



ACTIONS
N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

February 27, 2020
N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Headquarters
1751 Varsity Drive
Raleigh, North Carolina

Swearing in of District 7 Commissioner James M. Ruffin – The Honorable Reuben Young, N.C. Court of Appeals, administered the Oath of Office to District 7 Commissioner James M. Ruffin, appointed for a six-year term by Governor Roy Cooper.

State Ethics Commission Review of Statement of Economic Interest for Commissioner James M. Ruffin – Pursuant to NCGS §138A-15(c), applicable portions of the evaluation by the N.C. Ethics Commission of the Statement of Economic Interest for James M. Ruffin were read into the Minutes.

Approval of December 5, 2019 Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) Meeting Minutes – the Commission approved the December 5, 2019 WRC minutes as written in the exhibit and distributed to members. **(Exhibit B)**

2020-2021 Wildlife Management Rulemaking – the Commission adopted five amendments to 2020-2021 wildlife management rules that were presented at statewide public hearings, with two modifications that were made before adoption based on input received from constituents: **(Exhibit D-2)**

- **15A NCAC 10B .0113 – Big Game Harvest Reporting** - Big Game harvested in remote areas must be registered by 12:00 p.m. the day after leaving the remote area. Big game harvested in remote areas may be placed in the possession of another person, provided that the person in possession of the big game has the successful hunter's name and harvest date on his person. If the carcass cannot be transported intact, the harvested big game must be skinned and dismembered before registration.
- **15A NCAC 10B .0201 – Cervid Excretions** - No person may possess or use any substance or material that contains or claims to contain any excretion collected from a cervid, including feces, urine, blood, gland oil, or other bodily fluid for the purposes of taking or attempting to take, attracting, or scouting wildlife. This prohibition does not apply to natural substances collected by an individual from non-farmed cervids legally taken in North Carolina or synthetic products. Commissioner Steve Windham voted against the cervid excretions amendment.

2020-2021 Inland Fisheries Rulemaking - the Commission adopted 25 amendments to 2020-2021 inland fishing rules that were presented at statewide public hearings. **(Exhibit E-2)**

2020-2021 Game Land Rulemaking – the Commission adopted 14 amendments to 2020-2021 game land management rules that were presented at statewide public hearings, with two modifications that were made before adoption as follows: **(Exhibit F-2)**

- **15A NCAC 10D .0103 – Veterans/Military Waterfowl Days** – On designated veterans/military waterfowl days, veterans and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas from a half hour before sunrise to sunset.
- **15A NCAC 10D .0103 – Pee Dee River Game Land** – Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is prohibited on the portion of the game land south of US-74.

Phase II Land Acquisitions – the Commission approved the acquisitions of the Sparta Wetland BRC Tract in Alleghany County; Lawrence Tract in Scotland County; Staples Tract in Camden County; Russell Tract in Wilkes County; and Mt. Holly Depot Tract in Lincoln County. **(Exhibits G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, G-5)**

Marion Aquaculture Building Disposition - the Commission approved the request from staff to demolish an existing structure at the Marion Fish Hatchery. **(Exhibit H-1)**

Gibson Fox Trial Facility Disposition – with Commissioner Landon Zimmer opposed, the Commission approved a request from staff to dispose of the donation of the Gibson Fox Trial Facility property in Scotland County by returning it to the donors. **(Exhibit H-2)**

Final Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0327 – Montgomery County Swim Area, Badin Lake – the Commission adopted an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0327 for a restricted swim area on Badin Lake at Pinehaven Village in New London. **(Exhibit I-2)**

Final Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0340 – Currituck County No-Wake Zone, Carova Beach – the Commission adopted an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0340 for a no-wake zone in the canals at Carova Beach in Currituck County. **(Exhibit J-2)**

Temporary Rulemaking 15A NCAC 10F .0317 – Stanly County and 15A NCAC 10F .0327 – Montgomery County – with Commissioner Landon Zimmer recused from discussion and action on **exhibits K-1 and K-2**, the Commission approved proposing text on the Office of Administrative Hearings website for a temporary rule for a no-wake zone on Lake Tillery in Stanly County within 50 yards of the fuel docks at the Boathouse and Marina in Norwood; and a temporary rule 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the James B. Garrison bridge eastbound and westbound spans in Stanly County **(Exhibit K-1)**; and on Lake Tillery in Montgomery County, 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the James B. Garrison bridge eastbound and westbound spans. **(Exhibit K-2)**

Approval of Fiscal Note and Rulemaking Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10L .0100 – Wildlife Reserve – the Commission approved the fiscal note and approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open public comment period, for proposed permanent rulemaking addressing the activities required for land to qualify for present-use value taxation as wildlife conservation land that creates and is actively and regularly used as a reserve for hunting, fishing, shooting, wildlife observation or wildlife activities. **(Exhibits L-1, L-2).**

Proposed Notice of Text – Totally Disabled Lifetime Licenses – 15A NCAC 10G .0601 – the Commission approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open public comment period, for proposed amendments to 10G .0601, to provide an alternative method for certification of a qualifying disability. **(Exhibit M)**

Proposed Notice of Text – Dog Training and Field Trials – 15A NCAC 10B .0114 – the Commission approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open public comment period, for proposed amendments to 10B .0114 to provide for the issuance of Field Trial Permits via online portal at www.ncwildlife.org .**(Exhibit N)**

Proposed Notice of Text – Taxidermist Records and Reporting Requirements – 15A NCAC 10H .1003 – the Commission approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open public comment period, for proposed amendments to 10H .1003 to institute taxidermy reporting requirements pursuant to the taxidermy cervid certification. **(Exhibit O)**

Temporary Rulemaking – Controlled Rabbit Hunting Preserves – 15A NCAC 10H – the Commission approved publishing Notice of Text on the OAH website for temporary rules for the licensing and regulation of controlled rabbit hunting preserves as provided for in S.L. 2019-204. **(Exhibit P)**

Location Change for April 22-23, 2020 Wildlife Resources Commission Meetings – the Commission approved holding the April 22-23, 2020 Wildlife Resources Commission meetings at the Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education in Pisgah Forest, N.C.

Adjournment – Chairman David Hoyle, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.