

2018 Area 2 Envirothon - Wildlife

1. Consult Prop Station #1. Please identify this carnivorous furbearer, *Taxidea taxus*. This species goes largely unnoticed due to its secretive and mostly nocturnal nature amongst the fields and pastures it calls home. A road-killed specimen was collected only minutes from this eco-station in 2003. In 2016, a large male was also collected in neighboring Lorain County after being struck by a car. Due to a low population size in Ohio, it is considered a Species of Concern.
 - A. American beaver
 - B. Wolverine
 - C. Ermine/short-tailed weasel
 - D. American badger**
2. Ohio has several species of waterfowl that nest in the state. Depending on the species, various techniques are used to increase their carrying capacity or nesting success. One wildlife management technique that has been used very successfully across Ohio has been the erection of wood duck boxes and their subsequent utilization by wood ducks. Ohio does have another species of waterfowl that is also a cavity nester and commonly uses wood duck boxes to nest. What is that species?
 - A. Ruddy duck
 - B. Hooded merganser**
 - C. Gadwall
 - D. Blue-winged teal
3. What federal act was passed into law in 1950 which placed a federal tax on fishing equipment for fisheries management and restoration projects?
 - A. The Dingle - Johnson Act**
 - B. The Pittman - Richardson Act
 - C. The Lacy Act
 - D. The Pittman - Robertson Act
4. What is the name of the fur covering a mammal?
 - A. Calcar
 - B. Dewlap
 - C. Pelage**
 - D. Plumage
5. White-tailed deer contract various diseases that are capable of harming and in some cases killing them. Recently a progressive, fatal, degenerative disease has made its way into eastern populations of both wild and captive herds of white-tailed deer. What is the name of the disease that was first detected in deer in northeast Colorado in 1967?
 - A. Conjunctivitis
 - B. Hoof and mouth disease
 - C. Epizootic hemorrhagic disease
 - D. Chronic wasting disease**

6. Glochidia are an important phase in the life cycle of a(n):
- A. Aquatic insect
 - B. Freshwater mussel**
 - C. Juvenile fish
 - D. Crayfish
7. Delayed implantation takes place when the embryo does not plant immediately following fertilization, but remains in a state of suspended growth or diapause. A diapause allows for birth to occur during the most favorable conditions. Which native, wild mammalian species below is associated with delayed implantation?
- A. Gray fox
 - B. Black bear**
 - C. Bobcat
 - D. Fox squirrel
8. What forest-edge species of bird sleeps together in a tight circle facing outward for protection and warmth? This formation is called a rosette.
- A. Northern bobwhite quail**
 - B. Loggerhead shrike
 - C. Brown thrasher
 - D. Ruffed grouse
9. A rare member of the order Chiroptera can be sighted in forests and open habitats such as river corridors and wetlands while feeding on insects. This insectivore is rarely found in caves, but instead uses trees for roosting. Which of the species below would fit this description?
- A. Streamside salamander
 - B. Little brown bat**
 - C. Eastern screech owl
 - D. Purple martin
10. Many wildlife species need dense shrubby/woody escape cover on a daily basis. Without this habitat component many wildlife species will be absent. Most field edges are abrupt changes from grass or crops to mature trees. Which of the following methods is used to create woody escape cover along woodland edges and fencerows and creates a transition zone of shrubs, vines, and herbaceous vegetation between cropland or grassland and wooded area?
- A. Border dropping
 - B. Edge feathering**
 - C. Snag creation
 - D. Harvest monitoring

11. Many woodland animals depend upon natural cavities or hollows for nesting and roosting sites. Which of the following woodland species is NOT considered a secondary cavity user?
- A. Black-capped chickadee
 - B. **Common flicker**
 - C. Gray squirrel
 - D. Raccoon
12. Some wildlife species, like the white-tailed deer for example, are primarily active at dawn and dusk. The term for is:
- A. Diurnal
 - B. **Crepuscular**
 - C. Biennial
 - D. Nocturnal
13. Consult Prop Station #13. Once extirpated from the Buckeye State, this creature is making quite a comeback. Ohio reports of this solitary and elusive species, *Lynx rufus*, have been growing in the last decade so much so that it was removed from the state threatened list in 2014. Now, sightings have been verified in over half of Ohio's 88 counties. Use the prop to identify the correct carnivore found below.
- A. Canada lynx
 - B. Gray fox
 - C. **Bobcat**
 - D. Mountain lion
14. Which bird of prey listed below winters in Ohio and is commonly observed flying low to the ground over open fields with its wings held in the shape of a shallow "V" like a vulture?
- A. American kestrel
 - B. Cooper's hawk
 - C. **Northern harrier**
 - D. Red-tailed hawk
15. Which native tree species, found in and around this eco-station, provides a hard mast food source for wildlife? This highly prized species, *Fagus grandifolia*, is a very important food and shelter source for many different species of wildlife including squirrels, grouse, bear, raccoons, and deer. Humans find this species valuable as well; it has been used for many years in furniture and flooring and to improve aesthetics around parks and homes. Unlike many other species, this tree's bark remains smooth even as the tree matures.
- A. Green ash
 - B. American lotus
 - C. Flowering dogwood
 - D. **American beech**

