



Avian Models for 3D Applications
Characters and Procedural Maps by Ken Gilliland

Songbird ReMix

Wild Turkey

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Songbird ReMix

Wild Turkey

Manual & Field Guide

Introduction

The wild turkey is almost synonymous with American Thanksgiving and, if Benjamin Franklin's secret wishes had been fulfilled, the turkey would have been the symbol of the United States. The bird is known by many names: Tom, Gobbler, or Hen. Now, this turkey is brought forth in three dimensions, using many of the Songbird Remix features such as folding wings and fanning tails.

All six races of the Wild Turkey can be found in this package: the Eastern, the Florida, the Rio Grande, Merriam's, Gould's and even the domestic subspecies that ends up on most people's dinner table. While the Wild Turkey uses some of the Songbird ReMix morph technology, it is a stand-alone model and ownership of the Songbird Remix series is not required.

Overview

The set is located within the **Animals : Songbird ReMix** folder. Here is where you will find a number of folders, such as **Bird Library**, **Manuals** and **Resources** . Let's look at what is contained in these folders:

- **Bird Library:** This folder holds the actual species and poses for the "premade" birds. Birds are placed into a "type" folder (such as "Birds of Prey (Order Falconiformes)" which for example would hold falcons, hawks and eagles). The birds for this set can be found in the following folder(s):
 - **Gamebirds (Order Galliformes)**
- **Manuals:** Contains a link to the online manual for the set.
- **Resources:** Items in this folder are for creating and customizing your birds
 - **Bird Base Models:** This folder has the blank, untextured model(s) used in this set. These models are primarily for users who wish to experiment with poses or customize their own species of bird. With using physical renderers such as Iray and Superfly, SubD should be turned to at least "3".

Poser Use

Select **Figures** in the **Runtime** Folder and go to the **Animals : Songbird ReMix** folder. Select the bird from the renderer (*Firefly* or *Superfly*) folder you want and simply click it

to load. Some birds in the Songbird ReMix series may load with attached parts (*Conformers*) such as tail or crest extensions. Some of these parts have specific morphs. You will need to click on the attached part to access those controls. Associated poses can be found in the same folder- **Bird Library : (Type) : Poses**.

DAZ Studio Use

Go to the **Animals : Songbird ReMix** folder. Select the bird from the renderer (*3Delight* or *Iray*) folder you want and simply click it to load. Some birds in the Songbird ReMix series may load with attached parts (*Conformers*) such as tail or crest extensions. Some of these parts have specific morphs. You will need to click on the attached part to access those controls. Associated poses can be found in the same folder- **Bird Library : (Type) : Poses**. **Note:** Using the "Apply this Character to the currently selected Figure(s)" option **will not** properly apply the correct scaling to the bird selected. It is better to delete the existing character first and load the one you want to use.

Physical-based Rendering

Physical-based renderers such as **Iray** and **Superfly** require more CPU and memory horsepower than the legacy renderers for DAZ-Studio and Poser because of ray-trace bounces and higher resolution meshes needed for displacement. Superfly, in particular, may crash *especially* when using the GPU-based options. The best solution is to render using one of the CPU-based options. Limiting the number of ray-trace bounces by setting "Pixel Samples" to "2" or "1" will also reduce crashes and speed renders. Of course, upgrading memory and your CPU will also help.

Where to find your birds

Type Folder	Bird Species
Gamebirds (Order Galliformes)	Eastern Turkey Florida Turkey Rio Grande Turkey Merriam's Turkey Gould's Turkey Domestic Turkey

Where to find the poses

Type Folder	Bird Species
Gamebirds (Order Galliformes)	All turkey poses

Songbird ReMix
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Races

Eastern Turkey
Florida Turkey
Rio Grande Turkey
Merriam's Turkey
Gould's Turkey
Domestic Turkey

Common Name: Wild Turkey
Scientific Name: *Meleagris gallopavo*

Size: Eastern Male: 46 inches (117 cm), Eastern Female: 37 inches

Habitat: North America. Often found in open woods, fields, pastures and areas of shrubby growth.

Status: Not threatened. Government programs to benefit hunters have reintroduced populations. The range and numbers of the Wild Turkey had decreased dramatically at the beginning of the 20th century due to hunting and loss of habitat. Estimates concluded that the entire populations of Wild Turkeys in the United States was as low as 30,000 individuals. Game officials made efforts to protect and encourage the breeding of the surviving wild population. By the early 70's, the total population was estimated to be 1.3 million wild turkeys. Current estimates place the entire wild turkey population at 7 million individuals.



