

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0205 PUBLIC MOUNTAIN TROUT WATERS**

2 (a) For purposes of this Rule, the following definitions apply:

- 3 (1) "Natural bait" means any living or dead organism (plant or animal), or parts thereof, or prepared
4 substances designed to attract fish by the sense of taste or smell.
- 5 (2) "Artificial lure" means a fishing lure that neither contains nor has been treated by any substance that
6 attracts fish by the sense of taste or smell.
- 7 (3) "Youth anglers" are individuals under 18 years of age.

8 (b) For purposes of this Rule, 15A NCAC 10C .0316, and 15A NCAC 10D .0104, the following classifications apply:

- 9 (1) "Public Mountain Trout Waters" are all waters included in this Rule and so designated in 15A NCAC
10 10D .0104.
- 11 (2) "Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters where
12 only artificial flies having one single hook may be used. No trout may be possessed or harvested
13 while fishing these streams. Waters designated as such include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
- 14 (3) "Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters where
15 only artificial lures having one single hook may be used. No trout may be possessed or harvested
16 while fishing these streams. Waters designated as such include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
- 17 (4) "Delayed Harvest Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters where between October 1 and
18 one-half hour after sunset on the Friday before the first Saturday of the following June it is unlawful
19 to possess natural bait, use more than one single hook on an artificial lure, or harvest or possess trout
20 while fishing. From 6:00 a.m. on the first Saturday in June until noon that same day only youth
21 anglers may fish and these waters have no bait or lure restrictions. From noon on the first Saturday
22 in June until October 1 anglers of all ages may fish and these waters have no bait or lure restrictions.
23 Waters designated as such do not include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
- 24 (5) "Hatchery Supported Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters that have no bait or lure
25 restrictions. Waters designated as such do not include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
- 26 (6) "Special Regulation Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters where watercourse-specific
27 regulations apply. Waters designated as such do not include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
- 28 (7) "Wild Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters which are identified as such in this Rule or
29 15A NCAC 10D .0104. Only artificial lures having only one single hook may be used. No person
30 shall possess natural bait while fishing these waters. Waters designated as such do not include
31 tributaries unless otherwise noted.
- 32 (8) "Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait" are Public Mountain Trout Waters where all artificial lures and
33 natural baits, except live fish, may be used provided they are fished using only one single hook.
34 Waters designated as such include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
- 35 (9) "Undesignated Waters" are all other waters in the State. These waters have no bait or lure
36 restrictions. Trout may not be possessed while fishing these waters from March 1 until 7:00 a.m. on
37 the first Saturday in April.

1 (c) Seasons, creel and size limits. Seasons, creel and size limits for trout in all waters are listed in Rule .0316 of this
2 Subchapter.

3 (d) Classifications. This Paragraph designates waters in each county that have a specific classification. Waters on
4 game lands are so designated in 15A NCAC 10D .0104, unless otherwise indicated in this Paragraph. All other waters
5 are classified as Undesignated Waters.

6 (1) Alleghany

7 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:

8 Little River (S.R. 1133 bridge to 275 yards downstream of the intersection of S.R. 1128
9 and S.R. 1129 [marked by a sign on each bank])

10 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:

11 Big Pine Creek

12 Bledsoe Creek

13 Brush Creek (N.C. 21 bridge to confluence with Little River, except where posted against
14 trespassing)

15 Cranberry Creek

16 (Big) Glade Creek

17 Little River (275 yards downstream from the intersection of S.R. 1128 and S.R. 1129
18 [marked by a sign on each bank] to McCann Dam)

19 Meadow Fork

20 Pine Swamp Creek

21 Piney Fork

22 Prathers Creek

23 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:

24 All waters located on Stone Mountain State Park

25 (2) Ashe County

26 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:

27 Big Horse Creek (Virginia state line to Mud Creek at S.R. 1363, excluding tributaries)

28 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:

29 Big Horse Creek (S.R. 1324 bridge to North Fork New River)

30 Helton Creek (Virginia state line to New River)

31 South Fork New River (upstream end of Todd Island to the SR 1351 bridge)

32 Trout Lake

33 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:

34 Beaver Creek (N.C. 221 to ~~South Fork New River~~ confluence of Beaver Creek and South
35 Beaver Creek)

36 Big Horse Creek (Mud Creek at S.R. 1363 to S.R. 1324 bridge)

37 Big Laurel Creek (S.R. 1315 bridge to confluence with North Fork New River)

- 1 Buffalo Creek (S.R. 1133 bridge to N.C. 194-88 bridge)
- 2 Cranberry Creek (Alleghany Co. line to South Fork New River)
- 3 Nathans Creek
- 4 North Fork New River (Watauga Co. line to Sharp Dam)
- 5 Old Fields Creek (N.C. 221 to South Fork New River)
- 6 Peak Creek (headwaters to Trout Lake, except Blue Ridge Parkway waters)
- 7 Roan Creek
- 8 Three Top Creek
- 9 (3) Avery County
- 10 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 11 Elk River (portion on Lees-McRae College property, excluding the millpond)
- 12 Lost Cove Creek (game land portion, excluding Gragg Prong and Rockhouse Creek)
- 13 (B) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 14 Wilson Creek (game land portion)
- 15 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 16 Boyde Coffey Lake
- 17 Elk River (S.R. 1305 crossing immediately upstream of Big Falls to the Tennessee state
- 18 line)
- 19 Linville River (Land Harbor line [below dam] to the Blue Ridge Parkway boundary line,
- 20 except where posted against trespassing)
- 21 Milltimber Creek
- 22 North Toe River — upper (Watauga St. to Roby Shoemaker Wetlands and Family
- 23 Recreational Park, except where posted against trespassing)
- 24 North Toe River — lower (S.R. 1164 to Mitchell Co. line, except where posted against
- 25 trespassing)
- 26 Squirrel Creek
- 27 Wildcat Lake
- 28 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 29 Birchfield Creek
- 30 Cow Camp Creek
- 31 Cranberry Creek (headwaters to U.S. 19E/N.C. 194 bridge)
- 32 Gragg Prong
- 33 Horse Creek
- 34 Kentucky Creek
- 35 North Harper Creek
- 36 Plumtree Creek
- 37 Roaring Creek

