



AGENDA

N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

December 5, 2019, 9:00 a.m.

1751 Varsity Drive

NCWRC Conference Room, 5th Floor

Raleigh, North Carolina

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

This meeting is being recorded as a public record and will be available at www.ncwildlife.org. As a courtesy to others please silence cell phones and other electronic devices during the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – *Commissioner Tom Berry*

INVOCATION - *Commissioner Mike Johnson*

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS – *Chairman David Hoyle*

MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY - North Carolina General Statute §163A-159(e) 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 24, 2019 MINUTES – Take action on the October 24, 2019 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit and distributed to members (**EXHIBIT A**)

ADMINISTRATION

Financial Status Report - Receive a financial status report on the Wildlife Operating Fund and Wildlife Endowment Fund –*Melissa Earp, Finance Office Chief* (**EXHIBIT B**)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee Report – *David Hoyle, Chair*

Boating Safety Committee Report – *Mike Johnson, Chair*

Finance Committee Report – *Brad Stanback, Vice Chair*

Land Acquisitions and Property Report – *Tom Berry, Chair*

Big Game Committee Report – *John Coley, Chair*

Committee of the Whole Report – *Chairman David Hoyle*

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – **The District Wildlife Biologist** – *Greg Batts, District 3 Biologist*

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Division Update - Receive an update on the activities of the Wildlife Management Division – *Brad Howard, Wildlife Management Division Chief*

Lawrence G. Diedrick Small Game Award – Present the 2019 Lawrence G. Diedrick Small Game Award to Tim Eaton – *Brad Howard*

INLAND FISHERIES DIVISION

Fisheries Division Update - Receive an update on activities of the Inland Fisheries Division – *Christian Waters, Inland Fisheries Division Chief*

LAND AND WATER ACCESS SECTION

Land and Water Access Section Update – Receive an update on the Land and Water Access Section – *Brian McRae, Land and Water Access Section Chief*

Land Acquisitions and Property Matters

Phase II Land Acquisitions – Consider final approval to proceed with acquisition of the following properties – *Jessie Birckhead, Land Acquisition and Grants Manager (EXHIBITS C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4)*

- Pump Station BAA Tract – Rowan County (C-1)
- Folger Tract – Alleghany County (C-2)
- Hauser Tract – Polk County (C-3)
- Lake Waccamaw BAA – Columbus County (C-4)

Other Property Matters

Duke Energy Easement Release and Relocation Request at Green River Game Lands – Henderson County – Consider request by Duke Energy for release and relocation of an easement at Green River Game Lands in Henderson County – *Jessie Birckhead (EXHIBIT D)*

Ditmore Right-of-Way Easement Request – Buncombe County – Consider request from Mr. Alan Ditmore, a private citizen, for a right of way easement for road access at Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe County – *Jessie Birckhead (EXHIBIT E)*

New Bern Boat Storage Building Demolition Request – Craven County – Consider request from staff to demolish a boat storage building at the New Bern Depot due to safety concerns – *Jessie Birckhead (EXHIBIT F)*

DOT Easement Request at Holly Shelter Game Land – Pender County – Consider request by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT) for an easement at Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County – *Jessie Birckhead (EXHIBIT G-1)*

DOT Easement Exchange Request – Craven County – Consider a request by DOT to exchange easements providing access to the Maple Cypress Boating Access Area to accommodate bridge replacement projects in the area (**EXHIBIT G-2**)

RULEMAKING

Consider Fiscal Note and Proposed Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10A .1601 License Fees – Consider request to approve the fiscal note, publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* and open the public comment period for the proposed permanent rule moving all licenses, permits, stamps and certifications issued and administered by the Commission and associated fees from statute to rule and adjust existing fees by the CPI-U – *Carrie Ruhlman, Rulemaking Coordinator (EXHIBITS H-1, H-2)*

Review Public Comments and Consider Final Adoption – 15A NCAC 10H .0100 – Controlled Hunting Preserves for Domestically Raised Game Birds – Review public comments and consider adoption of amendments to the 10H .0100 Rules pertaining to controlled hunting preserves for domestically raised game birds – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBITS I-1, I-2)*

WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING

Review Public Comments and Consider Final Adoption - Carolina Beach No-Wake Zone – Review public comments and consider final adoption of a no-wake zone in a portion of Myrtle Grove Sound, near the docks and shoreline at Oceana Marina and Carolina Beach Yacht Club and Marina - *Betsy Haywood, No-Wake Zone Coordinator (EXHIBITS J-1, J-2)*

Review Public Comments and Consider Final Adoption for No-Wake Zone – Jimmies Creek on Lake Gaston – Northampton County – Review public comments and consider final adoption of a no-wake zone on a portion of Jimmie’s Creek on Lake Gaston, in Northampton County – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBITS K-1, K-2)*

COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN – *Chairman David Hoyle*

COMMENTS BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – *Gordon Myers*

ADJOURN

**EXHIBIT A
December 5, 2019**



**MINUTES
October 24, 2019
N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Meeting
Wilmington, North Carolina**

Chairman David Hoyle, Jr. called the October 24, 2019 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Cape Fear Ballroom Starboard Side at the Hotel Ballast in Wilmington, North Carolina. Commissioners Tom Berry, Mark Craig, Mike Johnson, and Wes Seegars were absent.

Commissioner Steve Windham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Tommy Fonville gave the invocation.

COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE

John Coley
Kelly Davis
David Hoyle, Jr.
Monty Crump
Brad Stanback
Ray Clifton
John Stone
Steve Windham

Richard Edwards
Jim Cogdell
Nat Harris
Joe Budd
Tommy Fonville
Landon Zimmer
Hayden Rogers

VISITORS

M. Renee Cahoon – Coastal Resources Commission
Liz Rutledge – N.C. Wildlife Federation

MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY

Chairman Hoyle welcomed guests present. He thanked Commissioners Steve Windham, Landon Zimmer, and Richard Edwards for their hospitality in making Commissioners and staff welcome in Wilmington during the three days of meetings. Hoyle advised the Commission of the mandatory ethics inquiry as mandated in N.C. General Statute 163A-159(e).

AUGUST 29, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Joe Budd and second by John Coley, the Commission approved the August 29, 2019 Commission minutes as presented in **Exhibit A**, which is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 TELEPHONIC MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Ray Clifton and second by Joe Budd, the Commission approved the September 12, 2019 telephonic meeting minutes as presented in **Exhibit B**, which is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

Financial Status Report - Melissa Earp, Finance Office Chief, presented a status report in **Exhibit C** on the Wildlife Operating Fund and the Wildlife Endowment Fund. As of September 30, 2019, the Wildlife Operating Fund year-to-date revenues were \$21,250,377.36 and expenditures were \$21,633,102.88. The Endowment Fund balance as of August 31, 2019 was \$136,726,699.75, with \$104,336,789.69 in the Bond Index Fund and \$31,551,162.36 in the Equity Index Fund. Non-expendable interest was \$13,412,249.58. Expendable interest was \$29,888,919.66. **Exhibit C** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee Report October 17, 2019 – Chairman David Hoyle, Jr. reported that the Executive Committee held a short meeting on October 17, 2019 in Raleigh, to discuss Executive Director succession planning. Hoyle stated that more discussions will follow in December 2019.

Migratory Birds and Waterfowl Committee Report – Richard Edwards, Committee Chair, reported that the Migratory Birds and Waterfowl Committee met Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at the Hotel Ballast in Wilmington. Landowners and conservation partners attended the committee meeting with special interest in 2021-2025 duck hunting seasons statewide. Migratory Bird Coordinator Doug Howell gave a presentation that explained the USFWS process for establishing duck seasons and specifically presented on the time frame for considering zoning of the waterfowl hunting seasons in North Carolina. It was presented that a recent change by the USFWS has allowed for a new option regarding the number of splits (periods that are closed to hunting) that will be allowed in zones for the 2021-2025 seasons. North Carolina has until July 1, 2020 to make decisions on whether the state will zone for ducks and which zoning option might be the best fit for duck hunter desires. Additionally, staff was asked to examine former survey sampling methods and make an effort to increase the sample size for future surveys to reach more active duck hunters. Finally, Chief Deputy Director Kyle Briggs presented an informational only overview of the Outdoor Heritage Act passed by the General Assembly and potential paths to implementation of Sunday hunting. No action was taken, and no action is under consideration.

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Finance Committee Report – Landon Zimmer, Committee Chair, reported that the Finance Committee met on October 23, 2019 at the Hotel Ballast in Wilmington. Melissa Earp reviewed the Financial Status Report with Finance Committee members and indicated that the report formatting has changed to include details to make the report easier to read. Ms. Earp provided a presentation regarding the agency’s budget code structure to aid in the understanding of transfers between budget codes. During this discussion, the committee asked that staff bring forth a presentation at the next meeting about timber revenue optimization. Ms. Earp discussed the return on investment for the Bond Index Fund and the Equity Index Fund investments of the Wildlife Endowment Fund over the period of June 2018 to June 2019 and the period July to September 2019. She reported a cumulative return on investment of 7.87% in bonds and 3.89% in equities for this period and a cumulative rate for the period July to September 2019 of 2.83% in bonds and -2.04% in equities. Ms. Earp provided an update on the agency’s license fee increases which includes legislative increases and Consumer Price Index increases and are planned to be implemented together January 1, 2020. Ms. Earp also provided an update on the Actuarial Study contract awarded to Southwick Associates, Inc. Data analysis is on track and the agency should receive Southwick’s report in late November. Janice Underwood provided an update on the purchase of domain names that could be associated with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. The committee asked that the agency move forward with negotiations for those domain names and requested that staff bring further information back to the committee at the next meeting.

Small Game and Wild Turkey Committee Report – John Stone, Committee Chair, reported that the Small Game and Wild Turkey Committee met on October 23, 2019 at the Hotel Ballast in Wilmington. The Committee welcomed National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) staff and State Chapter President Robert Smith. Smith reiterated the NWTF’s long-time support for the Commission and highlighted the efforts of North Carolina chapters to assist with turkey management and research statewide. Brian McRae, Land and Water Access Section Chief gave an update on the status of the Game Lands Quail Management Area evaluation process. The Committee received an update on the status of the Wildlife Conservation Lands Program and the new criteria for qualification. Staff reported significant public interest in the program and enrollment is underway. The Committee received the staff recommendation for the recipient of this year’s Lawrence G. Diedrick Small Game Award.

Motion from Small Game and Wild Turkey Committee: Upon a motion by Ray Clifton and second by Hayden Rogers, the Commission approved Tim Eaton as the recipient of the 2019 Lawrence G. Diedrick Small Game Award.

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Education, Shooting, and Archery Committee Report – Joe Budd, Committee Chair, reported that the Education, Shooting, and Archery Committee met on October 23, 2019 at the Hotel Ballast in Wilmington. Wildlife Education Division Chief Kris Smith presented the 4-H Youth Development proposal by Dr. Yoder. The NCWRC does not have the funding to pay for the proposal. The Committee directed staff to refer the request for funding the 4-H proposal to the Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council. Shooting range updates were provided by Engineering Chief Gary Gardner. Ten are completed and operating and six are in the process of being constructed. It was discussed that future ranges are needed in central North Carolina and Johnston County was mentioned as a possible location if land can be found. Discussion included the environmental impact of lead and plastic wads with a recommendation to continue to switch to steel ammunition and fiber wads. Kris Smith provided a Wildlife Education Programming year in review.

Land and Property Committee Report – Tommy Fonville, Committee Vice Chair, reported that the Land and Property Committee met on October 23, 2019 at the Hotel Ballast. Land Acquisition and Grants Manager Jessie Birkhead provided an update about current land projects and reviewed the land status spreadsheet. Staff was directed to provide an update on the status of fundraising for the Alcoa Tuckertown acquisition which is expected to cost \$8.5 million. The Committee evaluated and approved one Phase I Land Acquisition Project. Additionally, the Committee evaluated and endorsed two Phase II Land Acquisition Projects which are donations. Disposal of the Gibson Fox Trial Facility in Scotland County (Exhibit F) will be removed from the agenda pending working with the State Property Office on disposition of the property. In the meantime, staff will post No Trespassing signs along the property and report back to the Committee in December. Chairman Berry advised the Committee that work on the Sustainable Forestry Initiative is continuing.

Big Game Committee Report – John Coley, Committee Chair, reported that the Big Game Committee met on October 23, 2019 at the Hotel Ballast in Wilmington. Staff presented examples showing the locations of elk, alligators, and bears that are fitted with the agency's GPS collars. Staff updated the Committee on the agency's injured bear protocols and the agency bear rehabilitation program. Finally, the Committee discussed the ongoing need to increase bear tooth submission rates. The Committee decided that the agency should move forward with a mandatory tooth submission requirement. Staff was instructed to examine how the process might work and report back on potential paths forward at the December meeting.

Committee of the Whole (COW) Report – Chairman David Hoyle reported that the COW met on October 23, 2019 at the Hotel Ballast in Wilmington. Staff reviewed and endorsed rules proposals for fisheries, lands management, and wildlife management prior to a vote to take them to statewide public hearings in January 2020. The Committee reviewed and endorsed adoption of a temporary rule for requirements for land to qualify for present-use value taxation as wildlife conservation land that is used as a reserve for hunting, fishing, shooting, wildlife observation or wildlife activities; and reviewed and endorsed adoption of a temporary rule to establish license fees in rule and adjust the fees by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers. The Committee received an update on a trout angling access working group, and update on Sunday hunting on game lands project, and a law enforcement update. The Committee reviewed and endorsed the proposed 2020 Commission meeting schedule for a vote later in the meeting. Executive Director Gordon Myers gave a short update on delineation of waters.

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – 2019 BOATING SAFETY UPDATE

Law Enforcement Division Major Ben Meyer, North Carolina Boating Law Administrator, gave an update about boating safety efforts in the state this year. The emphasis has been on promoting boating safety through education classes and programs, outreach, proactive law enforcement, and pre-launch safety checks. Safety videos and social media including 144 media interviews have been used to educate the public. Pre-launch safety checks have been held on holidays and weekends. Education campaigns in English and Spanish have been produced, including “Preserve Your Life” at each boat ramp and “Wake Responsibly” brochures. Last year there were 35 boating fatalities in North Carolina and the aim is to continue to reduce that number through education and encouragement to wear life preservers when boating. Meyer mentioned the “On the Road, On the Water” campaign in partnership with the State Highway Patrol and other law enforcement agencies during the Memorial Day and Labor Day holidays. The “Operation Dry Water” campaign during the July 4 holiday included partnership where 166 officers worked to prevent Boating While Impaired (BWI) citations and boating incidents. The agency received the National Operation Dry Water Award, in the Large Agency Category, based on the number of officers employed in the operation along with the number of Boating While Intoxicated (BWI) operators arrested. Finally Major Meyer reviewed some new tools that NCWRC Law Enforcement is using for boating safety. The agency recently received a port security grant and bought a boat that is designed for use in crowded ports and is outfitted with plates for port security. Drones are being used increasingly for law enforcement and new maps have been developed to assist with activity areas. Finally, Major Meyer mentioned the 2019 boating fatalities so far. While 2020 did yield substantially fewer fatalities than 2018, he said there have been drownings and other deaths, and most have resulted from not wearing personal flotation devices (PFDs). Meyer stated that there are 50,000 fewer boat registrations in N.C. this year and hurricanes and storm damage have contributed to the decline.

WILDLIFE EDUCATION

Division Update –Kris Smith, Wildlife Education Division Chief, reported on recent activities of the Division including National Hunting and Fishing Day activities at Pisgah, Durham, and Corolla; citizen science activities at the North Carolina Arboretum; fly tying activities at the Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education; Youth Hunts; and fishing activities at White Lake.

LAND AND WATER ACCESS SECTION

Rulemaking 2020-2021 Game Land Rule Proposals – On a motion by Landon Zimmer and second by Nat Harris, the Commission approved proposed changes in the 2020-2021 game land rule proposals to be presented at statewide public hearings, presented by Land and Water Access Section Chief Brian McRae in **Exhibit D-1**, which is incorporated into the official record of this meeting:

1. Create the designation of a “Sensitive Habitat Zone” that can restrict access or usage in specific areas on game lands. Proposals for this designation will be presented at a public input meeting and at an official Commission meeting for final approval.

15A NCAC 10D .0102 General regulations regarding use

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2. Allow veterans, active duty members of the armed forces, active duty national guardsmen, and active duty reservists with valid credentials to hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
3. Clarify NCAC rule text that posted impoundments and Wildlife Resources Commission managed hunting blinds at Croatan, Currituck Banks, Goose Creek, and White Oak River game lands are permit-only areas during designated veterans/military waterfowl days.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
4. Expand the timeframe in which pursuing or taking foxes with dogs is prohibited on Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
5. Expand horseback riding opportunities at South Mountains Game Land by allowing it to occur on designated trails from January 2 – March 31 and on Sundays April 1 – May 15 and September 1 – January 1.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
6. Prohibit target shooting on Sandy Mush Game Land.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
7. Prohibit the pursuing or chasing of deer and bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting on the Pee Dee River Game Land.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
8. Designate deer hunting on the Campbell Tract of Columbus County Game Land as permit-only.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
9. Designate bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract of Carteret County Game Land as permit-only.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
10. Align the squirrel season with the rabbit season and deer with visible antlers season at the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Area at Sandhills Game Land.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
11. Restrict the use of bicycles to designated trails only on the State-owned Linville River Tract of Pisgah Game Land. This restriction will not apply to hunters using bicycles during open days of applicable hunting seasons.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
12. Clarify NCAC rule text that deer of either sex may be taken during the blackpowder firearms season at Buffalo Cove Game Land and South Mountains Game Land.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

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13. Clarify NCAC rule text that hunting and trapping at J. Morgan Futch, Roanoke River Wetlands, and Texas Plantation game lands is by permit only.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
14. Clarify NCAC rule text that at Sandhills Game Land deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment during the archery season, with archery equipment and blackpowder firearms during the blackpowder season, and by permit during the deer with visible antlers season. Also clarify that only deer with visible antlers may be taken during the extended primitive weapons season.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

Fiscal Note for Proposed 2020-2021 Game Land Rules – On a motion by Landon Zimmer and second by Nat Harris, the Commission approved the Fiscal Note for proposed changes in the 2020-2021 game land rules, presented in **Exhibit D-2**, which is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

PROPERTY MATTERS

Phase II Land Acquisitions

On a motion by Ray Clifton and second by John Stone, the Commission gave final approval to proceed with acquisitions of two properties by donation, presented by Land Acquisition and Grants Manager Jessie Birkhead in **Exhibits E-1 and E-2**. **Exhibits E-1 and E-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting:

- McDowell Shooting Range Tract – McDowell County (Exhibit E-1)
- Lahuis Tract – Henderson County (Exhibit E-2)

Property Matter Removed from Agenda – Exhibit F, consideration of disposition of the Gibson Fox Trial Facility in Scotland County, was removed from the agenda.

INLAND FISHERIES DIVISION

Division Update – Inland Fisheries Division Chief Christian Waters presented an update about the activities of the Division. Staff has conducted surveys on aquatic species relative to the Endangered Species Act. Among other species, data was contributed pertaining to the Carolina pygmy sunfish. Waters gave an update on invasive snakehead fish that have been in the news recently, stating there has been no snakehead reported in North Carolina waters for the past ten years. Waters mentioned ongoing education efforts about lessening the impacts of aquatic nuisance species by reminding vessel owners to clean, drain and dry their vessels after removal from any body of water. Informational signs are being prepared for Boating Access Areas and Public Fishing Areas.

Rulemaking – 2020-2021 Fishing Rule Proposals

On a motion by John Stone and second by Richard Edwards, the Commission approved proposed changes to the 2020-2021 fishing rule proposals to be presented at statewide public hearings, presented in **Exhibit G-1** by Christian Waters. **Exhibit G-1** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting:

Trout

1. Modify the upper boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters on Fires Creek in Clay County adding 200 feet to Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be Rockhouse Creek to the foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
2. Modify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on West Fork French Broad River in Transylvania County adding 200 feet to Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be S.R. 1312 to confluence with North Fork French Broad River.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
3. Modify the lower boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on South Prong Lewis Fork in Wilkes County adding approximately 0.2 miles to Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be Fall Creek to U.S. 421 bridge adjacent to the S.R. 1155 intersection.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
4. Modify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Puncheon Fork in Madison County removing 0.6 miles from Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be Wolf Laurel Branch to Big Laurel Creek.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
5. Clarify the lower boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters on Mitchell River in Surry County. This proposal will not add or remove any Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will remain 0.6 miles upstream of the end of S.R. 1333 to the lowermost bridge on S.R. 1330.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
6. Define “artificial fly” when used in Public Mountain Trout Waters as one single hook dressed with feathers, hair, thread, tinsel, rubber, or any similar material to which no additional hook, spinner, spoon or similar device is added.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
7. Define “single hook” when used in Public Mountain Trout Waters as a fishhook with only one point.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

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8. Specify the impounded waters of power reservoirs and municipally owned water supply reservoirs that are open to the public for fishing when Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are closed to fishing. The reservoirs are: Bear Creek Lake, Buckeye Creek Reservoir, Calderwood Reservoir, Cedar Cliff Lake, Cheoah Reservoir, Cliffside Lake, Tanssee Creek Lake, Queens Creek Lake, and Wolf Lake.

15A NCAC 10C .0316 Trout

Largemouth Bass

1. Remove the restriction of only one Largemouth Bass greater than 20 inches may be possessed at Randleman Reservoir and implement the general statewide regulation for Largemouth Bass. The daily creel limit is five fish, and there is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but only two of them may be less than 14 inches.

15A NCAC 10C .0305 Black Bass

2. Modify the current rule applying to all black bass species making the rule specific to Largemouth Bass and relocating rule text for other black bass species to new separate rules.

15A NCAC 10C .0305 Black Bass

Smallmouth Bass

1. Establish a rule specific to Smallmouth Bass and relocate rule text specific to Smallmouth Bass from the current rule applying to all black bass species.

15A NCAC 10C .0321 Smallmouth Bass

Alabama Bass and Spotted Bass

1. Update the Inland Game Fishes Designation for black bass to include Alabama Bass, *Micropterus henshalli*.

15A NCAC 10C .0301 Inland Game Fishes Designated

2. Establish a general statewide regulation of no minimum size limit and no daily creel limit for Alabama Bass and Spotted Bass.

