



**AGENDA**  
**N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**April 20, 2023, 9:00 a.m.**  
**1751 Varsity Drive**  
**NCWRC Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**

**CALL TO ORDER** – *Chairman Monty Crump*

**This electronic meeting is being streamed live for the public to attend and recorded as a public record. The recording of the meeting will be available at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – *Commissioner John Coley*

**INVOCATION** – *Commissioner John Alexander*

**ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT** – *Margo Minkler, Commission Liaison*

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

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 23, 2023 MEETING MINUTES** – Take action on the February 23, 2023 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT A)**

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 30, 2023 MEETING MINUTES** – Take action on the March 30, 2023 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT B)**

**FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT** – Receive Financial Status Report on the Wildlife Resources Commission General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and the Endowment Fund. – *Jason Cottle, Chief Financial Officer (EXHIBIT C)*

**ENDOWMENT FUND EXPENDABLE INCOME ALLOCATION** – Consider Approval of Calendar Year 2022 Investment Income Allocation – *Jason Cottle (EXHIBIT D)*

**COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

**Migratory Birds & Waterfowl Committee Report** – April 19, 2023 – *John Coley, Chair*  
**Education & Communication Committee Report** – April 19, 2023 – *Kelly Davis, Chair*

**Land Acquisitions & Property Committee Report – April 19, 2023 – Tom Berry, Chair**  
**Finance Committee Report – April 19, 2023 – Landon Zimmer, Chair**  
**Committee of the Whole Report – April 19, 2023 – Monty Crump, Chair**

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – Reptile Trafficking Trends, International and Domestic–Chad Arnold, Lieutenant Special Operations Unit, Law Enforcement Division**

## **RULEMAKING**

**Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – Various 10A Rule Readoptions** – Consider request to publish Notice of Text with an open comment period and a public hearing for proposed amendments to rules 10A .0401, .0402, .1101 and .1201 – *Carrie Ruhlman, Rulemaking Coordinator (EXHIBIT E)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 10D .0235 Gull Rock Game Land** – Review public comments and consider request to adopt proposed change to Gull Rock Game Land Rule – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBITS F-1, F-2)*

**Petition for Rulemaking** – Consider petition received February 14 requesting rulemaking to prohibit the use of dogs when hunting deer on a portion of Columbus County Game Land south of NC 214 – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBIT G)*

## **WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING**

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0308 Clay County** – Review public comments and consider final adoption of amendments to extend the no-wake zone at the Ho Hum Campground boat ramp; remove the no-wake zone in McCracken Cove; incorporate a marked Swim Area at the Clay County Recreational Park; and incorporate a Restricted Area denoting the existing Jack Rabbit swimming area and no-wake zone – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBITS H-1, H-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0316 Forsyth, Rockingham, and Stokes Counties** – Review public comments and consider final adoption of amendments to establish no-wake zones at two locations at Humphrey’s Ridge Marina and Campground on Belews Lake in Stokesdale – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBITS I-1, I-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0333 Lake Wylie Marine Commission, Mecklenburg County** – Review public comments and consider final adoption of an amendment to establish a no-wake zone in the waters of Withers Cove on Lake Wylie – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBITS J-1, J-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0355 Perquimans County** – Review public comments and consider final adoption of an amendment to extend the existing no-wake zone in the Perquimans River – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBITS K-1, K-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0379 City of Roxboro** – Review public comments and consider adoption of a new Rule to establish a no-wake zone in Lake Roxboro – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBITS L-1, L-2)*

**Temporary Rulemaking Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0305 Town of Sunset Beach, Brunswick County** – Consider request to publish Notice of Text with an open comment period and public hearing for a proposed temporary Rule in the waters of South Jinks Creek for a dredging project in the creek navigation channel – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBIT M)*

## LAND ACQUISITION AND PROPERTY MATTERS

**Phase II Land Acquisition** – Consider final approval to proceed with acquisition of the following properties – *Ben Solomon, Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager* (**EXHIBITS N-1, N-2, N-3, N-4, N-5, N-6, N-7, N-8**)

- Lakey Creek Farms Tract – Macon County (**N-1**)
- South Fork New River Access – Ashe County (**N-2**)
- Simp Gap Access Tract – Graham County (**N-3**)
- Simp Gap Main Tract – Graham County (**N-4**)
- Doll Tract – Caldwell County (**N-5**)
- Shecut Tract – Haywood County (**N-6**)
- Bay River Tract – Pamlico County (**N-7**)
- Sleepy Creek Farm Tract – Pender County (**N-8**)

**Other Property Matters** – Consider approval of the following other property matters - *Ben Solomon, Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager* (**EXHIBITS O-1, O-2, O-3**)

- Holly Shelter Building Disposition – Request to dispose of an old office building at the Holly Shelter Depot (**O-1**)
- Ledford Chapel Disposition - Request to dispose of 0.054 acres at the Ledford Chapel Access Area (**O-2**)
- Request for Easement – NC DOT requests to purchase a Permanent Right of Way for a bridge re-routing project in Rowan County (**O-3**)

## WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

**2023-2024 Webless Migratory Birds, Resident Canada Geese, Extended Falconry, and Waterfowl Seasons** – Review U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service frameworks, receive public comments, and select the 2023-2024 season dates and bag limits for webless migratory birds, resident Canada geese, extended falconry, and waterfowl – *Brad Howard, Wildlife Management Division Chief* (**EXHIBITS P-1, P-2, P-3, P-4**)

**2023 Migrant Peregrine Falconry** – Consider staff recommendations to establish a season for taking up to 5 migrant peregrine falcons for use in falconry in 2023 – *Brad Howard* (**EXHIBIT Q**)

**COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN** – *Chairman Crump*

**COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – *Executive Director Ingram*

**ADJOURN**

## EXHIBIT A



### MINUTES February 23, 2023 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Meeting Raleigh, North Carolina

Chairman Monty Crump called the February 23, 2023 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Room at the agency's headquarters in Raleigh. Crump reminded everyone that the meeting is being audio streamed live and will be available at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

Commissioner Kelly Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner John Stone gave the invocation.

#### ROLL CALL

Margo Minkler, *Commission Liaison*, called the roll. Wes Seegars, Steve Windham, Hayden Rogers, and John Alexander were absent.

#### COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE

Monty Crump	Jim Ruffin	John Coley	Ray Clifton
Thomas Fonville	Mark Craig	Kelly Davis	Landon Zimmer
David Hoyle	Tom Berry	Tom Haislip	John Stone
Brad Stanback	JC Cole	Mike Alford	

#### VISITORS

Tim Draughon, NWTF	Bill Collart, NWTF
Brent Phillips, NWTF	Robert Smith, NWTF
Bryan Perry, NWTF	Zac Morton, NWTF

## **MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY**

Chairman Crump advised the Commission of the mandatory ethics inquiry as mandated in NCGS §138A-15. Commissioner Mark Craig recused himself from discussion and action on Exhibit D.

## **MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8, 2022 MEETING**

On a motion by Landon Zimmer and second by John Coley, the Minutes of the December 8, 2022 meeting were approved as presented in **EXHIBIT A**.

**Exhibit A** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Charonda Lee, *Budget Analyst*, presented a status report in **EXHIBIT B** on the Wildlife Resources Commission General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and the Endowment Fund.

**Exhibit B** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## **COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

**Habitat, Nongame, Endangered Species Committee Report – February 22, 2023** – *Mark Craig Chair*, reported the Committee met on February 22, 2023. Mr. Jeff Hall, *Wildlife Biologist II*, presented an informative overview of snake species found in the longleaf pine ecosystem of North Carolina. Although much longleaf pine habitat has been altered or lost, the Commission's game lands provide habitat for many snake species due to use of beneficial management practices such as prescribed burning and low basal area forest management. Mr. Hall also provided information about a website that aids identification of reptiles and amphibians and Herp Mapper, an app that can be used to submit sightings. Dr. Sara Schweitzer, *Wildlife Management Division Assistant Chief*, followed Mr. Hall with a presentation of the Southern Hognose Snake Conservation Plan. The HNGES Committee approved posting the plan on the Commission's website for a 30-day public comment period. Ms. Rachael Hoch, *Inland Fisheries Division Assistant Chief*, presented reintroduction proposals for four aquatic species. The first proposal was to reintroduce the state listed Freshwater Drum into the upper French Broad River. The remaining three proposals were to reintroduce federally listed species – the Roanoke Logperch into the upper Mayo River, the Magnificent Ramshorn into the Green Swamp Game Land, and the Spotfin Chub into four watersheds including the upper French Broad River, the Swannanoa River, the South Toe River, and the Tuckasegee River. The Commission will use its Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances and Safe Harbor Agreement for the reintroductions of the three federally listed species. All reintroduction proposals were approved by the HNGES Committee.

**Rules Committee Report – February 22, 2023** – *David Hoyle, Vice Chair*, reported the Rules Committee met February 22, 2023, and received several updates on current and upcoming rules. First was a rundown of the public comments for the annual rule cycle proposals and an explanation of the form letter comments and unrelated rule suggestions received. Due to the number of rule suggestions submitted during annual cycle comment periods and throughout the year, a rule

suggestion portal has been added to the regulations webpage. Rule suggestions will be compiled and reviewed annually by staff and Commissioners prior to the subsequent annual cycle. Next the final group of periodic review rules were discussed. Seven rules were presented that will go to the full Commission for vote to notice text in April. Finally, the plan for adoption of permanent Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) rules was discussed and Commissioners received an explanation of the petition for rulemaking on the Columbus County Game Land that will be added to the April Commission meeting agenda.

**Fisheries Committee Report – February 22, 2023** – *John Stone, Chair*, reported the Fisheries Committee met on February 22, 2023. Lawrence Dorsey, *Piedmont Fisheries Supervisor*, provided an overview of a project which specifically showed that Bodie Bass escape low oxygenated water during warmer summer months which is different from Striped Bass. Information from the project on habitat usage, areas where fish can be located, and when they can be found will be shared with anglers via various media sources. Thomas Johnson, *District 7 Fisheries Biologist*, provided an update of how mountain fisheries staff are identifying select streams for Brook Trout restorations. To date, three streams have been restored in District 7 with more planned, and staff have identified over 100 potential restoration sites across the mountain region. Mark Fowlkes, *Piedmont Aquatic Habitat Enhancement Coordinator*, gave an overview of the Inland Fisheries Division program to establish native aquatic vegetation throughout the state. Staff have worked diligently over the past decade to establish a native plant grow out facility at the Sykes Depot in Mebane, and with generous donations from AFTCO, Fish America Foundation, and Wired 2 Fish, the division plans to expand the facility in 2024. Christian Waters, *Inland Fisheries Chief*, provided a review of two socioeconomic studies for inland fishing in North Carolina and trout fishing in the mountain region. The 2017 study demonstrated that inland fishing contributed \$4.18 billion to North Carolina's economy while a 2014 study of mountain trout fishing showed an overall contribution of \$383 million to North Carolina's economy with \$250 million attributed to stocked trout fisheries. The trout fishing study is currently being repeated with results expected later this summer. In closing, he provided a reminder of the harvest season dates in April for Roanoke River Striped Bass.

**Big Game Committee Report – February 22, 2023** – *David Hoyle, Chair*, reported the Big Game Committee met on February 22, 2023, to discuss several topics. First, Brad Howard, *Wildlife Management Division Chief*, gave a brief update about the current elk bill that was introduced in the legislature, and the committee did have brief discussion related to elk hunting, including comments from Representative Jay Adams. Next, Brad gave a presentation about this year's bear harvest update. Then, Moriah Boggess, *Deer Biologist*, presented on the upcoming Western Deer Season forums that will discuss potential changes to the western deer season. These changes are coming at the request of deer hunters in that area, but as pointed out the changes would result in biological improvements for our deer seasons. The discussion then moved to CWD and the results of this year's sampling efforts. Staff presented on suggestions for next year's sampling efforts and the Committee discussed the numerous complexities of CWD on the landscape. In closing, the Committee commended all the agency staff's efforts this year.

**Committee of the Whole Report – February 22, 2023** – *Monty Crump, Chair*, reported the Committee of the Whole met February 22, 2023. Based on pending legislative review of previous Inland Fisheries and Land and Water Access rules, the Committee agreed to postpone consideration of the new rule proposals until the March 30<sup>th</sup> virtual meeting and removed those

exhibits from the agenda. The revised agenda and exhibit package is online. The Committee then reviewed a proposed lease amendment for the Weldon Boating Access Area; two water safety rules for notice of text; the 2023-2024 Wildlife Management rule proposals and public comments for consideration of adoption; and proposed changes to Big Game Harvest Reporting and Vessel Numbering, for notice of text. Finally, Director Ingram asked Dr. David Cobb to come up to the front and be recognized for 25 years of distinguished service to the Commission and the wildlife resources of the State of North Carolina. Dr. Cobb is retiring from the Commission effective April 1st.

### **AGENCY SPOTLIGHT**

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT** – *Chris Kreh, Wildlife Management Division Assistant Chief* gave a presentation titled “The NWTF Super Fund: A Recipe For Success”. The presentation highlighted how the National Wild Turkey Federation has supported many WRC projects for turkey transfers, equipment, habitat, outreach, land acquisition, law enforcement, and research.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Check Presentation from NC State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation** – *Tim Draughon, President*, presented a donation check from the NC State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation’s Super Fund Program for wildlife management and land acquisition projects across the state that benefit wild turkey habitat.

**2022 National Wild Turkey Federation’s North Carolina Officer of the Year Award** – *Tim Draughon* presented the National Wild Turkey Federation’s North Carolina Officer of the Year Award to Senior Officer Hunter Perdue.

### **LAND ACQUISITION AND PROPERTY MATTERS**

**Other Property Matters** – On a motion by David Hoyle and second by Jim Ruffin, the Commission approved staff recommendations for other property matters presented in **(EXHIBIT C)** by *Ben Solomon*

- Lease amendment for the Weldon Boating Access Area **(EXHIBIT C)**

**EXHIBIT C** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

### **WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING**

With Commissioner Mark Craig recused on Exhibit D, on a motion by Ray Clifton and second by Kelly Davis, the Commission approved the following water safety rules presented in **EXHIBITS D & E** by Betsy Haywood, Water Safety Rules Coordinator

**Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0310 Dare County**– The Commission approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and public hearing for a proposed amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0310 on behalf of the National Park Service, to establish a no-wake zone in the waters of Motts Creek in the area surrounding the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center and Boat Basin and Bodie Island U. S. Coast Guard Station. Incorporate into the North Carolina Administrative Code the names and addresses of Boating Access Areas in Dare County. **(EXHIBIT D)**

**Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0374 Cube Hydro Carolinas Safety and Restricted Zones –** The Commission approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and public hearing for proposed amendments to 15A NCAC 10F .0374, to change the name from Cube Yadkin Generation to Cube Hydro Carolinas; to establish Safety Zones where vessel entry is prohibited; and Restricted Areas where US Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices shall be worn, where swimming is prohibited and discharge of a firearm is prohibited, at High Rock Hydroelectric Station on Yadkin River in Rowan and Davidson counties; Tuckertown Hydroelectric Station on Yadkin River in Stanly and Montgomery counties; Narrows Hydroelectric Station on Yadkin River in Stanly and Montgomery counties; and Falls Hydroelectric Station on Yadkin River in Stanly and Montgomery counties. **(EXHIBIT E)**

**EXHIBITS D & E** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## **RULEMAKING**

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2023-2024 Wildlife Management Rules**– On a motion by Landon Zimmer and a second by John Coley, the Commission reviewed public comments **(EXHIBIT F-1)** and adopted proposed changes to wildlife management rules presented in **(EXHIBIT F-2)** by *Brad Howard, Wildlife Management Division Chief*

**EXHIBITS F-1, F-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Notice of Text – 10B .0113 Big Game Harvest Reporting**– On a motion by David Hoyle and a second by Ray Clifton, the Commission approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and public hearing for proposed amendments to Rule 10B .0113 for electronic reporting presented in **(EXHIBIT G-1)** and approved fiscal notes for proposed amendments presented in **(EXHIBIT G-2)** by *Carrie Ruhlman, Rulemaking Coordinator*

**EXHIBITS G-1, G-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Notice of Text – 10F Vessel Numbering**– On a motion by David Hoyle and a second by Mike Alford, the Commission approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and public hearing for proposed amendments to 10F .0102, .0104, and .0109 to update vessel data collection and certificate of number requirements to comply with USCG regulations presented in **(EXHIBIT H)** by *Carrie Ruhlman*

**EXHIBIT H** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.



**COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN** – Chairman Crump acknowledged staff’s hard work and commitment to the resources of North Carolina. He also noted his appreciation for the partnership with the NC State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation.

**COMMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – Executive Director Cameron Ingram shared information on the upcoming Youth Hunter Education Skills Tournaments (YHEST) scheduled for March/April and noted he has often described YHEST as one of the most successful outreach programs done by the agency. He encouraged the board, staff, and the public to attend their local tournament. In closing, he presented a rendering of the design for WRC’s Samarcand Training Center building.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the WRC webinar meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m. All exhibits are incorporated into the official record of this meeting by reference and are filed with the minutes.

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Monty Crump, Chairman

Date

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Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

Date

## EXHIBIT B



### MINUTES

March 30, 2023

### N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Webinar Meeting Raleigh, North Carolina

Chairman Monty Crump called the March 30, 2023, N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) webinar meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Crump announced that the webinar meeting audio is being streamed live and will be available on [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). He reminded Commissioners to speak their names before making motions or comments and to mute their devices when not speaking. Crump announced that by the statutory requirement, the roll will be called for attendance and for each vote.

#### ROLL CALL

Margo Minkler, *Commission Liaison*, called the roll. David Hoyle, John Coley, Brad Stanback, Ray Clifton, John Stone, and Hayden Rogers were absent.

#### COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE

Monty Crump	Mark Craig	Jim Ruffin	Mike Alford
Thomas Fonville	Kelly Davis	John Alexander	
Wes Seegars	Steve Windham	Tom Haislip	
Tom Berry	Landon Zimmer	J.C. Cole	

#### MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY

Chairman Crump advised the Commission of the mandatory ethics inquiry as mandated in NCGS §138A-15.

#### RULEMAKING

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2023-2024 Annual Cycle Rules – Inland Fisheries –** The Commission reviewed public comments (**EXHIBIT A-1**) and, on a motion by Landon Zimmer

and second by John Alexander, the Commission adopted proposed changes to inland fisheries rules. (EXHIBIT A-2) presented by *Christian Waters, Inland Fisheries Division Chief*

**Exhibits A-1 and A-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2023-2024 Annual Cycle Rules – Land and Water Access**  
– The Commission reviewed public comments (EXHIBIT B-1) and, on a motion by John Alexander and second by Landon Zimmer, the Commission adopted proposed changes to land and water access rules (EXHIBIT B-2) presented by *Daron Barnes, Land and Water Access Division Chief*

**Exhibits B-1 and B-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Temporary Rulemaking for CWD** – On a motion by Steve Windham and second by Jim Ruffin, the Commission approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and a public hearing for temporary rules for proposed CWD rules 10B .0501, .0502, .0503, .0504, and .0505 (EXHIBIT C) presented by *Brad Howard, Wildlife Management Division Chief*

**Exhibit C** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Chairman Crump shared with deepest sympathy the passing of Commissioner Hoyle's Father Senator David Hoyle, Sr. and offered condolences to his family.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE DIRECTOR**

Chief Deputy Director Briggs thanked Commissioners for attending the webinar meeting and shared condolences on behalf of WRC staff to the Hoyle family.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the WRC webinar meeting was adjourned at 9:47 a.m.  
All exhibits are incorporated into the official record of this meeting by reference and are filed with the minutes.

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Monty Crump, Chairman

Date

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Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

Date

**NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**CAFR 52G - STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES and CHANGES in FUND BALANCES**

**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**AS OF FEB 28, 2023**

	FY 2023 General Fund	FY 2023 Capital Improvement Fund
<b>REVENUES</b>	\$55,274,812.25	\$6,079,458.29
Federal funds	\$21,654,076.27	\$368,594.64
Local funds	\$1,950.74	\$0.00
Investment earnings	\$157,772.55	\$0.00
Sales and services	\$9,680,422.79	\$0.00
Rental and lease of property	\$34,423.40	\$0.00
Fees, licenses and fines	\$22,330,786.23	\$0.00
Contributions, gifts and grants	\$1,315,760.82	\$5,710,863.65
Miscellaneous	\$95,286.98	\$0.00
Unclassified/invalid accounts	\$4,332.47	\$0.00
Other Financing Sources - Sale of capital assets	\$192,383.81	\$0.00
Other Financing Sources - Insurance recoveries	\$48,674.41	\$0.00
Other Financing Sources - Transfers in	\$40,783,005.30	\$1,556,536.96
Other Financing Sources - Appropriations	\$11,819,413.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 108,118,288.77</b>	<b>\$ 7,635,995.25</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	68,656,175.25	6,872,249.80
Personal services	26,280,698.54	0.00
Employee benefits	12,871,517.93	0.00
Contracted personal services	7,333,154.83	237,082.46
Supplies and materials	5,779,003.76	0.00
Travel	405,291.51	0.00
Communication	777,954.42	0.00
Utilities	509,974.63	0.00
Data processing services	575,497.53	0.00
Other services	3,210,092.63	15,823.69
Claims and benefits	1,005,905.42	0.00
Principal retirement	8,142.00	0.00
Interest and fees	658.00	0.00
Other fixed charges	169,794.54	610.00
Capital outlay	6,132,093.37	6,618,733.65
Grants, state aid and subsidies	2,267,581.02	0.00
Insurance and bonding	22,210.26	0.00
Other expenditures	1,719,045.09	0.00
Reimbursements	-462,578.77	0.00
Unclassified/invalid accounts	50,138.54	0.00
Other Financing (Uses) - Transfers out	40,976,068.33	368,054.08
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 109,632,243.58</b>	<b>\$ 7,240,303.88</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ (1,513,954.81)</b>	<b>\$ 395,691.37</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, 2022</b>	<b>\$ 19,342,386.49</b>	<b>\$ 3,281,835.81</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30</b>	<b>\$ 17,828,431.68</b>	<b>\$ 3,677,527.18</b>

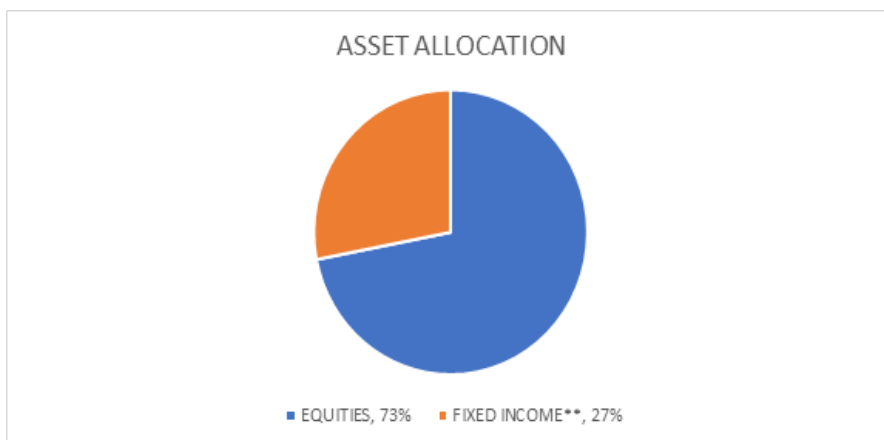
# NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ENDOWMENT PORTFOLIO

**Fund Balance\*: Feb 2023** **\$153,740,590.03**

\* Based On Financial Institutions' Data And Does Not Include Time-Lag Entries.

§ 143-250.1. Wildlife Endowment Fund

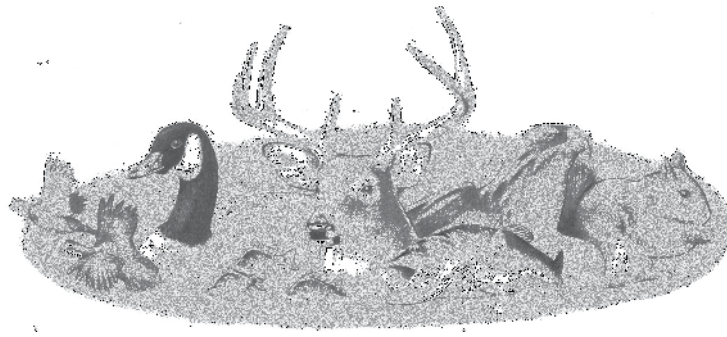
- (d) (3). No expenditure or disbursement shall be made from the principal of the Wildlife Endowment Fund except as otherwise provided by law.
- (d) (4). The income received and accruing from the investments of the Wildlife Endowment Fund must be spent only in furthering the conservation of wildlife 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.
- (g) The Wildlife Endowment Fund and the investment income therefrom shall not take the place of State appropriations or Agency receipts placed in the Wildlife Resources Fund, or any part thereof, but any portion of the income of the Wildlife Endowment Fund available for the purpose set out in subdivision (4) of subsection (d) shall be used to supplement other income of and appropriations to the Wildlife Resources Commission to the end that the Commission may improve and increase its services and become more useful to a greater number of people.



\*\* Fixed Income Includes Short-Term And Long-Term Fixed Income Instruments

Fund	Principal	Non-Expendable	Expendable	Total***
Adult Lifetime Licenses	\$ 77,184,817.90		\$ 41,769,012.41	\$ 118,953,830.31
Magazine Subs Lifetime	\$ 1,573,477.50		\$ 813,300.00	\$ 2,386,777.50
Contributions	\$ 816,094.50		\$ 2,194,429.65	\$ 3,010,524.15
Diversity	\$ 105,401.45		\$ 4,476.29	\$ 109,877.74
Infant Lifetime Licenses	\$ 20,559,280.00	\$ 5,589,547.93		\$ 26,148,827.93
Youth Lifetime Licenses	\$ 2,893,393.00	\$ 270,566.40		\$ 3,163,959.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 103,132,464.35</b>	<b>\$ 5,860,114.33</b>	<b>\$ 44,781,218.35</b>	<b>\$ 153,773,797.03</b>

\*\*\* Include Deposit/s In Transit



⊠ NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ⊠

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**Expendable Income Earned in Calendar Year 2022**

	<b>Amount of Expendable Income Earned</b>
Adult Lifetime Licenses	\$ (20,827,694.46)
Magazine Subs Lifetime	\$ (492,970.29)
Contributions - General	\$ (526,376.06)
Contributions - Diversity	\$ (10,251.48)
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ (21,857,292.29)</u></b>

The formula for determining the amount of interest available to support *Wildlife in North Carolina* magazine was passed in a motion by the Commission on May 18, 2007. The motion allocated 100 percent of the interest earned from magazine lifetime subscriptions to the magazine budget.

# EXHIBIT E

April 20,2023



## **Proposed Amendment to Various 10A Rules Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearing**

Rules listed below were determined to be “necessary with substantive public interest” and are required to be readopted as part of the periodic review.

### **15A NCAC 10A .0400**

Proposed rule language has been updated and modified to conform with current requirements.

*15A NCAC 10A .0401 FORM AND CONTENTS OF PETITION (pg. 2)*

*15A NCAC 10A .0402 ACTION ON PETITION (pg. 3)*

### **15A NCAC 10A .1101**

Proposed repeal of rule authorizing the Executive Director to waive rule provisions associated with movement of captive cervids.

*15A NCAC 10A .1101 WAIVER (pg.4-5)*

### **15A NCAC 10A .1201**

Proposed rule language has been updated and modified to conform with current requirements.

*15A NCAC 10A .1201 EMERGENCY POWERS (pg. 6)*

1 **15A NCAC 10A .0401 FORM AND CONTENTS OF PETITION**

2 (a) A written petition requesting rulemaking shall be sent to the Executive Director of the Wildlife Resources  
3 Commission at 1701 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1700 for U.S. Postal Service delivery or 1751 Varsity  
4 Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576 for other delivery services or in person and must contain:

- 5 (1) the name and address of the petitioner;
- 6 (2) the name and address of the person, group, or organization, if any, on behalf of which the petition  
7 is made, together with the representative capacity of the petitioner;
- 8 (3) the citation to any rule sought to be adopted, amended, or repealed;
- 9 (4) suggested language for any rule sought to be adopted or amended and a statement of its desired  
10 effect; and
- 11 (5) the signature of the petitioner.

12 (b) In addition to the ~~foregoing, information required by Paragraph (a),~~ the petition may contain expression of any  
13 reasons in support or arguments in favor of the regulatory action ~~proposed.~~ Any proposed, and tables, charts, maps,  
14 publications, photographs, or other supporting materials that the petitioner deems pertinent to the proposal ~~may be~~  
15 ~~included~~ by way of exhibits or attachments.

16



1 **15A NCAC 10A .0402 ACTION ON PETITION**

2 (a) Upon receipt, The Executive Director Director, or his or her designee, shall cause the petition requesting  
3 rulemaking to be marked or stamped stamp the petition with the date of its receipt by him, which date shall constitute  
4 the date of its submission. The ~~Executive Director shall then refer the petition requesting rulemaking shall then be~~  
5 referred to the ~~Wildlife Resources~~ Commission for its consideration.

6 (b) Within three business days of receipt, the proposed text and statement of effect of the petition shall be forwarded  
7 to the Office of Administrative Hearings as required by G.S. 150B-20.

8 (c) Within 120 days following submission of the petition requesting rulemaking, the ~~Wildlife Resources~~ Commission  
9 shall:

10 (1) deny the petition in writing, stating the reason or reasons for such denial; or

11 (2) initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with G.S. 150B-20.

12 (d) The ~~Wildlife Resources~~ Commission shall notify the person who submitted the petition of the action taken.  
13 ~~taken by the Commission~~. Any denial of a petition requesting rulemaking shall be sent to the petitioner at the address  
14 therein indicated by registered mail, "return receipt requested."

15

1 **15A NCAC 10A .1101 WAIVER**

2 ~~(a) The executive director or his designee shall waive rule provisions listed in Paragraph (b) of this Rule and~~  
3 ~~subsequent Paragraphs under specified conditions and according to the following standards:~~

4 ~~(1) The applicant has complied with the laws of North Carolina and with rules promulgated by the~~  
5 ~~Wildlife Resources Commission;~~

6 ~~(2) The Commission is able to safeguard the wildlife resources in North Carolina while granting the~~  
7 ~~waiver; and~~

8 ~~(3) The applicant is able to meet the conditions of the waiver.~~

9 ~~(b) The executive director or his designee shall waive the rule banning intrastate transfer of cervids and shall issue a~~  
10 ~~transportation permit to an applicant for such a waiver provided that:~~

11 ~~(1) The executive director or his designee determines that the applicant is eligible for a waiver according~~  
12 ~~to standards listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule;~~

13 ~~(2) The eligible applicant shall first notify the Commission of the following:~~

14 ~~(A) the tag number(s) assigned to the cervid;~~

15 ~~(B) the facility of origination;~~

16 ~~(C) the facility of destination;~~

17 ~~(D) the date(s) upon which the transfer is to take place; and~~

18 ~~(E) the means by which the cervid is to be transported; and~~

19 ~~(3) The executive director or his designee confirms receipt of the information requested in~~  
20 ~~Subparagraph (b)(2) of this Rule.~~

21 ~~Transportation of cervids between facilities that are licensed to the same individual shall be permitted upon the~~  
22 ~~condition that the licensed applicant log the information required by Subparagraph (b)(2) of this Rule rather than~~  
23 ~~submit a separate application for each transportation.~~

24 ~~(c) The executive director or his designee shall waive the rule banning importation of cervids and shall issue a~~  
25 ~~transportation permit to an applicant for such a waiver provided that:~~

26 ~~(1) The executive director or his designee determines that the applicant is eligible for a waiver according~~  
27 ~~to standards listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule;~~

28 ~~(2) The herd of origin for all cervids to be imported has met the following conditions:~~

29 ~~(A) The herd has been held in a facility that has been secured by a fence that has not been~~  
30 ~~breached or jumped by a cervid for at least five years, and into which no cervid has been~~  
31 ~~introduced for at least five years;~~

32 ~~(B) All members of the herd that have died in the past five years have been tested for Chronic~~  
33 ~~Wasting Disease [CWD]; and all CWD test results have been negative; and~~

34 ~~(C) Facility records demonstrating compliance with the conditions in this Subparagraph have~~  
35 ~~been submitted with the import application.~~

36 ~~(3) The eligible applicant shall first notify the Commission of the following:~~

37 ~~(A) the tag number(s) or other identification assigned to the cervid;~~

- 1                   (B) — the facility of origination;
- 2                   (C) — the facility of destination;
- 3                   (D) — the date(s) upon which the transfer is to take place; and
- 4                   (E) — the means by which the cervid is to be transported; and
- 5           (4) — ~~The executive director or his designee confirms receipt of the information requested in~~
- 6                   Subparagraph (c)(3) of this Rule.
- 7   (d) ~~The executive director or his designee shall waive the rule against cervid facility expansion and to amend a license~~
- 8   ~~to permit expansion to an applicant for such a waiver provided that:~~
- 9           (1) — ~~The executive director or his designee confirms the applicant's eligibility for a waiver according to~~
- 10                   standards listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule;
- 11           (2) — ~~The eligible applicant shall first notify Commission of the following:~~
- 12                   (A) — the location of the facility for which expansion is desired;
- 13                   (B) — the number of cervids held at that facility;
- 14                   (C) — the number of births or purchases of cervids expected within a year of the application; and
- 15                   (D) — the proposed capacity for which expansion is desired; and
- 16           (3) — ~~The executive director or his designee confirms receipt of the information requested in Paragraphs~~
- 17                   (c) and (d) of this Rule.
- 18

1 **15A NCAC 10A .1201 EMERGENCY POWERS**

2 (a) Upon a ~~finding by the Wildlife Resources Commission~~ determining that a wildlife disease threatens irreparable  
3 injury to wildlife or to the public, the Executive Director shall develop an emergency response plan in consultation  
4 with the Governor's office and the State ~~Veterinarian~~. ~~The plan may prescribe~~ Veterinarian prescribing one or more  
5 of the following actions:

- 6 (1) shorten or lengthen harvest seasons;
- 7 (2) prohibit transport of wildlife resources or parts thereof;
- 8 (3) prohibit possession of wildlife resources;
- 9 (4) confiscate wildlife resources;
- 10 (5) revoke licenses or permits;
- 11 (6) expand or restrict daily bag limits, daily creel limits, and possession limits;
- 12 (7) establish mandatory wildlife check stations;
- 13 (8) restrict public access to game lands;
- 14 (9) require prepayment of outside testing costs by persons who desire disease testing of their harvested  
15 wildlife resource when such testing is not essential to the objectives of the plan;
- 16 (10) prohibit supplemental feeding or baiting of wildlife;
- 17 (11) prohibit any other activities that aid in the transmission or movement of the disease as determined  
18 by the best available science regarding the disease threat;
- 19 (12) implement any other activities necessary to reduce infection opportunities; and
- 20 (13) implement any other requirements necessary to assist in the detection and isolation of the disease.

21 (b) The Commission shall inform the public of the implementation of emergency powers and actions in the response  
22 plan through press releases, postings on the Wildlife Commission ~~web site~~, website and social media, ~~letters~~ emails  
23 ~~sent~~ to representatives of sportsmen's groups or other constituents likely to be directly affected, and ~~by~~ employee  
24 outreach.

25

# EXHIBIT F-1

April 20, 2023



## Public Comments for 15A NCAC 10D .0232 Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County

Choices	Responses
Support	2
Do Not Support	0
No Preference	0

One public hearing was held on February 8, 2023.

# **EXHIBIT F-2**

**April 20, 2023**



## **Proposed Amendment to 15A NCAC 10D .0232 Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County Recommended by Agency Staff for Adoption**

This rule was adopted as part of the 2022-2023 annual rulemaking cycle. During technical corrections, a typographical error was made removing “Tuesday” from the December Bear Season.

*15A NCAC 10D .0232 GULL ROCK GAME LAND IN HYDE COUNTY (pg. 2)*

1 **15A NCAC 10D .0232 GULL ROCK GAME LAND IN HYDE COUNTY**

2 Gull Rock is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

3 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
4 Season.

5 (2) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:

6 (a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

7 (b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and

8 (c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl season.

9 (3) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May  
10 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.

11 (4) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the November Bear Season and  
12 the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December Bear Season.

13

# EXHIBIT G

April 20, 2023



## **Petition for Proposed Amendment to 15A NCAC 10D .0220 – Columbus County Game Land in Columbus County Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearing**

In accordance with 15A NCAC 10A .0401 and .0402, the Executive Director received a petition for rulemaking on February 14, 2023. This petition for proposed amendment to 15A NCAC 10D .0220 was distributed, via email, to all Commissioners for consideration on February 22, 2023.

The following changes were requested by the petitioner:

- The addition of a prohibition on hunting deer with the use of dogs on the portion of Columbus County Game Land A, south of NC 214.

*15A NCAC 10D .0220 COLUMBUS COUNTY GAME LAND IN COLUMBUS COUNTY (pg. 2)*



1 **15A NCAC 10D .0220 COLUMBUS COUNTY GAME LAND IN COLUMBUS COUNTY**

2 Columbus County game land is a Four Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

3 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
4 Season.

5 (2) Deer hunting on the Campbell Tract shall be by permit only.

6 (3) Pursuing or chasing deer with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is prohibited on that  
7 portion of the Wannanish tract south of NC 214.

8

# EXHIBIT H-1

April 20, 2023



## **PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE OPEN COMMENT PERIOD 15A NCAC 10F .0308 CLAY COUNTY – LAKE CHATUGE AT GIBSON COVE**

A virtual public hearing was held on February 9, 2023 to receive comments on the proposed amendments to 15A NCAC 10F .0308 Clay County on Lake Chatuge. There were no attendees.

During the open comment period there were no comments received.

# EXHIBIT H-2

April 20, 2023



## FINAL ADOPTION FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 15A NCAC 10F .0308 – CLAY COUNTY

The Notice of Text for adoption of technical changes to add addresses, and four amendments to 15A NCAC 10F .0308 Clay County on Lake Chatuge to extend the no-wake zone at the Ho Hum Campground Boat Ramp, remove the no-wake zone at McCracken Cove, incorporate into the NCAC a marked Swim Area at the Clay County Recreation Park, and incorporate into the NCAC a Restricted Area at Jack Rabbit Mountain Swim Area with swim beach and no-wake zone was published in the *NC Register* with open comment period and public hearing, per the Administrative Procedure Act.

There were no comments received during the open comment period.

Staff seeks your final adoption of these proposed Rule amendments, subject to final review by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. The earliest effective date of the Rule will be June 1, 2023.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0308 15A NCAC 10F .0308 CLAY COUNTY

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Chatuge Lake:

- (1) ~~within 50 yards of the waters shore to shore within 150 yards of the boat ramp at Ho Hum Campground;~~  
Campground at 47 Ho Hum Loop, Hayesville;
- (2) the waters of Shooting Creek, from a line shore to shore 50 yards west of the High Bridge on NC Highway 175, to a line at the southeast end of Shooting Creek shore to shore, from a point at 35.01960 N, 83.72752 W; to a point at 35.01979 N, 83.72638 W;
- (3) the waters of Gibson Cove, south of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.01005 N, 83.79750 W to a point on the west shore at 35.01099 N, 83.79929 W, southwest to the end of Gibson ~~Cove;~~Cove at 3279 Myers Chapel Road in Hayesville;
- (4) ~~within 50 yards of the Chatuge Cove Marina;~~ Marina at 2397 Highway 175 in Hayesville;
- (5) the portion of the cove shore to shore, west of Cottage Court off of NC Highway 175, northeast of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.02576 N, 83.73784 W; to a point on the northwest shore at 35.02609 N, 83.73945 W;

(6) within 50 yards of the Chatuge Dam Spillway access ~~area~~; area in the vicinity of 1407 Chatuge Dam Road in Hayesville; and

(7) ~~the waters of McCracken Cove; and~~

~~(8)~~ (7) within 50 yards of the peninsula at Clay County Recreational Park, from a point on the north shore at 35.00850 N, 83.79254 W, east to a point in the water at 35.00874 N, 83.79187 W, south to a point in the water at 35.00782 N, 83.79119 W, southwest to a point in the water at 35.00672 N, 83.79211 W, west to a point on the shore at 35.00696 N, 83.79259 W.

(b) Speed Limit. It shall be unlawful to operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

~~(c) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter a marked public swimming area.~~ Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall allow it to enter the waters of the Clay County Recreational Park Swimming Area at Clay County Recreational Park, 47 Clay Recreation Park Road, Hayesville.

