:00-1:30 p.m. National Wild Turkey Federation National Updates: Jason Lupardis, NWTF Kentucky
- 1:30-2:00 p.m. National Wild Turkey Federation National Updates: Ryan Boyer, NWTF Michigan
- 2:00-2:40 p.m. Learn to Hunt Program / Turkey Tracts: Al Stewart, Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources
- 2:40-3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:00-3:30 p.m. Population Ecology of Wild Turkeys in Northern Missouri: Jason Isabelle, Missouri Department of Conservation
- 3:30-4:00 p.m. Changing Turkey Management Zones: Mark Wiley, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources

4:00-5:00 p.m. Discussion – Direction following the 11<sup>th</sup> Turkey Symposium  
in Arizona: Chad Parent, Michigan State University

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## **Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>**

7:00-8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Lodge Dining Room
8:00-12:00 a.m.	Breakout Session – State Reports	Conference Center
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Lodge Dining Room
1:00-2:30 p.m.	Round table Discussion	Conference Center
2:30-3:00 p.m.	Business Meeting	
3:30-6:00 p.m.	Special Event/Free Time	Stone Shelter Parking Lot
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Dinner	Lodge Dining Room
7:00 p.m.	Evening Social	Cabin 535

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## **Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>**

7:00-8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Lodge Dining Room
8:00 a.m.	Departure	

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