15A NCAC 10C .0322 Alabama and Spotted Bass

Redeye Bass

1. Establish a general statewide regulation of no minimum size limit for Redeye Bass, *Micropterus coosae*, but only two of them may be less than 14 inches and a five-fish daily creel limit.

15A NCAC 10C .0323 Redeye Bass

Crappie

1. Remove the 8-inch minimum size limit and 20-fish daily creel limit for crappie in Badin Lake, Falls Lake (Stanly and Montgomery counties), Lake Tillery, Blewett Falls Lake, and the Pee Dee River from Blewett Falls Dam to the South Carolina state line.
15A NCAC 10C .0306 Crappie
2. Clarify the 20-fish daily creel and 8-inch minimum length limit for crappie applies to Cane Creek Lake in Union County.
15A NCAC 10C .0306 Crappie

Striped Bass and Bodie Bass (Hybrid Striped Bass)

1. Remove the 16-inch minimum size limit for Bodie Bass on Arrowhead Lake (Anson County) and High Rock Pond (Caswell County). The general statewide regulation of a 20-inch minimum size limit and a four fish daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids will apply.
15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass
2. Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for Bodie Bass in Hyco Reservoir by implementing a 16-inch minimum size limit. The daily creel limit will be four fish.
15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass

Kokanee Salmon

1. Decrease the general statewide daily creel limit for Kokanee Salmon from seven fish to four fish.
15A NCAC 10C .0308 Kokanee Salmon

Catfish

1. Designate Black Bullhead, Brown Bullhead, Flat Bullhead, Snail Bullhead, White Catfish, and Yellow Bullhead as Inland Game Fish when found in Inland Fishing Waters. *15A NCAC 10C .0301 Inland Game Fishes Designated*
2. Establish a general statewide regulation for Black Bullhead, Brown Bullhead, Flat Bullhead, Snail Bullhead, White Catfish, and Yellow Bullhead by implementing a 10-fish daily creel limit in combination. There is no minimum size limit or closed season.
15A NCAC 10C .0324 Catfish

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3. Increase the daily creel limit for Channel Catfish from six to seven fish in waters stocked and managed for catfish and located on game lands, on Commission-owned property, or on the property of a cooperator, including waters within the Community Fishing Program. The daily creel will no longer apply to White or Blue Catfish.
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes
4. Add Blue Catfish to the list of species for which no permit shall be issued to stock into inland fishing waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0209 Transportation of Live Fish
5. Prohibit the harvest and possession of Margined Madtom and Tadpole Madtom in inland fishing waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes

Prohibited Species

1. Add the Redtail Catfish to the list of species for which it is unlawful to transport, purchase, possess, sell or stock in the public or private waters of North Carolina.
15A NCAC 10C .0211 Possession of Certain Fishes

Fiscal Note for Proposed 2020-2021 Fishing Rules – On a motion by Nat Harris and second by John Coley, the Commission approved the Fiscal Note for proposed changes in the fishing rules, presented in **Exhibit G-2** which is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Rulemaking 2020-2021 Wildlife Management Rule Proposals – On a motion by Jim Cogdell and second by John Coley, the Commission approved proposed changes to the 2020-2021 Wildlife Management rule proposals to be presented at statewide public hearings, presented in **Exhibit H-1** by Wildlife Management Division Chief Brad Howard. **Exhibit H-1** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting:

Deer

1. Require the successful turkey, deer, or bear (big game) hunter to validate his/her Big Game Harvest Report Card by cutting or notching out the corresponding day and month immediately after harvest, and clarify that registration shall be made via the Electronic Big Game Reporting System before the big game is: skinned, dismembered, left unattended by the successful hunter, or placed in the possession of another person. Harvested big game that have not been skinned, dismembered, left unattended by the successful hunter, or placed in the possession of another person, including deer harvested in accordance with the Deer Management Assistance Program, shall be registered by 12 noon the day following the harvest. Big game harvested in remote areas shall be registered by 12 noon the day after leaving the remote area. Big game harvested in remote areas that cannot be transported intact may be skinned and dismembered before registration.

15A NCAC 10B .0113 Big Game Harvest Reports

2. Prohibit the use of cervid excrement (urine, feces, saliva, and other bodily fluids) for taking or attracting wildlife.

15A NCAC 10B .0201 Prohibited Taking and Manner of Take

3. Change the current blackpowder firearms season in those parts of Buncombe and Henderson counties enrolled in the maximum deer either-sex firearms season to allow for take of either sex deer during the entire blackpowder firearms season.

15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)

Alligator

1. Amend the alligator rule to clearly articulate that the Agency may specify minimum size restrictions and allowable methods of restraint on an alligator take permit. Require immediate release of alligators not meeting the minimum size limit stated on the permit.

15A NCAC 10B .0224 American Alligator

Bullfrog

1. Establish seasons and a daily bag limit for the take of bullfrogs and clarify that artificial lights for taking bullfrogs are legal.

15A NCAC 10B .0226 Bullfrogs

15A NCAC 10D .0105 Possession and Removal of Animals, Plants and Materials

Fiscal Note for Proposed 2020-2021 Wildlife Management Rules – On a motion by Ray Clifton and second by Landon Zimmer, the Commission approved the Fiscal Note for proposed changes in 2020-2021 Wildlife Management rules, presented in **Exhibit H-2** which is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

TEMPORARY RULEMAKING

Adoption of Temporary Rule 15A NCAC 10F .0101 Wildlife Reserve – On a motion by Ray Clifton and second by Nat Harris, the Commission adopted a temporary rule presented in **Exhibit I** by Michael Smallwood, Policy Analyst for Rules, 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. **Exhibit I** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

Review of Public Comments and Adoption of Temporary Rule 15A NCAC 10A .1601 License Fees – The Commission reviewed one public comment in **Exhibit J-1**, and on a motion by John Coley and second by Ray Clifton adopted a temporary rule, presented in **Exhibit J-2**, moving all licenses, permits, stamps, and certifications issued and administered by the Commission and associated fees from statute to rule and adjusting existing fees by the CPI-U. **Exhibits J-1 and J-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

2020 WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION SCHEDULE

On a motion by Ray Clifton and second by Richard Edwards, the Commission adopted the proposed 2020 schedule of Wildlife Resources Commission meetings as presented in **Exhibit K**:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2020

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2020

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2020

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman David Hoyle, Jr. asked staff to consider locations and date or dates for one or two Commission meetings elsewhere in the state in 2020, for consideration by the Commission. He thanked the IT staff for their hard work in restoring the IT capabilities of the agency with the IT security breach in September. Hoyle thanked staff for making the Wilmington event a success and thanked Commissioners for attending and for providing social activities during the three meeting days.

COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Gordon Myers thanked Commissioners Zimmer, Edwards, and Windham for hosting events in Wilmington. He announced that there is growing momentum for the Recovering America’s Wildlife Act. The Act may provide significant funding to augment the Wildlife Action Plan and provide for species of greatest conservation need. North Carolina could gain 25 million dollars. Myers expressed appreciation for the sponsorship by Congressmen McHenry, Budd, and Rouzer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Hoyle at 10:04 a.m.

All exhibits are incorporated into the official record of this meeting by reference and are filed with the minutes.

David Hoyle, Jr., Chairman

Date

Gordon Myers, Executive Director

Date

NC Wildlife Resources Commission
 CAFR 52G (Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances)
 Governmental Funds
 As of October 31, 2019

EXHIBIT B

	2019-20 YTD	2019-20 YTD	2019-20 YTD
	General	Capital Improvement	Endowment/Permanent
REVENUES			
Federal funds	11,384,444.20	6,511,434.07	-
Local funds	1,835.96	-	-
Investment earnings	66,682.89	-	987,318.11
Sales and services	3,328,775.45	-	-
Rental and lease of property	3,397.40	-	-
Fees, licenses and fines	13,361,384.07	-	1,467,895.00
Contributions, gifts and grants	233,011.75	2,392,748.00	6,901.68
Miscellaneous	432,717.76	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	28,812,249.48	8,904,182.07	2,462,114.79
EXPENDITURES			
Personal services	11,840,916.37	-	-
Employee benefits	5,082,450.75	-	-
Contracted personal services	4,217,744.75	274,833.16	-
Supplies and materials	3,111,601.16	3,619.04	-
Travel	164,354.86	-	-
Communication	258,335.43	-	-
Utilities	263,791.47	-	-
Data processing services	204,016.20	-	-
Other services	1,348,168.10	-	-
Claims and benefits	475,413.20	-	-
Other fixed charges	103,055.42	-	-
Capital outlay	2,528,781.80	11,204,577.79	-
Grants, state aid and subsidies	898,227.58	-	-
Insurance and bonding	40,995.00	-	-
Other expenditures	364,700.99	6,619.04	-
Unclassified/invalid accounts	14,810.90	-	-
Reimbursements	(462,389.70)	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	30,454,974.28	11,489,649.03	-
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(1,642,724.80)	(2,585,466.96)	2,462,114.79
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Sale of capital assets	73,917.34	-	-
Transfers in	14,053,175.49	2,319,733.51	-
Transfers out	(17,014,565.87)	-	(1,935,300.00)
Appropriations	5,455,659.00	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	2,568,185.96	2,319,733.51	(1,935,300.00)
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	925,461.16	(265,733.45)	526,814.79
FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, As previously stated	15,317,893.28	3,983,533.15	133,812,403.02
FUND BALANCE - SEPTEMBER 30	16,243,354.44	3,717,799.70	134,339,217.81

NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION
WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND
FUND BALANCES AS OF October 31, 2019

BOND INDEX FUND (BIF)	\$99,777,039.80
EQUITY INDEX FUND (EIF)	36,146,037.23
SHORT TERM INVESTMENT FUND (STIF)	1,016,127.19
TOTAL WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCE AS OF 10/31/19	<u>\$ 136,939,204.22</u>

INTEREST INCOME WITHIN FUNDS	EXPENDABLE	NON-EXPENDABLE
ADULT LICENSE SALES	\$27,003,264.66	
INFANT LICENSE SALES		\$12,415,928.57
YOUTH LICENSE SALES		1,118,484.55
CONTRIBUTIONS	1,862,069.91	
WILDLIFE DIVERSITY	738.27	
MAGAZINE SALES	1,431,490.51	
	<u>\$ 30,297,563.35</u>	<u>\$ 13,534,413.12</u>

EXPENDABLE INTEREST TRANSFERRED TO OPERATIONS FISCAL YTD
\$1,935,300.00
<u>\$ 1,935,300.00</u>

Exhibit C-1

December 5, 2019

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

Tract Name: Pump Station BAA Tract

WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): N/A - Donation

Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):

Donation from Three Rivers Land Trust

Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale? Yes No N/A

If Yes, Explain Details:

Total Cost Based on Appraisal? Yes No N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value

Appraisal Handled by State Property Office? Yes No N/A

Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):

Federal Assistance Grant – 75% federal: 25% state

Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$13,000.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

Exhibit C-1

December 5, 2019

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

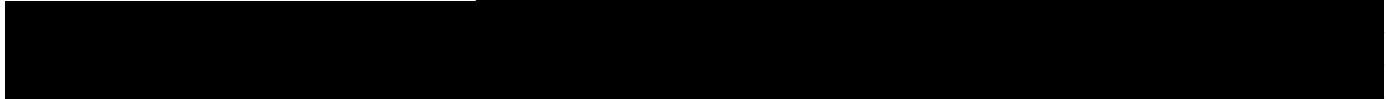
Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections: Pump Station BAA Tract

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Gravel			One-time	\$1,500	\$1,500.00
Boat launch improvements	1	Each	One-time	\$6,500	\$6,500.00
ADA parking area and sidewalk	1	Each	One-time	\$5,000	\$5,000.00
TOTAL					\$13,000.00

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
TOTAL				\$0.00

**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

WRC Staff Contact:	Chris Dawes
Date First Presented to Commission:	Dec-19
Tract Name:	Pump Station BAA
County:	Rowan
Acreage:	.63 acres
Tax Value:	
Property Owner/Representative:	Three Rivers Land Trust



Primary Purpose:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource Protection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource Management
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	User Access
<input type="checkbox"/>	WRC Facility

Program Potential:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Game Land
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife Conservation Area
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Access Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	None

Type of Acquisition:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Purchase
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lease
<input type="checkbox"/>	Easement

Type of Parcel:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tract
<input type="checkbox"/>	Riparian Corridor

Grant Potential:

<input type="checkbox"/>	CWMTF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Donation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (overwrite this cell)

Owner Interest:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

Tax Value:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Year Assessed
<input type="checkbox"/>	PUV?

Stewardship Considerations:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Source:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Match:

Funding Considerations:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Donation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bargin Sale
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partner Contribution

Recommendation:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do Not Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Defer

Additional Comments:
Three Rivers Land Trust will transfer the ~.63 acre parcel to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission with the intent to create a WRC Boating Access Area and associated parking area by improving the existing boat landing and dirt parking area.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name:	Pump Station BAA
County:	Rowan

Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):

The proposed project is intended to improve river access to the South Yadkin/Yadkin basin. WRC will plan/construct/improve the existing boat launch and associated parking at the site. Access to the newly acquired High Rock/Alcoa tracts will be greatly improved through this land transfer.

Tract Name	Pump Station BAA
Date	November 12, 2019
Staff Completing Form	Brady Beck

Species	0.000
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0

Comments
This is strictly an access project. No direct benefit to species conservation is anticipated.

Habitat	0.000
Size	0
Quality	0
Diversity	0
Rare/Important	0
Connectivity	0
Buffer	0

Comments
This is strictly an access project. No direct benefit to habitat is anticipated.

Public Access	1.000
Hunting/Viewing	3
Fishing	3
Boating	3

Comments
Public hunting, fishing and boating access to the South Yadkin/Yadkin will be improved through this project. Improvements to the existing landing will make accessing the newly acquired High Rock/Alcoa tracts by water much easier.

Wildlife Uses	0.933
Hunting	3
Viewing	3
Fishing	3
Boating	3
Education	2

Comments
While no public hunting will be allowed on the BAA, river access to local hunting, viewing, fishing and boating opportunities will improve with this new public access point. Access to the recently acquired High Rock/Alcoa will be greatly improved both upstream and downstream.

Other Values	0.667
Timber Harvest	0
Local Economy	3
Quality of Life	3

Comments
Improving boating access can benefit local businesses from gas and convenience stores to boating suppliers.

Feasibility & Logistics	0.667
Existing Infrastructure	2
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	3
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	0
Proximity to Users	2

Comments
Road access to the project is good. The adjoining is managed by the Three Rivers Land Trust. The existing boat landing will be improved by replacing the existing concrete slab and improving/enlarging the current parking area.

Restoration/Mitigation Potential	0.250
Species Restoration	0
Habitat Restoration	0
Access Improvement	3
Threat Mitigation	0

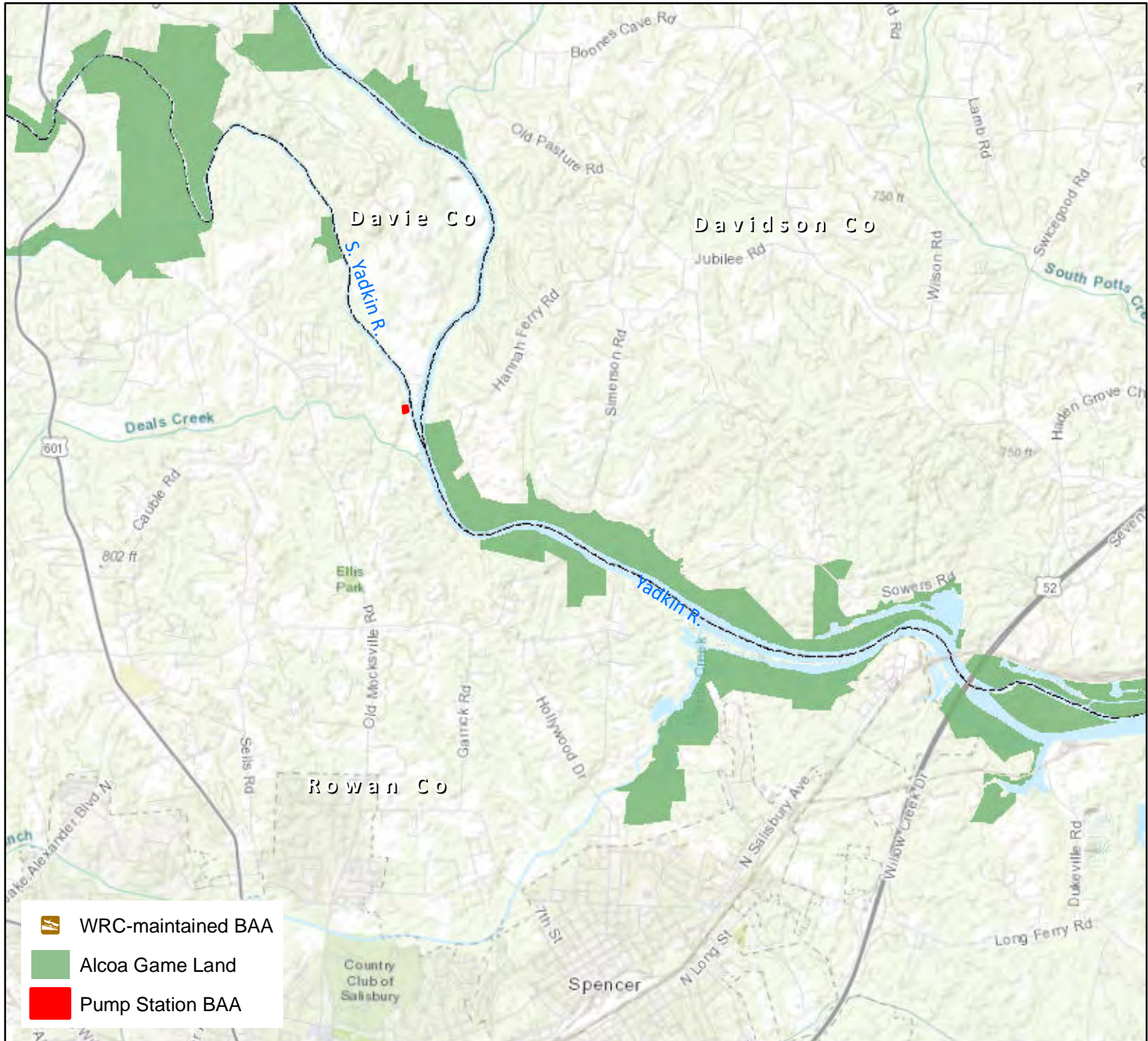
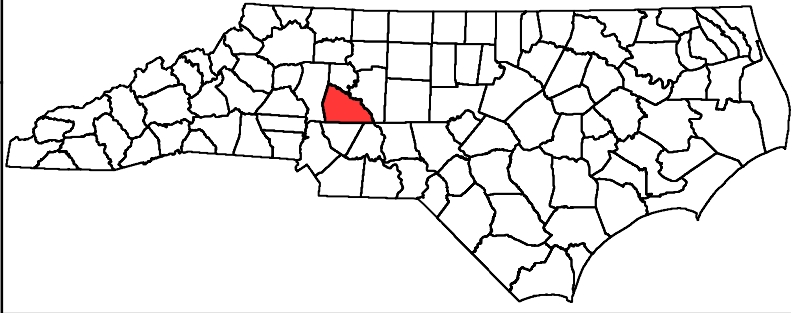
Comments
This is strictly an access project. No direct benefit to species restoration is anticipated.




Threats	0.000
Number	0
Severity	0
Imminence	0
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0

Comments
No threats have been identified that this project addresses.

Overall Score	3.517
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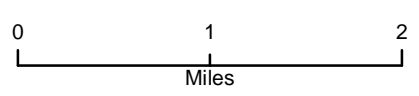
Pump Station BAA Tract Rowan County 0.63 Acres



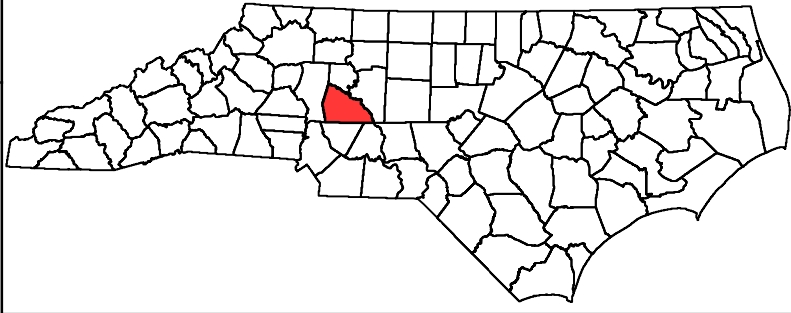
-  WRC-maintained BAA
-  Alcoa Game Land
-  Pump Station BAA



November 26, 2019



**Pump Station BAA Tract
Rowan County
0.63 Acres**



November 26, 2019



Exhibit C-2

December 5, 2019

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

Tract Name: Folger

WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): December 05, 2018

Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):

Wildlife Restoration Funds	\$50,000
TOTAL COST	\$50,000

Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale? Yes No N/A

If Yes, Explain Details: Bargain sale from the Conservation Trust for North Carolina to the WRC representing a \$205,000 reduction in price. Bargain sale value will be used as grant match.