16. Known to many anglers as the “silver bullet,” this species of fish only stays its notable silvery color for a short time. This fish, *Oncorhynchus mykiss*, can measure as long as 30-inches or more and weigh over 10 pounds! While it is not native to Ohio, it is unarguably one of Ohio’s most popular game fish sought by anglers visiting Lake Erie and its northeast Ohio tributaries.
- A. Brook trout
 - B. Paddlefish
 - C. **Steelhead**
 - D. Channel catfish
17. Consult the prop at Prop Station #17. One of the best ways to determine what species of wildlife lives in the area, besides actually spotting the animal, is to identify its scat. You can sometimes identify the diet of the animal as well, narrowing down the possibilities. Identify this unique, mammalian species from the order Didelphimorphia that can be matched with this scat.
- A. Eastern wild turkey
 - B. **Virginia opossum**
 - C. Coyote
 - D. Black rat snake
18. Consult Prop Station #18. Lichens are an abundant and widespread group of organisms that serve very important purposes in our world. These fungus and algae fusions serve as food for wildlife from caterpillars to deer, shelter for hundreds of different species of insects, and nesting material for several species of birds such as blue-gray gnatcatchers and ruby-throated hummingbirds. For humans, we depend on lichens to gauge the health of our air quality, for perfume and lotions, and to naturally dye different fabrics for materials like clothing. One particular species of lichen is found here at this eco-station, growing on oak trees. You can also view this species in the photo presented at this prop station (the photo was taken at this site last January). Use the field guide to find the common name for *Candelaria concolor*.
- A. **Lemon lichen**
 - B. Hooded sunburst lichen
 - C. Gold-eye lichen
 - D. Yellow lichen
19. There is no closed hunting season for this animal, found commonly throughout Cuyahoga County as well as the rest of the state. This species, *Canis latrans*, has thrived for many reasons including the extirpation of apex predators like bears, wolves, and mountain lions as well as increasing human development. Select the correct answer below that identifies this creature which adapts well to the presence of humans.
- A. American woodcock
 - B. Bobcat
 - C. Fisher
 - D. **Coyote**

20. Controlled burning is a wildlife management technique used by wildlife biologists. How frequently should a habitat be burned to maintain meadow-like conditions?
- A. Not more frequently than once per decade
 - B. Once every seven to 10 years
 - C. **Every three to five years**
 - D. Every spring and fall
21. Consult prop station #21. Black widow spiders are rarely found in northern Ohio, contrary to popular belief. Still, this infamous species is well-known. Using the "Common Spiders of Ohio" field guide, identify the black widow spider on display.
- A. Male, northern black widow
 - B. Female, northern black widow
 - C. Male, southern black widow
 - D. **Female, southern black widow**
22. Consult prop station #22. This juvenile non-venomous constrictor can be found in a variety of habitats such as woods, meadows, river bottoms, and even in and around rodent-infested livestock barns (which is how it got its misleading common name). Identify *Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum* by its common name below.
- A. Cottonmouth
 - B. Eastern hog-nosed snake
 - C. Northern copperhead
 - D. **Eastern milksnake**
23. This parasitic, non-native, and invasive species is an eel-like fish with smooth, scaleless skin and two fins on its back. It feeds on fish, using its suction disk mouth filled with small sharp, rasping teeth and a file-like tongue. These mouthparts are used by the species to attach to a fish, puncture its skin, and drain its body fluids. A very serious threat to Lake Erie sportfish, many agencies are taking action to reduce numbers.
- A. American brook lamprey
 - B. Ohio lamprey
 - C. **Sea lamprey**
 - D. Burmot

24. If an 18-year old angler chooses to fish a pond on private property (with no in or outflow allowing fish to migrate to other waters), with permission from the landowner of course, would a fishing license be necessary and if so, what kind? Choose the correct statement below.

- A. No license is required for anglers ages 18 and under
- B. A daily fishing license is required for anglers 16 and over
- C. **No license is required for anglers fishing private property**
- D. A "private land" fishing license must be purchased

25. The trapping of furbearers – animals that have traditionally been harvested for their fur – has been an enduring element of human culture ever since our prehistoric hunter-gatherer ancestors devised the first deadfalls, pit traps, snares and capture nets. Today, trapping (and hunting) is more necessary than ever to protect public health and tolerance. Regulated trapping helps prevent risks of wildlife diseases, starvation, and habitat loss. Population management also reduces conflict situations between humans and wildlife. Over 17,000 fur taker permits were sold in Ohio in 2016. These permits are required by law in addition to a hunting license to hunt or trap furbearing animals with exception to coyotes. A highly sought-after furbearer in Ohio, *Castor canadensis*, was once nearly extirpated from the state due in-part to loss of its ideal habitat consisting of forested ponds, lakes, and rivers. Which species below fits this description?

- A. Woodchuck
- B. Raccoon
- C. Nutria
- D. **American beaver**