



ACTIONS
N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

November 7, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.
NC Wildlife Resources Commission Headquarters
1751 Varsity Drive
Raleigh, North Carolina

Call to Order – *Commission Chairman* Jim Cogdell called the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Conference Room, 5th floor. He reminded everyone that the meeting audio is being streamed live and will be available on the Wildlife Resources Commission website. He requested that all in the room silence their electronic devices. Commissioners Dell Murphy, John Coley, Michell Hicks, Dalton Ruffin, Tommy Fonville, and Ray White were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance – *Commissioner* Garry Spence led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation - *Commissioner* David Hoyle, Jr. gave the invocation.

Mandatory Ethics Inquiry - Chairman Cogdell read the ethics inquiry mandated in North Carolina General Statute 138A-15(e).

Welcome – Chairman Cogdell welcomed Commissioners and guests.

Approval of Minutes - the Commission approved the August 29, 2013 Wildlife Resources Commission minutes as presented in **Exhibit A**.

Financial Status Report - the Commission received a financial status report on the Wildlife Operating Fund and the Wildlife Endowment Fund as of September 30, 2013 from Tommy Clark, *Budget Officer*, presented in **Exhibit B**. The Operating Fund balance was \$23,114,019.39. The Endowment Fund balance was \$100,613,770.08.

Fisheries Committee Meeting Report – *Committee Chairman* Wes Seegars reported that the Fisheries Committee met at 9:00 am on November 6, 2013. Chad Thomas, *Coastal Fisheries Supervisor*, updated the committee about the North Carolina River Herring Fisheries Management Plan, a review of proposed Coastal Recreational Fishing License (CRFL) projects under consideration, the status of American shad and hickory shad, and the striped bass stock assessment. Christian Waters, *Fisheries Management Coordinator*, summarized nineteen proposed changes in inland fishing rules for 2014-2015, to be presented at statewide public hearings in January 2014. The Fisheries Committee will recommend approval of the rules proposals later in the meeting. Kyle Briggs, *Fisheries Management Coordinator*, gave an update about renovations to fish hatcheries across the state.

Big Game Committee Meeting Report – *Committee Chairman* David Hoyle, Jr. reported that the Big Game Committee met at 11:00 am on November 6, 2013. Topics of discussion included a review of the policy concerning the use of fungicide-treated peanuts as bait. Treatment with fungicide renders the peanuts processed food products, and therefore the exception for striking bear dogs in the vicinity of these products is unlawful. The committee discussed a proposed youth deer season. Staff was tasked with providing more deer harvest data to be considered by the committee in January prior to recommending a regulation change. The committee discussed proposed bear hunting season regulation changes that address the Bear Management Plan objectives. Rules proposals for consideration at statewide public hearings in January will be recommended for approval by the full Commission later in the meeting. Chairman Cogdell thanked Big Game Committee Chair David Hoyle for his years of hard work and more than 30 meetings with stakeholders before bringing these rules proposals forward. Cogdell urged all Commissioners to attend as many District public hearings as possible in January to receive public comments before final consideration of the proposals.

Land Use and Access Committee Meeting Report – *Committee Chairman* Tom Berry reported that the Land Use and Access Committee met on November 6, 2013 at 1:30 pm. The committee reviewed five Phase I potential property acquisitions presented by Isaac Harrold, *Lands Program Manager*. The committee will recommend approval of the Allen Tract, Swain County; Page Tract, Cleveland County; Reinberg Tract, Watauga County; and Zacharin Tract, Watauga County for further investigation and possible funding. The Wolf Laurel Tract in Yancey County is being offered as a donation. The committee will recommend that the Commission give final approval of that tract as a Phase II acquisition. The committee received information about two other Phase II properties, both in Bladen County – the McFadden Tract and Faircloth Tract. The committee will recommend approval of those Phase II properties later in the meeting. Staff has been asked to do a financial study on one select game land, to provide a better idea of stewardship expenses associated with game lands acquisition and management.

Committee of the Whole Meeting Report – *Chairman* Jim Cogdell reported that the Committee of the Whole met on November 6. Pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3), the Committee of the Whole went into closed session to receive legal advice from counsel. In open session the Committee of the Whole reviewed the rule proposals under consideration to take to public hearings. The committee reviewed several fiscal notes for rulemaking prior to consideration at today's meeting.