Total Cost Based on Appraisal? Yes No N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
Land Trust	Phillips Appraisal Inc.	April 2019	\$255,000

Appraisal Handled by State Property Office? Yes No N/A

Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):

Federal Assistance Grant – 75% federal: 25% state

Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$ 7,750.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$ 0

Exhibit C-2

December 5, 2019

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

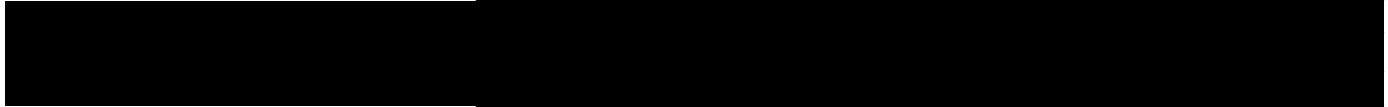
**Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:
FOLGER**

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Install Gate	1	Each	One-time	\$750.00	\$750.00
Improve Access Road	.15	Mile	One-time	\$30,000	\$4,500.00
Boundary Establishment	1,900	Feet	One-time	\$1.32	\$2,500.00
TOTAL					\$7,750.00

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
TOTAL				\$0.00

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

WRC Staff Contact:	Paul Thompson
Date First Presented to Commission:	5-Dec-18
Tract Name:	Folger Corporation
County:	Alleghany
Acreeage:	(+/-) 25 acres
Tax Value:	\$120,015
Property Owner/Representative:	Barney Folger



<p>Primary Purpose:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> User Access <input type="checkbox"/> WRC Facility	<p>Program Potential:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Game Land <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Conservation Area <input type="checkbox"/> Access Area <input type="checkbox"/> None
<p>Type of Acquisition:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement	<p>Type of Parcel:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tract <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Corridor
<p>Grant Potential:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> CWMTF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Endowment <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Owner Interest:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>Tax Value:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> ? Year Assessed <input type="checkbox"/> ? PUV?	<p>Stewardship Considerations:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> PR Source: 75% <input type="checkbox"/> State Match: 25%
<p>Funding Considerations:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/> Bargain Sale <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partner Contribution	<p>Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<p>Recommendation:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pursue <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Pursue <input type="checkbox"/> Defer	

Additional Comments:

In 2014, the Piedmont Land Conservancy (PLC) purchased 40 acres that adjoins the current Mitchell River GL access road and boundary of the Saddle Mtn Tract. PLC has plans to convey this 40 acre tract to WRC and the acquisition of the +/- 25 acre Folger Corporation Tract, along with PLC's conveyance, will help solidify WRC ownership, create a large buffer, add additional access, and provide the opportunity to manage early successional habitat for SGCN. The Folger Corporation holdings consist of 37.5 acres but portions of this property are intertwined within the current RV park. The owner agrees to carve out the suggested +/- 25 acres that would be the most beneficial to WRC. The possibility that a portion of funding may come from Carolina Trust of NC is favorable.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name:	Folger Corporation Tract
County:	Alleghany

Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):

The +/- 25 acre Folger Corporation Tract borders the Saddle Mtn tract of Mitchell River GL on both the east and south boundary. The tract is bordered by an RV park to the west with 694 ft of direct access from DOT maintained Mtn Lake Rd (SR 1481) along the north. A developed access road (terminating in the interior of the tract) currently exists and offers additional access to this area of game land. The tract consists of approximately 9.5 acres of pasture/hay with the remaining 15.5 acres consisting predominately of Southern Appalachian Oak Forest with a small component of Southern Appalachian Cove Forest. The tract borders the Saddle Mountain Natural Area and management objectives will include restoring or maintaining the oak and cove forest priority habitats and restoring the pasture and hay fields to benefit both early successional and pollinator species. Common wildlife species found on this tract include wild turkey, white-tailed deer, raccoon, and gray squirrel. Species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) likely found on the tract as either permanent or transients include: Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), Appalachian cottontail (*Sylvilagus obscurus*), Wehrle's Salamander (*Plethodon wehrlei*), and Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*).

Tract Name	Folger Corporation
Date	October 9, 2018
Staff Completing Form	Paul Thompson

Species	0.222
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0

Comments
Overall biodiversity is good given the different habitat types found. The tract is within close proximity to recorded SGCN and possibly found on this tract. Deer, turkey, and small game should be found in good numbers.

Habitat	0.667
Size	0
Quality	2
Diversity	2
Rare/Important	2
Connectivity	3
Buffer	3

Comments
The tract offers a diversity of habitat and will solidify WRC ownership at Saddle Mtn. The tract will create a corridor for species requiring early successional habitat. The tract will increase the buffer between current adjoiners.

Public Access	0.333
Hunting/Viewing	3
Fishing	0
Boating	0

Comments
This tract will provide great access for hunting/wildlife viewing . There are no boating or fishing opportunities.

Wildlife Uses	0.467
Hunting	2
Viewing	3
Fishing	0
Boating	0
Education	2

Comments
Although wildlife viewing opportunities will be great, hunting will be limited to the 150 yards from dwelling rule. There is some opportunity for education and no opportunities for boating or fishing.

Other Values	0.667
Timber Harvest	2
Local Economy	2
Quality of Life	2

Comments
The tract has potential to produce, manage, and harvest timber. The tract may provide some benefit to both local economy and quality of life.

Feasibility & Logistics	0.667
Existing Infrastructure	2
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	3
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	1
Inholding/Corridor	3
Proximity to Users	1

Comments
The tract currently has a developed access road offering access to the interior of the tract. The tract adjoins an RV park so there is some potential for conflict. The tract offers great opportunity to provide a corridor to existing game land. The tract is not close in proximity to any large municipalities.

Restoration/Mitigation Potential	0.667
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	2
Access Improvement	2
Threat Mitigation	2

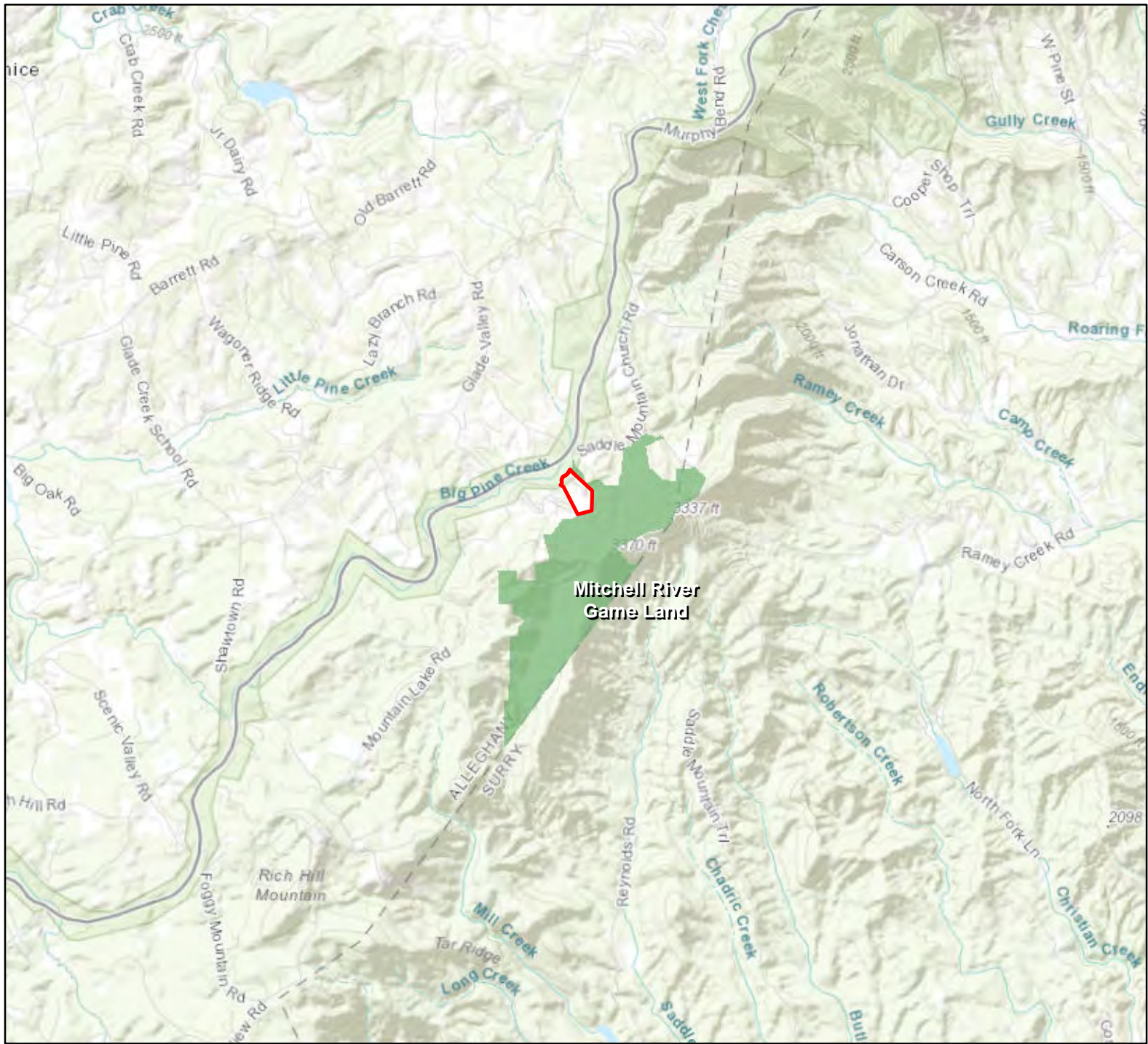
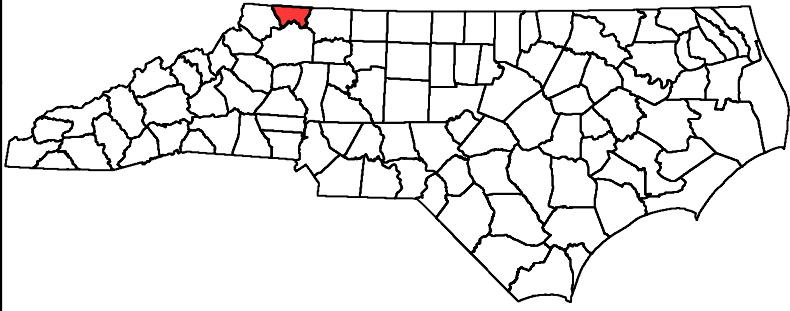
Comments
The tract has good potential for early successional habitat restoration and enhancement for pollinator species and associated wildlife. The existing access road offers additional access at little cost to WRC.

Threats	0.200
Number	2
Severity	0
Imminence	0
Manageability	1
Management Cost	0

Comments
Threats would include development of property resulting in increased conflict among adjoiners.

Overall Score	3.489
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Folger Tract
Allegheny County
+/- 25 Acres

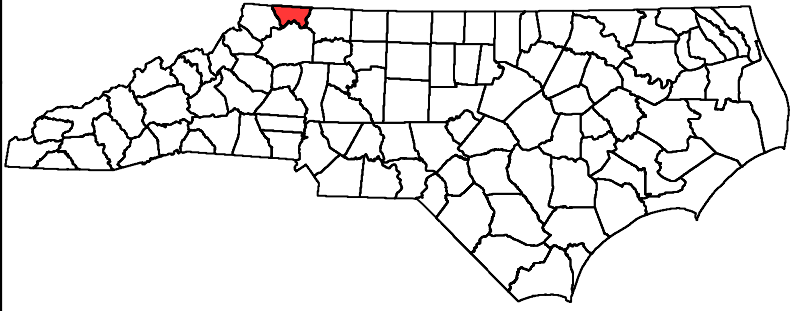


November 26, 2019

 Folger Tract



Folger Tract
Alleghany County
+/- 25 Acres



November 26, 2019

 Folger Tract

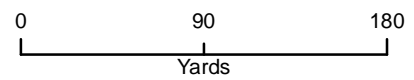


Exhibit C-3

December 5, 2019

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

Tract Name: Hauser Tract

WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): August 23, 2019

Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):

WRC Agency Funds	\$7,770
Green River Access Fund	\$3,230
National Wild Turkey Foundation	\$5,000
TOTAL COST	\$16,000

Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale? Yes No N/A

If Yes, Explain Details:

Total Cost Based on Appraisal? Yes No N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
WRC	CDN Appraisal, Inc.	August 2019	\$16,000

Appraisal Handled by State Property Office? Yes No N/A

Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):

Federal Assistance Grant – 75% federal: 25% state

Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$ 2,815.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$ 0.00

Exhibit C-3

December 5, 2019

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

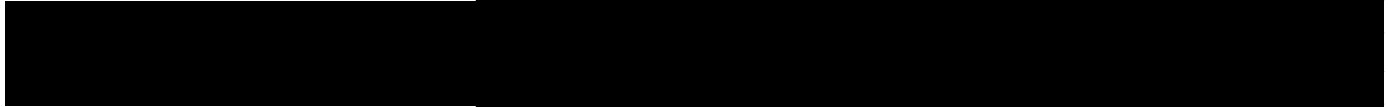
Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections: HAUSER TRACT

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment	1,477	Feet	One-time	\$1.50	\$2,215.00
Spot Gravel Parking Area	20	Ton	One-time	\$30.00	\$600.00
TOTAL					\$2,815.00

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
TOTAL				\$0.00

**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

WRC Staff Contact:	Paul Thompson
Date First Presented to Commission:	23-Aug-18
Tract Name:	Hauser Tract, Green River Game Land
County:	Polk
Acreege:	(+/-) 3 acres
Tax Value:	\$19,317
Property Owner/Representative:	Dane Hauser



<p>Primary Purpose:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> User Access <input type="checkbox"/> WRC Facility	<p>Program Potential:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Game Land <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Conservation Area <input type="checkbox"/> Access Area <input type="checkbox"/> None
<p>Type of Acquisition:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement	<p>Type of Parcel:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tract <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Corridor
<p>Grant Potential:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> CWMTF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Private Donor Funds) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (NFWF Grant)	<p>Owner Interest:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>Tax Value:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Year Assessed <input type="checkbox"/> PUV?	<p>Stewardship Considerations:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> PR Source: <input type="checkbox"/> 75/25 Match:
<p>Funding Considerations:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/> Bargain Sale <input type="checkbox"/> Partner Contribution	<p>Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<p>Recommendation:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pursue <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Pursue <input type="checkbox"/> Defer	

Additional Comments:
 Dane Hauser has recently acquired 20.51 acres adjoining Green River game land (GRGL) along Green River Cove Rd (SR 1151). Only a portion of this tract (+/- 3 acres) is critical for WRC ownership for the reasons described in the following. GRGL has an extensive trail network that is well known and highly utilized among many different user groups. There are several options for public access to this trail system along Big Hungry Rd, but due to topography there is only one access to this trail system from Green River Cove Rd via Green River Cove trail, which originates on the Hauser tract. Historically, a portion of the Green River Cove trail (Approx. 255 ft) has always passed through private property (currently Hauser tract) before it crosses into GRGL. Originally 11 acres was presented to the WRC, but a majority of that property would fall within the "no weapons discharge within 150 yards of house" rule. The acquisition of +/- 3 acres will be enough to secure public access to these trails and this section of game land. Securing the only access from Green River Cove Rd to this section of GRGL should be a high priority.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name:	Hauser
County:	Polk

Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):

Southern Central Appalachian oak forest is the predominant forest cover type on the Hauser Tract. Management objectives will include managing the wildlife and restoring or maintaining the oak forest priority wildlife habitat that is located on the tract. A parking area will be constructed to provide public access. Common wildlife species found on the tract include wild turkey, white-tailed deer, black bear, raccoon, and gray squirrel. Species of Greatest Conservation Need likely found on the tracts as either permanent residents or transients include: Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*), Eastern mole (*Scalopus aquaticus*), and eastern box turtle (*terrapene carolina*).

Tract Name	Hauser Tract
Date	August 23, 2018
Staff Completing Form	P. Thompson

Species	0.222
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0

Comments
Moderate biodiversity is based on the oak forest habitat and the diversity of wildlife found in the Green River area. Aquatic/wetland habitat is not present in significant quantity on the tract.

Habitat	0.444
Size	0
Quality	2
Diversity	1
Rare/Important	1
Connectivity	3
Buffer	1

Comments
The quality of the habitat on the tract is good. The diversity of habitats is low, but oak forest is a priority habitat. The property provides good connectivity to Green River GL.

Public Access	1.000
Hunting/Viewing	3
Fishing	3
Boating	3

Comments
There is currently good access to this tract. The tract is adjacent to Green River which provides great fishing and boating opportunities.

Wildlife Uses	0.667
Hunting	2
Viewing	2
Fishing	2
Boating	2
Education	2

Comments
The property offers good hunting and wildlife viewing opportunity. Educational opportunities will be moderate given the location and access. Although there is no water on this tract, it is immediately adjacent to the Green River and will provide access to this resource.

Other Values	0.333
Timber Harvest	1
Local Economy	1
Quality of Life	1

Comments
This tract is not well suited for timber production/harvest. This will provide some benefit to the local economy and provide some quality of life benefits to local residents.

Feasibility & Logistics	0.867
Existing Infrastructure	2
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	3
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	2
Inholding/Corridor	3
Proximity to Users	3

Comments
The tract has a well used trail system. Conflicts among game land users and adjoining should be minimal. The tract secures public access to existing trails and a large section of game land. Green River GL is located within close proximity to several large cities.

Restoration/Mitigation Potential	0.667
Species Restoration	1
Habitat Restoration	1
Access Improvement	3
Threat Mitigation	3

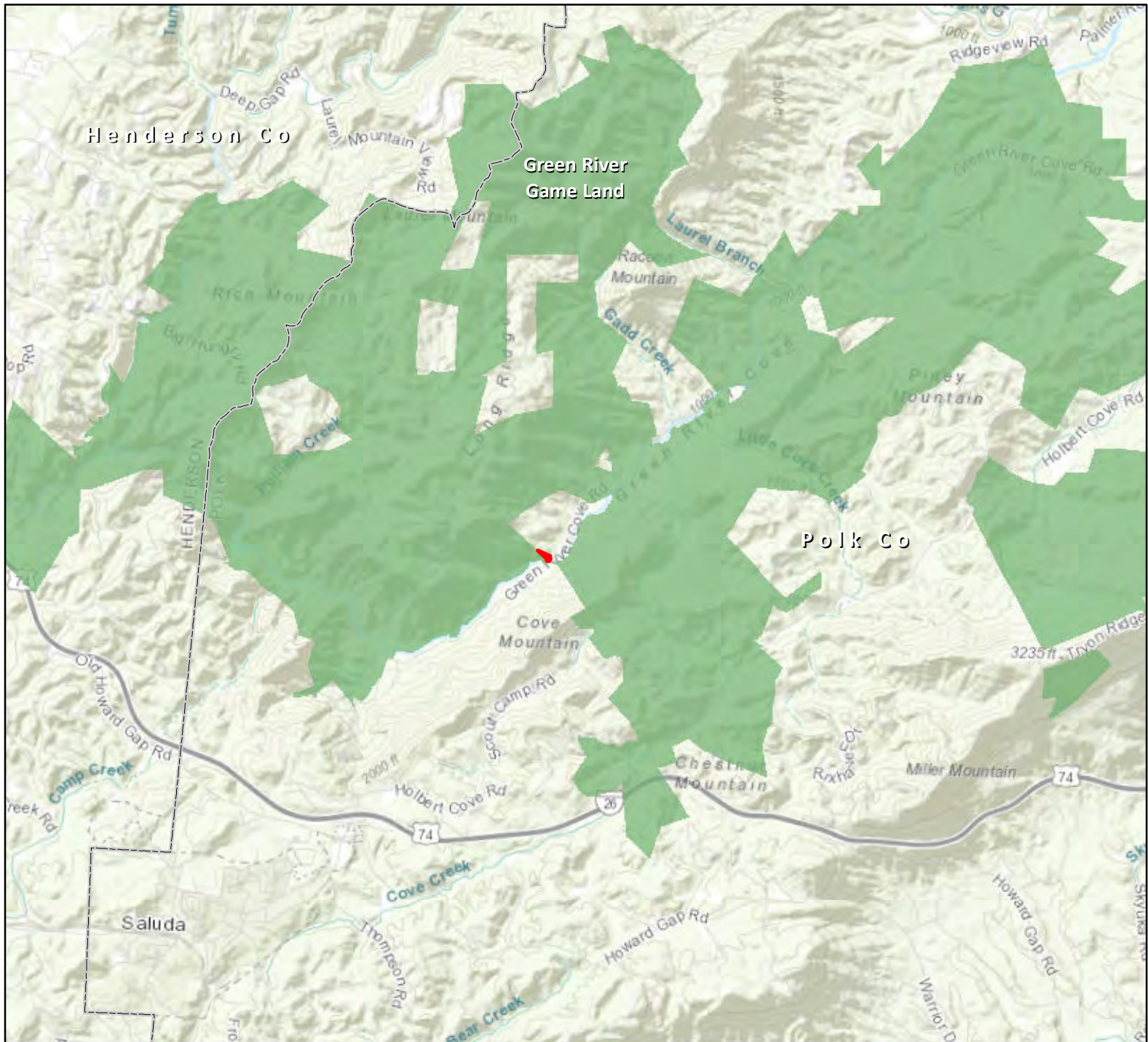
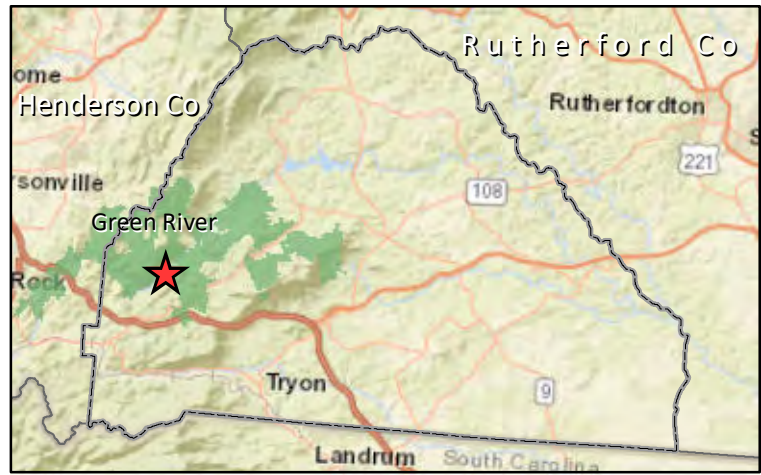
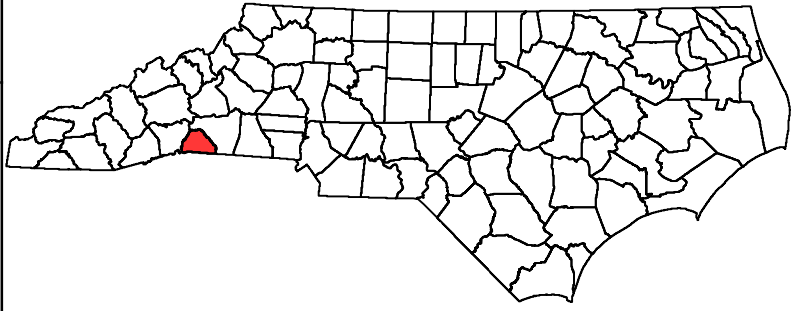
Comments
Restoration potential for habitat and species is minimal on this tract. The tract will create and secure public access. There are few threats to the properties.

