



*Land Use and Access Committee Meeting Summary
August 28, 2013 at 12:10 pm
NCWRC, 5th Floor Commission Room*

Meeting Attendees

• **Committee Members:**

Tom Berry, Chair
Dell Murphy
Durwood Laughinghouse

Ray Clifton
Joe Barker
Garry Spence

• **Commissioners:**

Richard Edwards
John Litton Clark
David Hoyle, Jr.
Wes Seegars

Mark Craig
Jim Cogdell
Tommy Fonville (Commissioner-elect)

• **Staff:**

Mallory Martin
Bob Curry
Kyle Briggs
Christian Waters
Mark Hamlett
Isaac Harrold
Geoff Cantrell
Gordon Myers

George Norris
Betsy Haywood
Chris Dillon
Tommy Clark
Shannon Deaton
Dale Caveny
David Cobb
David Varel

• **Guests:**

Fred Harris, NC Wildlife Federation
David Keeley, State Property Office
Ned Jones, NC Trout Unlimited

Johnny Hutchins, Cleveland County
Jim Harrell, Cleveland County

Tom Berry, Land Use and Access Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm. Isaac Harrold, Public Lands Section Manager, gave an overview of the mission of the Land Use and Access Committee to consider making recommendations to the entire WRC after reviewing Phase I acquisitions- forward the recommendation from staff to the State Property Office to identify suitability, stewardship costs and funding sources; and Phase II acquisitions – forward the recommendation for final approval by the WRC to proceed with acquisition of properties.

ACQUISITIONS DISCUSSION

Isaac Harrold presented an overview of five properties in Exhibits J-1, J-2, J-3, J-4, J-5 with a recommendation to be presented to the entire Commission to proceed with acquisition of the properties:

- Capel Tract – Montgomery County (J-1)
- Humpback Mountain Tract – Avery/McDowell Counties (J-2) – a donation if closing occurs before year end
- Duvall Tract, Little Tennessee River – Macon County (J-3)
- Hayesville Fishing Access Area, Hiwassee River – Clay County (J-4)
- Lewiston Boating and Fishing Access Area, Roanoke River – Bertie County (J-5)

The Committee will recommend that the Commission approve the acquisitions.

PROPERTY MATTERS

Shooting Range, Cleveland County – the Committee received an overview from Johnny Hutchins, Cleveland County Commissioner, about a proposal for the WRC to partner with Cleveland County for design and construction of a state-of-the-art shooting range facility in Cleveland County. Discussion of the concept included agreement that such a facility that offers shooting sports opportunities is important to the sustainability of the NCWRC and is attractive to young people who want to shoot but not to hunt. Anticipated funding from the WRC would come from Pittman Robertson funds (ammunition and pistol sales) and from the agency cash balance. The Committee endorsed the project concept. Cleveland County will provide more information about the project cost and proposal at a later Land Use and Access Committee meeting before bringing before the entire Commission.

Surplus Property, Pender County - the Committee received an update on a recommendation that was tabled at an earlier WRC meeting to dispose of three 20-year old residential structures at the Watha State Fish Hatchery in Pender County. The committee will recommend approval of the disposal of the structures to the entire Commission at the August 29, 2013 meeting.

2013-2014 Field Trial Schedule – the Committee received the proposed 2013-2014 Field Trial Running Schedule and will recommend adoption by the Commission at the meeting on August 29, 2013.

Discussion – it was requested that an area of Brices Creek near Wilmington be investigated as a possible boating access area. Comprehensive Management Plans for seven game lands are being developed.

Chair Tom Berry adjourned the meeting at 1:45 pm.