# Regional Biologist Activity Report August through September 2007 Bob Eriksen, NWTF Regional Biologist

## **Meetings and Presentations**

- Met with wild turkey research project leader for New Jersey Fish and Wildlife to
  edit gobbler survival data and arrange for analysis of information from a five year
  telemetry study
- Met with Director Chanda of the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife
- Attended the annual meeting of the Northeast Upland Game Bird Technical Committee in Rhode Island
- Attended Pennsylvania Game Commission October meeting in Harrisburg
- Attended the Pennsylvania Chapter August meeting and Leadership Workshop
- Presented a power point on the gobbler banding project in Pennsylvania at the leadership workshop
- Presented a power point on gobbler banding and Super Fund projects to the Honey Hole Longbeards Chapter near Hazelton, PA
- Attended a Fund-raising event for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in Greenwich, Connecticut
- Met with Pennsylvania Game Commission Northeast Region Forester to plan mast survey
- Attended an "Adopt-a-Food-Plot meeting in Towanda, PA arranged by the Endless Mountain R.C&D
- Attended the September meetings of the Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey Chapters
- Attended the South Mountain Partnership meeting in Chambersburg, PA. This coalition is interested in preserving open spaces and managing habitat in the vicinity of Michaux State Forest
- Testified at public hearing on New Jersey Black Bear Management Policy
- Served as Emcee for North Jersey Open Calling contest and arranged for judges for the contest
- Attended New Jersey Chapter Gun Bash and East Coast Thunderin' Toms (PA)
   Super Fund banquet
- Participated in two interviews for NRA radio on black bear management in New Jersey

#### **Writing Projects**

- Prepared articles on wild turkey oddities, wild turkey population Q&As, fall safety and the Lyken's Valley Chapter Luke's Trail Project for the fall issue of "PA Turkey Talk"
- Wrote articles on wild turkey oddities and Hunter and Angler Impacts on the Economy for the fall issue of "Maryland Turkey Droppings"

- Prepared an article on fall turkey hunting safety for "Pennsylvania Outdoor Times"
- Continued to work on draft North American Wild Turkey Management Plan for Pennsylvania, receiving comments from Edgefield, Pennsylvania Chapter members and Game Commission personnel
- Drafted additional "FAQs" for the PA Game Commission website
- Developed a grant proposal for brood habitat improvement on the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in New Jersey
- Prepared letters for the PA Chapter in opposition to legislative changes to the baiting laws and in support of The Narrows Project, a conservation easement being pursued by the US Fish and Wildlife Service near South Mountain
- Prepared a letter for the New Jersey Chapter commenting on proposed changes to the Black Bear Management Policy
- Prepared comment letter for the Pennsylvania Chapter to present at the October Game Commission meeting
- Prepared hunting destination summaries for places to hunt on public lands in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware for future issues of "Turkey Call"

#### **Hunting Heritage Super Fund**

• Reviewed and edited 4 PA Super Fund requests and 1 New Jersey request form

## **Information Requests**

• Responded to 11 information requests from PA, and 1 from NJ

#### **Special Projects**

- Held a Wild Turkey Woodlands Landowner Field Day at the Schmid 80 Acre Camp in Jefferson County on September 8
- Conducted a mast survey on State Game Lands 35 in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania at request of Game Commission