Agency Spotlight – Statewide Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Surveillance – the Commission received an update about statewide surveillance efforts to monitor for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), a transmissible and fatal encephalopathy that affects cervids. Dr. Maria Palamar, *Wildlife Veterinarian*, provided some of the history of CWD in North America, first discovered in a captive mule deer and now found outside captive herds as well in several states and provinces, but not in North Carolina. Dr. Palamar explained the Sampling Protocol that is being used to evaluate 3000 samples of cervid brain tissue from every county in North Carolina. Preliminary results will be ready in the spring of 2014, with final results available by September of 2014. Dr. Palamar explained that the goal of the Statewide CWD Surveillance is to keep North Carolina free of the disease, and if found, to address containing the disease before it spreads.

Phase I Potential Land Acquisitions – the Commission approved the presentation by Isaac Harrold, *Lands Program Manager* for staff to work with the State Property Office and funding partners to develop acquisition plans for the following properties:

- Allen Tract – Swain County (**Exhibit C-1**)
- Page Tract – Cleveland County (**Exhibit C-2**)
- Reinberg Tract – Watauga County (**Exhibit C-4**)
- Zacharin Tract – Watauga County (**Exhibit C-5**)

Phase II Land Acquisitions – the Commission gave final approval to proceed with acquisitions of the McFadden Tract (**Exhibit D-1**) and Faircloth Tract (**Exhibit D-2**), both in Bladen County. The Commission approved proceeding with final acquisition of the Wolf Laurel Tract in Yancey County (**Exhibit C-3**). That tract is being offered as a donation.

Onslow County Annexation Request Tabled – Upon the recommendation of the Land Use and Access Committee the Commission tabled a request from the Town of Holly Ridge to voluntarily annex the Folkstone tract of Stones Creek Game Land (**Exhibit E**). Staff will report to the Commission with more information about the proposed annexation at a later meeting.

Shooting Range, Cleveland County – the Commission approved an agreement with Cleveland County to assist in the design and construction of a shooting range facility (**Exhibit F**).

Easement Request, Edgecombe County – the Commission approved a request from Edgecombe-Martin EMC for a utility easement across a portion of Newbold Pond Public Fishing Area in Edgecombe County (**Exhibit G**).

Land Management Rule Proposals Approved for Public Notice and Presentation at Public Hearings – the Commission approved the following proposed changes in the 2014-2015 game land management rules to be presented at statewide public hearings in January 2014 (**Exhibit H-1**):

Applying to Game Lands Generally

- 1) Designate open hours and days for shooting ranges by posting signs at each shooting range. Currently, all shooting ranges are open Monday through Saturday, sunrise to sunset. Apply range restrictions to ranges that occur on game lands which are not state-owned.

15A NCAC 10D .0102 General regulations regarding use

Applying to Specific Game Lands

1) Make the Lick Creek tract of Alcoa Game Land in Davidson County an archery-only area for deer hunting.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

2) Allow overnight primitive camping year-round in a designated camping area along the Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST) on the Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land in Durham County.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

3) Designate Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County as a six-day-per-week game land (it is currently a three-day-per-week game land). Allow dog hunting for deer and bear on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays only, and as otherwise authorized by permit on the Bear Garden Tract.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

4) Relax access restrictions on the Parker Farm Tract of Goose Creek Game Land in Beaufort and Pamlico counties by eliminating permit requirements after January 1, except for turkey. Currently, all hunting and vehicular access to the Parker Farm Tract requires a permit from September 1 through the end of February and from April 7 to May 14.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

5) Allow hunting deer with dogs on Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays only.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

The Commission voted to table a proposal for areas of Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County (**Exhibit H-1 applying to specific game lands**):

Designate the following areas of Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County as still hunting only for deer and bear: all areas of the main tract west of N.C. Hwy 242 and the section which lies between N.C. Hwy 242, S.R. 1509, S.R. 1510, and S.R. 1511.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

Inland Fisheries Update – the Commission received an update on the activities of the Inland Fisheries Division from Bob Curry, *Inland Fisheries Division Chief*. Curry announced that an Outstanding Sport Fish Restoration Award has been presented by the American Fisheries Society to the Fisheries research and surveys section. Attendance at the Mountain State Fair wildlife exhibit was 9500. Forty-four thousand people visited the wildlife exhibit at the N.C. State Fair in Raleigh. Curry thanked the N.C. Wildlife Federation and the Wake County Wildlife Club for their sponsorship of licenses that were awarded from activities on National Hunting and Fishing Day.

