National Quail Symposium Proceedings

Volume 8 Article 92

2017

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# EVALUATION OF POPULATION INDICES AND ESTIMATORS FOR SCALED QUAIL IN THE ROLLING PLAINS OF TEXAS

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## ABSTRACT

Accurate and precise population indices and estimators are important to gain reliable knowledge and make appropriate management decisions. Indices and estimators for scaled quail (*Callipepla squamata*), however, have not been evaluated thoroughly. Our objectives are to compare relationships among 8 years of roadside counts, spring call counts, and mark-recapture data obtained from the Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch in Fisher County, TX, USA. Furthermore, we assess the efficacy of distance-based helicopter surveys as a method for scaled quail density estimates as compared to mark-recapture estimates for 2016–2017.

***Citation:*** Kubečka, B. W., J. Edwards, F. Hernández, and D. Rollins. 2017. Evaluation of population indices and estimators for scaled quail in the Rolling Plains of Texas**.** National Quail Symposium Proceedings 8:357.

***Key words:*** scaled quail, *Callipepla squamata,* population indices, mark-recapture, density estimates

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