~~(d) Restricted Area. It shall be unlawful to operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the no-wake zone at the Jack Rabbit Mountain Swim Area on Jack Rabbit Road in Hayesville. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall allow it to enter the roped swim beach within the no-wake zone at Jack Rabbit Mountain Swim Area.~~

~~(e)~~ (e) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Clay County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*

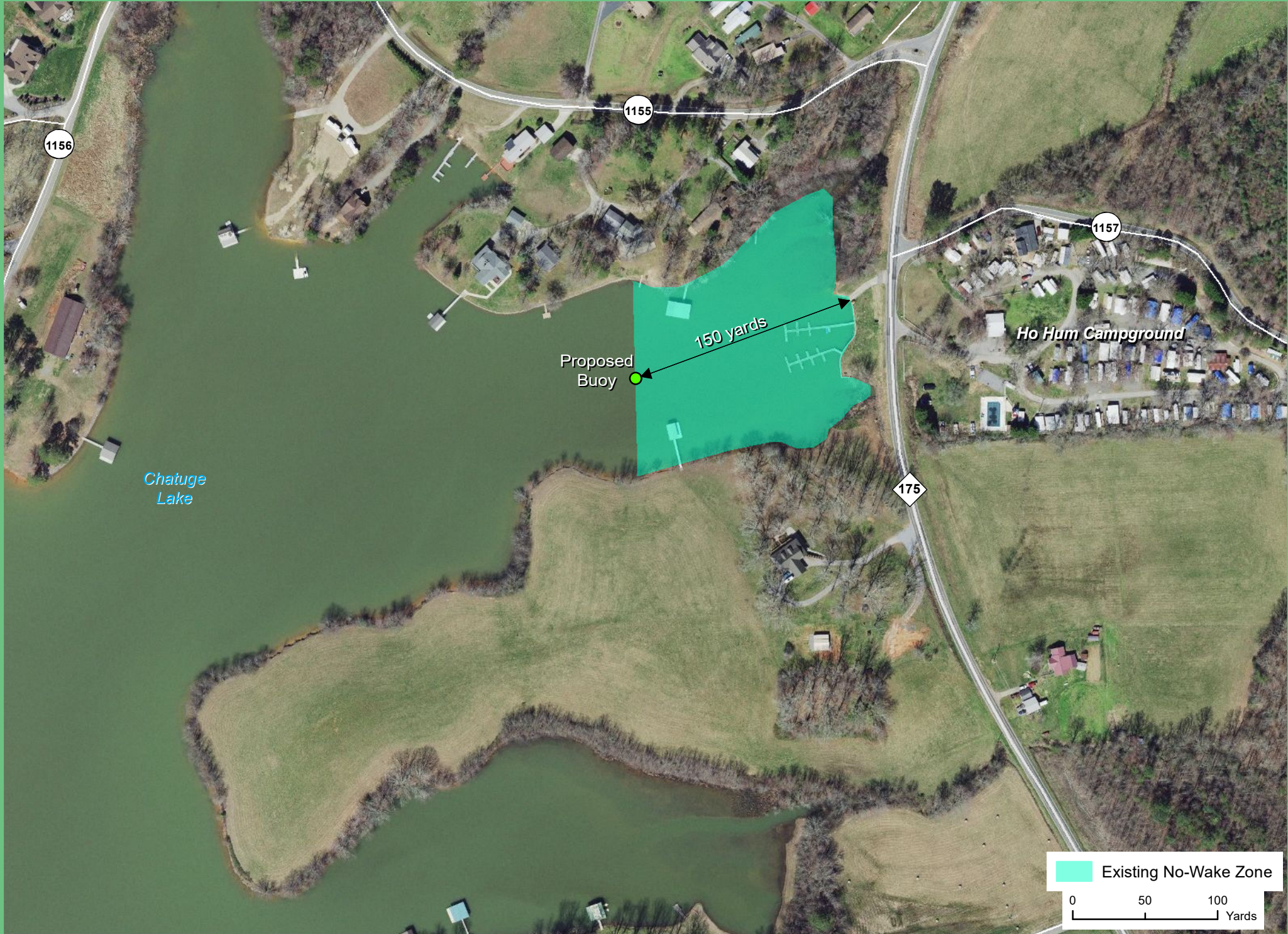
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*

*Amended Eff. June 1, 2005; July 1, 1998; February 1, 1990; July 1, 1986; March 25, 1978;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*

*Amended Eff. June 1, 2023; February 1, 2021; October 1, 2018; June 1, 2017.*

15A NCAC 10F .0308 (a) (1) - No Wake Zone  
Ho Hum Campground, Hayesville, Chatuge Lake, Clay County



# McCracken Cove

No Wake

## Legend

📍 McCracken Cove



Drake Ridge Dr

McCracken Cove



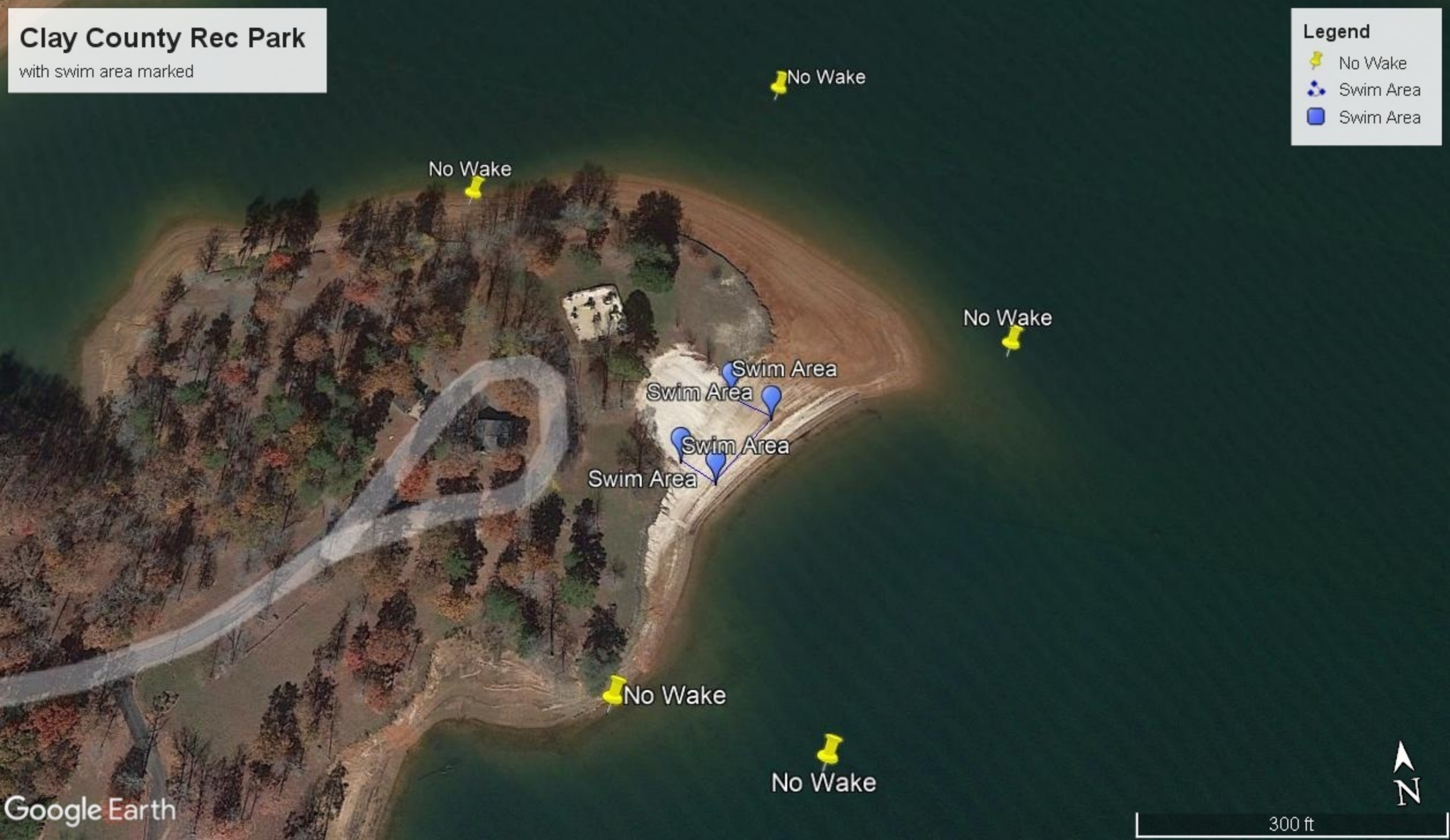
1000 ft

# Clay County Rec Park

with swim area marked

## Legend

-  No Wake
-  Swim Area
-  Swim Area



No Wake

No Wake

No Wake

Swim Area  
Swim Area  
Swim Area  
Swim Area

No Wake

No Wake



Google Earth

300 ft



15A NCAC 10F .0308 (c) - Restricted Area  
Jack Rabbit Mountain Swim Area, Hayesville, Chatuge Lake, Clay County



 Requested No-Wake Zone  
 NO WAKE BUOY

0 50 100  
Feet



# EXHIBIT I-1

April 20, 2023



## **PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE OPEN COMMENT PERIOD 15A NCAC 10F .0316 – FORSYTH, ROCKINGHAM, AND STOKES COUNTIES - BELEWS LAKE**

A virtual public hearing was held on February 9, 2023 to receive comments on the proposed amendments to 15A NCAC 10F .0316, Forsyth, Rockingham, and Stokes Counties on Belews Lake. There were no attendees.

During the open comment period there were no comments received.

# EXHIBIT I-2

April 20, 2023



## FINAL ADOPTION FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 15A NCAC 10F .0316 – FORSYTH, ROCKINGHAM AND STOKES COUNTIES BELEWS LAKE

The Notice of Text for adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0316 on Belews Lake at Humphrey's Ridge Marina and Grill in Stokesdale was published in the *NC Register* with open comment period and public hearing, per the Administrative Procedure Act.

There were no comments received during the open comment period.

Staff seeks your final adoption of these proposed Rule amendments, subject to final review by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. The earliest effective date of the Rule will be June 1, 2023.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0316 FORSYTH, ROCKINGHAM AND STOKES COUNTIES

(a) ~~Regulated Area.~~ Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Belews Lake in Forsyth, Rockingham ~~in Forsyth, Rockingham~~ and Stokes Counties. ~~counties:~~

- (1) Belews Lake within 50 yards of any public boat launching ramp on the lake, and within 50 yards of any bridge crossing on the lake;
- (2) Belews Lake at Humphrey's Ridge Marina and Grill at 473-499 Humphrey Ridge Drive in Stokesdale, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 36.27962 N, 80.03507 W to a point on the south shore at 36.27804 N, 80.03565 W; and

(b) ~~Speed Limit.~~ No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within ~~50 yards of any public boat launching ramp on the waters of Belews Lake in any of the counties listed in (a) of this Rule, or within 50 yards of any bridge crossing any portion of Belews Lake in Forsyth County.~~ any of the regulated areas identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) ~~Placement and Maintenance of Markers.~~ The Boards of Commissioners of Forsyth County, Rockingham County and Stokes County, or their designees shall be the designated agencies for placement and maintenance of markers implementing this Rule. All markers warning of a no-wake speed zone must be buoys or floating signs.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 1976;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December  
6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2023; October 1, 2018.*

15A NCAC 10F .0316 (a) (2) - No Wake Zone Request  
Humphrey's Ridge Marina and Grill, Stokesdale, Belevs Lake, Rockingham County



# EXHIBIT J-1

April 20, 2023



## **PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE OPEN COMMENT PERIOD 15A NCAC 10F .0333 – LAKE WYLIE MARINE COMMISSION**

A virtual public hearing was held on February 9, 2023 to receive comments on the proposed amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0333, Lake Wylie Marine Commission, Mecklenburg County. There was one attendee.

During the open comment period there were no comments received.

# EXHIBIT J-2

April 20, 2023



## FINAL ADOPTION FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO 15A NCAC 10F .0333 – LAKE WYLIE MARINE COMMISSION

The Notice of Text for adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0333 on Lake Wylie at Withers Cove in Mecklenburg County was published in the *NC Register* with open comment period and public hearing, per the Administrative Procedure Act.

There was one attendee at the virtual public hearing held on February 9, 2023. There were no comments received during the open comment period.

Staff seeks your final adoption of this proposed Rule amendment, subject to final review by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. The earliest effective date of the Rule will be June 1, 2023.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0333 MECKLENBURG AND GASTON COUNTIES

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters of Lake Wylie in Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties:

- (1) McDowell Park. The waters of the coves adjoining McDowell Park and the Southwest Nature Preserve in Mecklenburg County shore to shore, east of the mouth of the cove at a line from a point on the south shore at 35.10272 N, 81.03026 W to a point on the north shore at 35.10556 N, 80.02964 W;
- (2) Gaston County Wildlife Club Cove. The waters of the cove west of the Gaston County Wildlife Club on South Point Road in Belmont, north of a line at the mouth of the cove from a point on the east shore at 35.15628 N, 81.01427 W to a point on the west shore at 35.15628 N, 81.01615 W;
- (3) Buster Boyd Bridge. The waters from a point 250 feet east of the Buster Boyd Bridge on N.C. Highway 49 in Mecklenburg County at 35.10293 N, 81.03932 W, to a point 150 feet west of the Buster Boyd Bridge at 35.10242 N, 81.04089 W;
- (4) N.C. Highway 27 bridge. The waters shore to shore, from a point 50 yards north of the N.C. Highway 27 bridge in Mecklenburg and Gaston counties at 35.29849 N, 81.00346 W to a point 190 yards south of the N.C. Highway 27 bridge at 35.29635 N, 81.00424 W;
- (5) Brown's Cove. The area beginning at the mouth of Brown's Cove in Mecklenburg County shore to shore, at a point at 35.16453 N, 81.00474 W, west to a point at 35.16480 N, 81.00309 W;

- (6) Paradise Point Cove. The waters of Paradise Point Cove in Gaston County between Paradise Circle and Lake Front Drive, west of a line from a point on the south shore at 35.18853 N, 81.04036 W to a point on the north shore at 35.18991 N, 81.04136 W;
- (7) Withers Cove. ~~The waters from a point 50 feet southeast of the Withers Bridge on SR 1116, otherwise known as Shopton Road W. in Mecklenburg County at 35.14576 N, 81.00187 W, to a point 50 feet northwest of the bridge at 35.14599 N, 81.00222 W;~~ The waters of Withers Cove in Mecklenburg County, shore to shore, beginning at a line north of the Mecklenburg Charlotte Fire Department and Police Department Boathouse from a point on the west shore at 35.14632 N, 81.00383 W to a point on the east shore at 35.14713 N, 81.00173 W, and ending at a point 50 feet southeast of the Withers Bridge on SR 1116, otherwise known as Shopton Road, at 35.14576 N, 81.00187 W;
- (8) Sadler Island. The waters shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on the west shore of Lake Wylie in Gaston County at 35.27481 N, 81.0138 W east to a point on the east shore of the Lake in Mecklenburg County at 35.27423 N, 81.01111 W, extending south on the Lake west of Sadler Island to a line from a point on the west shore of the Lake in Gaston County at 35.27079 N, 81.01525 W, east to a point on the west side of Sadler Island in Mecklenburg County at 35.27051 N, 81.01396 W, and the waters shore to shore east of Sadler Island in Mecklenburg County from a point at 35.27441 N, 81.01185 W, south-southwest to a line from a point on the south shore of Sadler Island at 35.26635 N, 81.01432 W, south to a point on the Lake shore at 35.26494 N, 81.01368 W;
- (9) Other bridges. The areas within 50 feet of any bridge in North Carolina that crosses the waters of Lake Wylie that is not otherwise specifically mentioned in this Paragraph; and
- (10) Yachtsman on Lake Wylie Community. The waters within 50 yards of the community piers near the terminus of Waterside Drive in Mecklenburg County, and northward to include the waters east of the island that is west of Point Lookout Road, ending at a line from a point on the northern end of the island at 35.12226 N, 81.03306 W, east to a point on the shore at 35.12253 N, 81.03190 W; and
- (11) Brown's Cove. The waters of Brown's Cove beginning at a line from a point on the east shore at 35.16892 N, 80.99702 W to a point on the west shore at 35.16948 N, 80.99783 W, northeast to a line from a point on the south shore at 35.16913 N, 80.99556 W to a point on the north shore at 35.17043 N, 80.99684 W.

(b) Speed Limit Near Ramps. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any public boat-launching ramp, dock, pier, marina, boat storage structure, or boat service area.

(c) Speed Limit Near Marked Swimming or Mooring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any marked mooring area or marked swimming area.

(d) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Lake Wylie Marine Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*  
*Eff. July 1, 1980;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; June 1, 1985; June 1, 1984; March 1, 1983;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. January 1, 1998;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. February 4, 2000;*  
*Amended Eff. April 1, 2009; June 1, 2004; July 1, 2000;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 2015;*  
*Amended Eff. October 1, 2015;*  
*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018;*  
*Amended Eff. June 1, 2023; June 1, 2022; May 1, 2019.*



15A NCAC 10F .0333 (a) (7) - No Wake Zone Extension Request  
Withers Cove, Lake Wylie, Mecklenburg County



# EXHIBIT K-1

April 20, 2023



## **PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE OPEN COMMENT PERIOD 15A NCAC 10F .0355 PERQUIMANS COUNTY – TOWN OF HERTFORD**

A virtual public hearing was held on February 9, 2023, to receive comments on the proposed amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0355 Perquimans County, requested by the Town of Hertford on the Perquimans River. There were no attendees.

During the open comment period there were no comments received.

# EXHIBIT K-2

April 20, 2023



## FINAL ADOPTION FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO 15A NCAC 10F .0355 – PERQUIMANS COUNTY, TOWN OF HERTFORD

The Notice of Text for adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0355 in Perquimans County, requested by the Town of Hertford, was published in the *NC Register* with open comment period and public hearing, per the Administrative Procedure Act.

There were no comments received during the open comment period.

Staff seeks your final adoption of the proposed Rule amendment, subject to final review by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. The earliest effective date of the Rule will be June 1, 2023.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0355 PERQUIMANS COUNTY

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters:

(1) Perquimans River:

(A) the canals of Holiday Island subdivision at Albemarle Sound; and

(B) Town of Hertford: ~~the part of the Perquimans River beginning 75 yards northeast of the Perquimans River Bridge, otherwise known as the Hertford S shaped Bridge, parallel to the bridge, shore to shore, and ending approximately 550 yards southwest, at a line from a point on the north shore 36.19305 N, 76.46957 W to a point on the south shore at 36.19150 N, 76.47099 W. 550 yards southwest of the Perquimans River Bridge on U.S. Highway 17 Business, otherwise known as the Hertford S - Bridge, at a line from a point on the north shore at 36.19305 N, 76.46957 W to a point on the south shore at 36.19150 N, 76.47099 W, and 190 yards northeast of the bridge at a line from a point in the Perquimans River at 36.19530 N, 76.46518 W, eastward to Day Marker #11, then southeast to a point on the shore at 36.19337 N, 76.46367 W.~~

(2) Yeopim River:

(A) the canal between Navaho Trail and Cherokee Trail beginning at a point at 36.07893 N, 76.42278 W;

(B) the canal between Cherokee Trail and Ashe Street beginning at a point at 36.07865 N, 76.42603 W;

- (C) within 50 yards of the boat ramp at Ashe and Pine Street;
  - (D) the canal between Pine Street and Linden Street beginning at a point at 36.07951 N, 76.43402 W;
  - (E) the canal between Willow Street and Evergreen Drive beginning at a point at 36.08005 N, 76.43735 W;
  - (F) the canal between Sago Street and Alder Street beginning at a point at 36.07986 N, 76.44063 W; and
  - (G) Bethel Creek north of a line from a point on the west shore at 36.09566 N, 76.47928 W to a point on the east shore at 36.09534 N, 76.47738 W to a line from a point on the west shore at 36.10532 N, 76.48080 W to a point on the east shore at 36.10516 N, 76.48047 W.
- (3) Yeopim Creek:
- (A) the canal between Mohave Trail and Iowa Trail beginning at a point at 36.08521 N, 76.41802 W;
  - (B) the canal between Iowa Trail and Shawnee Trail beginning at a point at 36.08511 N, 76.41763 W;
  - (C) the area within 75 yards of the Albemarle Plantation Marina Piers;
  - (D) the area of the cove known as Beaver Cove, shore to shore beginning at a point at 36.08767 N, 76.42151 W; and
  - (E) the waters of Yeopim Creek adjacent to Heritage Shores North, shore to shore, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 36.11356 N, 76.43138 W to a point on the south shore at 36.11288 N, 76.43173 W, to a line northwest from a point on the east shore at 36.11219 N, 76.42445 W to a point on the west shore at 36.11178 N, 76.42596 W.
- (4) Little River: the entrance to the cove known as Muddy Gut Canal that extends from the waters known as Deep Creek, shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on the east shore at 36.17729 N, 76.28011 W to a point on the west shore at 36.17667 N, 76.28331 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the swimming area at the Snug Harbor Park and Beach on the Yeopim River.

(d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Perquimans County ~~shall be~~ is the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. November 1, 1988;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 1992;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1997;*

*Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. February 4, 2000;*

*Amended Eff. January 1, 2015; September 1, 2013; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; July 1, 2000;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*

*Amended Eff. June 1, 2023; October 1, 2018; June 1, 2017.*

15A NCAC 10F .0355 (a) (1) (B) - No Wake Zone Extension  
"S" Bridge in Town of Hertford, Perquimans River, Perquimans County



# EXHIBIT L-1

April 20, 2023



## **PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE OPEN COMMENT PERIOD 15A NCAC 10F .0379 – CITY OF ROXBORO**

A virtual public hearing was held on February 9, 2023, to receive comments on the proposed new Rule 15A NCAC 10F .0379, City of Roxboro. There were no attendees.

During the open comment period there were no comments received.

# EXHIBIT L-2

April 20, 2023



## FINAL ADOPTION FOR PROPOSED RULE 15A NCAC 10F .0379 – CITY OF ROXBORO

The Notice of Text for adoption of a new Rule 15A NCAC 10F .0379, requested by the City of Roxboro in a portion of Lake Roxboro, was published in the *NC Register* with open comment period and public hearing, per the Administrative Procedure Act.

There were no comments received during the open comment period.

Staff seeks your final adoption of this Rule, subject to final review by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. The earliest effective date of the Rule will be June 1, 2023.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0379 CITY OF ROXBORO

(a) Regulated Area. This rule applies to the waters of Lake Roxboro, located near Frogsboro in Person and Caswell counties, in the channel between a line shore to shore from 36.32069 N, 79.15373 W, and a line shore to shore at 36.31651 N, 79.15165 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The City of Roxboro is the designated agency for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*

*Eff. June 1, 2023.*




15A NCAC 10F .0379 No-Wake Zone Request  
City of Roxboro, Lake Roxboro, Caswell & Person Counties


Lake Roxboro

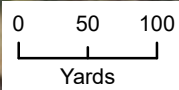
36.32069 N  
79.15373 W

CASWELL  
PERSON

36.31651 N  
79.15165 W

 Requested No-Wake Zone

 County Boundary



# EXHIBIT M

April 20, 2023



## **Proposed Temporary Rule 15A NCAC 10F .0305 - Brunswick County Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearing**

The Town of Sunset Beach in Brunswick County has requested temporary rulemaking by the Wildlife Resources Commission to establish a no-wake zone in part of South Jinks Creek during Phase 2 of a dredging project.

The temporary no-wake zone until dredging is completed will mitigate hazards to dredging equipment, boater safety, and navigation.

Phase 2 of the Town of Sunset Beach Shallow Draft Navigation Project has been delayed by a moratorium on dredging from April 1 - November 1, 2023. Phase 2 of the dredging project will include part of the navigation channel, the feeder channel and four finger canals, and the bay area.

Staff recommends approval to submit public notice of the temporary Rule to the Office of Administrative Hearings, accept public comment, and hold a public hearing. After the public comment closes, the proposed temporary rule will be presented for final adoption in the summer.

15A NCAC 10F .0305 is proposed for amendment under temporary procedures as follows:

### **15A NCAC 10F .0305 BRUNSWICK COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the waters and portions of waters described as follows:

- (1) Lockwoods Folly River in the Town of Varnamtown, from a point at 33.94966 N, 78.22587 W, 500 yards northwest of the boat ramp located at the end of SR 1123 otherwise known as Fisherman Road, to a point at 33.94498 N, 78.22206 W, 180 yards southeast of the boat ramp, and including the portion of the river otherwise known as Mill Creek where it meets Lockwoods Folly River directly across from the boat ramp, to a point 100 feet northeast at 33.94687 N, 78.22235 W;
- (2) Calabash River in the Town of Calabash, from a point in the water at the end of Marina Drive at 33.88638 N, 78.56254 W to a point 650 yards southwest at the southern end of the deep-sea fishing docks at 33.88344 N, 78.56751 W;

- (3) the Small Boat Harbor, shore to shore beginning at its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91685 N, 78.02865 W;
- (4) Shallotte River east of SR 1233, otherwise known as Village Point Road SW south of the Town of Shallotte, shore to shore from its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91477 N, 78.37103 W to point 500 feet north at 33.91613 N, 78.37126 W;
- (5) Montgomery Slough otherwise known as Davis Creek, within 100 yards of the hotel and marina at the northern end of 57<sup>th</sup> Place West in the Town of Oak Island;
- (6) the waters in the natural and concrete canals located on the south side of the Intracoastal Waterway, east of N.C. Highway 904 in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach;
- (7) Town Creek east of SR 1609, otherwise known as Clearview Lane in Town Creek Township, shore to shore from a point at 34.16788 N, 78.07139 W, north and east around a bend in the creek to a point at 34.16910 N, 78.07030 W;
- (8) Montgomery Slough, otherwise known as Davis Creek, shore to shore from its entrance at the Intracoastal Waterway west of SW Yacht Drive at a point at 33.92145 N, 78.19408 W, to the canal end at NE 40<sup>th</sup> Street in the Town of Oak Island;
- (9) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Sunset Beach, shore to shore from a point 150 yards east of the Sunset Boulevard South bridge at 33.88173 N, 78.50995 W, to a point 50 yards west of the bridge at 33.88111 N, 78.51194 W; and
- (10) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach, shore to shore from a point 100 yards east of the NC Hwy 904 Odell Williamson Bridge at 33.89578 N, 78.43870 W, to a point 100 yards west of the bridge at 33.89567 N, 78.44092 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The following agencies shall be the designated agencies for the placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

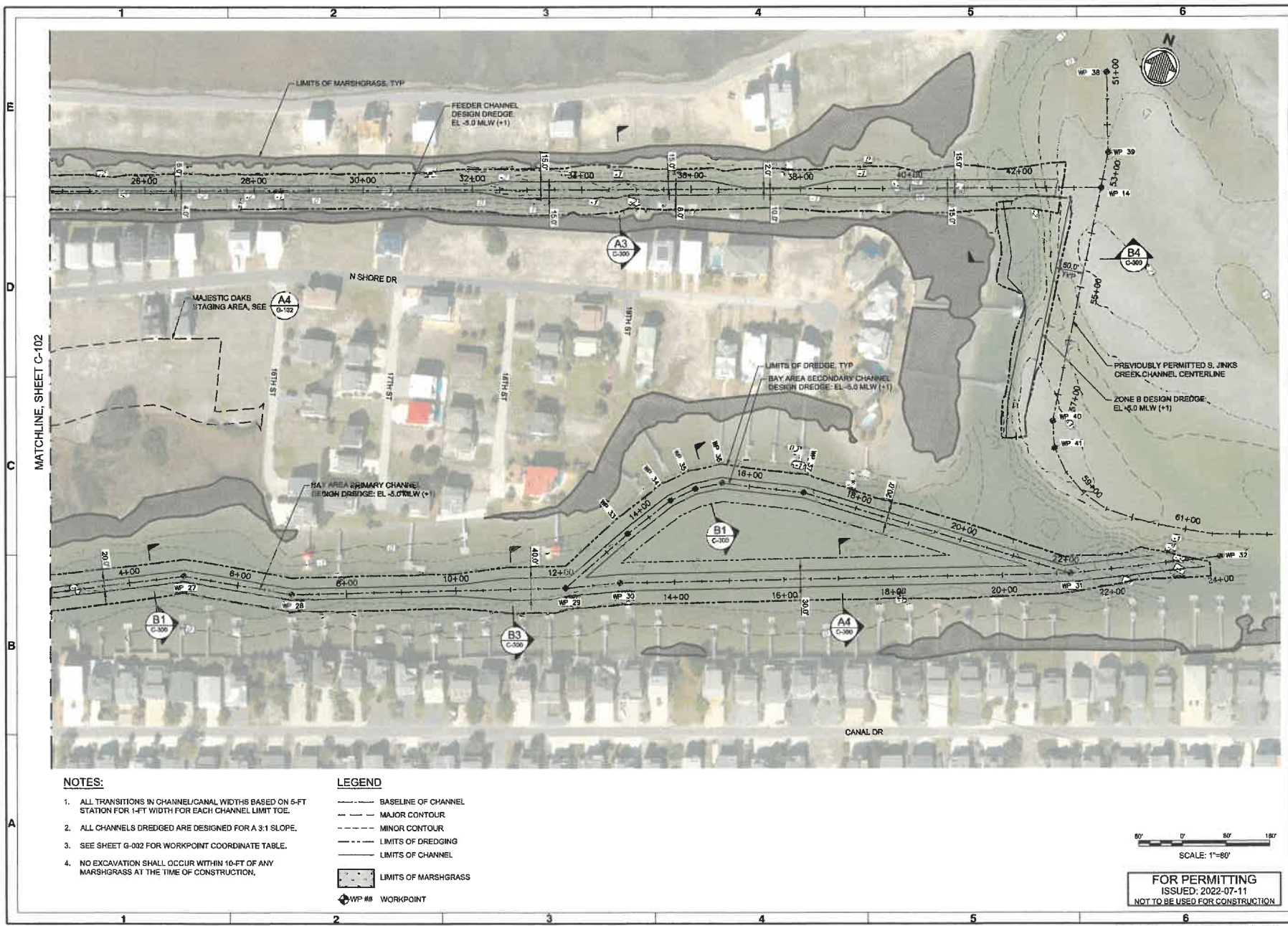
- (1) the Board of Aldermen of Varnamtown for areas indicated in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule;
- (2) the Board of Commissioners of Brunswick County for areas indicated in Subparagraphs (a)(2) through (8) of this Rule;
- (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the area indicated in Subparagraph (a)(9) of this Rule; and
- (4) the Town of Ocean Isle Beach for the area indicated in Subparagraph (a)(10) of this Rule.

(d) Notwithstanding Paragraphs (a) through (c) of this Rule, no person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the waters of South Jinks Creek in the Town of Sunset Beach, beginning at a line north of the feeder channel, from a point on the west shore at 33.87617 N, 78.49297 W to a point on the east shore at 33.87664 N, 78.49164 W, then southeast to a point on the south shore at 33.87325 N, 78.49033 W, and all waters south and west of those lines including the feeder channel, four finger canals, and the bay area. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers for this regulated area.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15.*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. April 1, 1997; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; January 1, 1989; January 1, 1987;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. March 1, 1998;*  
*Amended Eff. April 1, 2009; April 1, 1999;*  
*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December*  
*6, 2016;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2021; July 1, 2018.*

15A NCAC 10F .0305 - Temporary No Wake Zone Request  
South Jinks Creek, Town of Sunset Beach, Brunswick County






- NOTES:**
1. ALL TRANSITIONS IN CHANNEL/CANAL WIDTHS BASED ON 5-FT STATION FOR 1-FT WIDTH FOR EACH CHANNEL LIMIT TOE.
  2. ALL CHANNELS DREDGED ARE DESIGNED FOR A 3:1 SLOPE.
  3. SEE SHEET G-002 FOR WORKPOINT COORDINATE TABLE.
  4. NO EXCAVATION SHALL OCCUR WITHIN 10-FT OF ANY MARSHGRASS AT THE TIME OF CONSTRUCTION.

- LEGEND**
- — — — — BASELINE OF CHANNEL
  - — — — — MAJOR CONTOUR
  - — — — — MINOR CONTOUR
  - — — — — LIMITS OF DREDGING
  - — — — — LIMITS OF CHANNEL
  - ▨ LIMITS OF MARSHGRASS
  - ◊ WP # WORKPOINT

SCALE: 1"=80'

**FOR PERMITTING**  
 ISSUED: 2022-07-11  
 NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION



<b>TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH SHALLOW DRAFT NAVIGATION PROJECT: BAY AREA, FEEDER, &amp; FINGER CANALS</b>	<b>DREDGE PLAN - SHEET 1 OF 2</b>
Date: 2022-07-11 M&P Project No.: 2022-07-11 Drawn by: J. GRANEY Checked by: P. GRANEY Approved by: MURPHY & MICHELLE (MURPHY & MICHELLE) Permitted by: 11 (D. SINKOFF)	4700 FALLS OF THE RIVER RD., SUITE 300 WYOMING, NC 28403 704.766.4444 www.murphyandmichelle.com

Sheet Reference No. **C-101**

INDEX: 7 OF 11

DRAWING SCALES SHOWN BASED ON 22 1/32" DRAWING

# Exhibit N-1

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

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### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

**Tract Name:** Lakey Creek

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 08/19/2022

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

WRC License Receipts	\$39,802.00
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$39,802.00</b>

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

**If Yes, Explain Details:**

Mainspring Land Trust agreed to donate \$177,428 in land value.

**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	\$500.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

# Exhibit N-1

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET Estimated

---

#### Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Posting	1	Site	Signs & Labor	\$500.00	\$500.00
				\$	\$
				\$	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>					\$500.00

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
				\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				



**April 20, 2023**  
**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**  
**Land Acquisition Investigation Form**  
**– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Doug Besler
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	August 17, 2022
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Lakey Creek Farm
<b>County:</b>	Macon
<b>Acreage:</b>	5.57
<b>Listed Price:</b>	
<b>Tax Value:</b>	
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Mainspring Conservation Trust/ Emmie Cornell (Conservation Manager)
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

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

**Type of Acquisition:**

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

**Type of Parcel:**

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

**Grant Potential:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	CWMTF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (NC EEP/NAWCA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Source: None identified
<input type="checkbox"/>	Match: None identified

**Funding Considerations:**

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

**Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

**Recommendation:**

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

**Additional Comments:**  
The NCWRC was approached by Mainspring Conservation Trust (Mainspring) to purchase 5.57 acres on the Little Tennessee River in Macon County. The interest of the NCWRC would be to develop a small angler access on the Little Tennessee River to facilitate float and wade access. Other potential management actions on the parcel would include riparian and wetland restoration and revegetation of the site back to streamside forest.

April 20, 2023

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

Tract Name:	Lakey Creek Farm
County:	Macon

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The parcel is currently in good condition with very little bank erosion on the Tennessee River portion of the parcel. The rest of the site is either in riparian buffer or grass (used in hay operation). There are no roads or other infrastructure on the parcel. There are relatively minor berms (2-3 ft) along Lakey Creek itself, but none are present on the Little Tennessee River frontage. The parcel has two small fields that have been hayed. The area has not been extensively surveyed, but in addition to normal upland species we would expect to find both tri-colored and little brown bats on the parcel. We would also expect to find hellbenders and potentially mudpuppy in the Little Tennessee River in the project vicinity. Habitat restoration onsite could include pulling the berms back on Lakey Creek, allowing wetlands to naturally develop, restoring river cane, and allowing the remainder of the site to re-forest naturally or through supplemental planting. Some minor invasive vegetation work could also be required. A small Public Fishing Access Area would also likely be constructed consisting of an access road, small parking lot, and a narrow ramp to facilitate small float craft access to the river.

Tract Name	Lake Creek Farm
Date	July 22, 2022
Staff Completing Form	Doug Besler, Andrea Leslie, Scott Loftis, Kendrick Weeks

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.370</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	1
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	1
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	1

<b>Comments</b>
Current biodiversity is low to moderate but could be improved with habitat restoration. The parcel borders Little Tennessee Rivers and is bisected by Lakey Creek. Some SGCN and T&E species, such as hellbenders, tricolored bats and little brown bats are present in the vicinity of the site. Occurrence of mudpuppy is also likely, though not documented close by.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.389</b>
Size	0
Quality	1
Diversity	2
Rare/Important	1
Connectivity	3
Buffer	0

<b>Comments</b>
Property is small (5.6 acres) but offers excellent opportunity for wildlife viewing, fishing, and river access. Lakey Creek itself has numerous conservation and restoration parcels upstream of the subject tract, and acquiring this tract would support connection between these parcels and the Little Tennessee River. In addition, it would add to the network of agency Needmore parcels along the Little Tennessee River.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>0.889</b>
Hunting/Viewing	2
Fishing	3
Boating	3

<b>Comments</b>
Excellent for public access. Property is situated approximately 5 miles upstream from nearest WRC managed public access area and is ideally located to bridge a large gap in access points along the river.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Hunting	0
Viewing	2
Fishing	3
Boating	3
Education	2

<b>Comments</b>
Hunting not feasible on property due to nearby houses. Excellent site for wildlife viewing, fishing, and boating.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.333</b>
Timber Harvest	0
Local Economy	2
Quality of Life	1

<b>Comments</b>
Likely to be maintained as a small public fishing access area with float and wade access to Little Tennessee River. The remaining acreage would be allowed to naturally succeed into riparian buffer, wetland and early successional habitats. Timber management unlikely.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.600</b>
Existing Infrastructure	3
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	2
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	2
Inholding/Corridor	1
Proximity to Users	1

<b>Comments</b>
Highway NC 28 borders the property providing excellent public access. No other inholding or infrastructure present on the property. Houses adjacent to parcel on west and south sides.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.750</b>
Species Restoration	1
Habitat Restoration	3
Access Improvement	3
Threat Mitigation	2

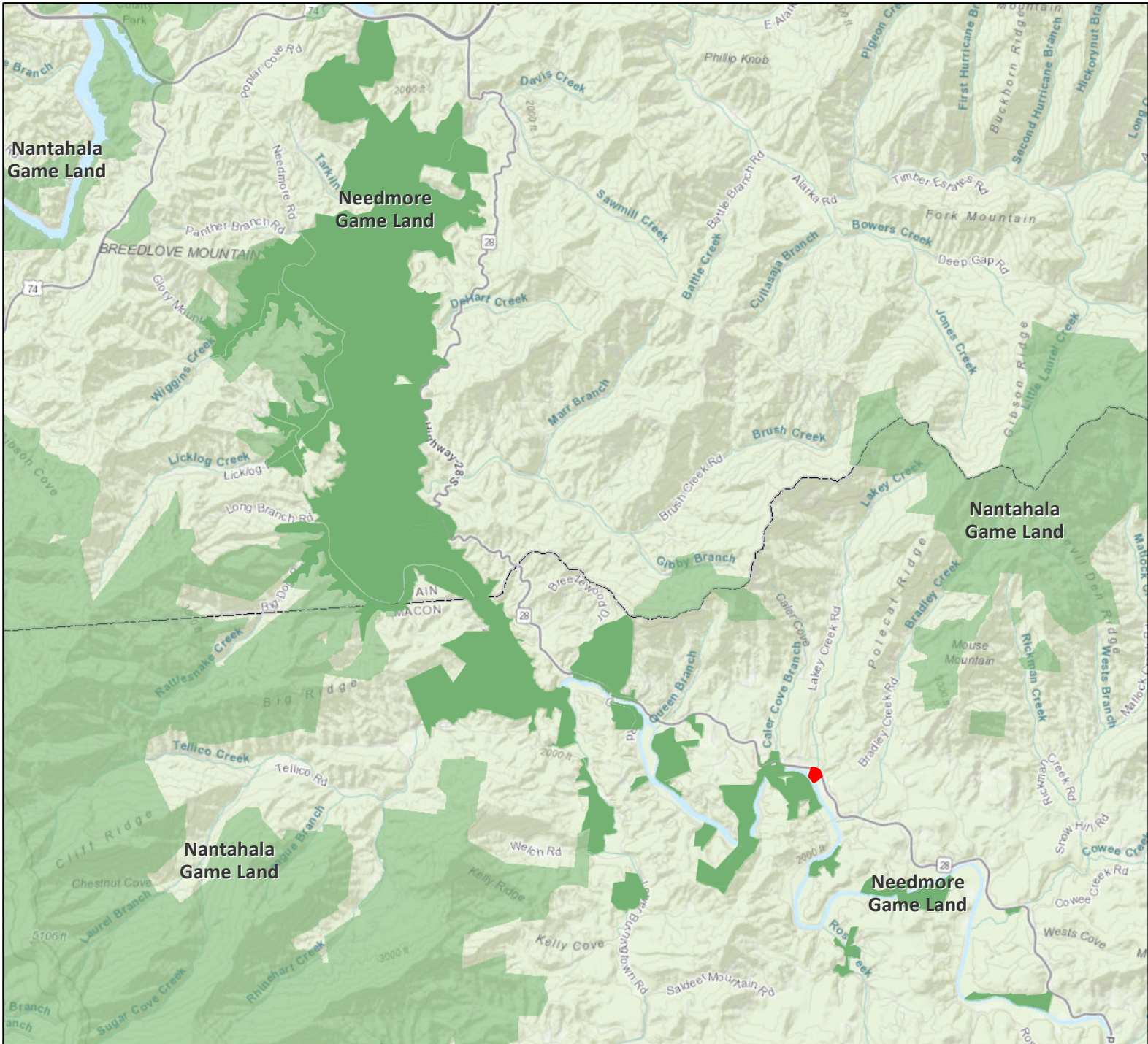
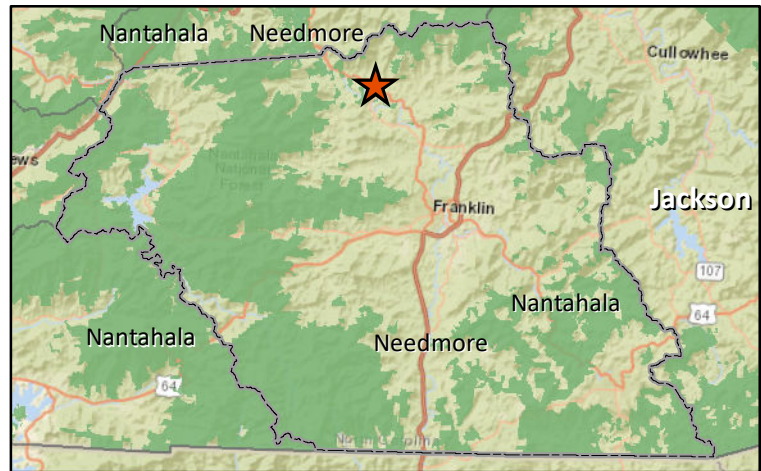
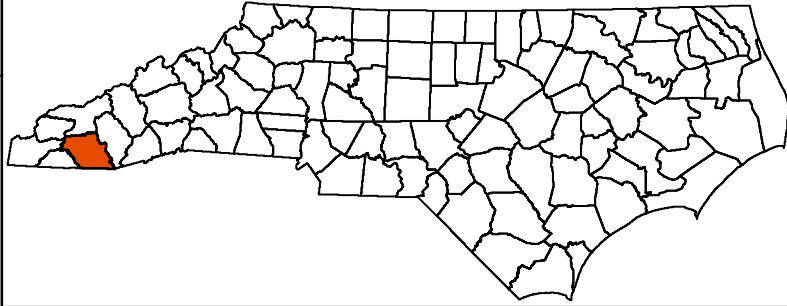
<b>Comments</b>
Restoration for riparian buffer, wetland, and early successional habitats excellent. Development of public access for wildlife viewing, fishing, and river access excellent.

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.267</b>
Number	1
Severity	1
Imminence	1
Manageability	0
Management Cost	1

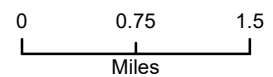
<b>Comments</b>
Threats to the property are minimal. Portions of Needmore Game Land lies up and downstream and adjacent (across the river) from subject property. Residential housing adjacent to property on downstream border. Habitat restoration would include establishing riparian corridors, wetland restoration, and canebreak restoration.

<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.731</b>
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# Lakey Creek Farm Tract Macon County 5.57 Acres

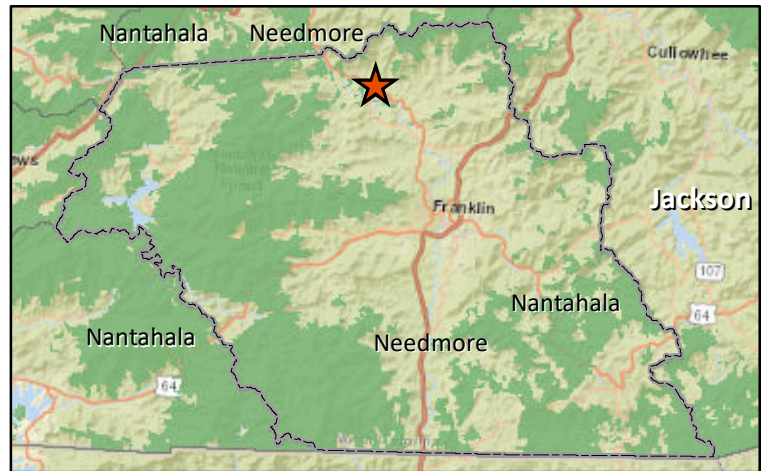
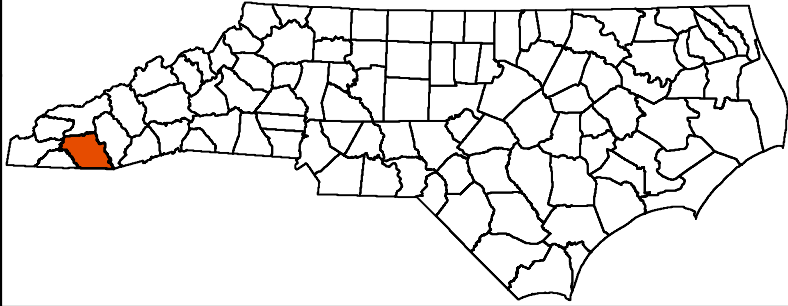


- Lakey Creek Farm Tract
- Other Game Lands
- Needmore Game Land





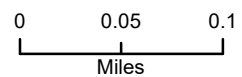
April 20, 2023

**Lakey Creek Farm Tract**  
**Macon County**  
**5.57 Acres**



April 20, 2023

-  Lakey Creek Farm Tract
-  Game Land



# Exhibit N-2

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

---

**Tract Name:** South Fork New River Access – Enzmann Parcel

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 04/13/2022

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

Blue Ridge Conservancy was awarded \$130,000 through a NC Land and Water Fund grant with WRC providing \$20,000 in match funds. Landowner has agreed to donate \$112,500 for a bargain sale.

