



Wild turkey...

Tips for hunting turkeys in South Texas...

BREYANA SEGURA

*Find roost areas, likely turkey travel routes this gives a hunter the chance to call and work birds.

*Wear the right color camo. South Texas is dry, brown and dusty, so light-colored “brush” or “western” patterns are called for.

*Be aware of snakes. Snake boots are a good weapon to have.

*Have a variety of calls available. Texas is a good place for loud calling as the terrain is wide open.

*Have a GPS available. Charting unfamiliar territory can get confusing.

*Be prepared for the heat. South Texas and heat just goes together with turkey season. Wear cool, light clothing and pack water in your hunting pack.

Fried Wild Turkey Tenders

Ingredients:

- Wild turkey
- 5 cups flour
- 2 tsp salt
- 2 tsp pepper
- 1 bottle of hot sauce (heat and brand can vary)



Instructions:

Cut the turkey into bite size pieces. Marinate in hot sauce overnight. Mix with flour, salt and pepper while the grease is warming up. Once grease is hot drop coated turkey pieces in and cook until golden brown.

Texas Dove hunting season outlook is promising:

Conditions ripe for prime Texas dove hunting

A hot, dry landscape heading into the season can concentrate dove around feeding and watering areas, making for excellent hunting, according to wildlife biologists with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

In addition to prime conditions heading into the opener, dove populations have thrived this year thanks to the amount and timing of spring rains across most of the state that kicked habitat into high gear for dove breeding season.

“With the abundant highly-preferred dove foods available on the landscape this year, we’re seeing excellent production,” said Owen Fitzsimmons, TPWD dove program leader. “White-

winged dove production, in particular, has been very high in the southern half of the state. Plus, many of the states to the north had similar spring habitat

conditions, which should result in a strong influx of migrant birds for Texas later in the season. I’m excited about the prospects this season, it should be fantastic.”

Dove hunting is huge in Texas, with a deep culture that spans generations. Each fall, more than 300,000 Texas hunters take to the field where they harvest nearly one third of all mourning doves

taken nationwide each year — on average an estimated 10 million birds — far more than any other state. While those statistics may appear

staggering, consider Texas supports breeding populations of over 34 million mourning and 10 million white-winged doves, and those numbers rise even higher during the fall when birds from northern latitudes funnel south.

The regular dove season in the North Zone runs September 1-November 12 and resumes December 20-January 5, 2020. The

regular season in the Central Zone is September 1-November 3, then resumes December 20-January 14, 2020. The regular season in the South Zone is September 14-November 3 and December 20-January 23, 2020. The Special White-Winged Dove Days in the South Zone are September 1-2 and 7-8.

South Zone hunters should also be sure to double-check their calendars this year for what is an unfamiliar Saturday start also due to calendar shift and federal restrictions on opening dates that prohibit starting the South Zone season prior to September 14.

“Over the years, TPWD has worked very hard to open up more of September to

(See CONDITIONS, Page 20)

2019-20 DOVE SEASON CALENDAR

North Zone: Sept. 1-Nov. 12 & Dec. 20-Jan. 5, 2020

Central Zone: Sept. 1-Nov. 3 & Dec. 20-Jan. 14, 2020

South Zone: Sept. 14-Nov. 3 & Dec. 20-Jan. 23, 2020