- 1 Rockhouse Creek
2 Shawneehaw Creek (portion adjacent to Banner Elk Greenway)
3 South Harper Creek
4 Webb Prong
- 5 (4) Buncombe County
- 6 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
7 Carter Creek (game land portion)
- 8 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
9 Bent Creek (headwaters to N.C. Arboretum boundary line)
10 Cane Creek (headwaters to S.R. 3138 bridge)
11 Corner Rock Creek (Little Andy Creek to confluence with Walker Branch)
12 Dillingham Creek (Corner Rock Creek to Ivy Creek)
13 Ivy Creek (Ivy River)(Dillingham Creek to U.S. 19-23 bridge)
14 Lake Powhatan
15 Reems Creek (Sugar Camp Fork to U.S. 19-23 bridge, except where posted against
16 trespassing)
17 Rich Branch (downstream from the confluence with Rocky Branch)
18 Stony Creek
19 Swannanoa (S.R. 2702 bridge near Ridgecrest to Wood Avenue bridge [intersection of
20 N.C. 81 and U.S. 74A in Asheville], except where posted against trespassing)
- 21 (5) Burke County
- 22 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
23 Henry Fork (portion on South Mountains State Park)
- 24 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
25 Jacob Fork (Shinny Creek to lower South Mountains State Park boundary)
- 26 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
27 Carroll Creek (game land portion above S.R. 1405)
28 Henry Fork (lower South Mountain State Park line downstream to S.R. 1919 at Ivy Creek)
29 Linville River portion within Linville Gorge Wilderness area and portion below Lake
30 James powerhouse from upstream bridge on S.R. 1223 to Muddy Creek)
- 31 (D) Special Regulation Trout Waters are as follows:
32 Catawba River (Muddy Creek to City of Morganton water intake dam)
- 33 (E) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
34 All waters located on South Mountains State Park, except those waters identified in parts
35 A and B of this Subparagraph
- 36 (6) Caldwell County
- 37 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:

- 1 Wilson Creek (game land portion below Lost Cove Creek to Philips Branch)
- 2 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 3 Boone Fork Pond
- 4 Buffalo Creek (mouth of Joes Creek to McCloud Branch)
- 5 Joes Creek (first falls upstream of S.R. 1574 to confluence with Buffalo Creek)
- 6 Wilson Creek (Phillips Branch to Brown Mountain Beach Dam, except where posted
- 7 against trespassing)
- 8 Yadkin River (Happy Valley Ruritan Community Park to S.R. 1515)
- 9 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 10 Buffalo Creek (Watauga Co. line to Long Ridge Branch including game land tributaries)
- 11 Joes Creek (Watauga Co. line to first falls upstream of the end of S.R. 1574)
- 12 Rockhouse Creek
- 13 (7) Cherokee County
- 14 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 15 Davis Creek (confluence of Bald and Dockery creeks to Hanging Dog Creek)
- 16 Hyatt Creek (Big Dam Branch to Valley River)
- 17 Junaluska Creek (Ashturn Creek to Valley River)
- 18 Shuler Creek (Joe Brown Hwy [S.R. 1325] bridge to Tennessee state line)
- 19 Valley River (S.R. 1359 to U.S. 19 Business bridge in Murphy)
- 20 (B) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 21 Bald Creek (game land portion)
- 22 Dockery Creek (game land portion)
- 23 North Shoal Creek (game land portion)
- 24 (8) Clay County
- 25 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 26 Fires Creek (USFS Rd. 340A to the foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area)
- 27 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 28 Buck Creek (game land portion downstream of U.S. 64 bridge)
- 29 Fires Creek (foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area to S.R. 1300)
- 30 Tusquitee Creek (Compass Creek to lower S.R. 1300 bridge)
- 31 (9) Graham County
- 32 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 33 (Big) Snowbird Creek (USFS footbridge at the old railroad junction to USFS Rd. 2579)
- 34 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 35 Calderwood Reservoir (Cheoah Dam to Tennessee state line)
- 36 Cheoah Reservoir
- 37 Panther Creek (confluence of Stand Creek and Rock Creek to Lake Fontana)