WRC License Receipts	\$20,000
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

**If Yes, Explain Details:** Landowner agreed to donate \$112,500 in land value.

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

**If Yes, Describe in Table:**

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
Blue Ridge Conservancy	Sweeting Appraisal Services	11/17/2021	\$262,500

**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):**

<b>Total Stewardship Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 4,750</b>
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

# Exhibit N-2

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

#### Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Kiosk	1	Each	One-time	\$750	\$750
Routine maintenance (5 yr. period)	5	Year	Recurring	\$500	\$2,500
Gravel	1	Site	One-time	\$1,500	\$1,500
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$ 4,750</b>

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$0.00</b>

**April 20, 2023**  
**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**  
**Land Acquisition Investigation Form**  
**– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Doug Besler; 828-803-6032; doug.besler@ncwildlife.org
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	04/13/22
<b>Tract Name:</b>	South Fork New River Access - Enzmann Parcel
<b>County:</b>	Ashe
<b>Acreage:</b>	18.75
<b>Listed Price:</b>	Not currently listed but appraised value is \$262,500
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$122,600
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Blue Ridge Conservancy / Eric Hiegl
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NCLWF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (NC EEP/NAWCA)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

**Owner Interest:**

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

**Tax Value:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	2019 Year Assessed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO PUV?

**Stewardship Considerations:**

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

**Funding Considerations:**

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

**Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

**Recommendation:**

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

**Additional Comments:**  
The Blue Ridge Conservancy is working to acquire the property from its current owner, who has agreed to sell it for \$150,000. The majority of the funding would come from a North Carolina Land & Water Fund grant submitted by Blue Ridge Conservancy. The Commission is being asked to provide \$20,000 in matching funds for the grant. The Conservancy is planning to sell to the Commission at a bargain sale acquisition. This parcel will provide an angler access point on the South Fork New River.



April 20, 2023

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

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<b>Tract Name:</b>	Todd PFA - Enzmann Parcel
<b>County:</b>	Ashe

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The proposed project is intended to improve river and angling access to the South Fork New River and it is situated midway between existing access points at Green Valley Park and Todd Island Park. While the primary purpose of this project is to provide river and angling access, protection of the riparian corridor associated with the property will also benefit several state-listed aquatic species inhabiting this section of the South Fork New River.

Tract Name	South Fork New River Access - Enzmann Parcel
Date	April 13, 2022
Staff Completing Form	Kin Hodges

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.000</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	
SGCN Species	
Game Species	
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	
SGCN Species	
Game Species	
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	
SGCN Species	
Game Species	

<b>Comments</b>
The primary purpose of this project is to provide river and angling access, but protection of the riparian corridor associated with the property will also benefit several state-listed aquatic species inhabiting this section of the South Fork New River.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.167</b>
Size	
Quality	
Diversity	
Rare/Important	
Connectivity	3
Buffer	

<b>Comments</b>
The primary purpose of this project is to provide river and angling access, but protection of the riparian corridor associated with the property will also benefit several state-listed aquatic species inhabiting this section of the South Fork New River.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>1.000</b>
Hunting/Viewing	3
Fishing	3
Boating	3

<b>Comments</b>
Public hunting, fishing, and boating access to the South Fork New River will be improved as a result of this new public access point.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.733</b>
Hunting	1
Viewing	3
Fishing	3
Boating	3
Education	1

<b>Comments</b>
While no public hunting will be allowed on the PFA, river access for hunting, wildlife viewing, and fishing will improve as a result of this new public access point.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Timber Harvest	0
Local Economy	3
Quality of Life	3

<b>Comments</b>
Improving river access at this location will increase local tourism and benefit local businesses.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.733</b>
Existing Infrastructure	3
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	2
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	0
Proximity to Users	3

<b>Comments</b>
No structures or roads are located on the property, but it does contain a small parking area and a set of stone steps that are used to access the river.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.250</b>
Species Restoration	
Habitat Restoration	
Access Improvement	3
Threat Mitigation	

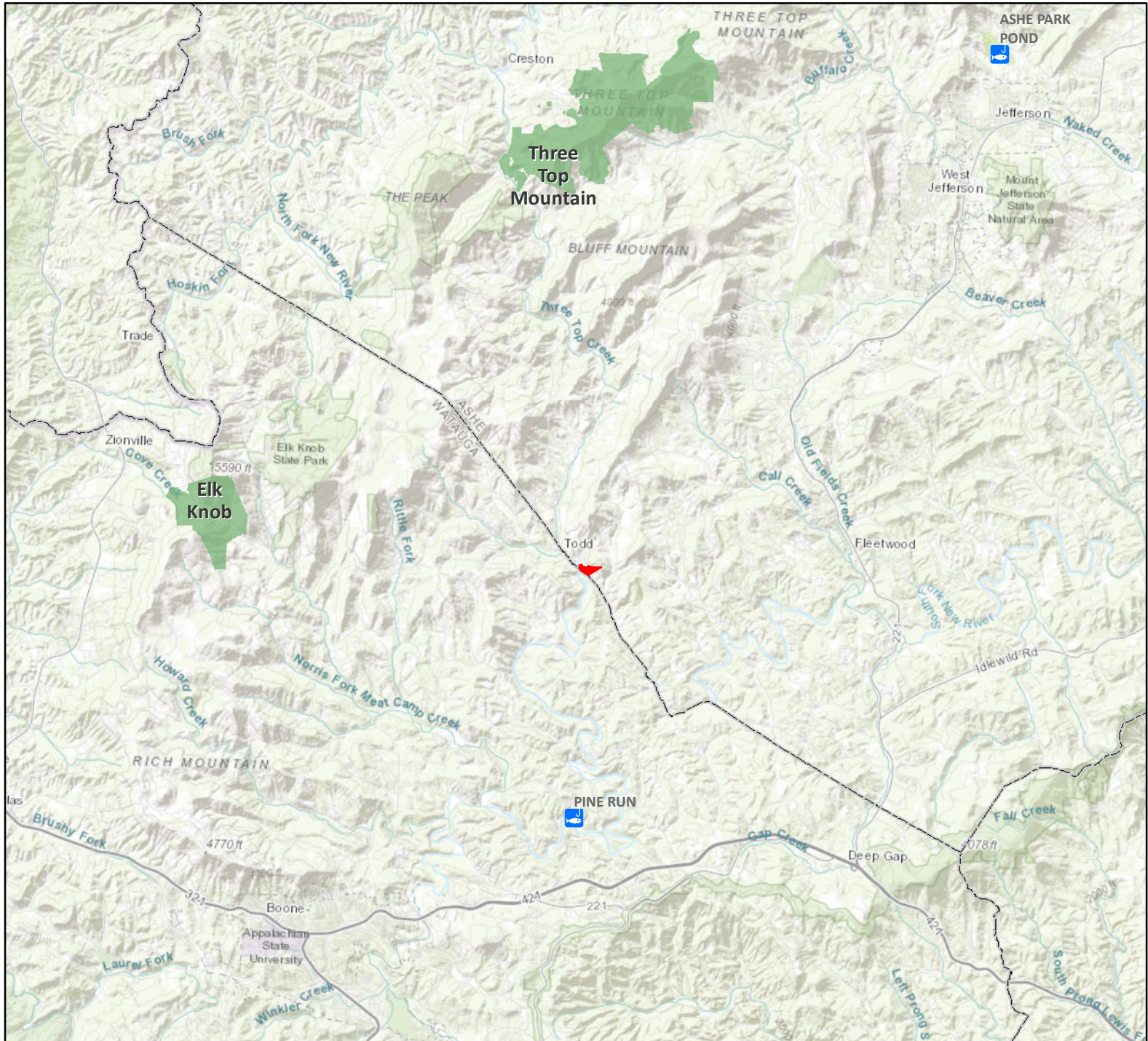
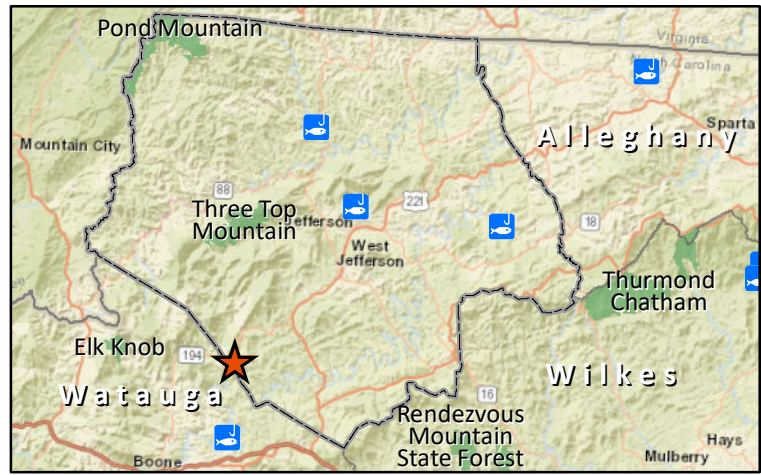
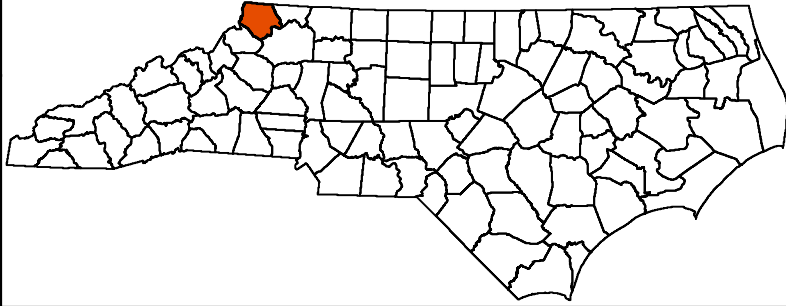
<b>Comments</b>
The primary purpose of this project is to provide river and angling access, but protection of the riparian corridor associated with the property will also benefit several state-listed aquatic species inhabiting this section of the South Fork New River.

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Number	
Severity	
Imminence	
Manageability	
Management Cost	

<b>Comments</b>
No threats have been identified at this parcel.

<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.550</b>
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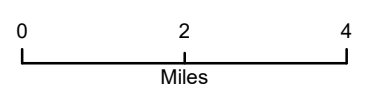
# South Fork New River Access Ashe County ~20 Acres



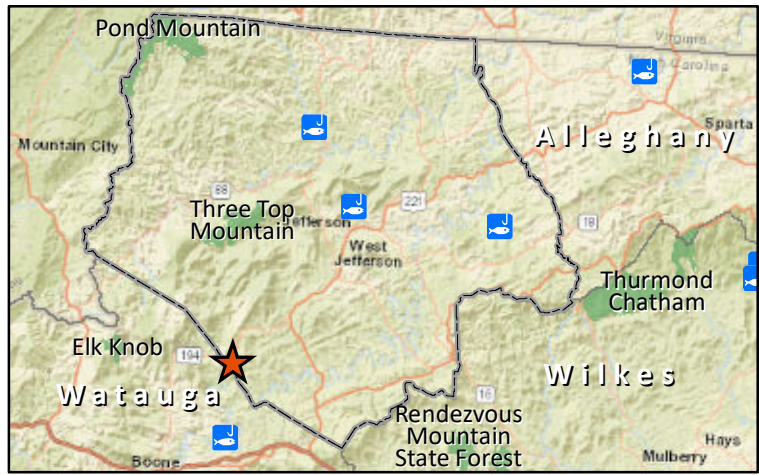
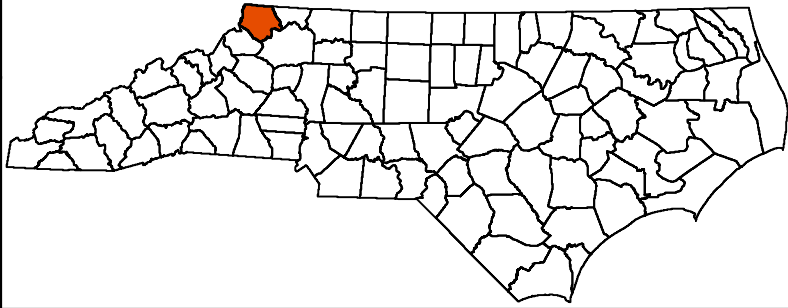
April 20, 2023

- South Fork New River Access Tract
- 🚰 Non-WRC Public Fishing Area


■ Game Land




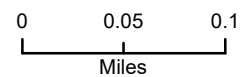
# South Fork New River Access Ashe County ~20 Acres



April 20, 2023

-  South Fork New River Access Tract
-  Non-WRC Public Fishing Area

 Game Land



# Exhibit N-3

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

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**Tract Name:** Simp Gap Access Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 12/8/2021

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

NC Land and Water Fund	\$60,000
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

**If Yes, Explain Details**

Mainspring Land Trust is selling the property for \$60,000 and is providing \$80,000 in bargain sale.

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

**If Yes, Describe in Table:**

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
Mainspring	Guy Duvall	2019	\$140,000

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

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

Federal Aid Funds for Wildlife Restoration 75:25 match to state funds

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

<b>Total Stewardship Expenditures</b>	<b>\$39,500.00</b>
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

# Exhibit N-3

April 20, 2023

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

**Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET Estimated**

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

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment - yr 1	5.5	Miles		\$5,600	\$30,000
Establish Gate - yr 1	2	Each		\$750	\$1500
Create Parking Area - yr 1	1	Each		\$8,000	\$8,000
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$39,500</b>

April 20, 2023

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

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	David Stewart
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	12/08/21
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Simp Gap
<b>County:</b>	Graham
<b>Acreage:</b>	504
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$1,088,670
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Mainspring Conservation Trust
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

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

**Program Potential:**

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

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Endowment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Donation

**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"/>	PR	Source:
<input type="checkbox"/>	MCT	Match:

**Funding Considerations:**

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

**Recommendation:**

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

**Additional Comments:**

Mainspring Conservation Trust's (MCT) asking price for this tract is what investment they have in the tract. That figure is somewhere between \$50,000.00 and \$100,000.00.

April 20, 2023

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

County: 

Simp Gap Tract
Graham County

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The Simp Gap Tract contains approximately 504 acres. The property is located in Graham County and is accessed from Beech Creek Road, off of Highway 143/Sweetwater Road. The tract is bordered on three sides by the USFS. The tract will provide good access to the existing Nantahala Game Land and could be added to the game land program as part of the Nantahala Game Land, or become a stand along game land. The tract is a wooded tract and is made up of several habitat/forest types. These community types include Rich Montaine Seep, Chestnut Oak Forest, Rich Cove Forest, and Mountain Oak-Hickory Forest. Elevations range from 2600 feet to better than 3600 feet. The adjacent Forest Service Land to the east is part of the Cheoah Bald Natural Area. This area (including the Simp Gap Tract) is home to the Cheoah Bald Salamander, which is found nowhere else in the world. The adjacent Forest Service land also contains several NCWRC WHAMA's (Wildlife Habitat Active Management Areas). These include Golden Wing Warbler Priority Areas, Cerulean Warbler Priority Areas, and Grouse Priority areas. The adjacent Forest Service land also contains Priority Chestnut Restoration Areas. There are two named creeks and one unnamed tributary that runs through the property. Rines Creek and North Fork Beech creek. Acquisition of this property is significant as part of the total management project being carried out in the mountain Eco region. NCWRC ownership of the Simp Gap Tract will increase conservation ownership of properties in the immediate area such as the Nantahala National Forest, Mainspring Conservation Trust Lands, and various private holdings that are in conservation ownership or have conservation easements that are located in the vicinity. In a broader sense, NCWRC ownership of the tract will help ensure ecosystem integrity at the landscape level by increasing connectivity of lands in conservation ownership. Management objectives will focus on expanding on the management that is currently being implemented in the area. NCWRC ownership would ensure that critical habitat are conserved. Public recreational opportunities may include hunting, hiking, bird watching, photography, and general nature study. Currently there is a connector trail from the lower end of the property at Beech Creek Road, up to the Appalachian Trail. Educational opportunities may exist as priority wildlife habitats are managed for or maintained. Common wildlife species found on the tract include wild turkey, black bear, white-tailed deer, gray squirrel, ruffed grouse as well as various songbirds, salamanders, and small mammals. The Simp Gap Tract will make a great addition to the Game Land Program.



Tract Name **Simp Gap**  
 Date **April 19, 2023**  
 Staff Completing Form **David Stewart**

Species	0.704
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	3
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	1
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	2

Comments
High biodiversity is based on a diversity of forest cover types and age classes, and the diversity of wildlife and SGCN found on the property like the Cheoah Bald Salamander.

Habitat	0.778
Size	2
Quality	2
Diversity	3
Rare/Important	3
Connectivity	2
Buffer	2

Comments
The quality of the habitat on the tract is good, as is diversity. The properties provide good connectivity and buffer to Nantahala GL.

Public Access	0.556
Hunting/Viewing	3
Fishing	2
Boating	0

Comments
The property provide excellent legal access to Nantahala GL.

Wildlife Uses	0.600
Hunting	3
Viewing	2
Fishing	2
Boating	0
Education	2

Comments
The property offer excellent hunting opportunity as well as some opportunity for wildlife viewing. Educational opportunities will be low.

Other Values	0.778
Timber Harvest	1
Local Economy	3
Quality of Life	3

Comments
This will provide some benefit to the local economy and provide some quality of life benefits to local residents.

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

Comments
Conflicts among game land users and adjoiners should be minimal. The tract brings current The tract is in good proximity to GL users.

Restoration/Mitigation Potential	0.833
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	2
Access Improvement	3
Threat Mitigation	3

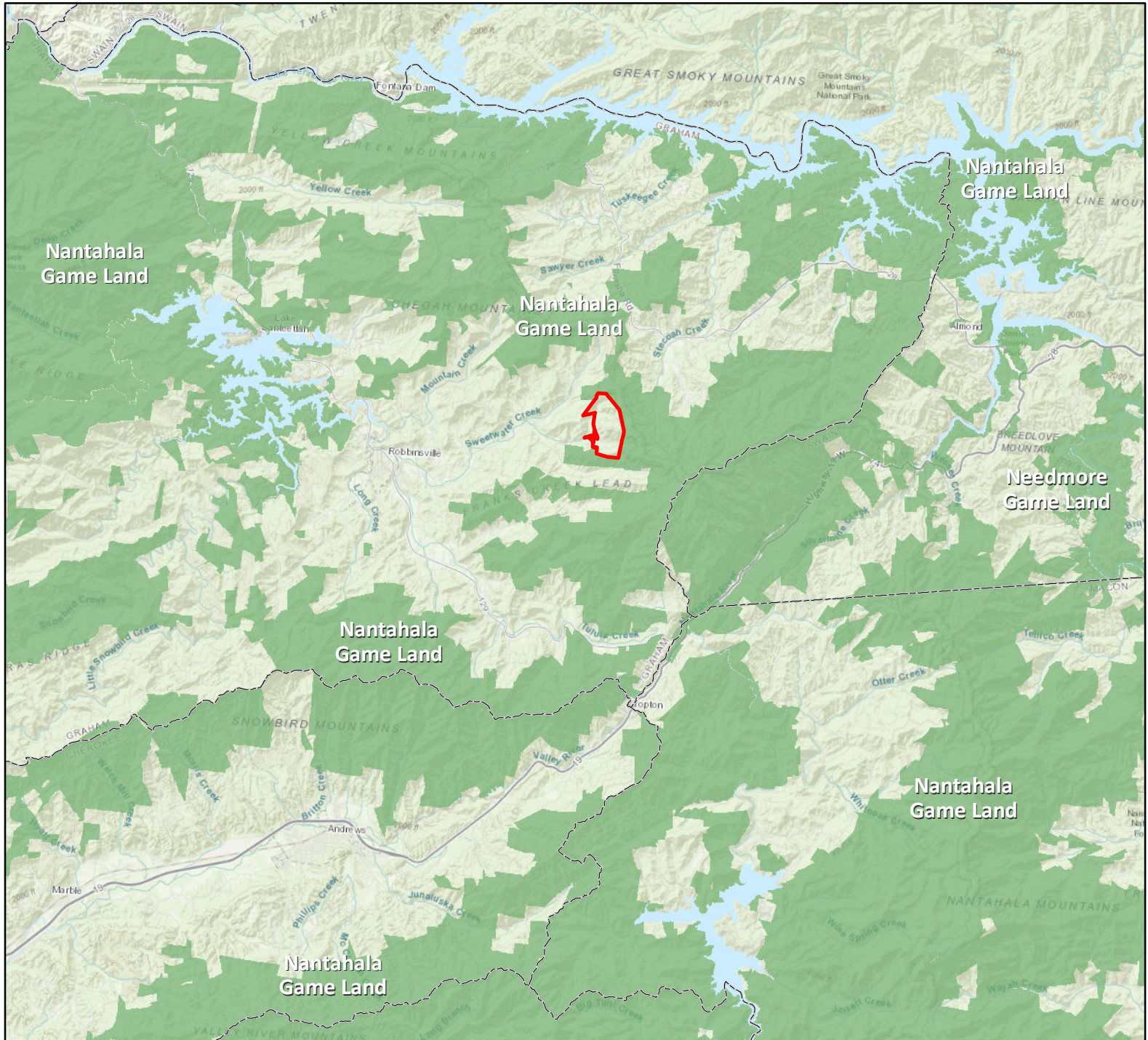
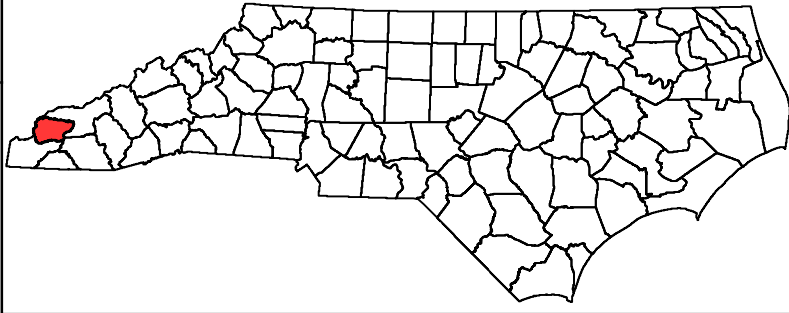
Comments
Restoration and habitat management potential on the tract is good, thus the rank is moderate.

Threats	0.333
Number	1
Severity	2
Imminence	2
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0

Comments
The biggest threat in this area is loss of habitat due to residential development. Acquisition of the property would stop that threat on this tract.

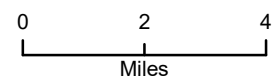
Overall Score	4.581
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**Simp Gap Tracts**  
**Graham County**  
**+/- 507 Acres**

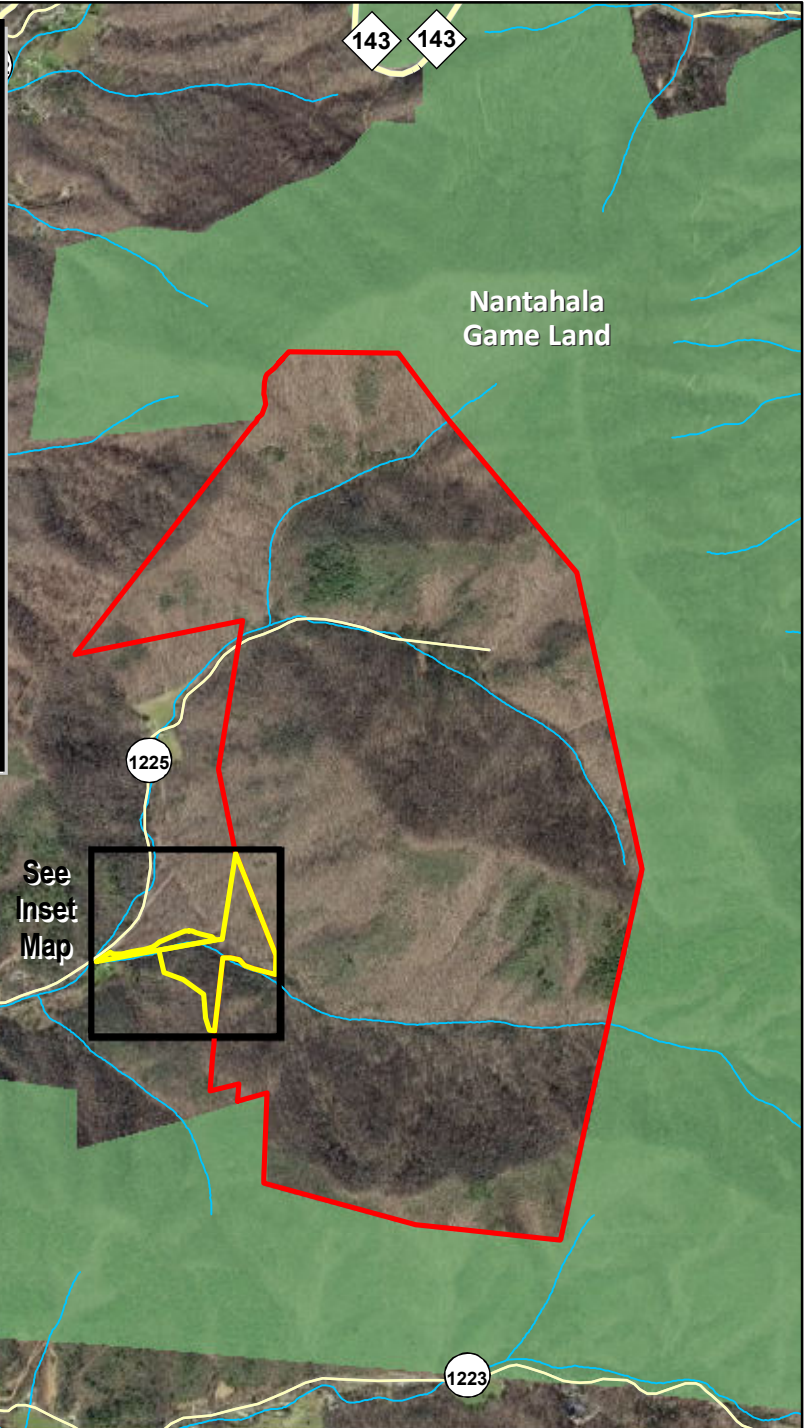
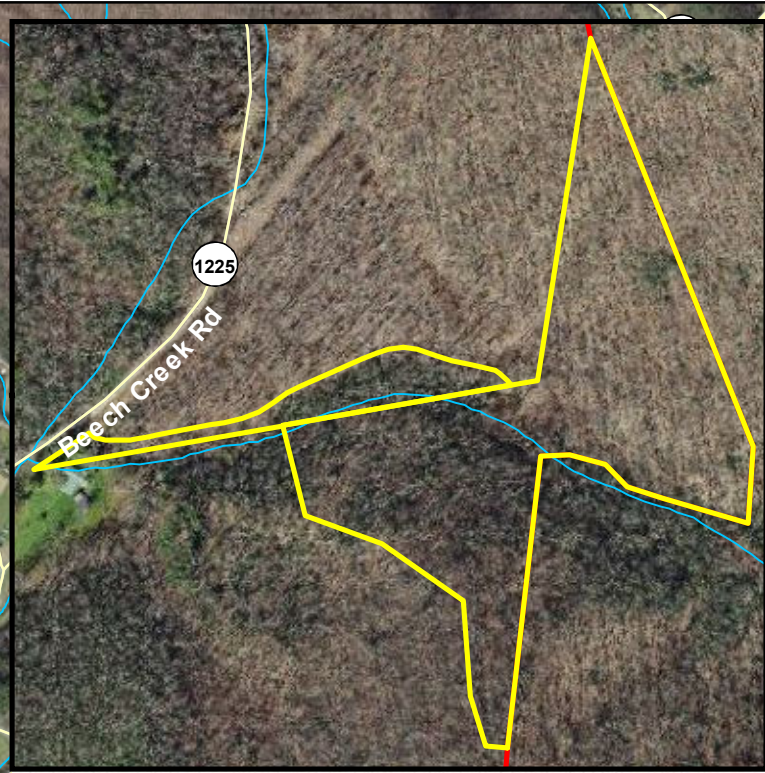
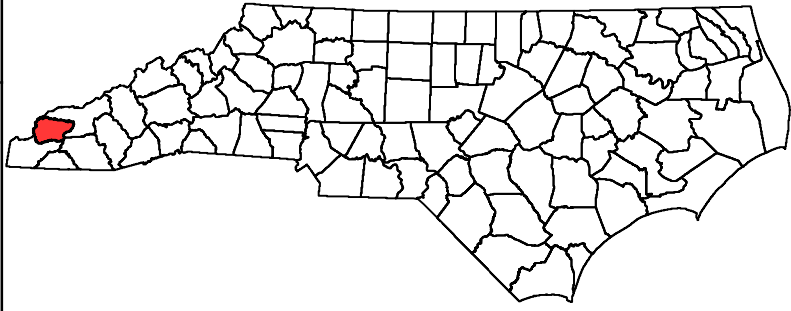


April 20, 2023




- Simp Gap Tracts
- Game Land

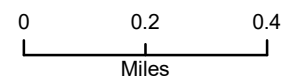


**Simp Gap Tracts  
Graham County  
+/- 507 Acres**



April 20, 2023

-  Access Tract - 12.5 ac
-  Main Tract - 495 ac
-  Game Land



# Exhibit N-4

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

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**Tract Name:** Simp Gap Main Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 12/8/2023

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

<u>Pittman Robertson Wildlife Restoration Funds</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes     No     N/A

**If Yes, Explain Details**

Mainspring Land Trust is selling the property for \$100,000 and is providing \$144,000 in bargain sale.

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes     No     N/A

**If Yes, Describe in Table:**

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
NCWRC	Guy Duvall	2023	\$244,000

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

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

Federal Aid Funds for Wildlife Restoration 75:25 match to state funds

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

<b>Total Stewardship Expenditures</b>	<b>\$39,500.00</b>
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

# Exhibit N-4

April 20, 2023

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

**Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET Estimated**

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

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment - yr 1	5.5	Miles		\$5,600	\$30,000
Establish Gate - yr 1	2	Each		\$750	\$1500
Create Parking Area - yr 1	1	Each		\$8,000	\$8,000
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$39,500</b>

April 20, 2023

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

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	David Stewart
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	12/08/21
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Simp Gap
<b>County:</b>	Graham
<b>Acreage:</b>	504
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$1,088,670
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Mainspring Conservation Trust
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

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

**Program Potential:**

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

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Endowment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Donation

**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"/>	PR	Source:
<input type="checkbox"/>	MCT	Match:

**Funding Considerations:**

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

**Recommendation:**

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

**Additional Comments:**

Mainspring Conservation Trust's (MCT) asking price for this tract is what investment they have in the tract. That figure is somewhere between \$50,000.00 and \$100,000.00.

April 20, 2023

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

County: 

Simp Gap Tract
Graham County

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The Simp Gap Tract contains approximately 504 acres. The property is located in Graham County and is accessed from Beech Creek Road, off of Highway 143/Sweetwater Road. The tract is bordered on three sides by the USFS. The tract will provide good access to the existing Nantahala Game Land and could be added to the game land program as part of the Nantahala Game Land, or become a stand along game land. The tract is a wooded tract and is made up of several habitat/forest types. These community types include Rich Montaine Seep, Chestnut Oak Forest, Rich Cove Forest, and Mountain Oak-Hickory Forest. Elevations range from 2600 feet to better than 3600 feet. The adjacent Forest Service Land to the east is part of the Cheoah Bald Natural Area. This area (including the Simp Gap Tract) is home to the Cheoah Bald Salamander, which is found nowhere else in the world. The adjacent Forest Service land also contains several NCWRC WHAMA's (Wildlife Habitat Active Management Areas). These include Golden Wing Warbler Priority Areas, Cerulean Warbler Priority Areas, and Grouse Priority areas. The adjacent Forest Service land also contains Priority Chestnut Restoration Areas. There are two named creeks and one unnamed tributary that runs through the property. Rines Creek and North Fork Beech creek. Acquisition of this property is significant as part of the total management project being carried out in the mountain Eco region. NCWRC ownership of the Simp Gap Tract will increase conservation ownership of properties in the immediate area such as the Nantahala National Forest, Mainspring Conservation Trust Lands, and various private holdings that are in conservation ownership or have conservation easements that are located in the vicinity. In a broader sense, NCWRC ownership of the tract will help ensure ecosystem integrity at the landscape level by increasing connectivity of lands in conservation ownership. Management objectives will focus on expanding on the management that is currently being implemented in the area. NCWRC ownership would ensure that critical habitat are conserved. Public recreational opportunities may include hunting, hiking, bird watching, photography, and general nature study. Currently there is a connector trail from the lower end of the property at Beech Creek Road, up to the Appalachian Trail. Educational opportunities may exist as priority wildlife habitats are managed for or maintained. Common wildlife species found on the tract include wild turkey, black bear, white-tailed deer, gray squirrel, ruffed grouse as well as various songbirds, salamanders, and small mammals. The Simp Gap Tract will make a great addition to the Game Land Program.

Tract Name **Simp Gap**  
 Date **April 19, 2023**  
 Staff Completing Form **David Stewart**

Species	0.704
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	3
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	1
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	2

Comments
High biodiversity is based on a diversity of forest cover types and age classes, and the diversity of wildlife and SGCN found on the property like the Cheoah Bald Salamander.

Habitat	0.778
Size	2
Quality	2
Diversity	3
Rare/Important	3
Connectivity	2
Buffer	2

Comments
The quality of the habitat on the tract is good, as is diversity. The properties provide good connectivity and buffer to Nantahala GL.

Public Access	0.556
Hunting/Viewing	3
Fishing	2
Boating	0

Comments
The property provide excellent legal access to Nantahala GL.

Wildlife Uses	0.600
Hunting	3
Viewing	2
Fishing	2
Boating	0
Education	2

Comments
The property offer excellent hunting opportunity as well as some opportunity for wildlife viewing. Educational opportunities will be low.

Other Values	0.778
Timber Harvest	1
Local Economy	3
Quality of Life	3

Comments
This will provide some benefit to the local economy and provide some quality of life benefits to local residents.

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

Comments
Conflicts among game land users and adjoiners should be minimal. The tract brings current The tract is in good proximity to GL users.

Restoration/Mitigation Potential	0.833
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	2
Access Improvement	3
Threat Mitigation	3

Comments
Restoration and habitat management potential on the tract is good, thus the rank is moderate.

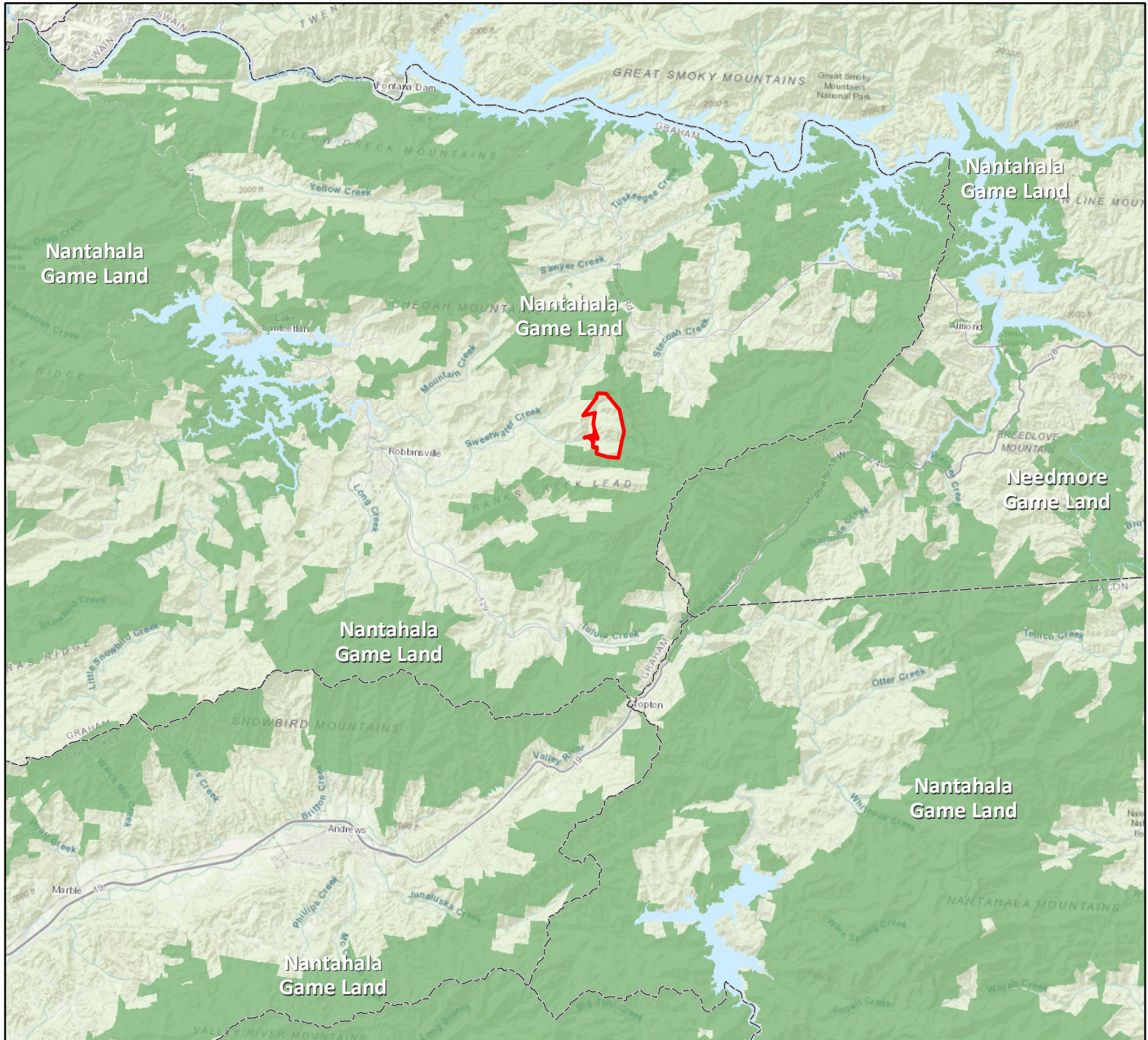
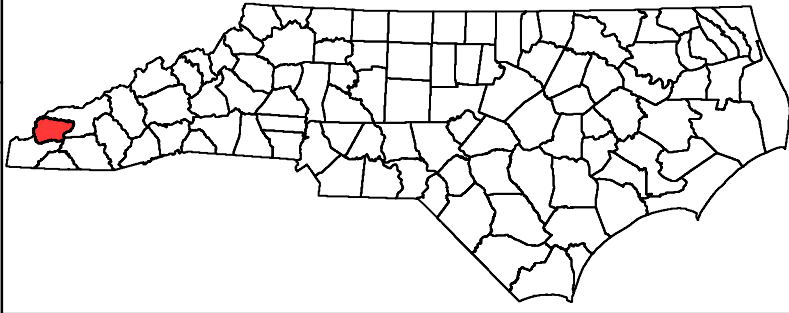
Threats	0.333
Number	1
Severity	2
Imminence	2
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0

Comments
The biggest threat in this area is loss of habitat due to residential development. Acquisition of the property would stop that threat on this tract.



Overall Score	4.581
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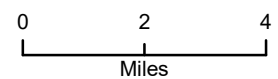


**Simp Gap Tracts**  
**Graham County**  
**+/- 507 Acres**

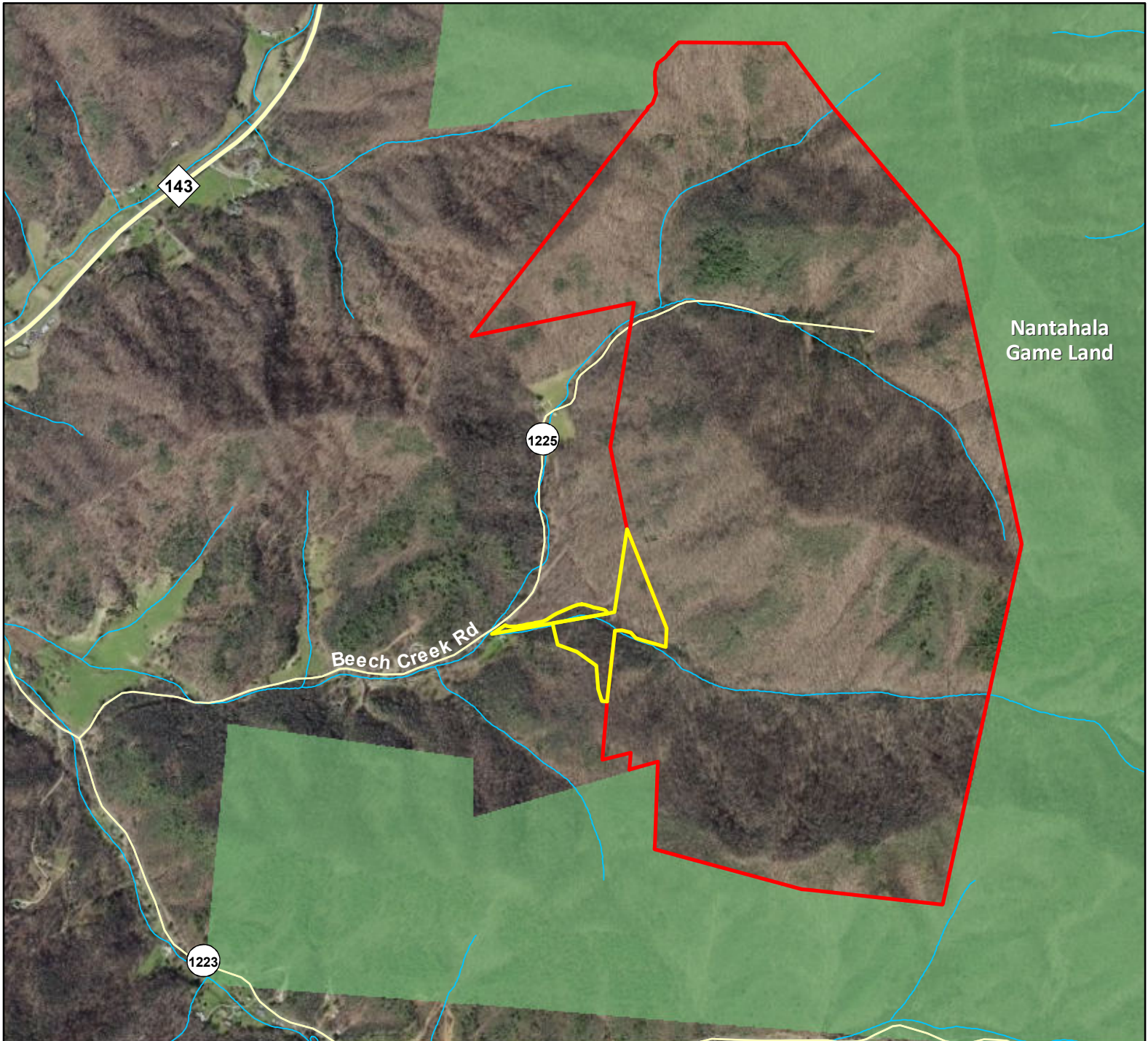
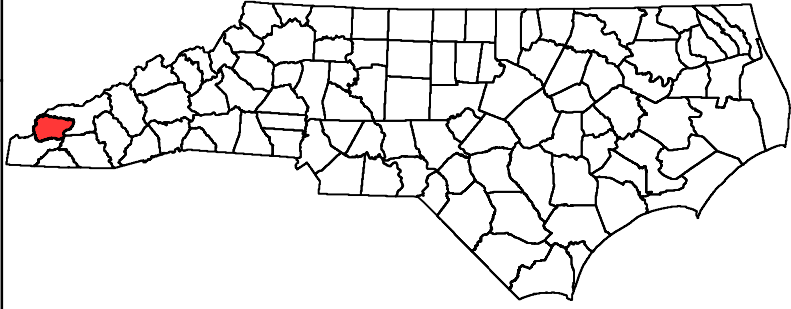


April 20, 2023




-  Simp Gap Tracts
-  Game Land

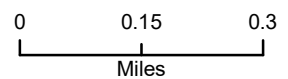


**Simp Gap Tracts  
Graham County  
+/- 507 Acres**



April 20, 2023

-  Access Tract - 12.5 ac
-  Main Tract - 495 ac
-  Game Land



# Exhibit N-5

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

---

**Tract Name:** Doll Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 07/29/2021

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

Foothills Conservancy was awarded \$317,625 by NC Land and Water Fund. NCWRC will provide the \$317,625 matching funds and \$5,000 in closing costs.

