

Turkey General Information

Youth Hunts for Turkeys

A hunter must be 10 to 15 years of age to hunt in the general season youth hunt (April 8-14, 2012 and 2013). A hunter applying for a controlled hunt open to youth only must be 10-15 years of age on the opening date of the hunt for which they are applying. All youth hunters must be accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older who must be close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.

Youth ages 9-11 may purchase a youth small game license and then purchase a turkey tag and/or apply for a controlled turkey hunt, but they may not hunt until they are 10 years of age.

Tag and Permit Requirements

No person may hunt wild turkey without having in his or her possession the appropriate hunting license, general tag, extra tag, special unit tag and/or a controlled hunt permit.

A hunter may harvest as many turkeys as they have legal tags for that given year. There are three types of turkey tags available. Two turkey tags - one general and one extra tag - may be purchased for the spring turkey season before May 26. The waiting period for use of the extra tag has been eliminated. (See limits on page 23.) Special Unit Tags may be purchased at any time.

- General Tag (one tag per person per year)
- Extra Tag (two tags per person per year)
- Special Unit Tags (three tags per person per year)

A hunter may use the general tag to hunt in any spring general season and also use this tag with a controlled hunt permit to hunt in a controlled hunt. A second spring bird may be taken with the extra turkey tag. If the general tag or extra tag is not filled during the spring hunt, then that unused tag can be used in a fall general hunt or fall controlled hunt.

The spring and fall controlled hunt permits are valid only for specific areas and seasons as designated by hunt number (pages 24 and 25). A turkey hunter **must** have a spring controlled hunt permit and a valid tag to hunt in a spring controlled hunt. A turkey hunter may only harvest one bird per controlled hunt permit.

A special unit tag may be used during general fall seasons in Units 1, 2, 3 and 5. A special unit tag is also valid for any designated turkey depredation hunt.

A junior hunter, who meets the age criteria established by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission, with a Junior/DAV/Senior General Tag may hunt in the general season youth hunt.

Controlled Hunts

See page 25 for the controlled hunt worksheet and pages 24 and 25 for the list of hunts.

Eligibility: Holders of valid hunting licenses are eligible to apply for controlled hunts subject to the following restrictions:

- Holders of a Nongame Hunting License may not apply for any controlled hunt.
- Any person applying for a bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or moose controlled hunt may **not** apply for any other controlled hunt in the same year, **except** unlimited controlled hunts, a controlled black bear hunt, controlled turkey hunts, or a designated depredation hunt, x-hunts, and second draw for deer, elk, pronghorn and fall black bear.

Application Dates:

- Spring hunt application period:
February 1 to March 1, 2012
February 1 to March 1, 2013
- Fall hunt application period:
May 1 to June 5, 2012
May 1 to June 5, 2013

Applications may be submitted electronically at any Fish and Game license vendor, by telephone (1-800-554-8685), on the Fish and Game website (hunting section), or by mail. Mail applications must be received at any Fish and Game office and postmarked no later than the last day of the application period. Applications will be taken beginning no earlier than the first day of the application period. Applications must comply with the following requirements:

- Only one application per person or group will be accepted. Additional applications will result in all applicants being declared ineligible.
- Each applicant for controlled hunts must submit a \$6.25 (\$14.75 for nonresidents) nonrefundable application fee with their application. One dollar of this fee may be designated for the Citizens Against Poaching program.
- A single payment (either cashier's check, money order, certified check, or personal check) may be submitted to cover fees for all applications in the same envelope. If a check or money order is insufficient to cover the fees, all applications will be voided.
- From the first day of the application period to the last day of the application period, Visa, MasterCard and Discover cards may be used to make telephone applications. Those using the credit card system will pay the \$6.25 or \$14.75 fee in addition to a service charge for

completing and processing the application and delivering it to Fish and Game. Charges will be explained upon request. To apply by credit card, dial 1-800-554-8685, 24-hours a day, or use the Fish and Game website under the hunting section.

Group Application is defined as two hunters applying for the same controlled hunt on the same application.

Refunds Of Controlled Hunt Fee: Hunting license fees will **not** be refunded to unsuccessful applicants. Application fees for controlled hunts are not refundable.

Second Choice Drawing: Single or group applications which are not drawn for the first choice hunt will automatically be entered into a second choice drawing provided the second choice hunt applied for has not been filled.