- 1 Santeetlah Creek (Johns Branch to Lake Santeetlah)
 2 (Big) Snowbird Creek (USFS Road 2579 to S.R. 1127 bridge)
 3 Stecoah Creek (upper game land boundary to Lake Fontana)
 4 Tulula Creek (S.R. 1201 to lower bridge on S.R. 1275)
 5 West Buffalo Creek
 6 Yellow Creek (Lake Santeetlah hydropower pipeline to Cheoah River)
- 7 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
 8 Little Buffalo Creek
 9 South Fork Squally Creek
 10 Squally Creek
- 11 (D) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
 12 Deep Creek
 13 Franks Creek
 14 Long Creek (game land portion)
- 15 (10) Haywood County
- 16 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
 17 West Fork Pigeon River (Queen Creek to the first game land boundary upstream of Lake
 18 Logan)
- 19 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
 20 Cold Springs Creek (Fall Branch to Pigeon River)
 21 Jonathan Creek (upstream S.R. 1302 bridge to Pigeon River, except where posted against
 22 trespassing)
 23 Pigeon River (Stamey Cove Branch to upstream U.S. 19-23 bridge)
 24 Richland Creek (Russ Avenue [U.S. 276] bridge to U.S. 19 bridge)
 25 West Fork Pigeon River (Tom Creek to Queen Creek, including portions on game lands,
 26 except Middle Prong)
- 27 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
 28 Hemphill Creek
 29 Hurricane Creek
- 30 (11) Henderson County
- 31 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
 32 North Fork Mills River (game land portion below the Hendersonville watershed dam)
- 33 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
 34 (Rocky) Broad River (end of S.R. 1611 to Rutherford County line)
 35 Cane Creek (railroad bridge upstream of S.R. 1551 bridge to U.S. 25 bridge)
 36 Clear Creek (Laurel Fork to S.R. 1582)
 37 Green River (Lake Summit powerhouse to game land boundary)

- 1 (Big) Hungry River
- 2 (12) Jackson County
- 3 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 4 Flat Creek
- 5 Tuckasegee River (upstream from the Clark property)
- 6 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 7 Tuckasegee River (downstream N.C. 107 bridge to the falls located 275 yards upstream
- 8 of the U.S. 23-441 bridge [marked by a sign on each bank])
- 9 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 10 Balsam Lake
- 11 Bear Creek Lake
- 12 Cedar Cliff Lake
- 13 Cullowhee Creek (Tilley Creek to Tuckasegee River)
- 14 Dark Ridge Creek (Jones Creek to Scott Creek)
- 15 Greens Creek (Greens Creek Baptist Church on S.R. 1370 to Savannah Creek)
- 16 Savannah Creek (Shell Branch to Cagle Branch)
- 17 Scott Creek (Dark Ridge Creek to Tuckasegee River, except where posted against
- 18 trespassing)
- 19 Tanasee Creek Lake
- 20 Tuckasegee River — upper (John Brown Branch to the downstream N.C. 107 bridge)
- 21 Tuckasegee River — lower (falls located 275 yards upstream of U.S. 23-441 bridge
- 22 [marked by a sign on each bank] to S.R. 1534 bridge at Wilmot)
- 23 Wolf Creek Lake
- 24 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 25 Gage Creek
- 26 North Fork Scott Creek
- 27 Tanasee Creek
- 28 Whitewater River (downstream from Silver Run Creek to South Carolina state line)
- 29 Wolf Creek (except Balsam Lake and Wolf Creek Lake)
- 30 (E) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 31 Buff Creek
- 32 Chattooga River (S.R. 1100 bridge to the South Carolina state line)
- 33 Lower Fowler Creek (game land portion)
- 34 Scotsman Creek (game land portion)
- 35 (13) Macon County
- 36 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 37 Nantahala River (Whiteoak Creek to Nantahala hydropower discharge canal)

- 1 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 2 Burningtown Creek (Left Prong to Little Tennessee River)
- 3 Cartoogechaye Creek (downstream U.S. 64 bridge to Little Tennessee River)
- 4 Cliffside Lake
- 5 Cullasaja River (Sequoyah Dam to U.S. 64 bridge near junction of S.R. 1672)
- 6 Nantahala River — upper (Dicks Creek to Whiteoak Creek)
- 7 Nantahala River — lower (Nantahala hydropower discharge canal to Swain Co. line)
- 8 Queens Creek Lake

- 9 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 10 Chattooga River (S.R. 1100 bridge to South Carolina state line)
- 11 Jarrett Creek (game land portion)
- 12 Kimsey Creek
- 13 Overflow Creek (game land portion)
- 14 Park Creek
- 15 Tellico Creek (game land portion)
- 16 Turtle Pond Creek (game land portion)

17 (14) Madison County

- 18 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 19 Big Laurel Creek (N.C. 208 bridge to the U.S. 25-70 bridge)
- 20 Shelton Laurel Creek (N.C. 208 bridge at Belva to the confluence with Big Laurel Creek)
- 21 Spring Creek (N.C. 209 bridge at Hot Springs city limits to iron bridge at end of Andrews
- 22 Ave.)

- 23 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 24 Big Laurel Creek (Mars Hill watershed boundary to the S.R. 1318 [Big Laurel Rd.]
- 25 bridge downstream of Bearpen Branch)
- 26 Big Pine Creek (S.R. 1151 bridge to French Broad River)
- 27 Little Ivy Creek (confluence of Middle Fork and Paint Fork at Beech Glen to confluence
- 28 with Ivy Creek at Forks of Ivy)
- 29 Max Patch Pond
- 30 Meadow Fork Creek (S.R. 1165 to Spring Creek)
- 31 Puncheon Fork (Hampton Creek to Big Laurel Creek)
- 32 Roaring Fork (Fall Branch to Meadow Fork)
- 33 Shelton Laurel Creek (confluence of Big Creek and Mill Creek to N.C. 208 bridge at
- 34 Belva)
- 35 Shut-in Creek
- 36 Spillcorn Creek
- 37 Spring Creek (junction of N.C. 209 and N.C. 63 to USFS Rd. 223)

