

Proposed Resolution #C
Requires 2/3 Majority

Submitted by: Patrick Hogan, Life Member & Zach Snyder, Individual Member
Proposed: September 17, 2022 Policy Board Meeting
Title: Establish Turkey Harvest Reporting

1. **WHEREAS:** Current methods utilized to determine our turkey flock size and harvest quotas, are
2. largely based on estimates, historical quotas, and voluntary contributions from hunters; and,
3. **WHEREAS:** To do our best in managing the turkey flock we need to gather accurate
4. information; and,
5. **WHEREAS:** Michigan ranks seventh in the nation for the number of wild turkeys killed by
6. hunters, according to the National Wild Turkey Federation. The top turkey hunting states, in
7. order, are Missouri, Alabama, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, New York and Mississippi,
8. (<http://www.minwtf.org/wild-turkeys-carve> | o i -out-place-in-michigan) ;and,
9. **WHEREAS:** in Missouri all turkey must be Telechecked online, using the MO Hunting app, or by
10. telephone; and,
11. **WHEREAS:** in Alabama Game Check became mandatory in fall 2016 (it was voluntary the prior
12. year). This portion of the regulation requires all hunters to report their harvested deer or turkey
13. within 48 hours and record the confirmation number on the Harvest Record (either in paper
14. form, on the Outdoor AL app, or via telephone at 1-800-888-7690; and,
15. **WHEREAS:** Pennsylvania requires that within 10 days of harvest (five days for mentored
16. hunters), turkey hunters must report harvests to the Game Commission, either by going online
17. to the Game Commission's website, www.pgc.pa.gov, calling toll-free, or by sending in a
18. postage-paid report card received with this digest; and,
19. **WHEREAS:** in Wisconsin registration is mandatory for all deer, bear, turkey, sharp-tailed
20. grouse, bobcat, fisher and otter and is accomplished using gamereg.wi.gov; and,
21. **WHEREAS:** in New York for both fall and spring turkey, you must report via the new DECALS
22. reporting system within 7 days; and,
23. **WHEREAS:** all hunters in Mississippi have to report their harvest before 10 p.m. on the day of
24. harvest; and,
25. **WHEREAS:** Michigan's Turkey quotas were mentioned by the current Wildlife Chief as being
26. arbitrary at the August 11, 2022 Natural resources meeting; and,
27. **WHEREAS:** MUCC was the driving force behind the successful voter passage of Proposal G: a
28. referendum on Public Act 377 of 1996, which amended the Natural Resources and
29. Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to grant the Natural Resources Commission (NRC)

30. exclusive authority to regulate the taking of game in this state. The amendment also requires
31. the NRC, to the greatest extent practicable, to use principles of sound scientific management in
32. making decisions regarding the taking of game; and,
33. **WHEREAS:** more accurate data would aid in furthering sound scientific management to allow
34. for improved wild turkey population health, and increased hunting opportunities; and,
35. **WHEREAS:** infrastructure for reporting the harvest of whitetail deer in Michigan currently exists
36. allowing for a low cost transition for other species; NOW,
37. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That Michigan United Conservation Clubs work with the DNR
38. and the Natural Resource Commission to enact a turkey harvest reporting system, in
39. conjunction with the new DNR app-based reporting system.