Notification: It is the applicants' responsibility to find out if they were successful in the controlled hunt drawing. Results for spring seasons will be available by March 20 under the hunting section of the Fish and Game web page at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>. Fish and Game will mail a postcard notification to all successful applicants by March 20. Results for fall seasons will be available by July 10.

Nonresident Permit Limitations: On 2012 and 2013 controlled hunts, not more than 10 percent of permits may be issued to nonresidents.



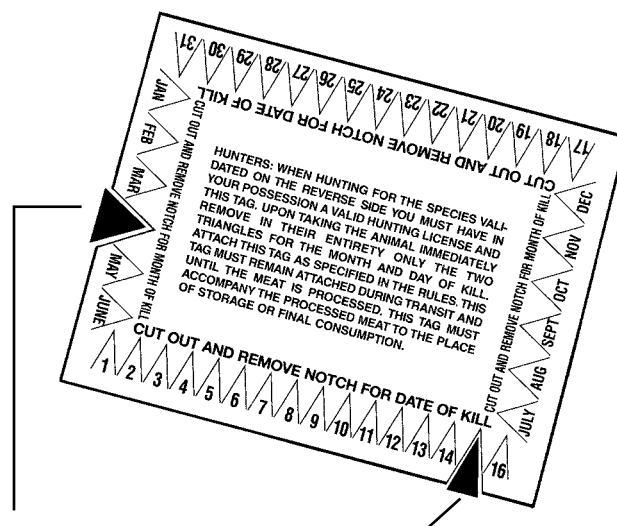
Photo courtesy Paul Waldon

Unfilled (Leftover) Controlled Hunt Permits: Any spring controlled hunt permits for turkey that remain unsold after controlled hunt drawings, may be sold on a first-come, first-served basis on or after April 1. Unsold fall controlled hunt permits will go on sale July 15. Hunters 65 years of age or older or hunters with a senior combination hunting license or a disabled hunting license may apply for first-come, first-served leftover youth-only controlled hunt permits. Controlled hunt permits will be issued to successful applicants. The 10 percent nonresident limitation shall not apply.

Miscellaneous Information

Tag Validation and Attachment:

- Immediately after any wild turkey is killed, a turkey tag must be validated and securely attached to the bird.
- To validate the tag, the hunter must cut out and completely remove two triangles on the border of the tag, one for the month and one for the day of the kill.
- The tag must remain attached as long as the turkey is in transit or storage.



Hunters must completely remove two notches indicating month and day of kill.

