



## **AGENDA**

### **N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION WEBINAR MEETING OCTOBER 22, 2020 9:00 am**

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

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

**ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT** – *Betsy Haywood, Commission Liaison*

**MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY** – North Carolina General Statute §163A-159(e) mandates that the Commission Chair shall remind all Commissioners of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict under this Chapter, and that the chair also inquires as to whether there is any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the Commission at this time. It is the duty of each Commissioner who is aware of such personal conflict of interest or of an appearance of a conflict, to notify the Chair of the same. *Chairman David Hoyle*

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 27, 2020 MEETING MINUTES** – Take action on the August 27, 2020 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit **(EXHIBIT A)**

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 MEETING MINUTES** – Take action on the September 10, 2020 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit **(EXHIBIT B)**

**FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT** – Receive a financial status report on the Wildlife Operating Fund and Wildlife Endowment Fund – *Dr. DP Singla, Chief Financial Officer (EXHIBIT C)*

## **COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

**Small Game and Wild Turkey Committee Report – September 29, 2020** – John Stone, *Chair*  
**Fisheries Committee Report – October 12, 2020** – Tommy Fonville, *Chair*  
**Habitat, Nongame, and Endangered Species Report – October 12, 2020** - Mark Craig, *Chair*  
**Elk and Alligator Committee Report – October 13, 2020** – Steve Windham, *Chair*  
**Finance Committee Report – October 13, 2020** – Landon Zimmer, *Chair*  
**Land Acquisition and Property Committee Report – October 19, 2020** – Tom Berry, *Chair*  
**Boating Safety Committee Report – October 19, 2020** – Mike Johnson, *Chair*  
**Education, Archery, Shooting Committee Report – October 20, 2020** – Kelly Davis, *Chair*  
**Big Game Committee Report – October 21, 2020** -John Coley, *Chair*  
**Planned Giving Committee Report – October 21, 2020** – Wes Seegars, *Chair*  
**Committee of the Whole Report – October 21, 2020** – David Hoyle, Jr., *Chair*

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – 2020 BOATING SAFETY LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE** –  
*Lieutenant Brad Stoop, District 1, Law Enforcement Division*

**CONSIDERATION OF NONGAME WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS** – Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §113-335, consider appointment of members to the Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee – *Cameron Ingram, Executive Director* (EXHIBIT D)

## **INLAND FISHERIES DIVISION**

**Rulemaking** – Consider staff recommendations for proposed changes in the 2021 – 2022 fishing rules to be presented at statewide public hearings. Review and consider approval of the fiscal note for proposed rule changes – *Christian Waters, Inland Fisheries Division Chief* (EXHIBITS E-1, E-2)

## **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

**Rulemaking** – Consider staff recommendations for proposed changes in the 2021-2022 wildlife management rules to be presented at statewide public hearings. Review and consider approval of the fiscal note for proposed rule changes – *Brad Howard, Wildlife Management Division Chief* (EXHIBITS F-1, F-2)

## **LAND AND WATER ACCESS DIVISION**

**Rulemaking** – Consider staff recommendations for proposed changes in the 2021-2022 game land rule proposals to be presented at statewide public hearings. Review and consider approval of the fiscal note for proposed rule changes – *Brian McRae, Land and Water Access Section Chief* (EXHIBITS G-1, G-2)

## **Land Acquisitions and Property Matters**

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

- Riverstone Jenerette Tract – Columbus County (H-1)
- Pitzer Road PFA Tract – Stokes County (H-2)
- North Fork Catawba Tract – McDowell County (H-3)

**Elizabethtown Shed Demolition** – Consider approval for demolition of damaged pole shed at Elizabethtown Depot – *Jessie Birckhead (EXHIBIT I)*

## **WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING**

**Emergency Rulemaking Request – 15A NCAC 10F .0323 Burke County, Lake James** - Consider action to propose text to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for emergency rulemaking for a no-wake zone for 345 yards in the waters of Mill Creek shore to shore, on Lake James at Lake James State Park, and a safety zone in the remainder of Mill Creek north of the no-wake zone, to mitigate boater safety hazards during a pedestrian bridge construction project – *Betsy Haywood, No-Wake Zone Coordinator (EXHIBIT J-1)*

**Temporary Rulemaking Request – 15A NCAC 10F .0323 Burke County, Lake James** – Consider action to propose text to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for emergency rulemaking for a no-wake zone for 345 yards in the waters of Mill Creek shore to shore, on Lake James at Lake James State Park, and a safety zone in the remainder of Mill Creek north of the no-wake zone, to mitigate boater safety hazards during a pedestrian bridge construction project. Simultaneous commencement of temporary rulemaking is required when an agency adopts an emergency rule (*See G.S. 150B-21.1A*). – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBIT J-2)*

**Fiscal Note and Request for Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0305 Brunswick County** - Consider adoption of Fiscal Note. (**Exhibit I-1**) Consider approval of request by the Town of Ocean Isle Beach to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with open comment period and virtual public hearing, for a no-wake zone in the waters of the AIWW shore to shore on both sides of the Hwy 904 Odell Williamson bridge (**Exhibit I-2**) – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBITS K-1, K-2)*

## **PERMANENT RULEMAKING**

**Fiscal Note and Request for Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10H .1500 Wildlife and Alligator Control Agents** – Consider approval to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and virtual public hearing for proposed adoption of rules for licensing and regulating wildlife and alligator control agents – *Daron Barnes, Program Manager, Office of Wildlife Interaction, Regulated Activities & Permits (EXHIBIT L)*

**Fiscal Note and Request for Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10B .0106 Wildlife Taken for Depredations** – Consider approval to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and virtual public hearing for proposed amendments to the Wildlife Taken for Depredation Rule – *Daron Barnes (EXHIBIT M)*

**2021 STATEWIDE PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE** – Consider approval of the January 2021 public hearing schedule for the 2021-2022 Annual Cycle Rules – *Cameron Ingram (EXHIBIT N)*

**2021 WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE** - Consider approval of the proposed 2021 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting schedule – *Cameron Ingram (EXHIBIT O)*

**COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN** – *Chairman Hoyle*

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

**ADJOURN**

# EXHIBIT A

## October 22, 2020



### MINUTES

#### August 27, 2020

#### N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Webinar Meeting

#### Raleigh, North Carolina

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute (NCGS) §166A-19.24 (Public Bodies/Remote Meetings During Declared Emergencies) the August 27, 2020 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) webinar meeting was called to order by Commission Chairman David Hoyle, Jr. at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Hoyle announced that the webinar meeting audio is being streamed live and will be available on the NCWRC's website. He reminded Commissioners to speak their names before making motions or comments and to mute their devices when not speaking. Hoyle announced that by the statutory requirement, the roll will be called for attendance and for each motion.

#### **MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY**

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

#### **ROLL CALL**

Betsy Haywood, *Commission Liaison*, called the roll. Mark Craig, Mike Johnson, and Wes Seegars were absent.

#### **COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE**

David Hoyle, Jr.  
John Stone  
Monty Crump  
Brad Stanback  
Tom Berry  
Landon Zimmer  
Jim Cogdell  
Hayden Rogers

Kelly Davis  
John Coley  
Steve Windham  
Ray Clifton  
Tommy Fonville  
Jim Ruffin  
Nat Harris  
Richard Edwards

## **MINUTES OF JULY 23, 2020 MEETING**

On a motion by Monty Crump and second by Steve Windham, the Commission approved the July 23, 2020 NCWRC minutes as presented in **Exhibit A**, which is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. DP Singla, *Chief Financial Officer*, presented a status report in **Exhibit B** on the Wildlife Operating Fund, Capital Improvement Funds, and the Wildlife Endowment Fund.

**Wildlife Operating Fund** - As of June 30, 2020, the revenues were \$88,938,952.53, revenues from other sources were -\$4,561,311.51, and the expenditures were \$84,295,091.07. The Fund Balance as of June 30, 2020 is \$15,400,443.23. On July 1, 2019, the Fund Balance was \$15,317,893.28.

**Wildlife Capital Improvement Fund** - As of June 30, 2020, the revenues were \$13,990,665.56, revenues from other sources were \$1,332,009.85, and the expenditures were \$15,991,038.14. The Fund Balance as of June 30, 2020 was \$3,315,170.42. On July 1, 2019, the Fund Balance was \$3,983,533.15.

**Wildlife Endowment Fund** - Balances in the Endowment Fund as of June 30, 2020 were \$93,870,155.60 in the Bond Index Fund, \$48,296,288.52 in the Equity Index Fund, and \$3,575,689.67 in the Short-Term Index Fund for a total of \$145,742,133.79. Expendable interest is \$31,341,230.01. Non-expendable interest is \$13,948,509.18 and expendable interest transferred to operations fiscal year to date is \$2,153,256.00.

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

### **COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

**Committee of the Whole (COW) Report – August 26, 2020** – Chairman David Hoyle announced that the COW met on August 26, 2020. Dr. D.P. Singla provided a review of the revenues and expenditures in the Operating Fund and a review of the Wildlife Endowment Fund financial status. Colleen Olfenbittel presented the committee with a history of North Carolina's controlled fox hunting preserves. Carrie Ruhlman provided the committee with a review of the proposal for permanent rulemaking Notice of Text for controlled fox hunting preserves and the Fiscal Note review for consideration of a vote by the full Commission on August 27, 2020. Ruhlman also presented a review of the proposal for permanent rulemaking Notice of Text for the sale of live foxes and coyotes to controlled fox hunting preserves and the Fiscal Note review for consideration of a vote by the full Commission on August 27. The committee received a first review of possible rule proposals from Christian Waters for fisheries, from Brian McRae for lands management rules, from Brad Howard for wildlife management rules, and for wildlife and alligator control agents and for wildlife taken for depredation from Michael Smallwood and Daron Barnes. Brian McRae gave an overview of possible Sunday hunting opportunities on game lands. Jessie Birckhead gave an update about the Great American Outdoors Act. Christian Waters provided an update on the Estuarine Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan.

Executive Director Cam Ingram suggested a change in the statewide public hearings in January 2021 to reduce the number from nine district hearings to three regional ones. Ingram asked the Commission to consider adding a webinar meeting on September 10, 2020 to adopt temporary rulemaking to correct the primitive weapons season dates on Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County.

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – Establishing and Monitoring a New Bodie (Hybrid Striped) Bass Fishery in Lake Norman** – Corey Oakley, *Piedmont Region Fisheries Supervisor*

Corey Oakley presented a spotlight about a five-year project to establish a new hybrid Striped Bass (Bodie Bass) fishery in Lake Norman. Established in 1963, Lake Norman is a 32,500-acre lake that was formed when Duke Energy dammed the Catawba River. Lake Norman now is a recreational lake. Oakley stated that the water is oligotrophic meaning that it has relatively few nutrients, so it is difficult to grow fish there. The Striped Bass fishery in Lake Norman grew poorly for a long time. Alewife were introduced into the lake. Striped Bass ate the Alewife and grew, but oxygen was depleted, and the fish died. After a huge fish kill of more than 10,000 Bass in 2010, the decision was made to stop stocking them in Lake Norman in 2012. Hybrid Striped Bass, or Bodie Bass, have a higher thermal tolerance. Beginning in 2013 fish stocking of these hybrids at 5 fish per acre with a minimum length of 16 inches was started. As the fishery increased in popularity, especially bank fishing, concerns about over harvesting of Bodie Bass by bank anglers were noted. A five-year study began in 2015 with a tag return project and interviews of more than 800 anglers at Lake Norman. The study is nearing the end in November 2020. Bank and boating anglers have been interviewed. Sixty-three percent of tags have been returned by interested participants. Of bank and boat anglers it has been found that nine out of ten fish are taken by bank fishing. The average age of the Bodie Bass is only eight months. Oakley stated that Bodie Bass fishing is a cool water fishery. Tag returns will be collected through early December. Future investigations include calculating fish mortality, monitoring the population, tracking for summer habitat use, and a Bodie Bass telemetry project.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION** – Gary Whelan, *President-Elect, American Fisheries Society Fisheries Administration Section*, presented the Wildlife Resources Commission with the 2019 Sport Fish Restoration Outstanding Development and Management Project Award for the Bodie Bass (hybrid Striped Bass) work at Lake Norman.

**PERMANENT RULEMAKING**

**Fiscal Note Review and Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10H .1200 Controlled Fox Hunting Preserves** – On a motion by Nat Harris and second by Landon Zimmer, the Commission approved the Fiscal Note, presented in **Exhibit C-1** by Carrie Ruhlman, *Rulemaking Coordinator*, and approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and one virtual public hearing for proposed amendments to rules for licensing and regulation of controlled fox hunting preserve, presented in **Exhibit C-2**. **Exhibits C-1 and C-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Fiscal Note Review and Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10B .0409 Sale of Live Foxes and Coyotes to Controlled Fox Hunting Preserves** – Also on a motion by Nat Harris and second by Landon Zimmer, the Commission approved the Fiscal Note presented in **Exhibit D-1** and approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and one virtual public hearing for proposed amendments to the rule for trapping and live sale of foxes and coyotes to controlled fox hunting preserves, presented in **Exhibit D-2** by Carrie Ruhlman. **Exhibits D-1 and D-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

### **ADDITION OF A NCWRC WEBINAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 10, 2020**

On a motion by Nat Harris and second by Landon Zimmer, the Commission approved adding a webinar meeting of the Wildlife Resources Commission on September 10, 2020.

### **COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

Chairman David Hoyle thanked Corey Oakley for presenting the spotlight. He thanked Todd Leck and IT staff for working to prepare and present the webinar meeting. Hoyle stated that he cannot wait for those Commissioners who wish to attend in person to get back to the Headquarters building for the meeting of the NCWRC on October 22, 2020.

### **COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Executive Director Cameron Ingram noted his appreciation for Commissioner and staff attendance virtually at the meetings. He also thanked Commissioners for their support and guidance and for reviewing documents that pertain to the agency's mission. Ingram stated that the October meetings will be conducted by webinar and in person for those Commissioners who can attend. He thanked staff for their outstanding work statewide protecting wildlife resources. He recognized Todd Leck, Lisa Barfield, and Kyle Briggs and thanked them for their efforts to make the webinar meetings successful. Finally Director Ingram asked Commissioners and staff to consider out of cycle meetings in September and early October for some committees, to lessen the number of committee meetings that must be held on the Wednesday before the October 22, 2020 NCWRC meeting.



**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the NCWRC webinar meeting was adjourned at 9:29 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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David Hoyle, Jr., Chairman

Date

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Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

Date

**EXHIBIT B**  
**October 22, 2020**



**MINUTES**  
**September 10, 2020**  
**N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Webinar Meeting**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**

Pursuant to NCGS §166A-19.24 (Public Bodies/Remote Meetings During Declared Emergencies) the September 10, 2020 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission webinar meeting was called to order by *Commission Chairman David Hoyle, Jr.* at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Hoyle announced that the webinar meeting audio is being streamed live and will be available on the Wildlife Resources Commission website. He reminded Commissioners to speak their names before making motions or comments and to mute their devices when not speaking. By the statutory requirement, the roll will be called for attendance and for each motion.

**ROLL CALL**

Betsy Haywood, *Commission Liaison*, called the roll. Commissioners John Coley, Nat Harris, Richard Edwards, Mike Johnson, Jim Ruffin, John Stone, and Tommy Fonville were absent.

**COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE**

David Hoyle, Jr.	Kelly Davis
Wes Seegars	Steve Windham
Jim Cogdell	Hayden Rogers
Monty Crump	Landon Zimmer
Brad Stanback	Ray Clifton
Tom Berry	Tommy Fonville

**MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY**

Chairman Hoyle advised the Commission of the mandatory ethics inquiry as mandated in North Carolina General Statute §163A-159(e).

**TEMPORARY RULEMAKING**

**Review Public Comments and Consider Temporary Adoption 15A NCAC 10D .0103** – the Commission reviewed in **Exhibit A-1** one public comment that was received during the open comment period to correct the primitive weapons season dates on Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County.

**Adoption of Temporary Rule for 15A NCAC 10D .0103** – on a motion by Steve Windham and second by Monty Crump, the Commission adopted the temporary rule for 15A NCAC 10D .0103 to correct the primitive season dates on Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County, presented in **Exhibit A-2** by Carrie Ruhlman, *Rules Coordinator*.

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

**COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

Chairman Hoyle reminded everyone that there will be some out of cycle committee meetings to be announced before the October meeting. The next regularly scheduled committee meetings will be October 21, 2020 and the Wildlife Resources Commission meeting will be October 22, 2020. Pursuant to the Governor’s announcement that North Carolina has moved to Phase 2.5, the next meeting will be held in person for those Commissioners who wish to attend.

**COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Executive Director Cameron Ingram thanked staff and Commissioners for their flexibility in getting today’s webinar meeting scheduled. He noted his appreciation to Todd Leck and the I.T. staff who ran the webinar meeting. Ingram asked staff contacts to contact committee chairs to see whether they wanted to have out of cycle committee meetings in the coming weeks.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman David Hoyle at 10:07 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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David Hoyle, Jr., Chairman Date

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Cameron Ingram, Executive Director Date

# EXHIBIT C

NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION  
 CAFR 52G - STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES and CHANGES in FUND BALANCES  
 GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
 AS OF AUGUST 31, 2020

	FY 2021 General	FY 2021 Capital Improvement	FY 2021 Permanent
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Federal funds	6,213,235.72	525,223.00	0.00
Local funds	552.87	0.00	0.00
Investment earnings	21,598.73	0.00	400,569.20
Sales and services	1,801,232.58	0.00	0.00
Rental and lease of property	16,950.00	0.00	0.00
Fees, licenses and fines	6,742,834.59	0.00	786,887.50
Contributions, gifts and grants	524,039.33	382,994.33	9,396.00
Miscellaneous	295.00	0.00	0.00
Unclassified/invalid accounts	0.00	419.62	0.00
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>			
Sale of capital assets	168,230.74	0.00	0.00
Transfers in	9,655,050.59	664,650.00	0.00
Appropriations	1,983,272.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>27,127,292.15</b>	<b>1,573,286.95</b>	<b>1,196,852.70</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Personal services	5,920,903.01	0.00	0.00
Employee benefits	2,673,635.82	0.00	0.00
Contracted personal services	1,300,236.10	27,274.67	0.00
Supplies and materials	1,019,302.63	0.00	0.00
Travel	23,740.86	0.00	0.00
Communication	127,147.36	0.00	0.00
Utilities	113,506.72	0.00	0.00
Data processing services	386,532.34	0.00	0.00
Other services	663,734.73	0.00	0.00
Claims and benefits	243,233.82	0.00	0.00
Other fixed charges	32,981.11	0.00	0.00
Capital outlay	221,883.86	1,187,028.84	0.00
Grants, state aid and subsidies	880,393.11	0.00	0.00
Insurance and bonding	14,613.00	0.00	0.00
Other expenditures	175,111.67	0.00	0.00
Reimbursements	-44,547.13	0.00	0.00
Unclassified/invalid accounts	35,889.88	0.00	0.00
<b>OTHER FINANCING (USES)</b>			
Transfers out	10,622,188.92	350,000.00	270,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>24,410,487.81</b>	<b>1,564,303.51</b>	<b>270,000.00</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES</b>			
	<b>2,716,804.34</b>	<b>8,983.44</b>	<b>926,852.70</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, As previously stated</b>	<b>16,536,637.23</b>	<b>3,315,170.42</b>	<b>138,879,798.61</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE - AUGUST 31, 2020</b>	<b>19,253,441.57</b>	<b>3,324,153.86</b>	<b>139,806,651.31</b>

**NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION  
WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND  
FUND BALANCES AS OF AUGUST 31, 2020**

BOND INDEX FUND (BIF)	\$91,505,226.30
EQUITY INDEX FUND (EIF)	\$57,069,996.61
SHORT TERM INVESTMENT FUND (STIF)	\$4,107,546.90
<b>TOTAL WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCE AS OF August 31, 2020</b>	<b><u><u>\$152,682,769.81</u></u></b>

INTEREST INCOME WITHIN FUNDS	EXPENDABLE	NON-EXPENDABLE
ADULT LICENSE SALES	\$28,092,485.67	
INFANT LICENSE SALES		\$12,808,619.55
YOUTH LICENSE SALES		\$1,171,208.22
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,870,457.96	
WILDLIFE DIVERSITY	\$1,124.78	
MAGAZINE SALES	\$1,483,905.98	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u><u>\$31,447,974.39</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>\$13,979,827.77</u></u></b>

EXPENDABLE INTEREST TRANSFERRED TO OPERATIONS FISCAL YTD
\$270,000.00
<b><u><u>\$270,000.00</u></u></b>

# EXHIBIT D



October 22, 2020

## RECOMMENDED NONGAME WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2020

Government Affiliate – Two seats are up for re-appointment as of June 30, 2020.

- 1. Sarah McRae** **Recommended for re-appointment**  
**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**  
Length of NWAC membership: 2020  
Current Position: Endangered Species Classification Biologist  
Expertise: Freshwater mollusks, ESA programs, natural resource science and policy
- 2. Judith Ratcliffe** **Recommended for re-appointment**  
**NC Department of Natural & Cultural Resources,**  
**Office of Land & Water Stewardship**  
Length of NWAC membership: 2015  
Current Position: Environmental Senior Specialist, Zoologist  
Expertise: Ichthyology, freshwater mollusks, aquatic insects, stream ecology

Expert Affiliate – Two seats are open for consideration as of June 30, 2020.

- 1. Dr. Michael V. Cove**  
**North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences**  
Current Position: Curator of Mammals  
Expertise: mammals, Florida Keys and Costa Rican ecosystems, predator management, habitat restoration, occupancy modeling, use of GIS modeling to assess habitat suitability
- 2. Marquette Crockett** **Recommended for re-appointment**  
**Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy**  
Length of NWAC membership: 2018  
Current Position: Highlands of Roan Stewardship Director  
Expertise: Western region amphibians, reptiles, mammals, birds, fish, plants

**3. Michael Fisher**

**Beekeeper**

Current Position: Beekeeper

Expertise: Member of the Buncombe County beekeeper association, member of the North Carolina state beekeeper association, and Chairperson for the Buncombe County Crime stopper.

**4. Matthew P. Guillette**

**North Carolina State University**

Current Position: Wildlife/Environmental Biologist

Expertise: Crocodylians, herpetofauna, environmental contaminants effects studies, wildlife health, wildlife diversity and conservation, scientific writing and communication

**5. Dr. Christopher Moorman**

**North Carolina State University**

Current Position: Professor, NCSU Faculty Scholar, Interim Associate Head of the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources

Expertise: Academic administration, global change and wildlife, forest wildlife management, fire ecology, avian ecology, wildlife conservation and management in agricultural lands and urban environments

**6. Dr. Wm. David Webster**

**Recommended for re-appointment**

**University of North Carolina – Wilmington**

Length of NWAC membership: 1999

Current Position: Senior Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Expertise: mammals; mountain, piedmont, and coastal ecology; academic programs

At-large Affiliate – One seat is up for consideration as of June 30, 2020.

**1. Dr. Carol Price**

**NC Aquariums and NC State University**

**Center for Marine Science & Technology**

Current Position: Conservation Research Coordinator

Expertise: Marine biology, conservation science, environmental impacts of marine aquaculture, communication and outreach, sea turtle and gopher frog biology, fisheries science

**2. Dr. Liz Rutledge**

**Recommended for re-appointment**

**NC Wildlife Federation**

Length of NWAC membership: since 2017

Current Position: Wildlife Specialist

Expertise: grant writing, wildlife policy, wildlife conservation education and outreach

# EXHIBIT E-1

October 22, 2020



## Proposed Changes to Inland Fisheries Regulations for 2021-2022 Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearings

### Trout

1. Combine the two-existing Public Mountain Trout Waters (PMTW) catch-and-release classifications (Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters and Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters) into a single classification (Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters).

**Justification:**

Regulatory complexity has been identified routinely by trout anglers as an impediment to their experiences, and the Commission identified the need to reduce rule complexity within its Trout Management Plan. The two-existing catch-and-release classifications function as social regulations and do not address any biological issues. This proposal will reduce angler confusion by combining the two current classifications into one.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (pages 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 16, and 18)*  
*15A NCAC 10C .0316 Trout (page 27)*

2. Remove Franks Creek in Graham County from Wild Trout Natural Bait Waters. This proposal will remove 4.1 miles from Public Mountain Trout Waters and 0.4 miles of Franks Creek on game lands will be reclassified to Wild Trout Waters.

**Justification:**

Franks Creek was historically managed as Hatchery Supported Trout Waters with stockings of fingerling trout. When fingerling trout stockings were phased out, Franks Creek was reclassified as Wild Trout Natural Bait Waters to maintain the stream as Public Mountain Trout Waters. Much of the stream is located on private property and public access is limited. The proposed change will simplify rules by allowing the portion of Franks Creek on private property to default as undesignated.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 11)*

3. Remove Hemphill Creek in Haywood County from Wild Trout Natural Bait Waters. This proposal will remove 3.7 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters.

**Justification:**

Hemphill Creek was historically managed as Hatchery Supported Trout Waters with stockings of fingerling trout. When fingerling trout stockings were phased out, Hemphill Creek was reclassified as Wild Trout Natural Bait Waters to maintain the stream as



Public Mountain Trout Waters. The stream is located on private property and public access is limited. The proposed change will simplify rules by allowing Hemphill Creek to default as undesignated.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 11)*

4. Remove Buff Creek in Jackson County from Wild Trout Natural Bait Waters. This proposal will remove 2.8 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters and 1.0 mile of Buff Creek on game lands will be reclassified to Wild Trout Waters.

**Justification:**

Buff Creek was historically managed as Hatchery Supported Trout Waters with stockings of fingerling trout. When fingerling trout stockings were phased out, Buff Creek was reclassified as Wild Trout Natural Bait Waters to maintain the stream as Public Mountain Trout Waters. Much of the stream is located on private property and public access is limited. The proposed change will simplify rules by allowing the portion of Buff Creek on private property to default as undesignated.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 13)*

5. Modify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Big Pine Creek in Alleghany County removing approximately 4.5 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be from the S.R. 1464 bridge to the confluence with Brush Creek.

**Justification:**

Most of the Hatchery Supported Trout Waters reach on Big Pine Creek is located on Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP) property. National Park Service staff has requested this portion of the creek no longer be stocked in compliance with the BRP management policy prohibiting the stocking of fish into streams on BRP property.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 7)*

6. Remove Meadow Fork in Alleghany County from Hatchery Supported Trout Waters. This proposal will remove 5.0 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters.

**Justification:**

The Hatchery Supported Trout Waters reach on Meadow Fork is located on Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP) property. National Park Service staff has requested this portion of the creek no longer be stocked in compliance with the BRP management policy prohibiting the stocking of fish into streams on BRP property.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 7)*

7. Remove Mill Creek in McDowell County from Hatchery Supported Trout Waters. This proposal will remove 6.0 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters.

**Justification:**

The Hatchery Supported Trout Waters reach of Mill Creek is primarily adjacent to private properties, many of which have been posted against trespassing in recent years. The few areas that are stocked are short in reach, disjunct, and often separated by lengthy inaccessible reaches, making it difficult for anglers to access the fishery.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 14)*

8. Clarify that there is no closed season for harvest in undesignated trout waters.

**Justification:**

This is an administrative change. The removal of the closed season for harvest in undesignated trout waters was adopted during the 2015-2016 rule-making cycle but was not removed from the NCAC.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 7)*

9. Clarify the boundaries for the Delayed Harvest Trout Waters reaches of the Watauga River in Watauga County. The designated reaches are S.R. 1114 bridge to Valle Crucis Community Park lower boundary (upper reach) and S.R. 1103 bridge to confluence with Laurel Creek (lower reach). This proposal will not add or remove any Public Mountain Trout Waters.

**Justification:**

This is an administrative change. The boundary changes for the reaches of the Delayed Harvest Trout Waters of the Watauga River were adopted during the 2015-2016 rule-making cycle but were not fully incorporated in the NCAC.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 16)*

10. Clarify that Boundary Line Pond in Wilkes County is designated as Public Mountain Trout Waters and further classified as Hatchery Supported Trout Waters.

**Justification:**

This is an administrative change. The addition of Boundary Line Pond to Public Mountain Trout Waters was adopted during the 2015-2016 rule-making cycle but was not incorporated into the NCAC.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 18)*

11. Clarify that the lower Hatchery Supported Trout Waters boundary on the Middle Prong Roaring River in Wilkes County is the second bridge on S.R. 1736.

**Justification:**

This is an administrative change. The boundary change for the Hatchery Supported Trout Waters reach of the Middle Prong Roaring River was adopted during the 2015-2016 rule-making cycle but was not incorporated into the NCAC.

*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 18)*

## **Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass**

1. Clarify that the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in the Alleghany County portion of the New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia) is five fish in combination.

**Justification:**

This is an administrative change. The previous rule for black bass species was reformatted into species-specific rules during the 2020-2021 rule-making cycle, and this combined daily creel limit was inadvertently omitted from the NCAC. The size and creel limits for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in this reach of the New River are consistent with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' regulations downstream.

*15A NCAC 10C .0305 Largemouth Bass (page 23)*  
*15A NCAC 10C .0321 Smallmouth Bass (page 29)*  
*15A NCAC 10C .0322 Alabama and Spotted Bass (page 30)*

2. Prohibit harvest of Largemouth Bass from three ponds associated with Martin-Marietta Park, City of New Bern, Craven County.

**Justification:**

The City of New Bern is allowing public angling opportunities to three ponds within the newly established Martin-Marietta Park. The proposed rule will address concerns regarding potential overharvest of Largemouth Bass once the ponds are opened to fishing.

*15A NCAC 10C .0305 Largemouth Bass (page 24)*

## **Striped Bass**

1. Prohibit harvest of Striped Bass from three ponds associated with Martin-Marietta Park, City of New Bern, Craven County.

**Justification:**

The City of New Bern is allowing public angling opportunities to three ponds within the newly established Martin-Marietta Park. Periodic flooding from the Neuse River has introduced Striped Bass into these ponds. The proposed rule will provide consistent regulations in the area and address concerns regarding potential overharvest of Striped Bass once the ponds are opened to fishing.

*15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass (page 25)*

## **Blue Catfish**

1. Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for Blue Catfish in the North Carolina portion of the Dan River (Caswell Co.), downstream of Danville, Va. by allowing only one fish greater than 32 inches to be possessed in the daily creel.

**Justification:**

From the Union Street Dam in Danville, VA, the Dan River flows downstream through Caswell County for approximately 10 miles before flowing back into Virginia and then into John H. Kerr Reservoir. The proposed change is consistent with Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' regulations for Blue Catfish and will provide continuity when enforcing regulations on the river.

*15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes (pages 31 and 32)*

## **American Eel**

1. Allow American Eel greater than the 9-inch minimum length limit to be used for cut bait provided the body depth of the eel is at least ½ inch.

**Justification:**

During the 2018-2019 rule-making cycle, a rule was adopted prohibiting the removal the head or tail or otherwise changing the appearance of any nongame fish with a specific size and/or creel limit. American Eel is subject to this rule, and before it became

effective, eels were a popular cut bait among anglers, especially those targeting trophy catfish. Anglers have requested the ability to use eels once again as cut bait. The proposal would allow the use of eels greater than the 9-inch minimum length limit as cut bait provided the body depth of the cut bait is at least ½ inch, which is consistent with the ½-inch x ½-inch mesh restriction for eel pots. While American Eel are considered depleted across their range by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, using legally harvest eels as cut bait is not expected to impact the overall population.

*15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes (page 32)*

*15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait or Personal Consumption (page 35)*

## **Prohibited Species**

1. Add the African Longfin Eel, Creole Painted Crayfish, Bigclaw Crayfish, Marbled Crayfish or Marmorkrebs, Applesnail, Olive Mysterysnail, European Eel, Oriental Weatherfish, Brown Hoplo, Yellow Bass, Shortfin Eel, Crucian Carp, Prussian Carp, European Perch, European Minnow, and Amur Sleeper to the list of species for which it is unlawful to transport, purchase, possess, sell or stock in the public or private waters of North Carolina. The proposed change also includes taxonomic clarifications and corrections.

### **Justification:**

Non-native species introduced into public waters can have unintended, negative consequences, which can alter the existing aquatic community permanently. Unfortunately, once established, introduced species are nearly impossible to eradicate. Strategies to evaluate and manage the unintended impacts of introduced species are difficult to implement, often ineffective and costly. The species proposed for adding are listed in the North Carolina Aquatic Nuisance Species Plan, U.S. Geological Survey's Aquatic Nuisance Species website, or in the Lacey Act as species that can become invasive and nuisance species in North Carolina.

*15A NCAC 10C .0211 Possession of Certain Fishes (pages 20 and 21)*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0205 PUBLIC MOUNTAIN TROUT WATERS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

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) "Single hook" means a fish hook with only one point.
- 6 (3) "Artificial lure" means a fishing lure that neither contains nor has been treated by any substance that  
7 attracts fish by the sense of taste or smell.
- 8 (4) "Artificial fly" means one single hook dressed with feathers, hair, thread, tinsel, rubber, or any  
9 similar material to which no additional hook, spinner, spoon or similar device is added.
- 10 (5) "Youth anglers" are individuals under 18 years of age.