- 1 West Fork Shut-in Creek (lower game land boundary to confluence with East Fork Shut-
2 in Creek)
- 3 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
4 Big Creek (headwaters to the lower game land boundary)
- 5 (15) McDowell County
- 6 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
7 Newberry Creek (game land portion)
- 8 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
9 Catawba River (portion adjacent to Marion Greenway)
10 Curtis Creek (game land portion downstream of the USFS boundary at Deep Branch)
11 Mill Creek (U.S. 70 bridge to I-40 bridge)
- 12 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
13 Armstrong Creek (Cato Holler line downstream to upper Greenlee line)
14 Catawba River (Catawba Falls Campground to Old Fort Recreation Park)
15 Little Buck Creek (game land portion)
16 Mill Creek (upper railroad bridge to U.S. 70 bridge, except where posted against
17 trespassing)
18 North Fork Catawba River (headwaters to North Cove School at S.R. 1569 bridge)
- 19 (16) Mitchell County
- 20 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
21 Cane Creek (N.C. 226 bridge to S.R. 1189 bridge)
22 North Toe River (U.S. 19E bridge to N.C. 226 bridge)
- 23 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
24 Big Rock Creek (headwaters to N.C. 226 bridge at S.R. 1307 intersection)
25 Cane Creek (S.R. 1219 to N.C. 226 bridge)
26 East Fork Grassy Creek
27 Grassy Creek (East Fork Grassy Creek to mouth)
28 Little Rock Creek (Green Creek bridge to Big Rock Creek, except where posted against
29 trespassing)
30 North Toe River (Avery Co. line to S.R. 1121 bridge)
- 31 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
32 Green Creek (headwaters to Green Creek bridge, except where posted against
33 trespassing)
34 Little Rock Creek (above Green Creek bridge, including all tributaries, except where
35 posted against trespassing)
36 Wiles Creek (game land boundary to mouth)
- 37 (17) Polk County

- 1 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
2 Green River (Fishtop Falls Access Area to the confluence with Cove Creek)
- 3 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
4 Green River (Mouth of Cove Creek to the natural gas pipeline crossing)
5 North Pacolet River (Joels Creek to N.C. 108 bridge)
- 6 (18) Rutherford County
- 7 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
8 (Rocky) Broad River (Henderson Co. line to U.S. 64/74 bridge, except where posted
9 against trespassing)
- 10 (19) Stokes County
- 11 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
12 Dan River (Virginia state line downstream to a point 200 yards below the end of S.R.
13 1421)
- 14 (20) Surry County
- 15 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
16 Ararat River (portion adjacent to the Ararat River Greenway)
17 Mitchell River (.6 mile upstream of the end of S.R. 1333 to the S.R. 1330 bridge below
18 Kapps Mill Dam)
- 19 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
20 Ararat River (S.R. 1727 bridge downstream to the N.C. 103 bridge)
21 Big Elkin Creek (dam 440 yards upstream of N.C. 268 bridge to a point 265 yards
22 downstream of N.C. 268 [marked by a sign on each bank])
23 Fisher River (Cooper Creek)(Virginia state line to I-77 bridge)
24 Little Fisher River (Virginia state line to N.C. 89 bridge)
25 Lovills Creek (U.S. 52 Business bridge to Ararat River)
26 Pauls Creek (Virginia state line to .3 miles below S.R. 1625 bridge)
- 27 (21) Swain County
- 28 (A) Delayed Harvest Waters Trout Waters are as follows:
29 Tuckasegee River (U.S. 19 bridge to Slope Street bridge)
- 30 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
31 Alarka Creek (game land boundary to Fontana Reservoir)
32 Calderwood Reservoir (Cheoah Dam to Tennessee state line)
33 Cheoah Reservoir
34 Connelly Creek (Camp Branch to Tuckasegee River)
35 Deep Creek (Great Smoky Mountains National Park Boundary line to Tuckasegee River)
36 Nantahala River (Macon Co. line to existing Fontana Lake water level)
- 37 (22) Transylvania County

- 1 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters are as follows:
2 Davidson River (headwaters to Avery Creek, excluding Avery Creek, Looking Glass
3 Creek and Grogan Creek)
- 4 (B) Delayed Harvest Waters Trout Waters are as follows:
5 East Fork French Broad River (~~Glady Fork~~ East Fork Baptist Church to French Broad
6 River)
7 Little River (confluence of Lake Dense to 100 yards downstream of Hooker Falls)
- 8 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
9 Davidson River (Avery Creek to lower USFS boundary)
10 French Broad River (confluence of North Fork French Broad River and West Fork) French
11 Broad River to the Island Ford Rd. [S.R. 1110] Access Area
12 Middle Fork French Broad River (upstream U.S. 178 bridge to French Broad River)
13 West Fork French Broad River (Camp Cove Branch to confluence with North Fork French
14 Broad River)
- 15 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
16 All waters located on Gorges State Park
17 Whitewater River (downstream from Silver Run Creek to South Carolina state line)
- 18 (E) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
19 North Fork French Broad River (game land portion downstream of S.R. 1326)
20 Thompson River (S.R. 1152 to South Carolina state line, except where posted against
21 trespassing)
- 22 (23) Watauga County
- 23 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
24 Laurel Creek (confluence of North and South Fork Laurel creeks to Elk Creek, excluding
25 tributaries)
26 Pond Creek (headwaters to Locust Ridge Rd. bridge, excluding the pond adjacent to
27 Coffee Lake)
- 28 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
29 Lake Coffey
30 Watauga River (adjacent to intersection of S.R. 1557 and S.R. 1558 to N.C. 105 bridge
31 and S.R. 1114 bridge to N.C. 194 bridge at Valle Crucis)
- 32 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
33 Beaverdam Creek (confluence of Beaverdam Creek and Little Beaverdam Creek to an
34 unnamed tributary adjacent to the intersection of S.R. 1201 and S.R. 1203)
35 Beech Creek
36 Buckeye Creek (Buckeye Creek Reservoir dam to Grassy Gap Creek)
37 Buckeye Creek Reservoir