Methods of Take — Restrictions

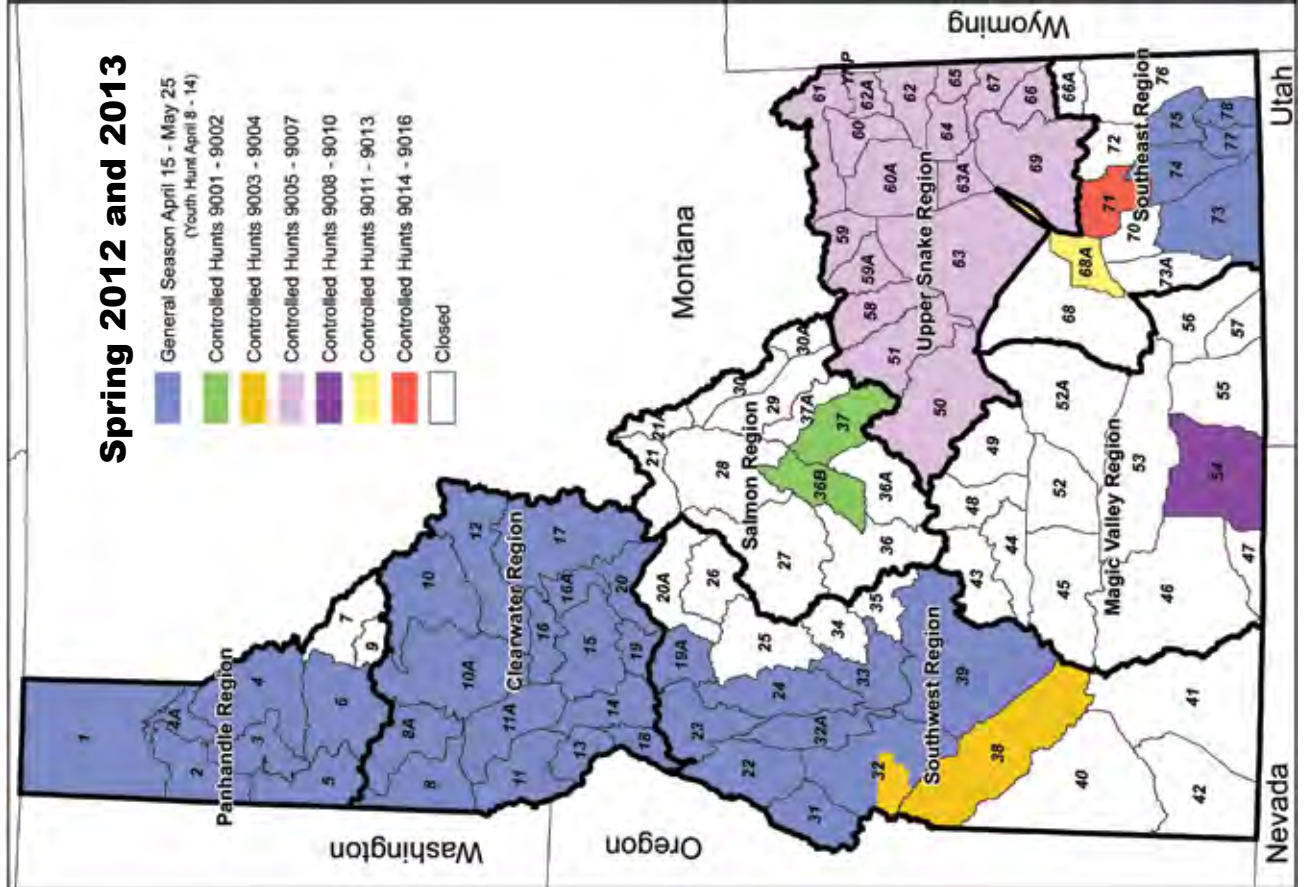
It is unlawful to hunt turkey:

- With lead shot exceeding BB size or steel shot exceeding T size.
- By use of dogs, except during fall hunts.
- Also see pages 14 and 45.