Diet: Grasses, acorns, nuts (hazel, pine, chestnut and hickory), seeds, berries (juniper and bearberry), roots and insects. While 80% of the wild turkey's diet comes from grasses, they are also known to occasionally consume small

vertebrates like snakes, salamanders and frogs. Poults (turkey chicks) diet consists mostly of insects and seed.

Nesting: Males are polygamous, forming harems with as many as 5 hens. Male Turkeys display for females by puffing out their feathers, fanning out their tails and dragging their wings. This behavior is referred to as “strutting”. Portions of the head, snood and caruncle can become a bright red when the male becomes very excited. They also “gobble” excitedly; scraping and scratching at the ground to define their territory. Courtship begins during the months of March through April while turkeys are still in their winter flock.

When mating is finished, females search for nest sites. Nests are shallow dirt depressions engulfed with woody vegetation. Hens lay a clutch of 10-14 eggs, usually one per day. The eggs are incubated for at least 28 days.

Cool Facts:

That traditional image of the brown turkey pictured during the American Thanksgiving Day holiday isn't the one that ends up on the dinner table... The Aztecs domesticated the southern Mexican sub-species, *M. g. mexicana*, giving rise to the white feathered domesticated turkey. When the Spanish came to the “New World”, they brought back the domesticated turkey to Europe.

The pilgrim settlers of Massachusetts brought farmed turkeys with them from England, descendants of the original Mexican domesticated turkeys introduced into Europe by the Spanish, not realising that they occurred wild in America. The domesticated turkey's journey had come full circle.

Turkey is a popular main dish for the Thanksgiving holiday, held in November in the United States and October in Canada.

Benjamin Franklin, one of the founder fathers of the United States, evidently preferred the Turkey to the Bald Eagle as the national bird of the United States. In his letter to his daughter in 1784, he wrote:

“For my own part, I wish the Bald Eagle had not been chosen the Representative of our Country. He is a Bird of bad moral character. He does not get his Living honestly. You may have seen him perched on some dead Tree near the River, where, too lazy to fish for himself, he watches the Labour of the Fishing Hawk; and when that diligent Bird has at length taken a Fish, and is bearing it to his Nest for the Support of his Mate and young Ones, the Bald Eagle pursues him and takes it from him.

With all this Injustice, he is never in good Case but like those among Men who live by Sharping & Robbing he is generally poor and often very lousy. Besides he is a rank Coward: The little King Bird not bigger than a Sparrow attacks him boldly and drives him out of the District. He is therefore by no means a proper

Emblem for the brave and honest Cincinnati of America who have driven all the King birds from our Country...

I am on this account not displeased that the Figure is not known as a Bald Eagle, but looks more like a Turkey. For the Truth the Turkey is in Comparison a much more respectable Bird, and withal a true original Native of America... He is besides, though a little vain & silly, a Bird of Courage, and would not hesitate to attack a Grenadier of the British Guards who should presume to invade his Farm Yard with a red Coat on."

Races:

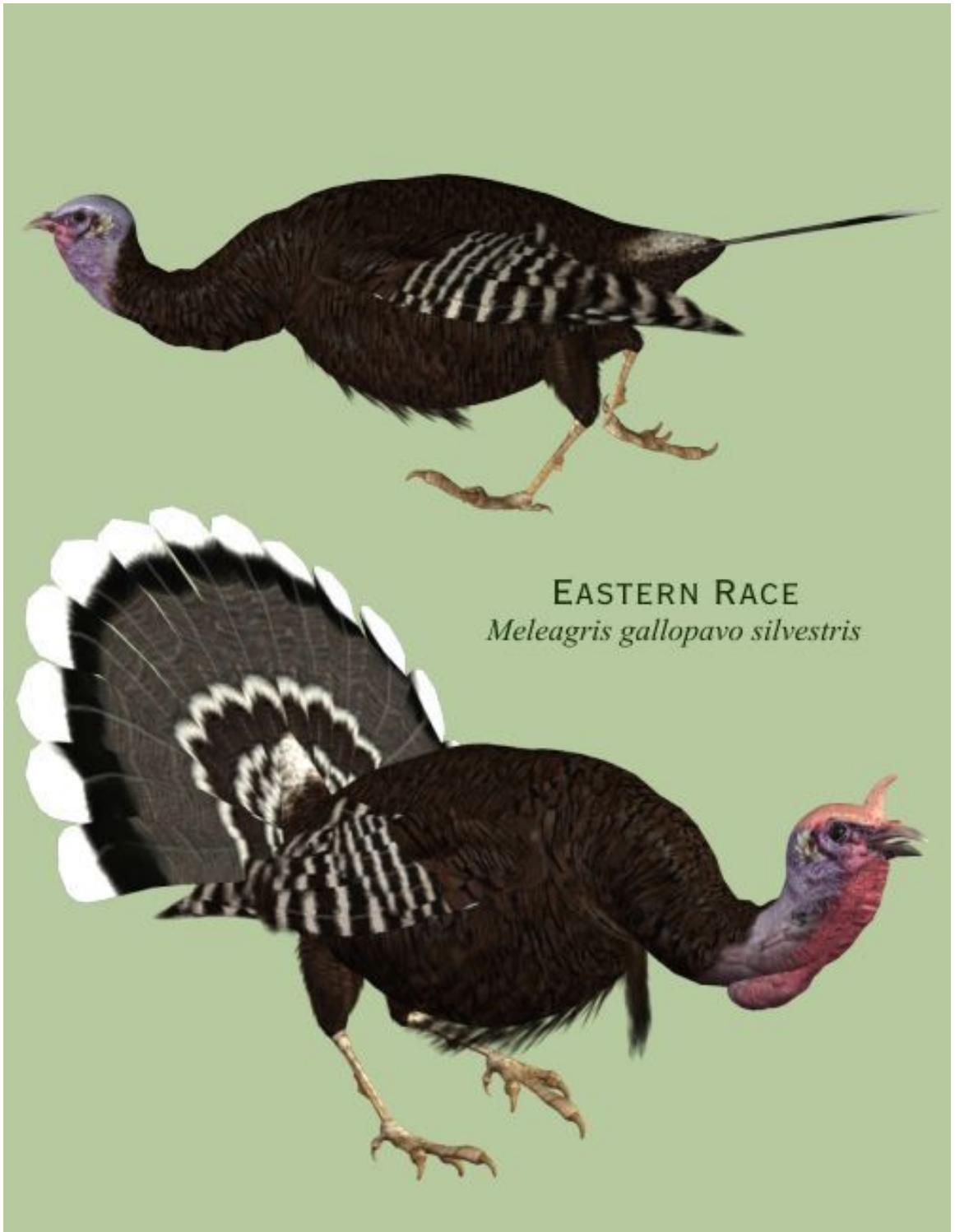
While most wild turkey look very similar, there are subtle difference in the coloration and size of the six sub-species:

- **Eastern (*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*)**
The range covers the entire eastern half of the United States; extending also into South Eastern Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces in Canada. They number from 5.1 to 5.3 million birds. They were first named forest turkey in 1817, and can grow up to 4 feet tall. The upper tail coverts are tipped with chestnut brown.
- **Osceola or Florida (*M. g. osceola*)**
Found only on the Florida peninsula. They number from 80,000 to 100,000 birds. This bird is named for the famous Seminole Chief Osceola, and was first described in 1980. It is smaller and darker than the Eastern turkey. The wing feathers are very dark with smaller amounts of the white barring seen on other sub-species. Their overall body feathers are iridescent green-purple color.
- **Rio Grande (*M. g. intermedia*)**
Ranges through Texas to Oklahoma, Kansas, New Mexico, Colorado, Oregon, and Central and Western California, as well as parts of a few northeastern states. Rio Grande turkeys were also introduced to Hawaii in the late 1950s. Population estimates for this subspecies range from 1,022,700 to 1,025,700. This sub-species is native to the central plain states. They were first described in 1879, and have disproportionately long legs. Their body feathers often have a green-coppery sheen to them. The tips of the tail and lower back feathers are a buff-very light tan color. Habitats are brush areas next to streams, rivers or mesquite pine and scrub oak forests. Only turkey to be found up to 6,000 feet in elevation and are gregarious.
- **Merriam's (*M. g. merriami*)**
Ranges through the Rocky Mountains and the neighboring prairies of Wyoming, Montana and South Dakota as well as much of the high mesa country of New Mexico. They number from 334,460 to 344,460 birds. Live in ponderosa pine and mountain regions. Named in 1900 in honor of C. Hart Merriam, the first chief of the US Biological Survey. The tail and lower back feathers have white tips. They have purple and bronze reflections.
- **Gould's (*M. g. mexicana*)**
Native from central to northern Mexico and the southern-most parts of