2014-2015 Fishing Rule Proposals for State-Wide Public Hearings - the Commission voted to take to statewide public hearings the following proposed changes in inland fishing rules for 2014-2015, presented in **Exhibit I-1** by Bob Curry:

Trout

- 1) Clarify that the entire reach of the North Fork Mills River in Henderson County from the Hendersonville watershed dam to the lower game land boundary is designated as Public Mountain Trout Waters and further classified as Delayed Harvest Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 2) Designate 0.5 mile of the West Fork Pigeon River in Haywood County below Lake Logan as Public Mountain Trout Waters and classify as Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
15A NCAC 10D .0104 Fishing on Game Lands
- 3) Reclassify 0.5 mile of Skitty Creek in Macon County from Hatchery Supported Trout Waters to Wild Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 4) Designate 1.0 mile of the Watauga River in Watauga County from the SR 1103 bridge to the confluence with Laurel Creek as Public Mountain Trout Waters and classify as Delayed Harvest Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 5) Remove the 1.8-mile section of Watauga River adjacent to NC 105 in Watauga County from Public Mountain Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 6) Modify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Big Hungry River in Henderson County, removing 8.0 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 7) Remove Clear Creek Reservoir located on South Mountain State Park in Burke County from Public Mountain Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

Game Fish

- 1) Establish a minimum size limit of 16 inches from June 1 through September 30 for striped bass and hybrid striped bass in Lake Norman. The daily creel limit will remain four striped bass or hybrid striped bass in combination.
15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass
- 2) Prohibit the taking of American and hickory shad with dip nets and bow nets.
15A NCAC 10C .0302 Manner of Taking Inland Game Fishes

Nongame Fish

- 1) Add John H. Kerr Reservoir to the list of reservoirs where possession of grass carp is prohibited except for those legally taken with archery equipment.
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes: Purchase and Sale
- 2) Clarify in the N.C. Administrative Code that the daily possession limit for freshwater mussels taken from impounded waters is 200 in aggregate and remove the daily creel limit for Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*).
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes: Purchase and Sale
- 3) Allow the take of white perch captured by anglers using a cast net to collect nongame fishes for bait or personal consumption in all impounded waters west of Interstate 95 and in Tar River Reservoir (Nash County).
15A NCAC 10C .0302 Manner of Taking Inland Game Fishes
15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait or Personal Consumption
- 4) Increase the minimum length limit for American eel from six inches to nine inches and decrease the daily creel limit from 50 to 25 eels.
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes: Purchase and Sale
15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait or Personal Consumption
- 5) Reduce the minimum mesh size for eel pots from one inch by one-half inch to one-half inch by one-half inch.
15A NCAC 10C .0404 Special Device Fishing
- 6) Add spear guns, gigs, traps (up to three), and eel pots (up to two) to the list of equipment that can be used to take nongame fish for bait or personal consumption in inland fishing waters with an inland fishing license.
15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait or Personal Consumption
- 7) Prohibit the use of bow nets in inland fishing waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0407 Permitted Special Devices and Open Seasons

Other

- 1) Define in the N.C. Administrative Code “Public Access for Fishing Only” and clarify the activities allowed where angler access to inland fishing waters is provided through private property under an agreement with the landowner. These access locations will be clearly marked through signage indicating “Public Access for Fishing Only.”
15A NCAC 10C .0217 Public Access for Anglers Only
- 2) Modify the boundary for the North Carolina/Virginia reciprocal license agreement on the Dan River by moving the boundary upstream from the Brantly Steam Plant Dam to the Union Street Dam in Danville, Virginia and on the Staunton River by moving the boundary downstream from the Route 360 bridge crossing to the mouth of Difficult Creek.
15A NCAC 10C .0203 Reciprocal License Agreements
- 3) Provide anglers the option to label trotlines, set hooks, and jug hooks with their name and address or with their WRC customer number.
15A NCAC 10C .0206 Trotlines and Set-hooks

Wildlife Management Update – the Commission received an update about the activities of the Division of Wildlife Management from Dr. David Cobb, *Wildlife Management Division Chief*. Dr. Cobb directed Commissioners to CDs at their places. The CD contains documents of interest to the Commission, including the 2012-2013 Hunter Harvest Survey Report, report on black ducks, a report on diets of red wolves and coyotes in eastern North Carolina done in partnership with North Carolina State University, and the 2013 Black Bear Report. Cobb stated that staff continues to collect data under the CWD Surveillance Plan. Cobb reminded everyone that statewide public hearings concerning rules proposals begin on January 7 and end on January 23, 2014.