<i>LWF Grant</i>	<i>\$317,625</i>
<i>WRC-PR Match Funds</i>	<i>\$317,625</i>
<i>WRC-State-Transaction Costs</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
<i>Total Project Cost</i>	<i>\$640,250</i>

**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:**

<b>Requested By</b>	<b>Appraiser</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Appraised Value</b>
DCP Happy Valley, LLC	James R. Todd, III	04/07/2022	\$2,750/acre

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

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

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

<b>Total Stewardship Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 7,050</b>
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>

# Exhibit N-5

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

---

#### Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections: Doll

Estimated Stewardship Costs				
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment	7,050	Feet	\$1.00	\$7,050
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 7,050</b>

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
<b>TOTAL</b>				

**April 20, 2023**  
**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**  
**Land Acquisition Investigation Form**  
**– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Paul Thompson
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	7/29/2021
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Doll Tract
<b>County:</b>	Caldwell
<b>Acreage:</b>	(+/-) 217
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$536,200
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Joe Doll

- Primary Purpose:**
- Resource Protection
  - Resource Management
  - User Access
  - WRC Facility

- Type of Acquisition:**
- Purchase
  - Lease
  - Easement

- Grant Potential:**
- LWF
  - Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
  - Endowment
  - Other

- Tax Value:**
- Year Assessed
  - PUJ?

- Funding Considerations:**
- Donation
  - Bargain Sale
  - Partner Contribution

- Recommendation:**
- Pursue
  - Do Not Pursue
  - Defer

- Program Potential:**
- Game Land
  - Wildlife Conservation Area
  - Access Area
  - None

- Type of Parcel:**
- Tract
  - Riparian Corridor

- Owner Interest:**
- High
  - Moderate
  - Low
  - No

- Stewardship Considerations:**
- Source:
  - Match:

- Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?**
- Yes
  - No
  - N/A

**Additional Comments:**

The subject property consists of three tracts which total approximately 217 acres. These tracts are contiguous in nature and adjoin Buffalo Cove Game Land on three sides. Public access is provided through existing WRC property via Buffalo Cove Rd (SR 1504). The tracts will offer protection of approx. 3,380 ft of Green Rock Branch. Directly to the south is Patterson School Foundation property where a WRC easement exists that protects approx. 398 acres of riparian stream buffers. Foothills Conservancy will apply for a LWF grant, and if awarded will use that as leverage to seek additional funding.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Land Acquisition Investigation Form

– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract

Name:

Doll Tract

County:

Caldwell

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

Approximately 19 acres of open fields exist and will provide WRC the opportunity to manage for species dependent on early successional habitat. The Yadkin-Pee Dee River Drainage is noted as a priority watershed in the NC Wildlife Action Plan. With the presence of the endangered Brook Floater (*Alasmidonta varicosa*) in Buffalo Creek just downstream, the protection of Green Rock Branch will align well with agency objectives. Mountain Heartleaf (*Hexastylis contracta*) has been noted on the Patterson School Foundation property directly to the south and will most likely be found on the Doll tract as well. The tract consists largely of Southern Appalachian Oak Forests with a small component of Southern Appalachian Cove Forest. SGCN have not been documented on the tract, but the Brook Floater has been documented downstream. Those SGCN likely found on the tract as transients include box turtle, timber rattlesnake, wood thrush, and worm-eating warbler. Common game species found on the tract include white-tailed deer, wild turkey, and gray squirrel. Management objectives will include protecting water quality, maintaining/restoring priority wildlife habitats, and continuing to provide public access and increased opportunity for hunting and other outdoor recreational activities.

Tract Name	Doll Tract
Date	June 22, 2021
Staff Completing Form	Paul Thompson

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.444</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	3
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	1

<b>Comments</b>
Moderate biodiversity is based on the size of the subject property and the diversity of community types. Brook Floater has been found downstream from subject property so there is some potential for SGCN presence. Wetland habitat is not located on the property but it does contain approx. 3,380 feet of riparian habitat along Green Rock Branch. With a mix of open fields, hardwoods, and riparian areas, multiply game species should be fairly abundant.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.556</b>
Size	1
Quality	2
Diversity	2
Rare/Important	1
Connectivity	2
Buffer	2

<b>Comments</b>
The quality of the habitat on the tract is good, with a diversity of habitat types. The property is not considered critical habitat for rare species. The property does provide good connectivity to and buffer for Buffalo Cove GL and existing WRC easements.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>0.333</b>
Hunting/Viewing	2
Fishing	1
Boating	0

<b>Comments</b>
The property does provide for easier access to other areas of the game land for wildlife viewing and hunting. Green Rock Branch is small in size, but may provide some opportunity for angling. There is not adequate water to allow for boating opportunities.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.600</b>
Hunting	3
Viewing	3
Fishing	1
Boating	0
Education	2

<b>Comments</b>
The property provides excellent hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities. Educational opportunities would exist on this tract. Green Rock Branch may provide some angling opportunity.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Timber Harvest	2
Local Economy	2
Quality of Life	2

<b>Comments</b>
The tract can produce good timber, but the value can only be considered moderate due to accessibility. The tract can create additional opportunities and may improve the quality of life for those utilizing this area.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.733</b>
Existing Infrastructure	1
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	2
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	3
Proximity to Users	2

<b>Comments</b>
There is a lack of infrastructure on this property and limited to a few culverts and a soil road along the field edges. Compatibility with multiple use should not be an issue, nor compatibility with adjoining lands. The property will help solidify WRC ownership and connection to existing protected lands.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	2
Access Improvement	2
Threat Mitigation	2

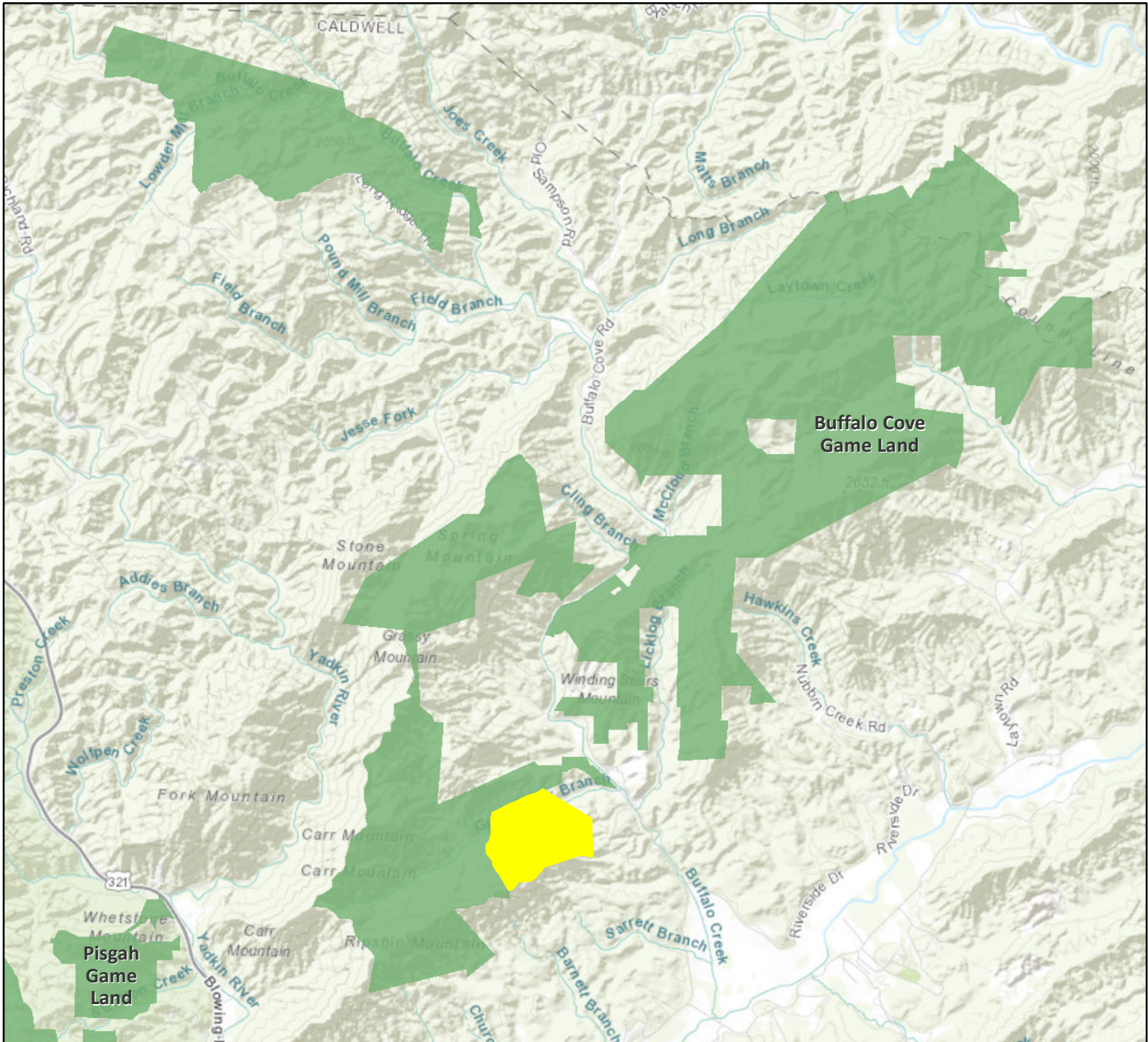
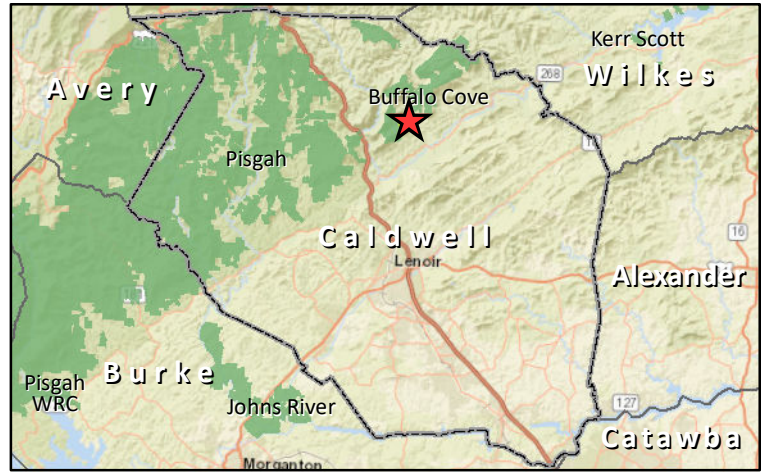
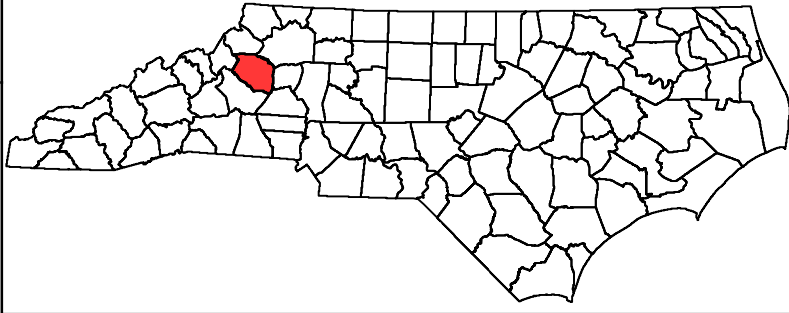
<b>Comments</b>
Restoration and maintenance of the habitats/species on the tract is good, thus the rank is moderate. The property does not provide new additional access, but it will provide easier access to existing portions of game land.

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.200</b>
Number	1
Severity	1
Imminence	1
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0

<b>Comments</b>
Landowner would like to see this tract enrolled into WRC Game Lands program, so the threat is low. If WRC does not purchase the property, it will go on the market for other potential buyers.

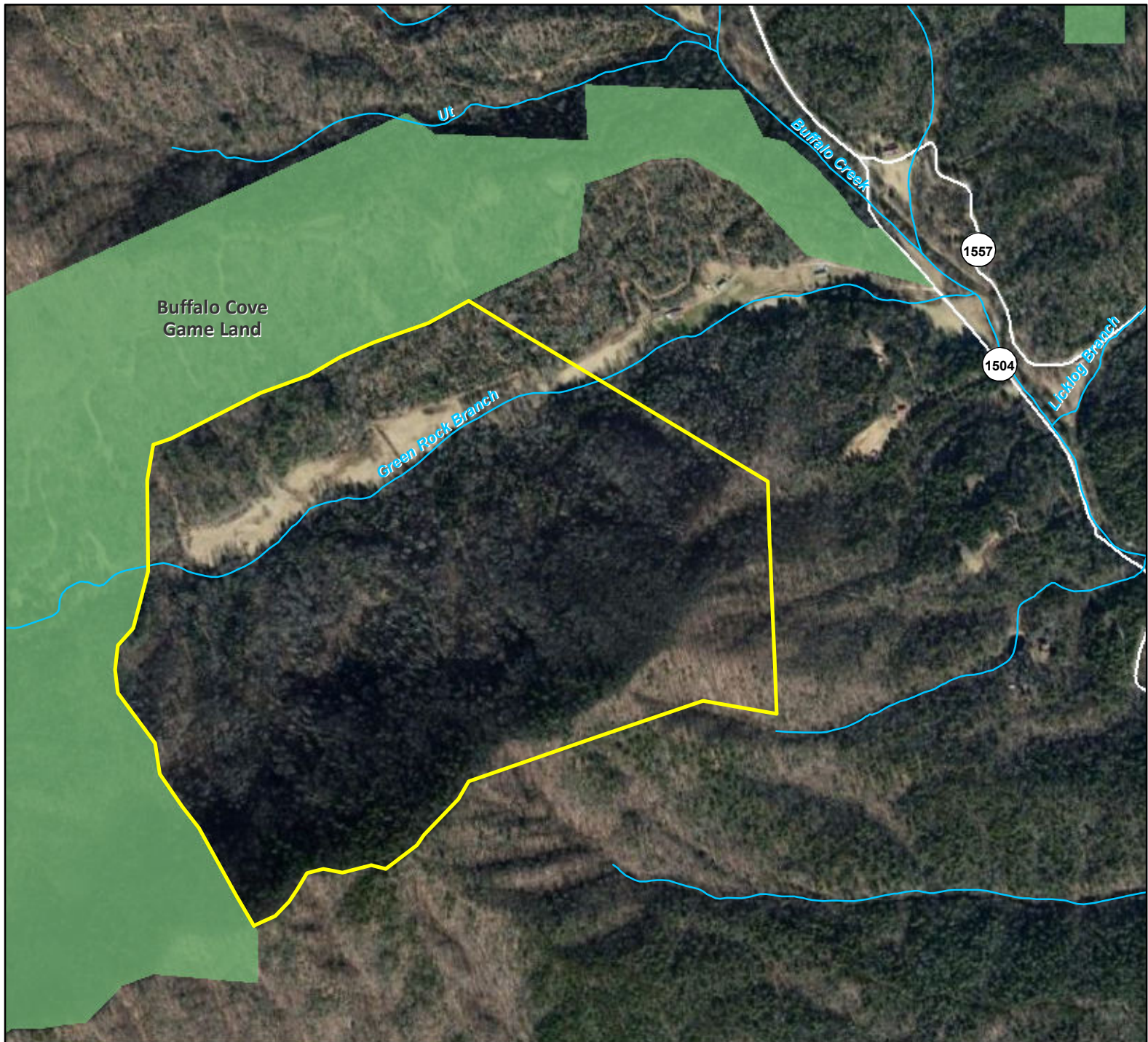
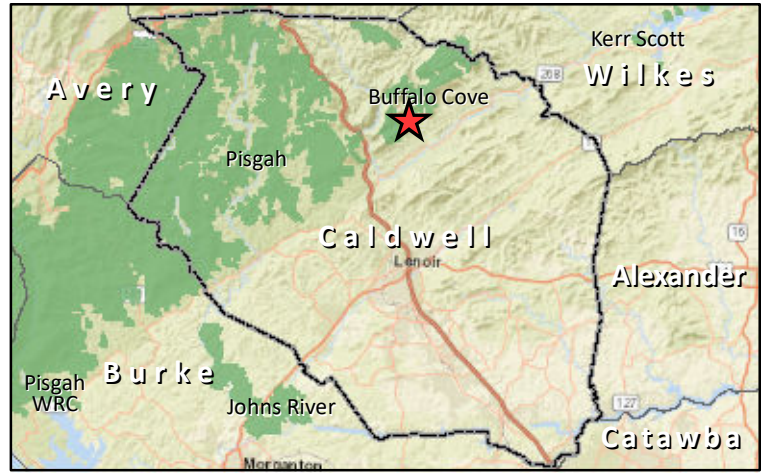
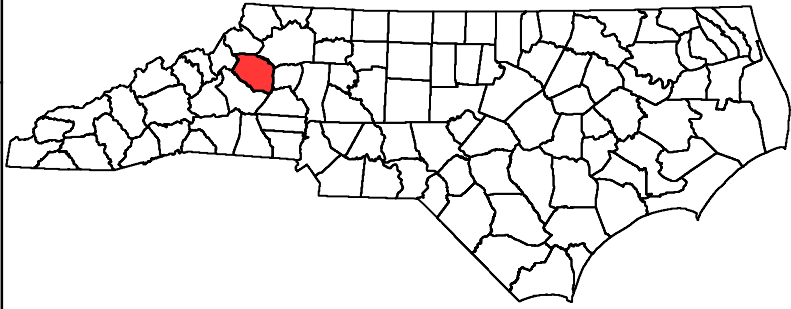
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.800</b>
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**Doll Tract  
Caldwell County  
+/- 217 Acres**





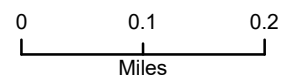


**Doll Tract  
Caldwell County  
+/- 217 Acres**



April 20, 2023

-  Doll Tract
-  Game Land



# Exhibit N-6

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

**Tract Name:** Shecut Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 07/13/2022

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

Pittman Robertson Wildlife Restoration Funds	\$25,000
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

**If Yes, Explain Details**

The Conservation Fund is selling the property for \$25,000 and is providing \$85,700 in bargain sale.

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

**If Yes, Describe in Table:**

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
TCF	Guy Duvall	2021	\$110,700

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

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

Federal Aid Funds for Wildlife Restoration 75:25 match to state funds

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

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$400.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

# Exhibit N-6

April 20, 2023

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

## Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET Estimated

---

### Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment - yr 1	1	Miles		\$400	\$400
<b>TOTAL</b>					\$400

April 20, 2023

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

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	David Stewart/Nick Shaver
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	July 13, 2022
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Shecut Tract
<b>County:</b>	Haywood
<b>Acreage:</b>	12.03
<b>Tax Value:</b>	
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	The Conservaton Fund
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

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

**Program Potential:**

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

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Endowment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Donation

**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"/>	PR	Source:
<input type="checkbox"/>	State	Match:

**Funding Considerations:**

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

**Recommendation:**

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

**Additional Comments:**

The Conservation Fund (TCF) currently owns the subject properties and would like to convey it to the state.

April 20, 2023

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

County: 

Shecut Tract
Haywood

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The Shecut Tract is located near Maggie Valley NC. It lies 4 miles NW of the center of Maggie Valley, and west of the Sheepback Mountain tract, and east of the northern most parcel of the Maggot Springs Gap Tract of the William H Silver Game Land. The Shecut Tract borders the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Shecut Tract will help connect/fill in gaps along the border with the Great Smokey Mountains National Park and the William H. Silver Game Land. The property is easily accessed by Sheepback Mountain road and Pless Underwood Road. The Shecut Tract is nearly entirely forested with mature timber. Two high quality natural community types have been observed on the tract. These are Rich Montane Seeps and Northern Hardwood Forest. Additional high quality communities may be present. The vegetation of the seeps has an assortment of rich flora spilling in from the adjacent rich forests on areas of slightly higher and drier areas within the seeps. The Northern Hardwood Forest surrounding the Rich Montane Seeps is diverse with a well developed canopy. The diversity is very high in the herbaceous layer as well. High Elevation Red Oak is also present on the tract. NCWRC ownership of the tract will increase conservation ownership of properties in the immediate area such as the Great Smokey Mountains National Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, Maggie Valley Sanitary District Lands, William H Silver Game Land, and properties owned by Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC). In a broader sense, NCWRC ownership of the tract will help ensure ecosystem integrity at the landscape level by increasing connectivity of lands in conservation ownership such as Pisgah and Nantahala National Forest, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Silver and Cold Mountain Game Land (NCWRC holdings), Conservation Fund Properties, Blue Ridge Parkway, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and SAHC lands and various private holdings that are in conservation ownership or have conservation easements that are located in the vicinity. NCWRC ownership will help reduce land fragmentation as well.

Tract Name	Shecut Tract William H. Silver Game Land
Date	May 1, 2022
Staff Completing Form	David Stewart

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.333</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	1
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0

<b>Comments</b>
Moderate biodiversity is based on a diversity of forest cover types and age classes, and the diversity of wildlife found on the properties.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.722</b>
Size	0
Quality	2
Diversity	2
Rare/Important	3
Connectivity	3
Buffer	3

<b>Comments</b>
The quality of the habitat on the tract is good, as is diversity. The properties provide good connectivity and buffer to William H Silver GL.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>0.222</b>
Hunting/Viewing	2
Fishing	0
Boating	0

<b>Comments</b>
The properties provide connectivity and access to existing portions of William H Silver GL. No waters of sufficient size are located on the properties, so there is no fishing/boating opportunity.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.333</b>
Hunting	2
Viewing	2
Fishing	0
Boating	0
Education	1

<b>Comments</b>
The properties offer hunting opportunity as well as some opportunity for wildlife viewing. Educational opportunities will be low. No significant water is located on the tract, so there is no fishing/boating opportunity.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.556</b>
Timber Harvest	0
Local Economy	2
Quality of Life	3

<b>Comments</b>
The tracts can produce additional access to the game land. Wildlife viewing, specifically elk viewing, may provide additional local economic benefits. The tract will provide some quality of life benefits to local residents, especially the residents of the adjacent developments.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.600</b>
Existing Infrastructure	1
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	2
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	2
Inholding/Corridor	2
Proximity to Users	2

<b>Comments</b>
The tract was originally sub-divided to be part of a residential housing development and has a good access road. Conflicts among game land users and adjoining should be minimal.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.750</b>
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	2
Access Improvement	2
Threat Mitigation	3

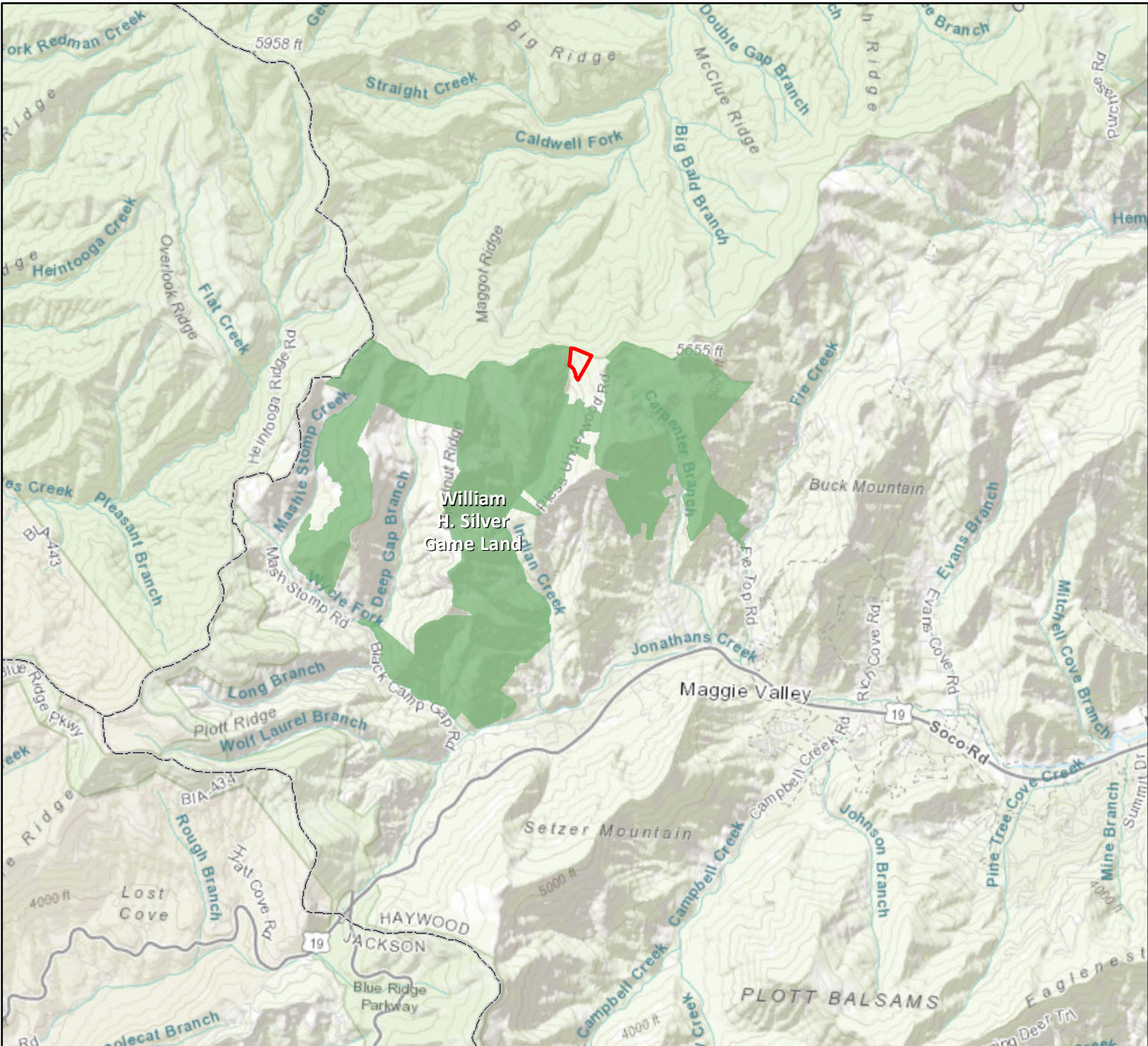
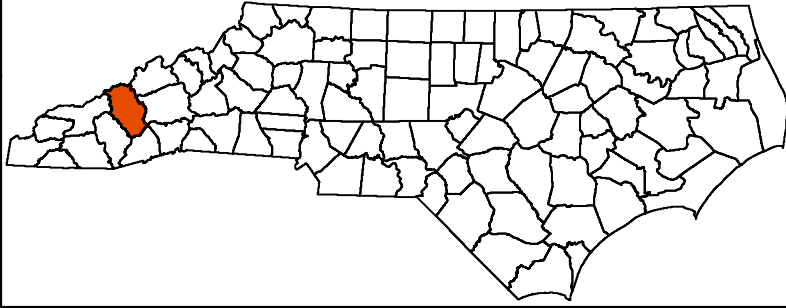
<b>Comments</b>
Restoration and habitat management potential on the tract is good. Spruce restoration is potential on the tract. Threat of residential development is the biggest threat to the tract.

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.400</b>
Number	1
Severity	3
Imminence	2
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0



<b>Comments</b>

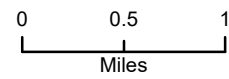
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.117</b>
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# Shecut Tract Haywood County 12 Acres

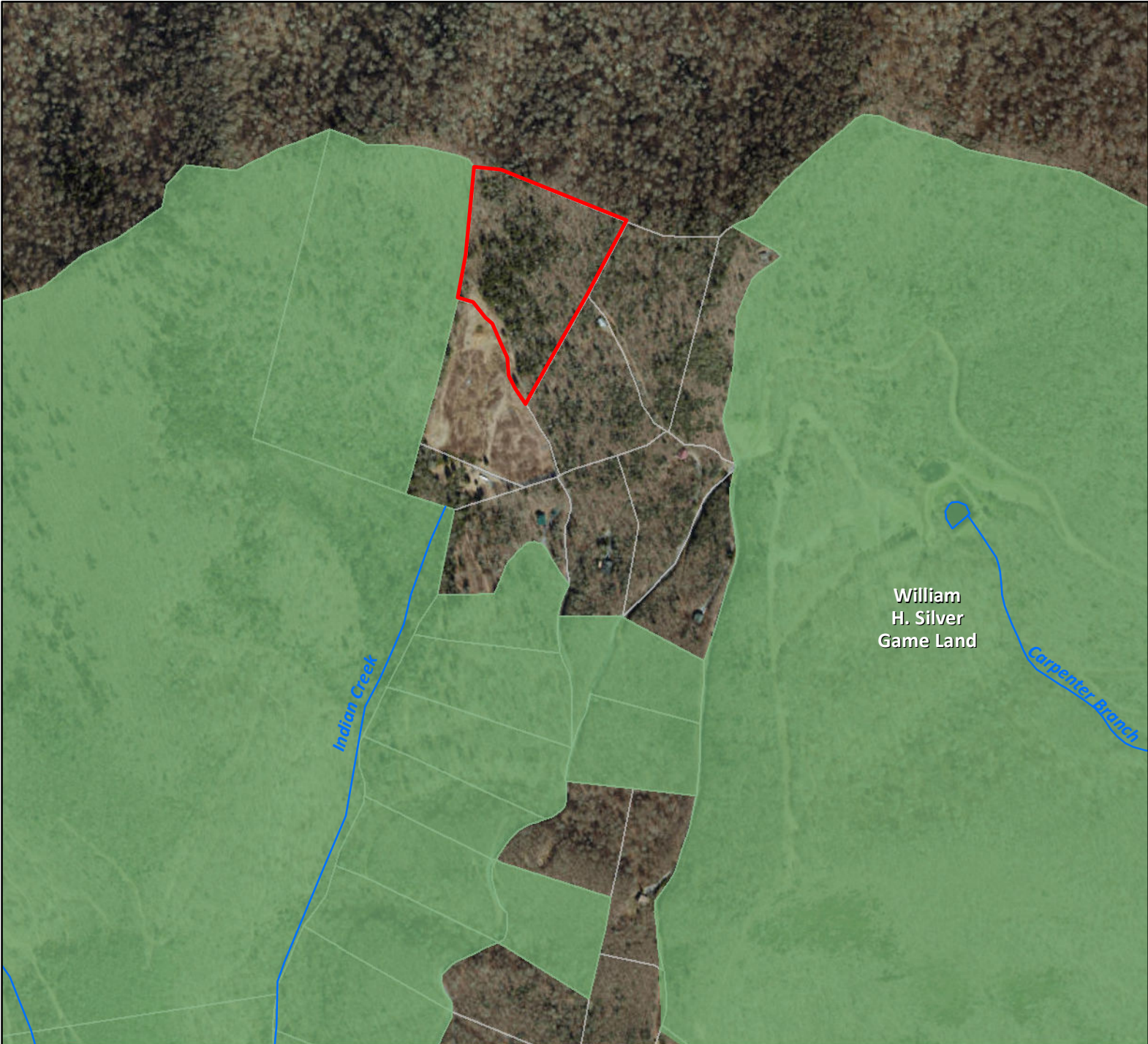
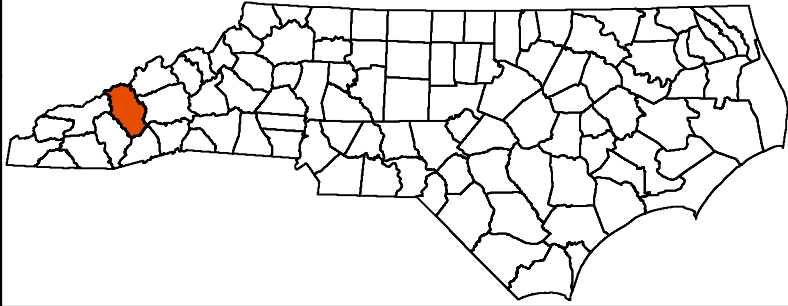


April 20, 2023



-  Shecut Tract
-  Game Land

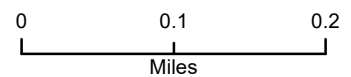


**Shecut Tract  
Haywood County  
12 Acres**



April 20, 2023

 Shecut Tract  
 Game Land





# Exhibit N-7

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

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### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

**Tract Name:** Bay River Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 04/19/23

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

Donation from The NC Coastal 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 Aid Funds for Wildlife Restoration 75:25 match to state funds

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

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$62,554.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

# Exhibit N-7

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET Estimated

#### Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment - yr 1	7.00	Mile		\$1,056	\$7,392
Boundary Maintenance - yr 4	2.00	Mile		\$1,056	\$2112
Establish Gate - yr 1	1	Each		\$750	\$750
Maintain Gate - yr 2	1	Each		\$100	\$100
Maintain Gate - yr 3	1	Each		\$100	\$100
Maintain Gate - yr 4	1	Each		\$100	\$100
Maintain Gate - yr 5	1	Each		\$100	\$100
Road upgrade	0.38	Mile		\$100,000	\$38,000
Create Parking Area - yr 1	1	Each		\$10,000	\$10,000
Maintain Parking Area - yr 2	1	Each		\$225	\$225
Maintain Parking Area - yr 3	1	Each		\$225	\$225
Maintain Parking Area - yr 4	1	Each		\$225	\$225
Maintain Parking Area - yr 5	1	Each		\$225	\$225
Prescribed Burning Ops - yrs 1-5	100.00	Acres		\$30	\$3,000
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$62,554</b>

April 20, 2023

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

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Richard Clark/Brent Wilson
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	April 19, 2023
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Bay River Tract
<b>County:</b>	Pamlico
<b>Acreage:</b>	407
<b>Tax Value:</b>	
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Bates-Bay River/Janice Allen (NCCLT)
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

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

**Program Potential:**

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

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Other (overwrite this cell)
<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"/>	Bargain Sale
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partner Contribution

**Recommendation:**

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

**Additional Comments:**

This parcel would come to WRC as donation from NCCLT and become part of Goose Creek Game Land.

April 20, 2023

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

Tract Name:	Bay River Tract
County:	Pamlico

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The Bay River tract is 407 acres in size and located in eastern Pamlico County, NC. This tract contains three parcels, one of which is a peninsula bounded by the Bay River to the south, Smith Creek to the east, and another unnamed creek to the west. Public access is available from Lynchs Beach Loop Rd. via existing soil roads. Habitat communities range from estuarine and freshwater marshes to coastal fringe evergreen forest containing mature longleaf pine and live oak. Approximately 40% of this tract scores a moderately high score of 7, when evaluated with the Biodiversity/Wildlife Habitat Assessment Index (1 -low and 10-high value). This index prioritizes aquatic and terrestrial habitat, landscape function, and connectivity. List of probable SGCN species present is attached.

Tract Name **Bay River**  
 Date **April 19, 2023**  
 Staff Completing Form **Richard Clark**

Species	0.704
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2

Comments
Will provide hunting opportunities for deer, waterfowl, turkey, quail, small game in an underserved community. Acquisition would also provide for SGCN preservation.

Habitat	0.722
Size	2
Quality	2
Diversity	3
Rare/Important	3
Connectivity	2
Buffer	1

Comments
407 acres waterfront on Bay River/Smith Creek, also holds upland pine ridges. Land will benefit from reintroduction of prescribed fire.

Public Access	0.556
Hunting/Viewing	2
Fishing	2
Boating	1

Comments
Tract is approximately 7 miles from Goose Creek GL, and will provide additional hunting opportunities.

Wildlife Uses	0.667
Hunting	2
Viewing	2
Fishing	2
Boating	1
Education	3

Comments
Tract will allow for additional hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing for local citizens.

Other Values	0.778
Timber Harvest	1
Local Economy	3
Quality of Life	3

Comments
Limited opportunity exists for timber harvest with Tar/Pamlico riparian buffer rules applying.

Feasibility & Logistics	0.867
Existing Infrastructure	1
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	3
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	3
Proximity to Users	3

Comments
Tract access is via Lynchs Beach Loop Rd. Unimproved woods roads provide access to interior of tract.

Restoration/Mitigation Potential	0.667
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	2
Access Improvement	1
Threat Mitigation	3

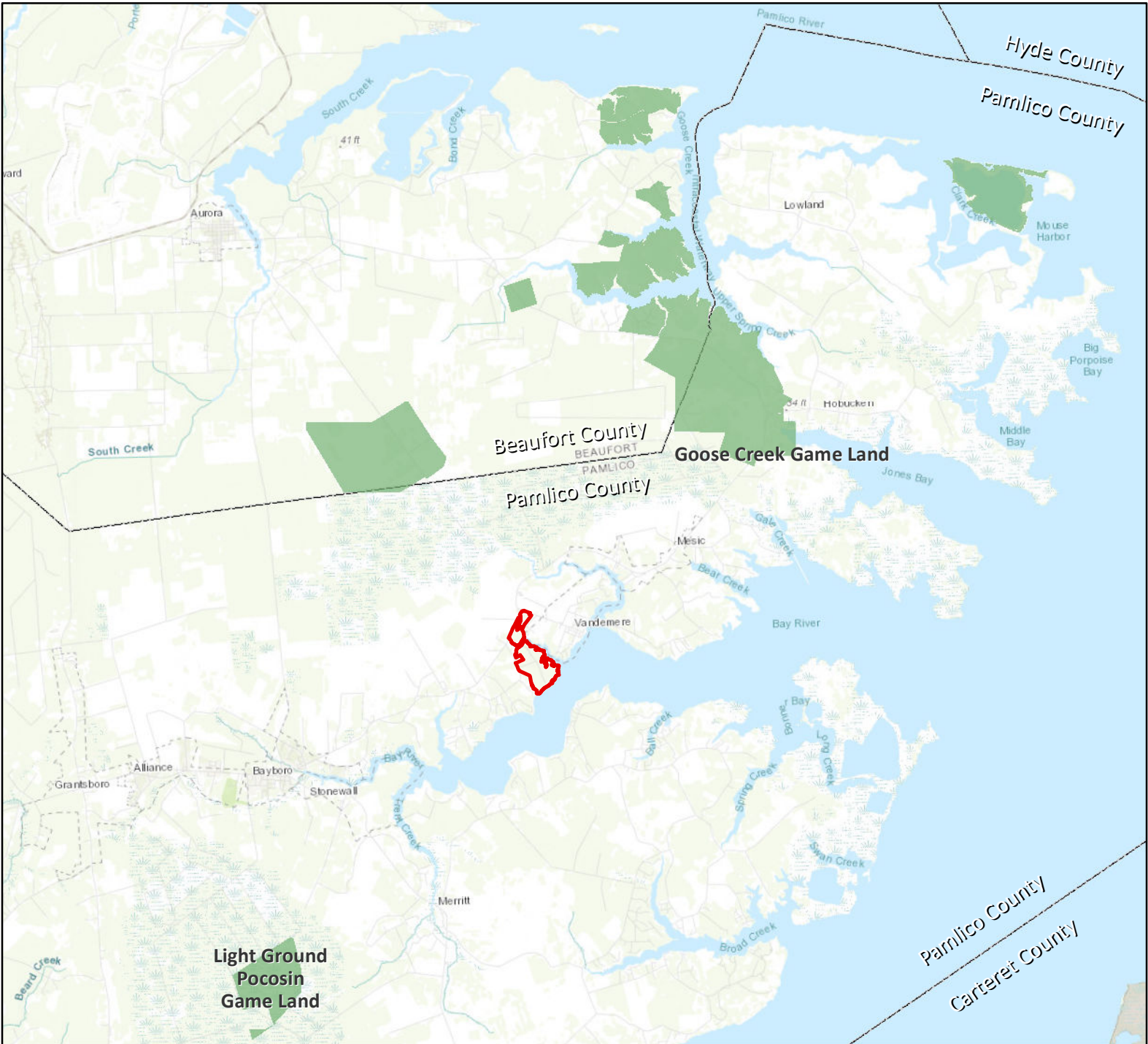
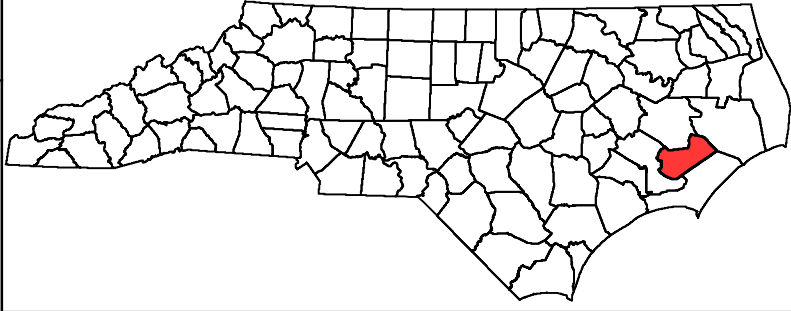
Comments
Would provide opportunity for habitat restoration as well as protection of uplands from residential development.

Threats	0.867
Number	3
Severity	3
Imminence	3
Manageability	2
Management Cost	2

Comments
Largest threats include loss to development, sea level rise, or wildfire. Reintroduction of regular prescribed burning operations will reduce losses from wildfire, while acquisition will eliminate loss to residential development.

