



**Habitat, Nongame and Endangered Species Committee
Meeting Summary
October 29, 2014, 11:00 - Noon**

Habitat, Nongame and Endangered Species Committee Chair Mark Craig called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

Meeting Attendees

Committee Members

Mark Craig, Chair
Wes Seegars

Commissioners

Ray Clifton
Tom Berry

Joe Barker
Joe Budd

Staff

Gordon Myers
David Cobb
Erik Christofferson
Russell Wong
Shannon Deaton
Christian Waters
Isaac Harrold
Kyle Briggs
Christopher Serenari
Chris Kreh
Brent Spivey
Bob Curry

Mallory Martin
Betsy Haywood
Todd Ewing
Kate Pipkin
Jodie Owen
Kerry Linehan
Allen Boynton
Merril Cook
Brandon Sherrill
Robert Sharpe
Chad Martin

Visitors

Ken Bridle – NWAC
Alvin Braswell – NWAC
Joe McClees – McClees Consulting

Kevin O’Kane – NWAC
Justin Boner – The Conservation Fund
Bill Holman – The Conservation Fund

David Cobb introduced Allen Boynton, new *Wildlife Diversity Program Coordinator*.

Report from Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee – Ken Bridle

Ken Bridle, NWAC Chair, reported that the NWAC Executive Committee members received a summary from staff this morning about the HNGES agenda. Their comments will be incorporated into the Procedures and Schedule. NWAC supports all items that staff plans to present to HNGES. The next NWAC meeting is November 20, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in Raleigh.

NWAC Resolution – Shannon Deaton

Shannon Deaton reported that staff provided an overview of the resolution's purpose and content along with changes since the August HNGES meeting. The resolution changes the NWAC size from 18 to 15 members.

ACTION: HNGES considered the resolution and recommends approval by the full Commission as Exhibit E.

Yellow Lance Augmentation Staff Proposal - Todd Ewing

Todd Ewing summarized an augmentation project proposal to partner with N.C. State University to use hatchery produced yellow lance (mollusks, Neuse and Tar River basins) and place them in the same location where brood stock was originally collected. An augmentation project has the potential to enhance populations of listed species, and potentially preclude the need for listing for at-risk species. The HNGES committee will review and approve species augmentation projects before animals can be released.

ACTION: The HNGES Committee unanimously approved a motion authorizing staff to implement the augmentation plan for yellow lance.

Next Steps for State Listing - Todd Ewing and Allen Boynton

HNGES Committee members received an update from Todd Ewing and Allen Boynton on a species state listing process and timeline to continue efforts started by the Scientific Council. Staff has developed an objective tool that is consistent with state law (NC Species Assessment Tool) for assessing the 67 species recommended for status changes in 2011. This tool will be tested and used to provide a staff recommendation to the Commission in late 2015.

Adjourn – Chairman Craig adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.