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

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

1 ~~(8)(7)~~ "Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait" are Public Mountain Trout Waters where all artificial lures and  
2 natural baits, except live fish, may be used provided they are fished using only one single hook.  
3 Waters designated as such include tributaries unless otherwise noted.

4 ~~(9)(8)~~ "Undesignated Waters" are all other waters in the State. These waters have no bait or lure  
5 restrictions. ~~Trout may not be possessed while fishing these waters from March 1 until 7:00 a.m. on~~  
6 ~~the first Saturday in April.~~

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

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

12 (1) Alleghany

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

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

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

17 Big Pine Creek (S.R. 1464 bridge to confluence with Brush Creek)

18 Bledsoe Creek

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

21 Cranberry Creek

22 (Big) Glade Creek

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

25 ~~Meadow Fork~~

26 Pine Swamp Creek

27 Piney Fork

28 Prathers Creek

29 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:

30 All waters located on Stone Mountain State Park

31 (2) Ashe County

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

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

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

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

36 Helton Creek (SR 1372 bridge to North Fork New River)

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

- 1 Trout Lake
- 2 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 3 Beaver Creek (N.C. 221 to confluence of Beaver Creek and South Beaver Creek)
- 4 Big Horse Creek (Mud Creek at S.R. 1363 to S.R. 1324 bridge)
- 5 Big Laurel Creek (S.R. 1315 bridge to confluence with North Fork New River)
- 6 Buffalo Creek (S.R. 1133 bridge to N.C. 194-88 bridge)
- 7 Cranberry Creek (Alleghany Co. line to South Fork New River)
- 8 Nathans Creek
- 9 North Fork New River (Watauga Co. line to Sharp Dam)
- 10 Old Fields Creek (N.C. 221 to South Fork New River)
- 11 Peak Creek (headwaters to Trout Lake, except Blue Ridge Parkway waters)
- 12 Roan Creek
- 13 Three Top Creek
- 14 (3) Avery County
- 15 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 16 Elk River (portion on Lees-McRae College property, excluding the millpond)
- 17 Lost Cove Creek (game land portion, excluding Gragg Prong and Rockhouse Creek)
- 18 Wilson Creek (game land portion)
- 19 ~~(B) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:~~
- 20 ~~Wilson Creek (game land portion)~~
- 21 ~~(B)~~ Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 22 Boyde Coffey Lake
- 23 Elk River (S.R. 1305 crossing immediately upstream of Big Falls to the Tennessee state
- 24 line)
- 25 Linville River (Land Harbor line [below dam] to the Blue Ridge Parkway boundary line,
- 26 except where posted against trespassing)
- 27 Milltimber Creek
- 28 North Toe River — upper (Watauga St. to Roby Shoemaker Wetlands and Family
- 29 Recreational Park, except where posted against trespassing)
- 30 North Toe River — lower (S.R. 1164 to Mitchell Co. line, except where posted against
- 31 trespassing)
- 32 Squirrel Creek
- 33 Wildcat Lake
- 34 ~~(D)~~(C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 35 Birchfield Creek
- 36 Cow Camp Creek
- 37 Cranberry Creek (headwaters to U.S. 19E/N.C. 194 bridge)

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



- 1 Catawba River (Muddy Creek to City of Morganton water intake dam)
- 2 (E) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 3 All waters located on South Mountains State Park, except those waters identified in Parts
- 4 A and B of this Subparagraph
- 5 (6) Caldwell County
- 6 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 7 Wilson Creek (game land portion below Lost Cove Creek to Philips Branch)
- 8 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 9 Boone Fork Pond
- 10 Buffalo Creek (mouth of Joes Creek to McCloud Branch)
- 11 Joes Creek (first falls upstream of S.R. 1574 to confluence with Buffalo Creek)
- 12 Wilson Creek (Phillips Branch to Brown Mountain Beach Dam, except where posted
- 13 against trespassing)
- 14 Yadkin River (Happy Valley Ruritan Community Park to S.R. 1515)
- 15 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 16 Buffalo Creek (Watauga Co. line to Long Ridge Branch including game land tributaries)
- 17 Joes Creek (Watauga Co. line to first falls upstream of the end of S.R. 1574)
- 18 Rockhouse Creek
- 19 (7) Cherokee County
- 20 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 21 Davis Creek (confluence of Bald and Dockery creeks to Hanging Dog Creek)
- 22 Hyatt Creek (Big Dam Branch to Valley River)
- 23 Junaluska Creek (Ashturn Creek to Valley River)
- 24 Shuler Creek (Joe Brown Hwy [S.R. 1325] bridge to Tennessee state line)
- 25 Valley River (S.R. 1359 to U.S. 19 Business bridge in Murphy)
- 26 (B) Special Regulation Trout Waters are as follows:
- 27 Apalachia Reservoir
- 28 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 29 Bald Creek (game land portion)
- 30 Dockery Creek (game land portion)
- 31 North Shoal Creek (game land portion)
- 32 (8) Clay County
- 33 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 34 Fires Creek (Rockhouse Creek to the foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area)
- 35 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 36 Buck Creek (game land portion downstream of U.S. 64 bridge)
- 37 Fires Creek (foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area to S.R. 1300)

- 1 Tusquitee Creek (Compass Creek to lower S.R. 1300 bridge)
- 2 (9) Graham County
- 3 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 4 (Big) Snowbird Creek (USFS footbridge at the old railroad junction to USFS Rd. 2579)
- 5 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 6 Calderwood Reservoir (Cheoah Dam to Tennessee state line)
- 7 Cheoah Reservoir
- 8 Panther Creek (confluence of Stand Creek and Rock Creek to Lake Fontana)
- 9 Santeetlah Creek (Johns Branch to Lake Santeetlah)
- 10 (Big) Snowbird Creek (USFS Road 2579 to S.R. 1127 bridge)
- 11 Stecoah Creek (upper game land boundary to Lake Fontana)
- 12 Tulula Creek (S.R. 1201 to lower bridge on S.R. 1275)
- 13 West Buffalo Creek
- 14 Yellow Creek (Lake Santeetlah hydropower pipeline to Cheoah River)
- 15 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 16 Little Buffalo Creek
- 17 South Fork Squally Creek
- 18 Squally Creek
- 19 (D) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 20 Deep Creek
- 21 ~~Franks Creek~~
- 22 Long Creek (game land portion)
- 23 (10) Haywood County
- 24 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 25 West Fork Pigeon River (Queen Creek to the first game land boundary upstream of Lake
- 26 Logan)
- 27 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 28 Cold Springs Creek (Fall Branch to Pigeon River)
- 29 Jonathan Creek (upstream S.R. 1302 bridge to Pigeon River, except where posted against
- 30 trespassing)
- 31 Pigeon River (Stamey Cove Branch to upstream U.S. 19-23 bridge)
- 32 Richland Creek (Russ Avenue [U.S. 276] bridge to U.S. 19 bridge)
- 33 West Fork Pigeon River (Tom Creek to Queen Creek, including portions on game lands,
- 34 except Middle Prong)
- 35 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 36 ~~Hemphill Creek~~
- 37 Hurricane Creek

- 1 (11) Henderson County
- 2 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 3 North Fork Mills River (game land portion below the Hendersonville watershed dam)
- 4 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 5 (Rocky) Broad River (end of S.R. 1611 to Rutherford County line)
- 6 Cane Creek (railroad bridge upstream of S.R. 1551 bridge to U.S. 25 bridge)
- 7 Clear Creek (Laurel Fork to S.R. 1582)
- 8 Green River (Lake Summit powerhouse to game land boundary)
- 9 (Big) Hungry River (S.R. 1885 to Green River)
- 10 (12) Jackson County
- 11 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 12 Flat Creek
- 13 Tuckasegee River (upstream from the Clark property)
- 14 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 15 Tuckasegee River (downstream N.C. 107 bridge to the falls located 275 yards upstream of
- 16 the U.S. 23-441 bridge [marked by a sign on each bank])
- 17 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 18 Balsam Lake
- 19 Bear Creek Lake
- 20 Cedar Cliff Lake
- 21 Cullowhee Creek (Tilley Creek to Tuckasegee River)
- 22 Dark Ridge Creek (Jones Creek to Scott Creek)
- 23 Greens Creek (Greens Creek Baptist Church on S.R. 1370 to Savannah Creek)
- 24 Savannah Creek (Shell Branch to Cagle Branch)
- 25 Scott Creek (Dark Ridge Creek to Tuckasegee River, except where posted against
- 26 trespassing)
- 27 Tanasee Creek Lake
- 28 Tuckasegee River — upper (John Brown Branch to the downstream N.C. 107 bridge)
- 29 Tuckasegee River — lower (falls located 275 yards upstream of U.S. 23-441 bridge
- 30 [marked by a sign on each bank] to S.R. 1534 bridge at Wilmot)
- 31 Wolf Creek Lake
- 32 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 33 Gage Creek
- 34 North Fork Scott Creek
- 35 Tanasee Creek
- 36 Whitewater River (downstream from Silver Run Creek to South Carolina state line)
- 37 Wolf Creek (except Balsam Lake and Wolf Creek Lake)

- 1 (E) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:  
2 ~~Buff Creek~~  
3 Chattooga River (S.R. 1100 bridge to the South Carolina state line)  
4 Lower Fowler Creek (game land portion)  
5 Scotsman Creek (game land portion)
- 6 (13) Macon County
- 7 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
8 Nantahala River (Whiteoak Creek to Nantahala hydropower discharge canal)
- 9 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
10 Burningtown Creek (Left Prong to Little Tennessee River)  
11 Cartoogechaye Creek (downstream U.S. 64 bridge to Little Tennessee River)  
12 Cliffside Lake  
13 Cullasaja River (Sequoyah Dam to U.S. 64 bridge near junction of S.R. 1672)  
14 Nantahala River — upper (Dicks Creek to Whiteoak Creek)  
15 Nantahala River — lower (Nantahala hydropower discharge canal to Swain Co. line)  
16 Queens Creek Lake
- 17 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:  
18 Chattooga River (S.R. 1100 bridge to South Carolina state line)  
19 Jarrett Creek (game land portion)  
20 Kimsey Creek  
21 Overflow Creek (game land portion)  
22 Park Creek  
23 Tellico Creek (game land portion)  
24 Turtle Pond Creek (game land portion)
- 25 (14) Madison County
- 26 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
27 Big Laurel Creek (N.C. 208 bridge to the U.S. 25-70 bridge)  
28 Shelton Laurel Creek (N.C. 208 bridge at Belva to the confluence with Big Laurel Creek)  
29 Spring Creek (N.C. 209 bridge at Hot Springs city limits to iron bridge at end of Andrews  
30 Ave.)
- 31 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
32 Big Laurel Creek (Puncheon Fork to the S.R. 1318 [Big Laurel Rd.] bridge downstream of  
33 Bearpen Branch)  
34 Big Pine Creek (S.R. 1151 bridge to French Broad River)  
35 Little Ivy Creek (confluence of Middle Fork and Paint Fork at Beech Glen to confluence  
36 with Ivy Creek at Forks of Ivy)  
37 Max Patch Pond

- 1 Meadow Fork Creek (Meadow Fork Campground to Spring Creek)
- 2 Puncheon Fork (Wolf Laurel Branch to Big Laurel Creek)
- 3 Roaring Fork (Fall Branch to Meadow Fork)
- 4 Shelton Laurel Creek (confluence of Big Creek and Mill Creek to N.C. 208 bridge at Belva)
- 5 Shut-in Creek
- 6 Spillcorn Creek
- 7 Spring Creek (junction of N.C. 209 and N.C. 63 to USFS Rd. 223)
- 8 West Fork Shut-in Creek (lower game land boundary to confluence with East Fork Shut-
- 9 in Creek)
- 10 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 11 Big Creek (headwaters to the lower game land boundary)
- 12 (15) McDowell County
- 13 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 14 Newberry Creek (game land portion)
- 15 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 16 Catawba River (portion adjacent to Marion Greenway)
- 17 Curtis Creek (game land portion downstream of the USFS boundary at Deep Branch)
- 18 Mill Creek (U.S. 70 bridge to I-40 bridge)
- 19 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 20 Armstrong Creek (Cato Holler line downstream to upper Greenlee line)
- 21 Catawba River (Catawba Falls Campground to Old Fort Recreation Park)
- 22 Little Buck Creek (game land portion)
- 23 ~~Mill Creek (upper railroad bridge to U.S. 70 bridge, except where posted against~~
- 24 ~~trespassing)~~
- 25 North Fork Catawba River (headwaters to North Cove School at S.R. 1569 bridge)
- 26 (16) Mitchell County
- 27 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 28 Cane Creek (N.C. 226 bridge to S.R. 1189 bridge)
- 29 North Toe River (U.S. 19E bridge to N.C. 226 bridge)
- 30 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 31 Big Rock Creek (headwaters to N.C. 226 bridge at S.R. 1307 intersection)
- 32 Cane Creek (S.R. 1219 to N.C. 226 bridge)
- 33 East Fork Grassy Creek
- 34 Grassy Creek (East Fork Grassy Creek to mouth)
- 35 Little Rock Creek (Green Creek bridge to Big Rock Creek, except where posted against
- 36 trespassing)
- 37 North Toe River (Avery Co. line to S.R. 1121 bridge)

- 1 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
2 Green Creek (headwaters to Green Creek bridge, except where posted against trespassing)  
3 Little Rock Creek (above Green Creek bridge, including all tributaries, except where  
4 posted against trespassing)  
5 Wiles Creek (game land boundary to mouth)
- 6 (17) Polk County  
7 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
8 Green River (Fishtop Falls Access Area to the confluence with Cove Creek)  
9 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
10 Green River (Mouth of Cove Creek to the natural gas pipeline crossing)  
11 North Pacolet River (Joels Creek to N.C. 108 bridge)
- 12 (18) Rutherford County  
13 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
14 (Rocky) Broad River (Henderson Co. line to U.S. 64/74 bridge, except where posted  
15 against trespassing)
- 16 (19) Stokes County  
17 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
18 Dan River (Virginia state line downstream to a point 200 yards below the end of S.R. 1421)
- 19 (20) Surry County  
20 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
21 Ararat River (portion adjacent to the Ararat River Greenway)  
22 Mitchell River (0.6 miles upstream of the end of S.R. 1333 to the lowermost bridge on S.R.  
23 1330)  
24 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
25 Ararat River (S.R. 1727 bridge downstream to the N.C. 103 bridge)  
26 Big Elkin Creek (dam 440 yards upstream of N.C. 268 bridge to a point 265 yards  
27 downstream of N.C. 268 [marked by a sign on each bank])  
28 Fisher River (Cooper Creek)(Virginia state line to I-77 bridge)  
29 Little Fisher River (Virginia state line to N.C. 89 bridge)  
30 Lovills Creek (U.S. 52 Business bridge to Ararat River)  
31 Pauls Creek (Virginia state line to .3 miles below S.R. 1625 bridge)
- 32 (21) Swain County  
33 (A) Delayed Harvest Waters Trout Waters are as follows:  
34 Tuckasegee River (U.S. 19 bridge to Slope Street bridge)  
35 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
36 Alarka Creek (game land boundary to Fontana Reservoir)  
37 Calderwood Reservoir (Cheoah Dam to Tennessee state line)

- 1                                   Cheoah Reservoir
- 2                                   Connelly Creek (Camp Branch to Tuckasegee River)
- 3                                   Deep Creek (Great Smoky Mountains National Park Boundary line to Tuckasegee River)
- 4                                   Nantahala River (Macon Co. line to existing Fontana Lake water level)
- 5           (22)   Transylvania County
- 6                   (A)    Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 7                                   Davidson River (headwaters to Avery Creek, excluding Avery Creek, Looking Glass Creek
- 8                                   and Grogan Creek)
- 9                   (B)    Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 10                                  East Fork French Broad River (East Fork Baptist Church to the downstream S.R. 1107
- 11                                  bridge)
- 12                                  Little River (confluence of Lake Dense to 100 yards downstream of Hooker Falls)
- 13                   (C)    Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 14                                  Davidson River (Avery Creek to lower USFS boundary)
- 15                                  French Broad River (confluence of North Fork French Broad River and West Fork)
- 16                                  French Broad River to the Island Ford Rd. [S.R. 1110] Access Area
- 17                                  Middle Fork French Broad River (upstream U.S. 178 bridge to French Broad River)
- 18                                  West Fork French Broad River (S.R. 1312 to confluence with North Fork French Broad
- 19                                  River)
- 20                   (D)    Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 21                                  All waters located on Gorges State Park
- 22                                  Whitewater River (downstream from Silver Run Creek to South Carolina state line)
- 23                   (E)    Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 24                                  North Fork French Broad River (game land portion downstream of S.R. 1326)
- 25                                  Thompson River (S.R. 1152 to South Carolina state line, except where posted against
- 26                                  trespassing)
- 27           (23)   Watauga County
- 28                   (A)    Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 29                                  Laurel Creek (confluence of North and South Fork Laurel creeks to Elk Creek, excluding
- 30                                  tributaries)
- 31                                  Pond Creek (headwaters to Locust Ridge Rd. bridge, excluding the pond adjacent to Coffee
- 32                                  Lake)
- 33                   (B)    Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 34                                  Lake Coffey
- 35                                  ~~Watauga River (adjacent to intersection of S.R. 1557 and S.R. 1558 to N.C. 105 bridge and~~
- 36                                  ~~S.R. River – upper (S.R. 1114 bridge to the Valle Crucis Community Park lower boundary)~~
- 37                                  Watauga River – lower (S.R. 1103 bridge to confluence with Laurel Creek)

- 1 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
2 Beaverdam Creek (confluence of Beaverdam Creek and Little Beaverdam Creek to an  
3 unnamed tributary adjacent to the intersection of S.R. 1201 and S.R. 1203)  
4 Beech Creek  
5 Buckeye Creek (Buckeye Creek Reservoir dam to Grassy Gap Creek)  
6 Buckeye Creek Reservoir  
7 Cove Creek (S.R. 1233 bridge at Zionville to S.R. 1214 bridge at Sherwood)  
8 Dutch Creek (second bridge on S.R. 1134 to mouth)  
9 Elk Creek (S.R. 1510 bridge at Triplett to Wilkes Co. line, except where posted against  
10 trespassing)  
11 Laurel Creek (S.R. 1123 bridge at S.R. 1157 intersection to Watauga River)  
12 Meat Camp Creek (S.R. 1340 bridge at S.R. 1384 intersection to N.C. 194)  
13 Middle Fork New River (adjacent to intersection of S.R. 1539 and U.S. 321 to South Fork  
14 New River)  
15 Norris Fork Creek  
16 South Fork New River (canoe launch 70 yards upstream of U.S. 421 bridge to lower  
17 boundary of Brookshire Park)  
18 Stony Fork (S.R. 1500 bridge at S.R. 1505 intersection to Wilkes Co. line)  
19 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
20 Dutch Creek (headwaters to second bridge on S.R. 1134)  
21 Howard Creek  
22 Maine Branch (headwaters to North Fork New River)  
23 North Fork New River (from confluence with Maine and Mine branches to Ashe Co. line)  
24 Watauga River (Avery Co. line to S.R. 1580 bridge)  
25 Winkler Creek (lower bridge on S.R. 1549 to confluence with South Fork New River)  
26 (24) Wilkes County  
27 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
28 East Prong Roaring River (Bullhead Creek downstream to Stone Mountain State Park  
29 lower boundary)  
30 Elk Creek — upper (Watauga Co. line to lower boundary of the Blue Ridge Mountain  
31 Club)  
32 Elk Creek — lower (portion on Leatherwood Mountains development)  
33 Reddies River (Town of North Wilkesboro water intake dam to confluence with the Yadkin  
34 River)  
35 Stone Mountain Creek (from falls at Alleghany Co. line to confluence with East Prong  
36 Roaring River and Bullhead Creek)  
37 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:



- 1 Basin Creek (S.R. 1730 bridge to confluence with Lovelace Creek)
- 2 Bell Branch Pond
- 3 Boundary Line Pond
- 4 Cub Creek (.5 mile upstream of S.R. 2460 bridge to S.R. 1001 bridge)
- 5 Darnell Creek (North Prong Reddies River)(downstream ford on S.R. 1569 to confluence
- 6 with North Fork Reddies River)
- 7 East Prong Roaring River (Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary to S.R. 1002 bridge)
- 8 Fall Creek (S.R. 1300 bridge to confluence with South Prong Lewis Fork, except where
- 9 posted against trespassing)
- 10 Middle Fork Reddies River (Clear Prong)(headwaters to bridge on S.R. 1580)
- 11 Middle Prong Roaring River (headwaters to second bridge on S.R. 1736)
- 12 North Fork Reddies River (Vannoy Creek)(headwaters to Union School bridge on S.R.
- 13 1559)
- 14 Pike Creek
- 15 Pike Creek Pond
- 16 South Fork Reddies River (S.R. 1355 bridge to confluence with Middle Fork Reddies
- 17 River)
- 18 South Prong Lewis Fork (Fall Creek to U.S. 421 bridge adjacent to S.R. 1155 intersection)
- 19 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 20 All waters located on Stone Mountain State Park, except East Prong Roaring River from
- 21 Bullhead Creek downstream to the Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary where
- 22 Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply, and Stone Mountain Creek from falls at
- 23 Alleghany County line to confluence with East Prong Roaring River and Bullhead Creek
- 24 in Stone Mountain State Park where Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply
- 25 (25) Yancey County
- 26 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 27 South Toe River (headwaters to Upper Creek)
- 28 Upper Creek
- 29 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 30 Cane River (Blackberry Ridge Rd. to downstream boundary of Cane River County Park)
- 31 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 32 Bald Mountain Creek (except where posted against trespassing)
- 33 Cane River (Bee Branch [S.R. 1110] to Bowlens Creek)
- 34 Price Creek (junction of S.R. 1120 and S.R. 1121 to Indian Creek)
- 35 South Toe River (Clear Creek to lower boundary line of Yancey Co. Recreation Park,
- 36 except where posted against trespassing)
- 37 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:

1 Cattail Creek (bridge at Mountain Farm Community Rd. to N.C. 197 bridge)  
2 Licksillet Creek  
3 Middle Creek (game land boundary to mouth)  
4

5 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-272; 113-292;*  
6 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
7 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993;*  
8 *October 1, 1992;*  
9 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
10 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
11 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*  
12 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;*  
13 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 6/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
14 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
15 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
16 *2003);*  
17 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
18 *August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May*  
19 *1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*  
20 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
21 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2020.*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0211 POSSESSION OF CERTAIN FISHES (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

2 (a) It shall be unlawful to transport, purchase, possess, sell, or stock in the public or private waters of North Carolina  
3 any live individuals of:

- 4 ~~(1) — piranha;~~  
5 ~~(2) — "walking catfish" (Clarias batrachus);~~  
6 ~~(3) — snakehead fish (from the Family Channidae, formerly Ophiocephalidae);~~  
7 ~~(4) — black carp (Mylopharyngodon piceus);~~  
8 ~~(5) — bighead carp (Hypophthalmichthys nobilis);~~  
9 ~~(6) — silver carp (Hypophthalmichthys molitrix);~~  
10 ~~(7) — rudd (Scardinius erythrophthalmus);~~  
11 ~~(8) — round goby (Neogobius melanostomus);~~  
12 ~~(9) — tubenose goby (Proterorhinus marmoratus);~~  
13 ~~(10) — ruffe (Gymnocephalus cernuus);~~  
14 ~~(11) — Japanese mysterysnail (Cipangopaludina japonica);~~  
15 ~~(12) — Chinese mysterysnail (Cipangopaludina chinensis malleata);~~  
16 ~~(13) — red rim melania (Melanoides tuberculatus);~~  
17 ~~(14) — virile crayfish (Orconectes (Gremicambarus) virilis);~~  
18 ~~(15) — rusty crayfish (Orconectes (Procericambarus) rusticus);~~  
19 ~~(16) — Australian red claw crayfish or "red claw" (Cherax quadricarinatus, or other species of "giant"~~  
20 ~~crayfish species in the genus Cherax);~~  
21 ~~(17) — white amur or "grass carp" (Ctenopharyngodon idella);~~  
22 ~~(18) — swamp or "rice" eel (Monopterus albus);~~  
23 ~~(19) — red shiner (Cyprinella lutrensis);~~  
24 ~~(20) — zebra mussel (Dreissena polymorpha);~~  
25 ~~(21) — quagga mussel (Dreissena rostriformis bugensis) or any mussel in the family Dreissenidae; or~~  
26 ~~(22) — redbtail catfish (Phraetoecephalus hemioliopterus).~~  
27 (1) African longfin eel (Anguilla mossambica);  
28 (2) amur sleeper (Perccottus glenii);  
29 (3) applesnail (any species of the genus Pomacea);  
30 (4) Asian swamp eel, swamp or rice eel (Monopterus albus);  
31 (5) Australian red claw crayfish or red claw (Cherax quadricarinatus, or other species in the genus  
32 Cherax);  
33 (6) bigclaw crayfish (Faxonius placidus);  
34 (7) bighead carp (Hypophthalmichthys nobilis);  
35 (8) black carp (Mylopharyngodon piceus);  
36 (9) brown hoplo (Hoplosternum littorale);  
37 (10) Chinese mysterysnail (Cipangopaludina chinensis);

- 1           (11) Creole painted crayfish (*Faxonius palmeri creolanus*);
- 2           (12) Crucian Carp (*Carassius carassius*);
- 3           (13) European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*);
- 4           (14) European minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*);
- 5           (15) European perch (*Perca fluviatilis*);
- 6           (16) Japanese mysterysnail (*Cipangopaludina japonica*);
- 7           (17) marbled Crayfish or Marmorkrebs (*Procambarus virginalis* or *Procambarus fallax f. virginalis*);
- 8           (18) olive mysterysnail (*Viviparus subpurpureus*);
- 9           (19) Oriental weatherfish (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*);
- 10          (20) piranha (any species of the genera *Pristobrycon*, *Pygocentrus*, *Pygopristis*, or *Serrasalmus*);
- 11          (21) Prussian Carp (*Carassius gibelio*);
- 12          (22) quagga mussel (*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*) or any mussel in the family *Dreissenidae*;
- 13          (23) red shiner (*Cyprinella lutrensis*);
- 14          (24) red-rim melania (*Melanoides tuberculatus* or *Melanoides tuberculata*);
- 15          (25) redbtail catfish (*Phractocephalus hemiliopterus*);
- 16          (26) round goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*);
- 17          (27) rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus* or *Scardinius erythrophthalmus*);
- 18          (28) ruffe (*Gymnocephalus cernuus* or *Gymnocephalus cernua*);
- 19          (29) rusty crayfish (*Faxonius rusticus*);
- 20          (30) shortfin eel (*Anguilla australis*);
- 21          (31) silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*);
- 22          (32) snakehead fish (from the Family *Channidae*, formerly *Ophiocephalidae*);
- 23          (33) tubenose goby (*Proterorhinus marmoratus*, *Proterorhinus semilunaris*, and *Proterorhinus*
- 24                 *semipellucidus*);
- 25          (34) virile crayfish (*Faxonius virilis*);
- 26          (35) walking catfish (any member of the genus *Batrachus*);
- 27          (36) white amur or grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), except for triploid individuals as permitted in
- 28                 Paragraph (b) of this Rule;
- 29          (37) yellow bass (*Morone mississippiensis*); or
- 30          (38) zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*).

31 (b) A person may buy, possess, or stock grass carp that have been certified to be triploid or sterile, only for the purpose  
32 of controlling aquatic vegetation under a permit issued by the Executive Director or his or her designee based on an  
33 evaluation of the potential for escapement and threat to sensitive aquatic habitats.

34 (c) It shall be unlawful to transport, possess, or release live river herring, also known as alewife or blueback herring,  
35 in the waters of the Little Tennessee River in and upstream of Lake Santeetlah and Cedar Cliff Lake, including all the  
36 tributaries and impoundments thereof, and on adjacent shorelines, docks, access ramps, and bridge crossings.

37

1 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274(c)(1c); 113-292;*  
2 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
3 *Amended Eff. September 1, 1984;*  
4 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*  
5 *Amended Eff. July 18, 2002;*  
6 *Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2002;*  
7 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2013; August 1, 2011; June 1, 2009, June 1, 2005; August 1, 2004;*  
8 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
9 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2020.*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

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

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

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

11 (d) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Alabama Bass,  
12 and Spotted Bass is 10 fish in aggregate. The minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 12 inches.

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

14 (1) Lake Raleigh in Wake County;

15 (2) Lake Sutton in New Hanover County;

16 (3) Pungo Lake in Washington and Hyde counties;

17 (4) New Lake in Hyde County; and

18 (5) Currituck, Roanoke, Croatan, Albemarle sounds, and all their tributaries including Roanoke River  
19 downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam, Chowan River, Meherrin River, Yeopim River, Pasquotank  
20 River, Perquimans River, Little River, Big Flatty Creek, North River, Northwest River,  
21 Scuppernong River, Alligator River (including the Alligator/Pungo Canal east of the NC Hwy  
22 264/45 bridge, and all other associated tributaries and canals in these river systems.

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

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

27 (h) In Shearon Harris Reservoir in Chatham and Wake counties and Lake Hampton in Yadkin County, there is no  
28 minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but only two Largemouth Bass less than 14 inches and no Largemouth Bass  
29 between 16 and 20 inches may be possessed.

30 (i) In Lake Thom-A-Lex in Davidson County, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 18 inches.

31 (j) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, ~~Virginia~~ there  
32 Virginia), the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass is 5 fish in aggregate. There  
33 is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and  
34 only one Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, or Spotted Bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

35 (k) 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 (l) In Jean Guite Creek and associated canals within the Town of Southern ~~Shores, Shores in Dare County, County~~  
2 and in the ponds associated with Martin Marietta Park in Craven County, no Largemouth Bass may be possessed.

3  
4 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;*  
5 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
6 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 10, 1990, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1990;*  
7 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 22, 1990, for a period of 168 days to expire on November 1, 1990;*  
8 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 1991, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1991;*  
9 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; October 1, 1992;*  
10 *Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1994 for a period of 180 days or until the permanent rule*  
11 *becomes effective, whichever is sooner;*  
12 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995;*  
13 *Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1998;*  
14 *Amended Eff. April 1, 1999;*  
15 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
16 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
17 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*  
18 *Temporary Amendment Eff. March 8, 2002 [This rule replaces the rule proposed for permanent*  
19 *amendment effective July 1, 2002 and approved by RRC in May 2001];*  
20 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC in April 2002);*  
21 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
22 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
23 *2003);*  
24 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; November 1, 2013; August 1, 2012;*  
25 *March 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2008; May 1, 2008; May 1,*  
26 *2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*  
27 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
28 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2020.*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

2 (a) The daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is four fish in the aggregate, except in waters identified in  
3 Paragraphs (b), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) of this Rule. The minimum size limit for these fish is 20 inches, except in  
4 waters identified in Paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) of this Rule. There is no closed season, except  
5 for waters identified in Paragraphs (g), (h), (i), (j), and (k) of this Rule.

6 (b) In the Dan River upstream from its confluence with Bannister River to the dam at Union Street in Danville, VA  
7 and in John H. Kerr Reservoir, the daily creel limit on Striped Bass and its hybrids is two in the aggregate and the  
8 minimum size limit is 20 inches from October 1 through May 31. From June 1 through September 30, the daily creel  
9 limit on Striped Bass and its hybrids is four in the aggregate with no minimum size limit.

10 (c) In Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Reservoir, the minimum size limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is 20  
11 inches from October 1 through May 31. There is no minimum size limit for these fish from June 1 through September  
12 30.

13 (d) In Lake Norman, Hyco Lake, Moss Lake, Mountain Island Reservoir, Oak Hollow Lake, Lake Thom-A-Lex, Lake  
14 Townsend, and Salem Lake the minimum size limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is 16 inches.

15 (e) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit is 15 in the aggregate. There is no minimum size limit, but  
16 only two may be greater than 22 inches.

17 (f) In Lake Mattamuskeet, and in the Pee Dee River and its tributaries downstream from the Blewett Falls Dam to the  
18 South Carolina state line, the daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is three fish in the aggregate, and the  
19 minimum size limit is 18 inches.

20 (g) In the inland fishing waters of Neuse, Pungo, and Tar Pamlico rivers and their tributaries extending upstream to  
21 the first impoundment of the main course on the river or its tributaries, and in all other inland fishing waters east of  
22 Interstate 95 not specified in Paragraphs (f), (h), (i), and (j) of this Rule, the daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its  
23 hybrids is two fish in the aggregate. The minimum size limit is 26 inches. In these waters, the season for taking and  
24 possessing Striped Bass is closed from May 1 through September 30.