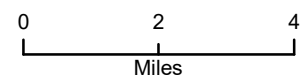
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>4.093</b>
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**Bay River Tracts  
Pamlico County  
+/- 408 Acres**

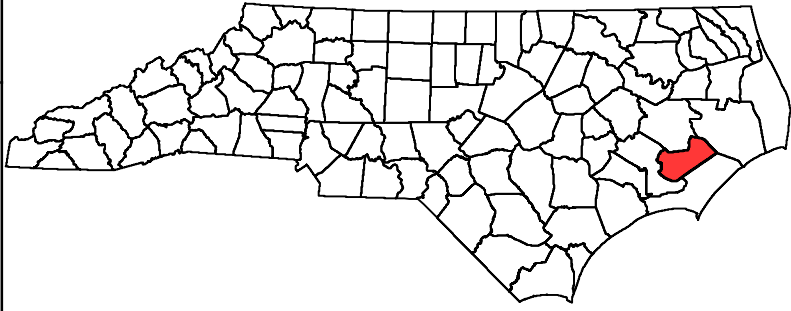


April 20, 2023



- Bay River Tracts
- Game Lands

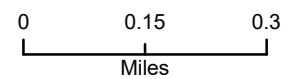


# Bay River Tracts Pamlico County +/- 408 Acres



April 20, 2023

-  Bay River Tracts
-  Game Lands



# Exhibit N-8

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

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### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

**Tract Name:** Sleepy Creek Farms (Atkinson) Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 04/19/2023

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

Donation from The Nature Conservancy

**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 Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman- Robertson) – 75% federal: 25% state*

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

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$39,485 .00
Total Projected Revenue	0



# Exhibit N-8

April 20, 2023

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET Estimated

#### Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment - yr 1	6.00	Mile		\$1,056.00	\$6,336.00
Boundary Removal - yr 1	5.25	Mile		\$1,056.00	\$5,544.00
Boundary Maintenance - yr 4	5.00	Mile		\$1,056.00	\$5,280.00
Establish Gate - yr 1	1.00	Each		\$750.00	\$750.00
Maintain Gate - yr 2	1.00	Each		\$100.00	\$100.00
Maintain Gate - yr 3	1.00	Each		\$100.00	\$100.00
Maintain Gate - yr 4	6.00	Each		\$100.00	\$100.00
Maintain Gate - yr 5	1.00	Each		\$100.00	\$100.00
Create Parking Area - yr 1	1.00	Each		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Maintain Parking Areas - yr 2	1.00	Each		\$225.00	\$225.00
Maintain Parking Areas - yr 3	1.00	Each		\$225.00	\$225.00
Maintain Parking Areas - yr 4	1.00	Each		\$225.00	\$225.00
Prescribed Burning Ops - yrs 1-5	350.00	Acres		\$30.00	\$10,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$39,485.00</b>

April 20, 2023

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

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Richard Clark/Brent Wilson
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	4/19/2023
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Atkinson Tract-Sleepy Creek Farms
<b>County:</b>	Pender
<b>Acreage:</b>	1625
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$1,870,380
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Sleepy Creek Farms, Inc.-Jean Allen
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

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

**Program Potential:**

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

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CWMTF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	REPI Other (overwrite this cell)
<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"/>	PR Source:
<input type="checkbox"/>	##### Match:

**Funding Considerations:**

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

**Recommendation:**

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

**Additional Comments:**

This parcel would become part of the Holly Shelter Game Land and will provide additional buffer from development and promote prescribed burning operations. Intention of acquisition partners is that the tract acquisition is fully grant funded with no WRC contribution required.

April 20, 2023

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

Tract Name:	Atkinson Tract-Sleepy Creek Farms
County:	Pender

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

Sleepy Creek Farms is 1,625 acres in Pender Co. Site shares approx. 5 miles with Holly Shelter GL. Site has been largely fire excluded. Some portions experienced wildfire in 2007. Tract contains approximately 300 acres longleaf pine ridge habitat types. Large portions of the property consist of typical pocosin, Carolina Bay vegetation (low and high pocosin). Numerous NCWAP SGCN species were observed by NHP staff during recent (2021/22) site visit. Potential exists for many more new element occurrences with subsequent site visits and the reintroduction of periodic fire to the site. One inactive RCW cavity tree was identified on the property. Site offers forage habitat for RCW's, potential RCW expansion, and strategic buffering for prescribed fire management of the existing fire dependent ecosystems on Holly Shelter.

Tract Name	Atkinson Tract-Sleepy Creek Farms
Date	April 19, 2023
Staff Completing Form	Richard Clark

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.889</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	3
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	3
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2

<b>Comments</b>
Will provide hunting opportunities for deer, turkey, quail, small game. SGCN preservation/restoration.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.944</b>
Size	3
Quality	2
Diversity	3
Rare/Important	3
Connectivity	3
Buffer	3

<b>Comments</b>
1625 acres upland pine ridge and pocosin habitats. Land is fire suppressed. Burn units could be added and acquisition would expand buffer opportunities to promote prescribed burning on Holly Shelter GL. Acquisition would simplify existing boundary.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>0.222</b>
Hunting/Viewing	2
Fishing	0
Boating	0

<b>Comments</b>
Tract is directly adjacent to existing Holly Shelter GL. Public access would be limited, however development of Mountain to Sea Trail would provide access to Atkinson Tract.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.467</b>
Hunting	2
Viewing	2
Fishing	0
Boating	0
Education	3

<b>Comments</b>
Tract will allow for additional hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing for local citizens.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.778</b>
Timber Harvest	1
Local Economy	3
Quality of Life	3

<b>Comments</b>
Limited opportunity exists for timber harvest within USFWS guidelines.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.867</b>
Existing Infrastructure	1
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	3
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	3
Proximity to Users	3

<b>Comments</b>
Deeded administrative access via former railroad bed. Unimproved woods roads provide access to interior of tract.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.833</b>
Species Restoration	3
Habitat Restoration	3
Access Improvement	1
Threat Mitigation	3

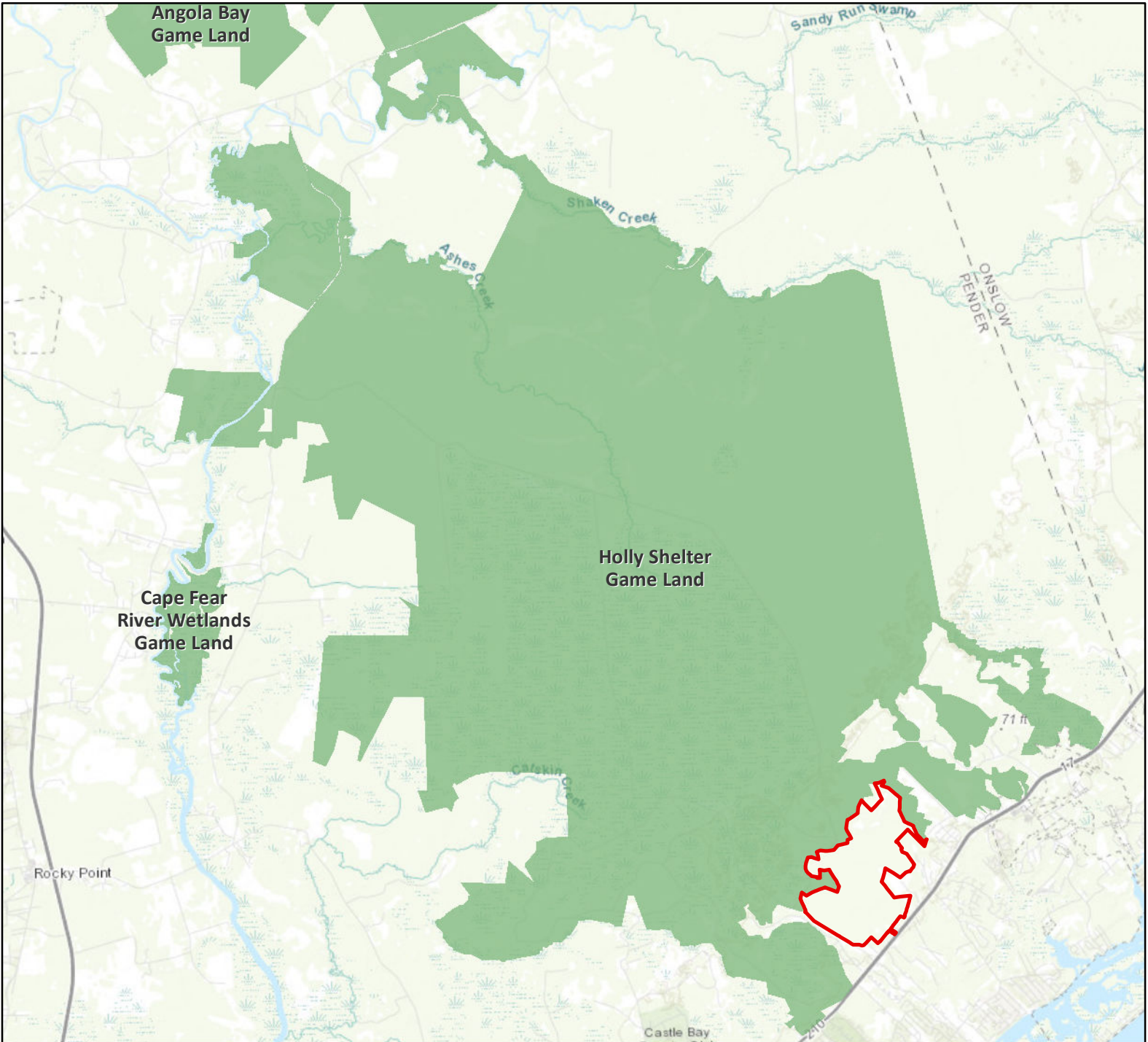
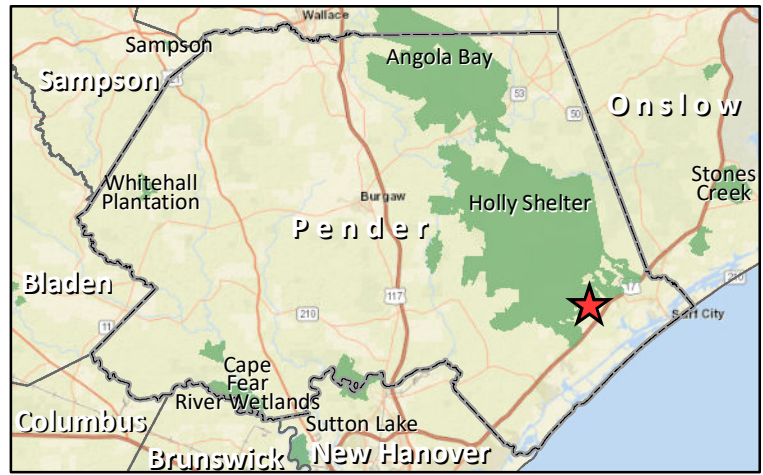
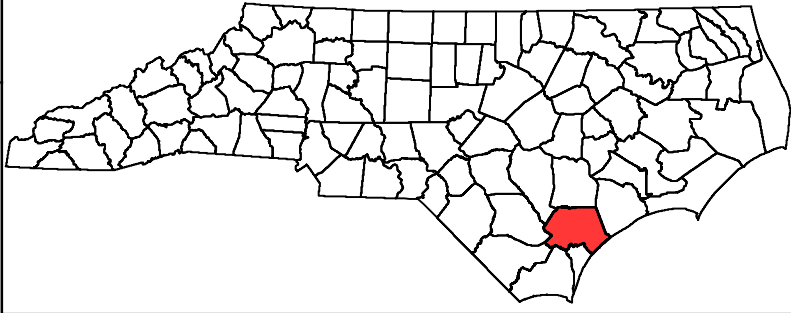
<b>Comments</b>
Would provide opportunity for habitat restoration as well as protection of uplands from further residential development.

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.933</b>
Number	3
Severity	3
Imminence	3
Manageability	2
Management Cost	3



<b>Comments</b>
Largest threats include loss to development or wildfire. The implementation of prescribed fire operations, will reduce loss from wildfire.

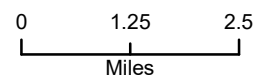
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>4.067</b>
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# Sleepy Creek Farm Tract Pender County +/- 200 Acres

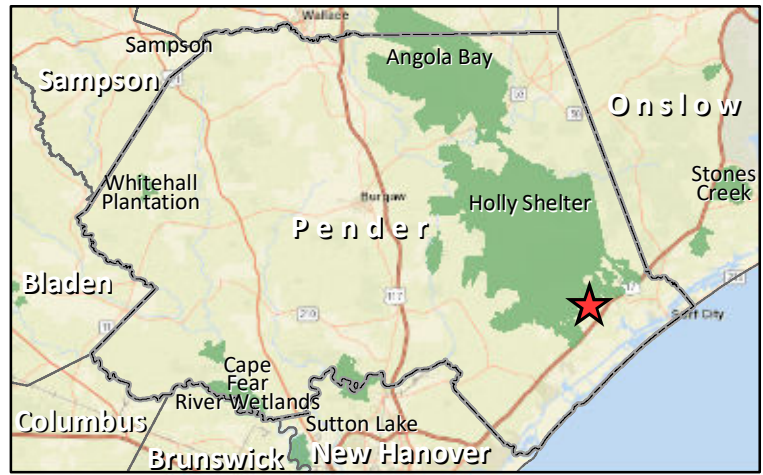
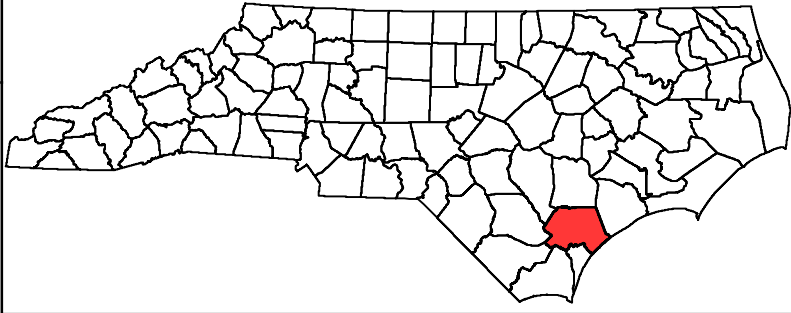


April 20, 2023



-  Sleepy Creek Farm Tract
-  Game Land

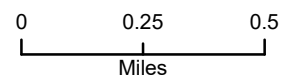


**Sleepy Creek Farm Tract**  
**Pender County**  
**+/- 200 Acres**



April 20, 2023

-  Sleepy Creek Farm Tract
-  Game Land



# EXHIBIT O-1

April 20, 2023



☒ NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ☒

Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Daron Barnes, Section Chief  
Land and Water Access

FROM: Jason Sellers, Southern Coast Technician Supervisor  
Land and Water Access

SUBJECT: Request to demolish Holly Shelter old office building – Pender County

The Holly Shelter crew no longer has a use for the old office building on the South side of the property. It has not been used to accommodate personnel in decades and is currently in poor condition. The building is currently used primarily as sign storage but as the roof continues to leak, it will soon be unsuitable for that. In addition to the roof, the windows and siding are beginning to fail contributing to the deterioration of the structural components and creating a safety issue to personnel. The desire is to demolish the current structure and utilize the ground space to store equipment until a pole shed/storage bay structure can be constructed. If approved, WRC staff will work with the State Property Office to follow state-mandated procedures for disposition of the structure.

# EXHIBIT O-1

April 20, 2023



- Photo 1: Front of building



# EXHIBIT O-1

April 20, 2023



- Photo 2: Front door showing exterior rot



- Photo 3: Rotting floor under ceiling leak

# EXHIBIT O-2

April 20, 2022



☒ NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ☒

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Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

April 20, 2023

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Daron Barnes, Division Chief  
Land and Water Access

FROM: Ben Solomon, Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager  
Land and Water Access

SUBJECT: Ledford Chapel Disposition Request

NCWRC staff request to dispose of 0.054 acres at the Ledford Chapel Boating Access Area. An encroachment was identified in the summer of 2021. A significant portion of a concrete driveway, brick road, and concrete seawall are encroaching onto State owned property at the Ledford Chapel Boating Access Area in Clay County, NC. Staff conducted site visits with the property owners, defined the area of encroachment via survey, and ordered an appraisal to determine the property value. An appraisal report valued the 0.054 acre encroachment area at \$18,900.00. The McKeon's have accepted this valuation and would like to move forward with resolution of the encroachment.

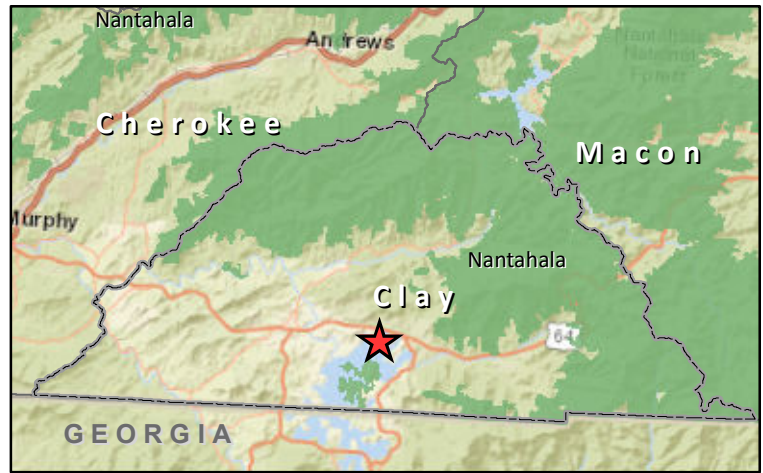
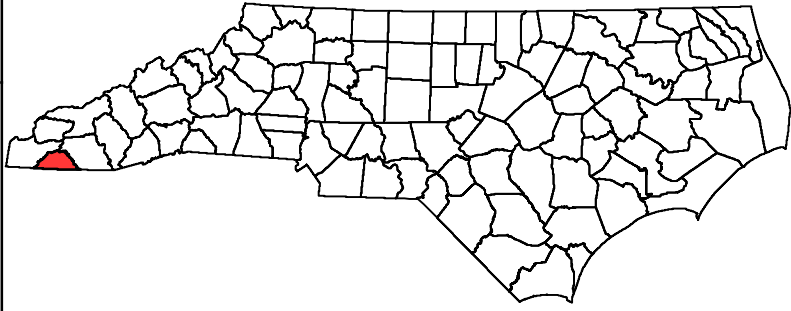
Staff recommend seeking Commission approval to dispose of 0.054 acres to the McKeon family with compensation of \$18,900, as determined by appraisal.

Mailing Address: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission • 1701 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1701

Telephone: 919-707-0010 • [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org)

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**Ledford Chapel Disposition  
Clay County  
0.054 Acres**



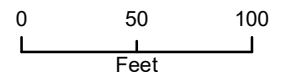
April 20, 2023



Disposition Area, 0.054 ac.



WRC Ledford Chapel Access Area Tract



# EXHIBIT O-3

April 20, 2022



☒ NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ☒

Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

April 20, 2022

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Daron Barnes, Division Chief  
Land and Water Access

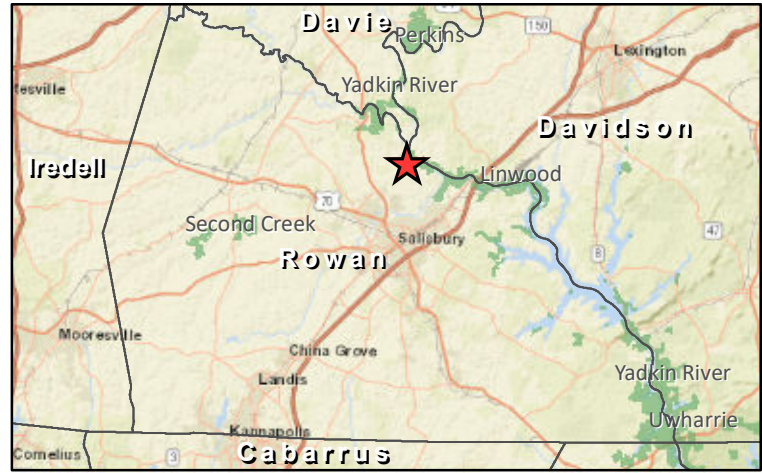
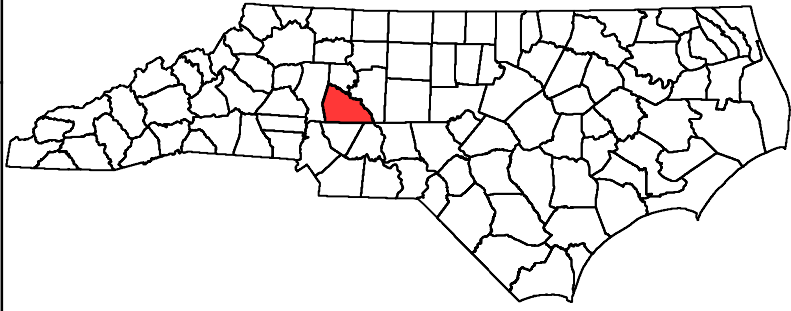
FROM: Ben Solomon, Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager  
Land and Water Access




SUBJECT: DOT Easement Request - Rowan County

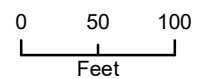
NCDOT seeks to purchase a permanent Right-of-Way for a bridge rerouting project over Deals Creek on Hannah Ferry Road.

Staff recommend seeking Commission approval to grant the disposition of property to NCDOT with compensation to be \$596.80 as determined by the NC State Property Office.

# DOT Right Of Way Request Yadkin River Game Land Rowan County



-  DOT Permanent Right of Way Request, 0.2 ac.
-  DOT ROW And Easements Project Area
-  NCWRC Game Land



April 20, 2023

# EXHIBIT P-1

April 20, 2023



## **Proposed** Regulations Frameworks for 2023–24 Hunting Seasons on Certain Migratory Game Birds

### *Special September Teal Season*

*Outside Dates:* Between September 1 and September 30, an open season on all species of teal may be selected by the following States in areas delineated by State regulations:

*Atlantic Flyway:* Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.

*Hunting Seasons and Daily Bag Limits:* Not to exceed 16 consecutive hunting days in the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Central Flyways. The daily bag limit is 6 teal.

### *Waterfowl*

Atlantic Flyway

Ducks, Mergansers, and Coots

*Outside Dates:* Between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 23) and January 31.

*Hunting Seasons and Duck Limits:* 60 days. The daily bag limit is 6 ducks, including no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which can be female), 2 black ducks, 1 pintail, 1 mottled duck, 1 fulvous whistling duck, 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, 4 sea ducks (including no more than 3 scoters, 3 long-tailed ducks, or 3 eiders and no more than 1 female eider). The season for scaup may be split into 2 segments, with one segment consisting of 40 consecutive days with a 1-scaup daily bag limit, and the second segment consisting of 20 consecutive days with a 2-scaup daily bag limit.

*Closures:* The season on harlequin ducks is closed.

*Merganser Limits:* The daily bag limit of mergansers is 5. In States that include

mergansers in the duck bag limit, the daily limit is the same as the duck bag limit.

*Coot Limits:* The daily bag limit is 15 coots.

*Zoning and Split Seasons:* Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and West Virginia may split their seasons into 3 segments. Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Vermont may select seasons in each of 3 zones; Pennsylvania may select seasons in each of 4 zones; and New York may select seasons in each of 5 zones; and all these States may split their season in each zone into 2 segments. Connecticut, Maryland, North Carolina, and Virginia may select seasons in each of 2 zones; and all these States may split their season in each zone into 3 segments. Connecticut, Maryland, North Carolina, and Virginia must conduct an evaluation of the impacts of zones and splits on hunter dynamics (e.g., hunter numbers, satisfaction) and harvest during the 2021–25 seasons.

#### Scoters, Eiders, and Long-tailed Ducks

A craft under power may be used to shoot and retrieve dead or crippled sea ducks in the Sea Duck Area in the Atlantic Flyway. The Sea Duck Area includes all coastal waters and all waters of rivers and streams seaward from the first upstream bridge in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York; in New Jersey, all coastal waters seaward from the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) Demarcation Lines shown on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Nautical Charts and further described in 33 CFR 80.165, 80.501, 80.502, and 80.503; in any waters of the Atlantic Ocean and in any tidal waters of any bay that are separated by at least 1 mile of open water from any shore, island, and emergent vegetation in South Carolina, and Georgia; and in any waters of the Atlantic Ocean and in any tidal waters of any bay that are separated by at least 800 yards of open water from any shore, island, and emergent vegetation in Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, and Virginia; and provided that any such areas have been described, delineated, and designated as special sea duck hunting areas under the hunting regulations adopted by the respective States. Sea ducks may be taken only during the regular open season for ducks and are part of the regular duck season daily bag (not to exceed 4 total sea ducks and no more than 3 scoters, 3 eiders [one hen eider], and 3 long-tailed ducks) and possession limits.

## Canada Geese

### Special Early Canada Goose Seasons:

A Canada goose season of up to 15 days during September 1–15 may be selected for the Eastern Unit of Maryland. Seasons not to exceed 30 days during September 1–30 may be selected for Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, New Jersey, New York (Long Island Zone only), North Carolina, Rhode Island, and South Carolina. Seasons may not exceed 25 days during September 1–25 in the remainder of the Flyway. Areas open to the hunting of Canada geese must be described, delineated, and designated as such in each State's hunting regulations.

*Daily Bag Limits:* Not to exceed 15 Canada geese.

*Shooting Hours:* One-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except that during any special early Canada goose season, shooting hours may extend to one-half hour after sunset if all other waterfowl seasons are closed in the specific applicable area.

### Regular Canada Goose Seasons

*Season Lengths, Outside Dates, and Limits:* Specific regulations for Canada geese are shown below by State. These seasons may also include white-fronted geese in an aggregate daily bag limit. Unless specified otherwise, seasons may be split into two segments.

### North Carolina

*RP Zone:* An 80-day season may be held between October 1 and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

*Northeast Hunt Unit:* A 30-day season may be held between the Saturday prior to December 25 (December 23) and January 31, with a 2-bird daily bag limit.

### Light Geese

*Season Lengths, Outside Dates, and Limits:* States may select a 107-day season between October 1 and March 10, with a 25-bird daily bag limit and no possession limit. States may split their seasons into three segments.



## Brant

*Season Lengths, Outside Dates, and Limits:* States may select a 30-day season between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 23) and January 31, with a 1-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

## Swans

*General Swan Season:* In portions of the Atlantic Flyway (Delaware, North Carolina, and Virginia) and the Central Flyway (North Dakota, South Dakota [east of the Missouri River], and that portion of Montana in the Central Flyway), an open season for taking a limited number of swans may be selected. Permits will be issued by the States that authorize the take of no more than 1 swan per permit. A second permit may be issued to hunters from unused permits remaining after the first drawing.

Each State choosing a general swan season must evaluate hunter participation, species-specific swan harvest, and hunter compliance in providing measurements of harvested swans for species identification. Each State should use appropriate measures to maximize hunter compliance with the State's program for swan harvest reporting. Each State must achieve a hunter compliance of at least 80 percent in providing species-determinant measurements of harvested swans for species identification. Each State must provide to the Service by June 30 following the swan season, a report detailing hunter participation, species specific swan harvest, and hunter compliance in reporting harvest.

*Tundra Swan Season:* In lieu of a general swan hunting season, states may select a season only for tundra swans. States selecting a season only for tundra swans must obtain harvest and hunter participation data.

These general swan seasons and tundra swan seasons are also subject to the following conditions:

### In the Atlantic Flyway

- The season may be 90 days, between October 1 and January 31.
- In Delaware, no more than 347 permits may be issued.

- In North Carolina, no more than 4,721 permits may be issued.
- In Virginia, no more than 532 permits may be issued.

### ***Common Moorhens and Purple Gallinules***

*Outside Dates:* Between September 1 and January 31 in the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Central Flyways.

*Hunting Seasons and Daily Bag Limits:* Seasons may not exceed 70 days in the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Central Flyways. Seasons may be split into 2 segments. The daily bag limit is 15 common moorhens and purple gallinules, singly or in the aggregate of the two species.

*Zoning:* Seasons may be selected by zones established for duck hunting.

### ***Rails***

*Outside Dates:* States included herein may select seasons between September 1 and January 31 on clapper, king, sora, and Virginia rails.

*Hunting Seasons:* Seasons may not exceed 70 days and may be split into 2 segments.

#### **Daily Bag Limits**

*Clapper and King Rails:* In Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Rhode Island, 10, singly or in the aggregate of the two species. In Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia, 15, singly or in the aggregate of the two species.

*Sora and Virginia Rails:* In the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Central Flyways and the Pacific Flyway portions of Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, and Wyoming, 25 rails, singly or in the aggregate of the two species. The season is closed in the remainder of the Pacific Flyway.

### ***Snipe***

*Outside Dates:* Between September 1 and February 28, except in Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia, where the season must end no later than January 31.

*Hunting Seasons and Daily Bag Limits:* Seasons may not exceed 107 days and may be split into two segments. The daily bag limit is 8 snipe.

*Zoning:* Seasons may be selected by zones established for duck hunting.

### **American Woodcock**

*Outside Dates:* States in the Eastern and Central Management Regions may select hunting seasons between September 13 and January 31.

*Hunting Seasons and Daily Bag Limits:* Seasons may not exceed 45 days in the Eastern and Central Regions. The daily bag limit is 3. Seasons may be split into two segments.

*Zoning:* New Jersey may select seasons in each of two zones. The season in each zone may not exceed 36 days.

### **Doves**

*Outside Dates:* Between September 1 and January 31 in the Eastern Management Unit, and between September 1 and January 15 in the Central and Western Management Units, except as otherwise provided, States may select hunting seasons and daily bag limits as follows:

#### Eastern Management Unit

*Hunting Seasons and Daily Bag Limits:* Not more than 90 days, with a daily bag limit of 15 mourning and white-winged doves in the aggregate.

*Zoning and Split Seasons:* States may select hunting seasons in each of two zones. The season within each zone may be split into not more than three periods. Regulations for bag and possession limits, season length, and shooting hours must be uniform within specific hunting zones.

### **Special Falconry Regulations**

In accordance with 50 CFR 21.29, falconry is a permitted means of taking migratory game birds in any State except for Hawaii. States may select an extended season for taking migratory game birds in accordance with the following:

*Extended Seasons:* For all hunting methods combined, the combined length of the extended season, regular season, and any special or experimental seasons must not exceed 107 days for any species or group of species in a geographical area. Each extended season may be

divided into a maximum of 3 segments.

*Framework Dates:* Seasons must fall between September 1 and March 10.

*Daily Bag Limits:* Falconry daily bag limits for all permitted migratory game birds must not exceed 3 birds, singly or in the aggregate, during extended falconry seasons, any special or experimental seasons, and regular hunting seasons in all States, including those that do not select an extended falconry season.

*Regular Seasons:* General hunting regulations, including seasons and hunting hours, apply to falconry. Regular season bag limits do not apply to falconry. The falconry bag limit is not in addition to gun limits.

## EXHIBIT P-2

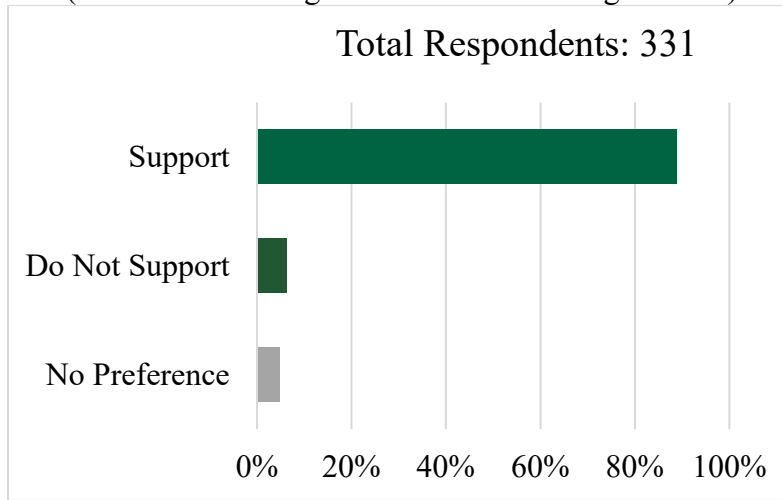


April 20, 2023

### 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons Public Comments

#### Dove Gun Season

(Includes Mourning Dove and White-Winged Dove)



Choices	Responses	
Support	89%	294
Do Not Support	6%	21
No Preference	5%	16
<b>Total</b>		<b>331</b>

Frameworks:

90 days, no more than 3 season segments

Earliest opening date: September 1st

Latest closing date: January 31<sup>st</sup>

*The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:*

September 2nd – September 30th

November 4th – November 25th

December 9th – January 31st.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	12	41	48	20	20	35	13	13	4	72	16	294
Do Not Support	1	7	4	1	3	2	0	0	1	1	1	21
No Preference	0	3	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	5	2	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>331</b>

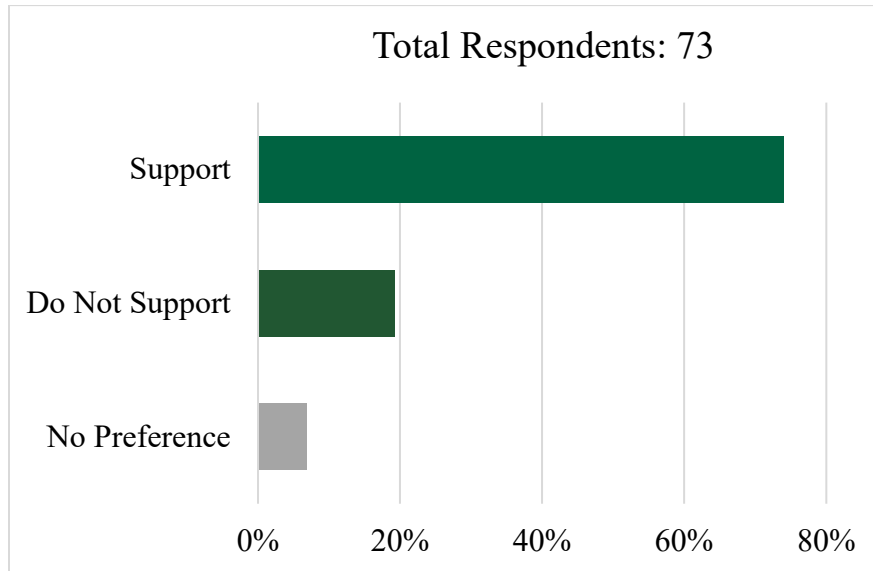
## Dove Gun Season Comments

Number	Comment
1	NCWRC does a great job with doves. I'd love to see more public dove fields.
2	I would prefer days in October to hunt dove, and days when waterfowl seasons are closed. I would support extended the 1st segment to Oct 14th. Second segment from November 18th to January 18th.
3	Might consider a short september then leave it open
4	Take days off the September season and allow the second split to start sooner.
5	Dove season should start 3-4 weeks earlier and run to late September. Those days should be taken from January as there are many fewer birds then
6	I can go with the proposed season dates, however, it would be nice to extend the September season to the first Saturday in October and delay the November split opener a week later. Justification: Seasons in past use to run a little longer into October just as we're starting to get a little cooler. Additionally, both dove and waterfowl November dates would not be exactly the same, thus not conflicting with each other...at least for a week anyway.
7	Why have three seasons? With many different seasons it becomes difficult to keep up with what is open.
8	Would support a longer season with smaller daily limits such as moving from 15 birds per day to 12 birds per day.
9	I support the September Dates. I prefer to reduce the number of hunting days in December and January in order to allow October hunting days.
10	Too much
11	Having Saturday on opening week is great
12	Extending the first segment a week and delaying the opening of the second segment a week is another attractive option since many farmers cut later in September. With the decline in dairy farms there is far less silage cut on opening day than in previous decades, moving the good shooting back a few weeks.
13	Place some of the season in October. Not many folks, if they are a deer or duck hunter too, are chasing dove during duck season
14	Season too long
15	would prefer mid october to end of Nov and season ends Jan 15
16	I think those are a good mix of dates. Can typically be hot for the first segment but the later splits usually still have birds and weather is much better.
17	I would prefer September season be longer until middle to the end of October, and shorten the December season.
18	Start dove season later on in Oct and have it extended into Feb
19	In the early fall, I took a picture on my phone of more than 85 mourning doves on 2 power lines in the same span( midday). No shortage in eastern Ashe County.
20	Please make more of an effort in planting and attracting doves on public fields.
21	Hunting on Sunday
22	Allow hunting on Sundays. I am a faithful Christian. I volunteer in the childrens ministry and lead an adult sunday school class and I want blue laws like this ended.
23	Reduce daily bag limit to 12
24	Incorporate Sunday's...all states around us allow Sunday hunting and it allows youth to get double the days of opportunity in and get into the sport. Shorten the splits or take the time out of the middle split during deer season.
25	Allow hunting only on the Saturday before Labor Day and Labor Day with no limits and allow baiting. Close the season after opening weekend. Also it is stupid to have to use a plug in your gun.
26	I have noticed that early season hunts have produced very young birds. Should we look at starting the season later in the year so these birds can mature?
27	Make 2 segments removing the middle segment. Adding days to early segment.

28	Season should be two weeks sooner than the 2nd of September due to the bird number declining after mid-September and none to hunt.
29	I would like a longer November season, until December 1. Allows for family hunting during Thanksgiving holidays.
30	Like to see middle season cut down by a week or even two and the late season extended by that amount
31	December 9th – January 31st season is the best
32	It seems the dove population is getting smaller. Use to see hundreds in a field. Not anymore. Hope that is not due to over hunting.
33	I would support a reduction in daily bag limit in the first season, as that is when most folks hunt. We didn't see near as many doves the last couple of years.
34	Not enough Dove Fields in the Croatan to support number of hunters. The fields located in the Croatan are poorly maintained and bring in very few doves.
35	Seems reasonable
36	Allow to hunt from November 25th through December 9th also.
37	Opening day should start at 12noon. That would give hunters time to get to the fields like it used to be.
38	I would like to see the first segment go at least one weekend into October like it was a few years ago. Two weekends if possible. First segment is not long enough.
39	I appreciate that dove season is based on when crops are picked in NC. However, over the last 10 years it continues to be hotter in September. I propose moving the start of the season to the middle or even late September.
40	More time
41	Why, oh why, do you want to close the first dove season before October??? The third season is very nearly useless; run the first season through October, the very best month to hunt doves--good weather, migratory birds arriving. I would even support a later opening than Labor Day--it's too hot and the birds are too small.

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Woodcock Gun Season



Choices	Responses	
	Support	74%
Do Not Support	19%	14
No Preference	7%	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>73</b>

Frameworks:

45 days, no more than 2 season segments

Earliest opening date: September 13th

Latest closing date: January 31<sup>st</sup>

*The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:*

December 11th – January 31st.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	4	8	5	7	2	1	5	1	19	2	54
Do Not Support	0	2	1	0	4	0	2	0	2	3	0	14
No Preference	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>73</b>

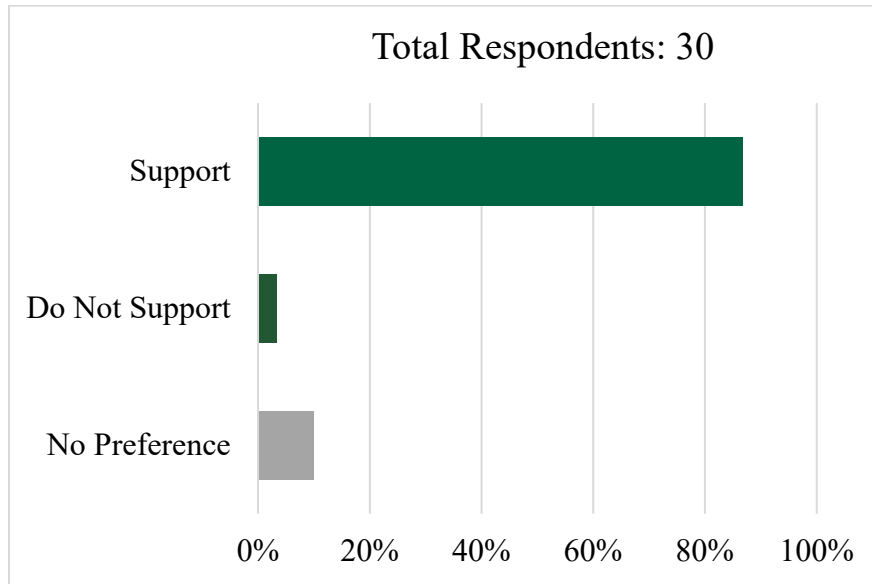


## Woodcock Gun Season Comments

Number	Comment
1	I agree and support.
2	I saw more woodcocks last winter than I saw in 10 years
3	Extended later when we actually have woodcock numbers in NC.
4	Would like it to be the same as Quail.
5	Woodcock season for Feb only. There are more woodcock here during Feb
6	Need to work on habitat for this species.
7	Duck population is getting low in Roberson County only few people put out boxes on the river's not like is was 20 years ago and more hunters going over there limits
8	Extend season to Feb15 and hunting on Sundays
9	Extend until end of Feb.
10	Open in early November
11	December 16th - January 30th would allow Sunday hunting without drastically changing the previous season. This would also remove the possibility of a segmented season as woodcock follow a migration pattern similar to that of ducks. The later the season the (typically) better the numbers. We have the ability to allow Sunday hunting which could possibly add to the possible days a person could hunt.
12	needs to open up earlier and close earlier
13	The season could start earlier. The birds are here, they are still hard to take.
14	I have been hunting Woodcock for 41 years mostly in the western Piedmont. I watched the number of birds/points drop in the early 90's and stopped harvesting birds and only point and flush since. The numbers continued to decline. I hunted mostly the same lands for those years and as bottomland it has largely remained unchanged. My dogs' skills and abilities were consistent. I am left conclude the populations are in decline. I would favor a lower daily bag limit for that reason and collaboration with the nesting regions to assist the species. Thank you.
15	I would like to see the Woodcock season open at least 2 weeks ealier for the reason that the woodcock have already moved in here in Clay/Cherokee Co. Thanks for the concideration.
16	It should be considered that the Mountains section of NC, entail an earlier start date for the Woodcock Gun season. Consider the other states, like Tennessee & West Virginia. I do agree with the bag limit of 3, however, if the NC Resources Division would ever consider an earlier start date, I believe it would increase the revenue & relationship for this great state.
17	start the season later and extend the closing date as the woodcock do not arrive in eastern NC until later in the year.
18	Here in the mountain counties woodcock migrate off the mountain to warmer climates by the time season opens. I would like to see a separate season (earlier) for mountain woodcock.
19	We deserve Sunday hunting. Quit following the orders of the impoundments owners. Start working for average Joe that works 5 days a week.
20	I would like it lasting past Jan 31 because I have a lot of places that can't be hunted until after deer season. Just my opinion
21	The woodcock season should be the same as grouse and quail ending ..February 28

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Snipe Season



Choices	Responses	
	Support	87%
Do Not Support	3%	1
No Preference	10%	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>

**Frameworks:**

107 days, no more than 2 season segments

Earliest opening date: September 1st

Latest closing date: February 28<sup>th</sup>

*The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:*

October 27<sup>th</sup> – February 28<sup>th</sup>.

