2021 Proceedings

45th Annual Meeting

Midwest Deer & Wild Turkey Study Group Meeting

August 18th, 2021





Compiled by Luke Meduna and Kylie Sinclair

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Table of Contents

| <u>Background</u> . | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | 3 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
| Meeting Summary. | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Business Meeting . | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| <u>Director Action Items</u> . | | | | | | • | | | | | 3 |
| <u>Director Information It</u> | tems . | | | | | • | | | | | 3 |
| Appendix 1: Attendance | ce List . | | | | | | | | | | 4 |
| Appendix 2: State Dee | r Report | S . | | | | • | | | | | <u>5</u> |
| Illinois . | | | | | | | | | | | 6 |
| Indiana . | • | | • | | | | | | | | 14 |
| lowa . | | | | | | | | | | | 29 |
| Kansas . | • | | | | | | | • | | | 39 |
| Kentucky | • | • | | | | | | • | | • | 49 |
| Michigan | | | | | | • | | | | | 56 |
| Minnesota | | | | • | | | | | • | • | 61 |
| Missouri | | | | • | | | | | • | • | 72 |
| Nebraska | • | • | | • | • | | • | • | • | • | 79 |
| North Dakota | • | • | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | 83 |
| <u>Ohio</u> . | | | | | | | | | | | 100 |
| <u>Ontario</u> | | | | | | | | | | | 109 |
| Wisconsin | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | 115 |
| Appendix 3: State Turk | key Repo | rts . | | | • | | | | | | 126 |
| Illinois . | | | | | | | | | | | 127 |
| Indiana . | • | • | | • | • | | • | • | • | • | 134 |
| lowa . | • | • | | | | | | • | • | • | 140 |
| <u>Kansas</u> . | | | | | | | | | | | 146 |
| <u>Kentucky</u> | | | | | | | | | | | 153 |
| <u>Michigan</u> | • | • | | | | | | | | • | 162 |
| <u>Minnesota</u> | | | | | | | | | | • | 175 |
| <u>Missouri</u> | | | | • | • | | • | • | • | • | 180 |
| <u>Nebraska</u> | • | • | | • | • | | • | • | • | • | 190 |
| North Dakota | • | • | | • | • | | • | | | | 195 |
| <u>Ohio</u> . | | | | • | • | | • | | | | 201 |
| Wisconsin | • | • | | • | • | | • | • | • | • | 207 |

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 Summary

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Wildlife Division organized and moderated the 2021 MDWTSG meeting via Zoom on August 18, 2021. A total of 34 state deer and wild turkey biologists from 13 of the 14 Midwest member states/provinces, as well as four invited speakers, joined the virtual meeting. Due to the unusual circumstances of 2020, the schedule was shortened to include a brief session including 3 presentations, the business meeting and separate deer/turkey breakout discussions.

Business Meeting

The business meeting was called to order by L. Meduna (NE) at approximately 10:10 CST on Wednesday, August 18. The following items were discussed:

- 1. Location of the 2022 Meeting
 - a. Rock Springs, Kansas
- 2. MDWTSG Funds
 - a. Still held by NWTF, will continue with that rather than transfer between states each year
- 3. Proceedings from 2020 meeting to host site.

Director Action Items

Due to the consolidated nature of this meeting, the MDWTSG does not have any action items for directors to report from this meeting.

Director Information Items

Due to the consolidated nature of this meeting, the MDWTSG does not have any information items for directors to report from this meeting.

Appendix 1. Attendance List

| Agency/Organization | Name | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Illinois | Luke Garver | | | | |
| Illinois | Dan Skinner | | | | |
| Illinois | Peter Schlichting | | | | |
| Indiana | Moriah Boggess | | | | |
| Indiana | Steve Backs | | | | |
| lowa | James Coffey | | | | |
| lowa | Tyler Harms | | | | |
| lowa | Dan Kaminski | | | | |
| Kansas | Levi Jaster | | | | |
| Kansas | Kent Fricke | | | | |
| Kentucky | Zak Danks | | | | |
| Kentucky | Kyle Sams | | | | |
| Kentucky | Gabe Jenkins | | | | |
| Kentucky | David Yancy | | | | |
| Michigan | Chad Stewart | | | | |
| Michigan | Adam Bump | | | | |
| Minnesota | Brian Haroldson | | | | |
| Minnesota | Barb Keller | | | | |
| Minnesota | Todd Froberg | | | | |
| Missouri | Kevyn Wiskirchen | | | | |
| Missouri | Jason Isabelle | | | | |
| Missouri | Jason Sumners | | | | |
| Nebraska | Luke Meduna | | | | |
| Nebraska | Kylie Sinclair | | | | |
| North Dakota | Rodney Gross | | | | |
| Ohio | Mark Wiley | | | | |
| Ohio | Clint McCoy | | | | |
| Ohio | Mike Tonkovich | | | | |
| Ontario | Chris Godwin | | | | |
| Wisconsin | Daniel Storm | | | | |
| Wisconsin | Jeff Pritzl | | | | |
| Wisconsin | Alaina Gerrits | | | | |
| Wisconsin | Chris Pollentier | | | | |
| National Deer Association | Matt Ross | | | | |
| National Deer Association | Kip Adams | | | | |
| Purdue University | Jonathan Brooks | | | | |
| University of Nebraska | Matt Gruntorad | | | | |
| University of Nebraska | Hunter Ellsworth | | | | |
| University of Nebraska | John Benson | | | | |