2014-2015 Rule Proposals for Hunting, Trapping, and Other Regulated Activities for Consideration at State-Wide Public Hearings - the Commission voted to take to statewide public hearings proposed changes in hunting, trapping, and other regulated activities for 2014-2015, presented in **Exhibit J-1**:

Deer

- 1) Change the gun deer season in Polk County from opening on the Monday of Thanksgiving week and closing the *third* Saturday after Thanksgiving (the current season) to opening on the Monday of Thanksgiving week and closing the *fifth* Saturday after Thanksgiving (the same season as Cleveland and Rutherford counties).
15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)
- 2) Change the opening day of the Western Deer Archery Season from the *Monday* on or nearest to September 10 to the *Saturday* on or nearest to September 10.
15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)
- 3) Change the closing day of the first segment of the Western Deer Archery Season from a Saturday to a Sunday. Open and close the second segment of the Western Deer Archery Season on Sundays.
15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)
- 4) Change the name of the muzzle-loading firearms and bow and arrow deer season to the blackpowder firearms and bow and arrow deer season. Define a blackpowder firearm as “Any firearm — including any firearm with a matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system — manufactured in or before 1898; and any replica of this type of firearm if such replica is not designed or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition; and any muzzle-loading rifle, muzzle-loading shotgun, or muzzle-loading pistol, which is designed to use black powder, black powder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through the muzzle and which cannot use fixed ammunition.”
15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)

Bear

- 1) Open bear hunting seasons in the following counties in the Piedmont Bear Management Unit (PBMU) to run concurrent with the gun deer season in each of the following counties:
 - Eastern Gun Deer Season: Franklin, Hoke, Moore, Richmond, Scotland, and Wake;
 - Central Gun Deer Season: Alamance, Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville, Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union; and
 - Northwestern Gun Deer Season: Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, and Lincoln.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

- 2) Change the bear hunting seasons in the following Piedmont counties to run concurrent with the gun deer season in each of the following counties:
 - Eastern Gun Deer Season: Harnett, Johnston, Vance, and Warren; and
 - Northwestern Gun Deer Season: Alexander, Catawba, Iredell, Stokes, and Yadkin.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

- 3) Open a bear hunting season in Robeson County on the first Monday in December and close it on the third Saturday thereafter.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

- 4) Prohibit the use of dogs to hunt bears or to strike bears from unprocessed food products in the following counties and parts of counties: Alamance south of Interstate 85, Alexander, Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Catawba, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Iredell, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange south of Interstate 85, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Stokes, Union, Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98, and Yadkin.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

- 5) Allow bears to be taken with the use or aid of unprocessed foods, but not while actually consuming the unprocessed foods, on private lands from the *first open Monday of the bear hunting season to the following Saturday only* in these counties:

- Coastal Bear Management Unit: Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Columbus, Cumberland, Currituck, Craven, Dare, Duplin, Edgecombe, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Onslow, Robeson, Sampson, Tyrrell, Washington, Wayne, and Wilson; and
- Mountain Bear Management Unit: Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Clay, Cherokee, Cleveland, Jackson, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Yancey, Watauga, and Wilkes.

During *all open days* of the bear hunting seasons, hunters may strike bears using dogs at sites with unprocessed foods on private lands, except in these counties and parts of counties: Alamance south of Interstate 85, Alexander, Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Catawba, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Iredell, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange south of Interstate 85, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Stokes, Union, Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98, and Yadkin.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

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- 6) Allow bears to be taken with the use or aid of unprocessed foods, but not while actually consuming the unprocessed foods, on private lands during *all open days of each bear hunting season* in these counties of the Piedmont Bear Management Unit (PBMU):
- Eastern Gun Deer Season: Franklin, Harnett, Hoke, Johnston, Moore, Richmond, Scotland, Vance, Warren, and Wake;
 - Central Gun Deer Season: Alamance, Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville, Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union; and
 - Northwestern Gun Deer Season: Alexander, Catawba, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Stokes, and Yadkin.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

Raccoons

- 1) Remove the restriction on hunting raccoons during daylight hours west of U.S. 1.
15A NCAC 10B .0111 Restrictions on Raccoon and Opossum Hunting

Manners of Take

- 1) Reduce the minimum draw weight for crossbows from 150 to 100 pounds.
15A NCAC 10B .0116 Permitted Archery Equipment
- 2) Amend the handgun rule to allow take of deer and bears with any type of handgun and ammunition, except that body armor-piercing projectiles would be prohibited.
15A NCAC 10B .0120 Taking Big Game with Handguns

Other

- 1) Allow the public to obtain a permit to sell mounted wild animals, except permits will not be issued to sell any part of a black bear, wild turkey [pursuant to G.S. 113-291.3(b)(4)], or migratory game birds.
15A NCAC 10B .0118 Sale of Wildlife
- 2) Remove the mandatory time requirements for the Hunter Education Course.
15A NCAC 10K .0101 Course Requirements

Fiscal Note – 2014-2015 Rule Proposals for Inland Fisheries, Wildlife Management and Land Management – the Commission approved the fiscal note for proposed rules pertaining to inland fisheries, wildlife management and land management, presented in **Exhibit K** by Erica Garner, *Rulemaking Coordinator*.