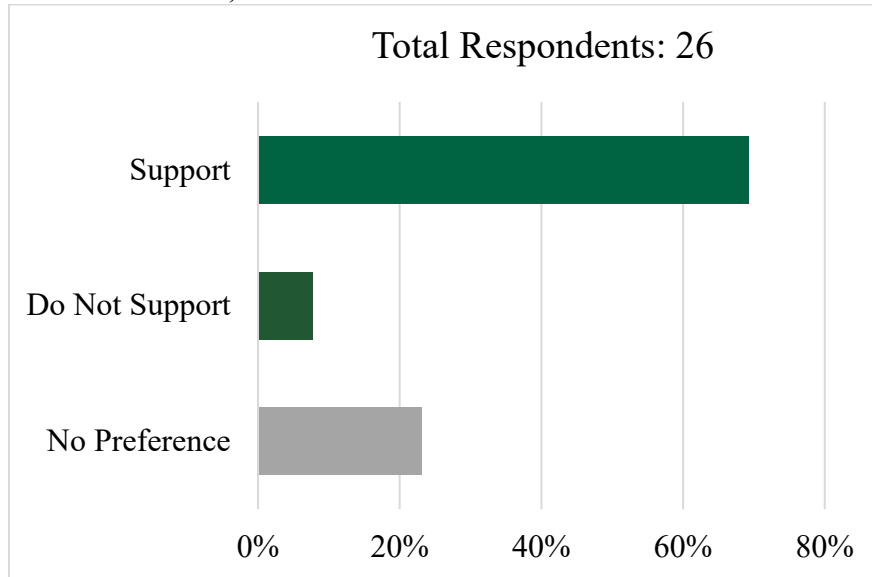
District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	2	5	2	1	1	2	2	2	6	3	26
Do Not Support	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
No Preference	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>30</b>

## Snipe Season Comments

Number	Comment
1	I would like to see an earlier start to the snipe season with an earlier close. Perhaps that of early October. The bulk of snipe I see in the field has always been at the start of the season with a gradual decline further along the season.

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Rails, Gallinules & Moorhens Gun Season



Choices	Responses	
	Support	69%
Do Not Support	8%	2
No Preference	23%	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>26</b>

Frameworks:

70 days, no more than 2 season segments

Earliest opening date: September 1st

Latest closing date: January 31<sup>st</sup>

The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:

September 2nd – November 22nd.

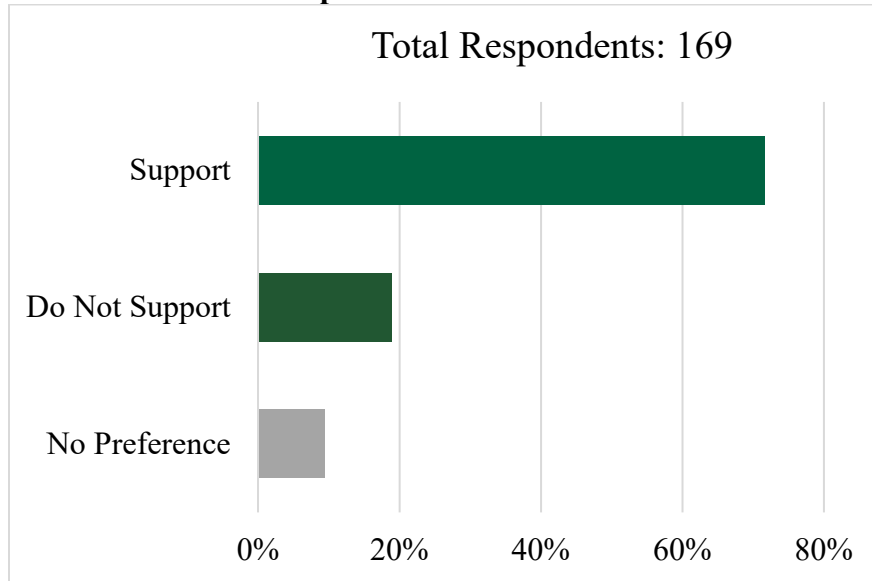
District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	4	1	18
Do Not Support	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
No Preference	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26</b>

### **Rails, Gallinules & Moorhens Gun Season Comments**

Number	Comment
1	It would be nice to hunt rails the full week of Thanksgiving. Using a split would be a potential way to do this.
2	Allowing the maximum hunting days in warmer months with the highest tides is Outstanding!
3	Add Sunday hunting.

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### September Teal Season



Choices	Responses	
	Support	72%
Do Not Support	19%	32
No Preference	9%	16
Total		169

**Frameworks:**

16 consecutive hunting days (East of US Hwy 17 only)

Earliest opening date: September 1st

Latest closing date: September 30<sup>th</sup>

The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:

September 13<sup>th</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>.

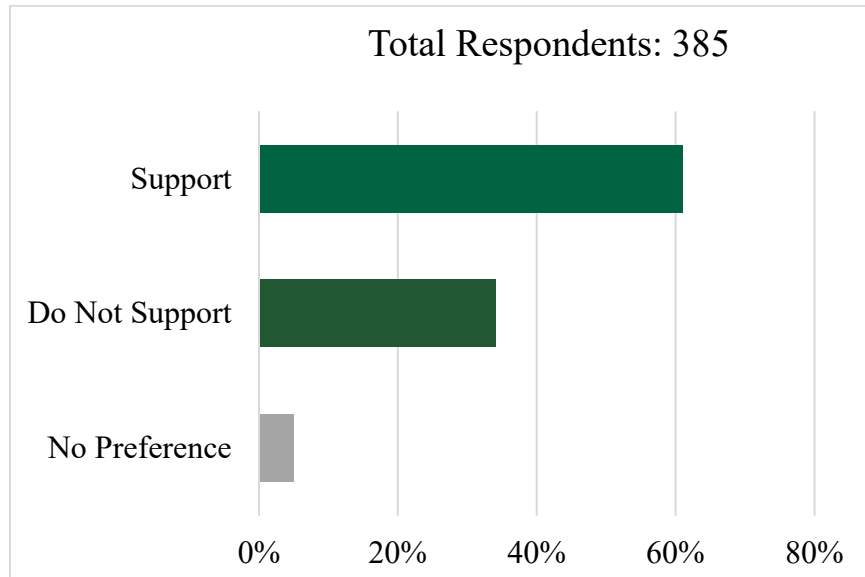
District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	14	27	18	9	3	7	2	4	1	28	8	121
Do Not Support	5	2	4	0	4	3	2	2	0	7	3	32
No Preference	2	4	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	16
Total	21	33	25	10	7	11	4	6	1	39	12	169

## September Teal Season Comments

Number	Comment
1	Unless there is a biological reason we should open up the teal season statewide.
2	Too many non target species taken and WLEO's are not working this much because of being overworked on the water. More officers in the future will help this.
3	Open to east of 95 and west of 17 as well
4	How many actually hunt it ..how many are shot
5	I mostly want to say that I really trust and believe in the work of the NCWRC to set season dates and limits based on solid science and conservation principles. Keep up the good work!
6	Would like to see this extended to the whole state. I see no reason not to. Responsible hunters can identify wood ducks in flight. The rest of the state misses out on opportunity because of this.
7	Beginning sept 4, every Monday and Wednesday, Friday and Saturday for remainder
8	Open the season the entire time allowed- teal are plentiful and this is a great time to take youth hunting.
9	The dates are great
10	Need more time
11	I think opening day should be a Saturday.
12	I would like to this open in the western part of the state
13	Western North Carolina needs a teal season. In September I see more blue wing teal in the mountains then I do at the coast!
14	Saturday 2nd would be a good opening day to maximize the opportunities for this month.
15	I would like to see the season open on a Saturday and not the middle of the week
16	Sept 1 through the 16th. Teal have arrived last 2 years in late august
17	The season should start as early as allowed. The bluewings begin their migration in late August.
18	Start on September the 1st
19	End the Sunday hunting ban for waterfowl.
20	The are no birds here in September use these early days at end of season or add to later dates
21	Expand the zone further west
22	Really should do away with this season all together and add those days in February! On the north eastern hunt zone!!
23	I've found that it's just too early for birds in any numbers to be here that early in the season.
24	Dates are fine just the east of hwy 17 have a issue with harvested first and only blue wing before this rule west of hwy 17
25	Instead of a designated early teal season, can these dates be incorporated later in the year, giving a large portion of the NC Waterfowling Community to utilize a more beneficial portion of the season?
26	Dates should be moved by two weeks. Starting middle of September and running to middle of October.
27	Would like to see at least one week early teal in the inland zone. Being able to identify birds is no different in Sept than late season. We see them often while goose hunting. Virginia offers a non coastal season and it's time NC did the same.
28	Teal season should be statewide even if western is days are shorter. Review Virginias season
29	Allow hunting on sundays
30	I like the Wednesday opener.
31	Would be nice if we could have a full 3 weeks!
32	Why? It is 2 warm to hunt during these date and personally, I feel this is the reason birds are so skidush during the later Coastal season.
33	Merging this special season with the with the rail/marsh hen season affords the hunter the maximum coastal water hunting activities. Outstanding!
34	Why is there Teal Season west us 17. Population of Birds? And over harvesting?

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### General Duck Season – Coastal Zone



Choices	Responses	
Support	61%	235
Do Not Support	34%	131
No Preference	5%	19
Total		385

#### Frameworks:

60 days, no more than 3 season segments

Earliest opening date: September 23rd

Latest closing date: January 31st

#### *The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:*

October 27th – October 28th

November 4th – November 25th

December 18th – January 31st.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	25	47	37	14	15	12	7	5	2	48	23	235
Do Not Support	16	37	21	8	5	5	2	1	0	27	9	131
No Preference	0	3	3	0	1	3	1	0	1	6	1	19
Total	41	87	61	22	21	20	10	6	3	81	33	385



## General Duck Season – Coastal Zone Comments

Number	Comment
1	The NC wildlife needs to start planting the impoundments with real food and getting the eel grass growing back in core sound and Pamlico sounds for ducks so average joes have a chance instead of all the rich lawyers and doctors getting them with the 'natural' impoundments cause i don't care what everyone says there isn't anything natural about a tractor planting corn and then flooding it I would also like a response on why the impoundments aren't planted jdpeelee99@gmail.com 336-706-3371
2	I prefer the old 4 day October season. I would prefer early October 6th and 7th over 27th & 28. If you are going to do 27 & 28, just start the season on November 2nd. I agree with 2nd and 3rd segment.
3	Drop the October season. It's a waste even if you own a swamp.
4	Dump Oct season and add Sundays.
5	I support 60 continuous days as late in the season as can be provided. Our migration is later every year
6	Open Sunday hunting for the people that have jobs during the week.
7	October season is generally unproductive - moving those and as many other hunting days as late in the season as possible would likely provide higher bird density and better overall hunts.
8	Recommend 2 splits Nov 4-25 16 Dec-31 Jan
9	Do not want a long gap in December people with impoundments want no split
10	I'm happy with the breakdown of dates that the season has always been.
11	Splits should start on a Saturday not Monday. Should also end the season in January 27 to allow better hunting for the youth days.
12	Due to global warming I believe ducks migrate later than they did 30 years ago. Eastern NC frequently has few ducks in December and large numbers arriving after the end of January. Seasons should be adjusted accordingly.
13	End the season on the last Saturday in January. Add the 3 days to the 2nd segment.
14	For the last several years ducks have been coming later. Get rid of the October season and two weeks of the November season and add them to the end of the third season so that duck hunting is available through the end of February.
15	First segment earlier
16	One less day in December and one more day in the early session on Thursday would be nice.
17	I would like to see the second split start November 11 and the 3rd split to end on February 6. The reasoning behind this is peak migration for North Carolina isn't until mid February. This also gives us and extra week to shoot scaup.
18	Nov 9-11 Nov 20 - Dec 16 Dec 25 - Jan 31
19	Lengthen first split
20	No Oct season, small late December season then start the main season mid January into the end of February.
21	Strongly support ! Really like the now 3 week split between the 2nd and 3rd season , just please give us a 2 bluebill limit for the entirety of the season
22	I would prefer less break in between the two main seasons and start the main season a week later or so
23	I do not like the last day of the 3rd split falling on a Wednesday. Open that split on 12/15 and end the season on a weekend. That also gives the ducks a break between the general season and the first youth day.
24	I would think the general public would prefer the last split in December to start on a Saturday versus a Monday. To achieve that, I'd recommend closing the season on Jan. 30th (versus the 31st) and adding that day back to the beginning of the December segment to start on Saturday, December 16th. Justification: Most hunters can/want to hunt on a Saturday versus a weekday due to work constraints. I don't think anyone would loose much sleep closing the season a day earlier than the Fed. framework allows since it's in the middle of the week. Additionally, adding that Saturday back in allows for one more Permit Hunt opportunity to the public.
25	Skip October. Add 15&16 December. Missing out on prime cold front time.
26	Would prefer later November open and ending.

27	Bring back the early October dates for the first split!
28	Drop October 27th-28th and November 4th to 10th and extend 3rd segment, to February 6th
29	Why have three seasons? With many different seasons it becomes difficult to keep up with what is open.
30	Keep the season to January 31 with no Sunday hunting and start the season in mid to late November and make it a three day season in October
31	November 4th is too early for opener. Prefer opening Nov 11 and add days after Nov 25
32	The October season should be in the middle of the month around the 10th or 15th like it used to be.
33	Push last week later because of the weather here
34	Start Dec 1 full 60 day season
35	As winters seemingly trend warmer each year, I believe duck seasons should reflect seasons in line with cooler weather, even if it means a shorter season overall. I think they're should be only 2 season splits, 1 in early December, and 1 beginning in mid-january, with the season ending after the first week in February, with the elimination of youth/military days.
36	The October 27-28 season is too short. A two-day season limits the permit hunt opportunities available by 50% compared to a 4-day season. The October season needs to revert to a 3 or 4 day season with 2 permit hunt dates. Alternatively, remove the permit requirements entirely for the October season. Permit hunts are excessively restrictive in that many game lands which formerly were open 3-days per week are now open only 2-days per week. Allowing 3-days per week permit hunting will provide a 50% increase compared to 2-days per week permits allowing greater access to extremely scarce resources.
37	I would request the October season be 1 week earlier in Oct.
38	I would prefer to start the 3rd season on December 16th or 15th and not have an October season.
39	Earlier start for final split
40	push nov season back one week
41	If you stop the season on Nov. 25th, then last season should start Dec. 9th and should carry through to Feb. 3rd. Youth/Veteran days should be Feb. 10th & 17th. We should be able to hunt on Sunday, I don't get many days I'm able to hunt b/c of work. Make it so we can't hunt on Mondays or Wednesdays.
42	Start the November season later by a week or 2.
43	I support the federal framework allowance of a liberal season for mallards with a daily bag increase of 2 to 4. I would also like to see the annual season for blackducks start with the November 4th opening. As the federal framework no longer requires a delayed opening. This will also fall in line with the what Virginia has had in place for the past several seasons. Additional I would like to see the daily bag limit for hooded mergansers increase from the current 2 birds to the full federal allowance of 5 birds. While these are not the most desired bird we harvest there are many days that are saved from a complete failure by the arrival of the hooded merganser. It helps to keep the next generation of waterfowler involved if they can actually have a good harvest. Yes, they are also all consumed and are actually not bad table fare if done right.
44	Seasons need to be later in my opinion here in Currituck we do not see any migration of ducks after November until last week of season just do away with the October season and add on the 2 days to the late season
45	it should be considered adjusting the season to the 1st week in FEB and Sunday hunting should be allowed state wide
46	When the two zones were first proposed, this was positioned as a way to increase hunting opportunities. I do not think it has been successful in this regard. The only real difference is the two weekends in October and it is fairly well know that the duck hunting in our state does not really begin to pick up until later in the season. So, in my opinion, we are wasting 2-3 of our 60 days by hunting in October. I believe we would better realize the stated goal of increased hunting opportunities by using these dates later in the season. The October dates could have been used to give hunters and extra weekend in November or December. Also, I don't think only have 2-3 days that are different supports this goal. It should be at least a week difference between the two zones. However, I don't think a coastal/inland split is conducive to this model. I think it does work better in other states that have a larger north/south geography where the migration arrives at different dates but that does not seem to apply to North Carolina. I believe we have to keep this model for 5 years but at the end of that time I hope we retire it and go with a single, two

	split season. Every year, I hear the same comments from duck hunters. We hunt October and early November but are mostly waiting for colder weather in the later season. I have spoke to one guide personally that does not book hunts on the Pamlico Sound until December. I would propose a 2 split season that includes Sundays that starts later in November and puts more hunting days in the later part of the season. Option 1: 11/14/2023 - 11/26/2023; 12/16/2023 - 1/1/2024 Option 2: 11/21/2023 - 11/26/2023; 12/9/2023 - 1/1/2024
47	Do away with the October season, move the November season back one weekend and shorten the split.
48	Now that Sunday hunting is legal, I would like to see migratory bird hunting allowed on Sundays.
49	Would like to add more days at end of the season and maybe take some away from early season
50	Ending the regular season on any other date other than a Saturday does not seem allow for the best use of the available days allowed. It would make much more sense to open hunting Friday, November 3 and Friday, December 17 to allow more opportunities for waterfowl hunters (still would have to end on Monday, 1/29). If the concern of the advocates for Sunday hunting is to allow more hunting opportunities, which i am strongly opposed to due to increased flyway pressure, it would seem more reasonable to allow for Friday season start dates which coincide with dates most people are more likely to take off of work. Additionally, adding a Friday start as opposed to a Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday end to the season would allow for 2 additional "long weekends" for waterfowlers to utilize a Saturday off from work for more duck hunting opportunities.
51	Shorten November Season to allow for a longer December Season.
52	We do not need that long a split. Start 2 weeks later than nov 4. And have a 1 week split
53	Should not be a 3 week break in the middle of the season. Basically you have started the entire season the last weekend of Oct
54	October season seems pointless
55	The October and November seasons look great. However December 18 is a Monday and January 31 is a Wednesday. I can only duck hunt on thee weekends and that is the same for the majority of the people that I know. NC doesn't allow Sunday hunting. Why can't the season open on December 21 (Thursday) and close on February 3 (Saturday). That would allow everyone to get an extra weekend.
56	December 16- January 30
57	I fully support the end of October waterfowl season and would suggest the second season start date be adjusted to November 11th and ending December 2.
58	Need more in middle, less at end of jan
59	Would like to see season go into February and do away with the early season.
60	I think season should open later in November and come back in earlier in December
61	I would rather take the 2 days in October and add them to December
62	Support although would much prefer shifting seasons later, ultimately extending beyond Jan. 31st
63	I support keeping the season closed as long as possible, i.e. until January 31. I am against having open dates in October/early November and would prefer that there not be a 3-week gap between the first main season segment and the second. The gap used to be only 2 weeks long. Though we can never tell, the chances of foul weather are better in December than in October or early November. As such, I am against the selected dates for the early season.
64	I no longer apply for late season waterfowl permits it to is a waste money.
65	Not allow private impoundments be planted with anything other than millow or millet
66	The November season needs to be on the tail end of the month and go out the middle of December. The late season needs to begin right before Christmas and not go out until the middle to end of February. It doesn't not get cold enough here in November to justify having a long November season. Push it into February because that's when the colder days are usually upon us. Bluebills need to more than one a person, they're the most plentiful bird we see the whole season. They're getting to the point they're thicker than buffleheads around the coastal area.
67	November 11th through Dec 3rd
68	Oct 4-7. Nov 11-dec 2 Dec16- Jan 31. No Sundays
69	Would prefer a single 60 day season starting in november

70	I would like to see seasons go back to what they used to be October 5-7 November 11-December 2 December 16-January 29
71	I think should shorten November split and extend January split
72	scratch the 2 days in Oct, add them on earlier Dec. 16th
73	Again I think you do away with the October dates and add them to the closing date to either go out Feb 10th or Feb 17th.
74	Can we move some days into February? I see more ducks late season than early.
75	Migrations are moving later due to warming. Need to move seasons later. Even into February.
76	Changes this year were a BIG improvement
77	the old October season dates were better. its pointless to have an oct season this close to regular season.
78	We don't need hunt days in October... they are a waste of days, add days to Dec or Jan.
79	Days should be taken off of either the beginning or the end on the third split and added to the first split. Truthfully they should come off the end because by the end of January ducks are starting to pair up for breeding.
80	Here in the ne zone we have better hunting earlier than down the coast farther we see a lot of birds during first half of October and up until Christmas. Usually takes freezing Temps to see much after that. Those early Oct ducks are long gone by Nov so we don't get to take advantage of them. Possibly a northeast zone could be considered. I like the 4 (at least) days in early Oct I don't like 2 Oct days 1 week before reg duck season.
81	Push it back to open mid November and stay open through February.
82	Open the big season in Dec 16th (Saturday) to make it easier for us to hunt opener.
83	I greatly oppose the Sunday hunting ban for waterfowl. It is antiquated and I strongly believe this should be brought up for a vote.
84	move 1 week from november to december
85	The October season is always absolutely shit. Do away with it because NC us too hot in October and add days in December or January. You should be allowed to hunt waterfowl on Sunday's. we are like the only state that doesn't allow it why?
86	Allow Sunday hunting
87	On the coast , we have less teal and I feel it better to add the split season days to the end of regular duck season! We should be able to hunt the regular season from December 15 to February 15! Colder weather and more ducks . I was a guide at off island gun club for 25 years! No ducks to hunt at all till during late season and would be better the later we could make the season! Thank you.
88	Hunt Sunday
89	Allow Sunday Hunting
90	Seems like the cold weather is coming later in the North every year and the ducks are not down in our flyway in big numbers early seasons.
91	Take days from first split and add to either of the next two.
92	I think the October days should be used at the end of the season
93	Extend until end of Feb. Changes in climate have resulted in later migrations not reaching NC until after the season is closed.
94	Rather than start the December segment on Monday 12/18, eliminate the 2 days in October and move them to 12/15 and 12/16.
95	Completely eliminate the October and November seasons and add those days to the end of the third split. Allow migratory bird hunting on Sunday on public land
96	Move Oct. Season dates to December, and push Nov. start day back one weekend to make the split only 2 weeks instead of 3.
97	Would love for the season to end two weeks later
98	Our season needs to be pushed back by a month. There is nobody hunting and no reason to hunt the early October season. I would propose start late November, end late February when hunters have opportunities to hunt colder weather/migrating birds.
99	Do away with the october season and add those dates to the second season. Give at least three weeks between segments.

100	Delete the October hunt dates and add these to the December through January dates.
101	Please extend duck season into early February. If you must keep it at 60 days, please realize early season for swamp hunters with dogs is tough because of snakes and thick vegetation.
102	Season should start later & end later bc the ducks don't show up until February
103	Remove two Oct. days to Nov. season.
104	The November split is too early and then there's a 3 week break between the splits. That's too early for November and too long of a break. Migration is later and later every year it seems. There are no ducks in early November.
105	Waterfowl hunting should be allowed on Sundays.
106	NCWRC, This comment is to address migratory bird hunting on Sundays in the state of North Carolina. In 2023 I find it biased and unfair for the hunting population to be denied the ability to hunt migratory birds on Sundays. Hunters that pay for their licenses and permits while also working jobs during the work week are denied the ability to hunt migratory birds on one of their two free days during the weekend. This presents a restriction of hunting rights that most states have done away with at this point in time. I, and many of my friends, believe that antiquated Blue laws such as this should be abolished for the sake of equity and migratory bird hunting allowed every day during the open season. This should also do away with the short, October waterfowl season as well. I believe that migratory bird season would follow a better framework with removing the October season and a shorter November season to accommodate Sunday hunting throughout the hunting season. I hope you take this matter into consideration and hopefully allow lawful hunters who have spent their money on permits and licenses to exercise their hunting rights on whatever day they choose. Thank You, Vincent Cutino 389 Ribbon Oak Ct Sanford NC
107	Eliminate split 1, start a week later around Nov. 11, and incorporate Sunday's...all states around us allow Sunday hunting and it allows youth to get double the days of opportunity in and get into the sport.
108	Do away with the early seasons and extend the late season until February 31st
109	need to move dates into february when the ducks are actually here
110	Allow hunting on all Sundays of the season
111	Would like to see the season split later and come back in later in january and go through first two weeks in February
112	No sunday hunting Propose "rest areas" for open waters / sounds to help reduce pressure on migratory waterfowl
113	It should be open through February as many seasons, at least in my region, it's not cold enough and see more ducks end of January thru February.
114	Any changes should possibly reduce days for first and second season to increase 3rd season closing date into first week or mid February. Many flocks are showing up in early February.
115	Need longer Oct seanon
116	na
117	I support the current season dates. Matters pertaining to harvest I do not support: 1. Sunday hunting- we need the extra days without sinday hunting to give waterfowlers the most opportunity to catch peak migrations. Additionally, it provides the bird a rest day. 2- The safe hunter law in the coastal counties anyone reading this is familiar with are foolish and counter productive to the motive they suggest as they crowd ethical hunters into the limited (in comparison) public land locations. 3. The harvest of seaducks is out of control- I have complete faith in conservation efforts put forth by all entities. However, I live in the mouth of Adam's creek on the Nuese River and these guys pound them 6 days a week. This is the case from my experience along the entire Atlantic flyway. This has driven a notable change in the birds resting and feeding habits that I have experienced. I'm aware of the difficulty involved in monitoring the Scoter population, but I believe it warrants a closer look into the harvest rate. 4. Make catfish lake impoundment a lottery draw- give the the hunters a chance at a successful hunt and make it safer. Win win. 5. That is all.. thanks for everything you guys do. Btw... Crack down on illegitimate guide services.
118	Need more places to hunt. Impoundments planted
119	Needs to be later
120	I believe every state around us can hunt on Sundays', Why can we not in NC?
121	Please choose the option for 2 scaup available for the last part of the season!

122	Need more than a 2 bird limit of Scaup. We saw hundreds of thousands all year and have for several years
123	January 31st is a bit late because most species of waterfowl is already paired up. I believe this is particularly damaging during the youth seasons. It is more of an issue since the age was extended to 18.
124	Why dont we have Sunday Duck hunting ?We can hunt every other specie om Sunday .. Stop listening to the duck guides about this topic .. I am tired of listening that they need a rest . Why dont yall look after the working man for once ,not the man ho is making money off the ducks .
125	In the area I hunt, it is rare that we have any number of ducks prior to December 1st. For that reason, I would like to see the October and November hunting dates pushed back to late November through January 31st. Thanks!
126	Please push duck season to later dates. It would be nice to hunt into February.
127	Why have the October opener the week before the November opener? That makes no sense. Shoot all the birds out then have an opener the following week? So dumb. Also the October season was always better along the coast when it was earlier in the month. 6-10th? You would catch the tail end of the BWT migration plus any early migrators. Having them back to back weekends is a waste in my opinion. Everyone always wanted to "push back" the season dates, why is the season starting November 4th? Why not push it to November 11th at the EARLIEST? An early october split and a Mid november opener, make more sense. From a travelling point of view, who is going to go back to back weekends? The 4 day October split afforded more chances early and was far enough away from the November split to not affect bird numbers. I DO NOT SUPPORT these early dates. The late season is fine.
128	It's too hot to hunt in October at the coast, the hunters I know would prefer a later start date in November with a consecutive season till the end of January. It's just not cold enough until mid November for any birds to be here
129	I would like to have more hunting days as late in the season as possible. Lets do away with the October season.
130	Move early dates to end of November, December, and January. Counting back from 31 January. Early dates are a waste to hunters. Most species of ducks do not arrive until colder weather up north. Ie, blackheads, redheads, canvasback, pigtails, gadwall and widgeon. Colder weather is key factor.
131	October 5-7, Nov 11-Dec 2, Dec 16-Jan 29
132	October Season Should be earlier and 4 days not 2.
133	Eliminate the first segment and extend the last segment. You could also pull a few days from the early part of the 2nd segment to extend the last segment.
134	The coastal duck season ends too soon. Please start it earlier and end it later.
135	I just don't see the real purpose for having 2 days in late October only to have the season open again a week later. It does provide another Friday/Saturday of hunting compared to simply opening 2 days earlier on November 2nd. I think those coastal hunters that previously enjoyed 4 days of early October "wood duck" hunting would much prefer these 2 days to occur a couple of weeks earlier, not necessarily the first weekend in October where it previously occurred. I know I would. November & December dates are fine.
136	I know I am wasting my time even doing this survey but I will say this again. We hunt more diving ducks on the coast than the rest of the state and they do not show up here in any numbers worth speaking of until after the season is over. So after spending all the time, money, and effort to hunt we get to be no more than bird watchers when they do show up. I will say there are exceptions every once in a great while when we have an unusually early winter but with the way our winters have been recently we end up making a lot of excuses to our hunters and sometimes take them fishing instead of hunting to hopefully help them feel better about the money they spend to come here.
137	Please push the November dates back to mid November start date and ending early December. Starting that split so early in November doesn't allow enough time for birds to arrive with the warm temps over the last several years. The season used to begin later in November and run until 1st Saturday in December. It made more sense this far South.
138	For the last 3 years, I have shot very few ducks until the last two weeks of January. Each year the migration gets later and later. I realize some of this is due to unseasonal warm weather but we have had more "duck hunting days" in the last month than all the other seasons combined. Unless there is an unknown desire by people who set the seasons that we don't shoot many ducks, why can we not delay

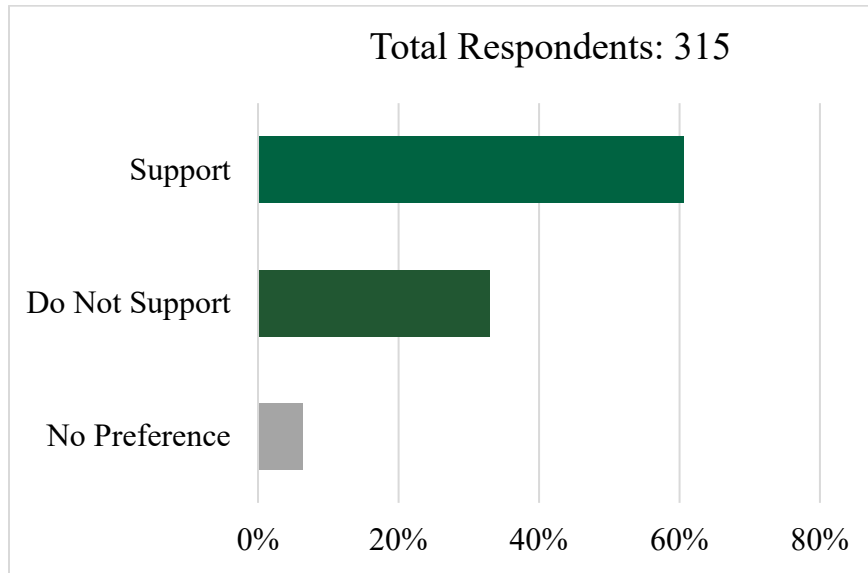
	<p>the starting dates? Teal come early but unless you have a private hunting preserve, divers arrive later and later. Would it hurt to experiment one year? I also have an opinion on baiting. I agree that no one should be allowed to shoot on or over corn, milo, etc. But again, private impoundments can shoot dabblers or pond ducks on and over "natural" grasses. That is bait. I have hunted in a private impoundment with as many as 20 or more hunters. I have seen ducks leave rivers and sounds and come into impoundments by the hundreds. I have been on hunts where a two man limit was harvested in 30 minutes. This is the case day after day because the ducks come into the impoundment to feed. What brings them in? Food. These impoundments kill hundreds and hundreds every season. They also do a lot for conservation of duck populations and I am not criticizing them, just pointing out the differences in advantages. My opinion is that bait should be allowed in open water within 100 yards of a blind. Hunters are doing it anyway and taking the risk of getting caught. Those of us who hunt legally are relegated to fewer and fewer limits. We are allowed to use robo decoys but if someone is baiting, even they are ineffective. Again, my opinion is that game wardens should spend more time on limit control and less on baiting. Thanks for listening.</p>
139	<p>What is the value of in and out so much? Season should come in November 1 and out February 28th. Ducks did not even get here good until mid to late January. We need more time when the ducks are here.</p>
140	<p>I support a 10 day, regular hunting season extension in February. The last several January's have been affected by climate change: calm heat, higher temperatures. The warmth will continue. The birds will sit. Hunters could use the additional days and hope for a few extra cold fronts.</p>
141	<p>The season should be shortened on the beginning and dates added into February. Secondly morning only migratory hunting should be legalized.</p>
142	<p>Support removing the early season for coastal zones and adding extra time to late season.</p>
143	<p>Do away with the October Season and reduce number of days in early November in order to add more days in December.</p>
144	<p>Regular season should not begin until mid January and run through mid February if not into march! Teal season and the October season should be completely excluded and the available days included into the end of the regular season</p>
145	<p>Maybe add black ducks to the list of species we are legally allowed to hunt rather than writing tickets and trying to run a racketeering operation penalizing people for shooting ducks in "duck season" also maybe get qualified DNR that are local and not some yankee agents that won't walk in on you when in a public impoundment while birds are devoting over the spread absolute zero common sense with these guys and will not longer be taking my yearly coastal trip due to the utter hate for a public land waterfowl hunter that is spread with the strong arm of the government...</p>
146	<p>We need our season to extend into February, we have consistently missed the influx of birds into the Pamlico Sound that happens around the last week of Jan.</p>
147	<p>WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO SEE THE EARLY OCTOBER SEASON COME IN ON THURSDAY THE 26TH AND STILL STAY IN UNTIL THE 28TH.</p>
148	<p>Our winters don't start until December or January. The first season should not open until November 4th and have the third season in February. I believe the vast majority of NC hunters and out of state hunters would love to see a later season vs an earlier one.</p>
149	<p>The ducks did not really show up on the coast in significant numbers until the last 2 weeks of the season. The season should in future be moved so as to end by Feb. 15 or so. We have seen the late season arrival for several years now, and this year was the latest arrival in recent memory.</p>
150	<p>These season dates do not make sense for North Carolina. Opening the season so early leaves us destroying local bird ecosystems. The season needs to be moved back a month and extended a month. Dec-Feb seasons.</p>
151	<p>Please open Sunday hunting for waterfowl. For most people, there is not an opportunity to hunt during the week, so Saturday is the only day to hunt. This effectively limits the average person's season while allowing those wealthy or fortunate enough to hunt during the week more days. At this point NC being the only state I know of that doesn't allow waterfowl hunting on Sundays makes no sense. Since NC allows other forms of hunting on Sundays, it makes even less sense. Why are we still tied to that? The fact that it allows an earlier opener doesn't help either. There is no migration at that time.</p>
152	<p>Climate changes are impacting waterfowl migration. With warmer temperatures, waterfowl stay north longer due to open water (temperatures above freezing well into upstate NY) making food sources</p>

	available . This shifts peak season into February. NE NC does not see strong migration until certain species shift diets to invertebrates for egg production. Recommend shifting the entire season to the right to include February and early March.
153	should be a shorter november season maybe 1 week
154	Eliminate the 2 day season, take a week from the second split and add it onto the third split.
155	Season needs to start later and end later
156	Do away with small October season and some or all of November season if need be, and give us a week or 2 into February
157	Please get rid of the October season. It's a waste of time.
158	You should consider delaying the beginning of duck season by 2 weeks and extending it 2 weeks on the end to match current weather patterns.
159	I would like for the season be moved back a month later. November is too early for ducks to migrate to NC. Start season December 1.
160	Remove dates in October, add December 1st and 2nd
161	Move early split to later in the year or to early December. Open up Sundays and start mid split later. Ideally open week before Thanksgiving, 1-2 week break.
162	Do away with the October dates. Start the November season later, start the December season later and push the end date into February
163	Reopen on Sat 12/16/23 not Mon 12/18/23. Most of us only hunt Sat & this current option knocks out a Sat
164	Moving the October season to the end of the month has hurt our harvest. The large number of wood ducks here at the beginning of the month have gone south with the early cold air that comes down during the month. Smaller bags the past two years.
165	I could do without the October season I believe we should add on to the mid season or start late season earlier. I don't feel the need for one day of a early season
166	October 27th – October 28th November 6th – November 25th December 16th – January 31st OR October 28th November 4th – November 25th December 16th – January 31st
167	Remove early season, push opening of later splits back two weeks, extend season two weeks into February.
168	Please stop giving us a hunting season for ducks in December and wait until January then give us January until the end of February. There are very few ducks in NC our winters don't even push the duck down until late January almost at are after the deadline. I've considered saleing my duck hunting equipment due to this. When I was a little boy you could go anywhere near belhaven or leetchville and see thousands in December. Not no more just ask the other hunters.
169	Need a few more days in the first October season; and need JMFutch open for early season.
170	Move one or two weeks of the November season into February. Also the ridiculous blind laws to control public water need to be amended or removed. Pamlico County for starters. Miles of shoreline taken up only to keep public hunters from hunting. I personally witness this and have conformation after the next. I was told this year as well it is done to keep the Raleigh crowd from hunting. Why would you allow 1000 yards taken up by a make shift blind to control public water with said blinds may or may not be hunted from the entire season. I've seen heated arguments take place on the water and it's just a matter of time before one becomes violent. I own land on the Bay River and witnessed this year blinds never hunted but by God you set up anywhere you get harassed. If you aren't in your blind 1 hour before sunrise then you should be allowed to set up in your boat and hunt. Pure politics and abuse of sportsmen's right to hunt public water. Over the years we continue to see a decline in hunters and this only adds to it. If these county laws can't be overruled then make it legal to hunt if no hunter is in those blinds and or legal to stomp their butt in the mud for me minding my own business and hunting to enjoy my life and sport I love so much.
171	I want NC to loose or give up compensatory Sunday no migratory hunting days. Open Sunday hunting



## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### General Duck Season – Inland Zone



Choices	Responses	
Support	61%	191
Do Not Support	33%	104
No Preference	6%	20
<b>Total</b>		<b>315</b>

**Frameworks:**

60 days, no more than 3 season segments

Earliest opening date: September 23rd

Latest closing date: January 31<sup>st</sup>

**The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:**

October 19th – October 21st

November 4th – November 25th

December 19th – January 31st.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	3	10	31	16	23	35	13	8	1	43	8	191
Do Not Support	0	5	24	7	14	15	5	7	2	22	4	105
No Preference	0	2	4	0	3	1	1	1	1	5	1	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>315</b>

## General Duck Season – Inland Zone Comments

Number	Comment
1	We need the three day early season in Western NC. Those three days consistently provide the best wood duck hunts (and for some of us the best duck hunts all year) for the entire year. Once the wood ducks migrate out of this region other birds are very spotty.
2	THE MONTHS PRIOR TO NOVEMBER ARE TOO WARM FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS IN NORTH CAROLINA. THOSE DAYS SHOULD BE ALLOCATED TOWARDS SUNDAY HUNTING AT THE VERY LEAST.
3	Don't need a October season
4	Dump the Oct hunting season and add hunting on Sundays.
5	Support combining all Seasons to one
6	October season is generally unproductive - moving those and as many other hunting days as late in the season as possible would likely provide higher bird density and better overall hunts.
7	I am in favor of this proposal, I would also be in favor of a one day Saturday season in October and shifting the additional two days to Extend the December season earlier.
8	I mostly want to say that I really trust and believe in the work of the NCWRC to set season dates and limits based on solid science and conservation principles. Keep up the good work!
9	Open up Sunday waterfowl hunting!!!!
10	Would like to see the October Season moved back to early October. In the western part of the state most of our wood ducks have left by the end of the month. I do appreciate moving it up one week and I am in support of going back to the 3 day season.
11	Eliminate the October segment and add those days to the December segment.
12	Get rid of 3 days in October and add those days last opener
13	More days late season is preferred.
14	Dec 8,9,10 would be better than the October dates
15	The 22-23 was the worst season I have had in 52 years of duck hunting inland and coastal. Impoundments are definitely privatizing duck hunting.
16	Lengthen first Split
17	Move more days into December and less in early season.
18	Third segment should not open till January 1st
19	I do not like the 2rd split ending on a Wednesday. End that split on a Saturday and put the days on the opening side of the split.
20	Won't effect me mostly because I'm a coastal hunter but I do have a lot of friends that would prefer a 4 day first split as use to be the case.
21	Bring back the early October split!!!
22	Why have three seasons? With many different seasons it becomes difficult to keep up with what is open.
23	The second season needs to be November 11th - December 2nd because most of our migrating birds come through in November. Third season needs to be December 16th - January 31st. Also, why do you start the season on December 19th ???????
24	Recommend early season dates of October 12th - October 14th
25	allow Sunday hunting state wide
26	Most of our duck have gone by Oct 19th
27	I support both the second and third split. The opening split needs to go back to early October for our peak migration during that time.
28	When the two zones were first proposed, this was positioned as a way to increase hunting opportunities. I do not think it has been successful in this regard. The only real difference is the two weekends in October and it is fairly well know that the duck hunting in our state does not really begin to pick up until later in the season. So, in my opinion, we are wasting 2-3 of our 60 days by hunting in October. I believe we would better realize the stated goal of increased hunting opportunities by using these dates later in the season. The October dates could have been used to give hunters and extra weekend in November or December. Also, I don't think only have 2-3 days that are different supports this goal. It should be at least a week difference between the two zones. However, I don't think a coastal/inland split is conducive to

	this model. I think it does work better in other states that have a larger north/south geography where the migration arrives at different dates but that does not seem to apply to North Carolina. I believe we have to keep this model for 5 years but at the end of that time I hope we retire it and go with a single, two split season.
29	Do away with the October season. Move the november start back one week and shorten the split between the two
30	Open the season later, & close the season later in February
31	Only thing I would change about North Carolinas duck season would be to change the Scaup and pintail limit. Pintails obviously I think should have a closed season, and I think the Scaup limit could at least be 2.
32	Split is way too long and the season comes in way too early. 1 week split maximum
33	Opening to early in November need to be a week later
34	I feel more time in December would be nice
35	October season seems like 3 wasted hunting days that could go towards the other 2 seasons
36	I like this change and fully support the dates
37	I would like to see the season go into February and do away with the October season
38	Decrease October to 2 days, or eliminate it . Add days in December
39	Oct season needs to be put back in early October.
40	Eliminate October season and add dates to end of season into February. Most cold weather for migration is in late January early February
41	I believe the inland and coastal seasons need to match to reduce the pressure.
42	I would rather the October days be added to December
43	My asknis to take a week at the beginning of middle split or last split and tack it onto the end of last split. I know it says that 1/31/24 is date range but, year after year in NC, the ducks show up late January into February. Every early December is a wash with sporadic ducks migating through NC and no real "good days" of hunting
44	Season should be later in the year for the inland counties. Weather change happening later in year first 2 seasons are nearly obsolete. Resident ducks are being killed faster than they are able to reproduce. Also suggest lower bag limits every few years in non migratory fly zones.
45	Personally don't care for October split
46	scratch the 2 days in Oct. add to Dec
47	Good evening I feel like you should do away with the October hunt as most birds have not moved down to NC and extend the closing date to either Feb 17th or Feb 24th as more birds would be in our zones of hunting.
48	Can we move days into February? I see more ducks late season than early.
49	I would be more in favor if we could get more Sundays for hunting waterfowl and decreasing the split lengths.
50	I recommend removing a week from early November and adding that to the third segment such that it begins on 12 December vice 19 December.
51	Can the October split, and add it to the December split
52	No preference in days for scheduled seasons, but when I do the math on this, the season is a total of 58 days (excluding sundays). Might be nice to have another day or two in one of the earlier splits.
53	I'd like to look at pushing some part of the season back, we generally get birds much later than we used to. Migrations weren't great until the cold came in towards middle/end of season
54	I am not a fan of the October split. I love every day to hunt, but resident woodies take enough of a pounding during the November season. Please extend the December season for three days
55	The season should start later and end later since it does not really get cold anymore until January...
56	Open first season the way it used to be.
57	Get rid of the 1st segment. Very few ducks are around. Add those days to the 3rd season
58	Let us hunt on Sunday's
59	I feel that in North Carolina our waterfowl season needs to be backed up a month. Birds do not get here (Cabarrus and surrounding areas) until mid-January.
60	Raise the mallard limit.

