



AGENDA

N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION WEBINAR MEETING December 10, 2020 9:00 am

CALL TO ORDER - *Chairman David Hoyle, Jr.*

This electronic meeting is being streamed live and recorded as a public record. The recording of the meeting will be available at www.newwildlife.org.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT – *Betsy Haywood, Commission Liaison*

INVOCATION – *Commissioner John Coley*

MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY – North Carolina General Statute §138A-15 mandates that the Commission Chair shall remind all Commissioners of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict under this Chapter, and that the chair also inquires as to whether there is any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the Commission at this time. It is the duty of each Commissioner who is aware of such personal conflict of interest or of an appearance of a conflict to notify the Chair of the same. *Chairman David Hoyle*

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 22, 2020 MEETING MINUTES – Take action on the October 22, 2020 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit (**EXHIBIT A**)

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT – Receive a financial status report on the Wildlife Operating Fund and Wildlife Endowment Fund – *Dr. DP Singla, Chief Financial Officer* (**EXHIBIT B**)

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

Ad Hoc Education Centers Committee Report – November 16, 2020 – Kelly Davis, Chair

Finance Committee Report – December 9, 2020 – Landon Zimmer, Chair

Land Acquisitions and Property Committee Report, 2020 – Tom Berry, Chair

Boating Safety Committee Report – December 9, 2020 – Mike Johnson, Chair

Habitat, Nongame, and Endangered Species Report – December 9, 2020 - Mark Craig, Chair

Committee of the Whole Report – December 9, 2020 – David Hoyle, Jr., Chair

AWARD RECOGNITIONS – *Cameron Ingram, Executive Director*

Master Officer Darby Enoch, District 6 -Shikar-Safari Club International Officer of the Year for NC

Captain Steve Bullins, District 7 Captain - NC Governor’s Award for Safety and Heroism

Jeff Evans, Superintendent Watha State Fish Hatchery - Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies’ Fisheries Biologist of the Year

Gordon Myers, former Executive Director - Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies’ Seth Gordon Award

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – **Pollinator Initiatives and Partnerships** – *Cindy Simpson, Wildlife Action Plan Coordinator, and Gabriela Garrison, Eastern Piedmont Habitat Conservation Coordinator*

CONSERVATION PLANS - Consider staff recommendations for final adoption of four Species Conservation Plans – *Todd Ewing, Aquatic Wildlife Diversity Program Manager, and Dr. Sara Schweitzer, Wildlife Diversity Program Coordinator*

- Brook Floater (**EXHIBIT C-1**)
- Five Rare Aquatic Species Restricted to Neuse and Tar - Pamlico River Basins (**EXHIBIT C-2**)
- Gopher Frog (**EXHIBIT C-3**)
- Robust Redhorse (**EXHIBIT C-4**)

LAND AND WATER ACCESS DIVISION

Land Acquisitions and Property Matters

Phase II Land Acquisitions

Consider final approval to proceed with acquisition of the following property – *Jessie Birckhead, Land Acquisition and Grants Manager (EXHIBITS D-1, D-2)*

- King’s Bridge Tract – Henderson County (D-1)
- Hall Tract – Bladen County (D-2)

Other Property Matter

Consider a naming request from the Three Rivers Land Trust for the Hannah’s Ferry/Pump Station Boating Access Area in Rowan County – *Jessie Birckhead (EXHIBIT E)*

WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING

Final Adoptions

Clay County, Lake Chatuge – Gibson Cove - Consider Public Comments and final adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0308 for a no-wake zone in Gibson Cove on Lake Chatuge – Betsy Haywood, *No-Wake Zone Coordinator* (**EXHIBITS F-1, F-2**)

Clay County, Lake Chatuge – Clay County Recreational Park – Consider public comments and final adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0308 for a no-wake zone at the peninsula around Clay County Recreational Park – Betsy Haywood (**EXHIBITS G-1, G-2**)

Clay County, Lake Chatuge – Dayton Cove – Consider public comments and final adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0308 for a no-wake zone in Dayton Cove – Betsy Haywood (**EXHIBITS H-1, H-2**)

Stanly County, Lake Tillery – Consider public comments and final adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0317, for no-wake zone at the Boathouse and Marina in Norwood – Betsy Haywood (**EXHIBITS I-1, I-2**)

Burke County, Lake James – Consider public comments and final adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0323 to extend the no-wake zone from northeast of the Highway 126 Bridge shore to shore, southward shore to shore to 50 yards south of the Canal Bridge Boating Access Area – Betsy Haywood (**EXHIBITS J-1, J-2**)

Temporary Rulemaking Final Adoption

Burke County, Lake James – Consider public comments and final adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0323 for a temporary no-wake zone and safety zone where vessel entry not authorized by the WRC is prohibited, in Mill Creek on Lake James during construction of a pedestrian bridge at Lake James State Park – Betsy Haywood (**EXHIBITS K-1, K-2**)

PERMANENT RULEMAKING

Controlled Fox Hunting Preserves – 15A NCAC 10H .1200 – Review public comments and consider adoption of proposed amendments to rules for licensing and regulation of controlled fox hunting preserves – Carrie Ruhlman, *Rulemaking Coordinator* (**EXHIBITS L-1, L-2**)

Sale of Live Foxes and Coyotes to Controlled Fox Hunting Preserves – 15A NCAC 10B .0409 – Review public comments and consider adoption of proposed amendments to the rule for trapping and live sale of foxes and coyotes to controlled fox hunting preserves – Carrie Ruhlman (**EXHIBITS M-1, M-2**)

PETITION FOR RULEMAKING

Consider a public request for rulemaking to amend rules 15A NCAC 10H .1201, .1202, .1203 and .1204 regulating controlled fox hunting preserves – Carrie Ruhlman (**EXHIBIT N**)

2021 PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE – Consider modification of the 2021 Public Hearing schedule to remove the in-person public hearings due to the ongoing pandemic – Cameron Ingram, *Executive Director* (**EXHIBIT O**)

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN – *Chairman Hoyle*

COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – *Executive Director Ingram*

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