25 (h) In the inland fishing waters of the Cape Fear River and its tributaries downstream of Buckhorn ~~Dam, Dam and in~~  
26 the ponds associated with Martin Marietta Park in Craven County. the season for taking and possessing Striped Bass  
27 is closed year-round.

28 (i) In the inland and joint fishing waters of the Roanoke River Striped Bass Management Area, as established in 15A  
29 NCAC 03R .0201 and identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0110, which includes the Roanoke, Cashie, Middle, and Eastmost  
30 rivers and their tributaries, the open season for taking and possessing Striped Bass and its hybrids is March 1 through  
31 April 30 from the joint-coastal fishing waters boundary at Albemarle Sound upstream to Roanoke Rapids Lake dam.  
32 During the open season, the daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is two fish in the aggregate, and the  
33 minimum size limit is 18 inches. No fish between 22 inches and 27 inches in length shall be possessed in the daily  
34 creel limit. Only one fish larger than 27 inches may be possessed in the daily creel limit.

35 (j) In designated inland fishing waters of Roanoke Sound, Croatan Sound, Albemarle Sound, Chowan River, Currituck  
36 Sound, Alligator River, Scuppernong River, and their tributaries (excluding the Roanoke River and Cashie River and



1 their tributaries), the Striped Bass fishing season, size limits, and creel limits are the same as those established by rules  
2 or proclamations of the Marine Fisheries Commission in adjacent joint or coastal fishing waters.  
3 (k) In accordance with G.S. 113-292, the Executive Director may, by proclamation, suspend, or extend the hook-and-  
4 line season for Striped Bass in the inland and joint waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries. It is unlawful to violate  
5 the provisions of any proclamation issued under this authority.

6

7 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*  
8 *Eff. November 1, 2013;*  
9 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2018; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
10 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
11 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2020.*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0316 TROUT (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

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 Paragraph (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 Flies and 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:

17 (1) Apalachia Reservoir (Cherokee County) the daily creel limit is three trout. There is no minimum  
18 size limit, but only one may be greater than 14 inches. There is no closed season.

19 (2) Catawba River (Burke County) from Muddy Creek to the City of Morganton water intake dam the  
20 daily creel limit is two fish. The minimum size limit is 14 inches. There is no closed season.

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

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

26 (1) Bear Creek Lake;

27 (2) Buckeye Creek Reservoir;

28 (3) Calderwood Reservoir;

29 (4) Cedar Cliff Lake;

30 (5) Cheoah Reservoir;

31 (6) Cliffside Lake;

32 (7) Tanassee Creek Lake;

33 (8) Queens Creek Lake; and

34 (9) Wolf Lake.

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

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

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*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;*  
*Eff. November 1, 2013;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2015;*  
*Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2020.*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0321 SMALLMOUTH BASS**

2 (a) The daily creel limit for Smallmouth Bass is five fish, except in waters identified in Paragraphs ~~(b) and (c)~~, (b),  
3 (c), and (d) of this Rule. There is no minimum size limit for Smallmouth Bass, but only two of them may be less than  
4 14 inches except in waters identified in Paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this Rule. There is no closed season.

5 (b) In Lake Santeetlah in Graham County, there is no daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass  
6 less than 14 inches. The daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass greater than 14 inches is five fish  
7 in aggregate.

8 (c) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Alabama Bass, and  
9 Spotted Bass is 10 fish in aggregate. There is no minimum size limit for Smallmouth Bass.

10 (d) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, ~~Virginia~~) ~~there~~  
11 Virginia, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass is 5 fish in aggregate. There  
12 is no minimum size limit for Smallmouth Bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and  
13 only one Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, or Spotted Bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

14

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

16 *Eff. August 1, 2020.*

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0322 ALABAMA BASS AND SPOTTED BASS**

2 (a) There is no daily creel limit for Alabama Bass or Spotted Bass, except for waters identified in paragraph (b) and  
3 (c) of this Rule. There is no minimum size limit or closed season.

4 (b) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Alabama Bass,  
5 and Spotted Bass is 10 fish in aggregate.

6 (c) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, ~~Virginia~~ ~~there~~  
7 Virginia), the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass is 5 fish in aggregate. There  
8 is no minimum size limit for Spotted Bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and only  
9 one Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, or Spotted Bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

10

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

12 *Eff. August 1, 2020.*

13

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0401 MANNER OF TAKING NONGAME FISHES (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

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, grabbling, or special device with a special  
4 device fishing license.

5 (b) Nongame fishes may be taken by hook and line, grabbling, or special device with a special device fishing license  
6 at any time without restriction as to size limits or creel limits, except as designated in this Rule.

7 (c) Special devices may only be used to take nongame fishes with a special device fishing license in those counties  
8 and waters with open season designated in Rule .0407 of this Section.

9 (d) Archery equipment may only be used for the take of catfish on Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam  
10 to the South Carolina state line and all tributaries.

11 (e) Set hooks, jug hooks, and trotlines may be used to take nongame fishes as designated in 15A NCAC 10C .0206.

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

14 (g) Freshwater mussels, including the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*), may be taken only from impounded waters,  
15 except mussels shall not be taken in:

- 16 (1) Lake Waccamaw in Columbus County; and
- 17 (2) University Lake in Orange County.

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

20 (h) Blue crabs shall have a minimum carapace width of five inches (point to point) and it is unlawful to possess more  
21 than 50 crabs per person per day or to exceed 100 crabs per vessel per day.

22 (i) While boating on or fishing in the following inland fishing waters, no person shall take river herring (alewife and  
23 blueback herring) that are greater than six inches in length, or possess such herring regardless of origin in:

- 24 (1) Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam;
- 25 (2) Tar River downstream of Rocky Mount Mill Dam;
- 26 (3) Neuse River downstream of Falls Lake Dam;
- 27 (4) Cape Fear River downstream of Buckhorn Dam;
- 28 (5) Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam;
- 29 (6) Lumber River, including Drowning Creek;
- 30 (7) all the tributaries to the rivers listed above; and
- 31 (8) all other inland fishing waters east of I-95.

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

36 (k) The daily creel limit for blue catfish greater than 32 inches is one fish in the following ~~reservoirs:~~ waters:

- 37 (1) Lake Norman;

- 1 (2) Mountain Island Lake;
- 2 (3) Lake Wylie;
- 3 (4) Badin Lake;
- 4 (5) Lake Tillery;
- 5 (6) John H. Kerr Reservoir (North Carolina portion);
- 6 (7) Dan River (Downstream of the Union Street Dam in Danville, VA)
- 7 ~~(7)~~(8) Lake Gaston (North Carolina portion); and
- 8 ~~(8)~~(9) Roanoke Rapids Reservoir.

9 (l) The daily creel limit is five catfish in aggregate on the Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam to the  
10 South Carolina state line and all tributaries.

11 (m) The daily creel limit for American eels taken from or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing  
12 in inland fishing waters is 25, and the minimum size limit is 9 inches. Eels greater than 9 inches in length and with a  
13 minimum body depth greater than ½ inch may be cut for use as bait.

14 (n) Grass carp shall not be taken or possessed on Lake James, Lookout Shoals Lake, Mountain Island Reservoir, and  
15 Lake Wylie, except that one fish per day may be taken with archery equipment.

16 (o) Grass carp shall not be taken or possessed on Lake Norman and the North Carolina portion of John H. Kerr  
17 Reservoir, except for scientific study by permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

18 (p) In inland fishing waters, gray trout (weakfish) recreational seasons, size limits, and creel limits are the same as  
19 those established by Marine Fisheries Commission rule or proclamations issued by the Fisheries Director in adjacent  
20 joint or coastal fishing waters.

21 (q) No person while fishing shall remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of any nongame fish  
22 specified in Paragraphs (h), (i), (k), (m), and (p) of this Rule having a size limit so as to render it impractical to measure  
23 its total original ~~length.~~ length, except as provided in Paragraph (m) of this rule. No person while fishing shall change  
24 the appearance of any nongame fish specified in Paragraphs (g), (h), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), and (p) of this Rule  
25 having a daily creel limit so as to obscure its identification or render it impractical to count the number of fish in  
26 ~~possession.~~ possession, except as provided in Paragraph (m) of this rule.

27 (r) Nongame fishes taken by hook and line, grabbling, or by special device with a special device fishing license may  
28 be sold, with the following exceptions:

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

33 (s) Margined madtom and tadpole madtom shall not be taken or possessed from inland fishing waters.

34  
35 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272; 113-292;*  
36 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
37 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; May 1, 1992;*

1                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1994;*  
2                    *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995;*  
3                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
4                    *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
5                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*  
6                    *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
7                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
8                    *Amended Eff. May 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
9                    *2003);*  
10                   *Amended Eff. August 1, 2019; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
11                   *August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May*  
12                   *1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*  
13                   *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2020.*



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, from which all fish and animals are removed daily, and that are  
19 labeled with the user's Wildlife Resources Commission customer number or name and address;
- 20 (11) a hand-held line with a single bait attached;
- 21 (12) a single, multiple-bait line for taking crabs not to exceed 100 feet in length, marked on each end  
22 with a solid float no less than five inches in diameter, bearing legible and indelible identification of  
23 the user's name and address, and under the immediate control and attendance of the person using  
24 the device, with a limit of one line per person and no more than one line per vessel; or
- 25 (13) a collapsible crab trap with the largest open dimension not greater than 18 inches and that by design  
26 is collapsed at all times when in the water, except when it is being retrieved or lowered to the bottom,  
27 with a limit of one trap per person.

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

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

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

33 (e) No person shall take or possess during one day more than 200 nongame fish in aggregate for bait or personal  
34 consumption subject to the size and creel limits identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0401.

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

36 (g) It is unlawful to take nongame fish for bait from the following waters:

- 1 (1) Public Mountain Trout Waters (except in impounded waters of power reservoirs and municipally-
- 2 owned water supply reservoirs);
- 3 (2) Bear Creek in Chatham County;
- 4 (3) Deep River in Chatham, Lee, and Moore counties and downstream of Coleridge Dam in Randolph
- 5 County;
- 6 (4) Fork Creek in Randolph County; and
- 7 (5) Rocky River in Chatham County.

8 (i) No person while fishing shall remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of any nongame fish  
9 having a size limit identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0401 so as to render it impractical to measure its total original ~~length.~~  
10 length, except as provided in 15A NCAC 10C .0401(m). No person while fishing shall change the appearance of any  
11 nongame fish having a daily creel limit identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0401 so as to obscure its identification or render  
12 it impractical to count the number of fish in ~~possession.~~ possession, except as provided in 15A NCAC 10C .0401(m).

13  
14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272; 113-272.3; 113-292;*  
15 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
16 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; July 1, 1998; July 1, 1993; July 1, 1992; May 1, 1992; July 1, 1989;*  
17 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*  
18 *Amended Eff. July 18, 2002;*  
19 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
20 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
21 *2003);*  
22 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2019; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015;*  
23 *August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006.*

# EXHIBIT E-2

October 22, 2020



## Fiscal Note for Proposed Inland Fisheries Division Rule Amendments for the Wildlife Resources Commission

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters  
15A NCAC 10C .0211 Possession of Certain Fishes  
15A NCAC 10C .0305 Black Bass  
15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass  
15A NCAC 10C .0316 Trout  
15A NCAC 10C .0321 Smallmouth Bass  
15A NCAC 10C .0322 Alabama and Spotted Bass  
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes  
15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait or Personal Consumption

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**Impact:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: No  
Private Impact: Yes  
Substantial Economic Impact: No

**Authority:** G.S. 113-134

For reasons outlined below, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) believes that these rule changes have a minimal fiscal impact pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.4. An analysis of the proposed changes for the rules follows.

### BACKGROUND

The wildlife resources of the State belong to the people of the State as a whole, including the enjoyment of these resources (G.S. 113-131(a)). WRC is tasked with the conservation of wildlife resources of the State (G.S. 143-239). This responsibility includes managing as equitably as possible the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. 113-131.1(a)). The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in

Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. 113-134).

As part of its mission, WRC conducts an annual review of its fish, wildlife, boating safety, and other regulations to determine whether such rules need to be adjusted in order to accomplish the objectives of: managing wildlife resources through a biologically sustainable harvest of such resources by hunters, trappers and anglers consistent with sound conservation objectives; ensuring the safety of the boating public; managing WRC-owned land for the conservation of wildlife resources and the enjoyment of the public; and implementing legislative directives.

A summary of the proposed rule amendments is shown below, with the full text included in Appendix A.

Many of the proposed amendments change what anglers may harvest in specific waters, where anglers may harvest certain species, and how they may harvest. Several of the proposed amendments seek to increase angling opportunity while others may prove to be more restrictive. All the proposed changes are intended to expand future angling opportunity. In the end, despite the changes, no impact to overall angling participation is expected.

Although the WRC does not have a mechanism to determine the fiscal impact of the specific rule changes proposed below, economic research on anglers' value of recreational fishing can provide general context for the impact of rules that affect opportunities for fishing or the quality of those opportunities. Taking the median of the findings across multiple studies, the estimated value of freshwater fishing per person per day is approximately \$53.<sup>1</sup> This figure represents the angler's total willingness to pay to engage in the activity, less the cost to do so. It does not represent any economic activity generated by fishing, such as retail sales, and is not species or location specific. However, to the extent that the proposed rules induce anglers to increase or decrease fishing trips, this estimate provides a rough approximation of the costs or benefits to the angler.

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

The WRC manages approximately 5,300 miles and 2,100 acres of the State's coldwater resources within its Public Mountain Trout Waters program (PMTW), and in 2014, an estimated 148,991 anglers fished for trout in PMTW and contributed approximately \$383 million to the State's economy.<sup>2</sup> As noted within the WRC's Trout Management Plan, the purpose of PMTW is to use science-based decision making and biologically sound management principles to enhance the quality and quantity of trout populations for continued and varied angling opportunities. By designating waters as PMTW, the WRC is able to enact biologically sound management that ensures the conservation and wise use of trout resources (including efforts focused on the State's only native salmonid: Brook Trout), increase awareness of angling opportunities, invest in infrastructure that provides angling access to all anglers regardless of physical ability, produce and stock approximately 1 million trout annually to provide fisheries, and partner with local (municipalities and counties), state (North Carolina State Parks and North Carolina Forest

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<sup>1</sup> Rosenberger, Randall S.; White, Eric M.; Kline, Jeffrey D.; Cvitanovich, Claire. 2017. Recreation economic values for estimating outdoor recreation economic benefits from the National Forest System. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNWGTR-957. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 33 p.

<sup>2</sup> Mountain Trout Fishing: Economic Impacts on and Contributions to North Carolina's Economy, 2015.

Service), and federal entities (United States Forest Service) to manage important ecological, cultural, and economic resources.

The proposed amendment to the Rule will combine the two-existing PMTW catch-and-release classifications (Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters and Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters) into a single classification (Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters). Regulatory complexity has been identified routinely by trout anglers as an impediment to their experiences, and the Commission identified the need to reduce rule complexity within its Trout Management Plan. This change will reduce angler confusion and address rule complexity.

In addition, the proposed amendment will modify the list of waters designated as PMTW and further classified as Hatchery Supported, Wild Trout, or Wild Trout Natural Bait. To reflect changes in partnerships with landowners and angler access, approximately 10.6 miles of Wild Trout Natural Bait Waters and 15.5 miles of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters will be removed from PMTW. Approximately 1.4 miles of Wild Trout Natural Bait Waters will be reclassified to Wild Trout Waters. Additional boundary clarifications are proposed which do not add or remove PMTW. Changes to PMTW boundaries are necessary to clarify designations based upon partnerships with landowners, angler access, and overall trout management.

#### Fiscal Impact

##### *State Impact*

This rule amendment will not change current on-the-ground management. Conservation biologists and technicians will change signage as part of their regularly scheduled duties. The change in signage will not require more than one day, at an estimated cost to the agency of approximately \$248 ( $\$31/\text{hr} \times 8 \text{ hrs} = \$248$ ).

##### *Local Impact*

This rule amendment has no local government impact.

##### *Private Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated related to combining the two-existing PMTW catch-and-release classifications. This change will provide additional angling opportunity and decrease regulatory complexity. Changes to PMTW boundaries will result in a net loss of approximately 26.1 miles of PMTW from public access. While this loss is a loss of angling opportunity to the public in specific areas, it represents less than 0.5% of PMTW. The WRC does not have a mechanism to determine the specific fiscal impact of the proposed changes to private individuals, which may include changes to angler behavior (i.e., fishing less or fishing more).

## **15A NCAC 10C .0211 POSSESSION OF CERTAIN FISHES**

The proposed amendment to the Rule will add African Longfin Eel, Creole Painted Crayfish, Bigclaw Crayfish, Marbled Crayfish or Marmorokrebs, Applesnail, Olive Mysterysnail, European Eel, Oriental Weatherfish, Brown Hoplo, Yellow Bass, Shortfin Eel, Crucian Carp, Prussian Carp,

European Perch, European Minnow, and Amur Sleeper to the list of species for which it is unlawful to transport, purchase, possess, sell or stock in the public or private waters of North Carolina. These species are freshwater fish not native to North Carolina. Impacts if introduced outside their native range may include predation upon, competition with, and hybridization with native species. Preventing the introduction of this exotic species is the first line of defense against the establishment of a nonnative population. The proposed change also includes taxonomic clarifications and corrections.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

This rule amendment will have no impact as the changes are part of routine fisheries management.

#### *Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated. The number of the species held in captivity in North Carolina is unknown but believed to very limited. There are currently no known established wild populations in North Carolina. Preventing the introduction and establishment of exotic species will protect native and naturalized fish populations and their habitats and will sustain associated fisheries.

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

The proposed amendment to the Rule will clarify that the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in the Alleghany County portion of the New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia) is five fish in combination. The rule for black bass species was reformatted into species-specific rules during the 2020-2021 rule-making cycle, and this combined daily creel limit was inadvertently omitted from the NCAC. The size and creel limits for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in this reach of the New River are consistent with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' regulations downstream.

The proposed amendment will also prohibit harvest of Largemouth Bass from three ponds associated with the City of New Bern's Martin-Marietta Park in Craven County. To address concerns regarding potential overharvest of Largemouth Bass once the ponds are opened to the public, no harvest of Largemouth Bass from the ponds is recommended.

## Fiscal Impact

### *State Impact*

No impacts are anticipated. Clarifying the size and creel limits for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in the New River will not change current on-the-ground management. Prohibiting the harvest of Largemouth Bass from three ponds associated with Martin-Marietta Park is part of routine fisheries management.

### *Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

### *Private Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated. While the proposed rule change will alter when and what anglers may harvest, they are not expected to impact overall participation in fishing. The WRC does not have a mechanism to determine the specific fiscal impact of the proposed changes. Clarifying the size and creel limits for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in the New River will not change current on-the-ground management. User group and fiscal effects are anticipated to be positive for the three ponds associated with Martin-Marietta Park as the fishery develops.

## **15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS**

The proposed amendment to the Rule will prohibit harvest of Striped Bass from three ponds associated with the City of New Bern's Martin-Marietta Park in Craven County. Periodic flooding from the Neuse River has introduced Striped Bass into these ponds. To provide consistent regulations in the area and to address concerns regarding potential overharvest of Striped Bass once the ponds are opened to the public, no harvest of Striped Bass from the ponds is recommended.

## Fiscal Impact

### *State Impact*

This rule amendment will have no impact as the change is part of routine fisheries management.

### *Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

### *Private Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated. While the proposed rule change will alter what anglers may harvest, they are not expected to impact overall participation in fishing. The WRC does not have a mechanism to determine the specific fiscal impact of the proposed change. User group and

fiscal effects are anticipated to be positive for the three ponds associated with Martin-Marietta Park as the fishery develops.

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

The proposed amendment to the Rule will combine the two-existing PMTW catch-and-release classifications (Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters and Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters) into a single classification (Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters). Regulatory complexity has been identified routinely by trout anglers as an impediment to their experiences, and the Commission identified the need to reduce rule complexity within its Trout Management Plan. This change will reduce angler confusion and address rule complexity.

#### Fiscal Impact

##### *State Impact*

This rule amendment will not change current on-the-ground management. Conservation biologists and technicians will change signage as part of their regularly scheduled duties. The change in signage will not require more than one day, at an estimated cost to the agency of approximately \$248 ( $\$31/\text{hr} \times 8 \text{ hrs} = \$248$ ).

##### *Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

##### *Private Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated. This change will provide additional angling opportunity and address rule complexity.

### **15A NCAC 10C .0321 SMALLMOUTH BASS**

The proposed amendment to the Rule will clarify that the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in the Alleghany County portion of the New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia) is five fish in combination. The rule for Smallmouth Bass was created during the 2020-2021 rule-making cycle, and this combined daily creel limit was inadvertently omitted from the NCAC. The size and creel limits for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in this reach of the New River are consistent with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' regulations downstream.

#### Fiscal Impact

##### *State Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated as this rule amendment will not change current on-the-ground management.



*Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated as this rule amendment will not change current on-the-ground management.

**15A NCAC 10C .0322 ALABAMA AND SPOTTED BASS**

The proposed amendment to the Rule will clarify that the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in the Alleghany County portion of the New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia) is five fish in combination. The rule for Alabama and Spotted Bass was created during the 2020-2021 rule-making cycle, and this combined daily creel limit was inadvertently omitted from the NCAC. The size and creel limits for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass in this reach of the New River are consistent with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' regulations downstream.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated as this rule amendment will not change current on-the-ground management.

*Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated as this rule amendment will not change current on-the-ground management.

**15A NCAC 10C .0401 MANNER OF TAKING NONGAME FISHES**

The proposed amendment to the Rule will establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for Blue Catfish in the North Carolina portion of the Dan River (Caswell Co.), downstream of Danville, VA by allowing only one fish greater than 32 inches to be possessed in the daily creel. From the Union Street Dam in Danville, VA, the Dan River flows downstream through Caswell County for approximately 10 miles before flowing back into Virginia and then into John H. Kerr Reservoir. The proposed change is consistent with Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' regulations for Blue Catfish and will provide continuity when enforcing regulations on the river.

The proposed amendment will also allow American Eel greater than the 9-inch minimum length limit to be used for cut bait provided the body depth of the eel is at least ½ inch. During the 2018-2019 rule-making cycle, a rule was adopted prohibiting the removal the head or tail or otherwise changing the appearance of any nongame fish with a specific size and/or creel limit. American Eel is subject to this rule, and before it became effective, eels were a popular cut bait among anglers, especially those targeting trophy catfish. Anglers have requested the ability to use eels once again as cut bait. The requirement that the body depth of the cut bait be at least ½ inch is consistent with the ½-inch x ½-inch mesh restriction for eel pots. While American Eel is considered depleted across its range by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, using legally harvest eels as cut bait is not expected to impact the overall population.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

This rule amendment will have no impact as the changes are part of routine fisheries management.

#### *Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated. While the proposed rule change will alter when and what anglers may harvest, they are not expected to impact overall participation in fishing. The WRC does not have a mechanism to determine the specific fiscal impact of the proposed changes. Establishing consistent size and creel limits for Blue Catfish in the Dan River will simplify rules for anglers and allowing the use of legally harvested American Eel as cut bait will provide additional angling opportunity.

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

The proposed amendment to the Rule will allow American Eel greater than the 9-inch minimum length limit to be used for cut bait provided the body depth of the eel is at least ½ inch. During the 2018-2019 rule-making cycle, a rule was adopted prohibiting the removal the head or tail or otherwise changing the appearance of any nongame fish with a specific size and/or creel limit. American Eel is subject to this rule, and before it became effective, eels were a popular cut bait among anglers, especially those targeting trophy catfish. Anglers have requested the ability to use eels once again as cut bait. The requirement that the body depth of the cut bait be at least ½ inch is consistent with the ½-inch x ½-inch mesh restriction for eel pots. While American Eel is considered depleted across its range by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, using legally harvest eels as cut bait is not expected to impact the overall population.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This rule amendment will have no impact as the change is part of routine fisheries management.

*Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

No fiscal impacts are anticipated. Allowing the use of legally harvested American Eel as cut bait will provide additional angling opportunity.

## APPENDIX A

### 1 15A NCAC 10C .0205 PUBLIC MOUNTAIN TROUT WATERS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)

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) "Single hook" means a fish hook with only one point.
- 6 (3) "Artificial lure" means a fishing lure that neither contains nor has been treated by any substance that  
7 attracts fish by the sense of taste or smell.
- 8 (4) "Artificial fly" means one single hook dressed with feathers, hair, thread, tinsel, rubber, or any  
9 similar material to which no additional hook, spinner, spoon or similar device is added.
- 10 (5) "Youth anglers" are individuals under 18 years of age.

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

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

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1           ~~(9)(8)~~ "Undesignated Waters" are all other waters in the State. These waters have no bait or lure  
2           restrictions. ~~Trout may not be possessed while fishing these waters from March 1 until 7:00 a.m. on~~  
3           ~~the first Saturday in April.~~

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

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

9           (1) Alleghany

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

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

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

14           Big Pine Creek

15           Bledsoe Creek

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

18           Cranberry Creek

19           (Big) Glade Creek

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

22           Meadow Fork

23           Pine Swamp Creek

24           Piney Fork

25           Prathers Creek

26           (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:

27           All waters located on Stone Mountain State Park

28           (2) Ashe County

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

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

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

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

33           Helton Creek (SR 1372 bridge to North Fork New River)

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

35           Trout Lake

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

37           Beaver Creek (N.C. 221 to confluence of Beaver Creek and South Beaver Creek)

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

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

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- 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 and Lures 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 Wilson Creek (game land portion)  
14 ~~(B) — Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:~~  
15 ~~Wilson Creek (game land portion)~~  
16 ~~(B)~~ Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
17 Boyde Coffey Lake  
18 Elk River (S.R. 1305 crossing immediately upstream of Big Falls to the Tennessee state  
19 line)  
20 Linville River (Land Harbor line [below dam] to the Blue Ridge Parkway boundary line,  
21 except where posted against trespassing)  
22 Milltimber Creek  
23 North Toe River — upper (Watauga St. to Roby Shoemaker Wetlands and Family  
24 Recreational Park, except where posted against trespassing)  
25 North Toe River — lower (S.R. 1164 to Mitchell Co. line, except where posted against  
26 trespassing)  
27 Squirrel Creek  
28 Wildcat Lake  
29 ~~(D)~~(C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
30 Birchfield Creek  
31 Cow Camp Creek  
32 Cranberry Creek (headwaters to U.S. 19E/N.C. 194 bridge)  
33 Gragg Prong  
34 Horse Creek  
35 Kentucky Creek  
36 North Harper Creek  
37 Plumtree Creek  
38 Roaring Creek  
39 Rockhouse Creek

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

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- 1 Buffalo Creek (mouth of Joes Creek to McCloud Branch)
- 2 Joes Creek (first falls upstream of S.R. 1574 to confluence with Buffalo Creek)
- 3 Wilson Creek (Phillips Branch to Brown Mountain Beach Dam, except where posted
- 4 against trespassing)
- 5 Yadkin River (Happy Valley Ruritan Community Park to S.R. 1515)
- 6 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 7 Buffalo Creek (Watauga Co. line to Long Ridge Branch including game land tributaries)
- 8 Joes Creek (Watauga Co. line to first falls upstream of the end of S.R. 1574)
- 9 Rockhouse Creek
- 10 (7) Cherokee County
- 11 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 12 Davis Creek (confluence of Bald and Dockery creeks to Hanging Dog Creek)
- 13 Hyatt Creek (Big Dam Branch to Valley River)
- 14 Junaluska Creek (Ashturn Creek to Valley River)
- 15 Shuler Creek (Joe Brown Hwy [S.R. 1325] bridge to Tennessee state line)
- 16 Valley River (S.R. 1359 to U.S. 19 Business bridge in Murphy)
- 17 (B) Special Regulation Trout Waters are as follows:
- 18 Apalachia Reservoir
- 19 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 20 Bald Creek (game land portion)
- 21 Dockery Creek (game land portion)
- 22 North Shoal Creek (game land portion)
- 23 (8) Clay County
- 24 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 25 Fires Creek (Rockhouse Creek to the foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area)
- 26 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 27 Buck Creek (game land portion downstream of U.S. 64 bridge)
- 28 Fires Creek (foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area to S.R. 1300)
- 29 Tusquitee Creek (Compass Creek to lower S.R. 1300 bridge)
- 30 (9) Graham County
- 31 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 32 (Big) Snowbird Creek (USFS footbridge at the old railroad junction to USFS Rd. 2579)
- 33 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 34 Calderwood Reservoir (Cheoah Dam to Tennessee state line)
- 35 Cheoah Reservoir
- 36 Panther Creek (confluence of Stand Creek and Rock Creek to Lake Fontana)
- 37 Santeetlah Creek (Johns Branch to Lake Santeetlah)
- 38 (Big) Snowbird Creek (USFS Road 2579 to S.R. 1127 bridge)
- 39 Stecoah Creek (upper game land boundary to Lake Fontana)



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- 1 Tulula Creek (S.R. 1201 to lower bridge on S.R. 1275)
- 2 West Buffalo Creek
- 3 Yellow Creek (Lake Santeetlah hydropower pipeline to Cheoah River)
- 4 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 5 Little Buffalo Creek
- 6 South Fork Squally Creek
- 7 Squally Creek
- 8 (D) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 9 Deep Creek
- 10 ~~Franks Creek~~
- 11 Long Creek (game land portion)
- 12 (10) Haywood County
- 13 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 14 West Fork Pigeon River (Queen Creek to the first game land boundary upstream of Lake
- 15 Logan)
- 16 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 17 Cold Springs Creek (Fall Branch to Pigeon River)
- 18 Jonathan Creek (upstream S.R. 1302 bridge to Pigeon River, except where posted against
- 19 trespassing)
- 20 Pigeon River (Stamey Cove Branch to upstream U.S. 19-23 bridge)
- 21 Richland Creek (Russ Avenue [U.S. 276] bridge to U.S. 19 bridge)
- 22 West Fork Pigeon River (Tom Creek to Queen Creek, including portions on game lands,
- 23 except Middle Prong)
- 24 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 25 ~~Hemphill Creek~~
- 26 Hurricane Creek
- 27 (11) Henderson County
- 28 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 29 North Fork Mills River (game land portion below the Hendersonville watershed dam)
- 30 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 31 (Rocky) Broad River (end of S.R. 1611 to Rutherford County line)
- 32 Cane Creek (railroad bridge upstream of S.R. 1551 bridge to U.S. 25 bridge)
- 33 Clear Creek (Laurel Fork to S.R. 1582)
- 34 Green River (Lake Summit powerhouse to game land boundary)
- 35 (Big) Hungry River (S.R. 1885 to Green River)
- 36 (12) Jackson County
- 37 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 38 Flat Creek
- 39 Tuckasegee River (upstream from the Clark property)

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- 1 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
2 Tuckasegee River (downstream N.C. 107 bridge to the falls located 275 yards upstream of  
3 the U.S. 23-441 bridge [marked by a sign on each bank])
- 4 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
5 Balsam Lake  
6 Bear Creek Lake  
7 Cedar Cliff Lake  
8 Cullowhee Creek (Tilley Creek to Tuckasegee River)  
9 Dark Ridge Creek (Jones Creek to Scott Creek)  
10 Greens Creek (Greens Creek Baptist Church on S.R. 1370 to Savannah Creek)  
11 Savannah Creek (Shell Branch to Cagle Branch)  
12 Scott Creek (Dark Ridge Creek to Tuckasegee River, except where posted against  
13 trespassing)  
14 Tanasee Creek Lake  
15 Tuckasegee River — upper (John Brown Branch to the downstream N.C. 107 bridge)  
16 Tuckasegee River — lower (falls located 275 yards upstream of U.S. 23-441 bridge  
17 [marked by a sign on each bank] to S.R. 1534 bridge at Wilmot)  
18 Wolf Creek Lake
- 19 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
20 Gage Creek  
21 North Fork Scott Creek  
22 Tanasee Creek  
23 Whitewater River (downstream from Silver Run Creek to South Carolina state line)  
24 Wolf Creek (except Balsam Lake and Wolf Creek Lake)
- 25 (E) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:  
26 ~~Buff Creek~~  
27 Chattooga River (S.R. 1100 bridge to the South Carolina state line)  
28 Lower Fowler Creek (game land portion)  
29 Scotsman Creek (game land portion)
- 30 (13) Macon County
- 31 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
32 Nantahala River (Whiteoak Creek to Nantahala hydropower discharge canal)
- 33 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
34 Burningtown Creek (Left Prong to Little Tennessee River)  
35 Cartoogechaye Creek (downstream U.S. 64 bridge to Little Tennessee River)  
36 Cliffside Lake  
37 Cullasaja River (Sequoyah Dam to U.S. 64 bridge near junction of S.R. 1672)  
38 Nantahala River — upper (Dicks Creek to Whiteoak Creek)  
39 Nantahala River — lower (Nantahala hydropower discharge canal to Swain Co. line)