- 1 Cove Creek (S.R. 1233 bridge at Zionville to S.R. 1214 bridge at Sherwood)
- 2 Dutch Creek (second bridge on S.R. 1134 to mouth)
- 3 Elk Creek (S.R. 1510 bridge at Triplett to Wilkes Co. line, except where posted against
- 4 trespassing)
- 5 Laurel Creek (S.R. 1123 bridge at S.R. 1157 intersection to Watauga River)
- 6 Meat Camp Creek (S.R. 1340 bridge at S.R. 1384 intersection to N.C. 194)
- 7 Middle Fork New River (adjacent to intersection of S.R. 1539 and U.S. 321 to South
- 8 Fork New River)
- 9 Norris Fork Creek
- 10 South Fork New River (canoe launch 70 yards upstream of U.S. 421 bridge to lower
- 11 boundary of Brookshire Park)
- 12 Stony Fork (S.R. 1500 bridge at S.R. 1505 intersection to Wilkes Co.line)
- 13 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 14 Dutch Creek (headwaters to second bridge on S.R. 1134)
- 15 Howard Creek
- 16 Maine Branch (headwaters to North Fork New River)
- 17 North Fork New River (from confluence with Maine and Mine branches to Ashe Co.
- 18 line)
- 19 Watauga River (Avery Co. line to S.R. 1580 bridge)
- 20 Winkler Creek (lower bridge on S.R. 1549 to confluence with South Fork New River)
- 21 (24) Wilkes County
- 22 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 23 East Prong Roaring River (Bullhead Creek downstream to Stone Mountain State Park
- 24 lower boundary)
- 25 Elk Creek — upper (Watauga Co. line to lower boundary of the Blue Ridge Mountain
- 26 Club)
- 27 Elk Creek — lower (portion on Leatherwood Mountains development)
- 28 Reddies River (Town of North Wilkesboro water intake dam to confluence with the
- 29 Yadkin River)
- 30 Stone Mountain Creek (from falls at Alleghany Co. line to confluence with East Prong
- 31 Roaring River and Bullhead Creek)
- 32 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 33 Basin Creek (S.R. 1730 bridge to confluence with Lovelace Creek)
- 34 Bell Branch Pond
- 35 Cub Creek (.5 mile upstream of S.R. 2460 bridge to S.R. 1001 bridge)
- 36 Darnell Creek (North Prong Reddies River)(downstream ford on S.R. 1569 to confluence
- 37 with North Fork Reddies River)

- 1 East Prong Roaring River (Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary to S.R. 1002 bridge)
- 2 Fall Creek (S.R. 1300 bridge to confluence with South Prong Lewis Fork, except where
- 3 posted against trespassing)
- 4 Middle Fork Reddies River (Clear Prong)(headwaters to bridge on S.R. 1580)
- 5 Middle Prong Roaring River (headwaters to bridge on S.R. 1736)
- 6 North Fork Reddies River (Vannoy Creek)(headwaters to Union School bridge on S.R.
- 7 1559)
- 8 Pike Creek
- 9 Pike Creek Pond
- 10 South Fork Reddies River (S.R. 1355 bridge to confluence with Middle Fork Reddies
- 11 River)
- 12 South Prong Lewis Fork (Fall Creek to S.R. 1155 bridge)
- 13 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 14 All waters located on Stone Mountain State Park, except East Prong Roaring River from
- 15 Bullhead Creek downstream to the Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary where
- 16 Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply, and Stone Mountain Creek from falls at
- 17 Alleghany County line to confluence with East Prong Roaring River and Bullhead Creek
- 18 in Stone Mountain State Park where Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply
- 19 (25) Yancey County
- 20 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 21 South Toe River (headwaters to Upper Creek)
- 22 Upper Creek
- 23 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 24 Cane River (Blackberry Ridge Rd. to downstream boundary of Cane River County Park)
- 25 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 26 Bald Mountain Creek (except where posted against trespassing)
- 27 Cane River (Bee Branch [S.R. 1110] to Bowlens Creek)
- 28 Price Creek (junction of S.R. 1120 and S.R. 1121 to Indian Creek)
- 29 South Toe River (Clear Creek to lower boundary line of Yancey Co. Recreation Park,
- 30 except where posted against trespassing)
- 31 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 32 Cattail Creek (bridge at Mountain Farm Community Rd. to N.C. 197 bridge)
- 33 Lickskillet Creek
- 34 Middle Creek (game land boundary to mouth)
- 35

36 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-272; 113-292;
 37 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

1 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993;*
2 *October 1, 1992;*
3 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*
4 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*
5 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*
6 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;*
7 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 6/21/01 and 04/18/02);*
8 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*
9 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*
10 *2003);*
11 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*
12 *August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May*
13 *1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005.*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0305 BLACK BASS**

2 (a) The daily creel limit for Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Spotted Bass — collectively known as Black Bass - is five
3 fish, except in waters identified in Paragraphs (b), (c), ~~and (d)~~(d), and (n) of this Rule. There is no minimum size limit
4 for these fish, but only two of them may be less than 14 inches except in waters identified in Paragraphs (b), (c), (d),
5 (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), ~~and (m)~~(m), and (n) of this Rule. There is no closed season, except for waters identified
6 in ~~Paragraph~~ Paragraphs (l) and (n) of this Rule.