Threats	0.200
Number	1
Severity	1
Imminence	1
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0


Comments
The only threat to the tract is sale to another buyer who might attempt to develop the tract.

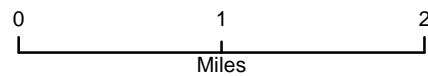
Overall Score	4.000
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**Hauser Tract
Polk County
+/- 1 Acre**

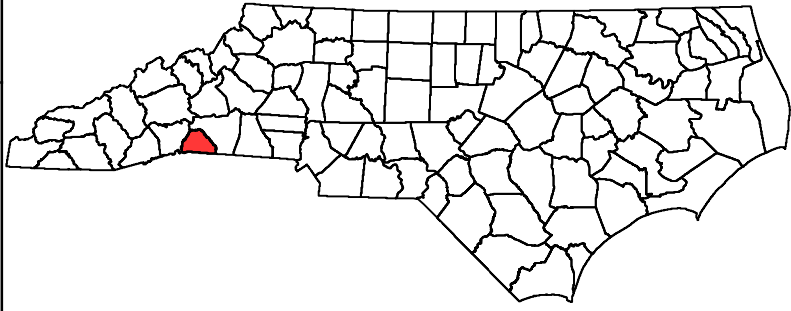


November 26, 2019

 Hauser Tract



**Hauser Tract
Polk County
+/- 1 Acre**



November 26, 2019

 Hauser Tract

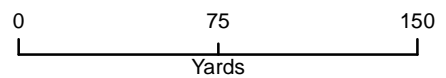


Exhibit C-4

December 5, 2019

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

Tract Name: Lake Waccamaw BAA Tract

WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): December 5, 2018

Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):

WRC Vessel Funds	\$510,000
TOTAL COST	\$510,000

Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale? Yes No N/A

If Yes, Explain Details:

Total Cost Based on Appraisal? Yes No N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
WRC	Mashburn Appraisal Group	April 2019	\$300,000
Landowner	McNeill Appraisal Group	August 2019	\$505,000
Landowner	Inland Associates, Inc.	September 2019	\$516,000

Appraisal Handled by State Property Office? Yes No N/A

Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):

Federal Assistance Grant – 75% federal: 25% state

Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$496,135.38
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

Exhibit C-4

December 5, 2019

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

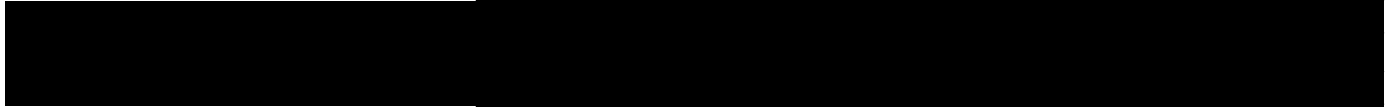
Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:
Lake Waccamaw BAA Tract

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment	1	Mile	One-time	\$500.00	\$500.00
BAA Development	1	Each	One-time	\$495,635.38	\$495,635.38
TOTAL					\$496,135.38

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
TOTAL				\$0.00

**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

WRC Staff Contact:	Gary Gardner
Date First Presented to Commission:	5-Dec-18
Tract Name:	Lake Waccamaw BAA
County:	Columbus
Acreeage:	37.49 Total, only approx. 5 acres of interest to the WRC
Tax Value:	\$188,100 Total
Property Owner/Representative:	Realtor - Henry J Edmund



<p>Primary Purpose:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> User Access <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WRC Facility	<p>Program Potential:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Game Land <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Conservation Area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access Area <input type="checkbox"/> None
<p>Type of Acquisition:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement	<p>Type of Parcel:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tract <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Corridor
<p>Grant Potential:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> CWMTF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: County Funds <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Owner Interest:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>Tax Value:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> 2017 Year Assessed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No PUV?	<p>Stewardship Considerations:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75% Source: Federal Aid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 25% Match:
<p>Funding Considerations:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/> Bargain Sale <input type="checkbox"/> Partner Contribution	<p>Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<p>Recommendation:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pursue <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Pursue <input type="checkbox"/> Defer	

Additional Comments:

The WRC was approached by an adjacent property owner at the Lake Waccamaw Boating Access Area to see if we were interested in purchasing 27 acres for parking expansion for the BAA. This BAA is currently limited to 13 trailer parking spaces. The landowner in question currently allows user parking on a portion of this property which is located across the street from the formal BAA parking. During peak boating periods the supplemental parking is always at, or over, capacity and it is utilized heavily by the public and WRC Enforcement staff. In addition, Columbus County Commissioners recently requested expansion of the parking area due to the heavy usage at the site. The land owner is asking for the property to be sold as an entire 27 acres tract. Parking expansion would only be viable on the northern most parcels, totaling 5.1 acres. We could feasibly add 30-40 more parking spaces in this additional area.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Land Acquisition Investigation Form
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name:	Lake Waccamaw BAA
County:	Columbus

Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):

Acquisition of the small area needed to expand parking at the Waccamaw BAA would be beneficial to users of this BAA as well as WRC staff.

Tract Name **Lake Waccamaw BAA**
 Date **November 28, 2018**
 Staff Completing Form **Jessie Birkhead, Gary Gardner**

Species	0.000
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0

Comments

Habitat	0.000
Size	0
Quality	0
Diversity	0
Rare/Important	0
Connectivity	0
Buffer	0

Comments

Public Access	0.667
Hunting/Viewing	0
Fishing	3
Boating	3

Comments
This acquisition would improve access to the Waccamaw BAA by securing additional areas for parking.

Wildlife Uses	0.467
Hunting	0
Viewing	1
Fishing	2
Boating	3
Education	1

Comments

Other Values	0.667
Timber Harvest	0
Local Economy	3
Quality of Life	3

Comments
This is a popular BAA that brings make people to the area for recreation.

Feasibility & Logistics	0.667
Existing Infrastructure	2
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	2
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	0
Proximity to Users	3

Comments

Restoration/Mitigation Potential	0.250
Species Restoration	0
Habitat Restoration	0
Access Improvement	3
Threat Mitigation	0

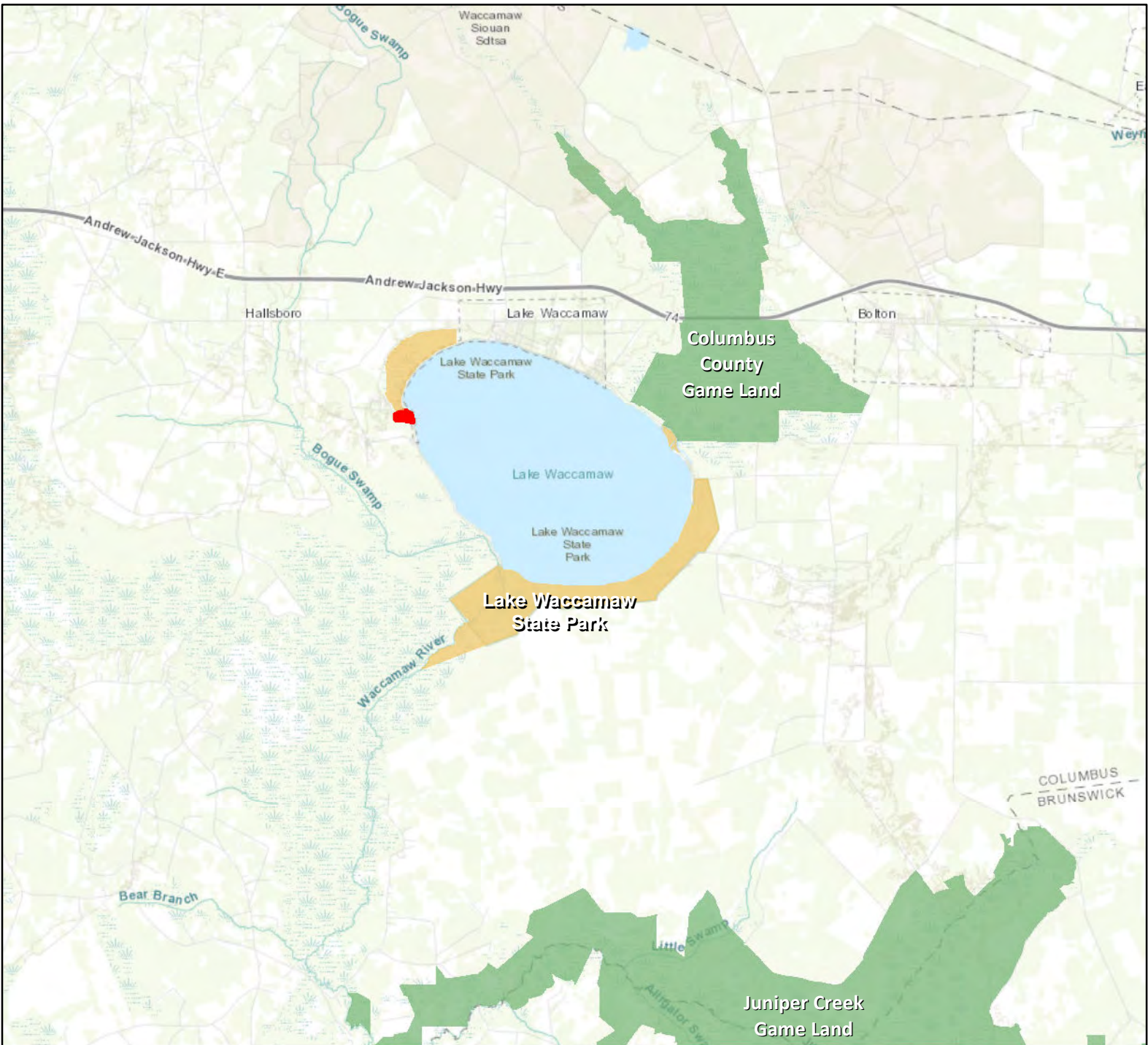
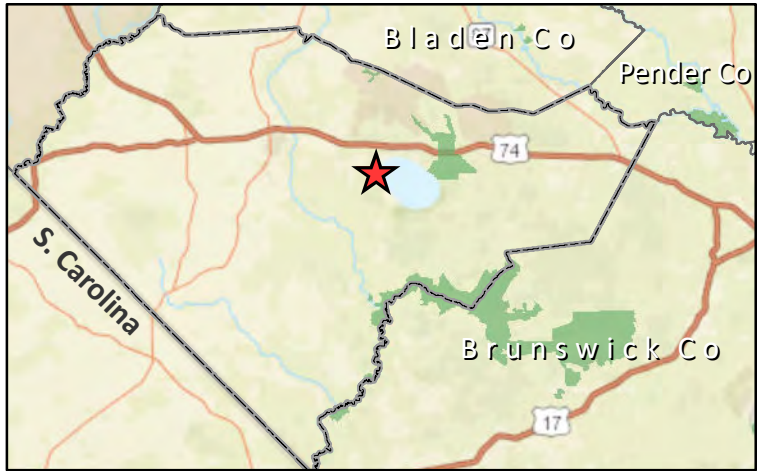
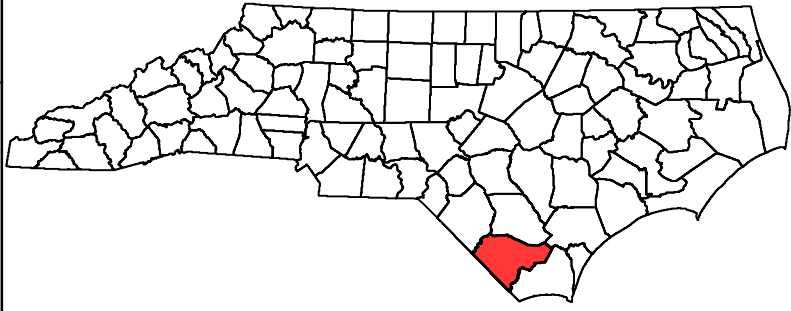
Comments

Threats	0.533
Number	2
Severity	1
Imminence	2
Manageability	2
Management Cost	1

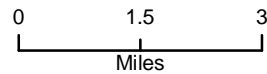
Comments
Most significant threat would be development if the WRC is unable to secure the property, which would reduce parking and access to this BAA.

Overall Score	2.183
----------------------	--------------

Heath Tracts Columbus County +/- 33 Acres

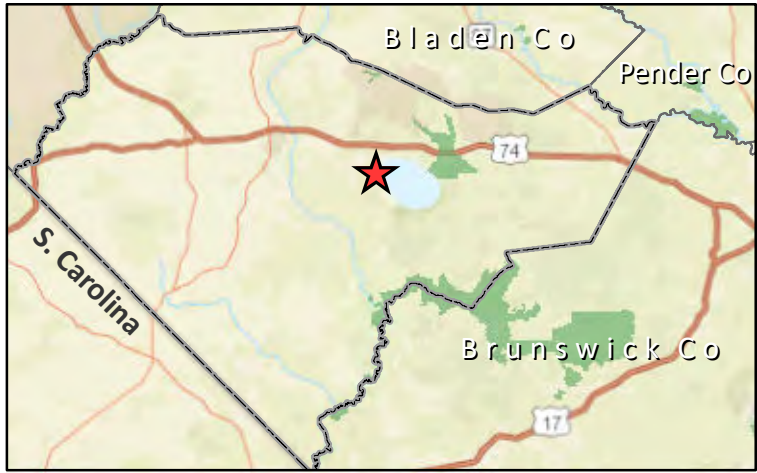
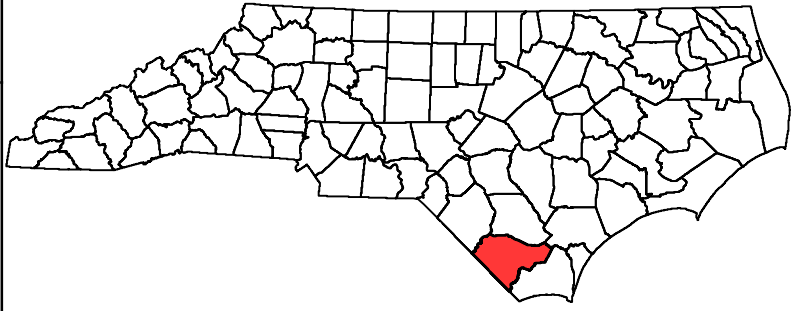


Heath Tracts (18)



November 27, 2019

**Heath Tracts
Columbus County
+/- 33 Acres**



- Heath Tracts (18)
- WRC-owned, 0.74 ac.
- WRC-owned Lake Waccamaw BAA



November 27, 2019



EXHIBIT D

December 5, 2019



North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

November 25, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian McRae, Section Chief
Land and Water Access

FROM: Jessie Birckhead, Land Acquisition and Grants Manager
Land and Water Access

SUBJECT: Duke Energy Easement Release and Relocation Request at Green River GL

Duke Energy is in the process of relocating utility easements currently located on a section of Green River Game Lands in Henderson County. The current easement runs through a central section of Green River GL, and the relocated easement will move to the boundary of the property with Spartanburg Highway. The new easement will consist of a thirty-foot-wide easement area. Staff have reviewed this proposal and see no issues with the release of the current easement and relocation of the easement as proposed.

Staff recommends Commission approval to grant this easement to Duke Energy with compensation to be fair market value as determined by the NC State Property Office.

Land and Water Access

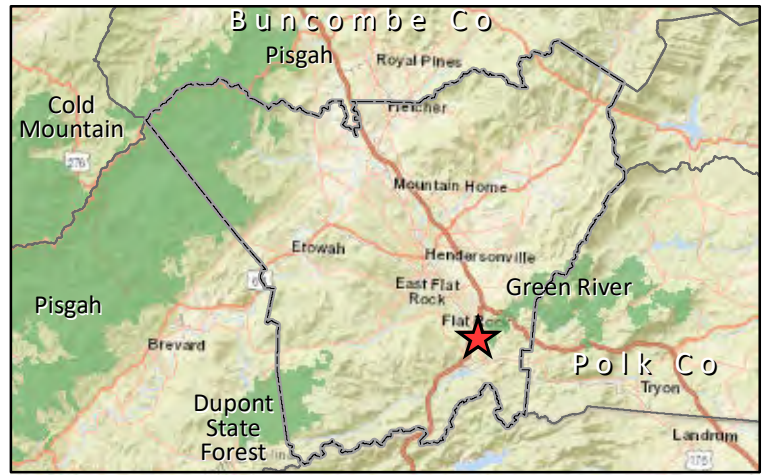
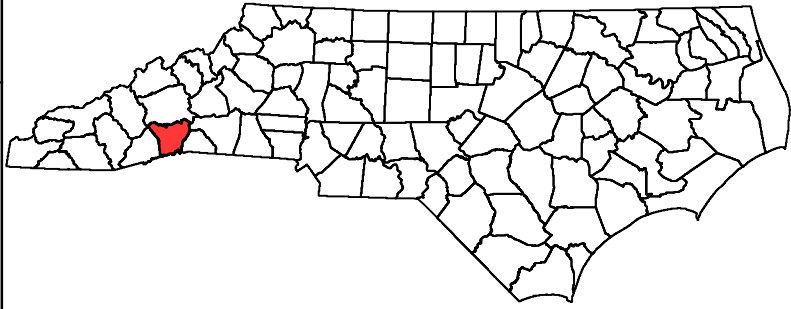
Mailing Address: 1720 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1720

Physical Address: 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27606

Phone: 919-707-0150

Fax: 919-707-0162



Duke Energy Easement Request Henderson County

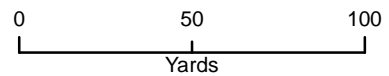


Green River
Game Land

176

Spartanburg Hwy

-  Old/Existing Easement
-  New/Requested Easement



November 26, 2019

EXHIBIT E

December 5, 2019



North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

November 25, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian McRae, Section Chief
Land and Water Access

FROM: Jessie Birckhead, Land Acquisition and Grants Manager
Land and Water Access

SUBJECT: Ditmore Right-of-Way Easement Request at Green River Game Land

Mr. Alan Ditmore owns approximately 78 acres adjacent Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe County. Mr. Ditmore's property is accessed from the end of S.R. 1629 (Old N.C. Hwy. 20) via an access road that generally traverses the center of his property. This access road crosses the corner of a small tract of Sandy Mush GL for approximately 85 ft. The State-owned tract is approximately 1 acre in size. Mr. Ditmore desires to sell his property and in order to do so he needs a legal ROW easement across the approximately 85 ft. of access road that crosses Sandy Mush GL.

The tract of Sandy Mush GL that the Ditmore access road crosses is very small and narrow and serves little if any use to the public, therefore the ROW easement is not expected to have detrimental effects to the resource or to game land users. The option for Mr. Ditmore to construct an access road that is entirely on his property is very problematic due to steepness of terrain and a nearby stream. WRC staff believe it is more environmentally sound to grant Mr. Ditmore a ROW easement allowing use of the pre-existing access road that crosses State property than to construct a new road that would bypass it.

Staff recommends granting a ROW easement to Mr. Ditmore. If approved, staff will work with the State Property Office to determine fair market value for the easement.

Land and Water Access

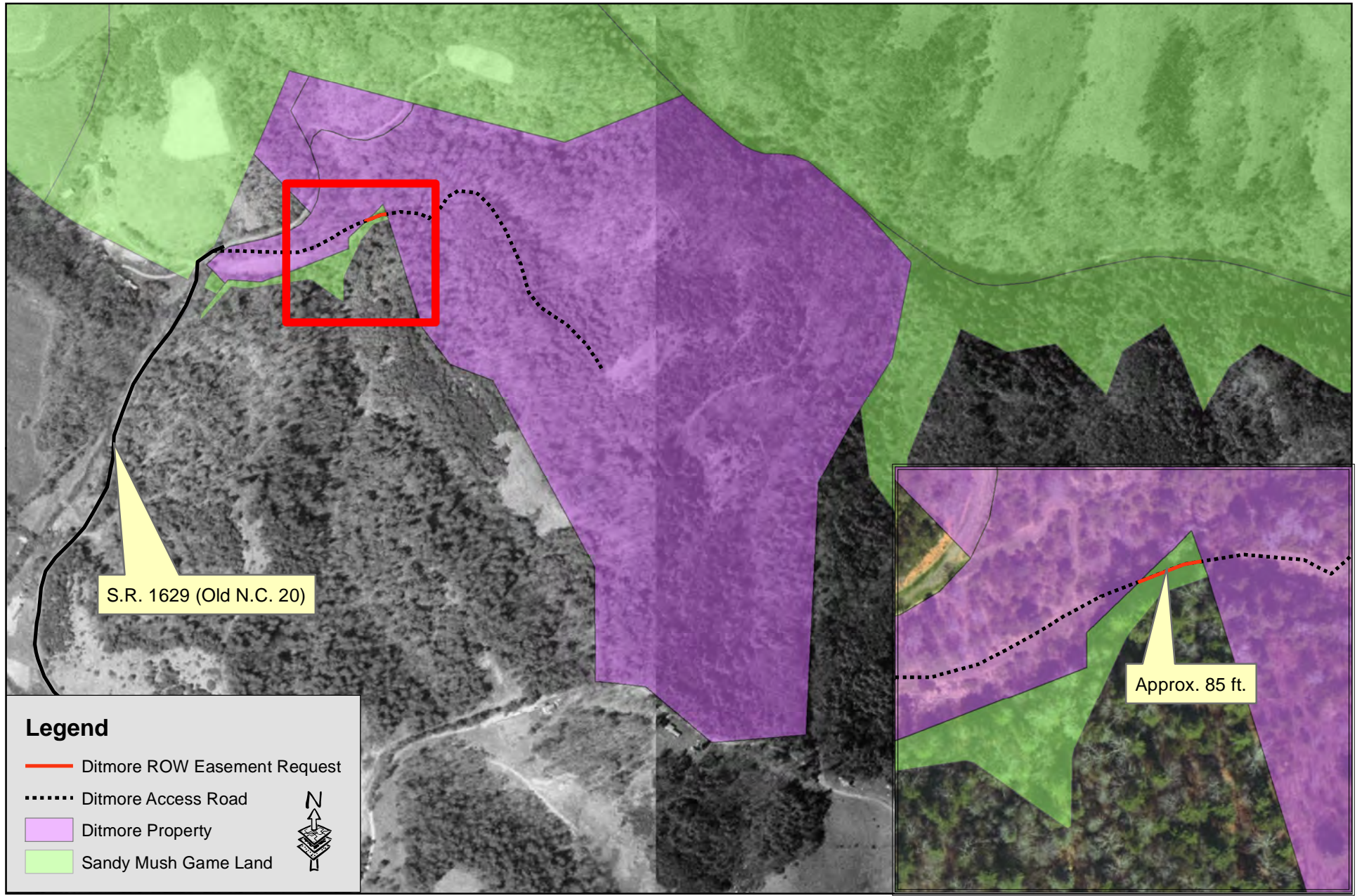
Mailing Address: 1720 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1720

Physical Address: 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27606

Phone: 919-707-0150

Fax: 919-707-0162

ROW Easement Request, Alan Ditmore, Sandy Mush Game Land



Legend

- Ditmore ROW Easement Request
- Ditmore Access Road
- Ditmore Property
- Sandy Mush Game Land



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

EXHIBIT F

December 5, 2019



North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

November 25, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian McRae, Section Chief
Land and Water Access

FROM: Jessie Birckhead, Land Acquisition and Grants Manager
Land and Water Access

SUBJECT: Request to demolish boat storage building – New Bern Depot, Craven County

The New Bern Depot in Craven County is made up of several state-owned buildings on land leased by the agency from the United States Forest Service. The boat storage building at this site is in extremely poor condition and is not suitable for continued use. In November 2019, a safety inspection of the New Bern Depot by the Office of the State Fire Marshall identified serious safety issues associated with the boat storage building and the WRC was directed to discontinue use of the building. Safety concerns identified include roof leaks, water damage, evidence of ceiling collapse, and widespread termite damage which calls into question the structural integrity of the structure. Due to the structures age (>50 years) and deterioration, demolition and replacement with a new structure is desired.

