



Wild Turkeys Don't Need Your Handouts!

Feeding wild turkeys is asking for trouble – not only for you, but for your neighbors as well. Prevent problems by discouraging wild turkeys from becoming too comfortable on your property.

- If turkeys begin feeding under hanging bird feeders, remove the feeders until the turkeys leave the area.
- If turkeys are causing problems in your yard, install motion-detecting sprinklers.
- Wild turkeys typically will not enter yards with dogs.
- If confronted by a wild turkey that has lost its fear of humans, an open umbrella may help steer it out of your path.
- Depredation permits are required to kill wild turkeys that are causing property damage. To get a depredation permit, contact your local Department of Fish & Wildlife office.

Please respect and protect wild animals.
Keep them wild.

www.keepmewild.org

For More Information

Contact the California Department of Fish and Game

Northern Region
Redding – (530) 225-2300

North Central Region
Rancho Cordova – (916) 358-2900

Bay Delta Region
Napa – (707) 944-5500

Central Region
Fresno – (559) 243-4005 ext. 151

South Coast Region
San Diego – (858) 467-4201

Inland Deserts Region
Ontario – (909) 484-0167

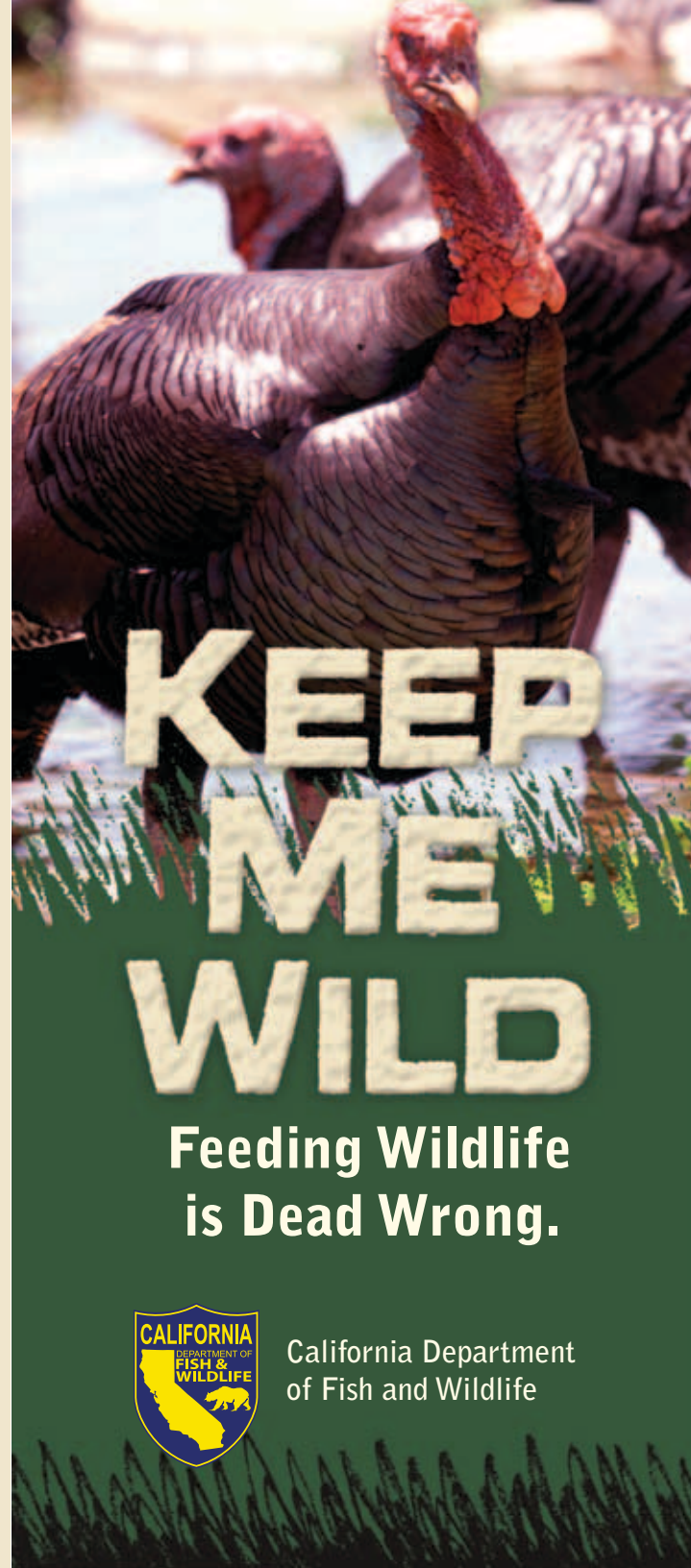
Sacramento Headquarters - (916) 322-8911

To order more pamphlets, please call (916) 322-8911 or email publications@wildlife.ca.gov.