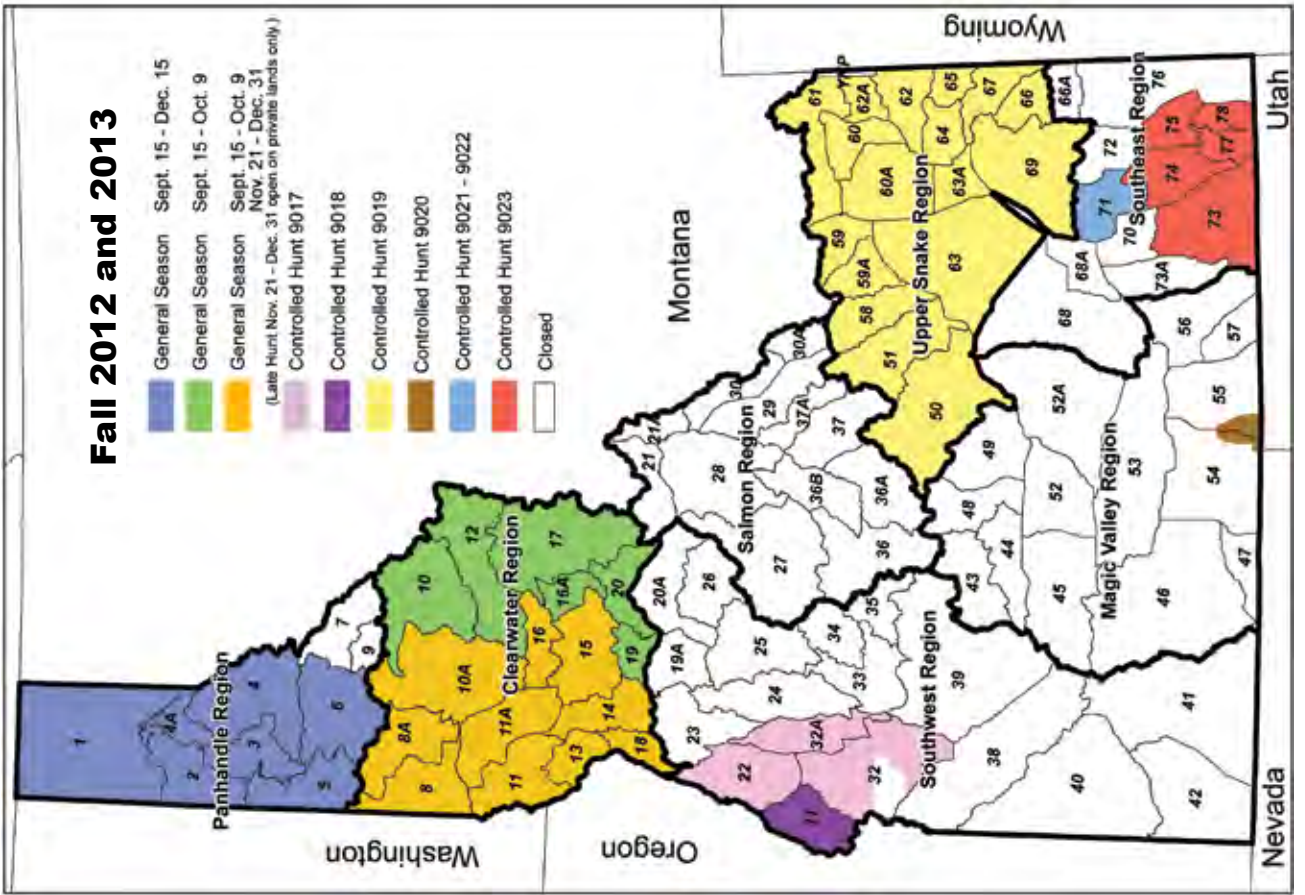
Areas Closed to Hunting of Turkeys

See page 46.

Turkey Hunts



Maps for General Reference Only



Turkey Seasons

General Hunt Seasons

(maps on page 26)

- April 8-14, 2012 and April 8-14, 2013. General Spring Youth Hunt in Game Management Units open to General Season turkey hunting (See page 20 for age requirements) and open in Controlled Hunt areas to holders of a Youth Only Controlled Hunt Permit.
- April 15, 2012 through May 25, 2012 and April 15, 2013 through May 25, 2013. General Spring Hunt in Game Management Units 1, 2 (Except Farragut State Park and Farragut WMA) & Units 3, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 8, 8A, 10, 10A, 11, 11A, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 16A, 17, 18, 19, 19A, 20, 22, 23, 24, 31, 32 (except that portion in Payette County), 32A, 33, 39, 73, 74, 75, 77 and 78.
- September 15, 2012 through December 15, 2012 and September 15, 2013 through December 15, 2013. General Fall Hunt in Game Management Units 1, 2 (except Farragut State Park and Farragut WMA) 3, 4, 4A, 5 and 6.
- September 15, 2012 through October 9, 2012 and September 15, 2013 through October 9, 2013. General Fall Hunt in Game Management Units 8, 8A, 10, 10A, 11, 11A, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 16A, 17, 18, 19, 20.
- November 21, 2012 through December 31, 2012 and November 21, 2013 through December 31, 2013. General Fall Hunt in Game Management Units 8, 8A, 10A, 11, 11A, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 18. This hunt is open on private lands only.

Bag and Possession Limits

The daily bag limit is one bearded turkey per day in the spring and one turkey (either sex) per day in the fall, except in Units, 1, 2, 3 and 5 where 5 turkeys (either sex) may be taken in a day during fall seasons. No more than two bearded turkeys may be taken per spring. The most tags one hunter may possess in one year is six.

Tags: There are three types of tags.

The general tag is valid for spring and fall seasons. It can also be used during spring or fall controlled hunts with the purchase of a controlled hunt permit. If the general tag is not used to harvest a turkey in the spring it may be used in fall seasons.

The extra tag is the second tag available in the spring. It is valid for spring seasons and may be used during fall general or fall controlled hunt seasons.

The special unit tag is valid for the fall season in Units 1, 2, 3 or 5. The special unit tag is also valid for any designated depredation hunt during the calendar year.

Two turkey tags - one general tag and one extra tag - may be purchased for the spring turkey season before May 26.

Shooting Hours

Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.



Photo courtesy John O'Neill

Wild Turkey Controlled Hunt Seasons — Spring 2012 - 2013



Use these numbers on your controlled hunt application.

