

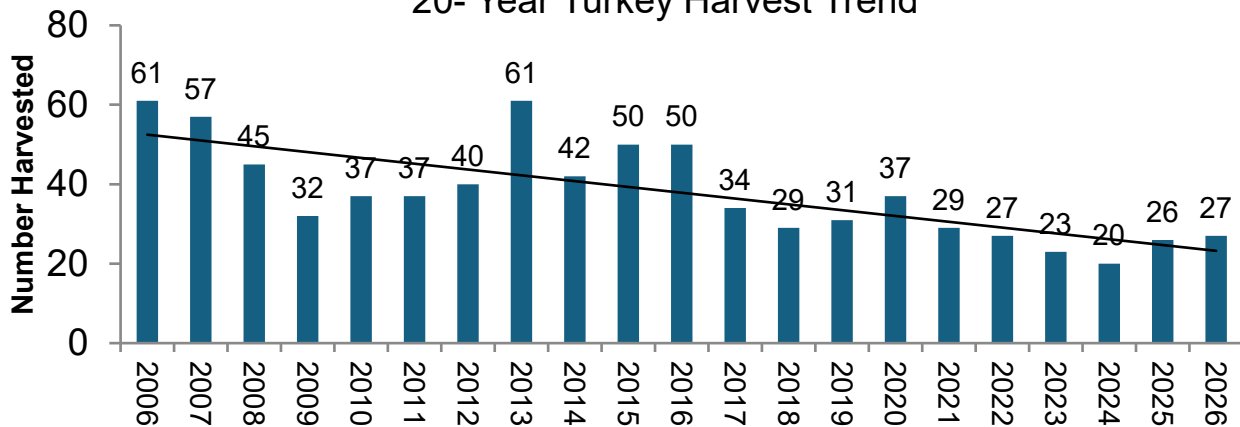


Fort Gordon Natural Resources Branch Wild Turkey FY 2026 Harvest and Monitoring Report

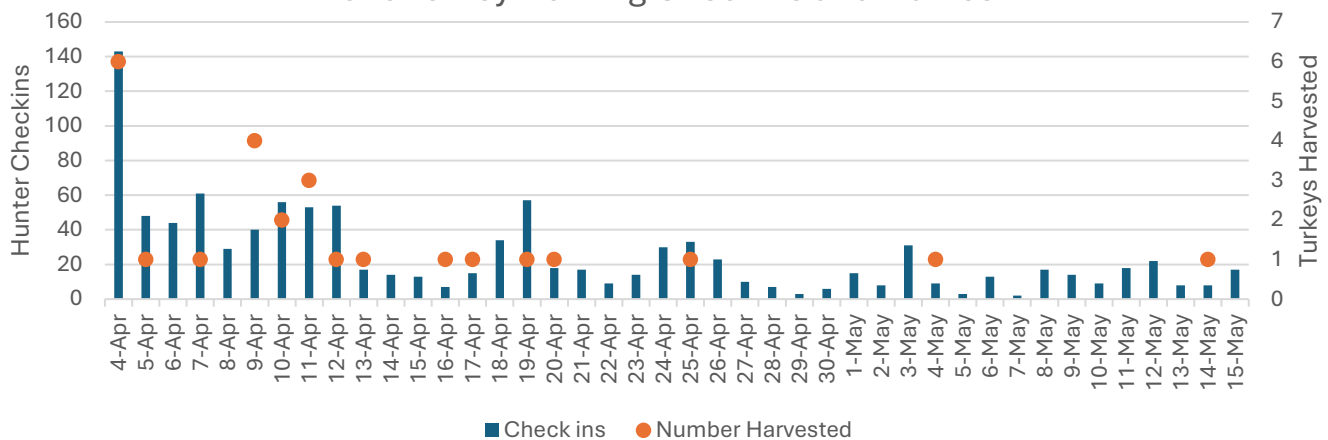
Harvest Summary

During the 2026 Turkey Hunting Season (April 4-May 15), 27 turkeys were harvested (3 jakes, 11%). 149 unique hunters checked in to turkey hunt via the iSportsman system. A total of 1,104 turkey hunting checkin events and 302 scouting checkin events were recorded during the season. Of these hunters, 22 harvested a turkey and 5 hunters harvested 2 turkeys. The success rate of hunters was 14.8%. The 20-year turkey harvest is showing a slow decline and this decline has been seen across the state.

