



**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ANNUAL FUNDING
FOR THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION RESTORATION PROGRAM**

Whereas, North Carolina is home to unique populations of a tremendously diverse array of wildlife species; and

Whereas, North Carolina's Southeastern Coastal Plain and Southern Appalachian Mountains are internationally recognized biodiversity hotspots; and

Whereas, North Carolina created a State Wildlife Action Plan that was first approved in 2005 and revised in 2015 by this Commission; and

Whereas, the North Carolina Wildlife Action Plan identified 457 Species of Greatest Conservation Need, of which 257 species are designated as state or federally endangered, threatened, or special concern, 40 priority habitat types these species depend upon, and strategies to conserve and restore them; and

Whereas, there is a documented need to provide dedicated, sustained funding to fully implement State Wildlife Action Plans and delist or down-list currently listed species and prevent additional species from being listed; and

Whereas, Congress passed the Pittman-Robertson Act in 1937 and the Dingell-Johnson Act in 1950 that established dedicated funds to support conservation and science-based management of bird, mammal, and sport fish species financed by hunters, recreational shooters, anglers, and boaters; and

Whereas, a similar funding mechanism is lacking for the many species that are not hunted or fished; and

Whereas, the Blue-Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources, composed of 26 business and conservation leaders, recommended a new funding mechanism to support state fish and wildlife conservation to ensure the sustainability of all fish and wildlife for current and future generations; and

Whereas, H.R. 3742, entitled "Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2019," was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives and now has over 155 bi-partisan cosponsors; and

Whereas, this Act provides the dedicated and sustained funding to state fish and wildlife agencies to fully implement their Wildlife Action Plans, as envisioned by the Blue-Ribbon Panel.

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, that the Commission respectfully requests that the North Carolina Congressional Delegation support the Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2019.

Approved this the 5th day of December 2019, in an official meeting by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Hoyle, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

David Hoyle, Jr., Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Myers", written over a horizontal line.

Gordon Myers, Executive Director