



Trap, Transport & Transplant Permit Application Package (Valid for Rio Grande Wild Turkey Only) APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

This application package contains:

- (1) Applicant Information
- (2) Permit Application
- (3) Trap Site Information Form
- (4) Release Site Information Form

NEW APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Required to be submitted to TPWD Wildlife Biologist by the first business day in January:

- completed Trap Site Information Form(s)
 - completed Release Site Information Form(s)
-

Must be submitted:

- completed Permit Application
- \$750.00 per release site application processing fee (temporary checks are not acceptable)

All items should be submitted together for final approval. Incomplete final application packets will not be processed. Applications are processed in the order received. Complete applications received by November 15 are guaranteed to be processed within 45 days. **DO NOT include a copy of your Wildlife Management Plan with your application.**

- **An approved TPWD Wildlife Management Plan (WMP) is required for all release sites.** Wildlife Management Plans can be prepared by landowners, their agents, professional biologists, or TPWD personnel (as time allows). **The WMP must be approved by a TPWD Wildlife Biologist prior to submitting your application.** Release sites will be inspected by TPWD prior to permit issuance to determine if the native habitat on release sites can support additional turkey.
- **Trap Site Forms and Release Site Forms** must be approved by authorized TPWD Wildlife Biologist(s) prior to submission.

Send completed application packet to:
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Big Game Program - Wildlife Permits Office
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744



Trap, Transport & Transplant Permit Rio Grande Wild Turkey Applicant Information

This information page contains a summary of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) regulations concerning permits to Trap, Transport, and Transplant Game Animals and Game Birds as they pertain to Rio Grande Wild Turkey.

(Meleagris gallapavo intermedia)

PURPOSE OF THE PERMIT – Permits to trap, transport, and transplant Rio Grande Wild Turkeys may be issued to individuals for the purposes of wildlife management.

TRAPPING METHODS – Relocation operations may utilize one or more of the following trapping methods: (1) rocket net; (2) cannon net; (3) stationary drop net; or (4) walk-in trap.

CONDITIONS FOR PERMIT ISSUANCE – Applications for permits to relocate Rio Grande wild turkeys will be thoroughly reviewed on a case by case basis. All proposed release sites must have a current Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Wildlife Management Plan approved by a TPWD Wildlife Biologist. Applications may be denied if the proposed activity may detrimentally affect the population status on adjacent properties, if the proposed activities may detrimentally affect the resource, or if the proposed release site is outside of the suitable range of the Rio Grande wild turkey. All proposed relocation operations must comply with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission's Stocking Policy, which stipulates that prospective release sites shall have suitable natural habitat capable of sustaining the birds stocked.

PERMIT CONDITIONS – Rio Grande wild turkeys may only be relocated between October 1 and March 15. All persons named on a permit are permittees, and are therefore responsible for all activities conducted under the authority of the permit. At least one permittee must be present during each phase of a relocation operation. The Supervisory Permittee (permit applicant) or a sub-permittee must contact the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Law Enforcement Communications Center at (512) 389-4848 between 12 and 48 hours prior to each attempt to trap, transport, and release turkeys. Each trailer or other vehicle used to transport turkeys must be marked on the rear surface with the inscription "TTT". The inscription must be at least 6 inches tall and 3 inches wide. Permittees must make reasonable efforts to ensure safe and humane handling of trapped birds and to reduce human health and safety hazards in every stage of a relocation operation. Trap sites within incorporated areas and those which may pose a human health and safety hazard must be marked as such. Permittees are encouraged to mark all relocated Rio Grande turkeys for later recognition with appropriate patagial tags or leg bands. The Upland Game Bird Program will provide banding supplies in exchange for band data (sex, age and band number). Inquiries may be directed to Jason Hardin at (903) 322-2770. Rio Grande turkeys may not be sold, bartered, or otherwise exchanged for anything of value. Rio Grande turkeys may not be relocated into breeding facilities or enclosed pens. Additional conditions may be specified on the permit. Relocation operations should only be attempted by those with the expertise to safely and efficiently conduct the operation.

TRAP & RELEASE SITE INFORMATION FORMS – For each ranch where birds are to be trapped or released, the applicant must submit completed Trap Site Information Form(s) and Release Site Information Form(s) to the TPWD Wildlife Biologist by the first business day in January. The information submitted will be used by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to assess the current status of habitat, wildlife resources, and potential competition on ranches proposed for removal/addition of Rio Grande turkeys.

RELEASE SITE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN – An approved Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Wildlife Management Plan must be on file for each proposed release site. Landowners can prepare their own plan, or seek professional assistance. To obtain your TPWD Wildlife Biologist's contact information please call the Wildlife Division District Leader for your county. After clicking on the link below to select the appropriate county, the District Leader contact information appears on that page. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the Wildlife Permits office at (512) 389-8212 to obtain District Leader contact information.