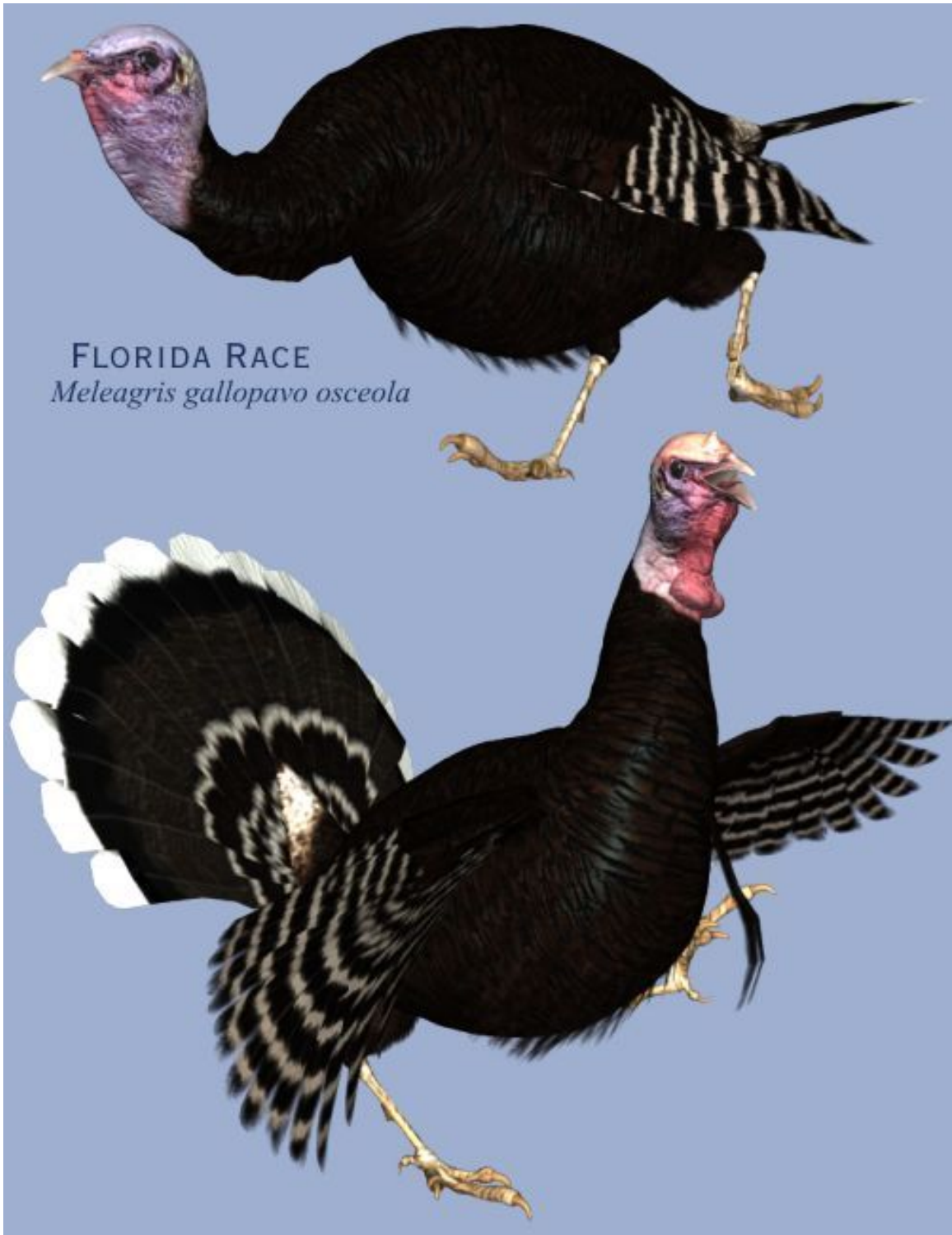
Arizona and New Mexico. Heavily protected and regulated. First described in 1856. They exist in small numbers but are abundant in Northwestern portions of Mexico. A small population has been established in southern Arizona. Gould's are the largest of the five sub-species. They have longer legs, larger feet, and longer tail feathers. The main color of the body feathers are copper and greenish-gold.

