EFFECT OF FIELD TRIALS ON NORTHERN BOBWHITE SURVIVAL AND HUNT QUALITY ON DIXIE PLANTATION

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INTRODUCTION


• EFFECTS OF FIELD TRIALS: Dimmick and Yoho (1972), Wiseman (1972), Kreh (1997)
1937
CONTINENTAL
OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP
2017 CONTINENTAL OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP
DIXIE PLANTATION OBJECTIVES

• HIGH WILD BOBWHITE POPULATION FOR HUNTING AND FIELD TRIALS

• PROTECT ECOLOGICAL, CULTURAL, AND HISTORICAL VALUES

• RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
DIXIE PLANTATION
RESEARCH/MONITORING

*QUAIL TELEMETRY
  Demographics
  New Ground Effect
  Cotton
  Field Trials

• TRANSLOCATION

• MONITORING
  Quail Census
  Cotton Rats
  Hawk Counts
  Predator Index

• Herpfest
• Songbird Survey
• Native Groundcover
EDUCATION/OUTREACH
WILD QUAIL HUNTING
METHODS

RADIO-TELEMETRY
DIXIE AND TALL TIMBERS
20 COVEYS EACH
MONITORED 2-4X WEEKLY

HORSEBACK HUNTING
DIXIE EMPLOYEE PRESENT
3 HOUR HALF DAY
COVEYS SEEN, POINTED, & SHOTS FIRED RECORDED

FIELD TRIAL DISTURBANCE
2 WEEKS IN JANUARY
NO BIRDS SHOT - REPEATED DISTURBANCE OF SAME COURSES

STATS
KM SURVIVAL ESTIMATED COMPARED 2 WEEK INTERVALS BEFORE, DURING, AFTER
MEAN, SE, 95% C.I. HUNT QUALITY
RESULTS

- 570 RADIO-TAGGED BIRDS
- 133 HALF DAY HUNTS (78 BEFORE / 55 AFTER)
KM SURVIVAL (2 WEEK INTERVALS)

2015 2016 COMBINED

BEFORE DURING AFTER
HUNTING SUCCESS
COVEYS POINTED

BEFORE

AFTER
DISCUSSION & MGMT IMPLICATIONS

• LITTLE TO NO EFFECT ON SURVIVAL

• NO NEGATIVE EFFECTS ON HUNT QUALITY

• FIELD TRIALS AND HUNTING CAN CO-EXIST