[Find a Biologist by County](#)

FEES AND AMENDMENTS – The application processing fee for a Trap, Transport, and Transplant permit is \$750 per release site. The processing fee for amending an existing permit (adding trap sites, increasing the number of animals,

etc.) is \$30; however, additional release sites require an additional fee of \$750 per release site. **Application processing fees are not refundable.**

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE – A daily log of permitted activities must be maintained by the Supervisory Permittee. This log must be made available to Game Wardens upon request. A financial disclosure statement must be completed and signed by the owner (or full-time employee) of the trap site, the trapper, and the owner (or full-time employee) of the release site for each trap site/release site combination each time turkeys are transported. This statement must accompany each shipment of turkeys. An activity report which summarizes the relocation operation must be submitted, along with all financial disclosure statements, within 30 days following permit expiration.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS – An applicant for a Trap, Transport, and Transplant permit must follow these steps: **(1) complete and submit Trap Site and Release Site form(s) to the TPWD Wildlife Biologist by the first business day in January;** (2) complete and sign the application;(3) submit all forms and the application processing fee to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Complete applications received by November 15 are guaranteed to be processed within 45 days.

Please note: Trap Site Form(s) must be completed for each specific location where turkeys will be trapped (each form must be signed by the landowner or landowner's agent). Release Site Form(s) must be completed for each specific location where turkeys will be released (each form must be signed by the landowner or landowner's agent). **An approved Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Wildlife Management Plan must be on file for each release site.** Trap Site and Release Site forms may be approved in the field; contact your TPWD Wildlife Biologist for details.

FOR MORE INFORMATION – If you have additional questions regarding permits to Trap, Transport, and Transplant Game Animals and Game Birds, please contact Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at 1-800-792-1112 (an electronic menu system will answer the 800 phone line. Within the menu system, select Menu 5 [Wildlife], Choice 1 [Wildlife Information]).

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department maintains the information collected through this form. With few exceptions, you are entitled to be informed about the information we collect. Under Sections 552.021 and 552.023 of the Texas Government Code, you are also entitled to receive and review the information. Under Section 559.004, you are also entitled to have this information corrected.



Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Trap, Transport, and Transplant Permit Application

(Valid for Rio Grande Wild Turkey Only)

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION: (please print legibly)

Applicant Name: _____
*Social Security No.: _____
Driver's License No.: _____
Ranch/Business Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone Numbers with Area Codes:

Home: () _____
Ranch: () _____
Office: () _____
Mobile: () _____
Fax: () _____
Email: _____

2. TRAP & RELEASE SITE INFORMATION:

Number of ranches (sites) where turkey will be trapped: _____
Number of ranches (sites) where turkey will be released: _____
Number of turkey to be relocated: Total: _____
Adult Males: Anticipated sex and age composition: _____
Juvenile Males (Jakes): _____
Adult Females: _____
Juvenile Females: _____

3. TRAPPING METHODS:

The following trapping methods will be used:

- Rocket Net
- Cannon Net
- Drop Net
- Walk -In Trap

Turkey will be transported by:

- Truck/Trailer
- Other Specify: _____

Turkey will be transported in:

- Ventilated Cardboard Boxes
- Other Specify: _____

4. EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS: Briefly describe the permittee's and subpermittees' experience with trapping, handling, and relocating Rio Grande Turkeys.

* State law requires that applicants provide their Social Security number on all permit applications. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department may only release this information to agencies operating under the provisions of Parts A and D of Title IV of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sections 601-617 and 651-699).

5. SUB-PERMITTEES: Provide the required information for all individuals that will be authorized to conduct trapping, transporting, and transplanting activities. The Supervisory Permittee (permit applicant), or at least one individual named below must be present during all permitted activities. All permittees are responsible for activities conducted under the authority of the permit. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Subpermittee Name:	_____	Telephone Number with Area Code:	_____
Driver's License Number:	_____	*Social Security Number:	_____
Subpermittee Name:	_____	Telephone Number with Area Code:	_____
Driver's License Number:	_____	*Social Security Number:	_____
Subpermittee Name:	_____	Telephone Number with Area Code:	_____
Driver's License Number:	_____	*Social Security Number:	_____

6. TRAP SITE INFORMATION FORM(S): Submit a completed Trap Site Information Form for each ranch (site) where turkey will be trapped to the TPWD Wildlife Biologist by the first business day in January. Each of these forms must be signed by the landowner or an agent specifically designated by the landowner.

7. RELEASE SITE INFORMATION FORM(S): Submit a completed Release Site Information Form for each ranch (site) where turkey will be released to the TPWD Wildlife Biologist by the first business day in January. Each of these forms must be signed by the landowner or an agent specifically designated by the landowner.