Based on these safety concerns, staff request approval to demolish the boat storage building at the New Bern Depot. If approved, staff will work with the State Property Office to follow state-mandated procedures for disposition of the structure.

Land and Water Access

Mailing Address: 1720 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1720

Physical Address: 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27606

Phone: 919-707-0150

Fax: 919-707-0162

EXHIBIT G-1

December 5, 2019



North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

November 25, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian McRae, Section Chief
Land and Water Access

FROM: Jessie Birckhead, Land Acquisition and Grants Manager
Land and Water Access

SUBJECT: DOT Easement request at Holly Shelter Game Land

NCDOT seeks to purchase a 0.06-acre Permanent Utility Easement (PUE), a 0.13-acre Permanent Drainage Easement (PDE), and a 2.074 square-foot Right of Way Easement (R/W) at Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County. This request is needed due to NCDOT upgrades to drainage and utilities for the existing US 17 highway. The NCDOT has determined that 0.077 acres of Temporary Construction Easement (TCE) will also be needed for this project.

Staff recommends Commission approval to grant these easements to NCDOT with compensation to be fair market value as determined by the NC State Property Office.

Land and Water Access

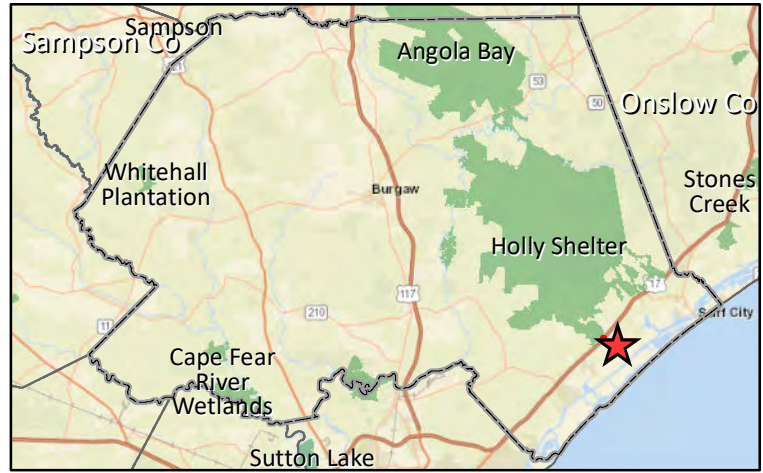
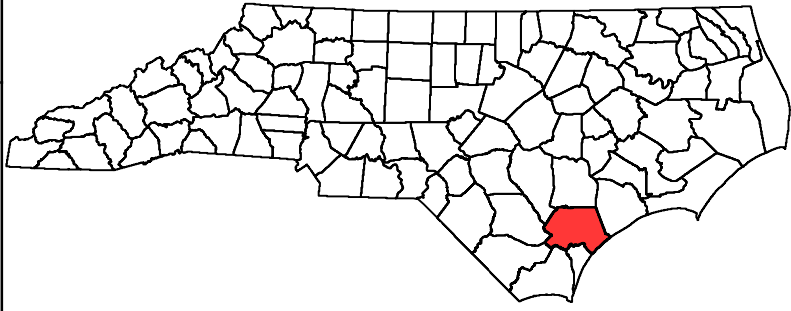
Mailing Address: 1720 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1720

Physical Address: 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27606

Phone: 919-707-0150

Fax: 919-707-0162

DOT Easement Request Pender County



November 27, 2019



EXHIBIT G-2

December 5, 2019



North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

November 25, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian McRae, Section Chief
Land and Water Access

FROM: Jessie Birckhead, Land Acquisition and Grants Manager
Land and Water Access

SUBJECT: DOT easement exchange request – Craven County

NCDOT is currently replacing two bridges over the Neuse River and Neuse River Overflow on SR 1470 in Craven County near the Maple Cypress Boating Access Area. NCDOT has determined that it will need to install a guard rail at the location of the WRC's current existing 20-foot access easement. NCDOT has acquired a new access easement and proposes to exchange the two easements to allow continued access to the Maple Cypress BAA.

Staff recommends seeking Commission approval to proceed with the described easement exchange with NCDOT. If approved, it has been determined that this exchange would occur at no cost to either agency, as it is considered an even exchange between the agencies.

Land and Water Access

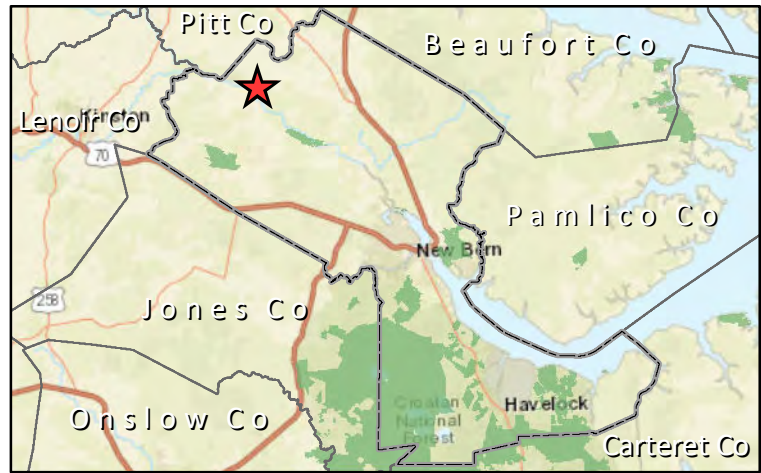
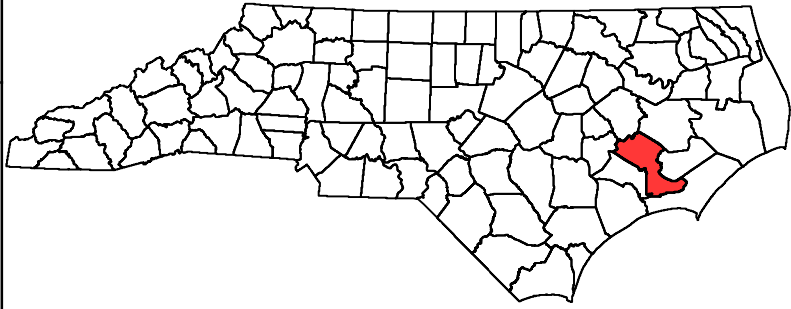
Mailing Address: 1720 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1720

Physical Address: 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27606

Phone: 919-707-0150

Fax: 919-707-0162

DOT Easement Exchange Craven County



November 27, 2019



New Access Easement



WRC-owned Maple Cypress BAA

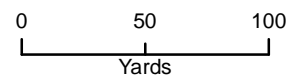


EXHIBIT H-1

December 5, 2019



REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS FOR PROPOSED LICENSE FEE RULE

Rule Amendments: 15A NCAC 10A .1601 LICENSE FEES

Agency Contacts: Carrie Ruhlman, Policy Analyst
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
919-707-0011
carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.org

Chris Bova, Resource Economist/Social Scientist
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
919-707-0057
christopher.bova@ncwildlife.org

Melissa Earp, Chief Financial Officer
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
919-707-0081
melissa.earp@ncwildlife.org

Impact Summary: State Government: Yes
Local Government: No
Private Impact: Yes
Substantial Impact: Yes

Authority: G.S. 113-270.1B; 113-134

I. Summary

The proposed permanent rule establishes fees for all licenses, permits, stamps, and certifications the Wildlife Resources Commission issues and administers as required by Paragraph (e) of 113-270.1B. The Rule also increases the fees associated with those items not increased by Session Law (S.L.) 2019-204, by the total increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rounded up to the next whole dollar. By moving all fees to rule and adjusting those fees that have not been increased since August 1, 2014 by the CPI-U, the agency will be more equipped to deal with inflation moving forward.

II. Introduction and Purpose

This fiscal note summarizes the costs and benefits to the regulated community and the citizens of North Carolina for supporting the continued resource management and regulatory activities of the Wildlife Resources Commission (Commission) through increasing fees to fund these activities as permitted by G.S. 113-270.1B(e). The Commission has determined that the proposed rule has impacts to State Government and private individuals. No impact has been identified to county or municipal governments. However, if a significant number of individuals express buyer resistance because of this proposed fee increase, local government impacts may be realized.

III. Statement of Need

The Wildlife Resources Commission is tasked with conserving and sustaining the State's fish and wildlife resources and their habitats through research, scientific management, wise use, and public input. The Commission is also the regulatory agency responsible for the enforcement of North Carolina's hunting, fishing, trapping, and boating laws.

The Commission is funded by the sale of licenses, vessel titles and registrations, federal grants, general fund appropriations and other receipts. The Commission has an operational budget of approximately \$83 million per year and employs over 650 full-time employees, including: biologists, technicians, wildlife officers, conservation educators, public information officers, customer service, information technology, and administrative professionals.

The following is a breakdown of agency revenue sources for fiscal year 2018-19:

Federal funds:	30%
License receipts:	24%
Vessel receipts:	15%
Appropriations:	13%
Other receipts:	18%

IV. Background & License Information

Historically, all fees for licenses issued and administered by the Commission were established and housed in statute. However, per G.S. 113-270.1B(e), the Commission is required to adopt rules to establish fees for all licenses, permits, stamps and certifications it issues and administers, except those specified in G.S. 113-173. Additionally, the Commission was granted the ability via S.L. 2019-204, to increase these fees by the total increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rounded up to the next whole dollar, since the last fee change. The last license fee increase was effective August 1, 2014. As such, the CPI- U for this fee increase has been calculated using the average increase in the CPI-U from August 1, 2014 through August 1, 2018 (6%).¹

The CPI-U was applied to 56 licenses in the proposed rule, all of which existed at the time of the previous fee increase and have not been subsequently increased. The 6% increase applied to these

¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Consumer Price Index- All Urban Consumers, Series ID CUUR0000SA0*. 2018 <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/data.htm>.

items ranges from \$1.00 to \$30.00 on annual fees and from \$1.00 to \$93.00 on lifetime licenses. The complete list of licenses and associated fees increased by the CPI-U can be found in Appendix C.

The other 31 items and associated fees were transferred directly from statute to the proposed rule without change. These items were either newly created or legislatively increased since August 2014. The elk and alligator licenses were established by S.L. 2018-90, and the other licenses and permits were either established or increased by S.L. 2019-204. The complete list of licenses and associated fees legislatively increased can be found in Appendix B.

V. Purpose of Fee Increases

Due to rising costs of employee salaries, benefits and other operating expenses, the agency incurred a \$528,000 shortfall in managing these expenses in fiscal year 2018-2019. Expenditures are expected to outpace revenues by \$651,157 in fiscal year 2019-2020. Revenue was forecasted using a weighted moving average and exponential smoothing. For fiscal year 2019-2020, the impacts of temporary rule 15A NCAC 10A .1601 were added to total revenue estimates. The same method was applied to operating expenses, combined with a 2.5% increase in the personal services expenditure amounts to account for a legislative salary and benefit increase in year 2020. An additional 2.5% was applied in year 2021 to account for legislative salary and benefit increases enacted in the 2019-2021 biennium (Table 5).

Additionally, the agency's operational costs have increased over time. The agency is involved in public infrastructure accesses on a routine basis which involve the purchase of lumber and other construction materials – the costs of all of which have risen since the agency's last fee increase in 2014. Fixed assets must be purchased and maintained in order to facilitate the construction and maintenance of the agency's infrastructure. Another primary agency objective is the enforcement of wildlife related laws which requires over 200 law enforcement personnel to provide 24-hour accessibility to the public. This responsibility demands that the agency provide a vehicle to each law enforcement officer and that boats (and associated trailers) be provided within regional areas of the state. At present, the agency's equipment (trucks, boats, tractors, etc.) associated with the enforcement and construction/maintenance of public-facing infrastructure at an age greater than 10 years is at 40%. This translates into additional costs for replacement and/or repairs to equipment now and over the next several years.

Given that the Commission is largely a receipt supported agency, there are few additional funding sources available to mitigate the shortfall. While the Wildlife Endowment Fund is often regarded as a fallback measure, it is important to note the Commission is limited in the use of these funds. The Commission has the authority to utilize a portion of the interest earned annually on this fund for "furthering the conservation of wildlife resources and the efficient operation of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission in accomplishing the purposes of the agency as set forth in G.S. 143-239."² However, recurring agency use for personal services would not serve the purpose for which the Wildlife Endowment Fund was established. Thus, the agency is forced to find other sources to overcome the shortfall which do not negatively impact the present level of

²G.S. 143-250.1

support being provided to the regulated community and the citizens of North Carolina. The agency anticipates that the proposed fee increase will assist with filling the funding gap without any significant negative impacts to the regulated community.

VI. Impacts

CPI- U Fiscal Impact - Agencies

The income generated from the proposed license fee increases will have a substantial impact on the overall revenue generated by the Commission. This increased income will contribute significantly towards closing the agency's funding gap. While the fee increase relating to the CPI- U represents a moderate increase to the cost of individual licenses, the cumulative effect of income generated is substantial. The potential revenue generation per license is detailed in Appendix B and C.

As a conservative measure, the projected sales of all 55 affected licenses through 2022 were calculated using the weighted moving average, with exponential smoothing, of annual sales from 2015 to 2019. Where longitudinal sales figures were not available, trends were estimated from the 2019 sales data. The permanent rule is expected to be effective at the beginning of fiscal year 2020-2021, therefore impacts and revenue increases from this rule assessed herein are applicable from FY2020-2021 to FY2021-2022. Revenue increases estimated for FY2019-2020 are based on temporary rule 15A NCAC 10A .1061, which becomes effective January 1, 2020.³ As a result, the estimated increases for FY2019-2020 were calculated based on the proportion of licenses assumed to have been already sold (62%) prior to the temporary rule taking effect; applying the increased fee to the expected sales (38%) for the remainder of the fiscal year. Fiscal year 2019-2020 has been excluded from the total impact assessment of the permanent rule and is only included for reference.

The projected figures for FY2020-2021 to FY 2021-2022, estimate annual revenue to increase by an average of approximately \$1,231,811 for each year (Figure 1) for a total of \$2,463,621 over the affected two fiscal years (\$2,226,874 - NPV adjusted). Of the average annual total, \$729,353 benefits the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, while \$502,458 is the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries' (DMF) share of increased revenue.

The largest revenue increases are expected from the sale of *Resident Annual Sportsmen* licenses. While the fee increases per license are relatively insignificant, the sheer number of licenses issued will cumulatively comprise a potentially significant source of revenue. For example, approximately 76,560 *Resident Annual Sportsmen* licenses are issued each year. The proposed additional \$3/license has the potential to generate an average annual increase in agency revenue, over the fiscal years 2020-2021 to 2021-2022, of approximately \$214,422/year. Another large portion of revenue comes from the sale of the *Annual Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing* license (approximately 41,012 sold per year). The proposed increase of \$4/license has the potential to increase inter-agency revenue by an average of \$162,588/year (\$121,941 - WRC and \$40,647 – DMF).

³ License fees in temporary rule 15A NCAC 10A .1601 are the same as fees proposed in the permanent rule.

Apart from the *Annual Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing*, there are additional licenses issued and administered by WRC that are either shared or owned by the DMF. These licenses include Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses (CRFL) and Unified Fishing Licenses. Because these 21 licenses are included in the proposed Rule and CPI-U increase, DMF revenues are also anticipated to increase (Table 1). Projected sales for the licenses in Table 1 were estimated using exponential smoothing. Changes in the prices of CRFLs and Unified licenses result in an average annual increase in income of approximately \$348,007 and \$154,452 for each license respectively, for an anticipated total average annual revenue increase of approximately \$502,458 for DMF.

Table 1: Change in revenues anticipated for the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) following the proposed fee increase.

	BAU CRFL	BAU Unified	BAU Total	Fee increased CRFL	Fee increased Unified	Fee increased Total	Δ Revenue
2020 ⁴	\$4,047,345	\$2,265,390	\$6,312,735	\$4,177,280	\$2,322,124	\$6,499,404	\$186,669
2021	\$4,079,275	\$2,300,465	\$6,379,740	\$4,424,626	\$2,452,041	\$6,876,667	\$496,927
2022	\$4,133,575	\$2,388,990	\$6,522,565	\$4,484,237	\$2,546,317	\$7,030,554	\$507,989
3-yr NPV (7% Discount)	\$1,307,804						

NOTE: BAU is business as usual approach where fees are not increased.

Legislative Increase Fiscal Impact – Agency

The legislative fee changes are also expected to have a significant impact on WRC revenue. These changes include fee increases, new licenses and the discontinuance of one license type. Overall, the changes are expected to increase agency revenue, even while the elimination of the *Special Trout* license may involve significant cost (Figure 1). The only state agency expected to be impacted by these changes is the Wildlife Resources Commission.

⁴ Increases are based on temporary rule 15A NCAC 10A .1601 as this fiscal year is unaffected by the permanent rule

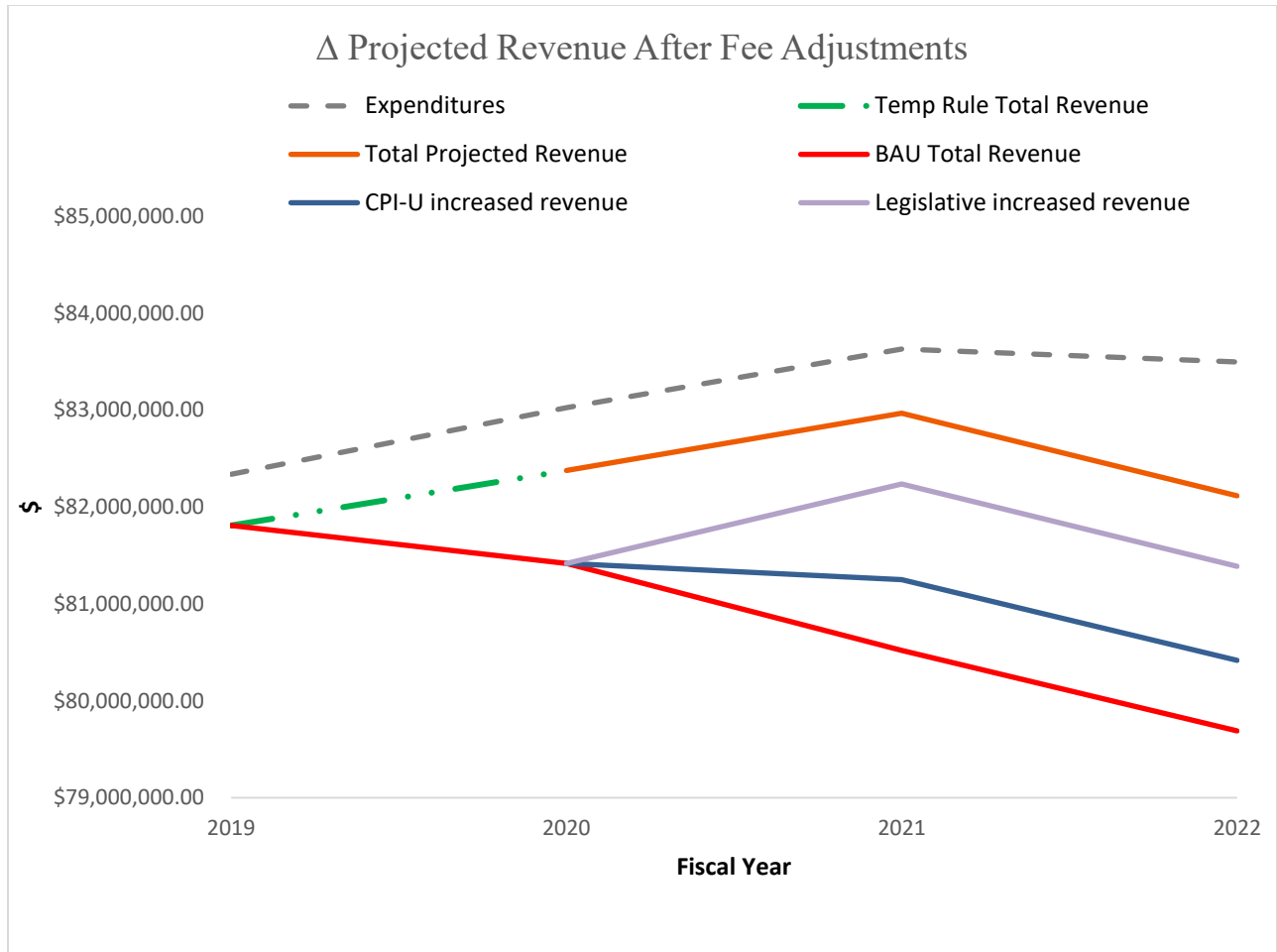


Figure 1: Estimated change in revenue from license fees after the implementation of proposed fee adjustments

A total of 32 licenses, permits and certifications comprised the license fee increases from S.L. 2018-90 and S.L. 2019-204. For existing licenses and permits that have been modified, which previous sales have been documented, a weighted moving average was used to forecast future sales to the year 2021. For licenses, permits, and certifications with limited data, sales were held constant to year 2021 based on 2018 sales figures. For new license where there are little or no data (ex. G.S. 113-270.2 (c)(7) and 113-270.3 (b)(8) and (9)), no license sales were included in the revenue projections. The changes made to each license type comprising the legislative package can be found in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Licenses and Permits modified by legislative action.