Refer to Big Game Rules for unit boundary descriptions or this website: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/>. Youth Hunts - hunter must be 15 years of age or younger on the opening day of the youth hunt.

Hunt No	Controlled Hunt Area Descriptions	Spring Hunts	Permits
9001	36B-1: All of Units 36B and 37, 37A, and that portion of Unit 28 upstream from and including the Hat Creek drainage.	April 15 - May 25 Access is Limited <i>(Recommend do not apply unless you have access to private property)</i>	15
9002	36B-2: All of Units 36B, 37, 37A, and that portion of Unit 28 upstream from and including the Hat Creek drainage.	Youth Hunt April 8 - May 25, 2012 April 8 - May 25, 2013 Access is Limited <i>(Recommend do not apply unless you have access to private property)</i>	5
9003	38-1: All of Unit 38 and that portion of Unit 32 in Payette County.	April 15-May 25 Access is Limited	75
9004	38-2: All of Unit 38 and that portion of Unit 32 in Payette County.	Youth Hunt April 8 - May 25, 2012 April 8 - May 25, 2013 Access is Limited	60
9005	50-1: All of Unit 50, 51, 58, 59, 59A, 60, 60A, 61, 62, 62A, 63, 63A, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69.	April 15 - April 30	125*
9006	50-2: All of Unit 50, 51, 58, 59, 59A, 60, 60A, 61, 62, 62A, 63, 63A, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69.	May 1 - May 25	125*
9007	50-3: All of Unit 50, 51, 58, 59, 59A, 60, 60A, 61, 62, 62A, 63, 63A, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69.	Youth Hunt April 8 - May 25, 2012 April 8 - May 25, 2013	50*
9008	54-1: All of Unit 54.	Youth Hunt April 8 - May 25, 2012 April 8 - May 25, 2013	30
9009	54-2: All of Unit 54.	April 15 - May 5	24
9010	54-3: All of Unit 54.	May 6 - May 25	24
9011	68A-1: All of Unit 68A.	Youth Hunt April 8 - May 25, 2012 April 8 - May 25, 2013	15*
9012	68A-2: All of Unit 68A.	April 15 - April 30	15*
9013	68A-3: All of Unit 68A.	May 1 - May 25	15*
9014	71-1: All of Unit 71.	Youth Hunt April 8 - May 25, 2012 April 8 - May 25, 2013	75
9015	71-2: All of Unit 71.	April 15 - April 30	50
9016	71-3: All of Unit 71.	May 1 - May 25	50

*See page 46 for areas closed to turkey hunting, ie., federal refuges, bird refuges, active bald eagle nests, etc.

Wild Turkey Controlled Hunt Seasons — Fall 2012 - 2013



Use these numbers on your controlled hunt application.

Refer to Big Game Rules for unit boundary descriptions or this website: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/>. Youth Hunts - hunter must be 15 years of age or younger on the opening day of the youth hunt.

Hunt No	Controlled Hunt Area Descriptions	Fall Hunts	Permits
9017	22-1: All of Units 22, 32, 32A	September 15 - October 9	125
9018	31-1: All of Unit 31	September 15 - October 9	20
9019	50-4: All of Units 50, 51, 58, 59, 59A, 60, 60A, 61, 62, 62A, 63, 63A, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69.	Youth Hunt September 15 - November 30	25
9020	54-4: That portion of Unit 54 south of Trapper Creek outside the National Forest boundary and that portion of Unit 55 south of Oakley and west of the Birch Creek - Junction Valley Road.	September 15 - December 31	50
9021	71-4: All of Unit 71	September 15 - November 30	75
9022	71-5: All of Unit 71	Youth Hunt September 15 - December 31	75
9023	73-1: All of Units 73, 74, 75, 77, 78	September 15 - October 31	150

Controlled Hunt Worksheet/Application

Applications can be submitted electronically at any F&G license vendor. Applications can be made using your credit card by calling 1-800-554-8685 or the F&G website. Controlled hunt worksheets can be mailed with proper fees to any F&G office. Call in: 3 percent plus \$5.50. Internet: 3 percent plus \$3.50.

Use this worksheet to speed up the application process. Fill in the blanks with your hunting license and controlled hunt numbers before you apply. Group Applicants: Two hunters may apply on the same application for turkey, spring and fall bear, moose, sheep, or goat.