8. RELEASE SITE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN: An approved Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Wildlife Management Plan must be on file for each release site. Release site Wildlife Management Plans must be approved by a TPWD Wildlife Biologist prior to application for a Trap, Transport, and Transplant permit. Do not submit copies of Wildlife Management Plans with this permit application.

9. APPLICATION PROCESSING FEE: Include a check or money order for **\$750 per release site made payable to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department**. This application processing fee **is not refundable**.

10. APPLICANT CERTIFICATION: The information provided on this application and any supplemental materials is true and correct. I understand that falsifying information on this application or supplemental materials will be cause for permit denial or revocation. I also agree that if a Trap, Transport, and Transplant permit is issued pursuant to this application I will abide by all Texas Parks and Wildlife Regulations, and all conditions specifically listed on the permit. I understand that turkeys captured and/or released pursuant to Texas Parks and Wildlife Regulations may not be sold or bartered. I further understand that all individuals named on this application and supplemental materials will be fully responsible for the disposition of all turkeys captured until they are released onto their approved release site.

Applicant Name (Print): _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date signed: _____

11. MAIL: Completed application, associated materials and a check or money order for **\$750.00 per release site** made payable to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (do not include a copy of your Wildlife Management Plan) to:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
 Big Game Program – Wildlife Permits Office
 4200 Smith School Road
 Austin, TX 78744

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED

* State law requires that applicants provide their Social Security number on all permit applications. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department may only release this information to agencies operating under the provisions of Parts A and D of Title IV of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sections 601-617 and 651-699).



Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Trap Site Information

Rio Grande Wild Turkey

(Supplement to Application for Trap, Transport, and Transplant Permit)

SUBMIT TO TPWD WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST BY THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY IN JANUARY

INSTRUCTIONS: A copy of this form must be completed for each ranch where Rio Grande wild turkeys are to be trapped. Completed forms must be submitted with the Trap, Transport, and Transplant Permit Application.

1. RANCH INFORMATION: (please print legibly)

Ranch Name:
Total Acreage:
Majority County:
Additional Counties:

Nearest City/Town:
Direction from Town:
Miles from Town:
On Highway/Road:

2. RANCH OWNERSHIP INFORMATION:

Owner Name:
Mailing Address:
City, State, Zip:

Telephone Numbers with Area Codes:
Home:
Business:
Ranch:
Mobile:

3. HABITAT INFORMATION: Describe the type of vegetation found on this ranch/pasture (e.g. mesquite, mixed brush, oak forest, etc.).

Blank lines for describing habitat information.

4. HARVEST HISTORY: Enter the number of Rio Grande wild turkeys harvested on this ranch during the last three seasons. Include the number of turkey taken 2 years ago, last year, and so far this year.

Table with 4 columns: Category, 2 years ago, last year, this season. Rows include Adult Males, Juvenile Males (Jakes), Adult Females, and Juvenile Females.

5. POPULATION MANAGEMENT: What management practices have been applied to the turkey population on this ranch and when were they applied (e.g. sport hunting, selective harvest, trapping, etc).

- Sport hunting
Selective harvest
Trapping
Disturbance (please describe below)

Blank lines for population management details.

6. EXOTICS: Are exotics kept on this ranch? If so, what species and how many of each species (e.g. Emu, Ostrich, etc.)?

7. RIO GRANDE WILD TURKEY TRAPPING INFORMATION:

Number of turkey to be trapped from this ranch: _____

Total: _____

Anticipated Sex/Age Composition:

Adult Males: _____
Juvenile Males (Jakes): _____

Adult Females: _____
Juvenile Females: _____

8. FIELD AND TURKEY PROGRAM APPROVAL: This form can be approved by a TPWD Wildlife Biologist. I approve the trapping activities specified in this application.

TPWD Wildlife Biologist Name: _____

Title: _____

District: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

9. LANDOWNER/AGENT CERTIFICATION:

By my signature, I certify that I am the landowner of the above described property or a specifically authorized agent for the landowner. I also certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and I authorize the removal of Rio Grande turkey from the property described in this form. I understand that falsifying information on this form will be cause for permit denial or revocation. I also understand that Rio Grande turkey captured pursuant to Texas Parks and Wildlife Regulations may not be sold or bartered; and that I am responsible for activities conducted under the authority of the permit.

Signature: _____ Owner Agent Date: _____



**Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Release Site Information
Rio Grande Wild Turkey**

(Supplemental to Application for Trap, Transport and Transplant Permit)

SUBMIT TO TPWD WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST BY THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY IN JANUARY

INSTRUCTIONS: A copy of this form must be completed for each ranch where Rio Grande wild turkeys are to be released. Completed forms must be submitted with the Trap, Transport, and Transplant Permit Application. Do not submit a copy of your approved Wildlife Management Plan with this application.

