

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Methods:

The principal methods used to document hunting/trapping effort and collect harvest data are through manned hunter check stations, permits issued from both the IDNR permit office and the individual site, annual registration and sign in/sign out boxes and thru on-line registration & reporting. A majority of these methods have existed on a large number of Illinois public land sites since inception of their respective hunting and trapping programs. Hunter survey questionnaires are periodically used by a few waterfowl sites where limited staff and other complications result in limited or no consistent hunting or trapping data collection. Data is submitted by site staff either monthly or annually for district wildlife biologist summary tabulation. The IDNR **ILCHECK** telephone and on-line check-in systems are utilized for white-tailed deer and wild turkey, providing more detailed harvest information from an increased number of public land sites.

Procedures:

Project personnel that collect hunting/trapping effort and harvest data for this report use four forms.

- ▶ **Hunter Harvest Survey (Forms A & B)** - These surveys are completed on a daily basis by hunters during the respective hunting season. It lists such information as the user's name, address, date, hours hunted and species harvested. These forms are then compiled on a monthly basis for submission to the site's district wildlife biologist. Several different styles of waterfowl data collection sheets are used by various sites - the waterfowl summary form B is a representative sample used by waterfowl sites.
- ▶ **Monthly Hunter Harvest Summary (Form C)** - This form is utilized by site staff to compile monthly hunting effort and harvest data. The sites list their name, region, year and month the data is compiled. Hunter trips are recorded by species for dove, deer, wild turkey and squirrels. Waterfowl hunting sites use a modified version of this form that lists duck and goose species. Hunter trips for individuals pursuing upland game species; rabbit, quail, woodcock, pheasant and other species are usually grouped.
- ▶ **2010- 2011 Hunting Effort and Harvest Report Summary - For Illinois Public Hunting Sites (Form D)** - This annual report form is compiled by each respective district wildlife biologist. The biologists tabulate each of the monthly report submissions (Form D), from 01 April 2010 through 31 March 2011, received from their public land sites. This form lists summary information that is used to compile the 2010-2011 ***Illinois Public Hunting Areas Report***.