



**Ontario Federation of Agriculture**

**Ontario AgriCentre**

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October 20, 2016

Public Input Coordinator  
Species at Risk and Biodiversity Protection Section  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Natural Resources Conservation Branch  
300 Water Street  
Peterborough, ON  
K9J 8M5

To Whom it may concern;

RE: EBR Registry Number 012-8597 Amendments to Ontario Regulation 665/98 (Hunting) and Ontario Regulation 670/98 (Open Seasons) made under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act to enhance and modernize Ontario's wild turkey hunting program.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is Canada's largest voluntary general farm organization, representing more than 36,000 farm family businesses across Ontario. These farm businesses form the backbone of a robust food system and rural communities with the potential to drive the Ontario economy forward.

- 1) Remove the requirement for a separate wild turkey education course (course content will be incorporated into the broader Ontario Hunter Education Program).

OFA does not oppose this proposal.

- 2) Introduce a spring wild turkey hunting season in WMU 36 and a fall wild turkey season in WMU 94.

OFA fully supports this expansion of opportunities to hunt wild turkeys through two additional areas.

- 3) Introduce a fall bows-only season from October 1-31 in all WMUs that have a fall wild turkey season.

OFA fully supports this expansion of opportunities to hunt wild turkeys through a fall bows-only season.

- 4) Standardize the opening of the spring wild turkey season to be April 25<sup>th</sup> of each year.

OFA offers no comments on this proposed regulatory change.



- 5) Allow shot size number 7 to be used for wild turkey hunting in addition to shot size numbers 4, 5 and 6.

OFA offers no comments on this proposed regulatory change.

- 6) Clarify through regulation the minimum bow requirements for hunting wild turkey.

OFA offers no comments on this proposed regulatory change.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture welcomes this opportunity to provide its perspective on the Amendments to Ontario Regulation 665/98 (Hunting) and Ontario Regulation 670/98 (Open Seasons) made under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act to enhance and modernize Ontario's wild turkey hunting program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don McCabe', is positioned above the typed name.

Don McCabe  
OFA President

DM/pj

cc: Hon. Kathryn McGarry; Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Hon. Jeff Leal; Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
OFA Board of Directors