1. RANCH INFORMATION:

Ranch Name: _____
 Total Acreage: _____
 Majority County: _____
 Additional Counties: _____

Nearest City/Town: _____
 Direction from Town: _____
 Miles from Town: _____
 On Highway/Road: _____

Is this Ranch Surrounded by a High Fence?

(check one) YES NO

2. RANCH OWNERSHIP INFORMATION:

Owner Name: _____
 Mailing Address: _____

 City,State,Zip: _____

Telephone Numbers with Area Codes:

Home: () _____
 Business: () _____
 Ranch: () _____
 Mobile: () _____

3. WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN: A Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Wildlife Management Plan must be approved and on file for this release site to be approved.

Name of individual who prepared plan: _____
 Name of TPWD Wildlife Biologist who approved plan: _____

4. HABITAT MANAGEMENT: Identify habitat/wildlife management practices that have been applied to the release site. For each treatment, identify the number of acres treated and which year(s) the treatment was applied during the past 5 years.

Practice	Description	Acres Impacted	Year(s) and Season
Root Plow			
Roller Chopper/aerator			
Prescribed Fire			
Disking			
Dozing			
Grubbing			
Chaining			
Shredding			
Herbicide			
Invasive Control			
Exotic Control			
Clear Cut			
Seed Tree Cut			
Pole Planting			
Riparian Management			
Other			

Describe management practices (use back of this application if more room is needed): _____

5. EXOTICS: List species and numbers of exotic game animals present on this release site (Emu, Ostrich, etc.). If no exotics are present, write "none."

6. LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT PRACTICES:

Number of Livestock: Cattle: _____
 Sheep: _____
 Goats: _____
 Other: _____ Describe: _____
 Grazing System (select one): Continuous _____ Deferred _____

7. RIO GRANDE WILD TURKEY POPULATION MANAGEMENT AND SPECIAL PERMIT USE:

	Past Season			2 Years Ago			3 Years Ago		
	Gobbler	Jake	Female	Gobbler	Jake	Female	Gobbler	Jake	Female
Recommended Harvest:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Actual Recreational Harvest (Fall Season):	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Actual Recreational Harvest (Spring Season):	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trap, Transport and Transplant permits (Turkey Removed):	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trap, Transport and Transplant permits (Turkey Released):	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

8. CURRENT RIO GRANDE WILD TURKEY POPULATION SUMMARY: List information for the specific ranch where turkey are to be released. If turkey will be released into a specific pasture, list information for that pasture.

Current Rio Grande wild turkey density estimate: _____ acres per bird
 Adult Sex Ratio: _____ females per male
 Hen to Poult Ratio: _____ poult per hen
 How were these estimates obtained? (Roadside counts, etc.): _____
 When were these estimates obtained? (Specific date): _____

9. RIO GRANDE WILD TURKEY RELEASE INFORMATION:

Number of turkey to released into this ranch: _____ Total: _____
 Anticipated Sex/Age Composition:
 Adult Males: _____ Adult Females: _____
 Juvenile Males (Jakes): _____ Juvenile Females: _____

10. FIELD APPROVAL: This form can be approved by a TPWD Wildlife Biologist. I approve the release activities specified in this application.

TPWD Wildlife
Biologist Name: _____ Signature: _____
Title: _____ District: _____ Date: _____

11. LANDOWNER/AGENT CERTIFICATION:

By my signature, I certify that I am the landowner of the above described property or a specifically authorized agent for the landowner. I also certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that I authorize the release of Rio Grande turkey onto the property described in this form. I understand that falsifying information on this form will be cause for permit denial or revocation. I also understand that Rio Grande turkey captured pursuant to Texas Parks and Wildlife Regulations may not be sold or bartered; and that I am responsible for activities conducted under the authority of the permit.

Signature: _____ Owner Agent Date: _____

NOTES: Turkeys should not be held for more than three days. Do not release turkeys after dark. TPWD recommends that Rio Grande Wild Turkeys be released within one hour of sunset and within view of roosting habitat. Do not disturb the release site for several days post-release to prevent disturbing the birds or causing the birds leave the area. Do not disturb roosts while birds are present (mornings and evenings).

If released turkeys are not self-sustaining after two releases, TPWD will not allow additional turkeys to be released into the same area without a strict TPWD evaluation of why the restocking failed. Additional stockings may be allowed on a case-by-case basis dependent on the TPWD evaluation.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department recommends not trapping or relocating Rio Grande Wild Turkeys from or to sites with less than 5,000 acres of habitat (10,000 acres is preferred). Trap and Release sites will be chosen at the discretion of the TPWD Wildlife Biologist following site evaluations.

A harvest moratorium will be placed on all relocated turkeys for a minimum of three years. At that time TPWD Wildlife Biologists will make a determination as to whether birds may be hunted.