- **South Mexican (*M. g. gallopavo*)**

The nominate race, and one of the few that are not found in North America. This is the descendant of the domestic turkey.



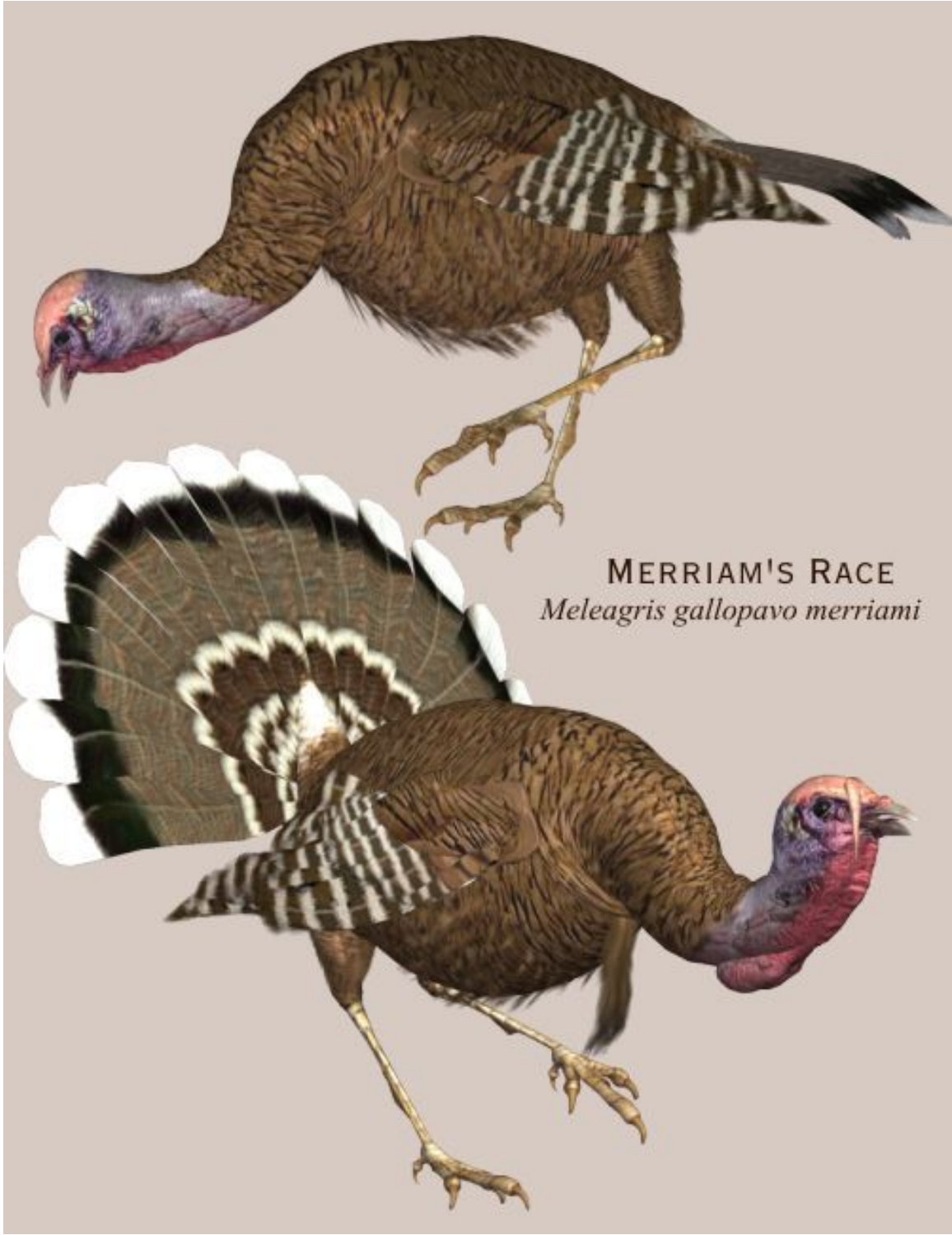
EASTERN RACE
Meleagris gallopavo silvestris