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- 1 Queens Creek Lake
- 2 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 3 Chattooga River (S.R. 1100 bridge to South Carolina state line)
- 4 Jarrett Creek (game land portion)
- 5 Kimsey Creek
- 6 Overflow Creek (game land portion)
- 7 Park Creek
- 8 Tellico Creek (game land portion)
- 9 Turtle Pond Creek (game land portion)
- 10 (14) Madison County
- 11 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 12 Big Laurel Creek (N.C. 208 bridge to the U.S. 25-70 bridge)
- 13 Shelton Laurel Creek (N.C. 208 bridge at Belva to the confluence with Big Laurel Creek)
- 14 Spring Creek (N.C. 209 bridge at Hot Springs city limits to iron bridge at end of Andrews
- 15 Ave.)
- 16 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 17 Big Laurel Creek (Puncheon Fork to the S.R. 1318 [Big Laurel Rd.] bridge downstream of
- 18 Bearpen Branch)
- 19 Big Pine Creek (S.R. 1151 bridge to French Broad River)
- 20 Little Ivy Creek (confluence of Middle Fork and Paint Fork at Beech Glen to confluence
- 21 with Ivy Creek at Forks of Ivy)
- 22 Max Patch Pond
- 23 Meadow Fork Creek (Meadow Fork Campground to Spring Creek)
- 24 Puncheon Fork (Wolf Laurel Branch to Big Laurel Creek)
- 25 Roaring Fork (Fall Branch to Meadow Fork)
- 26 Shelton Laurel Creek (confluence of Big Creek and Mill Creek to N.C. 208 bridge at Belva)
- 27 Shut-in Creek
- 28 Spillcorn Creek
- 29 Spring Creek (junction of N.C. 209 and N.C. 63 to USFS Rd. 223)
- 30 West Fork Shut-in Creek (lower game land boundary to confluence with East Fork Shut-
- 31 in Creek)
- 32 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 33 Big Creek (headwaters to the lower game land boundary)
- 34 (15) McDowell County
- 35 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 36 Newberry Creek (game land portion)
- 37 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 38 Catawba River (portion adjacent to Marion Greenway)
- 39 Curtis Creek (game land portion downstream of the USFS boundary at Deep Branch)

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- 1 Mill Creek (U.S. 70 bridge to I-40 bridge)
- 2 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 3 Armstrong Creek (Cato Holler line downstream to upper Greenlee line)
- 4 Catawba River (Catawba Falls Campground to Old Fort Recreation Park)
- 5 Little Buck Creek (game land portion)
- 6 ~~Mill Creek (upper railroad bridge to U.S. 70 bridge, except where posted against~~
- 7 ~~trespassing)~~
- 8 North Fork Catawba River (headwaters to North Cove School at S.R. 1569 bridge)
- 9 (16) Mitchell County
- 10 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 11 Cane Creek (N.C. 226 bridge to S.R. 1189 bridge)
- 12 North Toe River (U.S. 19E bridge to N.C. 226 bridge)
- 13 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 14 Big Rock Creek (headwaters to N.C. 226 bridge at S.R. 1307 intersection)
- 15 Cane Creek (S.R. 1219 to N.C. 226 bridge)
- 16 East Fork Grassy Creek
- 17 Grassy Creek (East Fork Grassy Creek to mouth)
- 18 Little Rock Creek (Green Creek bridge to Big Rock Creek, except where posted against
- 19 trespassing)
- 20 North Toe River (Avery Co. line to S.R. 1121 bridge)
- 21 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 22 Green Creek (headwaters to Green Creek bridge, except where posted against trespassing)
- 23 Little Rock Creek (above Green Creek bridge, including all tributaries, except where
- 24 posted against trespassing)
- 25 Wiles Creek (game land boundary to mouth)
- 26 (17) Polk County
- 27 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 28 Green River (Fishtop Falls Access Area to the confluence with Cove Creek)
- 29 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 30 Green River (Mouth of Cove Creek to the natural gas pipeline crossing)
- 31 North Pacolet River (Joels Creek to N.C. 108 bridge)
- 32 (18) Rutherford County
- 33 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 34 (Rocky) Broad River (Henderson Co. line to U.S. 64/74 bridge, except where posted
- 35 against trespassing)
- 36 (19) Stokes County
- 37 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 38 Dan River (Virginia state line downstream to a point 200 yards below the end of S.R. 1421)
- 39 (20) Surry County

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- 1 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
2 Ararat River (portion adjacent to the Ararat River Greenway)  
3 Mitchell River (0.6 miles upstream of the end of S.R. 1333 to the lowermost bridge on S.R.  
4 1330)
- 5 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
6 Ararat River (S.R. 1727 bridge downstream to the N.C. 103 bridge)  
7 Big Elkin Creek (dam 440 yards upstream of N.C. 268 bridge to a point 265 yards  
8 downstream of N.C. 268 [marked by a sign on each bank])  
9 Fisher River (Cooper Creek)(Virginia state line to I-77 bridge)  
10 Little Fisher River (Virginia state line to N.C. 89 bridge)  
11 Lovills Creek (U.S. 52 Business bridge to Ararat River)  
12 Pauls Creek (Virginia state line to .3 miles below S.R. 1625 bridge)
- 13 (21) Swain County
- 14 (A) Delayed Harvest Waters Trout Waters are as follows:  
15 Tuckasegee River (U.S. 19 bridge to Slope Street bridge)
- 16 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
17 Alarka Creek (game land boundary to Fontana Reservoir)  
18 Calderwood Reservoir (Cheoah Dam to Tennessee state line)  
19 Cheoah Reservoir  
20 Connelly Creek (Camp Branch to Tuckasegee River)  
21 Deep Creek (Great Smoky Mountains National Park Boundary line to Tuckasegee River)  
22 Nantahala River (Macon Co. line to existing Fontana Lake water level)
- 23 (22) Transylvania County
- 24 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
25 Davidson River (headwaters to Avery Creek, excluding Avery Creek, Looking Glass Creek  
26 and Grogan Creek)
- 27 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
28 East Fork French Broad River (East Fork Baptist Church to the downstream S.R. 1107  
29 bridge)  
30 Little River (confluence of Lake Dense to 100 yards downstream of Hooker Falls)
- 31 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
32 Davidson River (Avery Creek to lower USFS boundary)  
33 French Broad River (confluence of North Fork French Broad River and West Fork)  
34 French Broad River to the Island Ford Rd. [S.R. 1110] Access Area  
35 Middle Fork French Broad River (upstream U.S. 178 bridge to French Broad River)  
36 West Fork French Broad River (S.R. 1312 to confluence with North Fork French Broad  
37 River)
- 38 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
39 All waters located on Gorges State Park

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- 1                                   Whitewater River (downstream from Silver Run Creek to South Carolina state line)
- 2                   (E)       Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 3                                   North Fork French Broad River (game land portion downstream of S.R. 1326)
- 4                                   Thompson River (S.R. 1152 to South Carolina state line, except where posted against
- 5                                   trespassing)
- 6           (23)   Watauga County
- 7                   (A)       Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 8                                   Laurel Creek (confluence of North and South Fork Laurel creeks to Elk Creek, excluding
- 9                                   tributaries)
- 10                                  Pond Creek (headwaters to Locust Ridge Rd. bridge, excluding the pond adjacent to Coffee
- 11                                  Lake)
- 12                   (B)       Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 13                                  Lake Coffey
- 14                                  ~~Watauga River (adjacent to intersection of S.R. 1557 and S.R. 1558 to N.C. 105 bridge and~~
- 15                                  ~~S.R. River – upper (S.R. 1114 bridge to the Valle Crucis Community Park lower boundary)~~
- 16                                  Watauga River – lower (S.R. 1103 bridge to confluence with Laurel Creek)
- 17                   (C)       Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 18                                  Beaverdam Creek (confluence of Beaverdam Creek and Little Beaverdam Creek to an
- 19                                  unnamed tributary adjacent to the intersection of S.R. 1201 and S.R. 1203)
- 20                                  Beech Creek
- 21                                  Buckeye Creek (Buckeye Creek Reservoir dam to Grassy Gap Creek)
- 22                                  Buckeye Creek Reservoir
- 23                                  Cove Creek (S.R. 1233 bridge at Zionville to S.R. 1214 bridge at Sherwood)
- 24                                  Dutch Creek (second bridge on S.R. 1134 to mouth)
- 25                                  Elk Creek (S.R. 1510 bridge at Triplett to Wilkes Co. line, except where posted against
- 26                                  trespassing)
- 27                                  Laurel Creek (S.R. 1123 bridge at S.R. 1157 intersection to Watauga River)
- 28                                  Meat Camp Creek (S.R. 1340 bridge at S.R. 1384 intersection to N.C. 194)
- 29                                  Middle Fork New River (adjacent to intersection of S.R. 1539 and U.S. 321 to South Fork
- 30                                  New River)
- 31                                  Norris Fork Creek
- 32                                  South Fork New River (canoe launch 70 yards upstream of U.S. 421 bridge to lower
- 33                                  boundary of Brookshire Park)
- 34                                  Stony Fork (S.R. 1500 bridge at S.R. 1505 intersection to Wilkes Co. line)
- 35                   (D)       Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 36                                  Dutch Creek (headwaters to second bridge on S.R. 1134)
- 37                                  Howard Creek
- 38                                  Maine Branch (headwaters to North Fork New River)
- 39                                  North Fork New River (from confluence with Maine and Mine branches to Ashe Co. line)

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- 1                           Watauga River (Avery Co. line to S.R. 1580 bridge)
- 2                           Winkler Creek (lower bridge on S.R. 1549 to confluence with South Fork New River)
- 3           (24)   Wilkes County
- 4                    (A)    Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 5                           East Prong Roaring River (Bullhead Creek downstream to Stone Mountain State Park
- 6                           lower boundary)
- 7                           Elk Creek — upper (Watauga Co. line to lower boundary of the Blue Ridge Mountain
- 8                           Club)
- 9                           Elk Creek — lower (portion on Leatherwood Mountains development)
- 10                          Reddies River (Town of North Wilkesboro water intake dam to confluence with the Yadkin
- 11                          River)
- 12                          Stone Mountain Creek (from falls at Alleghany Co. line to confluence with East Prong
- 13                          Roaring River and Bullhead Creek)
- 14                    (B)    Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 15                           Basin Creek (S.R. 1730 bridge to confluence with Lovelace Creek)
- 16                           Bell Branch Pond
- 17                           Boundary Line Pond
- 18                           Cub Creek (.5 mile upstream of S.R. 2460 bridge to S.R. 1001 bridge)
- 19                           Darnell Creek (North Prong Reddies River)(downstream ford on S.R. 1569 to confluence
- 20                           with North Fork Reddies River)
- 21                           East Prong Roaring River (Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary to S.R. 1002 bridge)
- 22                           Fall Creek (S.R. 1300 bridge to confluence with South Prong Lewis Fork, except where
- 23                           posted against trespassing)
- 24                           Middle Fork Reddies River (Clear Prong)(headwaters to bridge on S.R. 1580)
- 25                           Middle Prong Roaring River (headwaters to second bridge on S.R. 1736)
- 26                           North Fork Reddies River (Vannoy Creek)(headwaters to Union School bridge on S.R.
- 27                           1559)
- 28                           Pike Creek
- 29                           Pike Creek Pond
- 30                           South Fork Reddies River (S.R. 1355 bridge to confluence with Middle Fork Reddies
- 31                           River)
- 32                           South Prong Lewis Fork (Fall Creek to U.S. 421 bridge adjacent to S.R. 1155 intersection)
- 33                    (C)    Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 34                           All waters located on Stone Mountain State Park, except East Prong Roaring River from
- 35                           Bullhead Creek downstream to the Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary where
- 36                           Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply, and Stone Mountain Creek from falls at
- 37                           Alleghany County line to confluence with East Prong Roaring River and Bullhead Creek
- 38                           in Stone Mountain State Park where Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply
- 39           (25)   Yancey County

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- 1 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
2 South Toe River (headwaters to Upper Creek)  
3 Upper Creek
- 4 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
5 Cane River (Blackberry Ridge Rd. to downstream boundary of Cane River County Park)
- 6 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
7 Bald Mountain Creek (except where posted against trespassing)  
8 Cane River (Bee Branch [S.R. 1110] to Bowlens Creek)  
9 Price Creek (junction of S.R. 1120 and S.R. 1121 to Indian Creek)  
10 South Toe River (Clear Creek to lower boundary line of Yancey Co. Recreation Park,  
11 except where posted against trespassing)
- 12 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
13 Cattail Creek (bridge at Mountain Farm Community Rd. to N.C. 197 bridge)  
14 Lickskillet Creek  
15 Middle Creek (game land boundary to mouth)  
16



## APPENDIX A

### 1 15A NCAC 10C .0211 POSSESSION OF CERTAIN FISHES (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)

2 (a) It shall be unlawful to transport, purchase, possess, sell, or stock in the public or private waters of North Carolina  
3 any live individuals of:

- 4 (1) ~~piranha~~; piranha (any species of the genera *Pristobrycon*, *Pygocentrus*, *Pygopristis*, or *Serrasalmus*);
- 5 (2) ~~"walking catfish" (*Clarias batrachus*);~~ walking catfish (any member of the genus *Batrachus*);
- 6 (3) snakehead fish (from the Family Channidae, formerly Ophiocephalidae);
- 7 (4) black carp (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*);
- 8 (5) bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*);
- 9 (6) silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*);
- 10 (7) rudd (~~*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*~~); erythrophthalmus or *Scardinius erythrophthalmus*;
- 11 (8) round goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*);
- 12 (9) tubenose goby (~~*Proterorhinus marmoratus*~~); ~~*marmoratus*~~, *Proterorhinus semilunaris*, and  
13 *Proterorhinus semipellucidus*;
- 14 (10) ruffe (~~*Gymnocephalus cernuus*~~); ~~*cernuus*~~ or *Gymnocephalus cernua*;
- 15 (11) Japanese mysterysnail (*Cipangopaludina japonica*);
- 16 (12) Chinese mysterysnail (~~*Cipangopaludina chinensis malleata*~~); ~~*chinensis*~~;
- 17 (13) red-rim melania (~~*Melanoides tuberculatus*~~); ~~*tuberculatus*~~ or *Melanoides tuberculata*;
- 18 (14) virile crayfish (~~*Oreonectes (Gremicambarus)*~~); ~~*Faxonius virilis*~~;
- 19 (15) rusty crayfish (~~*Oreonectes (Procericambarus)*~~); ~~*Faxonius rusticus*~~;
- 20 (16) Australian red claw crayfish or ~~"red claw"~~ red claw (*Cherax quadricarinatus*, or other species of  
21 "giant" crayfish species in the genus *Cherax*;
- 22 (17) white amur or ~~"grass carp"~~ grass carp (~~*Ctenopharyngodon idella*~~); ~~*idella*~~, except for triploid  
23 individuals as permitted in Paragraph (b) of this Rule;
- 24 (18) Asian swamp eel, swamp or "rice" rice eel (*Monopterus albus*);
- 25 (19) red shiner (*Cyprinella lutrensis*);
- 26 (20) zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*);
- 27 (21) quagga mussel (*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*) or any mussel in the family Dreissenidae; ~~or~~
- 28 (22) redtail catfish (~~*Phractocephalus hemioliopterus*~~); ~~*hemioliopterus*~~;
- 29 (23) African longfin eel (*Anguilla mossambica*);
- 30 (24) Creole painted crayfish (*Faxonius palmeri creolanus*);
- 31 (25) bigclaw crayfish (*Faxonius placidus*);
- 32 (26) marbled Crayfish or Marmor Krebs (*Procambarus virginalis* or *Procambarus fallax f. virginalis*);
- 33 (27) applesnail (any species of the genus *Pomacea*);
- 34 (28) olive mysterysnail (*Viviparus subpurpureus*);
- 35 (29) European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*);
- 36 (30) Oriental weatherfish (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*);
- 37 (31) brown hoplo (*Hoplosternum littorale*);
- 38 (32) yellow bass (*Morone mississippiensis*);
- 39 (33) shortfin eel (*Anguilla australis*);

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1           (34) Crucian Carp (Carassius carassius);

2           (35) Prussian Carp (Carassius gibelio);

3           (36) European perch (Perca fluviatilis);

4           (37) European minnow (Phoxinus phoxinus); or

5           (38) amur sleeper (Perccottus glenii).

6 (b) A person may buy, possess, or stock grass carp that have been certified to be triploid or sterile, only for the purpose  
7 of controlling aquatic vegetation under a permit issued by the Executive Director or his or her designee based on an  
8 evaluation of the potential for escapement and threat to sensitive aquatic habitats.

9 (c) It shall be unlawful to transport, possess, or release live river herring, also known as alewife or blueback herring,  
10 in the waters of the Little Tennessee River in and upstream of Lake Santeetlah and Cedar Cliff Lake, including all  
11 the tributaries and impoundments thereof, and on adjacent shorelines, docks, access ramps, and bridge crossings.

12

## APPENDIX A

### 1 **15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

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

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

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

11 (d) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Alabama Bass,  
12 and Spotted Bass is 10 fish in aggregate. The minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 12 inches.

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

14 (1) Lake Raleigh in Wake County;

15 (2) Lake Sutton in New Hanover County;

16 (3) Pungo Lake in Washington and Hyde counties;

17 (4) New Lake in Hyde County; and

18 (5) Currituck, Roanoke, Croatan, Albemarle sounds, and all their tributaries including Roanoke River  
19 downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam, Chowan River, Meherrin River, Yeopim River, Pasquotank  
20 River, Perquimans River, Little River, Big Flatty Creek, North River, Northwest River,  
21 Scuppernong River, Alligator River (including the Alligator/Pungo Canal east of the NC Hwy  
22 264/45 bridge, and all other associated tributaries and canals in these river systems.

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

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

27 (h) In Shearon Harris Reservoir in Chatham and Wake counties and Lake Hampton in Yadkin County, there is no  
28 minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but only two Largemouth Bass less than 14 inches and no Largemouth Bass  
29 between 16 and 20 inches may be possessed.

30 (i) In Lake Thom-A-Lex in Davidson County, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 18 inches.

31 (j) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, ~~Virginia~~) ~~there~~  
32 Virginia, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass is 5 fish in aggregate. There  
33 is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and  
34 only one Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, or Spotted Bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

35 (k) 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.

37 (l) In Jean Guite Creek and associated canals within the Town of Southern ~~Shores, Shores in Dare County, County~~  
38 and in the ponds associated with Martin Marietta Park in Craven County, no Largemouth Bass may be possessed.

39

## APPENDIX A

### 1 **15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

2 (a) The daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is four fish in the aggregate, except in waters identified in  
3 Paragraphs (b), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) of this Rule. The minimum size limit for these fish is 20 inches, except in  
4 waters identified in Paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) of this Rule. There is no closed season, except  
5 for waters identified in Paragraphs (g), (h), (i), (j), and (k) of this Rule.

6 (b) In the Dan River upstream from its confluence with Bannister River to the dam at Union Street in Danville, VA  
7 and in John H. Kerr Reservoir, the daily creel limit on Striped Bass and its hybrids is two in the aggregate and the  
8 minimum size limit is 20 inches from October 1 through May 31. From June 1 through September 30, the daily creel  
9 limit on Striped Bass and its hybrids is four in the aggregate with no minimum size limit.

10 (c) In Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Reservoir, the minimum size limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is 20  
11 inches from October 1 through May 31. There is no minimum size limit for these fish from June 1 through September  
12 30.

13 (d) In Lake Norman, Hyco Lake, Moss Lake, Mountain Island Reservoir, Oak Hollow Lake, Lake Thom-A-Lex, Lake  
14 Townsend, and Salem Lake the minimum size limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is 16 inches.

15 (e) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit is 15 in the aggregate. There is no minimum size limit, but  
16 only two may be greater than 22 inches.

17 (f) In Lake Mattamuskeet, and in the Pee Dee River and its tributaries downstream from the Blewett Falls Dam to the  
18 South Carolina state line, the daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is three fish in the aggregate, and the  
19 minimum size limit is 18 inches.

20 (g) In the inland fishing waters of Neuse, Pungo, and Tar Pamlico rivers and their tributaries extending upstream to  
21 the first impoundment of the main course on the river or its tributaries, and in all other inland fishing waters east of  
22 Interstate 95 not specified in Paragraphs (f), (h), (i), and (j) of this Rule, the daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its  
23 hybrids is two fish in the aggregate. The minimum size limit is 26 inches. In these waters, the season for taking and  
24 possessing Striped Bass is closed from May 1 through September 30.

25 (h) In the inland fishing waters of the Cape Fear River and its tributaries downstream of Buckhorn ~~Dam, Dam and in~~  
26 the ponds associated with Martin Marietta Park in Craven County, the season for taking and possessing Striped Bass  
27 is closed year-round.

28 (i) In the inland and joint fishing waters of the Roanoke River Striped Bass Management Area, as established in 15A  
29 NCAC 03R .0201 and identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0110, which includes the Roanoke, Cashie, Middle, and Eastmost  
30 rivers and their tributaries, the open season for taking and possessing Striped Bass and its hybrids is March 1 through  
31 April 30 from the joint-coastal fishing waters boundary at Albemarle Sound upstream to Roanoke Rapids Lake dam.  
32 During the open season, the daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is two fish in the aggregate, and the  
33 minimum size limit is 18 inches. No fish between 22 inches and 27 inches in length shall be possessed in the daily  
34 creel limit. Only one fish larger than 27 inches may be possessed in the daily creel limit.

35 (j) In designated inland fishing waters of Roanoke Sound, Croatan Sound, Albemarle Sound, Chowan River, Currituck  
36 Sound, Alligator River, Scuppernong River, and their tributaries (excluding the Roanoke River and Cashie River and  
37 their tributaries), the Striped Bass fishing season, size limits, and creel limits are the same as those established by rules  
38 or proclamations of the Marine Fisheries Commission in adjacent joint or coastal fishing waters.

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1 (k) In accordance with G.S. 113-292, the Executive Director may, by proclamation, suspend, or extend the hook-and-  
2 line season for Striped Bass in the inland and joint waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries. It is unlawful to violate  
3 the provisions of any proclamation issued under this authority.

4

## APPENDIX A

### 1 **15A NCAC 10C .0316 TROUT (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

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 Paragraph (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 Flies and 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:

17 (1) Apalachia Reservoir (Cherokee County) the daily creel limit is three trout. There is no minimum  
18 size limit, but only one may be greater than 14 inches. There is no closed season.

19 (2) Catawba River (Burke County) from Muddy Creek to the City of Morganton water intake dam the  
20 daily creel limit is two fish. The minimum size limit is 14 inches. There is no closed season.

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

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

26 (1) Bear Creek Lake;

27 (2) Buckeye Creek Reservoir;

28 (3) Calderwood Reservoir;

29 (4) Cedar Cliff Lake;

30 (5) Cheoah Reservoir;

31 (6) Cliffside Lake;

32 (7) Tanassee Creek Lake;

33 (8) Queens Creek Lake; and

34 (9) Wolf Lake.

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

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

38

## APPENDIX A

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0321 SMALLMOUTH BASS**

2 (a) The daily creel limit for Smallmouth Bass is five fish, except in waters identified in Paragraphs ~~(b) and (c)~~ (b),  
3 (c), and (d) of this Rule. There is no minimum size limit for Smallmouth Bass, but only two of them may be less than  
4 14 inches except in waters identified in Paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this Rule. There is no closed season.

5 (b) In Lake Santeetlah in Graham County, there is no daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass  
6 less than 14 inches. The daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass greater than 14 inches is five fish  
7 in aggregate.

8 (c) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Alabama Bass, and  
9 Spotted Bass is 10 fish in aggregate. There is no minimum size limit for Smallmouth Bass.

10 (d) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, ~~Virginia~~) ~~there~~  
11 Virginia), the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass is 5 fish in aggregate. There  
12 is no minimum size limit for Smallmouth Bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and  
13 only one Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, or Spotted Bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

14

## APPENDIX A

1 **15A NCAC 10C .0322 ALABAMA BASS AND SPOTTED BASS**

2 (a) There is no daily creel limit for Alabama Bass or Spotted Bass, except for waters identified in paragraph (b) and  
3 (c) of this Rule. There is no minimum size limit or closed season.

4 (b) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Alabama Bass,  
5 and Spotted Bass is 10 fish in aggregate.

6 (c) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, ~~Virginia~~ there  
7 Virginia), the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass is 5 fish in aggregate. There  
8 is no minimum size limit for Spotted Bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and only  
9 one Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, or Spotted Bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

10



## APPENDIX A

### 15A NCAC 10C .0401 MANNER OF TAKING NONGAME FISHES (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)

(a) Except as permitted by the rules in this Section, it is unlawful to take nongame fishes from the inland fishing waters of North Carolina in any manner other than with hook and line, grabbling, or special device with a special device fishing license.

(b) Nongame fishes may be taken by hook and line, grabbling, or special device with a special device fishing license at any time without restriction as to size limits or creel limits, except as designated in this Rule.

(c) Special devices may only be used to take nongame fishes with a special device fishing license in those counties and waters with open season designated in Rule .0407 of this Section.

(d) Archery equipment may only be used for the take of catfish on Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam to the South Carolina state line and all tributaries.

(e) Set hooks, jug hooks, and trotlines may be used to take nongame fishes as designated in 15A NCAC 10C .0206.

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

(g) Freshwater mussels, including the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*), may be taken only from impounded waters, except mussels shall not be taken in:

- (1) Lake Waccamaw in Columbus County; and
- (2) University Lake in Orange County.

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

(h) Blue crabs shall have a minimum carapace width of five inches (point to point) and it is unlawful to possess more than 50 crabs per person per day or to exceed 100 crabs per vessel per day.

(i) While boating on or fishing in the following inland fishing waters, no person shall take river herring (alewife and blueback herring) that are greater than six inches in length, or possess such herring regardless of origin in:

- (1) Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam;
- (2) Tar River downstream of Rocky Mount Mill Dam;
- (3) Neuse River downstream of Falls Lake Dam;
- (4) Cape Fear River downstream of Buckhorn Dam;
- (5) Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam;
- (6) Lumber River, including Drowning Creek;
- (7) all the tributaries to the rivers listed above; and
- (8) all other inland fishing waters east of I-95.

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

(k) The daily creel limit for blue catfish greater than 32 inches is one fish in the following ~~reservoirs;~~ waters:

- (1) Lake Norman;
- (2) Mountain Island Lake;
- (3) Lake Wylie;

## APPENDIX A

- 1 (4) Badin Lake;
- 2 (5) Lake Tillery;
- 3 (6) John H. Kerr Reservoir (North Carolina portion);
- 4 (7) Dan River (Downstream of the Union Street Dam in Danville, VA)
- 5 ~~(7)(8)~~ Lake Gaston (North Carolina portion); and
- 6 ~~(8)(9)~~ Roanoke Rapids Reservoir.

7 (l) The daily creel limit is five catfish in aggregate on the Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam to the  
8 South Carolina state line and all tributaries.

9 (m) The daily creel limit for American eels taken from or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing  
10 in inland fishing waters is 25, and the minimum size limit is 9 inches. Eels greater than 9 inches in length and with a  
11 minimum body depth greater than ½ inch may be cut for use as bait.

12 (n) Grass carp shall not be taken or possessed on Lake James, Lookout Shoals Lake, Mountain Island Reservoir, and  
13 Lake Wylie, except that one fish per day may be taken with archery equipment.

14 (o) Grass carp shall not be taken or possessed on Lake Norman and the North Carolina portion of John H. Kerr  
15 Reservoir, except for scientific study by permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

16 (p) In inland fishing waters, gray trout (weakfish) recreational seasons, size limits, and creel limits are the same as  
17 those established by Marine Fisheries Commission rule or proclamations issued by the Fisheries Director in adjacent  
18 joint or coastal fishing waters.

19 (q) No person while fishing shall remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of any nongame fish  
20 specified in Paragraphs (h), (i), (k), (m), and (p) of this Rule having a size limit so as to render it impractical to measure  
21 its total original ~~length-length~~, except as provided in Paragraph (m) of this rule. No person while fishing shall change  
22 the appearance of any nongame fish specified in Paragraphs (g), (h), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), and (p) of this Rule  
23 having a daily creel limit so as to obscure its identification or render it impractical to count the number of fish in  
24 ~~possession~~, possession, except as provided in Paragraph (m) of this rule.

25 (r) Nongame fishes taken by hook and line, grabbling, or by special device with a special device fishing license may  
26 be sold, with the following exceptions:

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

31 (s) Margined madtom and tadpole madtom shall not be taken or possessed from inland fishing waters.

32

## APPENDIX A

### 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, from which all fish and animals are removed daily, and that are  
19 labeled with the user's Wildlife Resources Commission customer number or name and address;
- 20 (11) a hand-held line with a single bait attached;
- 21 (12) a single, multiple-bait line for taking crabs not to exceed 100 feet in length, marked on each end  
22 with a solid float no less than five inches in diameter, bearing legible and indelible identification of  
23 the user's name and address, and under the immediate control and attendance of the person using  
24 the device, with a limit of one line per person and no more than one line per vessel; or
- 25 (13) a collapsible crab trap with the largest open dimension not greater than 18 inches and that by design  
26 is collapsed at all times when in the water, except when it is being retrieved or lowered to the bottom,  
27 with a limit of one trap per person.

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

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

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

33 (e) No person shall take or possess during one day more than 200 nongame fish in aggregate for bait or personal  
34 consumption subject to the size and creel limits identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0401.

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

36 (g) It is unlawful to take nongame fish for bait from the following waters:

- 37 (1) Public Mountain Trout Waters (except in impounded waters of power reservoirs and municipally-  
38 owned water supply reservoirs);
- 39 (2) Bear Creek in Chatham County;

## APPENDIX A

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

3           (4)     Fork Creek in Randolph County; and

4           (5)     Rocky River in Chatham County.

5     (i) No person while fishing shall remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of any nongame fish  
6     having a size limit identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0401 so as to render it impractical to measure its total original  
7     ~~length-length, except as provided in 15A NCAC 10C .0401(m).~~ No person while fishing shall change the  
8     appearance of any nongame fish having a daily creel limit identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0401 so as to obscure its  
9     identification or render it impractical to count the number of fish in ~~possession- possession, except as provided in~~  
10    15A NCAC 10C .0401(m).

# EXHIBIT F-1

October 22, 2020



## Proposed Changes to Wildlife Management Regulations for 2021-2022 Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearings

### Deer

1. This proposal modifies the definition of a muzzleloading firearm to allow for the use of pre-loaded powder capsules in muzzleloader during blackpowder season.

#### **Justification:**

Products are currently commercially available that make the loading and reloading aspect of using a muzzleloader much easier and safer for hunters. Though the bullet is loaded through the muzzle of the rifle, the powder capsule is loaded through the breech. So, while this system does not use fixed ammunition, the powder is not loaded in the same manner as with a traditional sidelock or inline muzzleloader. Thus, this blackpowder firearm does not meet the current definition in rule. This proposed amendment will allow for the use of new technology that is less intimidating to hunters and may increase opportunities for hunters to use muzzleloaders in a safe way.

*15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed) (page 7)*

### Archery Equipment

1. This proposal modifies the permitted archery equipment to allow for the use of sling bow for taking white-tailed deer.

#### **Justification:**

Sling bows continue to increase in popularity and were made legal in North Carolina for wild turkey, small game animals, nongame animals, and nongame fish in 2019. Request have been made to consider allowing the use of sling bows for deer. These weapons are legal and successfully used in other states and some hunters have generated an interest in allowing them to hunt deer in North Carolina.

*15A NCAC 10B .0116 Permitted Archery Equipment (page 9)*

## Quail

1. This proposal will create a NCWRC private land program called “Wild Quail Management Areas” and will allow dedicated property managers enrolled in the Program to implement specific additional management actions.

### **Justification:**

Certain intensive management actions have been demonstrated, through peer-reviewed research, to have positive impacts on quail populations when combined with appropriate landscape size and overall habitat creation and management. Properties eligible for this program must meet specific requirements outlined in this rule including a minimum of 1500 acres of contiguous habitat, be managed for wild quail populations with no release of pen-reared birds, and to collect and maintain specific records which must be submitted to NCWRC annually. Specific management actions to be permitted on Wild Quail Management Areas by this rule include, trapping programs to reduce the abundance of the most important quail nest predators (opossum, raccoon, and striped skunk) during the early nesting season and providing supplemental feed without impacting the ability to hunt quail on the property.

*15A NCAC 10B .0227 Wild Quail Management Areas (pages 10-11)*

## Trapping

1. This proposed rule amendment will allow the use of remote trap checking systems in lieu of a physical trap check under specified conditions.

### **Justification:**

Wildlife damage control agents (WDCAs) and the wildlife control industry have expressed interest in having remote trap checking systems as an alternative to physical trap check. WDCAs feel the devices would improve their ability to more quickly respond to an activated trap, which will not only improve animal welfare, but improve their efficiency, reduce costs, and make them look more professional, all of which may increase customer satisfaction. Electronic trap check systems conforming to the standards recommended in this proposed rule ensures that trap status is reliably determined. The recommended standards are supported by the wildlife control industry and assures that remote trap monitoring devices used in North Carolina are reliable in detecting captured animals and notifying the user. These standards also assure that the users using these devices will meet or exceed maximum time requirements (e.g., daily trap check except 72 hours for completely submerged conibear-type traps) for trap attendance.