How Many Hunters Are Applying?

Designate \$1 of Fee to C.A.P?
(Citizens Against Poaching)

(Single application for deer, elk, antelope, bear, moose, goat, sheep, Canada goose, or turkey)

NAME #1

Date of Birth

LICENSE NUMBER

Yes	No
<input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>
<input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>

(Group application for deer, elk, antelope, bear, moose, goat, sheep, Canada goose, or turkey)

NAME #2

Date of Birth

LICENSE NUMBER

FEE TO APPLY: \$6.25 per Resident Hunter \$14.75 for Nonresident Hunter

1st Choice Hunt Number

2nd Choice Hunt Number

*Controlled Hunt Applicants: Use this form for one species application only.
You may photocopy this form.*

Controlled Hunt Seasons
Turkey

APPLY FOR CONTROLLED HUNTS BY PHONE: 1-800-554-8685

Use your VISA, MASTERCARD, OR DISCOVER card and this toll -free phone number to apply for controlled hunt permits. (A service charge of 3 percent of the transaction plus \$5.50 is added to telephone orders.)

QUICK TAG OVERVIEW

If You Want to Hunt...

Buy a License AND a ...

General Season, Spring Turkey.....	General or Extra Turkey Tag
General Season Fall Turkey	General or Extra Turkey Tag
Controlled Hunt, Spring Season	Apply for a Controlled Hunt Permit February 1 - March 1, 2012
	Apply for a Controlled Hunt Permit February 1 - March 1, 2013 and buy a General Turkey Tag; leftover permits go on sale April 1
Controlled Hunt, Fall Season.....	Apply for a Controlled Hunt Permit May 1 - June 5, 2012
	Apply for a Controlled Hunt Permit May 1 - June 5, 2013 and use the Permit with a General or Extra Turkey Tag; leftover permits go on sale July 15

Turkey Hunting

Safety and Ethics

1. **Positively identify your target.**
2. **Assume every noise and movement is another hunter.**
3. **Never stalk a turkey or turkey sound.**
4. **Don't wear red, white, or blue.**
5. **Protect your back.**
6. **Shout "Stop" to alert approaching hunters.**
7. **Make your position known to other hunters.**
8. **Preselect a zone of fire.**
9. **Choose safe, ethical hunting companions.**
10. **Practice courtesy and self-control at all times.**



All ethical wild turkey hunters support a series of rules that make wild turkey hunting the quality experience it can be. Following these rules will not only help maintain healthy flocks of wild turkeys in Idaho, but will also add to the challenge and excitement that is wild turkey hunting.

- **Do not disturb nesting hen turkeys or their nests.**
- **Though it is legal (during legal hours) to shoot a tom out of a roost tree, this practice is unacceptable among most sportsmen.**
- **If you hear another hunter calling a bird, allow that hunter to continue undisturbed and leave the area.**
- **Ask first to hunt on private land.**

Wild Turkey Distribution

Shaded areas indicate general wild turkey distribution in the primary units open to wild turkey hunting.

Wild turkeys are not native to Idaho; but were first transplanted here in 1961. Since then, more than 150 translocation efforts have been conducted statewide.