STATUTE	LICENSE TYPE	CHANGES
G.S. 113-270.1C		
(b)(1)	Resident Annual H/F Combo	Fee Increase
G.S. 113-270.2		
(c)(1)	Resident State Hunting	Fee increase
(c)(6)(a)	NR Hunting Season	Fee Increase
(c)(6)(b)	NR Hunting 10-Day	Fee Increase
(c)(7)	Falconry Hunting	New License
G.S. 113-270.3		
(b)(2)(a)	Nonresident Big Game Hunting - Season	Fee Increase
(b)(2)(b)	Nonresident Big Game Hunting - 10-Day	Fee Increase
(b)(6)	Resident American Alligator License*	New License
(b)(7)	Nonresident American Alligator License*	New License
(b)(8)	Resident Elk License*	New License
(b)(9)	Nonresident Elk License*	New License
G.S. 113-270.5		
(b)(1a)	Resident Trapping Lifetime License	New License
G.S. 113-271		
(d)(2)	Resident State Inland Fishing	Fee Increase
(d)(5)	NR State Inland Fishing	Fee Increase
(d)(6)(a)	Resident 10-day	Fee Increase
(d)(6)(b)	NR 10-day	Fee Increase
(d)(10)	Mountain Heritage Trout Waters 3-Day Fishing	Fee Increase
-	Special Trout License	Removed
G.S. 113-272.4		
(c)	Wildlife and Scientific Fish Collection*	Fee Increase
G.S. 113-272.5		
(b)	Captivity License Holding	New License
(b)	Captivity License Rehab	New License
G.S. 113-273		
(g)	Controlled Hunting Preserve Operator	Fee Increase
(h)	Gamebird Propagation	Fee Increase
(k)	Taxidermy	Fee Increase
(k)	Taxidermy cervid certification	New Certification
(l)	Wildlife control agent license	Fee Increase
(m)	Alligator control agent license	New License
G.S. 113-274		
(c)(1c)	Possession permit	Fee Increase
(3)	Export/Import permit	Fee Increase
(3a)	Trophy Wildlife Sale Permit	Fee Increase
(3d)	Endangered Species Permit	Fee Increase
(3e)	Field Trial Permit	Fee Increase

The total expected revenue from the legislative fee increases, based on sales projections to FY2021-2022, is approximately \$1,707,538 per year over the two affected fiscal years (2020-2022). This totals roughly \$3,415,075 over that period (\$3,087,797NPV-adjusted). Much of the revenue increase can be attributed to G.S. 113-271 hook-and-line inland fishing licenses. The components of increases to these licenses alone account for nearly \$1.47 million/yr in increased revenue. However, the removal of the *Special Trout* license is anticipated to come at a cost of approximately \$545,000 per year. Another significant increase in revenue stems from the changes to hunting licenses incorporated in G.S. 113-270.2 which amounts to roughly \$509,000 per year on average. Details on the revenue increases can be found in Appendix B.

It should be noted that that impacts of various new licenses on revenue are not yet known as no data are currently available on constituent interest in the licenses. It is assumed that the impacts of the newly implemented licenses on revenue will not be significant.

Economic Impact – Private Individuals

The burden of costs associated with the proposed CPI-U and legislative fee increases fall primarily on the individual licensees. However, because the increases to individual licenses are relatively small, the agency does not anticipate significant negative impacts on license sales and, therefore the economic contributions of licensed individuals. Using annual state hunting license data from 2008-2018, a linear regression model was used to determine the relationship between annual sales and prices. With the changes in annual price of a hunting license being adjusted for inflation (using 2008 as a reference point), as well as the price increase in 2014, the model did not identify a significant negative relationship between license purchases and price changes (Table 3). However, a caveat of the measured relationship is that it does not account for changes in license purchases for reasons other than price, such as the decreasing interest in hunting which has been observed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.⁵ This trend and other unidentified factors affecting sales cannot be controlled for at this time with the available data. Therefore, the effect of increased prices on various license sales is uncertain.

Table 3: Statistical relationship between the price of fees and total annual sales for WRC Hunting and Fishing licenses from 2008 to 2018.

	Estimate	SE	statistic	p-value
Fee	6.17	13.19	-0.468	.651
Sales	0.001	.0002	1.745	.115

VII. Alternatives

The agency has continued to reduce its operating expenditures in order to offset the increasing costs of salaries, benefits and other operating expenses. However, this model will not continue to

⁵ United States Fish and Wildlife Service, *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*. (2011;2016)

be effective as costs increase. The agency cannot maintain this model if the increased demand for services and infrastructure is to be met. Thus, several alternatives have been considered to narrow the funding gap before proposing the rule in Appendix A. These included moving the fees to rule without an increase, rounding down to the nearest whole dollar amount, and applying the CPI-U to the statutory fees but rounding to the nearest \$0.25. The Commission dismissed the alternative of leaving the fees as-is in favor of utilizing the CPI-U, as allowed by statute, to raise the fees and assist with narrowing the funding gap and increasing fees for under-valued licenses. Rounding down to the nearest whole dollar amount after applying CPI-U adjustment to the statutory fees would provide, on average, \$535,480 (Table 4) less than the proposed round-up increase. This accounts for an opportunity cost of \$110,520 for the WRC and \$424,959 for DMF, resulting in the dismissal of this option. Rounding license increases to the nearest \$0.25 would decrease total projected annual revenue by approximately \$214,608 on average per annum over FY2020-2022 (approximately \$50,020/year for WRC and approximately \$164,588/year for DMF). Due to such substantial potential losses in revenue in comparison with the roundup increase, the Commission also dismissed this option.

Table 4: Average annual revenue increase based on fee increase alternative.

Alternative Scenario	WRC Revenue Increase	DMF Revenue Increase	Total Revenue Increase	Difference from Round-up increase
No Increase	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1,231,811)
Round-down	\$618,832	\$77,499	\$696,331	(\$535,480)
Round to Nearest .25	\$679,332	\$337,870	\$1,017,203	(\$214,608)
Round-up	\$729,353	\$502,458	\$1,231,811	0

VIII. Uncertainties Regarding Participants’ Sensitivity to Proposed Fee Increases

Determining future trends in the number of each license sold is difficult. Information in this section has been compiled from actual license sale and trend data since the last license fee increase on August 1, 2014.

The Commission’s 2014 fee increases, while not a wholesale fee restructuring, did target specific licenses for increase, but was designed so as not to alienate the hunting and angling public while strategically capturing revenue for the most utilized and most under-valued licenses. Given that the agency had not increased fees since the 1980’s, many of its licenses were not appropriately valued for the 2014 market conditions. These fee increases ranged from \$2 to \$200 per license.

As the Commission worked its way through the impact of the 2014 fee increases, the need for routine fee increases became apparent. As a measured approach to fee increase methodology, the Commission requested the ability to increase fees for hunting, fishing, trapping and other activity licenses issued and administered by the Commission to allow a fee increase to reflect the total increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers since the last fee revision.

As depicted in Figures 2 and 3 below, total licenses purchased have been in decline since the 2014 fee increase, while license revenue from hunting and fishing licenses began to decrease in fiscal year 2016-17 and have continued this decline. While it could be assumed that the increase in

license fees alone caused this decline, this relationship cannot be conclusively drawn based on available data (Table 2). Nonetheless, the downward trend of license sales is a concerning statistic which could be attributed to a variety of factors. For instance, a series of national surveys conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service⁶ found a decreasing trend in the participation of hunters and anglers. Additionally, there seems to be a direct correlation between the decreasing sale of annual licenses and the increasing number of active licenses, which includes active lifetime licenses which are a one-time purchase (Figure 4). These observations could suggest that more people are holding or purchasing lifetime licenses instead of annual licenses, thus contributing to the declining license sales and revenues alongside decreasing participation rates.

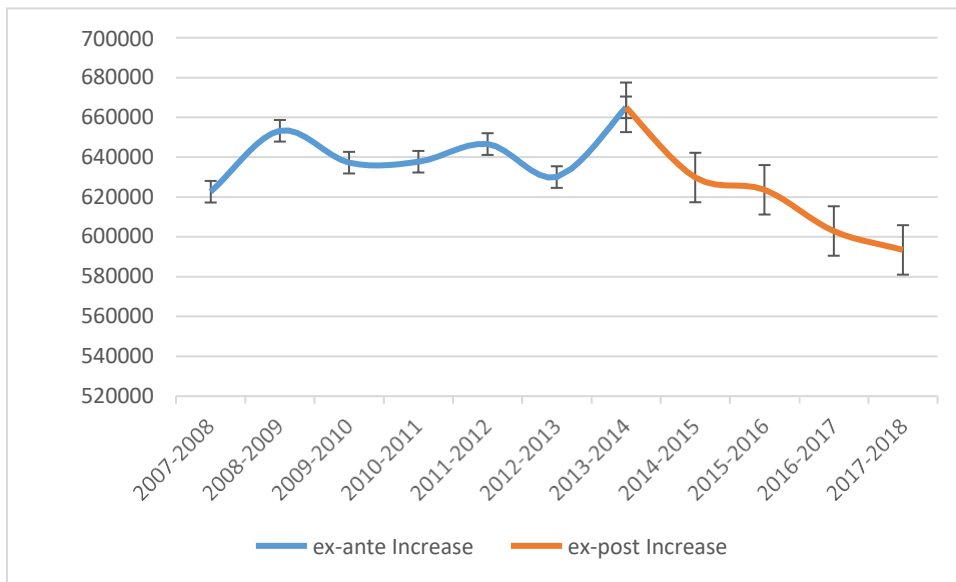


Figure 2: Annual number of licenses purchased (excluding activity licenses), before and after the fee increase in 2014.

⁶United States Fish and Wildlife Service, *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*. (2011;2016)

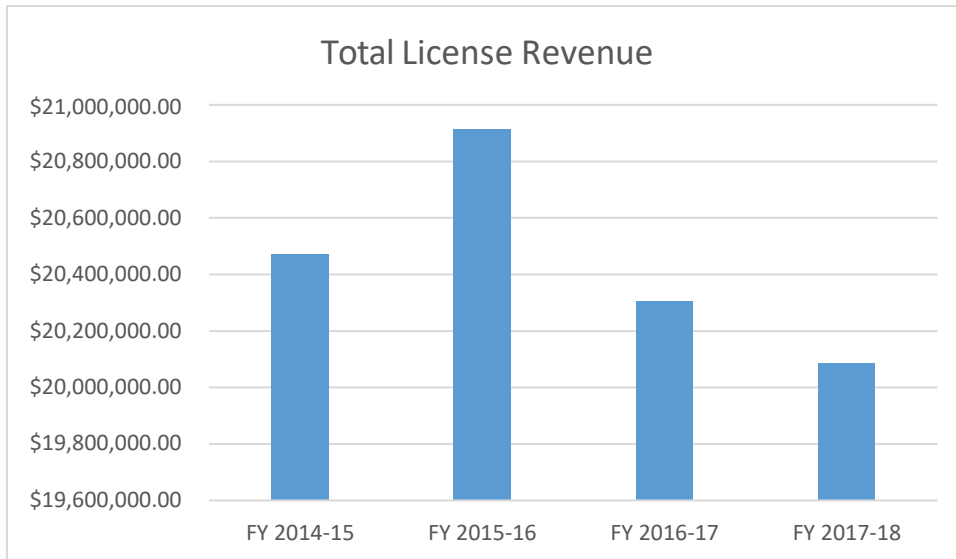


Figure 3: Total recreational license revenues (excluding activity licenses) obtained by the Commission, following the increase in the price of hunting, fishing and, trapping licenses.

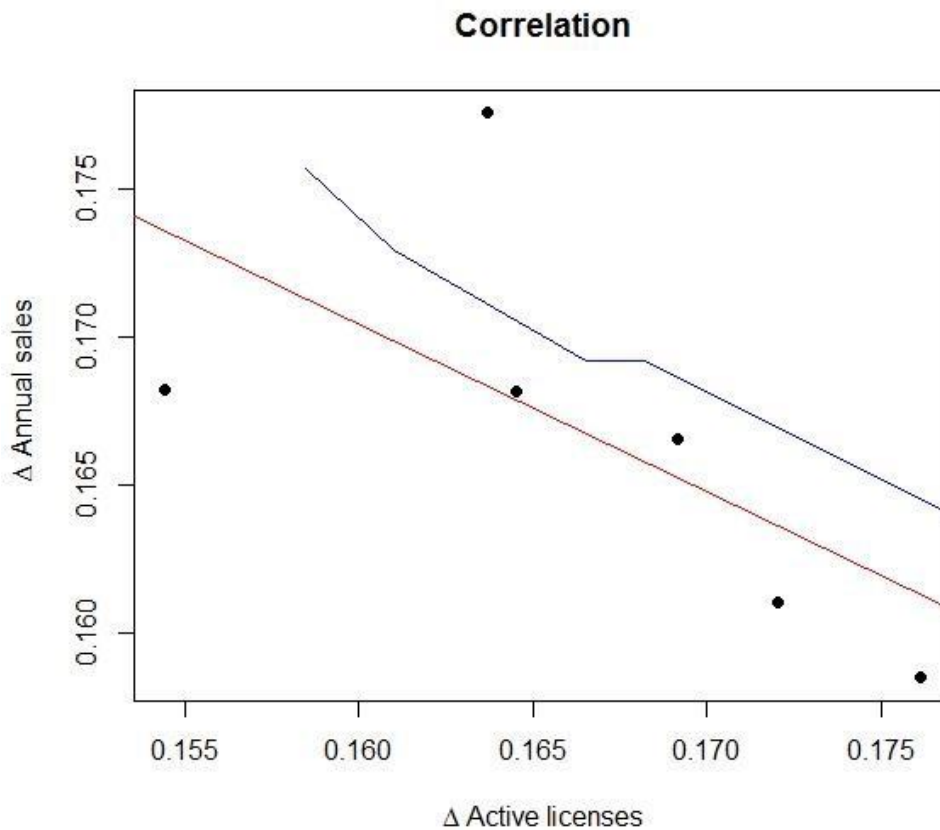


Figure 4: Correlation between declining sales and increasing active lifetime licenses.

This decline in annual sales makes it difficult to accurately determine the long-term impacts of these proposed increases on revenue, as it is likely that the trend of decreasing sales would have occurred regardless of fee increases.

Sensitivity Analysis

While the decline in the sale of licenses has been recorded in the years following the last fee increase, it could be attributed to a number of factors. While it is unlikely that buyer resistance is a leading factor, it is important to understand the potential for buyer resistance when proposing new fees. If price sensitivity is higher than expected, agency revenues will be lower than projected. Furthermore, if individuals choose not to purchase a license due to the price increase, those individuals will lose the benefits of the activity and experience.

According to a 2011 study on license fees in NC by Responsive Management, 80% of participants in hunting and fishing at that time found the licenses to be undervalued. However, they also showed high levels of resistance to an increase in the license fees⁷. After explaining that the fee had not been increased since 1987, participants in the study indicated lower levels of opposition for an increase. After then being presented with an explanation of how the increased license fees were spent, there was even lower opposition.

IX. Conclusions

Twenty-four percent (24%) of the agency's annual revenue comes from the sale of hunting, fishing, trapping, and activity licenses. Little has been done over the past five years to help the agency keep up with the rising cost of living and employee benefits. Due to the nature of the agency's funding structure, there are few options available to mitigate the growing shortfalls in the following fiscal years.

The combined legislated and inflation-based license fee increases are expected to reduce the funding shortfall in the first fiscal year. However, based on projected sales and increasing expenses, the WRC will continue to incur an increasing shortfall exceeding one million dollars in FY 2022 without further fee changes or additional revenue from other sources.

The Commission believes that the fiscal benefits to the agency from the proposed fee increases far outweigh the minimal costs (\$1.00 - \$93.00) per license to constituents. Additionally, by transferring statutory license fees to rule, the Commission will be better equipped in the future to efficiently and effectively keep up with inflation.

Direct Impacts from Proposed Rules

State: Increased total revenue of approximately \$5,878,696 between fiscal years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 (a NPV of \$5,314,671 in 2019 dollars using a 7% discount rate). This is comprised of total revenue increases of \$4,873,780 (\$4,406,556-NPV adjusted) for the WRC and \$1,004,916

⁷ Duda, M.D. et al., 2011. *Understanding the Impact of Changes to North Carolina's Hunting and Fishing License Structure and Fee Schedule*. Responsive Management, pp. 370-371.

(\$908,115-NPV adjusted) for the DMF over these two fiscal years. These impacts will continue in 2023 and following the expected ongoing downward trend.

Private: In aggregate, licensees will incur the equivalent cost increases above, averaging \$2,341,045 per year over fiscal years beginning 2020-2022 (NPV \$5,314,671 over two years). Depending on license(s) purchased, individuals could incur an additional cost of \$1.00 to \$30.00 for annual licenses or an additional one-time cost of \$1.00 to \$93.00 for lifetime licenses. These impacts will continue in 2023 and following the expected ongoing downward trend.

Table 5: 3-year projections of annual WRC revenue from CPI-U adjusted and legislative fee increased license sales (formulated using exponential smoothing of annual license for sales data for each license from previous 4 years) for increased fees and a business as usual (BAU) approach where fees are not increased.

	2018-2019	2019-2020 ⁸	2020-2021	2021-2022
WRC License Sales	655,636	654,039	634,417	628,487
BAU WRC License Revenue	13,053,642	13,377,383	12,771,753	12,783,242
BAU Total Revenue	81,810,178	81,418,926	80,522,126	79,689,910
Expenditures	82,338,552	83,027,852	83,631,529	83,499,183
BAU Shortfall	(528,374)	(1,608,926)	(3,109,403)	(3,809,273)
CPI-U Δ Revenue	-	293,084	730,606	728,099
Legislative Δ Revenue	-	664,685	1,716,334	1,698,741
Total Δ Revenue	-	957,769	2,446,940	2,426,840
Total Projected Revenue	81,810,178	82,376,695	82,969,066	82,116,750
Projected Surplus (Shortfall)	(528,374)	(651,157)	(662,463)	(1,382,433)
2-yr NPV (7%) of increased income	4,406,556			

⁸ Increases are based on temporary rule 15A NCAC 10A .1601 due to take effect Jan. 1, 2020. Increase estimates for FY19-20 were calculated assuming that 62% of license sales had already occurred prior to Jan. 2020 for which the fee increases were not applied.

Appendix A: Proposed Rule Text

15A NCAC 10A .1601 LICENSE FEES.

(a) License fees established by the Commission in this Rule shall be subject to the requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B(e).

(b) The following fees shall apply to combination hunting and inland fishing licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.1C:

- (1) Resident Annual Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$35.00.
- (2) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.
- (3) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.

(c) The following fees shall apply to sportsman licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.1D:

- (1) Annual Sportsman License - \$53.00.
- (2) Infant Lifetime Sportsman License - \$212.00.
- (3) Youth Lifetime Sportsman License - \$371.00.
- (4) Adult Resident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$530.00.
- (5) Nonresident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$1,272.00.
- (6) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$16.00.
- (7) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Sportsman License - \$106.00.
- (8) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Sportsman License - \$106.00.

(d) The following fees shall apply to hunting licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.2:

- (1) Resident State Hunting License - \$25.00.
- (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Hunting License - \$265.00.
- (3) Controlled Hunting Preserve Hunting License - \$22.00.
- (4) Resident Annual Comprehensive Hunting License - \$39.00.
- (5) Nonresident State Hunting Licenses:
 - (A) Season License - \$100.00.
 - (B) Ten-Day License - \$80.00.
- (6) Falconry Hunting License - \$25.00.

(e) The following fees shall apply to special activity licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.3:

- (1) Resident Big Game Hunting License - \$14.00.
- (2) Nonresident Bear Hunting License - \$239.00.
- (3) Bear Management Stamp - \$11.00.
- (4) Nonresident Big Game Hunting License:
 - (A) Season License - \$100.00.
 - (B) Ten-Day License - \$80.00.
- (5) Bonus Antlerless Deer License - \$11.00.
- (6) Game Land License - \$16.00.
- (7) Falconry License - \$11.00.
- (8) Migratory Waterfowl Hunting License - \$14.00.
- (9) Resident American Alligator License - \$250.00.
- (10) Nonresident American Alligator License - \$500.00.
- (11) Resident Elk License - \$500.00.
- (12) Nonresident Elk License - \$1,000.00.

(f) The following fees shall apply to hunting and fishing guide licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.4:

- (1) Resident Hunting and Fishing Guide License - \$16.00.
- (2) Nonresident Hunting and Fishing Guide License - \$159.00.

(g) The following fees shall apply to trapping licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.5:

- (1) Resident State Trapping License - \$32.00.
- (2) Resident Lifetime Trapping License - \$300.00.
- (3) Nonresident State Trapping License - \$133.00.