*15A NCAC 10B .0110 Attendance of Traps (page 12)*

## **Bear**

1. This proposed rule amendment corrects the open season for the take of bear in Camden, Chowan, and Pasquotank counties.

### **Justification:**

Due to the convention for how seasons of take are established in rule, this year when November 1 falls on a Sunday, the first segment of the bear season in Camden, Chowan, and Pasquotank counties begins a week and one day earlier than intended. Allowing this would be counter to bear management objectives and detrimental to the bear population. Additionally, this amendment is currently being implemented as a temporary rule.

*15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear (page 13)*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0203 is proposed for amendment as follows:  
2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0203 DEER (WHITE-TAILED) (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

4 (a) Open Seasons (All Lawful Weapons) for hunting deer:

5 (1) Deer With Visible Antlers. Deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as  
6 distinguished from knobs or buttons covered by skin or velvet, may be taken on all  
7 game lands except Buffalo Cove, Nicholson Creek, Rockfish Creek, Sandhills, and  
8 South Mountains Game Lands (Refer to 15A NCAC 10D .0103 for Deer With  
9 Visible Antlers seasons on these Game Lands), during the following seasons:

10 (A) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in all of Beaufort, Bladen,  
11 Brunswick, Carteret, Columbus\*, Cumberland, Craven, Dare, Duplin,  
12 Harnett, Hoke, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Moore, New Hanover, Onslow,  
13 Pamlico, Pender, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland, Tyrrell, and  
14 Washington counties.

15 \*Unlawful to hunt or kill deer in Lake Waccamaw or within 50 yards of its  
16 shoreline.

17 (B) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in all of Bertie, Camden,  
18 Chowan, Currituck, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Greene, Halifax,  
19 Hertford, Johnston, Martin, Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans,  
20 Pitt, Vance, Wake, Warren, Wayne, and Wilson counties.

21 (C) Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in all of Alexander,  
22 Alleghany, Ashe, Catawba, Cleveland, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Iredell,  
23 Lincoln, Polk, Rutherford, Stokes, Surry, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yadkin  
24 counties.

25 (D) Monday of Thanksgiving week through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving  
26 Day in all of Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Graham,  
27 Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell,  
28 Swain, Transylvania, and Yancey counties.

29 (E) Two Saturdays before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in all of Alamance,  
30 Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville,  
31 Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph,  
32 Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union counties.

33 (F) Saturday on or nearest September 10 through January 1 in those parts of  
34 Camden, Gates, and Pasquotank counties known as the Dismal Swamp  
35 National Wildlife Refuge; in those parts of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington  
36 counties known as the Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge; in that part  
37 of Hyde county known as Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge; in  
38 those parts of Dare and Hyde counties known as Alligator River National  
39 Wildlife Refuge; in those parts of Anson and Richmond counties known as  
40 the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge; and in that part of Currituck County  
41 known as the Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge.



1 (2) Deer of Either Sex. Except on Game Lands, deer of either sex may be taken during the  
2 open seasons and in the counties and portions of counties listed in Parts (A), (B),  
3 (C), (D), (E), (F), and (G) of this Subparagraph (Refer to 15A NCAC 10D .0103  
4 for either-sex deer seasons on Game Lands). Deer of either sex may be taken during  
5 the open season identified in Part (H) of this Subparagraph.

6 (A)The open either-sex deer hunting dates established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
7 Service during the period from the Saturday on or nearest September 10  
8 through January 1 in those parts of Camden, Gates, and Pasquotank counties  
9 known as the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge; in those parts of  
10 Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington counties known as the Pocosin Lakes  
11 National Wildlife Refuge; in those parts of Anson and Richmond counties  
12 known as the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge; and in those parts of  
13 Currituck County known as the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge and the  
14 Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge.

15 (B)The open either-sex deer hunting dates established by the appropriate military  
16 commands at each of the military installations listed in this Paragraph,  
17 during the period from Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January  
18 1 in that part of Brunswick County known as the Sunny Point Military  
19 Ocean Terminal, in that part of Craven County known and marked as Cherry  
20 Point Marine Base, in that part of Onslow County known and marked as the  
21 Camp Lejeune Marine Base, on Fort Bragg Military Reservation, and on  
22 Camp Mackall Military Reservation.

23 (C)Youth either-sex deer hunts. First Saturday in October for youth either-sex deer  
24 hunting by permit only on a portion of Belews Creek Steam Station in  
25 Stokes County designated by agents of the Commission; the third Saturday  
26 in October for youth either-sex deer hunting by permit only on Mountain  
27 Island State Forest in Lincoln and Gaston counties; and the second Saturday  
28 in November for youth either-sex deer hunting by permit only on apportion  
29 of Warrior Creek located on W. Kerr Scott Reservoir, Wilkes County  
30 designated by agents of the Commission. A youth is defined as a person  
31 under 18 years of age.

32 (D)The first open Saturday of the Deer with Visible Antlers season described in  
33 Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule in all of Buncombe\*, Haywood,  
34 Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania counties.

35 \*Except for that part east of NC 191, south of the French Broad and  
36 Swannanoa Rivers, west of US 25, and north of NC 280

37 (E)The first open day of the Deer With Visible Antlers season described in  
38 Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule through the first Saturday thereafter in all  
39 of Avery, Burke, Caldwell, McDowell, Mitchell, and Yancey counties.

40 (F)The first open day of the Deer with Visible Antlers season described in  
41 Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule through the second Friday thereafter in all  
42 of Cleveland, Polk, and Rutherford counties.

1 (G)All the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers season described in  
2 Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule in and east of Ashe, Watauga, Wilkes,  
3 Alexander, Catawba, Lincoln, and Gaston counties and in the following  
4 parts of counties: Buncombe: That part east of NC 191, south of the French  
5 Broad and Swannanoa Rivers, west of US 25, and north of NC 280; and  
6 Henderson; That part east of NC 191 and north and west of NC 280.

7 (H)The fourth Saturday in September in all counties, subject to the following  
8 restriction: only persons under the age of 18 years may hunt.

9 (b) Open Seasons (Archery) for hunting deer:

10 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph  
11 and the bag limits set out in Paragraph (e) of this Rule, deer may be taken with  
12 archery equipment during the following seasons:

13 (A)Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately preceding  
14 the first open day of the Blackpowder Firearms and Archery Seasons  
15 described in Subparagraph (c)(1) of this Rule; and the Sunday immediately  
16 following the closing of blackpowder firearms and archery season identified  
17 in Part (c)(1)(B) of this Rule to the Sunday before Thanksgiving in the  
18 counties and parts of counties having the open seasons for Deer With  
19 Visible Antlers specified by Part (a)(1)(D) of this Rule except on Buffalo  
20 Cove, Nicholson Creek, Rockfish Creek, Sandhills, and South Mountains  
21 Game Lands (Refer to 15A NCAC 10D .0103 for Archery seasons on these  
22 Game Lands).

23 (B)Sunday immediately following the closing of the open season for Deer With  
24 Visible Antlers through January 1 in the counties and parts of counties  
25 having the open season for Deer With Visible Antlers specified by Part  
26 (a)(1)(D) of this Rule.

27 (2) Restrictions

28 (A)In the areas of the State where the Commission is authorized to regulate the use  
29 of dogs as provided in G.S. 113-291.5, dogs may not be used for hunting  
30 deer during the archery season, except a single dog on a leash may be used  
31 to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance with G.S. 113-291.1(k).

32 (B)Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for  
33 taking deer may be used during the archery deer hunting season.

34 (C)Deer of either sex may be taken during archery seasons specified by Part  
35 (b)(1)(A) of this Rule.

36 (D)Only deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as distinguished  
37 from knobs or buttons covered by skin or velvet, shall be taken during the  
38 archery season specified by Part (b)(1)(B) of this Rule.

39 (c) Open Seasons (Blackpowder Firearms and Archery) for hunting deer:

1 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph,  
2 deer may be taken only with blackpowder firearms and archery equipment during  
3 the following seasons:

4 (A) Two Saturdays preceding the first day of the Deer with Visible Antlers seasons  
5 described in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (E), and (F) of this Rule through the  
6 second Friday thereafter except on Buffalo Cove, Nicholson Creek,  
7 Rockfish Creek, Sandhills, and South Mountains Game Lands (Refer to  
8 15A NCAC 10D .0103 for Blackpowder Firearms and Archery seasons on  
9 these Game Lands):

10 (B) Monday on or nearest October 1 through the second Saturday thereafter in the  
11 counties and parts of counties having the open seasons for  
12 Deer With Visible Antlers specified by Part (a)(1)(D) of this Rule.

13 (2) Restrictions

14 (A) Deer of either sex may be taken during blackpowder firearms and archery  
15 season in any county or county part set forth in Part (a)(2)(G) of this Rule  
16 that has either-sex days for all lawful weapons and in the following  
17 counties: Polk, Rutherford, McDowell, Burke, Caldwell, and Cleveland.  
18 Deer of either sex may be taken on the first Saturday day of this season only  
19 in all other counties.

20 (B) In the areas of the State where the Commission is authorized to regulate the use  
21 of dogs as provided in G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting  
22 deer during the blackpowder firearms and archery seasons, except a single  
23 dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance  
24 with G.S. 113-291.1(k).

25 (3) As used in this Rule, blackpowder firearms means "Any firearm - including any firearm  
26 with a matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system -  
27 manufactured in or before 1898, that cannot use fixed ammunition; any replica of  
28 this type of firearm if such replica is not designed or redesigned for using rimfire  
29 or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition; and any muzzle-loading rifle, muzzle-  
30 loading shotgun, or muzzle-loading or cylinder-loading handgun that is designed to  
31 use blackpowder, blackpowder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through  
32 the ~~muzzle or cylinder~~ muzzle, cylinder, or breech and that cannot use fixed  
33 ammunition."

34 (d) Open Season (Urban Season) for hunting deer:

35 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph  
36 and the bag limits set out in Paragraph (e) of this Rule, deer of either sex may be  
37 taken with bow and arrow in participating cities in the State, as defined in G.S.  
38 160A-1(2), from the second Saturday following January 1 through the sixth Sunday  
39 thereafter. Deer shall not be taken on any game land or part thereof that occurs  
40 within a city boundary.

41 (2) Participation. Cities that intend to participate in the urban season shall send a letter to  
42 that effect no later than April 1 of the year prior to the start of the urban season to  
43 the Executive Director or his designee at 1722 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C.

1 27699-1700. Cities shall also submit a map of the city's boundaries within which  
2 the urban season shall apply.

3 (3) Restrictions:

4 (A) In the areas of the State where the Commission is authorized to regulate the use  
5 of dogs as provided in G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting  
6 deer during the urban season, except a single dog on a leash may be used to  
7 retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance with G.S. 113-291.1(k).

8 (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for  
9 taking deer shall be used during the urban season.

10 (e) Bag limits. The possession and season limit is six deer, two of which may be deer with visible  
11 antlers and four of which may be antlerless deer. Antlerless deer include males with knobs or  
12 buttons covered by skin or velvet as distinguished from spikes protruding through the skin. In  
13 addition to the bag limits described above, a hunter may obtain multiple bonus antlerless deer  
14 harvest report cards from the Wildlife Resources Commission or any Wildlife Service Agent to  
15 allow the harvest of two additional antlerless deer per card for deer harvested during the season  
16 described in Paragraph (d) of this Rule within the boundaries of participating municipalities,  
17 except on State-owned game lands. Antlerless deer harvested and reported on the bonus antlerless  
18 harvest report card shall not count as part of the possession and season limit. The bag limits  
19 described above do not apply to deer harvested in areas covered in the Deer Management  
20 Assistance Program (DMAP) as described in G.S. 113-291.2(e) for those individuals using  
21 Commission-issued DMAP tags and reporting harvest as described on the DMAP license. Season  
22 bag limits shall be set by the number of DMAP tags issued and in the hunters' possession. All deer  
23 harvested under this program, regardless of the date of harvest, shall be tagged with these DMAP  
24 tags and reported as instructed on the DMAP license. The hunter does not have to validate the Big  
25 Game Harvest Report Card provided with the hunting license for deer tagged with the DMAP tags.  
26 Any deer harvested on lands enrolled in the DMAP and not tagged with DMAP tags may only be  
27 harvested during the regularly established deer seasons subject to all the restrictions of those  
28 seasons, including bag limits, and reported using the big game harvest report card or the bonus  
29 antlerless harvest report card.

30  
31 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.5;*  
32 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
33 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996, July 1, 1995; December 1,*  
34 *1994; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993;*  
35 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
36 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
37 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*  
38 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (Approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
39 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
40 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by*  
41 *RRC on July 17, 2003);*  
42 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2020; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1,*  
43 *2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1,*  
44 *2011; July 10, 2010; June 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005.*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0116 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0116 PERMITTED ARCHERY EQUIPMENT**

4 (a) "Archery equipment" means any device that has a solid, stationary handle, two limbs, and a  
5 string, that uses non-pneumatic means to propel a single arrow or bolt and may be used to take  
6 game and nongame species.

7 (b) When used for taking bear, deer, elk, wild turkey, alligator, and feral swine,  
8 longbows ~~Longbows~~ and recurved bows ~~having~~ shall have a minimum pull of 40 pounds,  
9 compound bows having a minimum pull of 35 pounds, and crossbows ~~having~~ shall have a  
10 minimum pull of 100 pounds. ~~pounds shall be used for taking bear, deer, elk, wild turkey, alligator,~~  
11 ~~and feral swine.~~

12 (c) Archery equipment utilizing an elastic string and having a minimum pull of 40 pounds may be  
13 used to take deer, wild turkey, small game animals, nongame animals, and nongame fish.

14 (d) Only arrows and bolts with a fixed minimum broadhead width of seven-eighths of an inch or  
15 a mechanically opening broadhead with a width of at least seven-eighths of an inch in the open  
16 position shall be used for taking bear, deer, elk, wild turkey, alligator, and feral swine.

17 (e) Blunt-type arrow heads may be used in taking small animals and birds including rabbits,  
18 squirrels, quail, grouse, and pheasants.

19 (f) Poisonous, drugged, or explosive arrowheads shall not be used for taking any wildlife.

20

21 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1(a);*

22 *Eff. September 1, 1980;*

23 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2014; August 1, 2012; July 10, 2010; May 1, 2007; August*  
24 *1, 2002; July 1, 2000; July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; August 1, 1990;*

25 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019.*

26

27

28

1 **15A NCAC 10B .0227 WILD QUAIL MANGEMENT AREAS**  
2

3 (a) A Wild Quail Management Area shall be land maintained to enhance enjoyment of sportsmen  
4 and support wild bobwhite quail conservation under signed agreement between the landowner(s)  
5 and the Wildlife Resources Commission.

6 (b) The following minimum qualifications shall apply to all Wild Quail Management Areas:

7 (1) At least 1,500 acres of contiguous land; and

8 (2) A minimum of 15% of the land shall be maintained in year-round bobwhite quail  
9 habitat.

10 (c) Wild bobwhite quail habitat shall be any habitat described as early successional habitat within  
11 the North Carolina Wildlife Action Plan, available online, free of charge, at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

12 (d) Landowners interested in establishing a Wild Quail Management Area shall contact the  
13 Commission as described on the Commission's website at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

14 (e) The signed agreement between the landowner(s) and the Commission shall include at a  
15 minimum:

16 (1) A list of all owners of land included in the Wild Quail Management Area;

17 (2) County parcel identification information for each parcel to be included in the Wild  
18 Quail Management Area;

19 (3) A scaled map of the Wild Quail Management Area with the areas to be maintained in  
20 year-round bobwhite quail habitat clearly identified;

21 (4) Management practices to be used to maintain bobwhite quail habitat and populations;  
22 and

23 (5) Any reporting requirements in addition to the minimum requirements in (g)(6) that are  
24 specific to the individual Wild Quail Management Area.

25 (f) Property inspection:

26 (1) All potential properties shall be inspected by a representative of the Commission prior  
27 to acceptance into the program; and

28 (2) Wild Quail Management Areas shall be inspected by a representative of the  
29 Commission at least once every five years.

30 (g) The following shall apply to all Wild Quail Management Areas:

31 (1) No domestically raised upland game birds shall be released on Wild Quail  
32 Management Areas;

33 (2) The hunting of wild bobwhite quail shall only be permitted during the established  
34 seasons in 15A NCAC 10B .0208.

35 (3) Supplemental feeding, if conducted, shall be for the primary purpose of ensuring that  
36 wild bobwhite quail populations remain stable during droughts or other periods of  
37 stressful environmental conditions. Supplemental feed shall:

1 (A) be broadcast into quail habitat along a minimum linear distance of at least one  
2 mile per 100 acres of habitat at a rate of three bushels per mile;

3 (B) be broadcast on a bi-weekly schedule during at least five months each year

4 (C) be broadcast using a non-stationary spreader;

5 (D) be only natural grains or seed; and

6 (E) not be placed to attract birds for the purpose of hunting.

7 (4) Except for wild bobwhite quail on Wild Quail Management Areas, no wild birds may  
8 be taken near or with the aid of supplemental feed.

9 (5) Trapping for raccoon, striped skunk, and opossum on Wild Quail Management Areas  
10 for the purpose of nest predator control shall be allowed from the end of the  
11 established trapping season in 15A NCAC 10B .0303 through May 31. Enclosed  
12 foot-hold traps with a one-way trigger or cage traps may be used, and trapped  
13 raccoons, striped skunks, and opossums may be euthanized or released at the trap  
14 site.

15 (6) An annual report for the period of June 1 through May 31 shall be submitted to the  
16 Commission within 30 days of the end of the reporting period, and shall include at  
17 least the following:

18 (A) number of days and hours wild bobwhite quail were hunted;

19 (B) total annual harvest of wild bobwhite quail;

20 (C) total number of coveys flushed;

21 (D) supplemental feeding activities;

22 (E) number of trap nights, number of animals trapped and their disposition or  
23 release, by species, for trapping activity conducted during trapping seasons  
24 established by 15A NCAC 10B .0303; and

25 (F) number of trap nights, number of animals trapped and their disposition or  
26 release, by species, for trapping activity conducted outside of trapping  
27 seasons established by 15A NCAC 10B .0303.

28

1 15A NCAC 10B .0110 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0110 ATTENDANCE OF TRAPS**

4 (a) Every trap shall be visited daily and any animal caught therein removed, except for  
5 completely submerged conibear type traps which shall be visited once every 72 hours and  
6 any animal caught therein removed.

7 (b) Remote trap checking systems may be used in lieu of visiting the trap, provided the system  
8 has the following features:

9 (1) a control unit that remains in continuous operation and reports trap status to a centralized  
10 application database at least once every 24 hours;

11 (2) notification alarms that report trap closures and system health issues within one hour of  
12 detection via email and text-based messaging systems; and

13 (3) on-demand control unit testing capabilities for determining trap status, signal strength,  
14 and battery condition via remote system check-in.

15 (c) If the remote trap checking system control unit reports a trap closure, the trap shall be  
16 physically visited within 24 hours of the time the trap was reported closed.

17 (d) If a remote trap checking system control unit fails to report trap status within a 24-hour  
18 period, or reports a system health issue, the trap shall be physically visited within 24 hours of  
19 the last time an open trap signal was received.

20 (e) Remote trap checking system users shall maintain records of trap status and notification  
21 alarms for a period of no less than seven days after receipt. Records shall be made available  
22 for inspection upon request by a representative of the Commission.

23

24 *History Note:Authority G.S. 113134; 113291.6;*

25 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

26 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002; July 1, 1988.*

27



1 15A NCAC 10B .0202 is proposed for amendment as follows:  
2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0202 BEAR**

4 (a) Open Seasons for hunting bear shall be from the:

5 (1) Monday on or nearest October 15 through the Saturday before Thanksgiving and the  
6 third Monday after Thanksgiving through January 1 in and west of Surry, Wilkes,  
7 Caldwell, Burke, and Cleveland counties;

8 (2) Second Monday in November through January 1 in Bladen, Brunswick, Carteret,  
9 Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender,  
10 Robeson, and Sampson counties;

11 (3) Second Saturday in November through the second Sunday thereafter and the third  
12 Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in  
13 Beaufort, Bertie, Craven, Hertford, Jones, Martin, and Washington counties;

14 (4) Second Saturday in November through the third Sunday thereafter and the third  
15 Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Dare,  
16 Hyde, and Tyrrell counties;

17 (5) Second Saturday in November through the second Sunday thereafter and the third  
18 Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in  
19 Currituck, Gates, and Perquimans counties;

20 (6) Second Sunday in November through the following ~~Sunday-Sunday, when November~~  
21 1 falls on a Sunday the season shall be from the third Sunday in November through  
22 the following Sunday;

23 (7) Third Saturday in November though the fifth Sunday thereafter in Edgecombe, Greene,  
24 Halifax, Lenoir, Nash, Northampton, Pitt, Wayne, and Wilson counties; and

25 (8) Concurrent with the open season for all lawful weapons for hunting deer as specified  
26 in 15A NCAC 10B .0203(a)(1) in Alamance, Alexander, Anson, Cabarrus,  
27 Caswell, Catawba, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Durham, Franklin, Forsyth, Gaston,  
28 Granville, Guilford, Harnett, Hoke, Iredell, Johnston, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg,  
29 Montgomery, Moore, Orange, Person, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Rowan,  
30 Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, and Yadkin counties.

31 (b) Restrictions

32 (1) For purposes of this Paragraph, "bait" means any natural, unprocessed food product that  
33 is a grain, fruit, nut, vegetable, or other material harvested from a plant crop that is  
34 not modified from its raw components.

35 (2) Bears shall not be taken with the use or aid of:

36 (A) any processed food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), any animal, animal  
37 part or product, salt, salt lick, honey, sugar, sugar-based material, syrups,  
38 candy, pastry, gum, candy block, oils, spices, peanut butter, or grease;

39 (B) any extracts of substances identified in Part (A) of this Subparagraph;

1 (C)any substances modified by substances identified in Part (A) of this  
2 Subparagraph, including any extracts of those substances; or

3 (D)any bear bait attractant, including sprays, aerosols, scent balls, and scent  
4 powders.

5 (3) Bears may be taken with the aid of bait from the Monday on or nearest October 15 to  
6 the Saturday before Thanksgiving in the counties in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this  
7 Rule.

8 (4) Bears may be taken with the aid of bait during the entire open season in the counties  
9 identified in Subparagraphs (a)(2) through (a)(6) of this Rule.

10 (5) Bears shall not be taken while in the act of consuming bait.

11 (6) Hunters shall not take bears using dogs in the following counties: Alamance south of  
12 Interstate 85, Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Chatham, Davie, Davidson,  
13 Franklin, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery,  
14 Orange south of Interstate 85, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Union, and  
15 Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98. In all other counties and parts of counties, hunters  
16 may take bears using dogs and may release dogs in the vicinity of bait.

17 (c) No Open Season. It shall be unlawful to take bear on posted bear sanctuaries except when  
18 authorized by permit issued by the Commission. See 15A NCAC 10D .0106 for posted bear  
19 sanctuaries.

20 (d) The daily bag limit for bear is one, the possession limit is one, and the season limit is one.

21  
22 *History Note:Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305;*

23 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

24 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; April*  
25 *14, 1992;*

26 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*

27 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*

28 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;*

29 *Amendment Eff. August 1, 2002;*

30 *Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2003;*

31 *Temporary Amendment Expired Eff. December 27, 2003;*

32 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2010;*

33 *May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*

34 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 31, 2016;*

35 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016;*

36 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;*

37 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2019.*  
38

1 15A NCAC 10B .0202 is proposed for amendment as follows:  
2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0202 BEAR**

4 (a) Open Seasons for hunting bear shall be from the:

5 (1) Monday on or nearest October 15 through the Saturday before Thanksgiving and the  
6 third Monday after Thanksgiving through January 1 in and west of Surry, Wilkes,  
7 Caldwell, Burke, and Cleveland counties;

8 (2) Second Monday in November through January 1 in Bladen, Brunswick, Carteret,  
9 Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender,  
10 Robeson, and Sampson counties;

11 (3) Second Saturday in November through the second Sunday thereafter and the third  
12 Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in  
13 Beaufort, Bertie, Craven, Hertford, Jones, Martin, and Washington counties;

14 (4) Second Saturday in November through the third Sunday thereafter and the third  
15 Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Dare,  
16 Hyde, and Tyrrell counties;

17 (5) Second Saturday in November through the second Sunday thereafter and the third  
18 Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in  
19 Currituck, Gates, and Perquimans counties;

20 (6) Second Sunday in November through the following Sunday and the third Saturday after  
21 Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Camden, Chowan,  
22 and Pasquotank counties;

23 (7) Third Saturday in November though the fifth Sunday thereafter in Edgecombe, Greene,  
24 Halifax, Lenoir, Nash, Northampton, Pitt, Wayne, and Wilson counties; and

25 (8) Concurrent with the open season for all lawful weapons for hunting deer as specified  
26 in 15A NCAC 10B .0203(a)(1) in Alamance, Alexander, Anson, Cabarrus,  
27 Caswell, Catawba, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Durham, Franklin, Forsyth, Gaston,  
28 Granville, Guilford, Harnett, Hoke, Iredell, Johnston, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg,  
29 Montgomery, Moore, Orange, Person, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Rowan,  
30 Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, and Yadkin counties.

31 (b) Restrictions

32 (1) For purposes of this Paragraph, "bait" means any natural, unprocessed food product that  
33 is a grain, fruit, nut, vegetable, or other material harvested from a plant crop that is  
34 not modified from its raw components.

35 (2) Bears shall not be taken with the use or aid of:

36 (A) any processed food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), any animal, animal  
37 part or product, salt, salt lick, honey, sugar, sugar-based material, syrups,  
38 candy, pastry, gum, candy block, oils, spices, peanut butter, or grease;

39 (B) any extracts of substances identified in Part (A) of this Subparagraph;

1 (C) any substances modified by substances identified in Part (A) of this  
2 Subparagraph, including any extracts of those substances; or

3 (D) any bear bait attractant, including sprays, aerosols, scent balls, and scent  
4 powders.

5 (3) Bears may be taken with the aid of bait from the Monday on or nearest October 15 to  
6 the Saturday before Thanksgiving in the counties in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this  
7 Rule.

8 (4) Bears may be taken with the aid of bait during the entire open season in the counties  
9 identified in Subparagraphs (a)(2) through (a)(6) of this Rule.

10 (5) Bears shall not be taken while in the act of consuming bait.

11 (6) Hunters shall not take bears using dogs in the following counties: Alamance south of  
12 Interstate 85, Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Chatham, Davie, Davidson,  
13 Franklin, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery,  
14 Orange south of Interstate 85, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Union, and  
15 Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98. In all other counties and parts of counties, hunters  
16 may take bears using dogs and may release dogs in the vicinity of bait.

17 (c) No Open Season. It shall be unlawful to take bear on posted bear sanctuaries except when  
18 authorized by permit issued by the Commission. See 15A NCAC 10D .0106 for posted bear  
19 sanctuaries.

20 (d) The daily bag limit for bear is one, the possession limit is one, and the season limit is one.

21  
22 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305;*

23 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

24 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; April*  
25 *14, 1992;*

26 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*

27 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*

28 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;*

29 *Amendment Eff. August 1, 2002;*

30 *Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2003;*

31 *Temporary Amendment Expired Eff. December 27, 2003;*

32 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2010;*

33 *May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*

34 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 31, 2016;*

35 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016;*

36 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;*

37 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2019.*

# EXHIBIT F-2

October 22, 2020



## Fiscal Note for Proposed Wildlife Management Rules and Rule Amendments

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10B .0116 Permitted Archery Equipment  
15A NCAC 10B .0110 Attendance of Traps  
15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)  
15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

**Agency Contact:** Carrie Ruhlman, Sr. Policy Analyst  
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**Impact:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: No  
Private Impact: Yes  
Substantial Economic Impact: No

**Authority:** G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2

## BACKGROUND

The wildlife resources of the State belong to the people of the State, including the enjoyment of these resources (G.S. 113-131(a)). The Wildlife Resources Commission (hereinafter WRC or Commission) is tasked with the conservation of wildlife resources of the State (G.S. 143-239). This responsibility includes managing as equitably as possible the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. 113-131.1(a)). The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. 113-134). In accordance with the supply of wildlife and other factors it determines to be of public importance, the WRC may fix seasons and bag limits upon the wild animals and wild birds authorized to be taken that it deems necessary or desirable in the interests of the conservation of wildlife resources (G.S. 113.291.2(a)).

A summary of the proposed rule amendments with anticipated impacts is shown below. Proposed rule text is included in Appendix A.

## **PROPOSED RULE CHANGES**

### **15A NCAC 10B .0116 PERMITTED ARCHERY EQUIPMENT**

Sling bows continue to increase in popularity as a manner of take and were made legal in North Carolina for wild turkey, small game animals, non-game animals and non-game fish in 2019. The proposed amendment to this Rule will allow for the use of a sling bow for taking white-tailed deer.

#### Impacts & Benefits

##### *State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

##### *Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

##### *Private Impact*

Allowing this manner of take for deer presents opportunities for hunters who currently use sling bows and for those who want to start. However, because the Commission does not track the type of archery equipment used to harvest other species or know the deer hunter interest in using sling bows, the Commission has no means to quantify this benefit.

### **15A NCAC 10B .0110 ATTENDANCE OF TRAPS**

Currently, with the exception of completely submerged conibear-type traps, trappers are required to physically check their traps daily. While this is likely not an issue for many trappers, Wildlife Control Agents (individuals in the business of trapping depredating wildlife for compensation), have expressed interest in allowing remote trap checking systems in leu of a physical trap check in order to maximize cost effectiveness and improve animal welfare.

Remote trap checking systems are increasingly being authorized for use throughout the country as a substitute for physical trap checks. The advantages to using remote trap checking systems is that the trapper is immediately alerted to a trap that has been activated, likely indicating an animal capture. The user is then able to prioritize checking activated traps, which can improve animal welfare (the animal is not held as long in the trap, thus reducing stress and exposure to the elements) and decrease trapper time and resources for unnecessary trap checks.

#### Impacts & Benefits

##### *State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

### *Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed rule change allows use of electronic remote trap checking devices but does not require them. Additionally, trappers could use as many of these devices as they want, as long as the requirements of the rule are met. As such, any costs incurred by the trapper would be by choice, not necessity. Representatives from the wildlife control industry have informed the Commission that trappers and WCAs who choose to use remote trap checking devices view this as a legitimate expense that would likely result in cost-savings.

Electronic remote trap checking devices range in price from \$99<sup>1</sup> - \$495<sup>2</sup> each, with an additional charge of anywhere from \$12.99/month<sup>1</sup> to \$40/month<sup>2</sup> per trap for communication service. However, allowing remote trap checks has the potential to increase trapper efficiency by permitting trappers to prioritize trap checks, decrease fuel costs by eliminating unnecessary physical trap checks, and increase or expand their effort, which may allow them to increase their the number of clients.

### 15A NCAC 10B .0203 DEER (WHITE-TAILED)

Blackpowder firearms, also known as muzzle-loaders, are defined in this rule and currently exclude weapons with the propellant loaded through the breech. The proposed amendment to this rule will allow for propellants loaded through the breech, as new products are available in the form of pre-loaded powder capsules, that make the loading, reloading, and unloading aspect of using a muzzleloader much easier and safer for hunters.

### Impacts & Benefits

#### *State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

#### *Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

Allowing the use of propellant products designed to make muzzleloaders less intimidating and easier, provides opportunities for current and new hunters interested in participating in the blackpowder firearms season. Currently available products that fit the new definition could cost hunters anywhere from an estimated \$550 to \$700 for the one-time purchase of a muzzleloader,

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<sup>1</sup> Skyhawk Kiwi from Tomahawk Live Trap (livetrapp.com) with three-month subscription plan.

<sup>2</sup> TrapSmart Worldwide pure satellite system for use in areas without ground based cellular communication options (trapsmart.com) with three-month subscription plan.

with recurring costs of approximately \$27 for 10 powder capsules.<sup>3</sup>

The Commission has no way to estimate how many hunters will take advantage of this opportunity now or in the future, or what products they will choose to use, and thus has no means to quantify this benefit.

## 15A NCAC 10B .0202 BEAR

The Black Bear Cooperator Program lets hunters directly participate with the Commission in monitoring the bear population when they voluntarily submit biological information from their harvested bear to the Commission. Information gathered from biological samples (premolar teeth) are used for analyzing the age structure of the harvested population and for population reconstruction modeling. Hunter submissions are critical to the management of North Carolina's bear populations.