Boating Safety Rules and Fiscal Notes – the Commission approved the following technical changes, amendments, and fiscal notes pertaining to boating safety rules, presented in **Exhibits L, M, N-1, N-2, O-1, O-2, P-1, and P-2**:

- **Hyde County – No Wake Zone Technical Corrections** – technical corrections to GPS coordinates for a no wake zone in Hyde County; also a technical change to correct a location name. The technical corrections do not require Notice of Text, public hearing or fiscal note. (**Exhibit L**)
- **Camden County – No Wake Zone Technical Correction** – technical correction to GPS coordinates for a no wake zone in Camden County. The technical correction does not require Notice of Text, public hearing, or fiscal note. (**Exhibit M**)
- **Northampton and Warren Counties** – amendment proposed by agency to provide accurate and updated descriptions and coordinates of locations of no wake zones in Northampton and Warren counties. District 3 public hearing will be held to receive comments on January 23, 2014 in Rocky Mount. (**Exhibit N-1**) Fiscal note associated with proposed amendments in Northampton and Warren counties. (**Exhibit N-2**)
- **Pamlico County** – amendment proposed by agency to remove from NCAC a no wake zone that lies in the Intracoastal Waterway in Pamlico County, and is not enforceable and not marked. Comments will be received at District 2 public hearing in New Bern on January 22, 2014. (**Exhibit O-1**) Fiscal note associated with removal of no wake zone from NCAC. (**Exhibit O-2**)
- **Pitt County** – Presented in **Exhibit P-1**, technical correction to clarify the description of a no wake zone in a portion of Tranters Creek in Pitt County, making it consistent with the description of the portion of Tranters Creek that lies in Beaufort County. Also a proposal by agency to remove a no wake zone on the Tar River near Seine Beach. The boating safety criteria no longer exist for the presence of the no wake zone there. Comments will be received at the District 2 public hearing in New Bern on January 22, 2014. Fiscal note associated with disposal of no wake markers if no wake zone on the Tar River is removed. (**Exhibit P-2**)

Poacher Reward Fund and Fiscal Note – the Commission approved three proposed rules to establish a Poacher Reward Fund to be presented at statewide public hearings, presented in **Exhibit Q-1**. The Commission approved the fiscal note associated with rulemaking for the Poacher Reward Fund. (**Exhibit Q-2**)

Vessel Registration Amendments and Fiscal Note – the Commission approved staff recommendation to present at a public hearing at WRC Headquarters in Raleigh proposed amendments to some vessel registration rules, presented in **Exhibit R-1**, to make them consistent with legislation passed in the 2013 Session of the General Assembly. The Commission approved the associated fiscal note for the vessel registration rules, presented in **Exhibit R-2**.

Totally Disabled License Eligibility Rule and Fiscal Note – the Commission approved staff recommendation, presented in **Exhibit S-1** by Lisa Hocutt, *Customer Services Section Manager*, to present at statewide public hearings a new proposed rule. The rule is necessary to comply with legislation passed in the 2013 Session of the General Assembly, which authorizes the Wildlife Resources Commission to establish rules defining documentation acceptable for determining eligibility of totally and permanently disabled residents for the purpose of obtaining a discounted lifetime license. The Commission approved the associated fiscal note as presented in **Exhibit S-2**.

Adoption of the 2014 Meeting Schedule of the Wildlife Resources Commission – Chairman Jim Cogdell reminded the Commissioners of the attendance requirement, set by Executive Order, that Commissioners attend at least 75 percent of the meetings each year. Cogdell stated that it is the policy of this Commission that call-in attendance is not permissible for official business meetings. The Commission adopted the proposed 2014 meeting schedule, presented in **Exhibit T**:

January 30, 2014
February 27, 2014
May 22, 2014
July 10, 2014
August 28, 2014
October 30, 2014

Comments by the Chairman – *Chairman* Jim Cogdell thanked agency staff for their preparations for the committee meetings on Wednesday and Commission meeting today. He stated that the next meeting of the WRC will be in Raleigh on Thursday, January 30, 2014 and urged everyone to attend.

Comments by the Executive Director – *Executive Director* Gordon Myers directed Commissioners to the Boating Law Enforcement Report. Myers stated that law enforcement summits are ongoing. A report will be provided to the Commission. Myers stated that he will be in contact with Commission members to schedule a Commissioner orientation day in early December.

Adjournment –The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Cogdell at 10:55 am.