7 (b) In Lake Cammack in Alamance County, and Lake Holt in Granville County the daily creel limit for Largemouth
8 Bass is 10 fish and no more than two fish greater than 14 inches may be possessed.

9 (c) In Lake Santeetlah in Graham County, there is no daily creel limit for Black Bass less than 14 inches. The daily
10 creel limit for Black Bass greater than 14 inches is five fish.

11 (d) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Black Bass is 10 fish, the minimum size limit for
12 Largemouth Bass is 12 inches, and there is no minimum size limit for Smallmouth Bass and Spotted Bass.

13 (e) The minimum size limit for Black Bass is 14 inches in the following:

- 14 (1) Lake Raleigh in Wake County;
- 15 (2) Pungo Lake in Washington and Hyde counties;
- 16 (3) New Lake in Hyde County; and
- 17 (4) Currituck, Roanoke, Croatan, Albemarle sounds, and all their tributaries including Roanoke River
18 downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam, Chowan River, Yeopim River, Pasquotank River,
19 Perquimans River, North River, Northwest River, Scuppernong River, and Alligator River
20 (including the Alligator/Pungo Canal east of the NC Hwy 264/45 bridge).

21 (f) In Cane Creek Lake in Union County, and Buckhorn Reservoir in Wilson and Nash counties, the minimum size
22 limit for Largemouth Bass is 16 inches.

23 (g) In Lake Phelps in Tyrrell and Washington counties, the minimum size limit is 14 inches, and no fish between 16
24 and 20 inches may be possessed.

25 (h) In Shearon Harris Reservoir and Lake Hampton in Yadkin County, there is no minimum size limit for Black Bass,
26 but only two Black Bass less than 14 inches and no Black Bass between 16 and 20 inches may be possessed.

27 (i) In Randleman Reservoir, there is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but only two Largemouth Bass less
28 than 14 inches and only one Largemouth Bass greater than 20 inches may be possessed.

29 (j) In Lake Thom-A-Lex in Davidson County, the minimum size limit for Black Bass is 18 inches.

30 (k) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia) there is
31 no minimum size limit for Black Bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and only one
32 Black Bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

33 (l) In Sutton Lake, the minimum size limit for Black Bass is 14 inches and no Black Bass may be possessed from
34 December 1 through March 31.

35 (m) In Lake Mattamuskeet and associated canals in Hyde County, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 16
36 inches and only one Largemouth Bass greater than 20 inches may be possessed.

1 (n) In Jean Guite Creek and associated canals within the Town of Southern Shores, Dare County, no Black Bass may
2 be possessed.

3 (o) For purposes of this Rule, creel limits apply to Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Spotted Bass in aggregate unless
4 otherwise specified.

5
6 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*
7 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
8 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 10, 1990, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1990;*
9 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 22, 1990, for a period of 168 days to expire on November 1, 1990;*
10 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 1991, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1991;*
11 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; October 1, 1992;*
12 *Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1994 for a period of 180 days or until the permanent rule*
13 *becomes effective, whichever is sooner;*
14 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995;*
15 *Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1998;*
16 *Amended Eff. April 1, 1999;*
17 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*
18 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*
19 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*
20 *Temporary Amendment Eff. March 8, 2002 [This rule replaces the rule proposed for permanent*
21 *amendment effective July 1, 2002 and approved by RRC in May 2001];*
22 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC in April 2002);*
23 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*
24 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*
25 *2003);*
26 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; November 1, 2013; August 1, 2012;*
27 *March 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2008; May 1, 2008; May 1,*
28 *2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005.*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0316 TROUT**

2 (a) The daily creel limit for trout in Hatchery-Supported Trout Waters is seven fish. There is no minimum size limit
3 for these fish. The open season is from 7 a.m. on the first Saturday in April until March 1, except for waters designated
4 in Paragraphs (d) and (g) of this Rule.

5 (b) The daily creel limit for trout in Wild Trout Waters and Wild Trout/Natural Bait Trout Waters is four fish. The
6 minimum size limit for these fish is seven inches. There is no closed season.

7 (c) No trout may be harvested from Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters or Catch and
8 Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters. Trout may not be possessed while fishing these waters.

9 (d) The daily creel limit for trout in Delayed Harvest Trout Waters is seven fish. There is no minimum size limit for
10 these fish. The Youth-only Delayed Harvest Trout Water Season is from 6 a.m. on the first Saturday in June until 12
11 p.m. that same day. During this season only individuals under the age of 18 may fish. From 12 p.m. on the first
12 Saturday in June until September 30, the Delayed Harvest Trout Waters Season is open for all anglers. From October
13 1 to one-half hour after sunset on the Friday before the first Saturday in June, trout may not be harvested or possessed
14 while fishing these waters. Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are closed to all fishing from one-half hour after sunset on
15 the Friday before the first Saturday in June to 6 a.m. on the first Saturday in June.