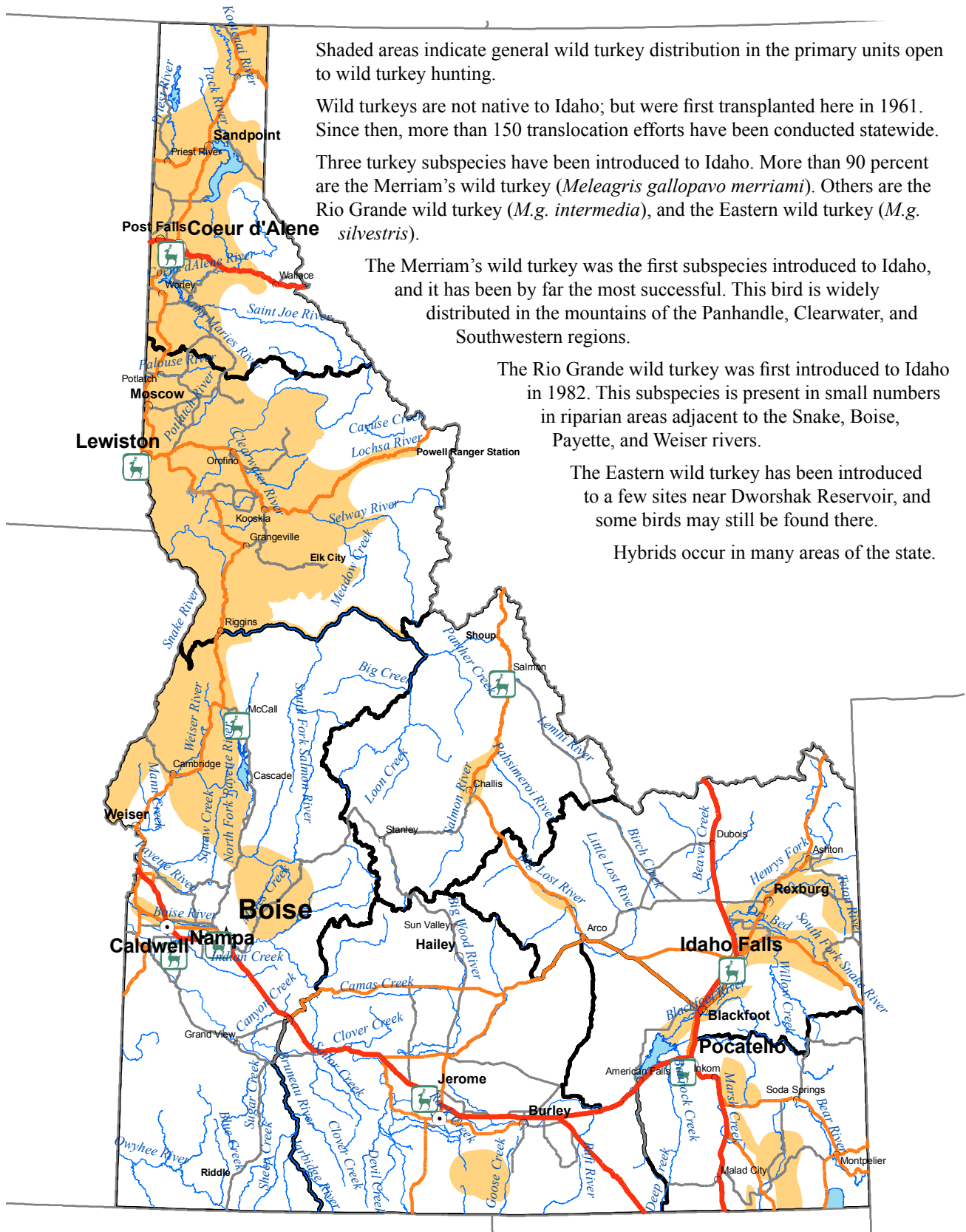
Three turkey subspecies have been introduced to Idaho. More than 90 percent are the Merriam's wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo merriami*). Others are the Rio Grande wild turkey (*M.g. intermedia*), and the Eastern wild turkey (*M.g. silvestris*).

The Merriam's wild turkey was the first subspecies introduced to Idaho, and it has been by far the most successful. This bird is widely distributed in the mountains of the Panhandle, Clearwater, and Southwestern regions.

The Rio Grande wild turkey was first introduced to Idaho in 1982. This subspecies is present in small numbers in riparian areas adjacent to the Snake, Boise, Payette, and Weiser rivers.

The Eastern wild turkey has been introduced to a few sites near Dworshak Reservoir, and some birds may still be found there.

Hybrids occur in many areas of the state.



Attention Hunters!

The area you are hunting may be infested with noxious weeds — non-native invasive plants that destroy turkey habitat.

To report noxious weeds, call the Idaho Weed Awareness hotline at 1-866-IDWEEDS. You can help stop the spread of noxious weeds in Idaho.

Turkey Depredation Hunt Sign Up

Special controlled hunts (not listed in these rules) are sometimes used to relieve game damage problems. If these hunts are needed, they will be held on short notice, involve small areas, and be limited to a few hunters.

How Can I Participate? If you are an Idaho resident, with a valid hunting or combination license, fill out the form on this page and mail it to the regional office in the area(s) you are willing to hunt. (You may photocopy this form if necessary.)

