

# Forest Action Network

## FAN

Mid-Atlantic Southern Appalachian Region

06/30/11



*Late grouse nest or possible re-nest? McKean Co. PA. 10 June 2011*

*Welcome to the first FAN of mine (Linda D. Ordiway)! Some of you I have met at banquets, field days, project tours, others solely through e-mail or phone conversations. There are even a few out there I have worked with in the past or have known for many years while wearing a different hat, but the same boots. I have thoroughly enjoyed these first few months trying to traverse our region and the one common factor that makes the miles shorter is the contagious nature of the enthusiasm of the RGS volunteers. I thank you for that and look forward to expanding upon the work of Mark Banker in creating and improving habitat for ruffed grouse and American woodcock in the Mid-Atlantic and Southern Appalachian Region.*

### **RGS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Publication Award!**

The 50th anniversary publication was awarded a 2011 Grand Award from Awards for Publication Excellence (APEX). You can read more about it here:

[www.apexawards.com/apex2011grandawardcomments.htm](http://www.apexawards.com/apex2011grandawardcomments.htm). Our published comment from the judges says, "Top-drawer coffee table material. The photo spreads, illustrations and type all blend together to create a visual feast." These are still available at [www.ruffedgrousesociety.org](http://www.ruffedgrousesociety.org)

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#### VIRGINIA

##### **Forest Plan Review: George Washington National Forest (GWNF)**

Final public comments are asked for submission by 09/01/2011. Many of you have already been active in this process. Focus your attention on the alternatives in this large document if you are relatively unfamiliar with the amount of material provided in them. As this deadline approaches I will provide you with bullets of topics critical to the mission of RGS.

[http://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet!/ut/p/c5/04\\_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3gDfxMDT8MwRydLA1cj72DTUE8TAwgAykeaxRtBeY4WBv4eHmF-YT4GMHn8usNB9uHXDzYBB3A00PfyM9N1S\\_ljTDIMnFUBADW0rdA/dl3/d3/L2dJQSEvUUt3QS9ZQnZ3LzZfMjAwMDAwMDBBODBPSEhWTjNMDAwMDAwMDA!/?navtype=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&cid=stelprdb5295538&navid=091000000000000&pnavid=null&ss=110808&position=Not%20Yet%20Determined.Html&ttype=detail&pname=George%20Washington](http://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet!/ut/p/c5/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3gDfxMDT8MwRydLA1cj72DTUE8TAwgAykeaxRtBeY4WBv4eHmF-YT4GMHn8usNB9uHXDzYBB3A00PfyM9N1S_ljTDIMnFUBADW0rdA/dl3/d3/L2dJQSEvUUt3QS9ZQnZ3LzZfMjAwMDAwMDBBODBPSEhWTjNMDAwMDAwMDA!/?navtype=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&cid=stelprdb5295538&navid=091000000000000&pnavid=null&ss=110808&position=Not%20Yet%20Determined.Html&ttype=detail&pname=George%20Washington) If this link doesn't work due to its length this will take you to the same page - <http://tinyurl.com/69wv3p7>.

#### PENNSYLVANIA – See also *FAN Supplement July 30, 2011*

##### **GAME COMMISSION SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON RUFFED GROUSE PLAN**

HARRISBURG – The Pennsylvania Game Commission is seeking public input on a draft ruffed grouse management plan, which can be reviewed on the agency's website ([www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us)) by clicking on the "Draft Grouse Management Plan" icon under the large photo in the center of the homepage.

Public comments on the agency's ruffed grouse management plan will be accepted until Sept. 1, via the website or by mail to: Ruffed Grouse Management Plan, Pennsylvania Game Commission, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797.

The overall goal of the ruffed grouse management plan, drafted by staff of the agency's Game Bird Section, is to increase grouse populations for hunting and viewing by improving the condition and distribution of young forest habitats in Pennsylvania, and to support the implementation of the national Ruffed Grouse Conservation Plan.

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#### North Carolina

2011 Drumming Survey report from John Wooding Small Game Biologist NCWRC provided the following summary information by ranger district. He was still rechecking some of the numbers for accuracy but felt confident in the big picture. I have only included 2010 for short-term comparison.

Year	Appalachian	Cheoah	Grandfather	Nantahala	Pisgah	Tusquitee
2010	16	5	2	28	8	12
2011	37	24	1	22	14	14
2010	23	5	3	31	12	14
2011	53	28	1	32	22	18
2010	20	11	4	22	6	7
2011	15	6	3	12	4	4
2010	7.1%	6.8%	2.1%	15.7%	16.8%	14.8%
2011	16.4%	32.4%	1.0%	14.0%	18.9%	17.3%

**Number of grouse drumming**  
**Number of drums**  
**Number of grouse sighted**  
**% stations with drumming (number of stations sampled remained constant)**

#### CONSOL Energy

Visit <http://www.timberdoodle.org/node/101> to see the article written by Chuck Fergus regarding RGS partnership with CONSOL Energy among other conservation agencies and organizations. This partnership was initiated largely on the efforts of our previous regional biologist Mark Banker. Pictures of recent timber harvests in the next FAN...

