

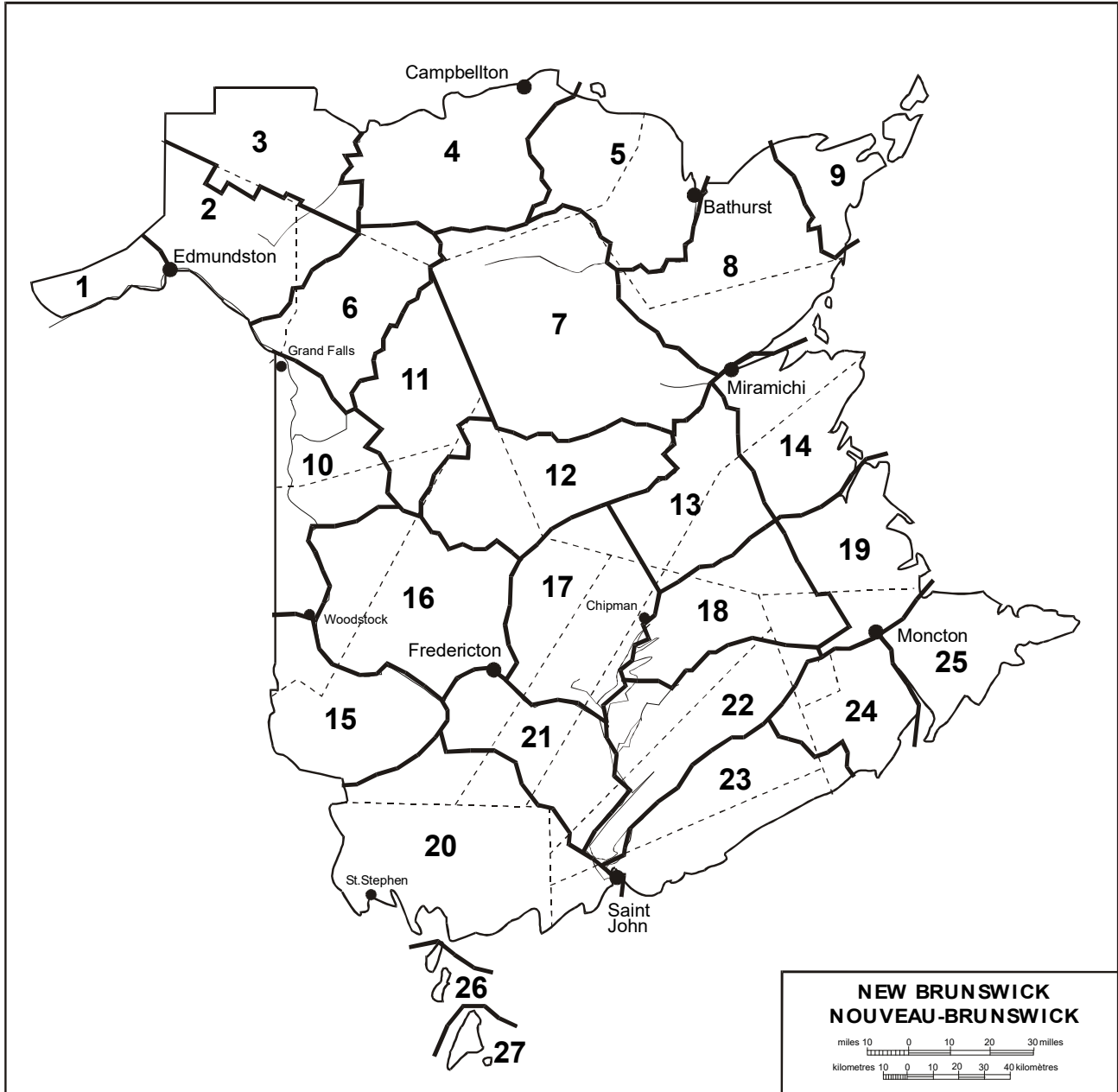
# New Brunswick Wild Turkey Harvest Report 2022



Fish and Wildlife Branch  
Natural Resources and Energy Development

[www.gnb.ca/naturalresources](http://www.gnb.ca/naturalresources)

# Wildlife Management Zones Zones d'Aménagement de la Faune



# 2022 Wild Turkey Harvest Report

## Summary

The 2022 wild turkey hunting season was the second wild turkey hunting season in New Brunswick. The 12-day wild turkey hunting season was open to residents of New Brunswick, took place from May 9<sup>th</sup> to May 21<sup>st</sup> and was a limited entry hunt where individuals were required to enter a lottery to be drawn for a licence. Prior to entering the wild turkey draw, applicants were required to complete an on-line Wild Turkey Hunting Course. To date 8,486 individuals completed the on-line Wild Turkey Hunting Course; 6,784 prior to last year's season and 1,702 this year.