In order to meet the assumptions of population reconstruction, remove biases due to the under-sampling of younger bears and female bears, accurately determine age structures of bear populations, and calculate population growth rates at a smaller scale, biologists would need ~80 to 90% submission rate. Unfortunately, despite intensive efforts by Commission staff during the bear hunting seasons, the number of bear teeth submitted by hunters statewide has declined since the 1990's.<sup>4</sup>

Proposed amendments to this rule will require successful bear hunters to submit at least one upper premolar tooth from their harvested bear no later than January 31 of the year following the successful hunting season. Requiring submittal will increase the data needed for the agency to make confident management decisions.

### Impacts & Benefits

#### *State Impact*

##### Costs

Assuming submission rates increase from an average 48.55%<sup>5</sup> to 90%, and no other changes are implemented to the program, the following costs would be incurred by the Commission: additional lab costs to analyze teeth, purchase of additional hats for successful hunters, and additional costs for mailing hats to successful hunters. While staff time required to process data from the bear teeth would also increase, there would be no additional cost incurred, as staff would simply reallocate their time from other projects (staff salaries and work time will not change).

The 2019-2020 lab costs incurred for processing 1,779 teeth was \$10,788 (approximately \$6.06/tooth). Assuming a 90% compliance rate, lab costs are estimated at \$18,956 (\$6.06/tooth x 3,128 teeth), a difference of approximately \$8,168 per season (\$18,956 - \$10,788 - \$8,168).

The Commission currently spends approximately \$9,042 per year (\$5.51/hat) for Bear

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<sup>3</sup> traditionsfirearms.com and federalpremium.com.

<sup>4</sup> N.C. Black Bear Annual Report - 2018.

<sup>5</sup> 2019-2020 state-wide bear tooth submission rate.



Cooperator hats used as rewards for hunters that submit bear teeth. While the Commission is uncertain at this point if incentive for submittal of biological samples will continue to be offered, as tooth submittal will no longer be voluntary, the continuation of these incentives with 90% compliance would cost the Commission an additional \$8,193 per year ( $\$5.51/\text{hat} \times 3,128 \text{ hats/year} = \$17,235 - \$9,042 = \$8,193$ ). Also, mailing the hats to 3,128 successful hunters is estimated to cost an estimated \$13,325/year, \$5,432 more than mailing costs incurred during the 2019-2020 season ( $\$13,325/\text{year} - \$7,893/\text{year} = \$5,432$ ).

In 2019-2020, staff spent approximately 89 hours to process 1,782 (3 minutes/envelope) bear teeth and associated data. With 90% compliance, it is estimated that 156 hours (3 minutes/envelope  $\times 3,128 \text{ envelopes} = 9,384 \text{ minutes}/60 \text{ seconds} = 156 \text{ minutes}$ ) would be required to process hunter harvest bear tooth envelopes and data, a difference of approximately 76 hours, and a cost to the agency of approximate \$2,204 (76 hours  $\times \$29/\text{hour} = \$2,204$ ). However, there is no increase in cost associated with this task, as staff time will be reallocated to accomplish this (staff salaries and work time will not change due to change in tasks).

### Benefits

Each season, agency Wildlife Management and Land and Water Access staff spend weeks in each bear management unit collecting bear teeth and other biological data from successful bear hunters to improve submission rates for the Bear Cooperator Program. If submission becomes mandatory, an estimated 80% reduction in staff time and travel costs (mileage, lodging, meals) are anticipated, as staff will not need to track down harvested bears.

In the 2019-2020 bear season, 32,684 miles (approximately \$18,793.30 at the IRS mileage rate of 57.5) were dedicated to the Bear Cooperator Program and staff spent a total of approximately 1,995 hours in the field. Additionally, approximately \$710 (\$230 lodging + \$480 meals = \$710) in overnight travel was spent on this program. An 80% reduction in the time and travel dedicated to the collection of bear teeth would be a savings of approximately 1,496 hours, \$568 in food and lodging ( $\$710 - \$142 = \$568$ ), and \$14,095 in mileage (24,513 miles  $\times .575/\text{mile} = \$14,095$ ). Though reduced staff time dedicated to this project will be an obvious benefit to the agency, this time will not be an actual cost savings, as staff will reallocate their time to other projects.

### *Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

### *Private Impact*

### Costs

Per G.S. 113-135.1, convictions for violation of wildlife rules are a Class 3 misdemeanor (first conviction) and carry a fine of \$25 plus cost of court. Because bear tooth submission will be mandatory, and some individuals may choose not to comply, the penalty associated with non-submission is a potential cost to hunters. The Commission has no data to quantify this potential cost.

### Benefits

Additional biological bear data will improve population reconstruction, remove biases due to the under-sampling of younger bears and female bears, accurately determine age structures of bear

populations, and calculate population growth rates at a smaller scale. All of this may lead Commission biologists to modify bear management and modify hunting seasons to provide additional opportunities for bear hunters. While this cannot be guaranteed or quantified, opportunities and/or the quality of opportunities could improve for bear hunters in NC, as the Commission will have more data on which to base management decisions because of the proposed amendments to the rule.

## **SUMMARY**

### **Quantifiable Impacts**

#### *State*

The following quantifiable costs are anticipated from the proposed bear rule changes:

- Lab costs = \$8,168 per season
- Rewards (hats) = \$8,193 per year
- Mailing = \$5,432 per year

The following quantifiable benefits are anticipated from the proposed bear rule changes:

- Food & Lodging = \$568 per year
- Data processing = \$2,204 per year
- Mileage = \$14,095 per year

#### *Private*

The following quantifiable benefits were identified for the proposed rule changes:

- Electronic trap checking devices range in price from \$99 - \$495 each, with an additional charge of anywhere from \$12.99/month to \$40/month per trap for communication service.
- Currently available products that fit the new definition for muzzleloaders could cost hunters anywhere from an estimated \$550 to \$700 for the one-time purchase of a muzzleloader, with recurring costs of approximately \$27 for 10 powder capsules.

### **Unquantifiable Impacts**

#### *State*

The following unquantifiable benefits are anticipated due to the proposed bear rule changes:

- Staff time - 1,496 hours of staff time reallocated to other projects

*Private*

The following unquantifiable benefits were identified for the proposed rule changes:

- Adding sling bows to permitted archery equipment allowed to take deer may present additional opportunities for hunters who currently use sling bows and for those who want to start to participate in the deer archery season.
- Allowing electronic remote trap checks has the potential to increase trapper efficiency by permitting trappers to prioritize trap checks, decrease fuel costs by eliminating unnecessary trap checks, and expand trapper effort.

## APPENDIX A

### 1 **15A NCAC 10B .0116 PERMITTED ARCHERY EQUIPMENT**

2 (a) "Archery equipment" means any device that has a solid, stationary handle, two limbs, and a string, that uses non-  
3 pneumatic means to propel a single arrow or bolt and may be used to take game and nongame species.

4 (b) ~~When used for taking bear, deer, elk, wild turkey, alligator, and feral swine, longbows~~ ~~Longbows~~ and recurved  
5 bows ~~having shall have~~ a minimum pull of 40 pounds, compound bows having a minimum pull of 35 pounds, and  
6 crossbows ~~having shall have~~ a minimum pull of 100 pounds. ~~pounds shall be used for taking bear, deer, elk, wild~~  
7 ~~turkey, alligator, and feral swine.~~

8 (c) Archery equipment utilizing an elastic string and having a minimum pull of 40 pounds may be used to take deer,  
9 wild turkey, small game animals, nongame animals, and nongame fish.

10 (d) Only arrows and bolts with a fixed minimum broadhead width of seven-eighths of an inch or a mechanically  
11 opening broadhead with a width of at least seven-eighths of an inch in the open position shall be used for taking bear,  
12 deer, elk, wild turkey, alligator, and feral swine.

13 (e) Blunt-type arrow heads may be used in taking small animals and birds including rabbits, squirrels, quail, grouse,  
14 and pheasants.

15 (f) Poisonous, drugged, or explosive arrowheads shall not be used for taking any wildlife.

16

## APPENDIX A

### 1 **15A NCAC 10B .0110 ATTENDANCE OF TRAPS**

2 (a) Every trap shall be visited daily and any animal caught therein removed, except for completely submerged conibear  
3 type traps which shall be visited once every 72 hours and any animal caught therein removed.

4 (b) Remote trap checking systems may be used in lieu of visiting the trap, provided the system has the following  
5 features:

6 (1) a control unit that remains in continuous operation and reports trap status to a centralized application  
7 database at least once every 24 hours;

8 (2) notification alarms that report trap closures and system health issues within one hour of detection  
9 via email and text-based messaging systems; and

10 (3) on-demand control unit testing capabilities for determining trap status, signal strength, and battery  
11 condition via remote system check-in.

12 (c) If the remote trap checking system control unit reports a trap closure, the trap shall be physically visited within 24  
13 hours of the time the trap was reported closed.

14 (d) If a remote trap checking system control unit fails to report trap status within a 24-hour period, or reports a system  
15 health issue, the trap shall be physically visited within 24 hours of the last time an open trap signal was received.

16 (e) Remote trap checking system users shall maintain records of trap status and notification alarms for a period of no  
17 less than seven days after receipt. Records shall be made available for inspection upon request by a representative of  
18 the Commission.

19

# APPENDIX A

1 **15A NCAC 10B .0203 DEER (WHITE-TAILED) (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

2 ...

3 (c) Open Seasons (Blackpowder Firearms and Archery) for hunting deer:

4 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, deer may be  
5 taken only with blackpowder firearms and archery equipment during the following seasons:

6 (A) Two Saturdays preceding the first day of the Deer with Visible Antlers seasons described  
7 in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (E), and (F) of this Rule through the second Friday thereafter  
8 except on Buffalo Cove, Nicholson Creek, Rockfish Creek, Sandhills, and South  
9 Mountains Game Lands (Refer to 15A NCAC 10D .0103 for Blackpowder Firearms and  
10 Archery seasons on these Game Lands):

11 (B) Monday on or nearest October 1 through the second Saturday thereafter in the counties and  
12 parts of counties having the open seasons for Deer With Visible Antlers specified by Part  
13 (a)(1)(D) of this Rule.

14 (2) Restrictions

15 (A) Deer of either sex may be taken during blackpowder firearms and archery season in any  
16 county or county part set forth in Part (a)(2)(G) of this Rule that has either-sex days for all  
17 lawful weapons and in the following counties: Polk, Rutherford, McDowell, Burke,  
18 Caldwell, and Cleveland. Deer of either sex may be taken on the first Saturday day of this  
19 season only in all other counties.

20 (B) In the areas of the State where the Commission is authorized to regulate the use of dogs as  
21 provided in G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the blackpowder  
22 firearms and archery seasons, except a single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead  
23 or wounded deer in accordance with G.S. 113-291.1(k).

24 (3) As used in this Rule, blackpowder firearms means "Any firearm - including any firearm with a  
25 matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system - manufactured in or before  
26 1898, that cannot use fixed ammunition; any replica of this type of firearm if such replica is not  
27 designed or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition; and any  
28 muzzle-loading rifle, muzzle-loading shotgun, or muzzle-loading or cylinder-loading handgun that  
29 is designed to use blackpowder, blackpowder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through the  
30 ~~muzzle or cylinder~~ muzzle, cylinder, or breech and that cannot use fixed ammunition."

31

## APPENDIX A

### 1 **15A NCAC 10B .0202 BEAR**

2 (a) Open Seasons for hunting bear shall be from the:

- 3 (1) Monday on or nearest October 15 through the Saturday before Thanksgiving and the third Monday  
4 after Thanksgiving through January 1 in and west of Surry, Wilkes, Caldwell, Burke, and Cleveland  
5 counties;
- 6 (2) Second Monday in November through January 1 in Bladen, Brunswick, Carteret, Columbus,  
7 Cumberland, Duplin, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Robeson, and Sampson counties;
- 8 (3) Second Saturday in November through the second Sunday thereafter and the third Saturday after  
9 Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Beaufort, Bertie, Craven, Hertford,  
10 Jones, Martin, and Washington counties;
- 11 (4) Second Saturday in November through the third Sunday thereafter and the third Saturday after  
12 Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Dare, Hyde, and Tyrrell counties;
- 13 (5) Second Saturday in November through the second Sunday thereafter and the third Saturday after  
14 Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Currituck, Gates, and Perquimans  
15 counties;
- 16 (6) Second Sunday in November through the following ~~Sunday~~ Sunday, when November 1 falls on a  
17 Sunday the season shall be from the third Sunday in November through the following Sunday, and  
18 the third Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Camden,  
19 Chowan, and Pasquotank counties;
- 20 (7) Third Saturday in November though the fifth Sunday thereafter in Edgecombe, Greene, Halifax,  
21 Lenoir, Nash, Northampton, Pitt, Wayne, and Wilson counties; and
- 22 (8) Concurrent with the open season for all lawful weapons for hunting deer as specified in 15A NCAC  
23 10B .0203(a)(1) in Alamance, Alexander, Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Catawba, Chatham, Davie,  
24 Davidson, Durham, Franklin, Forsyth, Gaston, Granville, Guilford, Harnett, Hoke, Iredell, Johnston,  
25 Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Moore, Orange, Person, Randolph, Richmond,  
26 Rockingham, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, and Yadkin counties.

27 (b) Restrictions

- 28 (1) For purposes of this Paragraph, "bait" means any natural, unprocessed food product that is a grain,  
29 fruit, nut, vegetable, or other material harvested from a plant crop that is not modified from its raw  
30 components.
- 31 (2) Bears shall not be taken with the use or aid of:
- 32 (A) any processed food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), any animal, animal part or  
33 product, salt, salt lick, honey, sugar, sugar-based material, syrups, candy, pastry, gum,  
34 candy block, oils, spices, peanut butter, or grease;
- 35 (B) any extracts of substances identified in Part (A) of this Subparagraph;
- 36 (C) any substances modified by substances identified in Part (A) of this Subparagraph,  
37 including any extracts of those substances; or
- 38 (D) any bear bait attractant, including sprays, aerosols, scent balls, and scent powders.

## APPENDIX A

- 1           (3)       Bears may be taken with the aid of bait from the Monday on or nearest October 15 to the Saturday  
2                   before Thanksgiving in the counties in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule.
- 3           (4)       Bears may be taken with the aid of bait during the entire open season in the counties identified in  
4                   Subparagraphs (a)(2) through (a)(6) of this Rule.
- 5           (5)       Bears shall not be taken while in the act of consuming bait.
- 6           (6)       Hunters shall not take bears using dogs in the following counties: Alamance south of Interstate 85,  
7                   Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Franklin, Forsyth, Gaston,  
8                   Guilford, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange south of Interstate 85, Randolph,  
9                   Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Union, and Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98. In all other counties and  
10                  parts of counties, hunters may take bears using dogs and may release dogs in the vicinity of bait.
- 11 (c) No Open Season. It shall be unlawful to take bear on posted bear sanctuaries except when authorized by permit  
12 issued by the Commission. See 15A NCAC 10D .0106 for posted bear sanctuaries.
- 13 (d) The daily bag limit for bear is one, the possession limit is one, and the season limit is one.
- 14 (e) Any hunter who has harvested a black bear shall submit at least one upper premolar tooth from the bear to the  
15 Commission at 1723 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27690-4619. The tooth shall be received by the Commission  
16 no later than January 31 of the year following the applicable hunting season. The following information shall be  
17 submitted with the tooth:
- 18           (1)       hunter's name and mailing address;
- 19           (2)       hunter's WRC customer number;
- 20           (3)       hunter's bear harvest authorization number;
- 21           (4)       sex of harvested bear; and
- 22           (5)       county of harvest.
- 23





## **Fiscal Note for Proposed Wild Quail Management Area for the Wildlife Resources Commission**

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10B .0227 Wild Quail Management Areas

**Agency Contact:** Carrie Ruhlman, Sr. Policy Analyst  
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**Impact:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: No  
Private Impact: No  
Substantial Economic Impact: No

**Authority:** G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1

### **BACKGROUND**

The wildlife resources of the State belong to the people of the State, including the enjoyment of these resources (G.S. 113-131(a)). The Wildlife Resources Commission (hereinafter WRC or Commission) is tasked with the conservation of wildlife resources of the State (G.S. 143-239). This responsibility includes managing as equitably as possible the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. 113-131.1(a)). The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. 113-134). In accordance with the supply of wildlife and other factors it determines to be of public importance, the WRC may fix seasons and bag limits upon the wild animals and wild birds authorized to be taken that it deems necessary or desirable in the interests of the conservation of wildlife resources (G.S. 113.291.2(a)).

A summary of the proposed rule is below, with the full text included in Appendix A.

## 15A NCAC 10B .0227 WILD QUAIL MANAGEMENT AREAS

This proposed rule will allow landowners, on large properties with large amounts of year-round useable quail habitat, to increase wild quail (i.e., not captive-reared) populations by implementing specific management actions that have been demonstrated, through peer-reviewed research, to have positive impacts on quail populations. Requirements for these areas will include 1,500 acres of contiguous land, periodic inspection by the Commission, annual reports of management actions, and no release of pen-reared game birds. Management actions that will be permitted on Wild Quail Management Areas include:

- Trapping programs to reduce the abundance of the most significant quail nest predators (opossum, raccoon, and striped skunk) during the early nesting season.
- Providing supplemental feed without impacting the ability to hunt quail on the property.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

This proposed rule is anticipated to have minimal impacts on the Commission, as only staff time will be required to work with property owners for establishment of the area and re-inspection of participating landowner properties every five years. Because this program is new, the Commission is unsure of exactly how many property owners will want to establish Wild Quail Management Areas and how much staff time will be needed to assist those landowners. However, based on the current number of properties that do this type of management and anticipated future interest, the Commission expects five properties to enter into agreements with the initiation of this program. Based on this estimate, and the anticipated three days of staff time required to work with the landowner and inspect the property, the Commission expects to incur an estimated cost of \$4,920 in the first year of this program (5 properties x 24hrs/property x \$41/hr = \$4,920). If it is assumed that one additional property per year will participate in the program and each property needs to be inspected every five years, the Commission anticipates an annual cost of \$984 (1 property x 24hours/property x \$41/hour = \$984) for property enrollment per year and \$1,640 (5 properties x 8hrs/property x \$41 = \$1,640) for inspections on year 6 with a recurring \$328 (8hrs x \$41/hr = \$328) each of the four years thereafter.<sup>1</sup>

#### *Local Impact*

This proposed rule will not impact local government.

#### *Private Impact*

While the Commission cannot predict how many landowners will ultimately chose to implement the additional management actions required for a Wild Quail Management Area, this proposed rule will provide an opportunity for landowners to implement additional management actions for wild bobwhite quail. Landowners are not required to implement these actions unless they want to manage for trapping nest predators outside of the normal trapping season and hunt quail where feed has been provided; thus, use of this rule is entirely voluntary. Interested landowners must sign an agreement with the Commission, but no fee is required. Participants that choose to implement the additional trapping and supplemental feeding actions allowed by this rule will

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<sup>1</sup> Staff costs based on total compensation for Conservation Biologist II (GN10) at salary midpoint.

incur additional costs associated with carrying out these activities on their lands. Costs may include the purchase of feed, traps, and bait. On average, feeding programs generally require one bushel of feed per acre per year. Seed costs can range from \$3 - \$12 per bushel. Habitat management typically costs approximately \$20 per acre/year. Trapping costs can vary based on the species and whether the landowner is trapping themselves or hiring someone to trap for them.

The landowner costs associated with Wild Quail Management Areas will vary based on total acreage and the percentage of that acreage that the landowner desires to maintain as habitat. Management choices made by the landowner will also determine costs. Due to potential variations in management strategies and lack of data, the Commission has no way to quantify these costs.

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# Appendix A

## 15A NCAC 10B .0227 WILD QUAIL MANGEMENT AREAS

(a) A Wild Quail Management Area shall be land maintained to enhance enjoyment of sportsmen and support wild bobwhite quail conservation under signed agreement between the landowner(s) and the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(b) The following minimum qualifications shall apply to all Wild Quail Management Areas:

(1) At least 1,500 acres of contiguous land; and

(2) A minimum of 15% of the land shall be maintained in year-round bobwhite quail habitat.

(c) Wild bobwhite quail habitat shall be any habitat described as early successional habitat within the North Carolina Wildlife Action Plan, available online, free of charge, at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

(d) Landowners interested in establishing a Wild Quail Management Area shall contact the Commission as described on the Commission's website at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

(e) The signed agreement between the landowner(s) and the Commission shall include at a minimum:

(1) A list of all owners of land included in the Wild Quail Management Area;

(2) County parcel identification information for each parcel to be included in the Wild Quail Management Area;

(3) A scaled map of the Wild Quail Management Area with the areas to be maintained in year-round bobwhite quail habitat clearly identified;

(4) Management practices to be used to maintain bobwhite quail habitat and populations; and

(5) Any reporting requirements in addition to the minimum requirements in (g)(6) that are specific to the individual Wild Quail Management Area.

(f) Property inspection:

(1) All potential properties shall be inspected by a representative of the Commission prior to acceptance into the program; and

(2) Wild Quail Management Areas shall be inspected by a representative of the Commission at least once every five years.

(g) The following shall apply to all Wild Quail Management Areas:

(1) No domestically raised upland game birds shall be released on Wild Quail Management Areas;

(2) The hunting of wild bobwhite quail shall only be permitted during the established seasons in 15A NCAC 10B .0208.

(3) Supplemental feeding, if conducted, shall be for the primary purpose of ensuring that wild bobwhite quail populations remain stable during droughts or other periods of stressful environmental conditions. Supplemental feed shall:

(A) be broadcast into quail habitat along a minimum linear distance of at least one mile per 100 acres of habitat at a rate of three bushels per mile;

(B) be broadcast on a bi-weekly schedule during at least five months each year

(C) be broadcast using a non-stationary spreader;

(D) be only natural grains or seed; and

(E) not be placed to attract birds for the purpose of hunting.

# Appendix A

- 1           (4)    Except for wild bobwhite quail on Wild Quail Management Areas, no wild birds may be taken near  
2                    or with the aid of supplemental feed.
- 3           (5)    Trapping for raccoon, striped skunk, and opossum on Wild Quail Management Areas for the purpose  
4                    of nest predator control shall be allowed from the end of the established trapping season in 15A  
5                    NCAC 10B .0303 through May 31. Enclosed foot-hold traps with a one-way trigger or cage traps  
6                    may be used, and trapped raccoons, striped skunks, and opossums may be euthanized or released at  
7                    the trap site.
- 8           (6)    An annual report for the period of June 1 through May 31 shall be submitted to the Commission  
9                    within 30 days of the end of the reporting period, and shall include at least the following:
- 10                    (A)    number of days and hours wild bobwhite quail were hunted;  
11                    (B)    total annual harvest of wild bobwhite quail;  
12                    (C)    total number of coveys flushed;  
13                    (D)    supplemental feeding activities;  
14                    (E)    number of trap nights, number of animals trapped and their disposition or release, by species,  
15                            for trapping activity conducted during trapping seasons established by 15A NCAC 10B  
16                            .0303; and  
17                    (F)    number of trap nights, number of animals trapped and their disposition or release, by species,  
18                            for trapping activity conducted outside of trapping seasons established by 15A NCAC 10B  
19                            .0303.

# EXHIBIT G-1

October 22, 2020



## Proposed Changes to Property, Game Land, and Wildlife Conservation Area Regulations for 2021-2022 Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearings

### Property

1. Codify the Commission’s authority to manage public access and use of Commission property and/or waive any non-statutorily required rules in Chapter 10 to protect public health, public safety, wildlife resources, and Commission property.

**Justification:**

The Commission is authorized to regulate, prohibit or restrict public use of property by rule; however, a single rule does not currently exist that restricts public use and can be applied to the variety of Commission managed properties (buildings, boating access area, public fishing areas, game lands). This rule will provide flexibility to temporarily restrict access to Commission property as needed during emergency situations to protect public health, public safety, wildlife resources, and Commission property. This proposal also gives the Commission authority to temporarily waive any non-statutorily required rules in Chapter 10 upon the declaration of a national emergency, disaster, or state of emergency, by a federal, state, or local governmental authority impacting North Carolina.

*15A NCAC 10A .1102 Emergency Closures and Waivers (page 8)*

### Game Lands and Wildlife Conservation Areas

1. This proposal will redefine the description of a Temporary Restricted Zone.

**Justification:**

Redefining the Temporary Restricted Zone description is needed to align this definition with the proposed Emergency Closure and Waiver rule. The new definition provides flexibility to the Commission to post an area of game land as a Temporary Restricted Zone solely when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public, regardless of the cause for the danger.

*15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use (page 9)*

2. Remove the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility from the NCAC.

**Justification:**

The State no longer owns this property and this proposed rule removes references of it in the NCAC.

*15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use (page 11)*

3. Clarify that coyotes, armadillos, and groundhogs are authorized to be taken on game lands by trapping during the regulated trapping season (November 1 through end of February). This rule also clarifies that foxes can be trapped on game lands during the regulated trapping season in counties with a session law that authorizes fox trapping in that county. This proposal also establishes a closed trapping season on game lands from April 1 through October 31.

**Justification:**

There has been confusion about the legality of trapping foxes, coyotes, armadillo, and groundhogs on game lands. This proposal will clarify the rules for this activity. This proposal will also establish a closed trapping season to avoid conflicts and confusion among game land users.

*15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use (page 12)*

4. Clarify that licensed trappers can use bait on game lands while trapping.

**Justification:**

NCAC text about using bait on game lands for trapping is unclear and various interpretations about this rule have been made by Commission staff and the public. This rule will provide a specific definition of bait and include requirement that trappers must follow. Specifically: at each trap, trappers may use a single bait site of grain, fruit, or other foods when trapping if the food is not a processed food product as defined in GS 113-294(r), is less than 3 cubic inches, and is completely covered to prevent it from being seen from above. Feathers (including those with attached skin or entire bird wings), hair (with or without skin or hide), and bones that include no attached meat, organs, or viscera do not need to be covered.

*15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use (page 12)*

5. Clarify NCAC rule text that identifies where game lands designated in the disabled access program are listed.

**Justification:**

This proposal clarifies that game lands designated in the disabled access program are listed in the regulations digest and not in the NCAC.

*15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use (page 14)*

6. Amend NCAC rule text by removing Brunswick County Game Land.

**Justification:**

The private landowner removed Brunswick County Game Land from the Game Land Program in 2017. This change will update the NC Administrative Code.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 19)*

7. Clarify NCAC rule text that establishes the December segment of the bear season for Alligator River, Buckridge, Chowan Swamp, Gull Rock, and Van Swamp game lands.

**Justification:**

An administrative change to clarify language in the NCAC.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (pages 19, 20, 23, 26, and 39)*

8. Clarify that horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 – August 31, and on Sundays only September 1 – May 15 on R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell, Chatham, Jordan, and Pee Dee River game lands. This proposal will also allow equestrian riding on gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use at Pee Dee River Game Land. This proposal will also clarify that a Game Land License is not needed to ride horses on the American Tobacco Trail at Jordan Game Land.

**Justification:**

The existing rule language is confusing regarding Sundays during hunting seasons and has been interpreted differently from the way it was intended. This will make the permitted riding times easier to understand. This change will also allow for more horseback riding opportunities at Pee Dee River Game Land and clarify needs for a Game Land License at Jordan Game Land.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (pages 22, 28, 32)*

9. Prohibit the pursuing or chasing of deer and bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting on the Beaufort County portion of Goose Creek Game Land north of NC 33.

**Justification:**

Landowners adjacent to this portion of the game land have complained and reported about trespass, unleashed dogs on their property, and harassing and intimidating behaviors from dog hunters.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 26)*

10. Implement permanent rule text to replace a temporary rule that corrected a clerical error in the NCAC regarding the primitive weapons seasons for deer on Nicholson Creek Game Land.

**Justification:**

An administrative change to clarify language in the NCAC.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 31)*

11. Change Perkins Game Land from an Introductory Either-Sex Gun Season to a Conservative Either-Sex Gun Season.

**Justification:**

This proposal would increase hunter opportunities by adding five days for when antlerless deer could be harvested on Perkins Game Land during the either-sex gun season. Perkins Game Land is approximately 1,100 acres in size and located in Davie County. Deer densities near this game land in Davie County suggest that these additional five days of opportunity would not adversely affect the local deer population. This change would closer align the Perkins Game Land regulations with nearby properties enrolled in the Game Land Program that are in the Maximum Either Sex-Gun Season. Lastly, the property owner is supportive of this change.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 32)*

12. Clarify the times and places where horseback riding will be permitted and not allowed on the Sandhills Game Land.

**Justification:**



The existing rule language does not address horseback riding outside of the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of the Sandhills Game Land. This rule will make it clear that horseback riding is allowed on the remainder of the Sandhills Game Land seven days per week. For safety reasons and the protection of sensitive habitats, this rule will also establish that horseback riding can only occur on roads open to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads or trails posted for equestrian use.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 35)*

13. Amend NCAC rule text to remove references to impoundments on Stones Creek Game Land.

**Justification:**

Posted waterfowl impoundment do not exist on this game land.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 37)*

14. Prohibit horseback riding at William H. Silver Game Land.

**Justification:**

A great deal of the habitat management on the game land is focused on habitat improvements for elk. These habitat improvements converted old logging trails and roads to linear wildlife openings. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has made significant financial contributions to assist in the creation of these linear wildlife openings. Recently, groups of horseback riders have been riding on linear wildlife openings on the game land. As a result, the vegetation planted for wildlife in the linear openings is getting damaged and/or destroyed. The damaged/destroyed vegetation also creates the threat for erosion problems.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 40)*

15. Clarify NCAC rule text regarding restrictions on Wildlife Conservation Areas.

**Justification:**

An administrative change to clarify language in the NCAC.

*15A NCAC 10J .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 43)*

16. Add the definition of a “Seven Days per Week Game Land” and indicate that hunting is allowed Monday through Sunday during open seasons. Also add the definition for a “Four Days per Week Game Land” and indicate that hunting is allowed Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. Further, as per G.S. 103-2, this rule will indicate that on Sundays, hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM is prohibited, the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs is prohibited, and hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or any accessory structure thereof, is prohibited.

**Justification:**

G.S. 103-2 gives the Commission the authority to authorize hunting on Sundays on Game Lands. This proposal will amend the definitions of game lands and identify Sunday as an open day for “Seven Days per Week Areas” and “Four Days per Week Areas”. This rule also outlines the restrictions to Sunday hunting as outlined in G.S. 103-2.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 18)*

17. Change the following six game lands to “Four Days per Week Game Lands”:

Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve
Columbus County
Mitchell River
Perkins
Robeson
Sampson

**Justification:**

G.S. 103-2 gives the Commission the authority to authorize hunting on Sunday on Game Lands. Based on seven in-person public meetings, two virtual public meetings, three focus group meetings with stakeholders, an Agency staff retreat, discussions with landowning partners, biological staff, and commissioners, and a follow up meeting with stakeholders, the following criteria were used to help evaluate the feasibility of Sunday hunting on game lands: rural game lands that are not heavily used by non-hunters, proximity to other game lands and public lands where hunting is prohibited, value to unique properties that are important to user groups, avoid game lands where past conflict has been a pattern. Given the results of the public input process, staff recommend that Sunday hunting be allowed at the above game lands and that these areas be changed from “Three Days per Week Areas” to “Four Days per Week Areas”.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (pages 23 - 34)*

18. Change the following 45 game lands to “Seven Days per Week Game Lands”:

Alcoa
Alligator River
Angola Bay
Bachelor Bay
Brinkleyville
Buffalo Cove
Cape Fear River Wetlands
Carteret County
Chatham
Chowan
Cold Mountain
Croatan
Currituck Banks
Dare
Elk Knob
Embro
Goose Creek
Gull Rock
Harris
Hyco

Juniper Creek
Lee
Light Ground Pocosin
Linwood
Lower Fishing Creek
Mayo
Nantahala
Needmore
New Lake
North River
Northwest River Marsh
Pee Dee River
Pisgah
Pond Mountain
Sandy Creek
Shocco Creek
South Mountains
Sutton Lake
Three Top Mountain
Thurmond Chatham
Tillery
Toxaway
Uwharrie
Van Swamp
William H. Silver

**Justification:**

G.S. 103-2 gives the Commission the authority to authorize hunting on Sunday on Game Lands. Based on seven in-person public meetings, two virtual public meetings, three focus group meetings with stakeholders, an Agency staff retreat, discussions with landowning partners, biological staff, and commissioners, and a follow up meeting with stakeholders, the following criteria were used to help evaluate the feasibility of Sunday hunting on game lands: rural game lands that are not heavily used by non-hunters, proximity to other game lands and public lands where hunting is prohibited, value to unique properties that are important to user groups, avoid game lands where past conflict has been a pattern. Given the results of the public input process, staff recommend that Sunday hunting be allowed at the above game lands and that these areas be changed from “Six Days per Week Areas” to “Seven Days per Week Areas”.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (page 18 - 40)*

19. Prohibit the harvest of bear on Sunday on the following game lands in the Coastal Bear Management Unit:

Alligator River
Angola Bay
Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve
Cape Fear River Wetlands
Carteret County
Chowan
Croatan
Currituck Banks
Goose Creek
Gull Rock
Juniper Creek
Light Ground Pocosin
New Lake
North River
Northwest River Marsh
Robeson
Sampson
Sutton Lake
Van Swamp

**Justification:**

There is concern about allowing additional harvest of bear in the Coastal Bear Management Unit (CBMU) since the population objective of a 0% population growth rate is currently being met. Additional opportunities for harvest in the CBMU could result in negative population growth rate or a reduction in the population size. Further, increased weekend hunting on game lands in the CBMU that have significant bear hunting traditions could impact hunt quality. Therefore, recommendation at this time is to prohibit bear hunting on Sundays on the game lands in CBMU to meet the guiding principal identified by the focus groups, that the resources come first. If management objectives change or changes in the bear population are observed in the CBMU, staff will reevaluate the conditions and adjust the rule to allow for additional opportunities in the CBMU if warranted.