16 (e) The daily creel limits, size limits, and seasons for trout in Special Regulation Trout Waters are as follows: in the
17 Catawba River (Burke County) from Muddy Creek to the City of Morganton water intake dam the daily creel limit is
18 ~~seven two~~ fish. ~~There is no minimum size limit for these fish, but only one may be greater than~~ The minimum size
19 limit is 14 inches. There is no closed season.

20 (f) The daily creel limit for trout in undesignated trout waters is seven fish. There is no minimum size limit for these
21 fish.

22 (g) There is no closed season on taking trout from Linville River within Linville Gorge Wilderness Area and the
23 impounded waters of power reservoirs and municipally-owned water supply reservoirs open to the public for fishing.

24 (h) In designated Public Mountain Trout Waters the season for taking all species of fish is the same as the trout fishing
25 season.

26 (i) All trout water designations and manners of take are set forth in 15A NCAC 10C .0205.

27
28 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;*

29 *Eff. November 1, 2013;*

30 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2015.*

31

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0401 MANNER OF TAKING NONGAME FISHES: PURCHASE AND SALE**

2 (a) Except as permitted by the rules in this Section, it is unlawful to take nongame fishes from the inland fishing
3 waters of North Carolina in any manner other than with hook and ~~line~~, line or grabbling. Nongame fishes may be
4 taken by hook and line or grabbling at any time without restriction as to size limits or creel limits, with the following
5 exceptions:

- 6 (1) Blue crabs shall have a minimum carapace width of five inches (point to point) and it is unlawful to
7 possess more than 50 crabs per person per day or to exceed 100 crabs per vessel per day.
- 8 (2) While boating on or fishing in the following inland fishing waters, no person shall take river herring
9 (alewife and blueback) that are greater than six inches in length, or possess such herring regardless
10 of origin in:
- 11 (A) Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam;
 - 12 (B) Tar River downstream of Rocky Mount Mill Dam;
 - 13 (C) Neuse River downstream of Milburnie Dam;
 - 14 (D) Cape Fear River downstream of Buckhorn Dam;
 - 15 (E) Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam;
 - 16 (F) Lumber River including Drowning Creek;
 - 17 (G) all the tributaries to the rivers listed above; and
 - 18 (H) all other inland fishing waters east of I-95.
- 19 (3) Grass carp shall not be taken or possessed on Lake James, Lookout Shoals Lake, Lake Norman,
20 Mountain Island Reservoir, Lake Wylie, and John H. Kerr Reservoir, except that one fish per day
21 may be taken with archery equipment.
- 22 (4) No trotlines or set-hooks shall be used in the impounded waters located on the Sandhills Game Land
23 or in designated public mountain trout waters.
- 24 (5) In Lake Waccamaw, trotlines or set-hooks may be used only from October 1 through April 30.
- 25 (6) In inland fishing waters, gray trout (weakfish) recreational seasons, size limits, and creel limits are
26 the same as those established by Marine Fisheries Commission rule or proclamations issued by the
27 Fisheries Director in adjacent joint or coastal fishing waters.

28 (b) The season for taking nongame fishes by other hook and line methods in designated public mountain trout waters
29 is the same as the trout fishing season. Trout seasons are designated in 15A NCAC 10C .0316.

30 (c) Nongame fishes taken by hook and line, grabbling, or by licensed special devices may be sold, with the following
31 exceptions:

- 32 (1) alewife and blueback herring, excluding those less than six inches in length collected from Kerr
33 Reservoir (Granville, Vance, and Warren counties);
- 34 (2) blue crab; and
- 35 (3) bowfin.

36 (d) Freshwater mussels, including the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*), may be taken only from impounded waters,
37 except mussels shall not be taken in Lake Waccamaw in Columbus County, and in University Lake in Orange County.

1 The daily possession limit for freshwater mussels is 200 in the aggregate, except there is no daily possession limit for
2 the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*).

3 (e) In waters that are stocked and managed for catfish and located on game lands, on Commission-owned property,
4 or on the property of a cooperator, including waters within the Community Fishing Program, it is unlawful to take
5 channel, white, or blue catfish by means other than hook and line; the daily creel limit is six catfish in aggregate.
6 Waters where this creel limit applies shall be posted on-site with signs indicating the creel limit.

7 (f) The daily creel limit for blue catfish greater than 32 inches is one fish in the following reservoirs:

- 8 (1) Lake Norman;
- 9 (2) Mountain Island Lake;
- 10 (3) Lake Wylie;
- 11 (4) Badin Lake; ~~and~~
- 12 (5) ~~Lake Tillery.~~ Tillery;
- 13 (6) John H. Kerr Reservoir (North Carolina portion);
- 14 (7) Lake Gaston (North Carolina portion); and
- 15 (8) Roanoke Rapids Reservoir.

16 (g) The daily creel limit for American eels taken from or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing
17 in inland fishing waters is 25, and the minimum size limit is 9 inches.

18 (h) No person while fishing shall remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of any nongame fish
19 having a minimum size limit so as to render it impracticable to measure its total original length. No person while
20 fishing shall change the appearance of any nongame fish having a daily creel limit so as to obscure its identification
21 or render it impracticable to count the number of fish in possession.