All applications received from May 1 to June 30 will be placed in random order. All applications received after June 30 will be placed at the end of the list in the order received. The list will be valid from July 1 to the following June 30.

What Are My Chances of Drawing A Depredation Permit? Most regions issue only a few depredation permits each year.

Special Unit Tags

A Special Unit Tag is valid for fall season in Units 1, 2, 3 or 5. The Special Unit Tag is also valid for any designated depredation hunt during the calendar year.

Depredation Hunt Application

I/We are applying for Turkey Depredation Hunts

1st Hunter _____ Hunting license No. _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Work) _____

2nd Hunter _____ Hunting license No. _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Work) _____

Game Management Units

Send To:

1-7	2885 Kathleen Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815
8, 8A, 10-19, 20	3316 - 16th Street, Lewiston, ID 83501
19A, 22-24, 31-34, 38-39.....	3101 South Powerline Road, Nampa, ID 83686
54, 55.....	324 S. 417 E., Suite #1, Jerome, ID 83338
68A, 71, 73, 74, 75, 77, 78.....	1345 Barton Road, Pocatello, ID 83204
50, 51, 58, 59, 59A, 60, 60A61, 62, 62A, 63, 63A, 64-67, 69.....	4279 Commerce Circle, Idaho Falls, ID 83401
36B, 37	P.O. Box 1336, Salmon, ID 83467

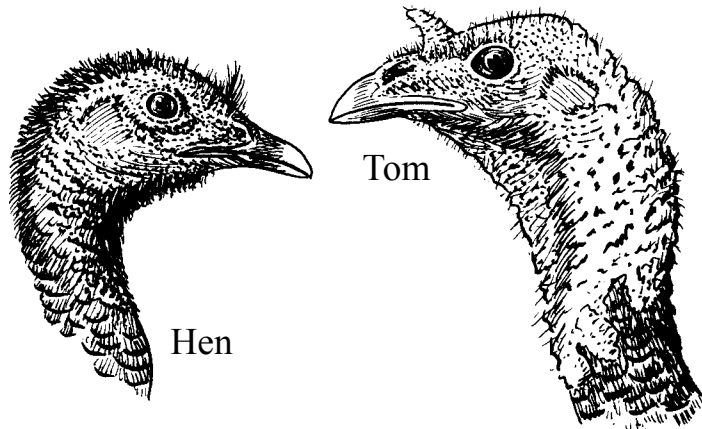
**Clip and mail to appropriate Regional Office, Fish and Game,
Attn.: Turkey Depredation Hunts.**

Identifying “Toms”

Heads

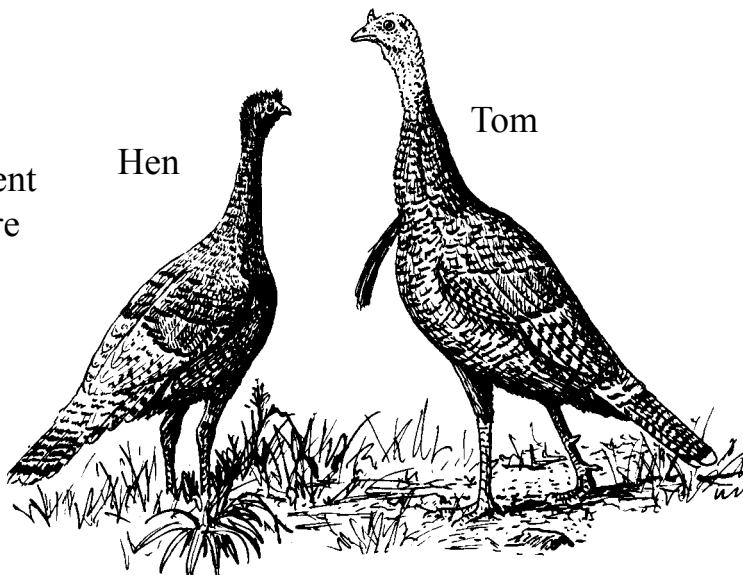
— Hen: Scattering of short black velvety hair-like feathers. Head smaller and blacker than toms.

— Tom: Head bald with narrow band of feathers up the back of neck. Colors bright reddish-blue in spring.



Beards

— Beards up to 10 inches long are present on the breasts of mature toms. Beards are generally absent on hens.



Evidence of Spurs

— Spurs on toms.

— Very small or absent on hens.