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands (pages 18 - 39)*

1 **15 NCAC 10A .1102 EMERGENCY CLOSURES AND WAIVERS**

2 (a) The Commission may prohibit or restrict public access to and use of property allocated to the Wildlife Resources  
3 Commission if the Commission finds that the closure is necessary to protect public health, public safety, or wildlife  
4 resources. Closures exercised under this Paragraph shall only be exercised for the duration of the threat.

5 (b) The Commission may waive any rule in this Chapter or portion thereof, that is not statutorily required, upon  
6 declaration of a national emergency, disaster, or state of emergency, by a federal, state, or local governmental authority  
7 impacting North Carolina. Waivers exercised under this Paragraph shall only be exercised for the duration of the  
8 declaration.

9 (c) The Commission may delegate emergency closure and waiver authority to the Executive Director.

10 (d) The following factors shall be considered in determining whether to restrict or prohibit public access or use, or  
11 waive requirements of rule:

- 12 (1) need for the closure or waiver;
- 13 (2) degree of benefit to the public, if applicable;
- 14 (3) degree of benefit to the resource, if applicable;
- 15 (4) degree of disruption to the Commission; and
- 16 (5) cost to the Commission.

17 (e) All closures and waivers shall be posted on the Commission website at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

18 (f) It is unlawful to use, enter, or remain on Wildlife Resources Commission Property that is closed pursuant to this  
19 Rule.

20

1 **15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE**

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

- 3 (1) "Permanent Hunting Blind" means any structure that is used for hunter concealment, constructed  
4 from manmade or natural materials, and that is not disassembled and removed at the end of each  
5 day's hunt.
- 6 (2) "Target shooting" means the discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or  
7 self-defense.
- 8 (3) "Youth" means individuals under 18 years of age.

9 (b) Trespass. Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the  
10 landowner. The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified the following areas on game lands that have additional  
11 restrictions on entry or usage:

- 12 (1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to bow and  
13 arrow hunting and falconry only. On these areas, deer of either sex may be taken on all open days  
14 of any applicable deer season.
- 15 (2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person  
16 shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on  
17 any game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.
- 18 (3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use  
19 of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- 20 (4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to all use by the  
21 general public, and entry upon such an area for any purpose is prohibited without first having  
22 obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources  
23 Commission. Entry shall be authorized only when such entry will not compromise the primary  
24 purpose for establishing the Restricted Zone and the person or persons requesting entry are able to  
25 demonstrate a valid need or such person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting  
26 official business. "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations,  
27 surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.
- 28 (5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are  
29 closed to all use by the general public, and entry upon such an area for any purpose is prohibited  
30 without first having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the  
31 Wildlife Resources Commission. An area of a game land ~~shall~~ may be declared a Temporary  
32 Restricted Zone when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public. ~~public due to~~  
33 ~~topographical features or activities occurring on the area.~~
- 34 (6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge  
35 of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.

1 (7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting  
2 Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S.  
3 113-264(d).

4 (8) Day Use Only Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" the use by the  
5 general public shall be prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

6 (9) Sensitive Habitat Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Sensitive Habitat Zones" are closed to all  
7 use by the general public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry upon such an area for any  
8 purpose is prohibited without first obtaining written approval of such entry or use from an authorized  
9 agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission by calling 919-707-0150 and requesting a permit.

10 The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing  
11 the following zones: archery, restricted firearms, restricted ~~restricted~~ deer hunting, day use only, or sensitive habitat.  
12 After the input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final  
13 determination.

14 (c) Littering. No person shall deposit any litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse at any place on any game land except  
15 in receptacles provided for disposal of such refuse at designated camping and target-shooting areas. No garbage dumps  
16 or sanitary landfills shall be established on any game land by any person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality,  
17 except as permitted by the landowner.

18 (d) Use of weapons. No person shall discharge:

19 (1) any weapon within 150 yards of any game land building or designated game land camping area,  
20 except where posted otherwise;

21 (2) any weapon within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to game lands, except on  
22 Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and

23 (3) any firearm within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and  
24 Jordan Game Lands.

25 No person shall hunt with or have in possession any shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on any  
26 posted waterfowl impoundment on any game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while  
27 deer hunting. Every individual carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-  
28 415.11, even if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan,  
29 Kerr Scott, and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows,  
30 or other weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is  
31 incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions, free of charge, at:

32 [http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327\\_](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327_)

33 113&rgn=div8. On Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hyco, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee River Game  
34 Land north of U.S. 74; and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of U.S. 158 and  
35 east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days for game  
36 birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:

- 1 (1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length
- 2 and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;
- 3 (2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;
- 4 (3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or
- 5 (4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

6 (e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

- 7 (1) Requirement. Except as provided in Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph, any person entering upon
- 8 any game land for the purpose of hunting, trapping, running dogs, or training dogs using wildlife
- 9 shall have in his or her possession a game lands license in addition to the appropriate hunting or
- 10 trapping license, or a license that conveys the game land use privilege.
- 11 (2) For Commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants (as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114) in
- 12 a field trial using wildlife shall possess a game lands license in addition to the appropriate North
- 13 Carolina hunting license, or a license that conveys the game land use privilege, except non-residents
- 14 may substitute hunting licenses from their state(s) of residence.
- 15 (3) For any other field trial using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall
- 16 possess a game lands license in addition to the appropriate North Carolina hunting license, or a
- 17 license that conveys the game land use privilege.
- 18 (4) Exceptions:
  - 19 (A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his parent or legal
  - 20 guardian;
  - 21 (B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103(e)(1) of this Section, the game lands license is
  - 22 required only for hunting doves; all other activities are subject to the control of the
  - 23 landowners.

24 (f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. Any individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial  
25 area ~~or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility~~, shall file with the Commission an application to use the area and facility  
26 accompanied by the facility use fee computed at the rate of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for each scheduled day of  
27 the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from 12:00 noon of the day preceding the first scheduled day  
28 of the trial to 10:00 a.m. of the day following the last scheduled day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for  
29 all intermediate days on which for any reason trials are not run but the building or facilities are used or occupied. A  
30 fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per day shall be charged to sporting, educational, or scouting groups for scheduled  
31 events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or any other entity shall enter or use in any manner  
32 any of the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area ~~or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility~~ without first  
33 having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission,  
34 and no such entry or use of any such facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The  
35 Sandhills Field Trial facilities shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources  
36 Commission. No more than 16 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during  
37 any calendar month, and no more than four days may be scheduled during any calendar week; provided, that a field



1 trial requiring more than four days may be scheduled during one week upon reduction of the maximum number of  
2 days allowable during some other week so that the monthly maximum of 16 days is not exceeded. Before October 1  
3 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities  
4 between October 22 and November 18 and between December 3 and March 31 shall submit its proposed schedule of  
5 such use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for its consideration and approval. The use of the Sandhills Field Trial  
6 facilities at any time by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills Game Lands dogs may  
7 be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1. Dogs may not be trained  
8 or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on any game land located west of I-95, except when  
9 participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be trained or permitted  
10 to run unleashed from March 15 through June 15 on any game land located east of I-95, except when participating in  
11 field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Additionally, on game lands located west of I-95 where  
12 special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs may not be trained  
13 or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts. A field trial shall  
14 be authorized when such field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the Game Land or field trial  
15 facilities, and the applying organization can demonstrate their experience and expertise in conducting genuine field  
16 trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be granted when  
17 they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do not conflict  
18 with the mission of the agency.

19 (g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0110, .0302, and .0303, trapping of furbearing  
20 ~~animals~~ animals, armadillos, coyotes, and groundhogs is permitted on game lands during the applicable open trapping  
21 ~~seasons,~~ seasons established by rule. Foxes can be trapped on game lands from November 1 through the end of  
22 February in any county with an open fox trapping season that falls between November 1 and the end of February.  
23 Foxes may not be taken by trapping on game lands in counties with a closed fox trapping season or during any fox  
24 trapping season that occurs outside the dates of November 1 through the end of February. Additionally, fox trapping  
25 is allowed on game lands in Clay, Graham, Henderson, Macon, and Tyrrell counties with a daily bag limit of two and  
26 a season bag limit of 10 from the first to the fourth Saturday in January. ~~except that trapping~~ Trapping is prohibited:

- 27 (1) on the ~~field trial course~~ J Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of the Sandhills Game Land;
- 28 (2) in posted "safety zones" located on any game land;
- 29 (3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south,  
30 US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;
- 31 (4) on the John's River Waterfowl Refuge in Burke ~~County;~~ and County;
- 32 (5) on the DuPont State Forest Game ~~Lands;~~ Lands; and
- 33 (6) from April 1 through October 31.

34 ~~On those areas of State-owned land known collectively as the Roanoke River Wetlands, controlled trapping is allowed~~  
35 ~~under a permit system.~~ At each trap, trappers may use a single bait site of grain, fruit, or other foods when trapping if  
36 the food is less than 3 cubic inches and is completely covered to prevent it from being seen from above. Feathers,

1 including those with attached skin or entire bird wings, hair with or without skin or hide, and bones that include no  
2 attached meat, organs, or viscera are not considered other foods and are excluded from this requirement.

3 (h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on any game land except on those roads constructed,  
4 maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel, unless such person:

- 5 (1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land;
- 6 or
- 7 (2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (k) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program
- 8 Permit as described in Paragraph (m) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph
- 9 (m).

10 (i) Camping.

- 11 (1) No person shall camp on any game land except on an area designated by the landowner for camping.
- 12 (2) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources
- 13 Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at
- 14 any designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period from May 1 through August 31.
- 15 After 14 consecutive days of camping, all personal belongings shall be removed from the game land.

16 (j) Swimming. Swimming is prohibited in the lakes located on the Sandhills Game Land.

17 (k) Disabled Sportsman Program. In order to qualify for permit hunts for disabled sportsmen offered by the  
18 Commission and use of designated blinds during those hunts, an individual shall possess a Disabled Veteran  
19 Sportsman license, a Totally Disabled Sportsman license, or a disabled sportsman hunt certification issued by the  
20 Commission. In order to qualify for the certification, the applicant shall provide medical certification of one or more  
21 of the following disabilities:

- 22 (1) missing 50 percent or more of one or more limbs, whether by amputation or natural causes;
- 23 (2) paralysis of one or more limbs;
- 24 (3) dysfunction of one or more limbs rendering the person unable to perform the task of grasping and
- 25 lifting with the hands and arms or unable to walk without mechanical assistance, other than a cane;
- 26 (4) disease, injury, or defect confining the person to a wheelchair, walker, or crutches; or
- 27 (5) deafness.

28 On game lands where the privileges described in Paragraph (m) of this Rule apply, participants in the program may  
29 operate electric wheel chairs, all terrain vehicles, or other passenger vehicles:

- 30 (1) on ungated or open-gated roads normally closed to vehicular traffic; and
- 31 (2) on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular
- 32 travel.

33 Each program participant may be accompanied by one companion provided such companion has in his possession the  
34 companion card issued by the Commission. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their  
35 companions may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit  
36 hunting days on a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land.

1 (l) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds,  
2 domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or  
3 feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without prior written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild  
4 fish from one stream to another on game lands without prior written authorization. Written authorization shall be given  
5 when release of such animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native  
6 wildlife in the area and such releases are in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife  
7 Resources Commission.

8 (m) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use  
9 on Game Lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (k) of this  
10 Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from the previous sentence but  
11 shall comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans  
12 with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 126) may use wheelchairs or other mobility devices designed for indoor pedestrian  
13 use on any area where foot travel is allowed.

14 (n) Disabled Access Program. Permits issued under this program shall be based upon medical evidence submitted by  
15 the person verifying that a handicap exists that limits physical mobility to the extent that normal utilization of the  
16 game lands is not possible without vehicular assistance. Persons meeting this requirement may operate electric wheel  
17 chairs, all terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel  
18 and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on  
19 game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands whose owners have agreed to such use.  
20 Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated in the game land rules section of the  
21 regulations digest and map book. This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths,  
22 or trails planted for wildlife food or cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each  
23 qualified disabled person, may accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is at all  
24 times in visual or verbal contact with the disabled person. The companion may participate in all lawful activities while  
25 assisting a disabled person, provided license requirements are met. Any vehicle used by a qualified disabled person  
26 for access to game lands under this provision shall display the vehicular access permit issued by the Wildlife Resources  
27 Commission in the passenger area of the vehicle where it can easily be seen by Commission staff outside the vehicle.  
28 It is unlawful for anyone other than disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (k) of this Rule and those holding a  
29 Disabled Access Permit to hunt, during waterfowl season, within 100 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the  
30 Wildlife Resources Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind.

31 (o) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on any Game Land, including land or water.  
32 For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque  
33 covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while  
34 in a public place.

35 (p) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting  
36 ranges for any purpose other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for  
37 other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. All other uses, including camping, building fires, operating

1 concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, except  
2 for activities that have been approved by the Commission and for which a permit has been issued may be conducted,  
3 provided that the permit authorizing such activity is available for inspection by wildlife enforcement officers at the  
4 time the activity is taking place. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit any debris or refuse on the  
5 grounds of the range. This includes any items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the range, by the  
6 shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot any items made of glass on the grounds of  
7 the range. No person may leave any vehicle or other obstruction in such a location or position that it will prevent,  
8 impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave parked any vehicle  
9 or other object at any place on the shooting range other than such a place or zone as is designated as an authorized  
10 parking zone and posted or marked as such. No person shall handle any firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting  
11 range in a careless or reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other  
12 permanent fixture or structure while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would  
13 cause any rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller  
14 may be allowed to travel from the range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to any person(s). Persons using a  
15 shooting range shall obey posted range safety rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public  
16 safety hazard shall leave the shooting range if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission  
17 employees. No person shall handle any firearms on a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing  
18 substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours  
19 of operation shall be designated on signs and at least one such sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting  
20 range. No person, when using any shooting range, shall do any act that is prohibited or neglect to do any act that is  
21 required by signs or markings placed on such area under authority of this Rule for the purpose of regulating the use  
22 of the area.

23 (q) Limited-access Roads. During the months of June, July, and August, roads posted as "Limited-access Roads" are  
24 open to motorized vehicles from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. only. These roads shall be posted with the opening and  
25 closing times.

26 (r) No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other  
27 part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that has been so mutilated.

28 (s) Baiting. Except as provided in section (g) of this Rule, no person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game  
29 land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written authorization from an agent of the Commission. Written  
30 authorization may be provided for Commission authorized projects or Commission contractors to meet specific  
31 objectives. Except as authorized by rule, no person shall take or attempt to take any wild birds or wild animals attracted  
32 to such foods.

33

34 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-270.3; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-305; 113-306;*  
35 *143-318.10;*

36 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

37 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; April 1, 1992;*

1                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 1993;*  
2                    *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;*  
3                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
4                    *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
5                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 31, 2001;*  
6                    *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002;*  
7                    *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004; (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
8                    *2003);*  
9                    *Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; June 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May*  
10                   *1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; November 1, 2005;*  
11                   *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2014;*  
12                   *Amended Eff. August 1, 2020; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014.*  
13  
14

1 **15A NCAC 10D .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS**

2 (a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any designated game land shall be under the influence of alcohol  
3 or any narcotic drug, or fail to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the use of the  
4 Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands listed in this Rule.

5 (b) Traffic Requirements. No person shall park a vehicle on game lands in such a manner as to block traffic or gates,  
6 or otherwise prevent vehicles from using any roadway.

7 (c) Tree Stands. It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached  
8 by nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree on any game land designated herein. This prohibition does not apply to lag-  
9 screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.

10 (d) Time and Manner of Taking. Hunting is allowed on game lands only during the open season for game animals  
11 and game birds, unless hunting is allowed by permit. Individual game lands or parts thereof may be closed to hunting  
12 or limited to specific dates by this Chapter. Persons shall hunt only with weapons lawful for the open game animal or  
13 game bird seasons. On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

- 14 (1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- 15 (2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates;
- 16 (3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;
- 17 (4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. each day; and
- 18 (5) not operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

19 On designated youth waterfowl days, youths may hunt on managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before  
20 sunrise to sunset. On designated veterans and military waterfowl days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and  
21 members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty  
22 other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-  
23 only areas from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions (1), (3), and (5) in this Paragraph shall apply. On  
24 waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and waterfowl  
25 hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment  
26 outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone." ~~No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal  
27 taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that has been so mutilated. No  
28 person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written  
29 authorization of the Commission or its agent. A decision to grant or deny authorization shall be made based on the  
30 best management practices for the wildlife species in question. No person shall take or attempt to take any game birds  
31 or game animals attracted to such foods.~~

32 (e) Definitions:

- 33 (1) For purposes of this Section, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be  
34 taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day,  
35 Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.
- 36 (2) For purposes of this Section, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any  
37 game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,

1 Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this  
2 Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Falconry may also be  
3 practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to either-sex deer hunting seasons listed under  
4 each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until  
5 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

6 (3) For purposes of this Section, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any game  
7 may be taken on the open days of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday  
8 during the open seasons.

9 (4) For purposes of this Section, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game  
10 may be taken during the open season on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays,  
11 Saturdays, and Sundays. On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

12 (A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

13 (B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

14 (C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or  
15 any accessory structure thereof.

16 (5) For purposes of this Section, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game  
17 may be taken during the open season on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. On  
18 Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

19 (A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

20 (B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

21 (C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or  
22 any accessory structure thereof.

23 (f) Hunting with Dogs on Game Lands. Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or  
24 parts of counties where taking deer with dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

25 (g) The listed seasons and restrictions apply in the following game lands:

26 (1) Alcoa Game Land in Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, and Stanly counties

27 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

28 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
29 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter in that portion in Montgomery county,  
30 and deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
31 Antlers Season in those portions in Davidson, Davie, Rowan, and Stanly counties.

32 (C) On the Lick Creek Tract, deer and bear hunting is archery only.

33 (2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County

34 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Day per Week Area

35 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
36 Antlers Season.

- 1 (C) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of ~~three hunting days~~  
2 ~~during~~ the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~first~~  
3 ~~three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December Bear Season.
- 4 (3) Angola Bay Game Land in Duplin and Pender counties
- 5 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
7 Antlers Season.
- 8 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 9 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 10 (4) Bachelor Bay Game Land in Bertie, ~~Martin~~, and Washington counties
- 11 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 12 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
13 Antlers Season.
- 14 (5) Bertie County Game Land in Bertie County
- 15 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
17 Antlers Season.
- 18 (C) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 19 (6) Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County
- 20 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 21 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
22 Antlers Season.
- 23 (C) Except for blackpowder firearms, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.
- 24 (D) On the Singletary Lake Tract, the use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited.
- 25 (E) Wild turkey hunting on the Singletary Lake Tract is by permit only.
- 26 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
27 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 28 (G) The use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes shall be prohibited from February 15 through  
29 August 1.
- 30 (7) Brinkleyville Game Land in Halifax County
- 31 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 34 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 35 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 36 ~~(8) Brunswick County Game Land in Brunswick County~~
- 37 ~~(A) Hunting is by permit only.~~



- 1                   (B) ~~—The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.~~
- 2       (9)(8) Buckhorn Game Land in Orange County
- 3                   (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 4                   (B)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 5       (10)(9) Buckridge Game Land in Tyrrell County.
- 6                   (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 7                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 8                             Antlers Season.
- 9                   (C)     Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting days during~~
- 10                             of the November Bear Season and the first three hunting days of the second week second
- 11                             Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December Bear Season. ~~If any of these days falls~~
- 12                             ~~on a Tuesday, Friday or Saturday, bear hunting is allowed on those days.~~
- 13                   (D)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 14       (11)(10) Buffalo Cove Game Land in Caldwell and Wilkes Counties
- 15                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16                   (B)     The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the
- 17                             Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer of
- 18                             either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on
- 19                             or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October
- 20                             15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible antlers may be taken with
- 21                             archery equipment the Monday immediately following the closing of the Deer With Visible
- 22                             Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through January 1. Deer of either sex may be
- 23                             taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest
- 24                             October 1 through the Saturday of the second week thereafter.
- 25                   (C)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 26                             Antlers Season.
- 27                   (D)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and
- 28                             all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 29       (12)(11) Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Lands in Robeson County
- 30                   (A)     ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 31                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 32                             Antlers Season.
- 33                   (C)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 34       (13)(12) Butner - Falls of Neuse Game Land in Durham, Granville, and Wake counties
- 35                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 36                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 37                             Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

- 1 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:  
2 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
3 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
4 (iii) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.  
5 On the posted waterfowl impoundments a special permit is required for all waterfowl  
6 hunting after November 1.
- 7 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited.  
8 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.  
9 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.  
10 (G) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on that portion west of NC 50 and south of  
11 Falls Lake.  
12 (H) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not  
13 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable  
14 seasons for game birds and game animals. On designated bicycle riding areas, the use of  
15 bicycles is allowed from May 15 through August 31, and on Sundays only from September  
16 1 through May 14.  
17 (I) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are  
18 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.  
19 (J) Camping is allowed at any time in the designated Mountains-to-Sea Trail Camping Area  
20 and shall not exceed a maximum stay of two consecutive nights. Campfires are prohibited  
21 in this camping area.
- 22 ~~(14)~~(13) Buxton Woods Game Land in Dare County:  
23 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
24 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
25 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.  
26 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 27 ~~(15)~~(14) Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land in Pender County  
28 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area  
29 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
30 Antlers Season.  
31 (C) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on that portion known as the Roan Island Tract.  
32 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion of the game land that is west  
33 of the Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck Road,  
34 and south of NC 210 to the Black River.  
35 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.  
36 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 37 ~~(16)~~(15) Carteret County Game Land in Carteret County

- 1 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 2 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 3 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 4 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 5 (D) Bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract is by permit only.
- 6 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

7 ~~(17)~~(16) R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land in Caswell County

- 8 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 10 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 11 (C) ~~Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed seven days per week from~~
- 12 ~~May 16 – August 31, only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays only, September~~
- 13 ~~1 – May 15, during the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.~~
- 14 Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and on those gated
- 15 roads and trails that are posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or older horseback riding
- 16 on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 17 (D) The area encompassed by the following roads is permit-only for all quail and woodcock
- 18 hunting, and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on NC 62 to the intersection of
- 19 SR 1746, west on SR 1746 to the intersection of SR 1156, south on SR 1156 to the
- 20 intersection of SR 1783, east on SR 1783 to the intersection of NC 62, north on NC 62 to
- 21 the intersection of SR 1736, east on SR 1736 to the intersection of SR 1730, east on SR
- 22 1730 to NC 86, north on NC 86 to NC 62.
- 23 (E) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit only after
- 24 November 1.
- 25 (F) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are
- 26 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 27 (G) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.

28 ~~(18)~~(17) Chatham Game Land in Chatham County

- 29 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 30 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 31 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 32 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 33 (D) ~~Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed seven days per week from~~
- 34 ~~May 16 – August 31, only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays only September~~
- 35 ~~1 – May 15, during the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.~~
- 36 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

37 ~~(19)~~(18) Chowan Game Land in Chowan County

- 1 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area  
2 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
3 Season.  
4 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

5 ~~(20)~~(19) Chowan Swamp Game Land in Bertie, Gates, and Hertford counties.

- 6 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
7 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
8 Antlers Season.  
9 (C) Bear hunting is restricted to the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting days~~  
10 ~~during of~~ the November bear season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~first~~  
11 ~~three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December bear season except that portion  
12 of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is east of Highway 158/13, south of  
13 Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of Catherine Creek and the Chowan River  
14 where the bear season is the same as the season dates for the Gates County bear season.  
15 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
16 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.  
17 (E) Horseback riding is prohibited except during May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays  
18 only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on  
19 those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.  
20 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.

21 ~~(21)~~(20) Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County

- 22 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area  
23 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
24 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.  
25 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
26 Antlers Season.

27 ~~(22)~~(21) Columbus County Game Land in Columbus County.

- 28 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area  
29 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
30 Antlers Season.  
31 (C) Deer hunting on the Campbell Tract shall be by permit only.

32 ~~(23)~~(22) Croatan Game Land in Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties

- 33 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area  
34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
35 Antlers Season.  
36 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:  
37 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

- 1 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
2 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 3 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of all waterfowl  
4 seasons, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish  
5 Lake Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.
- 6 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted areas.  
7 During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- 8 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

9 ~~(24)~~(23) Currituck Banks Game Land in Currituck County

- 10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by  
12 permit only from November 1 through the end of all waterfowl seasons.
- 13 (C) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the  
14 guides do not use a firearm.
- 15 (D) The boundary of the game land shall extend 5 yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.
- 16 (E) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day of  
17 their hunt.
- 18 (F) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand  
19 or blind to a tree.
- 20 (G) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
21 season.
- 22 (H) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

23 ~~(25)~~(24) Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County

- 24 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 25 (B) Deer hunting is by permit only.
- 26 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 27 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted for equestrian use. People age  
28 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Lands license.
- 29 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

30 ~~(26)~~(25) Dare Game Land in Dare and Hyde counties

- 31 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 34 (C) No hunting is allowed on posted parts of bombing range.
- 35 (D) The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.

36 ~~(27)~~(26) Dover Bay Game Land in Craven County

- 1 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 2 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
- 3 season.
- 4 ~~(28)~~(27) DuPont State Forest Game Lands in Henderson and Transylvania counties
- 5 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 6 (B) The training and use of dogs for hunting is prohibited except by special hunt permit holders
- 7 during scheduled permit hunts.
- 8 ~~(29)~~(28) Elk Knob Game Land in Watauga County
- 9 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 11 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 12 ~~(30)~~(29) Embro Game Land in Halifax and Warren counties
- 13 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 15 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 16 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 17 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 18 ~~(31)~~(30) Goose Creek Game Land in Beaufort and Pamlico counties
- 19 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 20 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 21 Antlers Season.
- 22 (C) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl
- 23 impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 24 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 25 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 26 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 27 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all
- 28 waterfowl seasons, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl
- 29 impoundments: Pamlico Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith
- 30 Creek, and Hobucken.
- 31 (E) On Pamlico Point and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments all activities, except
- 32 waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the trapping
- 33 season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period November 1
- 34 through March 15.
- 35 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 36 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

- 1 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1  
2 through January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting  
3 opportunity permit.
- 4 (H) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
5 prohibited on the Beaufort County portion north of NC-33.
- 6 (I) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 7 ~~(32)~~(31) Green River Game Land in Henderson, and Polk counties
- 8 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
10 Antlers Season.
- 11 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 12 ~~(33)~~(32) Green Swamp Game Land in Brunswick County
- 13 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
15 Antlers Season.
- 16 (C) On that portion north of Big Macedonia Road, east of Makatoka Road, south of Little  
17 Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road, hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 18 (D) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
19 prohibited on that portion of the game land that is north of Big Macedonia Road, east of  
20 Makatoka Road, south of Little Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road.
- 21 ~~(34)~~(33) Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County
- 22 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 23 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
24 Antlers Season.
- 25 (C) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:  
26 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons; and  
27 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
28 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl season.
- 29 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
30 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
- 31 (E) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days  
32 during the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday first  
33 three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season, except for that  
34 portion designated as bear sanctuary.
- 35 ~~(35)~~(34) Harris Game Land in Chatham, Harnett, and Wake counties
- 36 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 3 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:  
4 (i) Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
5 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and  
6 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 7 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds shall be prohibited.
- 8 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- 9 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 10 (G) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 11 ~~(36)~~(35) Headwaters State Forest Game Land in Transylvania County
- 12 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
14 Antlers Season
- 15 ~~(37)~~(36) Hill Farm Game Land in Stokes County- hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 16 ~~(38)~~(37) Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County
- 17 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 18 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
19 Antlers Season.
- 20 (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on the following days:  
21 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
22 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
23 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 24 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
25 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
- 26 (E) On that portion north of the Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east  
27 of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, deer hunting and  
28 bear hunting are permit only.
- 29 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited:  
30 (i) all open days on that portion of the game land that is south of Baby Branch  
31 extending west to Stag Park Road, west of Shaw Road, north of Meeks Road  
32 extending west to Stag Park Road and east of Stag Park Road; and  
33 (ii) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with the exception of Thanksgiving,  
34 Christmas, and New Year's days, and except for the area north of Bear Garden  
35 Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River,  
36 south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, where the use of dogs for deer and bear hunting  
37 is by permit only.



- 1 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from September 1 to the  
2 last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting  
3 opportunity permits, unless otherwise authorized by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- 4 (H) Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit may operate an All Terrain Vehicle on and  
5 within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access.
- 6 (I) Target shooting is prohibited, except on the Holly Shelter Shooting Range.
- 7 (J) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.
- 8 ~~(39)~~(38) Hyco Game land in Person County
- 9 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
11 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 12 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 13 ~~(40)~~(39) J. Morgan Futch Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 14 ~~(41)~~(40) Johns River Game Land in Burke County
- 15 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 16 (B) During permitted deer hunts, deer of either sex may be taken by permit holders.
- 17 (C) Entry on posted waterfowl impoundments is prohibited October 1 through March 31,  
18 except by lawful waterfowl hunting permit holders and only on those days written on the  
19 permits.
- 20 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
- 21 (E) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas is  
22 limited to August 31 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 23 ~~(42)~~(41) Jordan Game Land in Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Wake counties
- 24 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
26 Antlers Season.
- 27 (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on:
- 28 (i) Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 29 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 30 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 31 (D) ~~Horseback riding~~ riding, including all equine species, is prohibited except allowed only on  
32 those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail and other areas posted for equestrian use.  
33 Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is permitted on posted portions of the American  
34 Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for use. On all other trails posted for equestrian use,  
35 horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 – August 31, only during  
36 June, July, and August, and on Sundays only from September 1 – May 15. the remainder of  
37 the year except during open turkey and deer seasons. People age 16 or older must obtain

1 ~~who ride horseback on trails occurring entirely within the game land boundaries shall~~  
2 ~~possess a Game Lands license.~~ license prior to engaging in horseback riding on any area  
3 other than the American Tobacco Trail.

4 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

5 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery Zone.

6 (G) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not  
7 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable  
8 seasons for game birds and game animals.

9 ~~(43)~~(42) Juniper Creek Game Land in Brunswick and Columbus counties

10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

12 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
13 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

14 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

15 ~~(44)~~(43) Kerr Scott Game Land in Wilkes County

16 (A) Six Days per Week Area

17 (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

18 (C) Use of blackpowder firearms, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable  
19 Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.

20 (D) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating  
21 the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.

22 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
23 Antlers season.

24 (F) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

25 (G) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey is prohibited.

26 ~~(45)~~(44) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington counties

27 (A) Six Days per Week Area

28 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
29 Antlers Season.

30 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

31 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.

32 (E) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

33 ~~(46)~~(45) Lee Game Land in Lee County

34 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

35 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
36 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

37 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

- 1           ~~(47)~~(46) Light Ground Pocosin Game Land in Pamlico County
- 2                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 3                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer with Visible
- 4                             Antlers Season.
- 5                   (C)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 6           ~~(48)~~(47) Linwood Game Land in Davidson County
- 7                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 8                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken on all of the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 9                             Antlers Season.
- 10           ~~(49)~~(48) Lower Fishing Creek Game Land in Edgecombe and Halifax counties
- 11                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 12                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 13                             Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 14                   (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 15                   (D)     The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 16                   (F)     Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 17           ~~(50)~~(49) Mayo Game Land in Person County
- 18                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 19                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 20                             Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 21                   (C)     Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
- 22                             (i)     Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 23                             (ii)    Christmas and New Year's Days; and
- 24                             (iii)  the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 25                   (D)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 26           ~~(51)~~(50) Mitchell River Game Land in Surry County
- 27                   (A)     ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 28                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 29                             Antlers Season through the second ~~Wednesday~~ Tuesday thereafter.
- 30                   (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and
- 31                             all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 32           ~~(52)~~(51) Nantahala Game Land in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania
- 33                             counties
- 34                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 35                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 36                             Antlers Season in that portion located in Transylvania County.
- 37           ~~(53)~~(52) Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain counties.