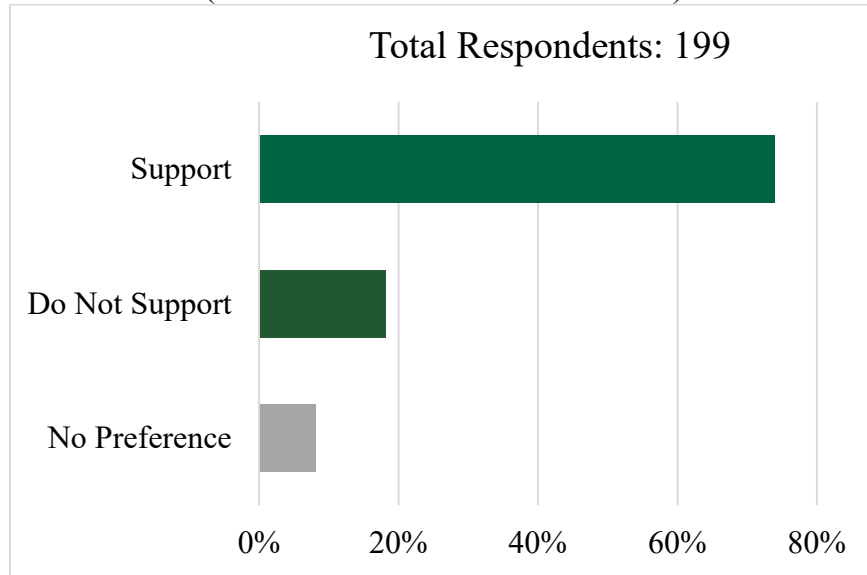
61	Allow Sunday hunting
62	prefer December and January
63	We need to look at a solid season instead of segments due to the lack of adjusting to weather conditions
64	It would be nice to extend the hunting season.
65	Early season dates starting on Oct. 19th is too late. Hunting was much better years ago when you had the early season starting closer to the first week in October. Lakes get drawn down as the Fall progresses and hunting gets worse as lake levels drop
66	Allow Sunday Hunting
67	Again, I realize we do not want to extend beyond January 31st, but it seems the cold weather is coming later every year up North and we are not seeing the number until late in the season.
68	PLEASE consider changing the Mallard daily limit back to 4. I completely understand the intent and want to do my part to ensure we have Waterfowl for generations to come, but a 2 bird limit is hard to justify.
69	Hunting on Sunday
70	Allow hunting on Sundays. I am a faithful Christian. I volunteer in the childrens ministry and lead an adult sunday school class and I want blue laws like this ended.
71	I am concerned about the proposed bag limits on mallards and the enforcement in the inland zone. Rarely do we have migratory mallards in the inland zone. Most mallards are resident ducks. Would the new bag limits apply to the inland duck zone?
72	The season need's to last longer in the year
73	Need to be able to hunt Sundays!!
74	Legalize waterfowl hunting Sundays. People who work a normal Mon-Fri job only get on day to hunt birds a week.
75	High Rock Lake(Yadkin River Chain) Open hunting to 3 days a week. Alternate days between lakes Close shooting time at 2 pm Too many hunters, hunting too much and too late
76	More public land would sure help out
77	I would like to see the first split be a week with days coming from the front end of the second split.
78	I do not really like to hunt birds. But for the one that do like to hunt them that is fine.
79	Please remove the outdated law of no duck hunting on Sundays. This does not force men to stay home with their families or go to church like it was originally intended. It only makes those of us that choose Saturdays with our families not to be able to hunt.
80	Take the three days in October and add to the third split.
81	Add the October days to the end of the season
82	Extend until end of Feb. Climate change has resulted in later migrations that do not reach NC until after the season has closed.
83	Rather than open the December segment on 12/19. Move the October days to 12/15, 12/16, 12/18
84	Completely eliminate November and October seasons add those days to the end of the third split. Allow hunting migratory birds on public land on Sunday.
85	Ducks do not tend to show up enough for good hunting in Oct. and early November. I would like to see it start the 2nd Saturday of Nov. and the split only be 2 weeks between November and December. Also, put the 3 days in Oct. into December season so we only have 2 season segments.
86	Would love for the season to end 2 weeks later
87	Push season back. The quality of hunting for more than a decade now has been terrible in October/early November. Start late November, end late February. Allowing hunting on Sundays like almost every other state. No reason you can fish and hunt other game on Sundays, but not waterfowl. Also the bluebill and mallard limits should increase. The bluebill limit has been 1-2 for long enough now to make a difference. Mallards are more plentiful now in Johnston Co to coast than we have seen in a very long time.
88	Do away with the october season and add those dates to the second season. Give at least three weeks between segments.
89	Delete October days and add to the late season December-January calendar.
90	Please extend duck season into early February. Please realize that early season is tough for swap hunters with dogs because of snakes & thick vegetation.

91	We should start duck season thanksgiving a go into February. The ducks don't show up until later in the year when the weather is colder
92	Move Oct. dates to Nov. season.
93	It starts too early in November. It should start a week later in November and the split should only be 2 weeks. This 3 week split is way too long and the first split begins way too early.
94	Waterfowl hunting should be allowed on Sundays.
95	NCWRC, This comment is to address migratory bird hunting on Sundays in the state of North Carolina. In 2023 I find it biased and unfair for the hunting population to be denied the ability to hunt migratory birds on Sundays. Hunters that pay for their licenses and permits while also working jobs during the work week are denied the ability to hunt migratory birds on one of their two free days during the weekend. This presents a restriction of hunting rights that most states have done away with at this point in time. I, and many of my friends, believe that antiquated Blue laws such as this should be abolished for the sake of equity and migratory bird hunting allowed every day during the open season. This should also do away with the short, October waterfowl season as well. I believe that migratory bird season would follow a better framework with removing the October season and a shorter November season to accommodate Sunday hunting throughout the hunting season. I hope you take this matter into consideration and hopefully allow lawful hunters who have spent their money on permits and licenses to exercise their hunting rights on whatever day they choose. Thank You, Vincent Cutino 389 Ribbon Oak Ct Sanford NC
96	Eliminate split 1, start a week later around Nov. 11, and incorporate Sunday's...all states around us allow Sunday hunting and it allows youth to get double the days of opportunity in and get into the sport.
97	Do away with the early seasons and extend the late season until February 31st
98	Eliminate the October segment and add those days to December segment.
99	Dates should go into February. Migratory birds are not migrating as they used and are migrating later.
100	Would like to see the Nov split opening pushed 1 week later and that week applied to the end of November split. We miss a lot of calendar ducks not hunting week after Thanksgiving like the proposed dates
101	Oct season should be earlier like in previous years. Further the Oct season should be 6-10 days in early Oct taking available days from early Nov.
102	Get rid of the October split there are no migratory birds this far south then.
103	The first segment should be earlier. The last segment should come in earlier. The middle segment should be shorter.
104	The October and November splits need to be reconsidered. Every year the best weeks of the season are towards the end of January when the youth/military weekend take place. I would love to see the October split removed, the November split reduced and the "saved" days added to the end of the January season.
105	the October season should be in the first of the month, for inland hunters more teal are down and have a chance to see more ducks.
106	Please give us back our Thanksgiving week , it's fine if you close season earlier in January , imo January 31 is late as I'm seeing paired up ducks from mid Jan on .
107	A three week split is too long. Please give us at least a couple of days in the week after Thanksgiving. It helps us who have to travel out of state for the holiday. I liked the October hunt better when it was earlier in the month but mainly hate to see the Nov split close on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.
108	October season is almost pointless for hunters in NC. Hardly any ducks have migrated down. Instead of an October season, there should be a February season
109	Propose Oct. 12th - Oct. 14th for early season.
110	Get rid of the early season and add the extra days to the late season.
111	The first split for general duck seas needs to change back to the beginning of October, around Oct. 3,4,5, like it used to be and then at least 3, preferably 4 weeks the second spilt needs to begin. The ducks don't have enough time to come/go like they used to. When the first split season was earlier in the year and the second started around the same time as rifle season(can't remember the date), there were far more birds in the area, or the whole state. Anyone that scouts the lakes in my area All say the same thing, "that every year fewer and fewer birds are here". Hope y'all actually take this in consideration because it's terrible how it is now.

112	Closing date needs to be pushed back due to weather changes.
113	Considering the temperatures from the previous 2-4 years. I would like to discuss and or start a discussion for the generic flyways and or extension of duck season. Including either having the second sector of duck season start the 20th of December and run until March 1. This may be a stretch in regards to preservation however the climate is drastically changing and causing birds of many species to fly later due to many nor eastern wind patterns evolving into the later part of the regular season.
114	I believe the older framework that included the first week of October and the week after Thanksgiving made a lot more sense for our inland NC. Most of the wood ducks are moved out or moving out by late October and the week after Thanksgiving is a heavy migration period.
115	Here in the mountains (far western NC) our best opportunity to harvest bluewing teal and wood ducks are in early October. Please move the first segment back to the earliest October date as possible or consider a special September wood duck/teal season.
116	Third season isn't late enough. Hardly any birds have moved inland by January
117	Push the Season start date and have the end date March 1st
118	Get rid of October season and 2 weeks of November season. Add the days to the end of January into February. Climate change has cause the migration to start later. That's why the youth and military hunts are always good.
119	Why can't we have Sunday included and take away the first split I can only hunt Saturday because of my work schedule every other state around nc hunts on Sunday why can't we do it
120	2 season segments with no early season before Nov. Our season dates create too much pressure.
121	From what I've seen the last 3 years the ducks do not arrive in numbers until after the season ends,,could be climate change but this is Rockingham County, I think the season should go 2 weeks into February.
122	Needs to be moved back for colder temps
123	Start middle of November and run 60 days straight. We miss so many ducks during the 3rd split.
124	Every year it gets colder later. We have 70 degree hunts in October and miss the 32 degree days in February. Season should be pushed back 2 weeks
125	Season needs to be shortened to help build up the Mallard population. We see very few any more on Lake Norman.
126	With the increase in temperatures over the past few years, ducks have been migrating through the Carolina's later than usual. Our hunting season would likely benefit were it moved back some 15-30 days to give time for the birds to travel this far. Each year, we see less and less ducks during the season and start seeing more of them towards the end of the season and on in to February.
127	Would like to see the season stretch into February considering North Carolina's migration doesn't truly begin until January-February.
128	Not a fan of the early October hunts as it isn't typically cold enough and there are few ducks. Also should be able to hunt on Sundays given that most folks work during the week and only have the weekends available to hunt, meaning the only option is to go Saturday during the busiest time of the week.
129	WHY CAN I HUNT ON SUNDAYS IN SC BUT NOT NC???
130	Would prefer the old earlier hunt dates for October split. Also prefer the later Nov opening date and to include hunting for the next full week after Thanksgiving for the inland zone. Many of the calendar birds are passing thru at this time. The early Nov opening doesn't benefit the inland zone and missing that last week definitely hurts us on some of the calendar birds
131	Didn't know where to make this comment, but we need an open season on the commorants. They are a real problem. Thanks for your consideration.
132	Would like to see 4 days back for the early October season. Would like to see limits for wood ducks at 6. There's no shortage of wood ducks in the Atlantic Flyway. Thanks

**2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons**  
**Canada Goose Season – Resident Population Zone**

(Also includes White-Fronted Geese)



Choices	Responses	
	Support	74%
Do Not Support	18%	36
No Preference	8%	16
<b>Total</b>		<b>199</b>

Frameworks:

80 days, no more than 3 season segments

Earliest opening date: October 1st

Closing date: March 10th

*The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:*

October 19th – October 28th

November 4th – November 25th

December 18th – February 10th.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	3	3	2	0	0	1	2	1	4	0	16
Do Not Support	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>

## Canada Goose Season – Resident Population Zone Comments

Number	Comment
1	Extend until the end of February
2	Support with a caveat. Need to increase bag limit on residents
3	I would like to see more days allotted and a higher bag limit.
4	I mostly want to say that I really trust and believe in the work of the NCWRC to set season dates and limits based on solid science and conservation principles. Keep up the good work!
5	This species has become a nuisance bird; seasons should be extended and/or property owners should be given 'livestock' privileges.
6	Would prefer extending season longer in February, since I hardly ever have geese visit my pond until February.
7	What happened to the whole month of September
8	Extend the season into March
9	I believe it should be one continuous season opening on October first and ending last day of March
10	What happened to September? Please give us non Dove hunters the option, even lower limits please.
11	There should be additional days in September or October. These are not stressed species and are approaching pest levels
12	Way over populated
13	I like that it aligns with duck season
14	allow Sunday hunting
15	I would like to see the second split open later and those days tacked on after Feb 10.
16	Open sooner
17	Need more days in december
18	Need to another week in late February to work on resident populations
19	earlier in October, cut off end of January
20	I like the way goose season runs right now
21	Need larger bag limits
22	I will support a law that unwanted geese can be shot at all year long but only killed in the hunt season
23	Also in support of a Goose split through end-Feb
24	Once again I ask that the Sunday hunting ban for waterfowl become open for a vote. It is an antiquated system that greatly limits outdoorsman.
25	Goose season is good. I wouldn't mind extra days in February instead of the October season though.
26	Support Federal guidelines do allow for shooting hours for Canada geese only during the month of September to extend to ½ hour after sunset. In addition to extended shooting hours, federal guidelines also allow the use of unplugged guns and electronic calls for Canada geese only during the month of September.
27	Resident geese are problematic and any extension (even greater than proposed) to the hunting season would be beneficial.
28	I support the later season, running into February. In fact, I would prefer the season to start in November and run through the entire month of February.
29	Need Sunday waterfowl for the working class!!!
30	Let us hunt on Sunday's
31	Why just west of 17?
32	In my region we are seeing more birds (geese) late February. Pushing the season a few weeks into February would be great if it is a possibility. Thank you all for the work you do.
33	The Canada goose population has overfilled its carting capacity here in eastern Ashe County and they have become a nuisance, being no help as I do not shoot, if I do not eat ( Boy I wish we had ruffed grouse back, I'm not sure if the problem is coyotes or turkeys).
34	I oppose. Why are you takin away the early September season?
35	Resident goose season shouldn't during oct-feb

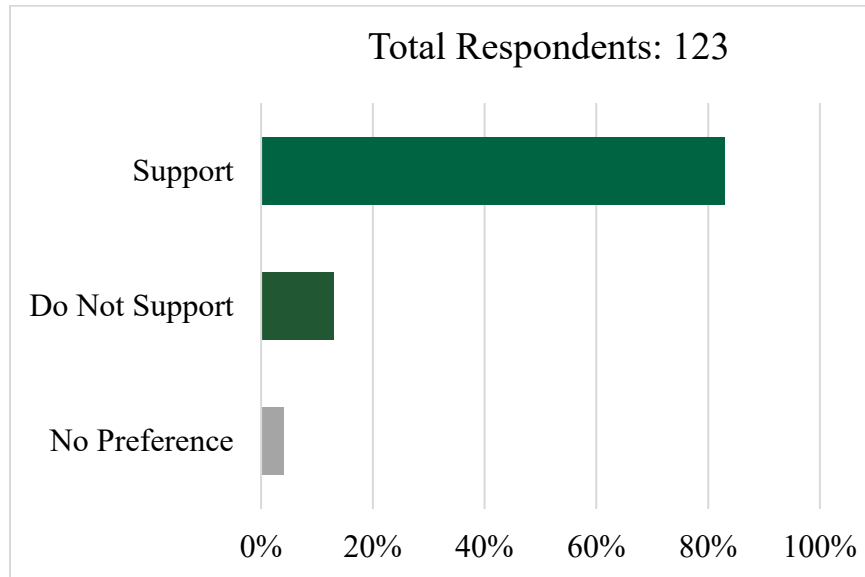


36	Season should be longer.
37	Lower the September resident season limit to 8, with a 7 shell capacity maximum.
38	Allow Sunday hunting
39	prefer end of December - March
40	22-23 was earlier. It would be great for the 23-24 season to be the same.
41	be nice if you could start it earlier and end it later, closer to March 10
42	It would be better to hunt resident geese in late October early November
43	I would prefer to see more later season dates-i.e run the resident goose season to the end of February.
44	Season needs to open sooner and last longer. Geese are becoming too prevalent and numerous.
45	Would like to see the closing date extend into march
46	Canadian goose season should be year round. These birds are a nuisance and do not migrate anymore.
47	Open season along with Doves in September.

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Canada Goose Season – Northeast Hunt Zone

(Also includes White-Fronted Geese)



Choices	Responses	
	Support	83%
Do Not Support	13%	16
No Preference	4%	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>123</b>

Frameworks:

30 days

Earliest opening date: December 23rd

Closing date: January 31<sup>st</sup>

The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:

December 28th – January 31<sup>st</sup>.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	27	12	14	3	4	6	2	2	2	21	9	102
Do Not Support	3	1	5	1	0	0	1	0	0	4	1	16
No Preference	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>123</b>

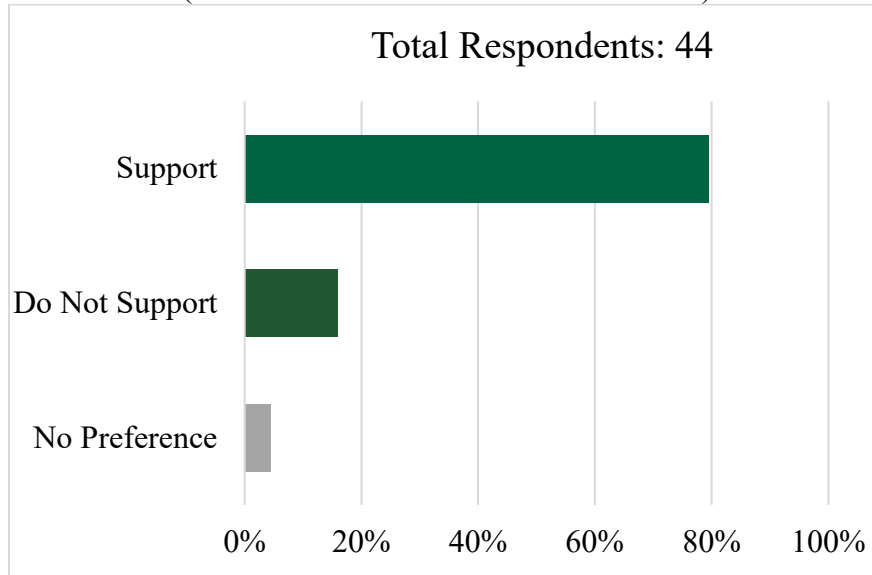
## Canada Goose Season – Northeast Hunt Zone Comments

Number	Comment
1	Glad to see season extended but convinced most of the geese in Hyde are locals
2	Can we open it up for 5 a day bag limit?
3	The September days were useless and no birds were present. Those days should be moved to November-December
4	Open earlier or make the same as statewide. No reason not to.
5	Strongly support the additional time, please increase bag limit to 2 birds per day
6	I vote for the season to parallel the general duck season
7	Starting to see small flocks of Canadian geese on Alligator River. We had two flocks this past season that would come out to Great Shoal from November thru January. My guess would be they were coming from Mill Tail Creek area.
8	I also support the federal framework liberal bag limit increase from 1 to 2 birds daily.
9	split in to 2 seasons 1 early Dec and then Jan
10	Not enough
11	not enough days
12	Should be able to shoot 3 Canadas per person during this season
13	I support the increased bag limit this year as long as the AP harvest can support it.
14	Earlier
15	Canada and White Fronted Goose migrations are occurring earlier than December 23. I would support an earlier season extending until the end of Jan. 2024 and increase limit to 5 per day on. Canada goose without special permit. I do support the survey for logging specie information.
16	Need more days
17	Needs to be longer
18	Season should run concurrent with the tundra swan season and the daily limit should be increased to 3. These birds are destroying winter wheat crops in the Northeastern sector and our farmers are constantly having to patrol their fields and shoot to run them out.
19	Up the limit!!
20	Need larger bag limits.
21	Permits should not be required for the NE zone. Daily limit of (1) and bag limit of (3).
22	Support, the NE closure for years resulted in no improvement in migratory canada numbers
23	Honestly needs to be more than 1 limit per day. there are millions of canadian geese outthere
24	Would like to see it open in November and keep the limit of 1.
25	Need max days and limits, more then enough Canada geese around from what I've seen in the NE NC hunt zone.
26	Bag limit in the Northeast, which I believe is just one goose, should be revisited.
27	Should be open longer.
28	More time and birds.
29	should be open during all duck season

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Light Goose Regular Season

(Includes Snow Geese and Ross's Geese)



Choices	Responses	
	Support	80%
Do Not Support	16%	7
No Preference	5%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>44</b>

Frameworks:

107 days, no more than 3 season segments.

Earliest opening date: October 1st

Closing date: March 10th

The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:

October 10th – February 10th.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	4	4	6	2	3	2	2	3	1	6	2	35
Do Not Support	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	7
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>44</b>

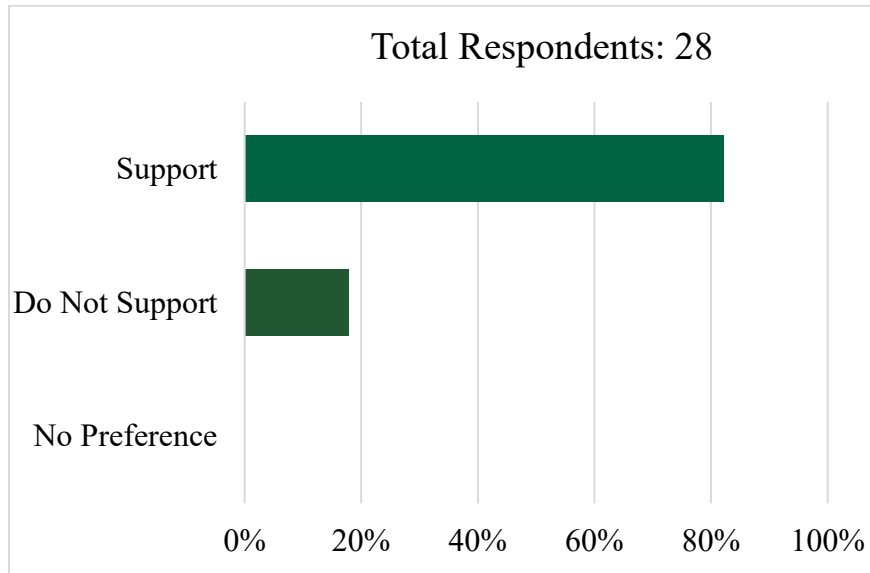
### Light Goose Regular Season Comments

Number	Comment
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1	I'm thinking there is a reason not to extend to March 10th, but if not i would prefer to extend to March 10th and start closest to 107 days would allow.
2	Move the season back further into March since it can run until March 10th.
3	Snow geese aren't even here in October push the season back
4	needs to run to march
5	10-10-23 to 3-10-23 snow geese need heavy hunting pressure. commarants need elimination
6	I think Snow goose season needs to go to March 9th. We always have birds here till the first part of March and likely we always get a cold snap that will keep them around. They have just started moving back up north and they wouldn't have if the warm weather had not been here.

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Brant Season



Choices	Responses	
Support	82%	23
Do Not Support	18%	5
No Preference	0%	0
Total		28

Frameworks:

30 days, no more than 2 season segments

Earliest opening date: September 23rd

Closing date: January 31<sup>st</sup>

The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:

December 28th – January 31st.

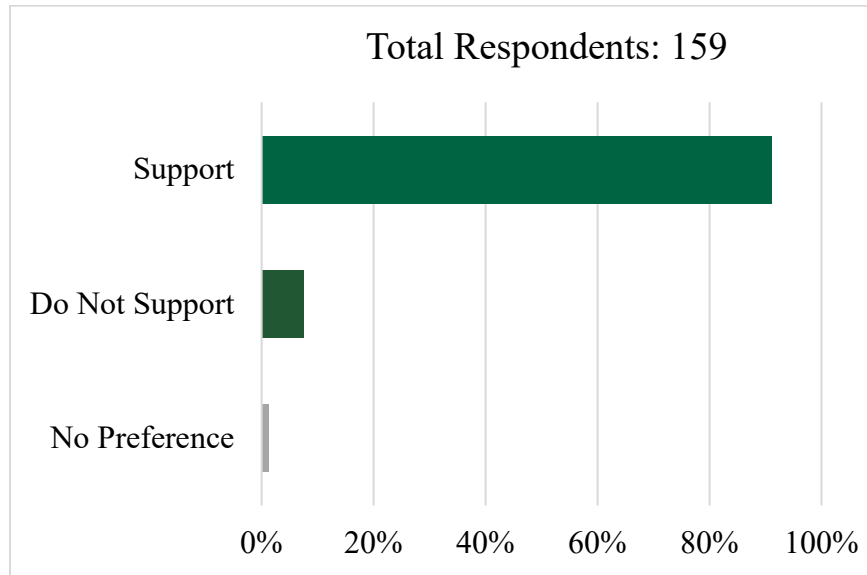
District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	1	3	4	2	0	0	1	1	1	9	1	23
Do Not Support	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3	5	4	2	0	1	1	1	1	9	1	28

### Brant Season Comments

Number	Comment
1	This season should be shorter.
2	Would support a two week season during 2nd split and 3rd split to reduce pressure on birds during one period.
3	Brant sightings have deffently declined
4	I recommend closing the season for at least 1-2 years
5	Would like to see December23-January 26
6	Extend limit to 2 per day

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Tundra Swan Season



Choices	Responses	
	Support	91%
Do Not Support	8%	12
No Preference	1%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>159</b>

Frameworks:

90 days, permit only (4,721 permits)

Earliest opening date: October 1st

Closing date: January 31<sup>st</sup>

The proposed 2023-2024 season dates are:

November 4th – January 31st.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	18	27	20	5	6	12	5	5	3	31	13	145
Do Not Support	3	1	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	2	0	12
No Preference	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>159</b>

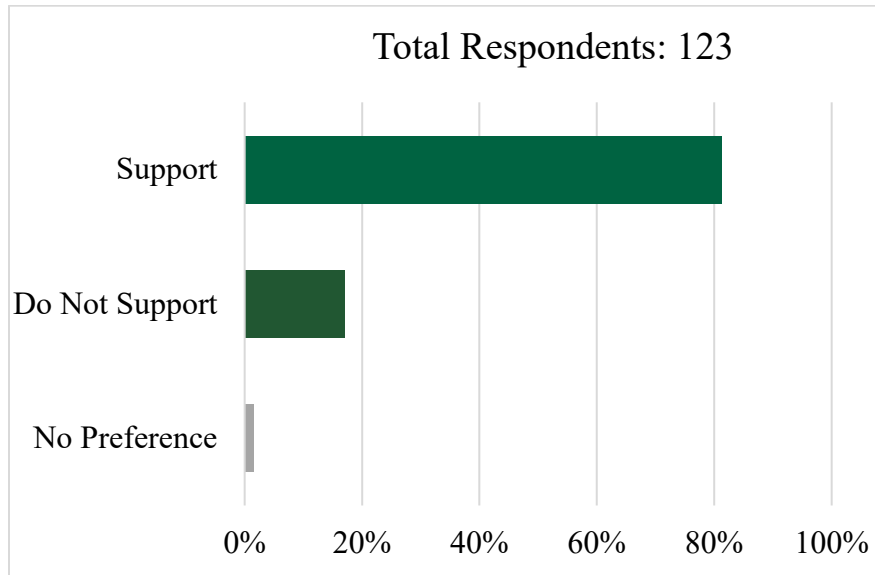


## Tundra Swan Season Comments

Number	Comment
1	I would like to see a few more permits offered.
2	Extend into February
3	Allow Sunday hunting
4	Glad to see the limit remained the same. How do i find out how many permits were used last year?
5	Have a lot of friends and family that are nonresidents Now a nonresident must be fully licensed to waterfowl hunt at swan draw time. This is a big expense and the individual has a good chance of not being drawn. Would like NCWRC to take a look at changing nonresident requirement to be licensed to hunt waterfowl at draw time. Require them to purchase license if drawn or if they don't ineligible for future
6	Dates sound great. I don't know how you could make the dates any more liberal than this.
7	More permits need to be issued.
8	Please add in additional permits for this upcoming season, the swan are plentiful a few hundred additional want cause any harm , bring it back to 5,000 or so
9	Saw good numbers this year on Alligator River (Great Shoal), more than past few years.
10	Allow more tags or support the people that dont kill a bird every yr. I know people that gets a tag every year and kills a bird every year to just throw it away.
11	Need to limit nonresident permits. Increase permits to 6000.
12	What are the numbers to determine 4,721 permits? Can this be issued on a county basis?
13	Even 5000 permits
14	Issue more permits!!
15	Increase the number of tags. I realize you (or someone) does surveys, but my anecdotal evidence from where I hunt in Hyde County shows that numbers are always very plentiful.
16	Increase the number of permits and consider North Carolina residents for first option when choosing the permit award.
17	I think it's awful that those of us with lifetime licenses (40+ years of continuous hunting in NC as a resident and after) get shunned for swan permits but out of state hunters who have never been to NC receive them
18	The permit process needs to be changed. I have not been selected the last 3yrs. When you call to inquire the only answer you get is all the permits were issued there are no more. I know people who get selected every season. It's becoming a waste of \$10.
19	needs to be same as duck season
20	Extend until end of February. It is regulated for a reason. Use your heads.
21	Longer, you already have to have a permit.
22	Early November start dates are essentially fruitless for swan harvest. A start date of Thanksgiving week carrying through February would be more beneficial for hunters and farmers. Swans are still destroying winter wheat in February and their primary migration to the north doesn't start until late February /early March.
23	I know the date range is until 1/31/24 but, move the 90 days further back into February as alot of Swan permit holders duck hunt and then go after their swan.
24	North Carolina citizens should have priority for permits.
25	Y'all need to just open it up to a tag just like for deer, bear, etc. These birds are everywhere
26	The swans flying are so weather dependent on it being cooler more time to allow to hunt is helpful.

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Youth Waterfowl Day(s)



Choices	Responses	
Support	81%	100
Do Not Support	17%	21
No Preference	2%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>123</b>

**Guidelines for selecting Youth Waterfowl Days include:**

1. The day(s) can occur up to 14 days before or after any regular hunting season for ducks, mergansers and coots or in the closed portion between season segments.
2. The day(s) must occur on any non-school day. In North Carolina, this includes Saturdays and any statewide holidays.
3. There can be no more than 2 Youth Waterfowl Days in the Inland duck hunting zone and no more than 2 Youth Waterfowl Days in the Coastal duck hunting zone (4 total Youth Waterfowl Days).
4. Youth waterfowl days can be held concurrently with Veterans/Military Waterfowl Days.

*The proposed 2023-2024 Youth Waterfowl Days in both the Inland Zone and Coastal Zone are:  
February 3rd and February 10th.*

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	9	20	15	7	1	10	1	6	1	28	2	100
Do Not Support	3	4	3	1	3	2	0	0	0	3	2	21
No Preference	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>123</b>

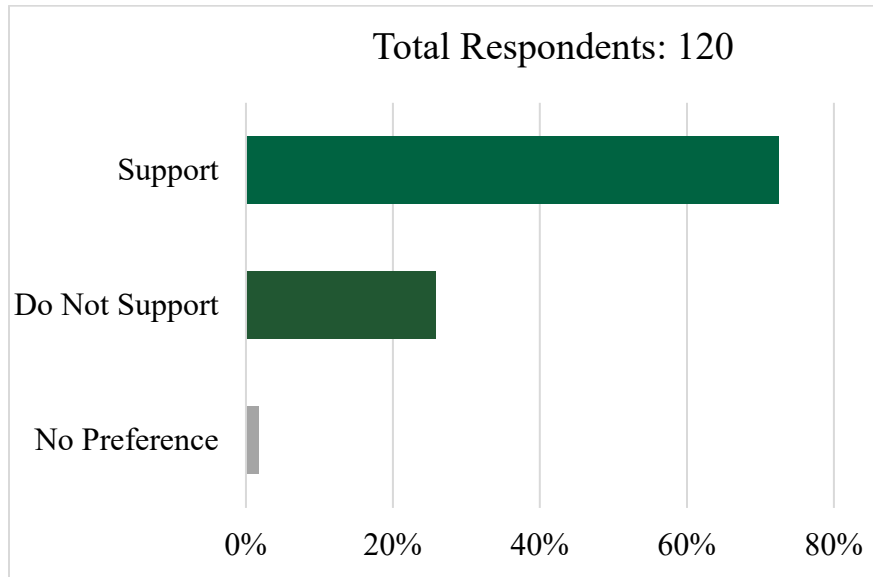
## Youth Waterfowl Day(s) Comments

Number	Comment
1	I would also support youth days before the season or in the splits.
2	There should be no hunting after Feb 1st unless everyone gets to
3	Would be nice to have one of the days before the Oct start
4	I'm happy with keeping the youth days in February. Although it might be worth experimenting with putting one of the youth days in between the Nov/Dec split.
5	Support if regular season ends January 27
6	I love giving youth an early crack at birds and season openers in general.
7	Excellent idea. Maybe should include over 65 years of age at same time.
8	Additional comments made under the veteran/military hunt days.
9	These days need to be earlier in the season. It's wayyyyy too cold for young kids in February.
10	Giving the youth a chance to hunt on days only youth can hunt is a great way to introduce them to the outdoors. We take youth every youth day and the pressure is much lower and they make for great late season hunt opportunities for youth.
11	Support both youth days !
12	I host youths each Saturdays and throughly enjoy it. Have private places to take them now but years past we hunted state impoundments. The problem was the competition with the Veterans as they clearly had the advantages to get the best spots. I support having hunts for them too, however, I'd prefer to see it separate from the youth hunts.
13	Do not support the youth and veteran days combined.
14	Recommend moving 1 day for coastal to match the VA season by doing an early season and late season youth day. Several wood duck boxes were already seen with nests and eggs prior to the final youth day hunt.
15	Split up the youth days between months. Example one Feb 3rd and other 9 December
16	Lots of Ducks and geese have already started pairing. Wood ducks have begun nesting some have started laying eggs by Feb 10th
17	make youth days during the non open portion- killing mated pairs of ducks when hunting that late- there is a reason Feds do not allow season beyond Jan 31- OPPOSE
18	Move to October. They kill the healthiest birds
19	There should be one youth waterfowl day, as described above
20	There should be no hunting in FEBRUARY !!!!!!! Youth days should be somewhere before other seasons open. You do it for Turkey and Deer !!!!!!!
21	Keep you season two children under the age of 16 with no military or veterans involved because they hunt enough as it is
22	Wish they were in December.
23	Give Youth a week at end of season and a day before regular season
24	If an area is a permit area in the regular season, I think it should be a permit area during the Youth season. I took a youth hunting at Butner Depot and we had a large group of military hunters walk in on us screaming and cussing and making threats to shoot over our heads. We had 5 hunters in our group and there were at least 12 of them and the set up right on top of us. During a permit hunt, only 6 hunters would have been allowed in this impoundment.
25	This is a great program to expose youth to hunting. Please continue to offer youth hunting opportunities.
26	I would like to see the youth waterfowl day earlier in the season to give the youth better opportunity at success!
27	I think the youth season dates should fall before February as the weather that time of year is historically too cold for kids. The best way to ruin a child's involvement in waterfowl hunting is to get him/her too cold. Yes, it is a cold weather activity, but there is no need to subject children to undue hardships with alternative date solutions are available. For example, the two Saturdays during the November/December split are available for youth hunters. You could utilize at least one of those dates coupled with one February date to allow maximum benefit to our next generation. Again, we need to

	remain focused on what is best for our kids and putting them in situations that are best suited to their situation is optimal.
28	Do not mix youth and veterans hunt days plus at Pamlico Pt Vets we're camping on the dikes , Not Good 👎 👎
29	I support youth hunts, but one should be in the early season (October) and one should be in February (post-regular season)
30	Not enough
31	I think the youth days should be before the season
32	If that's the best time to hunt. Include the license owners that pay for everything. Do youth day during the split.
33	Need to have between November and December. Going into February is too late and the ducks are pairing up. The same for the military personal
34	Should have one at the beginning and not run season until the middle of February

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Veterans/Military Waterfowl Day(s)



Choices	Responses	
	Support	73%
Do Not Support	26%	31
No Preference	2%	2
Total		120

**Guidelines for selecting Veterans/Military days include:**

1. The day(s) can occur up to 14 days before or after any regular hunting season for ducks, mergansers and coots or in the closed portion between season segments.
2. There can be no more than 2 Veteran/Military Waterfowl days in the Inland duck hunting zone and no more than 2 Veterans/Military Waterfowl Days in the Coastal duck hunting zone (4 total Veterans/Military Waterfowl Days).
3. Veterans/Military Waterfowl Days can be held concurrently with Youth Waterfowl Days.

*The proposed 2023-2024 Veterans/Military Waterfowl Days in both the Inland Zone and Coastal Zone are: February 3rd and February 10th.*

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	9	17	15	4	2	10	1	5	1	18	5	87
Do Not Support	5	7	3	1	3	2	0	0	0	9	1	31
No Preference	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Total	14	25	18	5	5	12	1	5	1	28	6	120

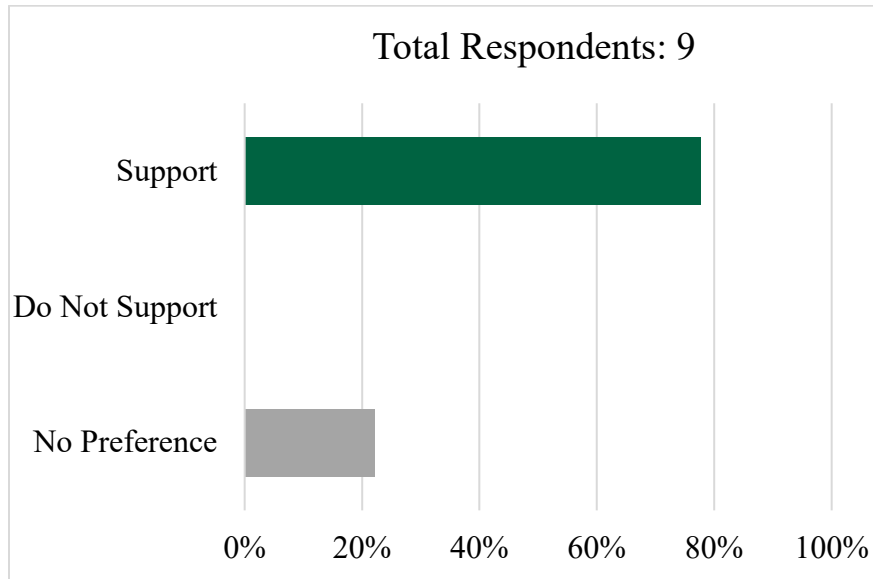
## Veterans/Military Waterfowl Day(s) Comments

Number	Comment
1	I would also support other days not concurrent with youth days.
2	Thank you for continuing this opportunity.
3	Or one in Oct before the season
4	Youth and military days should be separate days. Youth should be given the opportunity to hunt without competing with military personnel.
5	If season ends in January 27
6	I also strongly support special veteran/military days.
7	Excellent idea.
8	With the obvious delay in winter migration, the February veterans/military/youth days have been HIGHLY productive. My recommendation, with zero statistical information available, is to skip the first weekend in February. Establish the 2nd and 3rd Saturdays as Veteran/Military/Youth (Feb 10 and 17 respectively). This allows the waterfowl staging and migrating an additional week pressure free.
9	Could we split the vet days from the youth days? And move the youth days to early season so it is warmer?
10	"Veterans/Military Waterfowl Days" should be allowed for any member in active federal service as well. In September of 2022 President Biden signed legislation into law that changed to coverage of USERRA to include additional members of the population in active uniformed federal service. NC should change the criteria for qualification for this season to allow any member of the population who is an active member of an organization in federal uniformed service to participate. FEMA Reservists and Commissioned Corps of US Public Health as examples.
11	later in the season the better.
12	You should consider a veteran/military turkey hunting day and maybe one for deer too.
13	I believe that first responders should be included in this as well. Firefighter, EMT, and law enforcement
14	I have been checked several times during the veteran's season but never once been asked to show proof that I was a veteran.
15	I support the military days and highly enjoy being able to hunt with my son
16	I'd prefer to see one of the Military / Veteran Waterfowl Days offered in the early segment of the hunting season as opposed to the end of the season.
17	I would like to see the Military days held on different days from the youth days. Make them on a Tue/Wed/Thu the weekdays after the Sat Youth hunts. Youth hunts need to be just that with the focus on the Youth, especially on public land hunts. Military/Veterans are typically going to be older hunters with flexibility in their schedules and would like to have less crowded adult focused hunting opportunities.
18	There should be at least one Saturday post regular season that is YOUTH ONLY, the veterans/military already have the entire regular season and quite honestly don't need any additional days period
19	Please make veteran days not on the youth days to benefit our youth !
20	I think the veteran days should be different than youth days
21	Should not be on same days as youth days or do not open public impoundments to veterans.
22	STOP putting Veterans/Military Days with the youth!!! Give both individual opportunities. Youth days should be for the YOUTH!!!
23	Veterans and youth days need to be separate. No way kids can compete with grown men on public waters.
24	I don't think that the Veterans days should join the youth hunt dates. I appreciate their service but give them other dates like when the season is out during splits.
25	Due to wood duck breeding and eggs being present prior to the final veterans hunt weekend recommend moving 1 day to an earlier season time.
26	Split up between months. We as military don't get many weekends off as some may think, let alone 2 in a row. Make one 3 Feb and other 9 Dec.
27	Lots of ducks and geese have already paired, wood ducks have began building nest and some in the Northeast part of NC have started laying eggs.

28	make Veterans days during the non open portion- killing mated pairs of ducks when hunting that late- there is a reason Feds do not allow season beyond Jan 31- OPPOSE
29	Move to early season
30	Should be a maximum of 1 Veterans Day as described above
31	Why pick this group? There are other men and women who committed their lives to other noble careers, for example educators, firefighters, medical professionals.
32	There should be no waterfowl hunting in FEBRUARY !!!! Have it before season starts and only one day !!
33	Youth season should just be for youth under the age of 16 veterans and military hunt a lot these days because there's not a lot of conflicts in the world so The commission has ruined the spirit of the two days by involving children over the age of 16 and veteran to hunt a lot already
34	Reduce to one day.
35	I'd like to see the Veterans/Military Days be held 1 hunt day before the regular season and 1 hunt day after the regular season
36	I vote for the veteran/ military and youth days to be offered on two Saturdays before the last split. After the season birds can be coupled up and breeding already. Thus potentially lowering the numbers
37	Recommend dates of October 11 and November 4,2023.
38	Push later in month
39	Coastal and inland days should be on separate weekends in February to allow a total of 4 days for youth and veterans
40	They're is no valid reason for having a military hunting date. It should be eliminated.
41	Seriously? Alternatively, how about extra days for old people - we don't have much time left....
42	More days should be allowed for veterans.
43	I am retired military, but I deserve no more preference than any other citizen.