Due to the low harvest in WMZ 17 last year, licences were not made available in that WMZ this year; however, 50 licences were added to each of WMZs 22 and 23 for a total of 450 licences available for the 2022 wild turkey hunting season. The application period for the draw was from March 7<sup>th</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>. In 2022, 3,652 residents applied for one of the 450 available licences across Wildlife Management Zones (WMZs) 10, 15, 16, 17, and 20. This is a 24% decrease (-1,167) in applicants over last year. Overall, the chances of being drawn for a licence was 12.3% (Table 1), up from 8.3% last year. Of the 450 licences drawn, 376 wild turkey licences were purchased (Table 2) and licence holders were limited to the harvest of one male (bearded) wild turkey.

Each of the 376 hunters who purchased a wild turkey hunting licence were required to submit a mandatory wild turkey harvest report; 361 wild turkey harvest reports were submitted. Through the reporting system, it is estimated that 176 wild turkeys were harvested during the 12-day hunt. This is a 40% (+50 birds) increase over last year's harvest (Table 4). The overall success rate was between 50% and 52% (Table 3) which is an increase from the success rate of 36% to 40% last year. The reports also revealed that 46 wild turkeys (26%) were harvested on the first day of the season and 124 wild turkeys (70%) were harvested during the first week of the season (Figure 1).

**Table 1. Number of Draw Applicants and Wild Turkey Licences Available by Wildlife Management Zone for 2022**

| WMZ              | 10  | 15   | 16   | 20    | 22   | 23   | Total |
|------------------|-----|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|
| Applicants       | 809 | 348  | 725  | 1,325 | 249  | 196  | 3,652 |
| Licences         | 75  | 75   | 75   | 125   | 50   | 50   | 450   |
| Draw Success (%) | 9.3 | 21.6 | 10.3 | 9.4   | 20.1 | 25.5 | 12.3  |

**Table 2. Number of 2022 Wild Turkey Licences Purchased by Wildlife Management Zone**

| WMZ                  | Wild Turkey Hunting Licences |            |             |
|----------------------|------------------------------|------------|-------------|
|                      | Allocated                    | Purchased  | % Purchased |
| 10                   | 75                           | 67         | 89.3        |
| 15                   | 75                           | 68         | 90.6        |
| 16                   | 75                           | 72         | 96          |
| 20                   | 125                          | 102        | 82.4        |
| 22                   | 50                           | 35         | 70          |
| 23                   | 50                           | 32         | 64          |
| <b>Total/Overall</b> | <b>450</b>                   | <b>376</b> | <b>83.5</b> |

**Table 3. Reported Number of hunters and wild turkey harvest by Wildlife Management Zone for 2022**

| WMZ                  | Hunted     |           |           | Reported Harvest | Estimated Success Rate (%)* |             |
|----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
|                      | Yes        | No        | N/A       |                  | Low                         | High        |
| 10                   | 62         | 5         | 0         | 39               | 62.9                        | 62.9        |
| 15                   | 62         | 2         | 4         | 35               | 53                          | 56.5        |
| 16                   | 67         | 2         | 3         | 36               | 51.4                        | 53.7        |
| 20                   | 89         | 9         | 4         | 49               | 52.7                        | 55.1        |
| 22                   | 31         | 1         | 3         | 11               | 32.4                        | 35.5        |
| 23                   | 27         | 4         | 1         | 7                | 21.4                        | 22.2        |
| <b>Total/Overall</b> | <b>338</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>176</b>       | <b>49.9</b>                 | <b>52.1</b> |

\*The **Low success rate estimate** assumes those who did not submit their report hunted and were unsuccessful, whereas the **High success rate estimate** assumes those who did not submit a report did not hunt.

Figure 1. 2022 Wild Turkey Harvest by Day