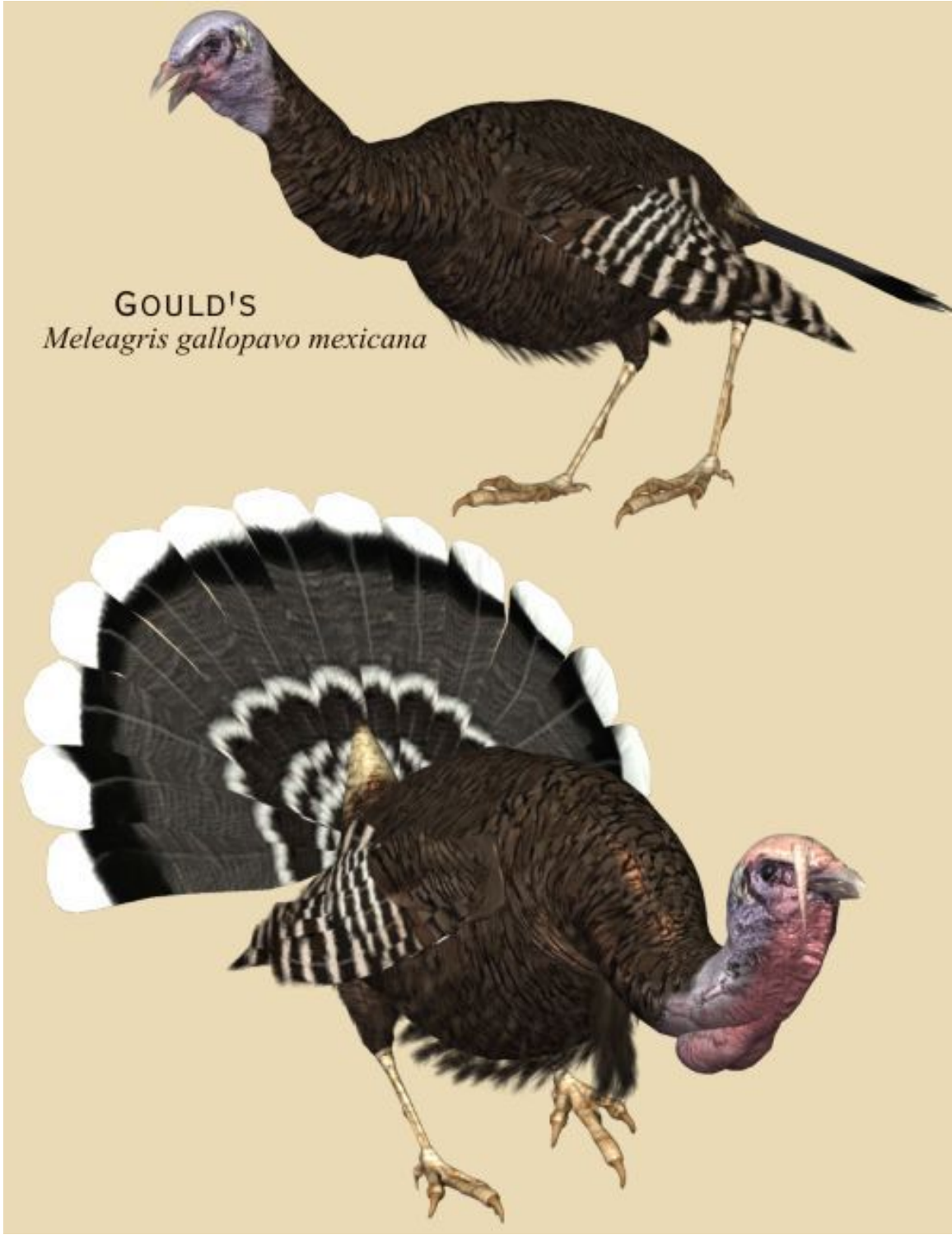
FLORIDA RACE
Meleagris gallopavo osceola