22
23 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272; 113-292;*
24 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
25 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; May 1, 1992;*
26 *Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1994;*
27 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995;*
28 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*
29 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*
30 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*
31 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*
32 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*
33 *Amended Eff. May 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*
34 *2003);*
35 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013;*
36 *August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1,*
37 *2006; June 1, 2005*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0402 TAKING NONGAME FISHES FOR BAIT OR PERSONAL CONSUMPTION**

2 (a) It is unlawful to take nongame fish for bait or personal consumption in the inland waters of North Carolina using
3 equipment other than:

- 4 (1) a net of dip net design not greater than six feet across;
- 5 (2) a seine of not greater than 12 feet in length (except in Lake Waccamaw in Columbus County where
6 there is no length limitation) and with a bar mesh measure of not more than one-fourth inch;
- 7 (3) a cast net;
- 8 (4) a bow net for the seasons and waters in which the use of bow nets is authorized in 15A NCAC 10C
9 .0407;
- 10 (5) a dip net when used in conjunction with a licensed hand-crank electrofisher;
- 11 (6) a gig (except in Public Mountain Trout Waters);
- 12 (7) up to three traps for the seasons and waters in which the use of traps is authorized in 15A NCAC
13 10C .0407;
- 14 (8) up to two eel pots;
- 15 (9) a spear gun for the seasons and waters in which the use of a spear gun is authorized in 15A NCAC
16 10C .0407;
- 17 (10) minnow traps not exceeding 12 inches in diameter and 24 inches in length, with funnel openings not
18 exceeding one inch in diameter, ~~and that are under the immediate control and attendance of the~~
19 ~~individual operating them; from which all fish and animals are removed daily, and which are labeled~~
20 with the user's Wildlife Resources Commission customer number or name and address;
- 21 (11) a hand-held line with a single bait attached;
- 22 (12) a single, multiple-bait line for taking crabs not to exceed 100 feet in length, marked on each end
23 with a solid float no less than five inches in diameter, bearing legible and indelible identification of
24 the user's name and address, and under the immediate control and attendance of the person using
25 the device, with a limit of one line per person and no more than one line per vessel; or
- 26 (13) a collapsible crab trap with the largest open dimension not greater than 18 inches and that by design
27 is collapsed at all times when in the water, except when it is being retrieved or lowered to the bottom,
28 with a limit of one trap per person.

29 (b) The use of equipment under this Rule only requires a valid license that provides basic inland fishing privileges.

30 (c) It is unlawful to sell nongame fishes or aquatic animals taken under this Rule.

31 (d) Game fishes taken while netting for bait shall be returned unharmed to the water, except white perch may be taken
32 when captured in a cast net being used to collect nongame fishes for bait or personal consumption in all impounded
33 waters west of I-95 and in the Tar River Reservoir (Nash County).

34 (e) No person shall take or possess during one day more than 200 nongame fish in aggregate for bait or personal
35 consumption subject to the following restrictions:

- 36 (1) No more than 25 eels, none of which may be less than 9 inches in length, shall be taken from or
37 possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing in inland fishing waters;

1 (2) While boating on or fishing in the following inland fishing waters, no river herring (alewife and
2 blueback) that are greater than six inches in total length shall be taken, and no such river herring
3 shall be possessed regardless of origin:

4 (A) Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam;

5 (B) Tar River downstream of Rocky Mount Mill Dam;

6 (C) Neuse River downstream of Milburnie Dam;

7 (D) Cape Fear River downstream of Buckhorn Dam;

8 (E) Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam;

9 (F) Lumber River including Drowning Creek;

10 (G) the tributaries to the rivers listed above; and

11 (H) all other inland fishing waters east of Interstate 95.

12 (3) No more than 50 crabs per person per day or 100 per vessel per day with a minimum carapace width
13 of five inches (point to point) shall be taken.

14 (f) Any fishes taken for bait purposes are included within the daily possession limit for that species.

15 (g) It is unlawful to take nongame fish for bait or any other fish bait ~~from designated public mountain trout waters~~
16 ~~and from the bodies of water specified for the following counties:~~ waters:

17 (1) Public Mountain Trout Waters (except in impounded waters of power reservoirs and municipally-
18 owned water supply reservoirs);

19 (2) Bear Creek in Chatham County; County;

20 (3) Deep River in Chatham, Lee, and Moore counties and downstream of Coleridge Dam in Randolph
21 County;

22 (4) Fork Creek in Randolph County; and

23 (5) Rocky River in Chatham County.

24 ~~Bear Creek~~

25 (2) ~~Lee County;~~

26 ~~Deep River~~

27 (3) ~~Moore County;~~

28 ~~Deep River~~

29 (4) ~~Randolph County;~~

30 ~~Deep River below the Coleridge Dam~~

31 ~~Fork Creek~~

32 (h) In the waters of the Little Tennessee River, including all the tributaries and impoundments thereof, and on adjacent
33 shorelines, docks, access ramps, and bridge crossings, it is unlawful to transport, possess, or release live river herring
34 (alewife and blueblack).

35 (i) No person while fishing shall remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of any nongame fish
36 having a minimum size limit so as to render it impracticable to measure its total original length. No person while

1 fishing shall change the appearance of any nongame fish having a daily creel limit so as to obscure its identification
2 or render it impracticable to count the number of fish in possession.

3
4 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-135; 113-135.1; 113-272; 113-272.3; 113-292;*
5 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
6 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; July 1, 1998; July 1, 1993; July 1, 1992; May 1, 1992; July 1, 1989;*
7 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*
8 *Amended Eff. July 18, 2002;*
9 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*
10 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*
11 *2003);*
12 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*
13 *August 1, 2013; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006.*