



# Quail VII: National Quail Symposia Series

***The Arizona Game and Fish Department hosted Quail VII, the Seventh National Quail Symposium, in Tucson, January 9-12, 2012. This technical meeting and published, scientific peer-reviewed proceedings, are part of the National Quail Symposia Series (Quail Series), conducted every 5-10 years at locations around the country (1972 and 1982 in Oklahoma, 1992 in Kansas City, 1997 in Florida, 2002 in Texas and 2006 in Georgia.***

In 2010, permanent management of the Quail Series was undertaken by the Research Subcommittee of the National Bobwhite Technical Committee (NBTC), and as such it is a service provided to all professional quail enthusiasts by NBTC/NBCI.

Quail VII participants have shared their experience in Tucson—check out what they are saying:

- Nick Prough, “QUWF Chief Wildlife Biologist Attends and Participates in Quail VII National Symposium,” January 2012 “Whistle Call” newsletter, page 9, QUWF
- Max Alleger, MDC Grassland Bird Coordinator, “Quail VII National Symposium,” Spring 2012 Covey Headquarters Newsletter, Covey-

Headquarters-Newsletter

- Katherine S. Miller, M.S. CKWRI, “My Perspective on Quail VII,” CKWRI Quail eNews - March/April 2012, CKWRI E News List
- Tom Dailey, “NBCI Co-hosts Quail VII, the ‘Consumer Reports’ of the Quail World,” Summer 2012 edition, Upland Almanac (have to be a subscriber or purchase individual edition)

The meeting featured 76 volunteered abstracts (presentations and posters—a record number for the Quail Series) and invited presentations were given by leading conservationists, including the directors of Arizona’s and Kentucky’s state wildlife agencies, Larry Voyles and Dr. Jon Gasset (available on NBCI’s YouTube channel), respectively; Katharine Armstrong, appointed to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission by Governor Bush in 1999 and selected by Governor Perry as the first woman to lead the Commission (currently chair of several organizations and companies); Bollenbach-

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endowed chair, Dr. Fred Guthery, Oklahoma State University; Dave Brown, University of Arizona; Dr. James Grand, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Auburn University; and Dr. Leonard Brennan, C. C. “Charlie” Winn Endowed Chair for Quail Research, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M University.

Quail VII topics included the National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative and the Western Quail Management Plan, the near extinction of the masked bobwhite, translocation of mountain quail and northern bobwhite, phylogeography of scaled quail and bobwhites (northern bobwhite, Yucatán bobwhite, spot-bellied bobwhite and crested bobwhite), hybridization of Gambel’s and California quail, ecology, research and management of Mearns’ quail. Other subjects included nutrition, arthropods, exotic grasses, Conservation Reserve Program, Surrogator®, predation, parasites, survival, reproduction, thermoregulation, harvest prescriptions, climate change, economics, politics, conservation planning, attitudes of private landowners toward quail per se and habitat management.

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Arizona’s stellar hosting of the meeting included a reception at Safari Club International headquarters, an abundance of southwestern cuisine, field trips to habitats of four species of quail, including the facilities of the last remaining endangered masked bobwhite. NBCI/NBTC are indebted to Arizona Game and Fish Department’s Director Larry Voyles, Quail VII Program



*Dr. Jon Gassett, chair of the NBCI Management Board and commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources*

Chair Mike Rabe, and staffers Johnathan O’Dell, Kirby Bristow, Connie Weise and Ron Day, and Arizona-based sponsors including Safari Club International and The Wildlife Society.

A long-standing highlight of the Quail Series is recognition of outstanding contributions to quail conservation. Dr. Lenny Brennan recognized lifetime contributions by John Roseberry, Fred Guthery, Dave Brown, Walter Rosene (in memoriam) and John Crawford (in memoriam).

The proceedings will be published by early 2013, due largely to the editorial leadership of Clait Braun. Non-registrants will have the opportunity this fall to pre-order the proceedings. The proceedings is made possible by generous contributions by the National Wild Turkey Federation, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy, Texas Tech Quail Tech Alliance, Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch

and National Bobwhite Technical Committee. In the meantime, Quail VII abstracts and presentations are available now at [www.bringbackbobwhites.org](http://www.bringbackbobwhites.org).

Begin planning now for Quail VIII in 2017, where the focus will be progress, success and ‘lessons learned’ from implementation of the National Bobwhite and Western quail plans. Dr. Pat Keyser, Center for Native Grassland Management, University of Tennessee, graciously agreed to host Quail VIII, and most people are thinking “Music City.”