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Extended Falconry Season for Doves



Choices	Responses	
Support	78%	7
Do Not Support	0%	0
No Preference	22%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>9</b>

**Guidelines for extended falconry seasons include:**

1. The season must fall between September 1st and March 10th.
2. Total available falconry days (including gun season) must not exceed 107 days.

*The proposed 2023-2024 extended falconry season dates are:*  
 October 2nd – October 14th.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	7
Do Not Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Preference	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>

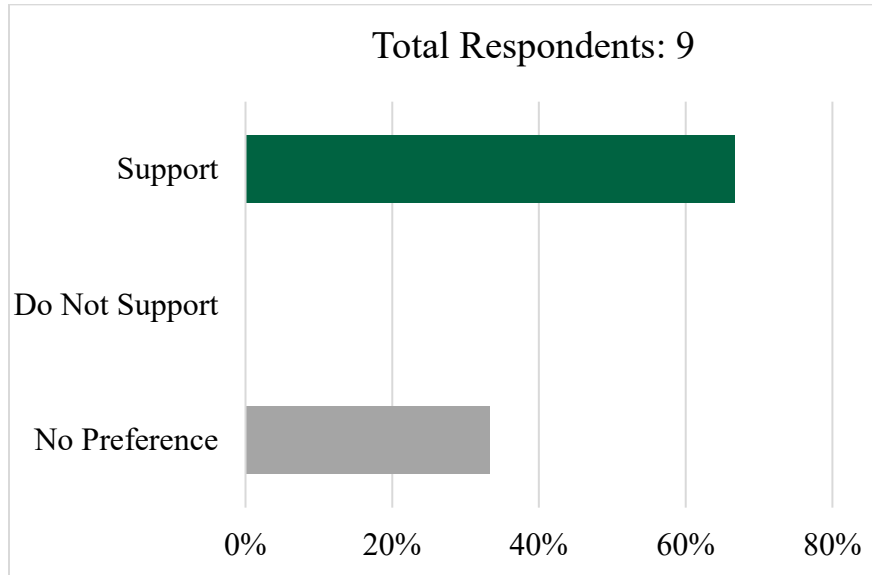
### Extended Falconry Season for Doves Comments

Number	Comment
	There were no public comments.



## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Extended Falconry Season for Woodcocks



Choices	Responses	
Support	67%	6
Do Not Support	0%	0
No Preference	33%	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>9</b>

**Guidelines for extended falconry seasons include:**

1. The season must fall between September 1st and March 10th.
2. Total available falconry days (including gun season) must not exceed 107 days.

*The proposed 2023-2024 extended falconry season dates are:*

December 1st - December 9th

February 3rd - February 24th.

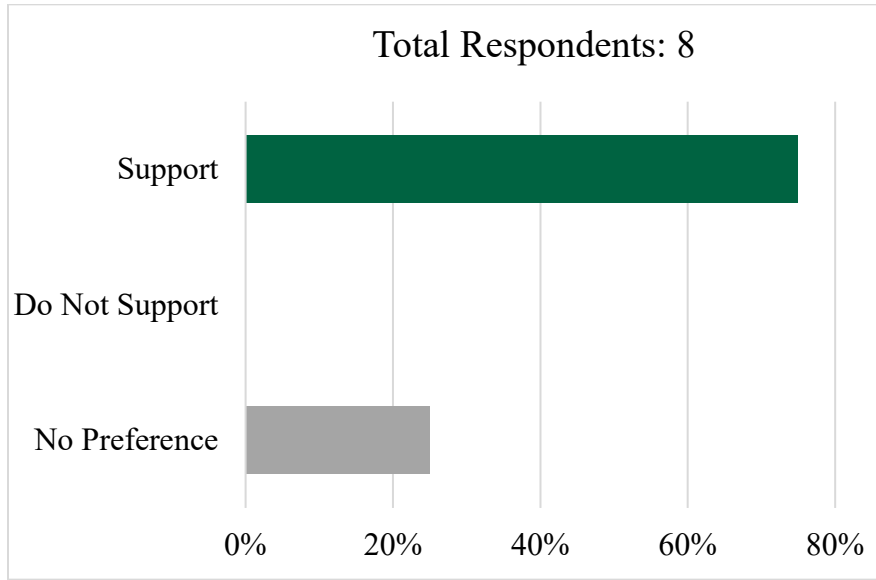
District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	6
Do Not Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Preference	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>

### Extended Falconry Season for Woodcocks Comments

Number	Comment
1	Unsure why it is different the gun woodcock? Does have a later season not affect breeding or migration? I know it's probably a low number that use falconry. Curious mostly as to why it is different

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Extended Falconry Season for Rails, Gallinules & Moorhens



Choices	Responses	
Support	75%	6
Do Not Support	0%	0
No Preference	25%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>8</b>

**Guidelines for extended falconry seasons include:**

1. The season must fall between September 1st and March 10th.
2. Total available falconry days (including gun season) must not exceed 107 days.

*The proposed 2023-2024 extended falconry season dates are:*  
December 9th - January 13th.

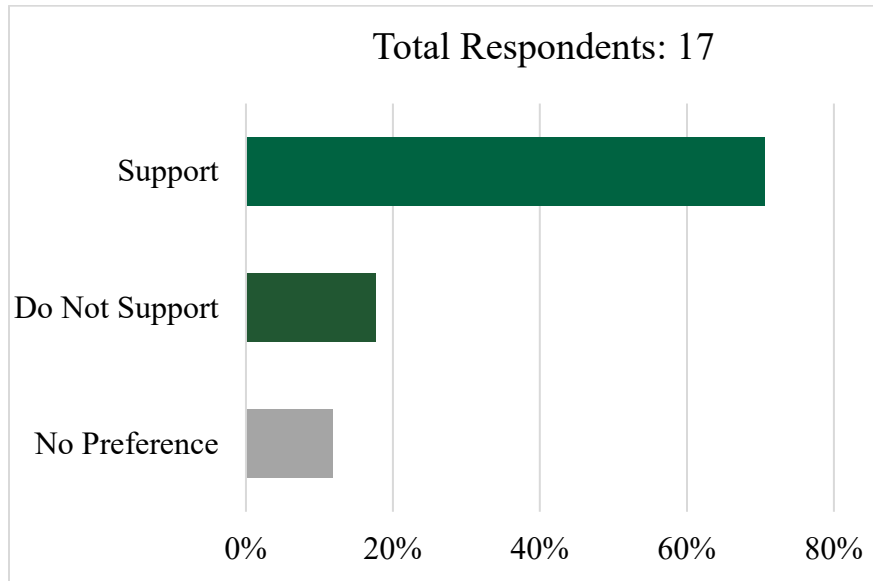
District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	6
Do Not Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Preference	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>

### Extended Falconry Season for Rails, Gallinules & Moorhens Comments

Number	Comment
	There were no public comments.

## 2023-2024 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

### Extended Falconry Season for Ducks – Inland & Coastal Zones



Choices	Responses	
Support	71%	12
Do Not Support	18%	3
No Preference	12%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>17</b>

**Guidelines for extended falconry seasons include:**

1. The season must fall between September 1st and March 10th.
2. Total available falconry days (including gun season) must not exceed 107 days.

*The proposed 2023-2024 extended falconry season dates are:*

October 2nd - October 14th

February 1st - February 10th.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	4	4	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	12
Do Not Support	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
No Preference	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>

### Extended Falconry Season for Ducks – Inland & Coastal Zones Comments

Number	Comment
1	None
2	I do not support falcon hunting for ducks
3	Should not be a falconry season for ducks

## General Comments on Migratory Game Birds

Number	Comment
1	Coincide/coordinate hunting seasons for species that will be migrating through North Carolina at similar times to avoid too many opening and closing dates, thus making it confusing for sportsmen and women.
2	Stop wasting the times on the front end of the season. Look back at migratory historic moves and see that the greater amount of birds are coming late due to weather trends. I like the splits.
3	I'm pretty happy with the way things are set up now.
4	I would like to see the Coastal Duck season 1st segment be Oct 6th and 7th. Also i would like to see more dove hunting days open when duck hunting is closed, like in October and during the December split.
5	Should be Albee to shoot Canada geese in eastern just like western zone
6	Ban unharvested waterfowl impoundments. They have radically changed bird behavior on the coast. Give out some baiting citations in Salter Path and Ocracoke for once. Encourage landowners to go to moist soil impoundments.
7	The proposals seem to be good solutions given federal requirements, waterfowl populations projections, human patterns, changing weather patterns, and other considerations. Thank you.
8	I think there needs to be a consideration of a separate zone. The "Tidal" zone would be Hwy. 17 to the ocean. "Coastal" would be I-95 to Hwy 17. Inland would be I-95 all the way west. The distinction would highlight the very real differences in habitat and the effects that habitat has on waterfowl numbers and hunting pressure in each separate category. For example, parts of Johnston and Wayne county are in the same zone as Hyde, Dare, Currituck, Pamlico and Carteret, even though the two groups are vastly different with regard to habitat and hunting pressure.
9	Allow for hunting on Sunday like the majority of tge rest of the States in the US.
10	Please do something to stop all the houses and subdivisions that are being built on the shoreline which take away places for us to hunt waterfowl.
11	No Sunday hunting
12	I would like to see more projects around the Fort bragg area for duck boxes. I would like to see more access to public land for duck & geese hunting.
13	I mostly want to say that I really trust and believe in the work of the NCWRC to set season dates and limits based on solid science and conservation principles. Keep up the good work!
14	Please open up Sunday waterfowl hunting! Make the mid-season splits longer by removing mid-week days from the season and please let us hunt on Sundays! For most of us who are working, we simply cannot hunt all week. Give us the extra days to get out and enjoy the sport.
15	In support of raising the mallard limit to 4
16	Mallards are very rarely shot on the coast now. Been hunting there for 35+ years and it's been the worst in recent years EXCEPT for those buying and releasing them into private impoundments. Set the limit to 1.
17	Proposed bag limit changes for Mallard have limited impact in the coastal zone, albeit private property and draw impoundments. Further research into waterfowl migration phenology and the delay in winter migration and the advance in spring migration caused by increasing temperatures is needed. This would allow more effective controls for conservation and management. Management strategies and bag limits for scaup and redhead do not seem to coincide with species abundance for the coastal zone. I may be missing key pieces in the research and/or harvest numbers annually, but an increase for the zone seems more plausible for those species rather than mallard.
18	When can we start hunting Sunday's? The guys that have to work all week would love to hunt on Sunday.
19	Proper conservation is needed. Lake Mattamuskeet/Swanquarter/Rose Bay need to be prioritized. I remember hunting there in the 60-70's and they were a good destinations.
20	Duck/goose seasons need to be later and dove season needs to start earlier
21	More days later February is preferable.
22	Edgcombe doesn't seem like it should be in the coastal zone.
23	Increase limits of scaup, and wood ducks. Plenty of them around.
24	Look into raising the limit on blue bill earlier in the season, see thousands of birds, hundreds decoying each hunt, but can only kill 1 until late in season

25	Limit more public impoundments to permit hunts to increase quality. Plant more in impoundments not "moist soil". Sustain boat only access impoundments. Sustain 3 day per week on lakes. Increase bluebill limit to 2 per person per day throughout the season instead of the last couple weeks, this is Eastern NC main diver and it's not worth hunting for 1. Lengthen first split OCT season. Sustain military/vet days.
26	Please work to simplify limits and rules so that others will be inclined to get outdoors. The duck limits are way to complicated and the breaks in seasons further complicate things. This all needs to be simplified!
27	Maintain sea duck limits Please give us a pintail limit of 2 Bluebill limit of 2 (all season) Black duck limit should be 1 Veteran days moved to not on youth day No other changes , thank you
28	Honestly, 3 splits may be a tradition, but skip to what works, look at other states as well, some states don't have splits, migrations have always changed and regulations need to as well. Thank you for the email.
29	Youth and Veterans days should be held during the closed season- NOT after Jan 31. Killing too many mated pairs of birds (since there is virtually no enforcement too many are hunting without being youth or veterans).
30	I wish the zones would go away. I miss early October for the first split.
31	Based on the past 15-20 years of patterns for Blue Bills/Lesser Scaup, I would advocate getting rid of the 1 bluebill season altogether in favor of extending the late season 2 bird limit by 5-7days. I think its too easy to break the early 1 bird limit. If you wish to really protect birds, close it but give hunters a little bit extra at end of season for a legal 2 bird limit. I would be in favor of a similar rule for other species as well.
32	Please make the season, yes, one season that starts and ends. There are many sportsmen who never know if it is open or not.
33	I think there should be only one youth and veterans/military day versus two. Also, I think my comments are futile because I'm sure the Commission has already made up their minds and having this to make comments is to just placate us !!!!!
34	Ducks do not migrate down here like they used to so our seasons truly are a shell of what they were even back in the 80s
35	Hunting on sundays should be allowed like it is in many other American states
36	I am in favor of migratory game bird hunting remaining closed on Sundays. I am in favor of maintaining migratory game bird hunting on Monday through Saturday. I am in favor of maintaining the current framework for duck season dates.
37	Once again please consider having the migratory bird seasons open on Sundays throughout the season. While this does shorten the actual duration of the overall season, for working class families with mostly weekends to pursue our passion it actually doubles the days we can go. Additionally with the younger generation having the tradition of hunting compete against the many other pursuits that often also occur on Saturdays it opens the possibility of joining. At the face value this is a huge deterrent to hunter recruitment with no scientific or economic reason behind its continuation.
38	Please take measures to decrease migratory game bird bag limits to support the increase in populations in general. As part of this request, please maintain the mallard limit at 2 per day or consider decreasing to one a day. I saw a slight increase in the number of mallards during the 2022-23 season and would suggest that your current conservative limits are working - please keep it up! I would also support a decrease in the overall bag limit for both ducks and dove. Our current and next generation of hunters / conservationists will benefit from these minimal changes with little impact to their enjoyment of the sport. I also believe that if implemented correctly, you will increase, or at least maintain, license purchases.
39	It is past time to remove the prohibition against hunting migratory game birds on both private and public lands. There should be no restrictions to Sunday hunting of migratory birds in NC. I am aware of no science based study that supports this prohibition and stated hunting migratory birds on Sunday would be detrimental to game populations. I am aware that many are of the opinion that opening hunting on Sunday would push birds out of the state but again, there does not appear to be any science that supports this opinion. Resources such as Duck Unlimited and Delta Waterfowl have stated that hunting pressure will move ducks around the landscape but it is weather and the availability of food and open water that pushes ducks farther south in their migration. Research being lead by Dr. Bradly Cohen of Tennessee Tech University is indicating that ducks find save havens during the season in response to hunting pressure but may not move out of the area unless forced to by weather. While Sunday hunting is not its focus, the following article provides some insight into how ducks move during the hunting season:

	<p><a href="https://www.themeateater.com/hunt/waterfowl/why-do-you-see-so-many-ducks-after-the-season">https://www.themeateater.com/hunt/waterfowl/why-do-you-see-so-many-ducks-after-the-season</a> The NC Wildlife Resources Commission commission and published a study done a couple of years ago that show that support for waterfowl hunting does exist in NC. Others who oppose it cite religious reasons which should not be a factor in setting wildlife management policy. Other opposition stems from mixed land use concerns from non-hunters. However, a critical look at this concern reveals that it is highly unlikely has with the possible exception of fishermen, other users of public lands will not be frequenting these areas, or using them at all, during the winter months at the times of day that waterfowl hunting typically takes place. Public lands that are currently only open to waterfowl hunting 3 days a week could remain so with some being open Sunday instead of Saturday. Public lands and waterway without a 3 day a week restriction should be open 7 days a week with no restriction. Private lands should also be open 7 days a week with no restrictions. The Wildlife Commission has stated, in other actions, it has a goal of increase hunting opportunities. Many hunter can only hunt in weekends and family and other obligations may prevent them from hunting on Saturday. Allowing unrestricted hunting on Sunday would provide these hunters with more opportunities. I do not believe most hunters will hunt on both Saturday and Sunday so the increase in pressure should not be significant.</p>
40	The limits for mallards and scaup are ridiculous. If the population is hurting that bad, close the season entirely on the Atlantic fly way.
41	Now that Sunday hunting is legal, I would like to see migratory bird hunting on Sunday's/
42	If Sunday hunting is to be allowed in North Carolina, I believe other laws should be passed to limit an additional day, giving the birds a "rest". Being a resident of Virginia, I can speak to many marshes that are overhunted for waterfowl and the number of birds have decreased over the years due to too much pressure.
43	Why such a long split for ducks
44	Hold the limit on mallards at 2. Give the birds a couple more years or you will be cutting the limit and probably the season again in the near future. Whatever caused the decline has not gone away. A 60-day season is too long
45	It would be nice to see nc adapt to Sunday waterfowl hunting. Maybe start out by incorporating it into some of the permit hunts. This would give people that pull a permit hunt the opportunity to get a better hunting opportunity in these hunts if they are coming from opposite sides of the state. It would also potentially be a way to bring non residential hunters to the state to enjoy our water fowl hunting. It's just something that many other states have adopted and it's worked out great for them and I feel it would work great for our state as well
46	Fix the inland and "coastal" divisions. Johnston County is not coastal!!!
47	Would like to see the season come in later and run through February
48	We saw fewer ducks in 2022. We hunt coastal and swamp. Plenty of swans. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.
49	The mallard limits need to go back to 4 mallard daily bag. 3 drakes 1 hen. The mallard species has come back in a big way this past year.
50	Ducks in particular are more prevalent locally when the weather has had a chance to get cold. I think waterfowl hunters would like a later start to the November split. Economic impacts would be positive.
51	Increase Pintail limit from 1 to 2 Daily
52	Get rid of the 3-week gap between the early season and the late season. It used to only be two weeks. Move the opening date for the early season back more to satisfy the USWFS requirements. We all appreciate being able to hunt through the end of January so please do not change that. Thank you!
53	The scalp limit is ridiculous. More of these are seen than any other duck when hunting the coast.
54	Any talk on Sunday hunting in NC for Migratory birds?
55	The states that boarder us are allowed to hunt migratory game on Sunday's, why aren't we? The state opened it up where hunters can hunt deer on Sunday's so what's the difference here. Most of us folks have to work all week then are only granted one day to hunt the species we enjoy hunting which is stupid. We're in the same flyway as these other states and aren't allowed the same rights as them. Some of us aren't fortunate enough to take time off during the week and y'all need to lets us hunt on the days we can.



56	When you put the eastern first and middle seasons so close together it is detrimental to both of those seasons. Totally ruins opening day on second season.
57	Would love to see the request for waterfowl hunting on Sundays proposed again. With the amount of dedication it takes to waterfowl hunt, it isn't easy to do all during the work week. Only allowing most hunters one day (Saturday) limits a lot of chances not just for adult hunters, but also children that want to learn to hunt.
58	No Sunday hunting, it's nice to have one day for the birds to rest and not getting shot at by every hunter with about
59	invasive species of waterbirds need to be drastically reduced if not eliminated. Commarants primarily need to be removed or eliminated
60	Please address the atlantic flyway mallard limit if allowable. Bag limits need to be raised back to 4 mallards/day with no more than 2 hens.
61	Migrations are happening later and later. Seasons need to shift accordingly.
62	I would like to see NE goose zone open in November and keep the 1 per person per day limit than the last 30 days of the season and 2 per person per day.
63	Resident population of Canada Geese in my area (Bertie county) is ridiculous, yet bag limit is just 1 and I have to apply for a special permit to do even that. It has deterred me from hunting them the past 10 years. Shouldn't be that hard to be allowed to hunt this pesky bird, and the effort to do so is hardly warranted for 1 bird.
64	Be able to hunt migratory birds on Sunday. North Carolina is one of the few states that does not allow hunting on Sunday for migratory birds. But you can hunt deer and other game on Sunday. Why not ducks. I have to work Monday thru Friday and the weekend is the only time that I can hunt.
65	I think the state should begin encouraging waterfowl to gather throughout the state by using impoundments in the Western part of the state. In wnc the main source of waterfowl consist of the rivers and small private lakes. it would be beneficial for the state to make waterfowl want to thrive across the state and not only in the coastal region.
66	I much prefer what y'all do to what SCDNR does.
67	Please end the Sunday hunting ban for waterfowl. Atleast open it up for public comment. There was barely any resistance to lessening the Sunday hunting restrictions for all other game and outdoorsmen have greatly appreciated that. The positives to the economy and outdoorsmen would be substatal.
68	Allow hunting on sundays. There is no need to have it closed it just takes days out of the season and sucks for everyone.
69	lower number of daily bag limit for doves
70	Everything looks good, I have seen that we don't need to get to liberal with the limits.
71	A season with only 2 mallards is a waste of time.
72	Allow Sunday hunting
73	Please make the month of February added to our season in the eastern zone! Let youth and veteran hunts come before the general season! GIVE THEM FIRST SHOTS! 👍
74	Allow Sunday Hunting
75	Most of the waterfowl impoundments in the state are poor at best, please put more effort into planting and making sure they have water come season. Thank you
76	Less amount of groups need to be drawn the draw hunt opportunity impoundments in the coastal region. They also need to be monitored more by game wardens. Have ran into several amounts of people hunting these impoundments without permits. Goose creek should be limited to 2 groups per impoundment. For example in number 1 have 2 groups, number 2 have 2 groups, etc. Having such large amounts of people and groups hunting the impoundments causes for hunters hunting on top of each other causing a dangerous hunting environment and doesn't allow for ducks to be hunted properly and educates ducks to be unable to kill.
77	Lower limits
78	The waterfowl do not show up until January and February with the changing of the weather patterns in the past decade. The season needs to extend into February.
79	I am very much in favor of raising the mallard limit back to 4

80	Allow hunting on Sundays. I am a faithful Christian. I volunteer in the childrens ministry and lead an adult sunday school class and I want blue laws like this ended.
81	Manage the Knapp of Reeds impoundment or allow people to volunteer to manage it. The impoundment should remain not permitted.
82	Increase the daily limits on blue bills and scoters. There are plenty of these around. Shift for longer season on third split. Season runs out before most good numbers arrive.
83	We are behind the times. Sunday hunting is allowed in most every other state, especially those that surround NC. Some of us work. And we travel to hunt on the weekends. Sunday hunting should be allowed.
84	Waterfowl hunting should be allowed on Sundays.
85	NCWRC, This comment is to address migratory bird hunting on Sundays in the state of North Carolina. In 2023 I find it biased and unfair for the hunting population to be denied the ability to hunt migratory birds on Sundays. Hunters that pay for their licenses and permits while also working jobs during the work week are denied the ability to hunt migratory birds on one of their two free days during the weekend. This presents a restriction of hunting rights that most states have done away with at this point in time. I, and many of my friends, believe that antiquated Blue laws such as this should be abolished for the sake of equity and migratory bird hunting allowed every day during the open season. This should also do away with the short, October waterfowl season as well. I believe that migratory bird season would follow a better framework with removing the October season and a shorter November season to accommodate Sunday hunting throughout the hunting season. I hope you take this matter into consideration and hopefully allow lawful hunters who have spent their money on permits and licenses to exercise their hunting rights on whatever day they choose. Thank You, Vincent Cutino 389 Ribbon Oak Ct Sanford NC
86	Get more youth into the sport of hunting...for Ducks, Eliminate split 1, start a week later around Nov. 11, and incorporate Sunday's...all states around us allow Sunday hunting and it allows youth to get double the days of opportunity in and get into the sport.
87	Allow baiting for migratory birds. Planting a field and then flooding it to shoot ducks is legal baiting, but only rich people can afford to do it. The poor people have to dump corn in the water and risk going to jail. Makes no sense.
88	Get rid of September teal and October season. Shorten November season by 2 weeks. Add the days to February. Climate change has caused the migration to shift into February.
89	We need to have public Dove fields in Rockingham county, Dan River Gamelands are for everything but Dove,,they plant the fields but fail to cut them before the season and let the deer and turkey have at it,,
90	This state does nothing for hunters that are not in the coastal region. It would be nice to have seasons that would help us in the west have more good hunts.
91	Natural food sources for migrating waterfowl along the outerbanks are no longer (and haven't been for decades) sufficient to support the flyway. Flooded impoundments have forever "altered" the natural migration of ducks and geese along the Atlantic flyway, especially in NC. I have no issue with that but to help restore balance and to provide better for the flyway, perhaps "rest areas" should be established to allow the migrating waterfowl in the coastal zones and the outerbanks areas to find sufficient nurishment while also safe from hunting pressure. There is no difference in draining, planting, and flooding a field versus feeding ducks in open water. None. Enforce the limits but allow the birds equally opportunity to feed in all areas...not just on private lands outside of the traditional flyway. By also establishing rest areas so the birds aren't run out of the area by constant pressure. Currituck County already has some of these but perhaps it should be a state program? Also, allow those willing to financially support the flyway ensuring the continued health of the resource and the overwhelming socioeconomic impacts we all depend on from it. kindest regards,
92	Raising the mallard limit back to 4 is not a good thing. As an avid 30-year duck hunter there is still significant decline in the Atlantic flyway, and as such, the limit should stay at 2 or be reduced to 1.
93	Allow 5 hooded mergansers rather than 2. Federal limit is 5 why won't we be allowed the same.
94	Slide it later—December to March.
95	the one thing you could do is allow Sunday hunting . We can hunt everything but a duck on Sunday . Makes no sense . Stop listening to the duck guides and listen to the working public ! They are making

	money and need a rest because they have been hunting while everyone else is at work trying to make a living . Such BS ! If its the ducks that need a break like they say then make it a Wednesday ! Not one of the 2 days the working man has off . And the revenue would increase down east as well if people hung around Sat night and Sunday !
96	I think the 1 bluebill limit is absurd. Might as well close the season on them. Bluebills are a big part of public land hunters' bag, and it limits their hunts tremendously. I think the Safe hunter laws and licensed blinds in Pamlico, Carteret, Dare, and Currituck are unconstitutional and should be lifted completely. The big money clubs take LEO officers out to hunt and let them shoot all the ducks they want and in return keep average Joe from hunting near there impoundments. It is the most BS law on the books. Just make it an OCCUPIED blind, and I would be ok with it. Its total nonsense. We can fish right there, swim, ride a kayak, but not hunt ducks? Is hunter's safety in jeopardy in all the other counties that don't have those laws? Maybe the safety of the hunters being harassed by the landowners is the only thing in question. Is it public water or not? I know it is a county ordinance, but that makes it even more controversial. To be honest NC Wildlife doesn't enforce that "ordinance", which I think is good. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.
97	Let us hunt Sunday.
98	Don't know if it is global warming or what but it seams like to me that the hunting is better later in the season.
99	With a 60-day duck season, I really just do not see the real purpose/advantage for duck hunting zones. The 2nd and 3rd splits essentially overlap completely and the 2 or 3 days of October hunting in either zone are only a week apart. I know you're only doing what hunters indicated they wanted, but not worth it in my opinion.
100	Season is to early. Take October out and add February.
101	The season should be shortened in the fall and lengthened into February. Migratory bird hunting should be allowed on Sunday mornings.
102	I am not sure where the government is getting their numbers on scaup, but we have seen great populations of them arriving on the NC coast during the last 2 weeks of the season. Having a limit of one or 2 scaup is unnecessary with the numbers that I have observed. The limit should be more akin to a mallard at 4 birds.
103	Birds are not migrating as early as the use to. The season needs to start later and end later into February.
104	What will Mallard Harvest Limit be for 24. I strongly recommend leaving limit 2 Drake mallards and only 1 hen mallard. So we can ensure better waterfowl hunting for the future. So we can focus on habitat and population
105	I believe that the current mallard numbers and trends in the Atlantic Flyway do, indeed, support a liberal bag limit of 4/person, with only two being hens. I believe that this is the correct decision to make for hunters and ducks alike, as it shouldn't negatively impact stable numbers in the flyway.
106	The lowering of bag limits has really discouraged alot of people from hunting this past year. Trips cost too much money to travel to the coast for small bag limits
107	shooting hours should be 1/2 after sunset and a season for cormorants should be opened
108	Yes to increase in daily mallard limit, yes to increase in Canada geese limit in NE hunt zone, also yes to hunting migratory birds including waterfowl on sundays
109	I think NCWRC should consider allowing the hunting of migratory game birds on Sundays.
110	I support the proposed changes.
111	Why is duck hunting on Sunday prohibited? How would that be changed?
112	I would be open to allow Sunday hunting in NC along with extending the last day of the season to shoot 1 hour later in line with other states rules and regulations.
113	It would be better to keep the Mallard limit as it is now of 2 Mallards (only 1 hen Mallard) for this hunting season rather than to raise the limit, then in a year or two decrease the limit back to the current level.
114	I've been hunting migratory birds most of my life and have seen the good and heard all about the good days from the old timers, but there comes a time where you have to face the facts, the birds come later and later each year, and respectfully the two short seasons opened in NC before December should be

	done away with, they are useless. The season should last December through maybe the middle of February maybe all of February in order to maximize hunting opportunities.
115	Would like to see the season moved to be later in January and go into February. Ducks are coming down later and later.
116	As someone who goes to Church on Sundays, I still believe that NC should allow waterfowl hunting on Sunday. I understand that federal law only allows a specific number of days for waterfowl hunting, and suggest that the corresponding number of days to allow for Sunday hunting be removed from the front end of the season. Also if possible the season should go until Mid Feb, and the Youth Military days the 2 weekends after that.
117	I like the proposed changes. Good work
118	We should switch the rest day weekly from Sunday to Wednesday. It's ridiculous that someone who works during the week can't hunt more than one day a week. It's an antiquated tradition that should have changed a long time ago. We'd get the same number of total days and wouldn't have to change anything regarding structure.
119	Why can't we hunt migratory birds on Sundays like other states in the south...
120	Hunting all along the east coast allows hunters the chance to hunt on Sundays. It's been talked about for years now and it's time you guys give us that. Even if it's only till 1 o'clock. It's a lot of driving for those who have wanted to hunt our coastline and only get Saturday to do it. Gives guides chances to make more money and help out our coastal towns and other areas of North Carolina.
121	Does the wildlife commission have any plans to address the overpopulation of Cormorants? The numbers have grown to where they are impacting fishing both at the coast and inland waters.
122	The framework for general duck season both coastal and inland needs to be pushed back one week if not two. I understand this is a federally mandated season framework that each state must abide by. But it doesn't take into consideration the climate shift being later in the season over the last 10 years. Less and less migratory birds have been seen within the legal season due to less harsh climates up north in the primary breeding areas. This is causing birds to migrate later and mostly not making it this far until after the season has ended. The last few years we aren't seeing migrating birds until the last week of the season leaving us to hunt, for the most part, the resident population of waterfowl during the other 56 days. If there is anyway to appeal for a shift to later in the year ie. first week of February. It would be greatly appreciated.
123	Establish a Yellow-Crested Cormorant season.
124	Increased mallard limit I wholeheartedly support based off numbers from the last few years. Teal season for the inland zone, last two years I've seen the most in the last 10 and lots early. Sunday hunting in North Carolina would be greatly appreciated, would rather give the money to NC DNR than other states who allow Sunday hunts.
125	I concur with the restricted limits on migratory duck due to studied reduce populations.
126	We just want to hunt on Sunday's like everyone else. 60 days is 60 days, give us an extra day to the working class.
127	I think the season should go longer into February and start later. Also I think some use of "bait" should be legal as planting for waterfowl is essentially the same thing. Sunday hunting should be permitted too because many people who are employed can only hunt 1 day a week.
128	None
129	cormorants are destroying everything in our lakes due to the high population of them.
130	Raise Pintail Limits and make them Drakes only Harvest.
131	Make duck season come in November and end the first of march
132	Crow season needs to be changed. Wednesday..Friday and Saturday makes no sense. Let us shoot them all week. At the very least give us Thursday so we could make a weekend trip out if it. Why would you protect a bird that is a nuisance. They are turkey egg eaters and turkey nest destroyer and so are the ravens. I understand giving the crows their nesting period off. There arent enough crow hunters to decimate the crow population. The turkeys would benefit and so would the farmers. Crow season should be June 3 through March 3 everyday of the week.

133	I would love to see a September teal season in western North Carolina teal are abundant here at this time but we can't hunt them unlike the eastern part of the state. Would also love to see a 4 mallard limit in western nc I had more opportunity in western North Carolina at mallards than any duck other than buffelhead but there is only a 2 duck limit in our flyway I have heard a 4 mallard limit is being talked about id love to see this!
134	As a bird watcher who travels extensively around the eastern US to find migratory birds of all species, I find it disturbing that hunting of many bird species is still allowed. Bird populations are being decimated by climate change and human development and I believe we need to protect every bird species for what is most likely to come.. more and more birds becoming endangered and extinct. I would urge tighter restrictions and regulations on bird hunting, even if the birds aren't currently endangered. We don't want to wait until that point to do something.
135	Purposed rule changes are satisfactory
136	Please do not allow Sunday hunting on state game lands. Besides needing a day of recovery from 6 days of hunting each week, Sunday are a day when the non-hunting public can enjoy the wildlife on state games lands without fear of being shot
137	FROM DIANE WALLACE, FORSYTH County, North Carolina Resident- Let's protect all migratory birds and retain habitat for trees, plants and animals. It will eventually be too hot to sweat. And once the permafrost thaws past a certain point then the temperature of the Ocean will rise such that the methane hydrate frozen at the bottom of the continental shelves and Ocean will be released then there will be an oxygen poor atmosphere starting above sea level.

# EXHIBIT P-3



April 20, 2023

## 2023-24 Migratory Game Bird Gun Season **Proposed** Frameworks and WMD Staff Recommendations

		Staff Recommendations	
Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Mourning Dove & White-winged dove	Outside Dates: September 1 – January 31; 90 days with 3 segments, daily bag of 15 singly or in the aggregate	September 2 – October 7, November 11 – November 25, December 9 – January 31	15
King & Clapper Rails	Outside Dates: September 1 – January 31; 70 days with 2 segments, daily bag of 15 singly or in the aggregate	September 2 – November 22	15
Sora & Virginia Rails	Outside Dates: September 1 – January 31; 70 days with 2 segments, daily bag of 25 singly or in the aggregate	September 2 – November 22	25
Gallinule & Moorhens	Outside Dates: September 1 – January 31; 70 days with 2 segments, daily bag of 15 singly or in the aggregate	September 2 – November 22	15
Woodcock	Outside Dates: September 13 – January 31; 45 days with 2 segments, daily bag of 3	December 11 – January 31	3
Common Snipe	Outside Dates: September 1 – February 28; 107 days with 2 segments, daily bag of 8	October 27 – February 28	8

Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommendations	
		Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Canada Goose (September season)	<p>Outside Dates: September 1 – 30 (statewide); 30 days, daily bag of 15</p> <p>Special methods: During the September Canada goose season only, the following expanded hunting methods area allowed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Extended shooting hours to ½ hour after sunset.</li> <li>2. unplugged guns</li> <li>3. electronic calls</li> </ol> <p>Note: The special methods are not allowed in areas with another open waterfowl season, e.g., September teal.</p>	<p>September 1 – 30 (statewide)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. extend shooting hours to ½ hour after sunset</li> <li>2. allow use of unplugged guns</li> <li>3. allow use of electronic calls</li> </ol> <p>These expanded methods are <u>only</u> to be allowed west of U.S. 17.</p>	15
September Teal	<p>Outside Dates: September 1 – 30; 16 consecutive days, daily bag of 6, east of U.S. 17 only</p>	<p>September 13 – September 30 (East of U.S. 17 only)</p>	6
General Duck Season	<p>Outside Dates: Saturday nearest September 24 (September 23) – January 31; 2 duck hunting zones with no more than 3 segments in either zone, 60 days &amp; daily bag of 6 ducks in each zone. <u>Species specific bag limits are the same in each zone.</u></p> <p>Includes a total of 6 ducks with no more than 4 total sea ducks [no more than 3 scoters, 3 eiders (1 hen eider), or 3 long-tailed ducks], 4 mallards with no more than 2 hen mallards, 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, 2 black ducks, 1 pintail, 1 mottled duck, and 1 fulvous whistling duck. For scaup, states can choose a 60-day season with a 1-bird daily bag limit, or a “hybrid” season consisting of 40 consecutive days with a 1-bird daily bag limit and 20 consecutive days with a 2-bird daily bag limit. The season on harlequin ducks is closed.</p>	<p><u>Inland Zone:</u> October 19 – October 21, November 4 – November 25, December 19 – January 31</p> <p><u>Coastal Zone:</u> October 27 – October 28 November 4 – November 25, December 18 – January 31</p>	<p>Includes a total of 6 ducks with no more than 4 total sea ducks [no more than 3 scoters, 3 eiders (1 hen eider), or 3 long-tailed ducks], 4 mallards with no more than 2 hen mallards, 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, 2 black ducks, 1 pintail, 1 mottled duck and 1 fulvous whistling duck. Prior to January 9 the scaup bag limit is 1, on January 9 and after it is 2. The season on harlequin ducks is closed. The season on black ducks and mottled ducks is closed until November 18.</p>

Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommendations	
		Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Mergansers	Outside dates: same as general duck season; daily bag of 5 mergansers.	Same as general duck season	5 mergansers no more than 2 hooded mergansers
Coots	Outside dates: same as general duck season; daily bag of 15 coots	Same as general duck season	15 coots
Sea Ducks	Outside Dates: Saturday nearest September 24 (September 23) – January 31; season must coincide with the general duck season, daily bag of 4 total sea ducks with no more than 3 scoters, 3 eiders (no more than 1 hen eider) or 3 long-tailed ducks. The sea duck bag limit counts towards the general duck bag limit of 6 ducks.	October 27 – October 28 November 4 – November 25 December 18 – January 31	4 total sea ducks with no more than 3 scoters, 3 eiders (no more than 1 hen eider) or 3 long-tailed ducks. Sea duck daily bag limits count towards the general duck daily bag limit of 6 ducks.
Canada Geese (Resident Population Zone) – includes Canada Geese and White-fronted geese	Outside Dates: October 1 – March 10; 80 days with 3 segments, daily bag of 5 Canada geese or white-fronted geese singly or in the aggregate	October 19 – October 28, November 4 – November 25, December 18 – February 10	5
Canada Geese (Northeast Hunt Zone) – includes Canada Geese and White-fronted geese	Outside Dates: Saturday prior to December 25 (December 23) – January 31; 30 days, daily bag of 2 Canada geese or white-fronted geese singly or in the aggregate	December 28 – January 31	2



Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommendations	
		Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Brant	Outside Dates: Saturday nearest September 24 (September 23) – January 31; 30 days with 2 segments, daily bag of 1	December 28 – January 31	1
Light Geese (includes snow and Ross's geese) – regular season	Outside Dates: October 1 – March 10; 107 days with 3 segments, daily bag of 25 (no possession limit)	October 10 – February 10	25 (No possession limit)
Light Geese (includes snow and Ross's geese) – Conservation Order season	Outside Dates: Must occur when no other waterfowl season is open, no daily bag, no possession limit; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• electronic calls allowed</li> <li>• unplugged guns allowed</li> <li>• extended shooting hours to ½ hour past sunset allowed</li> </ul>	February 12 – March 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no daily bag limit</li> <li>• no possession limit</li> <li>• electronic calls allowed</li> <li>• unplugged guns allowed</li> <li>• allow shooting to extend to ½ hour past sunset</li> </ul>
Tundra Swan	Outside Dates: October 1 – January 31; 90 days, no segments allowed, 1 per season with valid permit (4,721 permits available)	November 4 – January 31	1 per season with valid permit

Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommendations	
		Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Youth Waterfowl Day(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 youth days allowed in each duck zone.</li> <li>• The day(s) can occur up to 14 days before or after any regular duck season or in the closed portion between season segments.</li> <li>• The day must occur on any non-school day. In North Carolina, this includes Saturdays and any statewide holidays.</li> <li>• States may use their established definition of age for youth hunters. However, youth hunters may not be over the age of 17.</li> </ul>	<u>Inland Zone:</u> February 3 & February 10  <u>Coastal Zone:</u> February 3 & February 10	Includes ducks, geese, brant, tundra swans, mergansers and coots (in each zone). Must have a valid permit if hunting tundra swans.
Veterans/Military Waterfowl Day(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 veterans/military days allowed in each duck zone.</li> <li>• Includes veterans and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including National Guard and Reserves on active duty (other than for training).</li> <li>• The day(s) can occur up to 14 days before or after any regular duck season or in the closed portion between season segments.</li> <li>• Can be held concurrently with the Youth Waterfowl Day(s).</li> </ul>	<u>Inland Zone:</u> February 3 & February 10  <u>Coastal Zone:</u> February 3 & February 10	Includes ducks, geese, brant, tundra swans, mergansers and coots (in each zone). Must have a valid permit if hunting tundra swans.

- Federal guidelines allow for shooting hours for all migratory game birds to be from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.
- Possession limit is three times the daily bag for all species.

# EXHIBIT P-4

April 20, 2023

## Extended Falconry Season Highlights & WMD Staff Recommendations for 2023-24 Extended Falconry Seasons for Migratory Game Bird Species

### General Restrictions/Guidelines

- Seasons must fall between September 1 and March 10
- Total days available for falconry cannot exceed 107 (for each species) and includes regular, i.e., gun seasons, experimental seasons and extended falconry seasons
- The falconry daily bag limit is 3 permitted migratory game birds, singly or in the aggregate. The regular, i.e., gun season bag limits for individual species do not apply.
- Each extended season may be divided into a maximum of 3 segments
- The falconry bag limit is not in addition to the gun bag limit

### WMD Staff Recommendations

If the Commission chooses staff recommended “gun” seasons as presented, we recommend the following extended falconry seasons.

Mourning dove/White-winged dove	<b>October 9 – October 21</b>
Rails, Gallinule and Moorhens	<b>December 9 – January 13</b>
Woodcock	<b>December 1 – December 9 and February 3 – February 24</b>
Ducks, mergansers and coots	<b>October 2 – October 14 and February 1 – February 10</b>

# EXHIBIT Q

April 20, 2023



## **Staff Recommendations to Allow Take of Migrant Peregrine Falcons From the Wild for Use in Falconry - 2023**

The Atlantic, Mississippi, and Central Flyway Councils approved an allowable take of 144 Peregrine Falcons by falconers. Based upon this allocation, the USFWS is allowing the take of up to 48 fall migrants in 2023 east of 100 degrees W longitude to Atlantic Flyway states. North Carolina is allocated up to 5 birds.

Based on this allocation of up to 5 birds for take from within North Carolina, WMD staff recommends that the WRC accept the USFWS allocation framework and establish a season in 2023 with the following stipulations.

- Total allowable take is up to 5 birds during the period from September 20, 2023 through October 20, 2023.
- Any bird taken must be a juvenile.
- Take would be allowed only by permit from the WRC and only east of US Highway 17.
- No banded birds could be taken. Any banded birds captured must be released immediately at the site of capture.
- Permits will be issued through our special hunts permitting system (random).
- An individual issued a permit must have the proper state and federal falconry licenses/permits.
- Each person receiving a permit must complete a post-season survey provided by WMD staff and submit that survey no later than December 15, 2023.