Alternate communication methods are available upon request. If reasonable accommodation is needed, contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife, (916) 322-8911 or the California Relay Service serving deaf and hearing-impaired residents using TTY/TDD phones, and speech-impaired callers, at (800) 735-2929.



A campaign for all wild animals.



KEEP ME WILD

Feeding Wildlife is Dead Wrong.



California Department
of Fish and Wildlife

Feeding Wild Turkeys Will Bring Problems Home to Roost.

California's wild turkeys now occupy about a quarter of our state, and are a highly valued upland game bird. Many Californians also enjoy watching them.

Some homeowners can't resist feeding them. That's when trouble begins. A few stray visitors soon become a flock of permanent residents that have lost their natural fear of humans.

Adult wild turkeys, which can weigh upwards of 20 pounds, can destroy flowers and vegetable gardens, leave their droppings on patios and decks, and roost on cars, scratching the paint.

Turkeys can become aggressive during the breeding season, occasionally even charging, threatening, and acting aggressively toward people.

Relocating nuisance wild turkeys is expensive and impractical. But preventing conflicts is simple.

Wild turkeys don't need your handouts.

They need your respect.



Controlling Wild Turkey Populations

California's wild turkey populations are healthy and growing. Hunting turkeys helps to control their populations and maintain their natural wariness of people. Where safe and legal, hunt wild turkeys on your property, or allow others to hunt them.

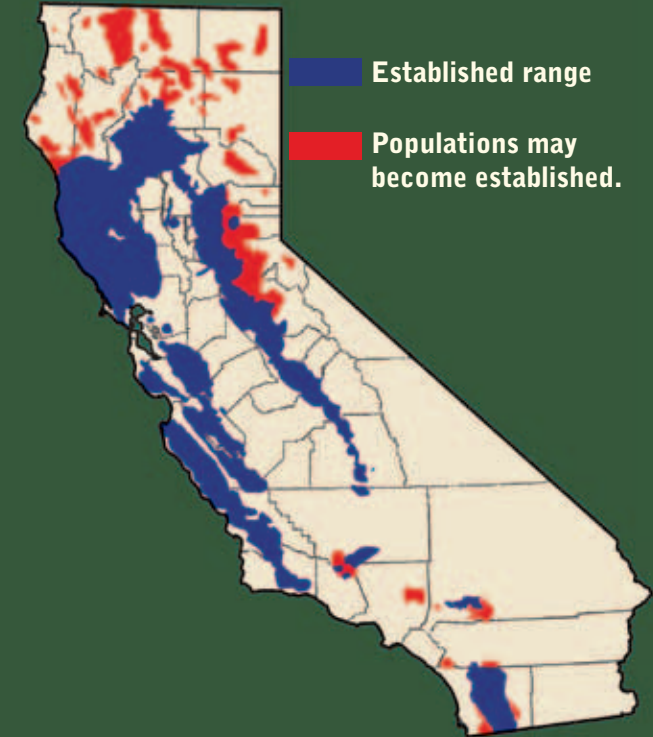
- Spring season: limit is three gobblers per hunter
- Fall season: limit is one turkey (gobbler or hen) per hunter
- A hunting license and upland game bird stamp are required
- Legal methods of take include shotgun, archery equipment, or air rifle
- Hunting regulations are available at www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/
- Homeowners experiencing property damage from wild turkeys may obtain a depredation permit from the local CDFW office.



Feeding wild turkeys can cause major problems for you and your neighbors.



Wild turkeys are well established in about 29,000 square miles of California.



You Can Help Wildlife

Please visit www.keepmewild.org for downloadable posters, newspaper advertisements and other Keep Me Wild™ materials.