20- Year Turkey Harvest Trend



2026 Turkey Hunting Checkins and Harvest



Wild Turkey Management

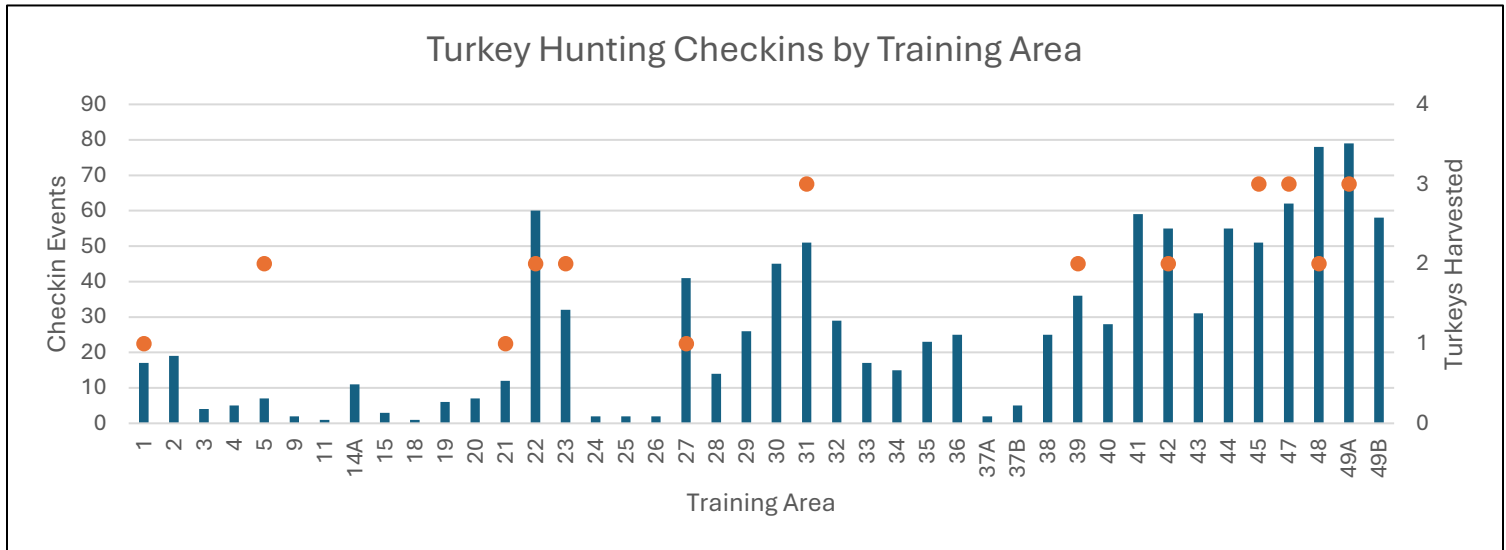
The delayed hunting season first implemented in 2022 gives more opportunity for the hens to be bred before hunting season begins. We will continue with the delayed season. Prescribed fire and managing for the longleaf ecosystem is also beneficial to the turkey. NRB also plants approx. 40 acres of chufa patches each year to supplement the native forage. We will continue to follow the guidance of the state on any future changes to turkey management, limits, and seasons.



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Training Area Usage

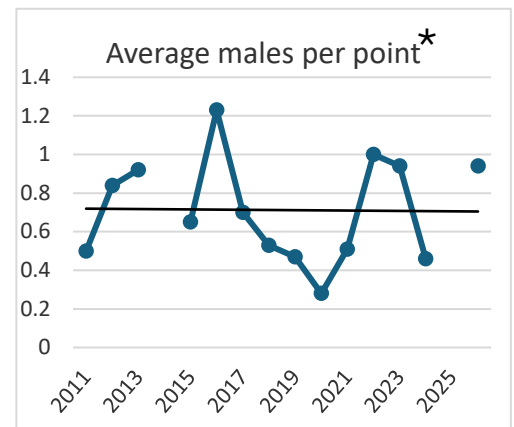
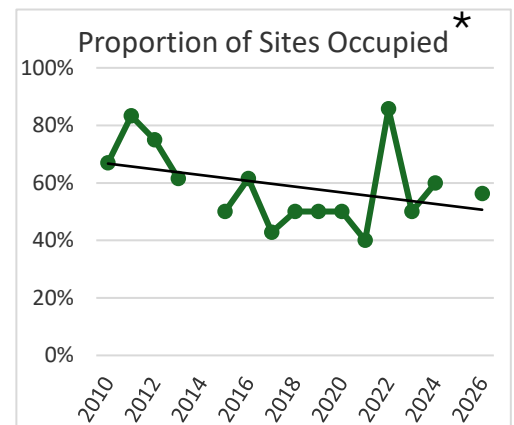
During the 2026 Turkey Hunting Season, the most hunted training areas were TA 22, 41, 47, 48, 49A and 49B. The most successful training areas for turkey hunting were TA 31, 45, 47 and 49A with 3 turkeys harvested per TA.



Wild Turkey Monitoring

Gobble counts were conducted in early March. A total of 16 points were surveyed across the installation. When population trends are compared across the last 16 years, the number of points where turkeys were heard has slowly declined, but the average number of males per point has remained steady. Based on these trends, we could infer that the population of turkeys is remaining steady, but they are occupying pockets of better habitat or areas of less human pressure and are not occupying all areas of the installation.

Hen/poult surveys will be conducted in the summer and will give us a better prediction of the Fort Gordon Wild Turkey population.



* Gap years=no surveys conducted due to hurricane/winter storm damage