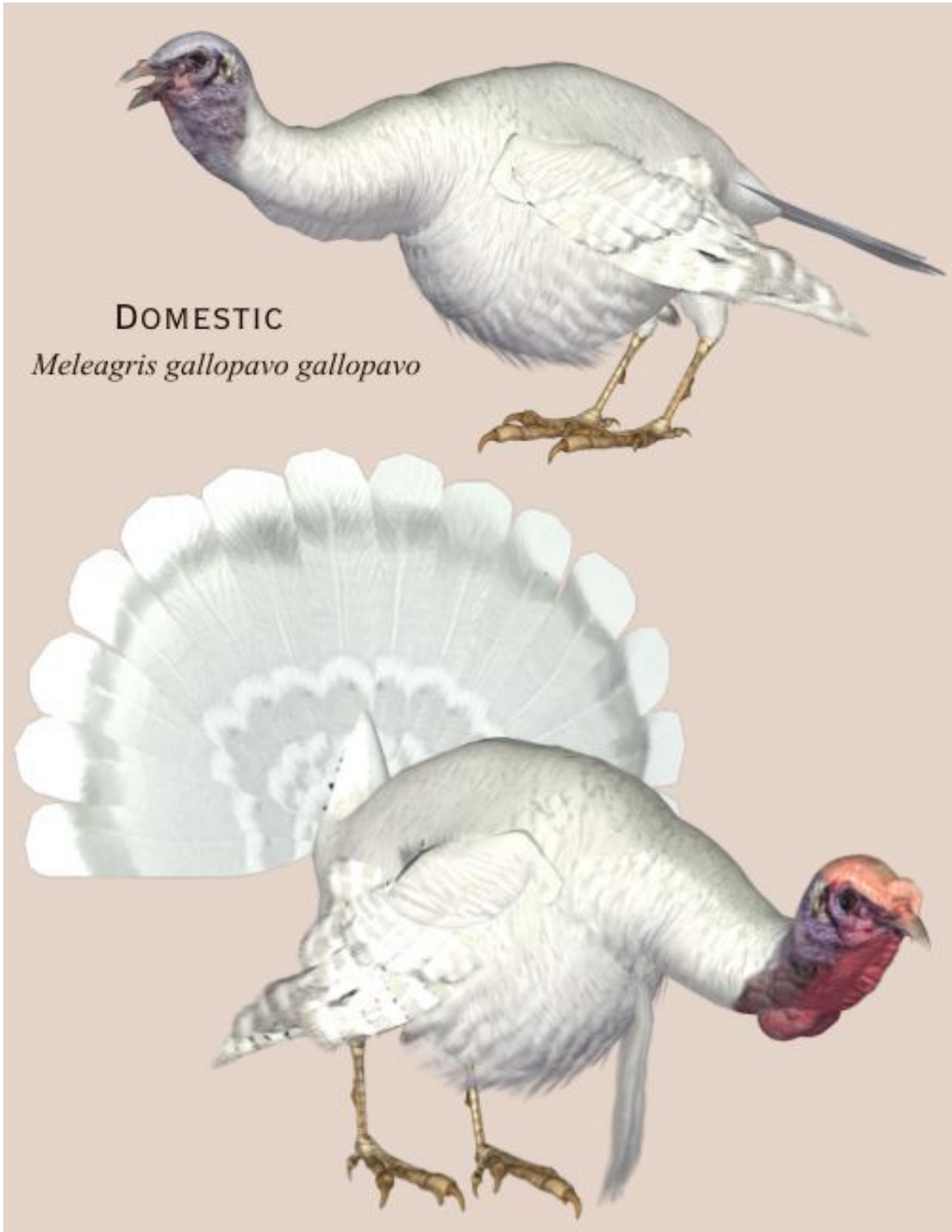
RIO GRANDE RACE
Meleagris gallopavo intermedia



MERRIAM'S RACE
Meleagris gallopavo merriami



GOULD'S
Meleagris gallopavo mexicana



DOMESTIC
Meleagris gallopavo gallopavo

Special Thanks to...

....my betatesters (Bea, Jan, Kelvin, Nancy, Rhonda and Sandra)

Species Accuracy and Reference Materials

The author-artist has tried to make these species as accurate to their real life counterparts as possible. With the use of one generic model to create dozens of unique bird species, some give and take is bound to occur. The texture maps were created in Painter with as much accuracy as possible. Photographic references from photographs from various Goggle searches and several field guides were used.

- **"The Sibley Guide to Birds"** by David Allen Sibley.

Field Guide Sources:

- **Cornell Lab of Ornithology** (<http://www.birds.cornell.edu>)
- **Wikipedia** (<http://www.wikipedia.com>)
- **BirdGuides.com** (<http://www.birdguides.com>)

Songbird ReMix Merchandise



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