(h) The following fees shall apply to hook-and-line licenses in inland and joint fishing waters issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-271:

- (1) Resident State Inland Fishing License - \$25.00.
- (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Inland Fishing License - \$265.00.
- (3) Nonresident State Inland Fishing License - \$45.00.
- (4) Short-Term Inland Fishing License:
 - (A) Resident 10-day Inland Fishing License - \$9.00.
 - (B) Nonresident 10-day Inland Fishing License - \$23.00.
- (5) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$16.00.
- (6) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.
- (7) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.
- (8) Special Landholder and Guest Fishing License - \$106.00.
- (9) Mountain Heritage Trout Waters 3-Day Fishing License - \$8.00.

(i) The following fees shall apply to special device licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.2:

- (1) Resident Special Device License - \$80.00.
- (2) Nonresident Special Device License - \$530.00.

(j) The fee for a collection license issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.4 shall be \$10.00.

(k) The following fees shall apply to captivity licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.5:

- (1) Captivity License for Holding - \$50.00.
- (2) Captivity License for Rehabilitation - \$10.00.

(l) The following fees shall apply to dealer licenses issued by the Commission as set forth in G.S. 113-273:

- (1) Resident Fur-dealer License - \$64.00.
- (2) Nonresident Fur-dealer License - \$318.00.
- (3) Fur-dealer Station License - \$128.00.
- (4) Controlled Hunting Preserve Operator License - \$100.00.
- (5) Game Bird Propagation License - \$10.00.
- (6) Furbearer Propagation License - \$27.00.
- (7) Taxidermy License - \$50.00.
- (8) Taxidermy Cervid Certification - \$5.00.
- (9) Wildlife Control Agent License - \$50.00.
- (10) Alligator Control Agent Certification - \$25.00.

(m) The following fees shall apply to permits issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-274:

- (1) Possession Permit - \$10.00.
- (2) Exportation or Importation Permit - \$10.00.
- (3) Trophy Wildlife Sale Permit - \$10.00.

(4) Endangered Species Permit - \$10.00.

(5) Field Trial Permit - \$10.00.

(n) Unified hunting and fishing licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-351:

(1) Annual Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$69.00.

(2) Annual Resident Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$41.00.

(3) Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses:

(A) Infant Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$292.00.

(B) Youth Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$477.00.

(C) Resident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$716.00.

(D) Nonresident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$1,643.00.

(E) Resident Age 70 Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$32.00.

(F) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$117.00.

(G) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$117.00.

(4) Resident Lifetime Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$477.00.

(o) The following fees shall apply to Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-174.2:

(1) Annual Resident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$16.00.

(2) Annual Nonresident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$32.00.

(3) Ten-Day Resident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$6.00.

(4) Ten-Day Nonresident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$11.00.

(5) Infant Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$106.00.

(6) Youth Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$159.00.

(7) Resident Adult Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$265.00.

(8) Nonresident Adult Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$530.00.

(9) Resident Age 70 Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$16.00.

(10) Resident Disabled Veteran Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$11.00.

(11) Resident Totally Disabled Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$11.00.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-270.1B(e);

Eff. July 1, 2020.

Appendix B: Legislative fee increases and potential increased revenue for FY2020-2021 to FY2021-2022

Statute	License Type	Current Fee	New Fee	Increase	Avg Increase	NPV (7%) of increase (2020-2022)
G.S. 113-270.1C						
(b)(1)	Resident Annual H/F Combo	\$25.00	\$35.00	\$10.00	\$100,680	\$182,207
G.S. 113-270.2						
(c)(1)	Resident State Hunting	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$113,385	\$205,139
(c)(6)a.	NR Hunting Season	\$80.00	\$100.00	\$20.00	\$138,120	\$249,662
(c)(6)b.	NR Hunting 10-Day	\$60.00	\$80.00	\$20.00	\$157,230	\$284,163
(c)(7)	Falconry Hunting	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
G.S. 113-270.3						
(b)(2)a.	Nonresident Big Game Hunting - Season	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$26,706	\$48,281
(b)(2)b.	Nonresident Big Game Hunting - 10-Day	\$80.00	\$84.80	\$5.00	\$23,640	\$42,731
(b)(6)	Resident American Alligator License*	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$5,000	\$9,040
(b)(7)	Nonresident American Alligator License*	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	NA	NA
(b)(8)	Resident Elk License*	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	NA	NA
(b)(9)	Nonresident Elk License*	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	NA	NA
G.S. 113-270.5						
(b)(1a)	Resident Trapping Lifetime License	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	NA
G.S. 113-271						
(d)(2)	Resident State Inland Fishing	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$837,535	\$1,515,198
(d)(5)	NR State Inland Fishing	\$36.00	\$45.00	\$9.00	\$309,974	\$560,123
(d)(6)a.	Resident 10-day	\$7.00	\$9.00	\$2.00	\$46,238	\$83,620
(d)(6)b.	NR 10-day	\$18.00	\$23.00	\$5.00	\$252,980	\$457,273
(d)(10)	Mountain Heritage Trout Waters 3-Day Fishing	\$5.00	\$8.00	\$3.00	\$20,049	\$36,194

Statute	License Type	Current Fee	New Fee	Increase	Avg Increase	NPV (7%) of increase (2020-2022)
G.S. 113-272.4						
(c)	Wildlife and Scientific Fish Collection*	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$1,530.00	\$2,766
G.S. 113-272.5						
(b)	Captivity License Holding	\$5.00	\$50.00	\$45.00	\$7,695	\$13,913
(b)	Captivity License Rehab	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$115	\$208
G.S. 113-273						
(g)	Controlled Hunting Preserve Operator	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$17,400.00	\$31,460
(h)	Gamebird Propagation	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$2,010.00	\$3,634
(k)	Taxidermy	\$10.00	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$22,640.00	\$40,933.53
(k)	Taxidermy cervid cert	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	NA	NA
(l)	Wildlife control agent license	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$30,100.00	\$54,421
(m)	Alligator control agent license	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	NA	NA
G.S. 113-273						
(c)(1c)	Possession permit	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$1,270.00	\$2,296
(3)	Export/Import permit	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$600.00	\$1,085
(3a)	Trophy Wildlife Sale Permit	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,712
(3d)	Endangered Species Permit	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$1,890.00	\$3,417
(3e)	Field Trial Permit	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$1,250.00	\$2,260
Totals		\$536.00	\$3,502.80	\$2,967.00	\$2,252,771	\$4,073,588
Removed License	Special Trout	\$13.00	\$0.00	\$1.00	-\$545,237.33	-\$985,791
Net Total					\$1,707,537	\$3,087,797

Appendix C: Proposed CPI-U fee increases and potential increased revenue for FY2020-2021 to FY2021-2022

License Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Increase	Avg Increase	NPV (7%) of increase (2020-2022)
Resident Disabled Veteran & Totally Disabled Lifetime Inland Fishing	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$1,047	\$1,894
Annual Sportsman	\$50.00	\$53.00	\$3.00	\$214,422	\$388,109
Infant Lifetime Sportsman	\$200.00	\$212.00	\$12.00	\$27,978	\$50,588
Youth Lifetime Sportsman	\$350.00	\$371.00	\$21.00	\$7,833	\$14,162
Adult Lifetime Sportsman	\$500.00	\$530.00	\$30.00	\$23,505	\$42,508
Nonresident Lifetime Sportsman	\$1,200.00	\$1,272.00	\$72.00	\$4,500	\$8,134
Age 70 Resident Lifetime Sportsman	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$2,263	\$4,102
Resident Disabled Veteran & Totally Disabled Lifetime Sportsman	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$333	\$607
Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Hunting	\$250.00	\$265.00	\$15.00	\$7,350	\$13,290
Controlled Hunting Preserve	\$20.00	\$22.00	\$2.00	\$3,890	\$7,029
Resident Annual Comprehensive Hunting	\$36.00	\$39.00	\$3.00	\$42,777	\$77,287
Resident Big Game Hunting	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$1.00	\$23,745	\$42,952
Nonresident Bear Hunting	\$225.00	\$239.00	\$14.00	\$17,752	\$32,033
Bear Management Stamp	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$35,090	\$63,391
Bonus Antlerless Deer	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$2,178	\$3,941
Game Land	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$4,797	\$8,668
Falconry	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$139	\$251
Migratory Waterfowl Hunting	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$1.00	\$8,138	\$14,708
Hunting and Fishing Guide License - Resident	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$2,043	\$3,691
Hunting and Fishing Guide License - Nonresident	\$150.00	\$159.00	\$9.00	\$806	\$1,458
Resident State Trapping	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$2.00	\$4,432	\$8,014
Nonresident State Trapping	\$125.00	\$133.00	\$8.00	\$308	\$557
Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Inland Fishing	\$250.00	\$265.00	\$15.00	\$12,937	\$23,360

License Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Increase	Avg Increase	NPV (7%) of increase (2020-2022)
Age 70 Resident Lifetime Inland Fishing	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$6,213	\$11,246
Resident Disabled Veteran & Totally Disabled Lifetime Inland Fishing	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$1,047	\$1,894
Special Landholder & Guest Fishing	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$2,832	\$5,126
Resident Special Device	\$75.00	\$80.00	\$5.00	\$620	\$1,121
Nonresident Special Device	\$500.00	\$530.00	\$30.00	\$75	\$135
Fur Dealer - Resident	\$60.00	\$64.00	\$4.00	\$34	\$61
Fur Dealer - Nonresident	\$300.00	\$318.00	\$18.00	\$36	\$65
Furbearer Propagation	\$25.00	\$27.00	\$2.00	NA	NA
Fur Station	\$120.00	\$128.00	\$8.00	\$24	\$43
Unified Licenses (WRC portion)					
Annual Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$50.00	\$53.00	\$3.00	\$121,941	\$220,513
Annual Resident Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0	NA	NA
Infant Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$200.00	\$212.00	\$12.00	\$71,988	\$130,001
Youth Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$350.00	\$371.00	\$21.00	\$12,422	\$22,451
Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$500.00	\$530.00	\$30.00	\$39,660	\$71,638
Nonresident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$1,200.00	\$1,272.00	\$72.00	\$1,080	\$1,948
Resident Age 70 Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$3,961	\$7,175

License Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Increase	Avg Increase	NPV (7%) of increase (2020-2022)
Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$6,570	\$11,872
Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$1,392	\$2,520
Resident Lifetime Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$250.00	\$265.00	\$15.00	\$11,198	\$20,213
Unified Licenses (DMF portion)					
Annual Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$40,647	\$73,504
Annual Resident Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$51,158	\$92,409
Infant Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$75.00	\$80.00	\$5.00	\$29,995	\$54,168
Youth Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$3549	\$6,414
Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$175.00	\$186.00	\$11.00	\$14,542	\$26,267
Nonresident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$350.00	\$371.00	\$21.00	\$315	\$568
Resident Age 70 Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$3,960	\$7,175
Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$1,095	\$1,979

License Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Increase	Avg Increase	NPV (7%) of increase (2020-2022)
Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$232	\$420
Resident Lifetime Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$200.00	\$212.00	\$12.00	\$8,958	\$16,170
DMF Licenses					
Annual Resident CRFL	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$112,596	\$203,475
Annual Nonresident CRFL	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$2.00	\$42,865	\$77,532
Ten-Day Resident CRFL	\$5.00	\$6.00	\$1.00	\$43,941	\$79,399
Ten-Day Nonresident CRFL	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$135,572	\$245,062
Infant Lifetime CRFL	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$549	\$994
Youth Lifetime CFRL	\$150.00	\$159.00	\$9.00	\$702	\$1,270
Resident Adult Lifetime CRFL	\$250.00	\$265.00	\$15.00	\$4,403	\$7,975
Nonresident Adult Lifetime CFRL	\$500.00	\$530.00	\$30.00	\$375	\$679
Resident Age 70 Lifetime CRFL	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$5,713	\$10,322
Resident Disabled Veteran CRFL	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$793	\$1,434
Resident Totally Disabled CRFL	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$498	\$900
WRC Total				\$729,353	\$1,318,759
DMF Total				\$502,458	\$908,115
Total				\$1,231,811	\$2,226,874

EXHIBIT H-2

December 5, 2019



Proposed changes to 10A .1600 – License Fees **Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Hearing, and Comment**

All licenses, permits, stamps, and certifications issued and administered by the Commission (except the Recreational Commercial Gear License), and associated fees have been moved from statute to this rule in accordance with G.S. 113-270.1B(e). Additionally, those fees not adjusted by Session Laws 2018-90 or 2019-204 were increased by the total increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rounded up to the next whole dollar, since the last fee change (6%).

Justification:

This proposed permanent rule will replace the temporary rule that becomes effective January 1, 2020.

1 **15A NCAC 10A .1601 LICENSE FEES.**

2 (a) License fees established by the Commission in this Rule shall be subject to the requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B(e).

3 (b) The following fees shall apply to combination hunting and inland fishing licenses issued by the Commission, as
4 set forth in G.S. 113-270.1C:

- 5 (1) Resident Annual Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$35.00.
- 6 (2) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.
- 7 (3) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.

8 (c) The following fees shall apply to sportsman licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.1D:

- 9 (1) Annual Sportsman License - \$53.00.
- 10 (2) Infant Lifetime Sportsman License - \$212.00.
- 11 (3) Youth Lifetime Sportsman License - \$371.00.
- 12 (4) Adult Resident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$530.00.
- 13 (5) Nonresident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$1,272.00.
- 14 (6) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$16.00.
- 15 (7) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Sportsman License - \$106.00.
- 16 (8) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Sportsman License - \$106.00.

17 (d) The following fees shall apply to hunting licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.2:

- 18 (1) Resident State Hunting License - \$25.00.
- 19 (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Hunting License - \$265.00.
- 20 (3) Controlled Hunting Preserve Hunting License - \$22.00.
- 21 (4) Resident Annual Comprehensive Hunting License - \$39.00.
- 22 (5) Nonresident State Hunting Licenses:
 - 23 (A) Season License - \$100.00.
 - 24 (B) Ten-Day License - \$80.00.
- 25 (6) Falconry Hunting License - \$25.00.

26 (e) The following fees shall apply to special activity licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.3:

- 27 (1) Resident Big Game Hunting License - \$14.00.
- 28 (2) Nonresident Bear Hunting License - \$239.00.
- 29 (3) Bear Management Stamp - \$11.00.
- 30 (4) Nonresident Big Game Hunting License:
 - 31 (A) Season License - \$100.00.
 - 32 (B) Ten-Day License - \$80.00.
- 33 (5) Bonus Antlerless Deer License - \$11.00.
- 34 (6) Game Land License - \$16.00.
- 35 (7) Falconry License - \$11.00.
- 36 (8) Migratory Waterfowl Hunting License - \$14.00.
- 37 (9) Resident American Alligator License - \$250.00.

1 (10) Nonresident American Alligator License - \$500.00.

2 (11) Resident Elk License - \$500.00.

3 (12) Nonresident Elk License - \$1,000.00.

4 (f) The following fees shall apply to hunting and fishing guide licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S.
5 113-270.4:

6 (1) Resident Hunting and Fishing Guide License - \$16.00.

7 (2) Nonresident Hunting and Fishing Guide License - \$159.00.

8 (g) The following fees shall apply to trapping licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.5:

9 (1) Resident State Trapping License - \$32.00.

10 (2) Resident Lifetime Trapping License - \$300.00.

11 (3) Nonresident State Trapping License - \$133.00.

12 (h) The following fees shall apply to hook-and-line licenses in inland and joint fishing waters issued by the
13 Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-271:

14 (1) Resident State Inland Fishing License - \$25.00.

15 (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Inland Fishing License - \$265.00.

16 (3) Nonresident State Inland Fishing License - \$45.00.

17 (4) Short-Term Inland Fishing License:

18 (A) Resident 10-day Inland Fishing License - \$9.00.

19 (B) Nonresident 10-day Inland Fishing License - \$23.00.

20 (5) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$16.00.

21 (6) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.

22 (7) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.

23 (8) Special Landholder and Guest Fishing License - \$106.00.

24 (9) Mountain Heritage Trout Waters 3-Day Fishing License - \$8.00.

25 (i) The following fees shall apply to special device licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.2:

26 (1) Resident Special Device License - \$80.00.

27 (2) Nonresident Special Device License - \$530.00.

28 (j) The fee for a collection license issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.4 shall be \$10.00.

29 (k) The following fees shall apply to captivity licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.5:

30 (1) Captivity License for Holding - \$50.00.

31 (2) Captivity License for Rehabilitation - \$10.00.

32 (l) The following fees shall apply to dealer licenses issued by the Commission as set forth in G.S. 113-273:

33 (1) Resident Fur-dealer License - \$64.00.

34 (2) Nonresident Fur-dealer License - \$318.00.

35 (3) Fur-dealer Station License - \$128.00.

36 (4) Controlled Hunting Preserve Operator License - \$100.00.

37 (5) Game Bird Propagation License - \$10.00.

- 1 (6) Furbearer Propagation License - \$27.00.
- 2 (7) Taxidermy License - \$50.00.
- 3 (8) Taxidermy Cervid Certification - \$5.00.
- 4 (9) Wildlife Control Agent License - \$50.00.
- 5 (10) Alligator Control Agent Certification - \$25.00.

6 (m) The following fees shall apply to permits issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-274:

- 7 (1) Possession Permit - \$10.00.
- 8 (2) Exportation or Importation Permit - \$10.00.
- 9 (3) Trophy Wildlife Sale Permit - \$10.00.
- 10 (4) Endangered Species Permit - \$10.00.
- 11 (5) Field Trial Permit - \$10.00.

12 (n) Unified hunting and fishing licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-351:

- 13 (1) Annual Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$69.00.
- 14 (2) Annual Resident Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$41.00.
- 15 (3) Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses:
 - 16 (A) Infant Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$292.00.
 - 17 (B) Youth Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$477.00.
 - 18 (C) Resident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License -
19 \$716.00.
 - 20 (D) Nonresident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License -
21 \$1,643.00.
 - 22 (E) Resident Age 70 Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License -
23 \$32.00.
 - 24 (F) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing
25 License - \$117.00.
 - 26 (G) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing
27 License - \$117.00.
- 28 (4) Resident Lifetime Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$477.00.

29 (o) The following fees shall apply to Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in
30 G.S. 113-174.2:

- 31 (1) Annual Resident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$16.00.
- 32 (2) Annual Nonresident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$32.00.
- 33 (3) Ten-Day Resident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$6.00.
- 34 (4) Ten-Day Nonresident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$11.00.
- 35 (5) Infant Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$106.00.
- 36 (6) Youth Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$159.00.
- 37 (7) Resident Adult Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$265.00.

1 (8) Nonresident Adult Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$530.00.

2 (9) Resident Age 70 Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$16.00.

3 (10) Resident Disabled Veteran Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$11.00.

4 (11) Resident Totally Disabled Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$11.00.

5

6 History Note: Authority G.S. 113-270.1B(e);

7

EXHIBIT I-1
December 5, 2019



Public Comments for 15A NCAC 10H .0100 Rules
Controlled Hunting Preserves

Public Comments Received

I am commenting on the proposed rule change to shooting preserves. Your rule changes, incorrectly, refer to Hungarian and chukar partridges as game birds. They are not and never have been legally classified as game birds. All references to Huns and chukar being game birds should be stricken from the proposed rules. Also shooting preserves should be allowed to released red legged partridges as well because they are another species raised for release.

EXHIBIT I-2

December 5, 2019



Proposed changes to 10H .0100 – Controlled Hunting Preserves Recommended by Agency Staff for Final Adoption

Title 15A NCAC 10H .0100 – Controlled Hunting Preserves for Domestically Raised Game Birds

These rules are part of the 2016 periodic review, with a re-adoption deadline of December 31, 2019. Technical and terminology changes are proposed for all subsections.

10H .0101

Updated to clarify language and make organizational changes. Amends title to *General Requirements*, to reflect inclusion of application and operational requirements.

15A NCAC 10H .0101 License to Operate (page 3-4)

10H .0102

Updated to clarify language, remove unnecessary language, and delete language that required applicants to present evidence of ability to raise, purchase, or release domestically raised game birds. Also deletes language requiring minimum levels of species for preserves.

15A NCAC 10H .0102 Establishment and Operation (page 5)

10H .0103

Updated to clarify language. Amends title to read *Labeling of Harvested Birds*.

15A NCAC 10H .0103 Labeling (page 6)

10H .0104

Updated to clarify and remove unnecessary language for conciseness.

15A NCAC 10H .0104 Quality of Birds Released (page 7)

10H .0105

Updated to clarify language and make organizational changes. Incorporates a reporting requirement on birds released previously found in 10H .0101. Amends title to read *Records and Reporting Requirements*.

15A NCAC 10H .0105 Records Required (page 8)

License Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Increase	Avg Increase	NPV (7%) of increase (2020-2022)
Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$6,570	\$11,872
Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$1,392	\$2,520
Resident Lifetime Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$250.00	\$265.00	\$15.00	\$11,198	\$20,213
Unified Licenses (DMF portion)					
Annual Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$40,647	\$73,504
Annual Resident Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$51,158	\$92,409
Infant Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$75.00	\$80.00	\$5.00	\$29,995	\$54,168
Youth Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$3549	\$6,414
Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$175.00	\$186.00	\$11.00	\$14,542	\$26,267
Nonresident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$350.00	\$371.00	\$21.00	\$315	\$568
Resident Age 70 Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$3,960	\$7,175
Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$1,095	\$1,979

License Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Increase	Avg Increase	NPV (7%) of increase (2020-2022)
Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$232	\$420
Resident Lifetime Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing	\$200.00	\$212.00	\$12.00	\$8,958	\$16,170
DMF Licenses					
Annual Resident CRFL	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$112,596	\$203,475
Annual Nonresident CRFL	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$2.00	\$42,865	\$77,532
Ten-Day Resident CRFL	\$5.00	\$6.00	\$1.00	\$43,941	\$79,399
Ten-Day Nonresident CRFL	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$135,572	\$245,062
Infant Lifetime CRFL	\$100.00	\$106.00	\$6.00	\$549	\$994
Youth Lifetime CFRL	\$150.00	\$159.00	\$9.00	\$702	\$1,270
Resident Adult Lifetime CRFL	\$250.00	\$265.00	\$15.00	\$4,403	\$7,975
Nonresident Adult Lifetime CFRL	\$500.00	\$530.00	\$30.00	\$375	\$679
Resident Age 70 Lifetime CRFL	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$5,713	\$10,322
Resident Disabled Veteran CRFL	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$793	\$1,434
Resident Totally Disabled CRFL	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	\$498	\$900
WRC Total				\$729,353	\$1,318,759
DMF Total				\$502,458	\$908,115
Total				\$1,231,811	\$2,226,874

10H .0106

Updated to clarify language.