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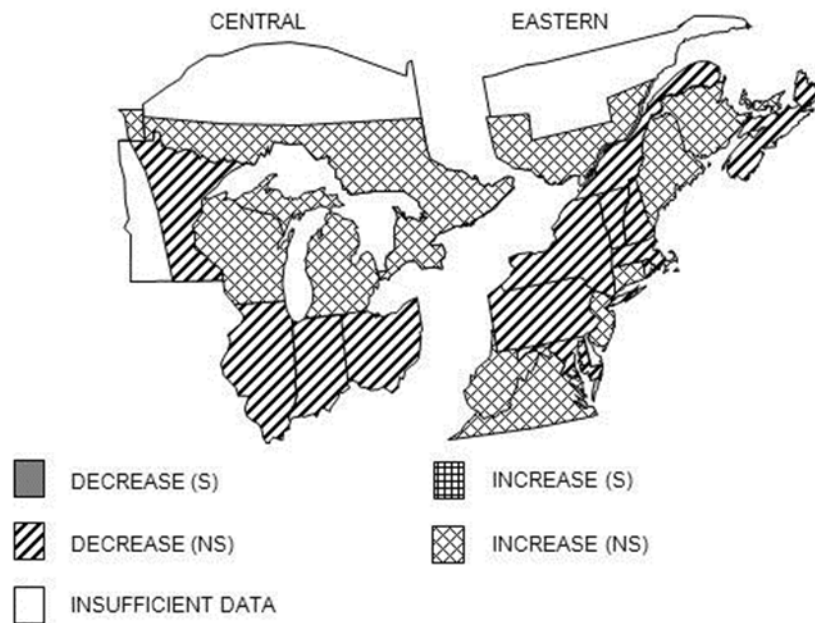
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### American Woodcock Population Status Report

Cooper, T.R., and K. Parker. 2011. American woodcock population status, 2011. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, Maryland. 17 pp. The complete report in PDF format may be obtained from the Population Status Reports section at the bottom of the RGS website American Woodcock Facts page: <http://www.ruffedgrousesociety.org/Woodcock-Facts>.



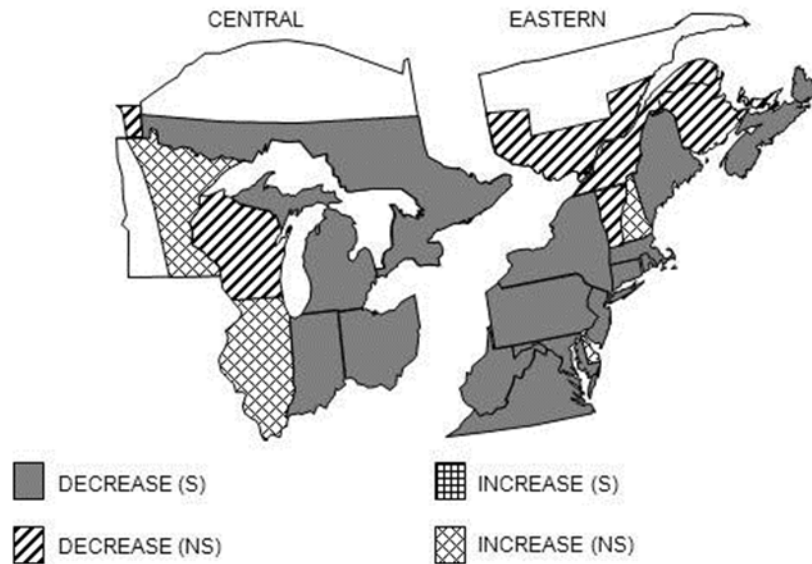
**Fig. 2.** Short-term trends in the number of American woodcock heard on the Singing-ground Survey, 2010-2011, as determined by the hierarchical modeling method. A significant trend (S) does not include zero in the 95% credible interval, while a non-significant (NS) trend does include zero.

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**Fig. 3.** Long-term trends in the number of American woodcock heard on the Singing-ground Survey, 1968-2011, as determined by the hierarchical modeling method. A significant trend (S) does not include zero in the 95% credible interval, while a non-significant (NS) trend does include zero.

*The Ruffed Grouse Society is the one international wildlife conservation organization dedicated to promoting conditions suitable for ruffed grouse, American woodcock and related wildlife to sustain our sport hunting tradition and outdoor heritage. For information on the Ruffed Grouse Society, please call 888-564-6747 or check out the RGS website at [www.ruffedgrousesociety.org](http://www.ruffedgrousesociety.org).*

Feel free to contact me at any time



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