15A NCAC 10H .0106 Hunting License Required (page 9)

10H .0107

Updated to clarify language. Amends license revocation language to establish that Executive Director can revoke, suspend, or deny a preserve operator's license based on seriousness of violations and any previous violations.

15A NCAC 10H .0107 (page 10)

10H .0108

Updated to delete unnecessary language for conciseness and makes organizational and clarifying changes. Amends title to read *Feeding of Stocked Birds*.

15A NCAC 10H .0108 (page 11)

10H .0109

Updated to clarify language and delete unnecessary language for conciseness.

15A NCAC 10H .0109 (page 12)

10H .0110

Proposed for repeal, as rule substance has been incorporated into 10H .0108.

15A NCAC 10H .0110 (page 13)

1 **15A NCAC 10H .0101 LICENSE TO OPERATE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

2 ~~(a) A controlled hunting preserve license entitles the holder or holders thereof, and their guests of that preserve to~~
3 ~~take or kill by shooting only, and without regard to sex or bag limits, starting October 1 and ending March 31,~~
4 ~~domestically raised pheasants, chukar partridges, Hungarian partridges, Mallard ducks (as defined by the United~~
5 ~~States Fish and Wildlife Service) or other domestically raised game birds, except wild turkey. A controlled hunting~~
6 ~~preserve license also authorizes the holder or holders to purchase, possess, propagate, sell, transport and release~~
7 ~~propagated migratory game birds and their eggs, and propagated upland game birds, except wild turkey, subject to the~~
8 ~~limitations and conditions in Section .0900 of this Subchapter. Application for controlled hunting preserve licenses~~
9 ~~shall be made on standard forms obtainable from the commission. Applicants must be prepared to show proof of~~
10 ~~ownership of the land contained in the proposed hunting preserve or proof that they have this land under lease for the~~
11 ~~duration of the license period.~~

12 ~~(b) Controlled hunting preserve operators who release birds must report for the time period of the license the numbers~~
13 ~~of birds released by species and the counties where those birds were released using a reporting mechanism supplied~~
14 ~~by the Commission in order to renew their licenses.~~

15 ~~(a) It shall be unlawful to operate a preserve without first obtaining a controlled hunting operator's license from the~~
16 ~~North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.~~

17 ~~(b) A controlled hunting preserve operator's license shall authorize an operator, guest, or customer to take the~~
18 ~~following:~~

- 19 ~~(1) Mallard Ducks (as defined by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 16 U.S.C. §703);~~
- 20 ~~(2) Chukar Partridges;~~
- 21 ~~(3) Hungarian Partridges; and~~
- 22 ~~(4) Other domestically raised game birds, except Wild Turkey.~~

23 ~~(c) The following conditions shall apply to the take of birds on a controlled hunting preserve:~~

- 24 ~~(1) take shall be by shooting, which may include the use of dogs;~~
- 25 ~~(2) there shall be no bag limits or sex restrictions; and~~
- 26 ~~(3) take shall be authorized from October 1 to March 31.~~
- 27 ~~(4) domestically raised migratory game birds shall be marked by one of the methods provided in 50~~
28 ~~C.F.R. 21.13, all other domestically raised game birds, except Chukar Partridges and Hungarian~~
29 ~~Partridges, shall be individually marked on one leg with a band imprinted with the propagator's~~
30 ~~license number.~~

31 ~~(d) Application for a controlled hunting preserve operator's license shall be made on a form available from the~~
32 ~~Commission online at www.newwildlife.org or at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh,~~
33 ~~NC 27606-2576. The application shall include the following information:~~

- 34 ~~(1) The applicant's name, mailing address, residence address, telephone number, and date of birth;~~
- 35 ~~(2) The preserve name and address;~~
- 36 ~~(3) GPS coordinates of preserve entrance;~~
- 37 ~~(4) The total preserve acres owned or leased;~~

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(5) The name, address, and telephone number of the landowner, if applicable;

(3) The type of preserve; and

(4) The species of domestically raised birds to be offered for hunting.

(e) Applicants shall certify and demonstrate ownership or proof of lease of the land for the license period and for the operation of a controlled hunting preserve.

(f) Unless otherwise indicated, a controlled hunting preserve operator's license is valid from July 1st through June 31st of the following year.

(g) A licensed controlled hunting preserve operator shall be authorized to purchase, possess, propagate, sell, transport, and release propagated migratory game birds, their eggs, and propagated upland game birds, except for wild turkey, subject to limitations in Section .0900 of this Subchapter.

(h) Representatives of the Commission shall be permitted to enter the premises upon request or during business hours for inspection, enforcement, or scientific purposes.

1 **15A NCAC 10H .0102 ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION**

2 (a) ~~Size of Preserve.~~ Controlled hunting preserves licensed under these regulations shall consist of not less than be
3 at least 100 acres and shall be in one contiguous block of land.

4 (b) ~~Boundary of Preserve.~~ The boundary of each controlled hunting preserve shall be posted with printed signs that
5 face both outward and inward from the preserve boundary ~~and that are supplied and posted by the preserve owner as~~
6 follows: and meet the following requirements:

7 (1) ~~Size and color.~~ Signs shall be at least 12 inches wide and at least nine inches tall with white
8 background and black lettering of uniform and legible font.

9 (2) Signs shall be placed along the boundaries of the controlled hunting preserve, not more than 150
10 feet apart.

11 (2)(3) Text ~~for~~ of signs that ~~face~~ face outward from the boundary shall ~~bear~~ contain the following
12 ~~information: information in font no less than ¼ of an inch in height:~~

13 (i) the words "Controlled Hunting Preserve" ~~in font size no less than ¼ of an inch in height;~~
14 Preserve";

15 (ii) the words, "The owner or lessee of this property is operating by authority of a license issued
16 by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~All hunting~~ Hunting on this preserve shall
17 be in accordance with ~~special regulations adopted by of the Commission" Commission.;~~
18 in font size no less than ¼ of an inch in height;

19 (iii) the words, "state hunting license is ~~required~~" required" ~~in font size no less than ¼ inches in height;~~
20 required"; and

21 (iv) the name of the licensed operator of the controlled hunting preserve ~~in font size no less~~
22 than ¼ of an inch in height. preserve.

23 (3)(4) Text ~~for~~ of signs that ~~face~~ face inward from the boundary shall bear the words "Controlled Hunting
24 Preserve" in font ~~size~~ no less than ¾ of an inch in height.

25 (4) ~~Location.~~ Signs shall be placed along the boundaries of the controlled hunting preserve, spaced not
26 more than 150 feet apart.

27 (c) ~~Stocking Preserve with Game.~~ An applicant for a controlled hunting preserve license shall present satisfactory
28 evidence of his ability to raise, or purchase, for release on the preserve during the year at least the minimum number
29 herein designated of each species he plans to advertise as being available on his preserve for hunting in accordance
30 with the following formula:

31 (1) ~~ring-necked pheasants (and other nonnative game birds except Mallard ducks) 100 birds of each~~
32 ~~species for first 300 acres, or fraction thereof, and 100 birds for each additional 200 acres, or fraction~~
33 ~~thereof, included in the hunting preserve;~~

34 (2) ~~bobwhite quail 1,000 quail for the first 300 acres, or fraction thereof, and 500 quail for each~~
35 ~~additional 200 acres, or fraction thereof, included in the hunting preserve;~~

36 (3) ~~Mallard ducks (one generation removed from the wild) 100 minimum for each preserve.~~

1 **15A NCAC 10H .0103 LABELING OF HARVESTED BIRDS**

2 ~~(a) When any person takes game birds, it~~ It shall be unlawful to remove such harvested birds from the hunting preserve
3 or to possess harvested birds ~~the same thereafter unless the entire bag of such birds is~~ are packaged and marked with
4 a label provided by the ~~hunting preserve operator.~~ preserve. ~~Such~~ The label shall ~~contain:~~ contain the following
5 information:

- 6 (1) the name and address of the hunting ~~preserve,~~ preserve;
- 7 (2) the name and address of the possessor of the ~~bird carcasses,~~ harvested birds;
- 8 (3) the number of ~~bird carcasses~~ harvested birds contained ~~therein,~~ in the package;
- 9 (4) a statement that the package may be opened for inspection by an enforcement ~~officer,~~ officer; and
- 10 (5) the signature of the ~~preserve owner or operator,~~ licensed operator or his or her designee.

11 ~~(b) The package must~~ packaged and marked harvested birds shall be accompanied at all times by the hunter's ~~receipt~~
12 receipt, which shall be completed and signed by the ~~preserve operator or his or her agent~~ designee as described in
13 Rule .0105 of this Section.

1 **15A NCAC 10H .0104 QUALITY OF BIRDS RELEASED**

2 All birds purchased or raised for release on controlled hunting preserves shall be ~~healthy and~~ free from disease.
3 Possession of ~~unhealthy or~~ diseased birds is may be grounds for ~~revocation~~ the suspension, revocation, or denial of a
4 controlled hunting preserve license.

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1 **15A NCAC 10H .0105 RECORDS ~~REQUIRED AND~~ REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

2 (a) ~~The controlled hunting preserve operator shall maintain a daily written record of each hunter using the controlled~~
3 ~~hunting preserve. This record shall be kept on forms provided by the preserve operator. A sample form will be~~
4 ~~provided by the Wildlife Resources Commission to the preserve operator. This record shall bear the name, address,~~
5 ~~and license number of the preserve; the name, address and state hunting license number of each hunter using the~~
6 ~~preserve, the date of the hunt, and the number of each species of game bird killed by the hunter on the preserve. contain~~
7 ~~the following information:~~

- 8 (1) name, address, and license number of the preserve;
- 9 (2) the name, address, and state hunting license number of each hunter using the preserve;
- 10 (3) the date(s) of the hunt;
- 11 (4) the number and species of each bird harvested by the hunter on the preserve; and
- 12 (5) the signature of the operator.

13 ~~The record shall bear the signature of the operator of the preserve and shall be prepared in duplicate; the original to~~
14 ~~be given to the hunter to serve as a receipt for birds killed on the preserve, and the duplicate copy to be retained by~~
15 ~~the licensee for 12 months and which copy shall be available for inspection by authorized Commission personnel upon~~
16 ~~demand. This record shall be executed in duplicate. The original record shall be given to the hunter to serve as a receipt~~
17 ~~for birds harvested on the preserve as required in Rule .0103 of this Section. The duplicate record shall be retained by~~
18 ~~the operator for 12 months after the date(s) of the hunt and shall remain open and available for inspection by the~~
19 ~~Commission. It shall be unlawful for a person to possess native or nonnative game birds killed harvested on~~
20 ~~controlled hunting preserves, unless the said birds are accompanied by preserves without an approved a receipt as~~
21 ~~described in this Rule.~~

22 (b) ~~The licensee operator shall maintain a daily written record of each game bird species liberated released on the~~
23 ~~preserve. This record shall include the number and species of each bird released and the date of the release. This~~
24 ~~record shall be open for inspection by authorized Commission personnel upon demand. Representatives of the~~
25 ~~Commission shall be permitted to enter the premises at reasonable times for inspection, enforcement, or scientific~~
26 ~~purposes.~~

27 (c) The records required by this Rule shall be available for inspection at the request of the Commission.

28 (d) Licensed operators that release birds shall report the number released, the species of the birds released, and the
29 county where the release occurred to renew their operator's license. This reporting requirement shall be limited to
30 those birds released during the time period of the operator's current valid license or last valid license and shall be
31 reported on the Controlled Shooting Preserve Game Birds Report Form found online at www.ncwildlife.org or at the
32 Commission headquarters.

1 **15A NCAC 10H .0106 HUNTING LICENSE REQUIRED**

2 ~~Every person hunting on a controlled hunting preserve shall have in his possession a proper resident or nonresident~~
3 ~~hunting license or a special controlled hunting preserve hunting license for the current year as required by law. A~~
4 ~~valid North Carolina hunting license or controlled hunting preserve hunting license shall be required of all persons~~
5 ~~hunting domestically raised birds on controlled hunting preserves, unless otherwise exempted by law.~~

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1 **15A NCAC 10H .0107 REVOCATION OF LICENSE TO OPERATE**

2 ~~In accordance with provisions of~~ As authorized in G.S. 113-276.2, the ~~Wildlife Resources Commission Executive~~
3 ~~Director of the Commission or his or her designee may revoke or suspend~~ revoke, suspend, or deny the renewal of the
4 license of any controlled hunting preserve operator upon violation of these ~~the rules and regulations. in this section.~~
5 ~~When there is evidence of such a violation, the executive director or his designee shall give the said operator 20 days~~
6 ~~notice in writing to show cause to the executive director or his designee why said license should not be suspended or~~
7 ~~revoked.~~ The determination whether to revoke, suspend, or deny a controlled hunting preserve operator license shall
8 be based upon the seriousness of the violation and any previous violations.

1 **15A NCAC 10H .0108 ~~BIRD FEEDERS~~ BIRD FEEDERS FEEDING OF STOCKED BIRDS**

2 ~~(a) Purpose of Rule. The purpose of this Rule is to prescribe criteria governing the types and locations of bird feeders~~
3 ~~on controlled hunting preserves in the vicinity of which properly licensed hunters may take game birds as provided~~
4 ~~by law.~~

5 ~~(b) (a) Types of Feeders. For the purposes of this Rule, bird~~ Bird feeders may used on controlled hunting preserves
6 ~~shall be either of commercial design or of domestic manufacture, provided that in either case they are not designed to~~
7 ~~disperse grain or other food on the ground around the feeders and are sheltered so as to protect such grain or food from~~
8 ~~dampness and precipitation. meet the following conditions:~~

9 (1) shall not disperse grain or other food on the ground around the feeders; and

10 (2) shall be sheltered to protect the grain or other food from dampness and precipitation.

11 ~~(e) (b) Location of Feeders. For the purposes of this Rule, no~~ No bird feeder shall be placed within 100 yards of any
12 ~~boundary of a controlled hunting preserve; otherwise the locations of such feeders shall be in the discretion of the~~
13 ~~hunting preserve operator. preserve.~~

14 (c) Supplemental feeding. Licensed operators shall be authorized to broadcast supplemental feed on the preserve. It
15 shall be lawful for licensed hunters to take all birds authorized in 15A NCAC 10H .0101(b) in supplemented areas.
16 Wild birds may not be taken with the use or aid of bait, including in supplemental feeding areas.

1 **15A NCAC 10H .0109 QUAIL CALL-PEN TRAPS**

2 (a) ~~Conditions of use. A licensed Licensed controlled hunting preserve operator who operators that releases release~~
3 ~~pen-raised quail for hunting or dog training purposes may, between September 1 and April 30, operate one or more~~
4 ~~quail call pen traps in accordance with the requirements of this Rule for the purpose of recovering any such quail that~~
5 ~~are not killed. shall be authorized to use quail call-pen traps, between September 1 and April 30, to recover released~~
6 quail, subject to the following requirements:

7 (1) all traps shall have a weather-resistant permanent tag attached with the operator's name and address
8 written legibly;

9 (b)(2) ~~Location of Traps. No quail call pen trap shall no trap shall~~ be located within 100 yards of any
10 ~~external boundary of the hunting preserve. preserve; and~~

11 (e) ~~Identification of Traps. All traps shall have a weather-resistant permanent tag attached with the~~
12 ~~propagator's name and address legibly written on it.~~

13 (3) no trapped, unbanded quail shall be retained.

1 ~~15A NCAC 10H .0110~~ — SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING

2 ~~A controlled hunting preserve operator may broadcast supplemental grain feed on the preserve. Licensed hunters may~~
3 ~~take domestically raised pheasants, chukar partridges, Hungarian partridges, or other domestically raised upland game~~
4 ~~birds, except wild turkey, in supplemented areas.~~

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EXHIBIT J-1

December 5, 2019



PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE OPEN COMMENT PERIOD 15A NCAC 10F .0306 CAROLINA BEACH

A public hearing was held in Raleigh, NC on October 17, 2019 to receive comments on the proposed amendment for a no-wake zone in the Town of Carolina Beach. There were no attendees at the public hearing.

During the open comment period there were no comments received.

EXHIBIT J-2

December 5, 2019



FINAL ADOPTION AMENDMENT TO 15A NCAC 10F .0306 – CAROLINA BEACH

Notice of Text was published in the *North Carolina Register* on October 1, 2019 with an open comment period per the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, for a proposed amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0306 requested by the Town of Carolina Beach, to place a no-wake zone in the Intracoastal Waterway in Myrtle Grove Sound within approximately 50 yards of the community pier and docks surrounding marinas at the Oceana Marina and Carolina Beach Yacht Club, and extending south of the marinas within approximately 50 yards of the shoreline to the intersection with the no-wake zone at the Carolina Beach Yacht Basin.

One public hearing was held during the open comment period on October 17, 2019 with no attendees. During the open comment period no comments were received.

Staff recommends final adoption of 15A NCAC 10F .0306 (a)(2) by the Commission. Upon adoption, the rule will be presented for final review by the Rules Review Commission. If RRC approves, the earliest effective date of the Rule will be February 1, 2020.

15A NCAC 10F .0306 CAROLINA BEACH

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule applies to ~~those waters known as Carolina Beach Yacht Basin bounded on the north by a line perpendicular to Florida Avenue and intersecting marker number "2" in the channel of the yacht basin, and on the south by the terminus of the yacht basin at the Carolina Beach Municipal Marina.~~ the following waters in the Town of Carolina Beach:

(1) Carolina Beach Yacht Basin shore to shore, south of a line from a point on the east shore at 34.05723 N, 77.88894 W to a point on the west shore at 34.05700 N, 77.89089 W; and

(2) a portion of the Intracoastal Waterway in Myrtle Grove Sound within approximately 50 yards of the community pier and docks surrounding marinas at the Oceana Marina and Carolina Beach Yacht Club, and extending south of the marinas within approximately 50 yards of the shoreline to the intersection with the no-wake zone at the Carolina Beach Yacht Basin.

(b) Speed Limit. It is unlawful to operate any ~~motorboat or vessel at a speed~~ greater than no-wake speed in the regulated ~~area areas~~ described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement ~~and Maintenance~~ of Markers. The Carolina Beach Town Council ~~is~~ shall be the designated ~~a suitable~~ agency for placement ~~and maintenance~~ of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

15A NCAC 10F .0306 - No Wake Zone - Proposed
Carolina Beach Yacht Club & Oceana Marina, Intracoastal Waterway, New Hanover County



15A
NCAC 10E
.0104 (d)

SNOWS
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15A NCAC 10F
.0306 (a)

- Proposed No Wake Zone
- Existing No Wake Zone
- Marina Properties
- USACE Channel Setback

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Yards

EXHIBIT K-1

December 5, 2019



PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE OPEN COMMENT PERIOD 15A NCAC 10F .0336 NORTHAMPTON AND WARREN COUNTIES

A public hearing was held in Raleigh, NC on September 18, 2019 to receive comments on the proposed amendment for a no-wake zone on Lake Gaston in Jimmies Creek, in Northampton County. There were no attendees at the public hearing.

During the open comment period there were no comments received.

EXHIBIT K-2

December 5, 2019



FINAL ADOPTION AMENDMENT TO 15A NCAC 10F .0336 – NORTHAMPTON AND WARREN COUNTIES

Notice of Text was published in the *North Carolina Register* on August 15, 2019 with an open comment period per the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, for a proposed amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0336 requested by Northampton County, to place a no-wake zone on Lake Gaston in a portion of Jimmies Creek.

One public hearing was held during the open comment period on September 18, 2019 with no attendees. During the open comment period no comments were received.

Staff recommends final adoption of 15A NCAC 10F .0336 (d)(6) by the Commission. Upon adoption, the rule will be presented for final review by the Rules Review Commission. If RRC approves, the earliest effective date of the Rule will be February 1, 2020.

15A NCAC 10F .0336 NORTHAMPTON AND WARREN COUNTIES

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Lake Gaston ~~the~~ in Northampton and Warren counties.
- (b) Speed Limit in Mooring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while within a marked mooring area on the waters of Lake Gaston within Northampton and Warren counties.
- (c) Speed Limit Near Shore Facilities. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any marked boat launching area, dock, pier, bridge, marina, boat storage structure, or boat service area on the waters of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (d) Speed Limit in specific waters. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the following bodies of water:
- (1) the cove on the north shore of Lake Gaston in Northampton County east of SR 1252 otherwise known as Vincent Lane, shore to shore from a point on the north shore at 36.51660 N, 77.82226 W to a point on the south shore at 36.51578 N, 77.82269 W;
 - (2) Big Stone House Creek in Warren County within 50 yards of the culvert under N.C. Highway 903 at 36.48789 N, 77.95009 W;
 - (3) Songbird Creek in Warren County within 50 yards of the culvert under N.C. Highway 903 at 36.53260 N, 77.97330 W;
 - (4) Sixpound Creek in Warren County within 50 yards of the culvert under ~~SR 1704~~ SR 1704 otherwise known as Nocarva Road at 36.52950 N, 78.07283 W; ~~and~~
 - (5) Lizard Creek in Warren County within 50 yards of the culvert under SR 1362 otherwise known as Lizard Creek Road at 36.52501 N, ~~77.91187 W~~, 77.91187 W; ~~and~~
 - (6) Jimmies Creek in Northampton County shore to shore, north of a line from a point on the east shore at 36.52450 N, 77.82600 W to a point on the west shore at 36.52445 N, 77.82810 W.
- (e) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any marked public swimming area on the waters of Lake Gaston in Northampton and Warren counties.
- (f) Placement of Markers. The Boards of Commissioners of Northampton County and Warren County shall be the designated agencies for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and United States Army Corps of Engineers.

15A NCAC 10F .0336 - No Wake Zone - Proposed
Jimmies Creek, Lake Gaston, Northampton County