- 1 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 2 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and
- 3 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 4 (C) On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit only.
- 5 ~~(54)~~(53) Neuse River Game Land in Craven County
- 6 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 7 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 8 Antlers Season.
- 9 (C) Camping is allowed any time within 100 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the
- 10 game land that lies west of NC-43.
- 11 ~~(55)~~(54) New Lake Game Land in Hyde and Tyrrell counties
- 12 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 14 Antlers Season.
- 15 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 16 ~~(56)~~(55) Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 17 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 18 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the
- 19 Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 20 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning
- 21 the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week
- 22 thereafter.
- 23 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second
- 24 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- 25 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 26 Antlers Season.
- 27 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 28 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 29 (H) On Lake Upchurch, the following activities are prohibited:
- 30 (i) Operating any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine; and
- 31 (ii) Swimming.
- 32 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 33 ~~(57)~~(56) North River Game Land in Camden and Currituck counties
- 34 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 35 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 36 Antlers Season.

1 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or  
2 shoreline.

3 (D) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only.

4 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

5 ~~(58)~~(57) Northwest River Marsh Game Land in Currituck County

6 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

7 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
8 Antlers Season.

9 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or  
10 shoreline.

11 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

12 ~~(59)~~(58) Pee Dee River Game Land in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties

13 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
15 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

16 (C) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties North  
17 of US-74.

18 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.

19 (E) Horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 through August 31, and on  
20 Sundays only September 1 through May 15 only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and  
21 gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use. only during the following times:

22 (i) ~~during June, July, and August; and~~

23 (ii) ~~on Sundays during the other months or parts of months when deer and turkey~~  
24 ~~seasons are closed.~~

25 (F) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting shall be  
26 prohibited on that portion south of US-74.

27 ~~(60)~~(59) Perkins Game Land in Davie County

28 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area

29 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
30 Antlers ~~Season.~~ Season through the second Tuesday thereafter.

31 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.

32 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.

33 ~~(61)~~(60) Pisgah Game Land in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison,  
34 McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey counties

35 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

36 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
37 Antlers Season.

- 1 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River  
2 (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).
- 3 (D) The use of bicycles shall be restricted to designated trails on the Linville River Tract (Burke  
4 County). Persons engaged in the act of hunting on the Linville River Tract during any open  
5 day of an applicable season for game birds or game animals shall be exempt from this  
6 restriction.
- 7 ~~(62)~~(61) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 8 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
10 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 11 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through August 31  
12 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding is prohibited  
13 from November 1 through May 15.
- 14 ~~(63)~~(62) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde County
- 15 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
17 Antlers Season.
- 18 ~~(64)~~(63) Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County
- 19 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 20 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
21 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 22 (C) Bear hunting is prohibited.
- 23 ~~(65)~~(64) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties
- 24 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 25 (B) Swimming is prohibited on the area.
- 26 ~~(66)~~(65) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties
- 27 (A) Hunting and trapping is by Permit only.
- 28 (B) Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission business  
29 or by permit holders.
- 30 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided, however,  
32 that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-  
33 owned portion of the game land.
- 34 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 35 ~~(67)~~(66) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.
- 36 ~~(68)~~(67) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County
- 37 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area

- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season.
- 3 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 4 ~~(69)~~(68) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 5 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the  
7 Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 8 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning  
9 the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week  
10 thereafter.
- 11 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second  
12 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- 13 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
14 Antlers Season.
- 15 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 16 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 17 (H) Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
- 18 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 19 ~~(70)~~(69) Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County - Hunting is by permit only.
- 20 ~~(71)~~(70) Sampson Game Land in Sampson County
- 21 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
23 Antlers Season.
- 24 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 25 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 26 ~~(72)~~(71) Sandhills Game Land in Hoke, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland counties
- 27 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 28 (B) Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from October 22  
29 through March 31 except as follows:
- 30 (i) deer of either-sex may be taken with archery equipment on all the open days of  
31 the archery season through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day; with  
32 blackpowder firearms and archery equipment all the open days of the  
33 blackpowder firearms season through the third Wednesday before Thanksgiving  
34 Day; and only deer with visible antlers may be taken with all legal weapons from  
35 the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following  
36 Thanksgiving Day;

- 1 (ii) dove may be taken all open days from the opening day of the dove season through  
2 the third Saturday thereafter;
- 3 (iii) squirrel (gray and fox) may be taken all the open days from the second Saturday  
4 before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 5 (iv) rabbit may be taken all open days from the second Saturday preceding  
6 Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 7 (v) waterfowl may be taken on open days during any waterfowl season;
- 8 (vi) wild animals and wild birds may be taken as part of a Disabled Sportsmen  
9 Program Permit Hunt; and
- 10 (vii) raccoon and opossum may be taken on open days from sunrise Monday on or  
11 nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- 12 (C) The Deer With Visible Antlers season is the open hunting days from the second Saturday  
13 before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day except on the  
14 J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds.
- 15 (D) The archery season is all open days from the Saturday on or nearest to Sept. 10 to the fourth  
16 Friday before Thanksgiving Day and, except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds,  
17 the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Deer of either sex may be  
18 taken with archery equipment on all open hunting days during the archery season, by permit  
19 during the Deer with Visible antlers season, and the blackpowder firearms season as stated  
20 in this Subparagraph. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday  
21 after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 22 (E) Blackpowder firearms season is all the open days from the fourth Saturday preceding  
23 Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter and, except on  
24 the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day  
25 through January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on all open  
26 hunting days during the blackpowder firearms season and by permit during the Deer With  
27 Visible Antlers season. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday  
28 after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 29 (F) Either-sex deer hunting during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season is by permit only.
- 30 (G) In addition to the regular hunting days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and closing  
31 days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 32 (H) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 33 (I) Horseback riding on field trial grounds from October 22 through March 31 is prohibited  
34 unless participating in authorized field trials. Horseback riding is allowed on the remainder  
35 of the Sandhills Game Land seven days per week on roads that are open to vehicular traffic  
36 and gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.



- 1 (J) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are  
 2 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 3 (K) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex.
- 4 ~~(73)~~(72) Sandy Creek Game Land in Nash and Franklin ~~Counties~~ counties
- 5 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
 7 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 8 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 9 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 10 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 11 ~~(74)~~(73) Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe and Madison counties.
- 12 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer with Visible  
 14 Antlers season.
- 15 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
 16 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 17 (D) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as allowed  
 18 in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(f).
- 19 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of dove  
 20 season.
- 21 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 22 ~~(75)~~(74) Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County- hunting is by permit only.
- 23 ~~(76)~~(75) Shocco Creek Game Land in Franklin, Halifax, Nash, and Warren counties
- 24 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
 26 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 27 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 28 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
 29 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 30 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 31 ~~(77)~~(76) South Mountains Game Land in Burke, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford counties
- 32 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 33 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the  
 34 Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer of  
 35 either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on  
 36 or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October  
 37 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible antlers may be taken with

1 archery equipment the Monday immediately following the closing of the Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through January 1. Deer of either sex may be  
3 taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest  
4 October 1 through the Saturday of the second week thereafter.

5 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
6 Antlers Season.

7 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails during the following dates:

- 8 (i) January 2 through March 31;
- 9 (ii) May 16 through August 31;
- 10 (iii) Sundays only - April 1 through May 15; and
- 11 (iv) Sundays only - September 1 through January 1.

12 ~~(78)~~(77) Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County

13 (A) Six Days per Week Area

14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
15 Antlers Season.

16 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

17 (D) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.

18 (E) Waterfowl ~~on posted waterfowl impoundments~~ may be taken only on the following days:

- 19 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 20 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 21 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

22 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.

23 (G) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.

24 ~~(79)~~(78) Suggs Mill Pond Game Land in Bladen and Cumberland counties

25 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

26 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
27 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

28 (C) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:

- 29 (i) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and
- 30 (ii) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.

31 (D) During the period of November 1 through January 31, except on Sundays, the use of vessels  
32 on Suggs Mill Pond Lake and Little Singletary Lake is limited to waterfowl hunting only  
33 by waterfowl hunters possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by  
34 the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).

35 (E) During the period of November 1 through March 15, the use of vessels on managed  
36 waterfowl impoundments is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters

- 1                                    possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife  
2                                    Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).
- 3    ~~(80)~~(79) Sutton Lake Game Land in New Hanover and Brunswick counties
- 4                                    (A)    ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 5                                    (B)    Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
6                                    Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 7                                    (C)    Target shooting is prohibited.
- 8                                    (D)    Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 9    ~~(81)~~(80) Tar River Game Land in Edgecombe County
- 10                                   (A)    Hunting is by permit only
- 11                                   (B)    Target Shooting is prohibited
- 12    ~~(82)~~(81) Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 13    ~~(83)~~(82) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 14                                   (A)    ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 15                                   (B)    Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
16                                   Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 17                                   (C)    Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 18    ~~(84)~~(83) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Alleghany and Wilkes counties
- 19                                   (A)    ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 20                                   (B)    Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
21                                   Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 22                                   (C)    Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and  
23                                   all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age 16 or  
24                                   older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 25                                   (D)    The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground is  
26                                   14 days within any 30 day period from May 1 through August 31. After 14 consecutive  
27                                   days of camping all personal belongings must be removed from the game land.
- 28    ~~(85)~~(84) Tillery ~~game~~ Game Land in Halifax County
- 29                                   (A)    ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 30                                   (B)    Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
31                                   Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 32                                   (C)    Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 33                                   (D)    The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 34                                   (E)    Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 35                                   (F)    Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 36    ~~(86)~~(85) Toxaway Game Land in Jackson and Transylvania counties
- 37                                   (A)    ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season.
- 3 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
4 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 5 ~~(87)~~(86) Uwharrie Game Land in Davidson, Montgomery, and Randolph counties
- 6 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 7 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
8 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 9 (C) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may be taken only on the following  
10 days:
- 11 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 12 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 13 (iii) Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 14 (D) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the Flintlock Valley Shooting Range.
- 15 ~~(88)~~(87) Vance Game Land in Vance County
- 16 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 17 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
18 Antlers Season.
- 19 (C) The use of dogs, centerfire rifles, and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the  
20 Nutbush Peninsula tract.
- 21 ~~(89)~~(88) Van Swamp Game Land in Beaufort and Washington counties
- 22 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 23 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
24 Antlers Season.
- 25 (C) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days  
26 ~~during~~ the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday first  
27 ~~three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December Bear Season.
- 28 ~~(90)~~(89) Voice of America Game Land in Beaufort County
- 29 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 30 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 31 ~~(91)~~(90) White Oak River Game Land in Onslow County
- 32 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 33 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
34 Antlers Season.
- 35 (C) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl  
36 impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 37 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

- 1 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 2 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 3 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all
- 4 waterfowl seasons, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.
- 5 (E) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:
- 6 (i) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting
- 7 Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to
- 8 G.S. 113-264(d);
- 9 (ii) hunting is by permit only; and
- 10 (iii) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 11 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 12 (G) Target Shooting is prohibited.

13 ~~(92)~~(91) Whitehall Plantation Game Land in Bladen and Pender counties

- 14 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 15 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 16 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 17 (C) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is
- 18 prohibited on the Long Ridge Tract.

19 ~~(93)~~(92) William H. Silver Game Land in Haywood County

- 20 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 21 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 22 Antlers Season.
- 23 (C) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.

24 (h) On permitted type hunts, deer of either sex may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed

25 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of

26 hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and

27 are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperator agent or

28 by phone.

29 (i) The following game lands and refuges are closed to all hunting except to those individuals who have obtained a

30 valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:

- 31 (1) Bertie, Halifax and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;
- 32 (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;
- 33 (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;
- 34 (4) Burke County—John's River Waterfowl Refuge;
- 35 (5) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);
- 36 (6) Dare County—Roanoke ~~Sound~~ Marshes Game Lands; and
- 37 (7) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

1 (j) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the  
2 Commission. Written permission may be granted only when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge will not compromise  
3 the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid  
4 need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes  
5 issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public  
6 interest.

7 (k) Feral swine may be taken by licensed hunters during the open season for any game animal or game bird using any  
8 legal manner of take allowed during those seasons. Dogs may not be used to hunt feral swine except on game lands  
9 that allow the use of dogs for hunting deer or bear, and during the applicable deer or bear season.

10 (l) Youth Waterfowl Day. On the day declared by the Commission to be Youth Waterfowl Day, youths may hunt on  
11 any game land and on any impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except where  
12 prohibited in Paragraph (h) of this Rule.

13 (m) Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days. On the day declared by the Commission to be Veterans and Military  
14 Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including  
15 members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt  
16 on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas.

17 (n) Permit Hunt Opportunities for Disabled Sportsmen. The Commission may designate special hunts for participants  
18 of the disabled sportsman program by permit. The Commission may schedule these permit hunts during the closed  
19 season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be identified on each permit. If the hunt has a limited weapon choice,  
20 the allowed weapons shall be stated on each permit.

21 (o) As used in this Rule, horseback riding includes all equine species.

22 (p) When waterfowl hunting is authorized in this Rule on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on  
23 Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

24  
25 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
26 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
27 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;*  
28 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; September*  
29 *1, 1994; July 1, 1994;*  
30 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;*  
31 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
32 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*  
33 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
34 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
35 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);*  
36 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
37 *January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May*

1                    *1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August 1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October*  
2                    *1, 2004;*  
3                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;*  
4                    *Amended Eff. August 1, 2020; August 1, 2019.*  
5  
6

1 **15A NCAC 10J .0103 HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

2 (a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area  
3 shall be under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug.

4 (b) Tree Stands. It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached  
5 by nails, screws, bolts or wire to a tree on any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area. This  
6 prohibition shall not apply to lag-screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal left remaining  
7 in or attached to the tree.

8 (c) Time and Manner of Taking. Except where closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by these regulations,  
9 hunting on areas designated and posted as wildlife conservation areas is permitted during the open season for the game  
10 or furbearing species being hunted. Waterfowl hunters shall not enter the areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted  
11 hunting dates, and hunting is prohibited after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates; decoys may not be set out prior to 4:00  
12 a.m. and must be removed by 3:00 p.m. each date. No person shall operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an  
13 internal combustion engine on the waters of any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area. No person  
14 shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or  
15 possess any bird or animal which has been so mutilated. No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any area  
16 designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written  
17 authorization of the Commission or its agent and no person shall take or attempt to take any game birds or game  
18 animals attracted to such foods. No person shall use an electronic calling device for the purpose of attracting wild  
19 birds or wild animals. No live wild animals or wild birds shall be removed from any designated wildlife conservation  
20 area except with the written permission of the landowner.

21 (d) Hunting Dates:

22 (1) Any game may be taken during the open seasons ~~on the following wildlife conservation areas and~~  
23 hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Thanksgiving, Christmas and New  
24 Year's Days. In addition, deer may be taken with bow and arrow on the opening day of the bow and  
25 arrow season for deer. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays,  
26 until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays. ~~Additional restrictions apply as~~  
27 ~~indicated in parentheses following specific designations:~~

28 (2) Except as otherwise indicated, the following designated wildlife conservation areas or indicated  
29 portions thereof are closed to all hunting:

30 (A) Nona Pitt Hinson Cohen Wildlife Conservation Area - Richmond County.

31 (B) John D. Lewis Wildlife Conservation Area - Wayne County.

32

33 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-136; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-305;*

34 *Eff. February 1, 1990;*

35 *Amended Eff. October 1, 1994.*



# EXHIBIT G-2

## October 22, 2020



### Fiscal Note for Proposed Lands Management Rule Amendments for the Wildlife Resources Commission

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10A .1102 Emergency Closures and Waivers  
15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use  
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands  
15A NCAC 10J .0103 Hunting on Wildlife Conservation Areas

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

**Authority:** G.S. 113 – 134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.5

#### BACKGROUND

The wildlife resources of the State belong to the people of the State as a whole, including the enjoyment of these resources (G.S. § 113-131(a)). The Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) is tasked with the conservation of wildlife resources of the State (G.S. § 143-239). This responsibility includes managing, as equitably as possible, the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. § 113-131.1(a)).

The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. § 113-134).

As part of its mission, WRC conducts an annual review of its fish, wildlife, boating safety, and game land regulations, to determine whether such rules need to be adjusted in order to accomplish the objectives of: managing wildlife resources through a biologically sustainable harvest of such resources by hunters, trappers and anglers consistent with sound conservation objectives; ensuring the safety of the boating public; managing Commission-owned land for the conservation of wildlife resources and the enjoyment of the public; and implementing legislative directives.

Many of the proposed rule changes are expected to increase hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation opportunities, while others are expected to restrict such opportunities. Additional

changes are intended to improve the quality of future opportunities.

Although the Commission does not have a mechanism to determine the fiscal impact of these specific rule changes on recreationists' behavior, economic research on the value individuals place on outdoor recreation can provide useful context for rules that affect opportunities for recreation. Taking the median of the findings across multiple studies, researchers have estimated that the value of hunting per person per day is approximately \$63; both hiking and "nature-related recreation" are valued at \$47 per person per day; and fishing is valued at approximately \$53 per person per day.<sup>1</sup> These figures represent individuals' total willingness to pay to engage in the activity, less the cost to do so. It does not represent any economic activity generated by the activity, such as retail sales. Note that these estimates are not species or location-specific. However, to the extent that the proposed rules induce recreationists to increase or decrease their trips in particular areas of the state, these findings provide a rough approximation of the costs or benefits to the individual.

The following is a summary and analysis of the proposed rule amendments to the game land rules 15A NCAC 10D .0102 and .0103, 15 NCAC 10A .1102, and 15A NCAC 10J .0103 with the proposed text included in Appendix A, B, C, and D.

### **15 NCAC 10A .1102 EMERGENCY CLOSURES AND WAIVERS (Appendix A)**

This proposed rule amendment will codify the Commission's authority to manage public access and use of Commission property and/or waive any non-statutorily required rules in Chapter 10 to protect public health, public safety, or wildlife resources. The Commission is authorized by G.S. 113-264 to regulate, prohibit or restrict public use of property by rule. 15A NCAC 10E .0103 has been used in the past to temporarily restrict access to specific Commission infrastructure as needed. However, as a result of COVID-19, it became necessary for the Commission to limit access to a variety of other properties (buildings, BAAs, PFAs and game land areas) for public health concerns, not because they could not meet their intended use (as is the case with hurricane damage, flooding, etc.). Additionally, as a result of COVID-19, the Commission found that it may be useful under certain circumstances, to have the ability to temporarily waive requirements of rule. While this flexibility was not available to the Commission during this particular emergency, the Commission would like to have the flexibility to exercise this ability in the future should it be needed in order to protect public health, safety, or wildlife resources.

#### Fiscal Impact

##### *State Impact*

This rule has no state government impact.

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<sup>1</sup> Rosenberger, Randall S.; White, Eric M.; Kline, Jeffrey D.; Cvitanovich, Claire. 2017. Recreation economic values for estimating outdoor recreation economic benefits from the National Forest System. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNWGTR- 957. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 33 p.

*Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This rule has no private impact.

**15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE (Appendix B)**

- A. This proposed amendment clarifies that other wild animals authorized to be taken by trapping during the regulated trapping season (15A NCAC 10B .0303) or in a county authorizing fox trapping can also be taken on game lands by trapping. It establishes a closed trapping season on game lands from April 1 through October 31. Fur-bearing animals and coyotes, armadillos, and groundhogs can be trapped on private lands during the regulated trapping season. Foxes can be trapped on private lands in counties with session laws authorizing a fox trapping season (56 of 100 counties). While 10D .0102 does allow the trapping of fur-bearing animals on game lands, this rule has not been updated. The proposed amendment will clarify that trapping of foxes, coyotes, armadillos, and groundhogs is allowed on game lands.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This amendment has no private impact.

- B. This proposal clarifies that licensed trappers can use bait on game lands while trapping. Upon review of both 15 NCAC 10D .0102 and 15 NCAC 10D .0103 by Commission staff from the WMD, LAWA, and Wildlife Enforcement, it was determined that the rule regarding placement of foods on game lands needed to be clarified to reduce regulatory complexity. Currently, the Commission's regulations digest gives the impression that trappers can use bait and the use of bait by trappers on game lands is a common practice. The amended rule will clarify that trappers can use foods (e.g., bait), but with restrictions to prevent conflicts with other user groups and reduce capture of non-target species, such as birds of prey.

To reduce regulatory complexity, this section was moved to Rule 10D .0102 - General regulations regarding use. Additionally, LAWA staff identified an edit to identify an area on Sandhills Game Land by name and to remove reference to the trapping permit system on Roanoke River Wetland. Removing this reference also further clarifies that trappers may use foods on all game lands, except those that are restricted in 10D .0103(g)(3).

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The agency could see an increase in the number of trapping licenses sold due to this clarification. The current cost of an annual resident trapping license is \$32. A non-resident annual trapping license costs \$133. The Commission has no way to anticipate how many additional licenses might be sold and thus has no means to accurately quantify this potential increase.

#### *Local Impact*

Increases in sales tax revenue and expenditures on fuel and supplies needed to engage in trapping could be seen by local governments and businesses, but the Commission has no data to accurately quantify this benefit.

#### *Private Impact*

Trappers could see more days afield due to this clarification.

## **15A NCAC 10D .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS (Appendix C)**

The proposed changes to this rule cover multiple general topic areas, including: game lands, horse-back riding, waterfowl, deer, and bear.

For the reasons outlined below, the WRC believes that the proposed rule changes will have minimal fiscal impacts.

### ***Horse-back Riding***

- A. These proposals clarify when equestrian riding will be permitted and not on the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell, Jordan, and Pee Dee River Game Lands. Proposed amendments will also allow equestrian riding on gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use at the Pee Dee River Game Land and clarify that a Game Land License is not needed to ride horses on the American Tobacco Trail at Jordan Game Land.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The state could see a minor reduction in the sale of game land license (\$16 per license per year) sold if those individuals only riding on the American Tobacco Trail purchased a game land license in the past when they did not need to. The data do not exist to quantify this reduction.

#### *Local Impact*

Rule clarity and additional opportunities on the Pee Dee River Game Land may invite a small number of new users.

*Private Impact*

The decreased complexity of the rules and potential for additional opportunities at Pee Dee River Game Land, may cause new horseback riders to these areas.

- B. Clarify the times when equestrian riding will be permitted and not on Sandhills Game Land and restrict riders to open roads or those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

Rule clarity may create an opportunity for a small number of new users.

*Private Impact*

The decreased complexity of the rules could cause an increase in the number of users. However, current and new users may decide to travel to a different area to horseback ride if being restricted to gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use is unappealing.

- C. Prohibit horseback riding, including all equine species, on William H Silvers Game Land. A great deal of the habitat management on this game land is focused on habitat improvements for elk. These habitat improvements are conducted on old logging trails and woods roads on the game lands due to the lack of flat ground that can be used for wildlife openings. The roads and trails are converted to linear wildlife openings that benefit elk and other wildlife. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has made significant financial contributions to assist in the creation of these linear wildlife openings. Recently, groups of horseback riders have been riding on linear wildlife openings on the game land. As a result, the vegetation planted for wildlife in the linear openings is getting damaged and/or destroyed. The damaged/destroyed vegetation also creates the threat for erosion problems.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

Approximately 12 horseback riders are currently using the area. The proposed rule change will be a lost opportunity for these riders. Additionally, though minor, these riders may incur an additional cost (time and gas) to travel an extra 20-30 miles to an alternative riding location on public land.

***Deer***

- A. This proposal would change Perkins Game Land from an Introductory Either-Sex Gun Season to a Conservative Either-Sex Gun Season. If approved, it would add 5 days to legally harvest does on Perkins Game Land during the general firearms season.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

Increasing the time which either-sex deer hunting is allowed on the Perkins Game Land may result in the additional purchase of food, gas, and equipment in the local area, however the WRC has no mechanism to quantify this benefit.

*Private Impact*

One additional day of either-sex deer hunting on the Perkins Game Land will enhance opportunities for deer hunters to enjoy the game land. The overall fiscal impact should be positive since the value of hunting is estimated at \$63 per person per day.

- B. This proposal would correct the NCAC text to reflect the correct primitive weapons seasons for deer on Nicholson Creek Game Land.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This amendment has no private impact.

***Bear***

This proposal will reduce regulatory confusion by amending rule language that establishes the December segment of the bear season for several game lands to improve intent and clarity. The current rule language establishing the December segment of the bear hunting season for five game lands is unclear and confusing. The proposed language would not change the bear season for these game lands.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

#### *Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

This amendment has no private impact.

### ***Waterfowl***

This proposal amends the Stones Creek Game Land rule to remove references to impoundments on the game land where they do not exist. Amended text will eliminate confusion about game land facilities.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

#### *Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

This amendment has no private impact.

### ***Game Lands***

- A. This proposed change would remove the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility from rule text. The commission no longer owns the facility.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

This proposal has no state government impact.

#### *Local Impact*

This proposal has no local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

This proposal has no private impact.

- B. This proposal will redefine the description of a Temporary Restricted Zone. Redefining the Temporary Restricted Zone description is needed to align this definition with the proposed

Emergency Closure and Waiver rule. The Temporary Restricted Zone and the Emergency Closure and Waiver rule provide the Commission with the authority to restrict public access to Commission-managed property where public safety, health, or wellbeing is at risk. This proposal will provide continuity between the two rules and ensure that the Commission can continue to provide safe environments for users of Commission-managed property.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This proposal has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This proposal has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This proposal has no private impact.

- C. This proposed change is to codify the game lands designated in the disabled access program. They are currently only identified in the regulation digest and map book.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This proposal has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This proposal has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This proposal has no private impact.

- D. This proposal will remove the Brunswick County Game Land from the NCAC. The private landowner removed this Game Land from the Game Land Program in 2017.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

Because this game land is removed from the program, the state may realize minimal cost savings associated with game land management for this property.

*Local Impact*

Because this game land is no longer in the program, users may not travel to this area as much. However, the Commission has no way to estimate or quantify this potential loss.



*Private Impact*

Removal of this game land from the program will be a lost opportunity for wildlife-associated recreation for users. The Commission has no way to quantify this loss.

***Pursuing or Chasing Deer and Bear***

This regulation will prohibit the pursuing or chasing of deer and bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting on the Beaufort County portion of Goose Creek Game Land north of NC 33. Hunter conflicts with adjacent landowners, surrounding hunter interests and other user groups necessitates a change in hunting methods on the game land tracts.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This proposed amendment will have no impacts on state government.

*Local Impact*

Decreasing the opportunities to partake in hunting deer and bear with dogs on this game land may decrease the number of these hunters visiting local businesses, which will result in a decrease in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to needs of this user group – e.g., food, gas, hunting supplies, etc. The local government could potentially see a reduction in tax-based revenue. However, the agency has no way to project these potential reductions.

*Private Impact*

This proposed amendment will likely have a negative impact on the private sector. Individuals and groups that have traditionally pursued deer and bear with dogs on this game land will no longer have that opportunity. It will also deny that opportunity to potential first-time users. However, the number of individuals and groups that pursue deer and bear with dogs on this game land is unknown.

**15A NCAC 10J .0103 HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS (Appendix D)**

This proposal will remove text indicating specific conservation areas are listed having additional hunting restrictions. Clarify text that no specific designations are listed for additional restrictions to apply.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

No Impact

*Local Impact*

No Impact

*Private Impact*  
No Impact

APPENDIX A

1 **15 NCAC 10A .1102 EMERGENCY CLOSURES AND WAIVERS**

2 (a) The Commission may prohibit or restrict public access to and use of Wildlife Resources Commission property if  
3 the Commission finds that the closure is necessary to protect public health, public safety, or wildlife resources.  
4 Closures exercised under this Paragraph shall only be exercised for the duration of the threat.

5 (b) The Commission may waive any rule in this Chapter or portion thereof, that is not statutorily required, upon  
6 declaration of a national emergency, disaster, or state of emergency, by a federal, state, or local governmental authority  
7 impacting North Carolina. Waivers exercised under this Paragraph shall only be exercised for the duration of the  
8 declaration.

9 (c) The Commission may delegate emergency closure and waiver authority to the Executive Director.

10 (d) The following factors shall be considered in determining whether to restrict or prohibit public access or use, or  
11 waive requirements of rule:

- 12 (1) need for the closure or waiver;
- 13 (2) degree of benefit to the public, if applicable;
- 14 (3) degree of benefit to the resource, if applicable;
- 15 (4) degree of disruption to the Commission; and
- 16 (5) cost to the Commission.

17 (e) All closures and waivers shall be posted on the Commission website at [www.newildlife.org](http://www.newildlife.org).

18 (f) It is unlawful to use, enter, or remain on Wildlife Resources Commission Property that is closed pursuant to this  
19 Rule.

## APPENDIX B

### 15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)

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

- (1) "Permanent Hunting Blind" means any structure that is used for hunter concealment, constructed from manmade or natural materials, and that is not disassembled and removed at the end of each day's hunt.
- (2) "Target shooting" means the discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or self-defense.
- (3) "Youth" means individuals under 18 years of age.

(b) Trespass. Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the landowner. The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified the following areas on game lands that have additional restrictions on entry or usage:

- (1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to bow and arrow hunting and falconry only. On these areas, deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of any applicable deer season.
- (2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on any game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.
- (3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- (4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to all use by the general public, and entry upon such an area for any purpose is prohibited without first having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission. Entry shall be authorized only when such entry will not compromise the primary purpose for establishing the Restricted Zone and the person or persons requesting entry are able to demonstrate a valid need or such person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.
- (5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are closed to all use by the general public, and entry upon such an area for any purpose is prohibited without first having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission. An area of a game land ~~shall~~ may be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public. ~~public due to topographical features or activities occurring on the area.~~
- (6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.

## APPENDIX B

1 (7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting  
2 Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S.  
3 113-264(d).

4 (8) Day Use Only Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" the use by the  
5 general public shall be prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

6 (9) Sensitive Habitat Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Sensitive Habitat Zones" are closed to all  
7 use by the general public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry upon such an area for any  
8 purpose is prohibited without first obtaining written approval of such entry or use from an authorized  
9 agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission by calling 919-707-0150 and requesting a permit.

10 The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing  
11 the following zones: archery, restricted firearms, restricted restricted deer hunting, day use only, or sensitive habitat.  
12 After the input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final  
13 determination.

14 (c) Littering. No person shall deposit any litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse at any place on any game land except  
15 in receptacles provided for disposal of such refuse at designated camping and target-shooting areas. No garbage dumps  
16 or sanitary landfills shall be established on any game land by any person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality,  
17 except as permitted by the landowner.

18 (d) Use of weapons. No person shall discharge:

19 (1) any weapon within 150 yards of any game land building or designated game land camping area,  
20 except where posted otherwise;

21 (2) any weapon within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to game lands, except on  
22 Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and

23 (3) any firearm within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and  
24 Jordan Game Lands.

25 No person shall hunt with or have in possession any shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on any  
26 posted waterfowl impoundment on any game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while  
27 deer hunting. Every individual carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-  
28 415.11, even if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan,  
29 Kerr Scott, and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows,  
30 or other weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is  
31 incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions, free of charge, at:

32 [http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327\\_](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327_)  
33 [113&rgn=div8](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327_113&rgn=div8). On Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hyco, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee River Game  
34 Land north of U.S. 74; and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of U.S. 158 and  
35 east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days for game  
36 birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:

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- 1 (1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length  
2 and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;
- 3 (2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;
- 4 (3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or
- 5 (4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

### 6 (e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

- 7 (1) Requirement. Except as provided in Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph, any person entering upon  
8 any game land for the purpose of hunting, trapping, running dogs, or training dogs using wildlife  
9 shall have in his or her possession a game lands license in addition to the appropriate hunting or  
10 trapping license, or a license that conveys the game land use privilege.
- 11 (2) For Commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants (as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114) in  
12 a field trial using wildlife shall possess a game lands license in addition to the appropriate North  
13 Carolina hunting license, or a license that conveys the game land use privilege, except non-residents  
14 may substitute hunting licenses from their state(s) of residence.
- 15 (3) For any other field trial using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall  
16 possess a game lands license in addition to the appropriate North Carolina hunting license, or a  
17 license that conveys the game land use privilege.
- 18 (4) Exceptions:
  - 19 (A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his parent or legal  
20 guardian;
  - 21 (B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103(e)(1) of this Section, the game lands license is  
22 required only for hunting doves; all other activities are subject to the control of the  
23 landowners.

24 (f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. Any individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial  
25 area ~~or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility~~, shall file with the Commission an application to use the area and facility  
26 accompanied by the facility use fee computed at the rate of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for each scheduled day of  
27 the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from 12:00 noon of the day preceding the first scheduled day  
28 of the trial to 10:00 a.m. of the day following the last scheduled day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for  
29 all intermediate days on which for any reason trials are not run but the building or facilities are used or occupied. A  
30 fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per day shall be charged to sporting, educational, or scouting groups for scheduled  
31 events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or any other entity shall enter or use in any manner  
32 any of the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area ~~or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility~~ without first  
33 having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission,  
34 and no such entry or use of any such facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The  
35 Sandhills Field Trial facilities shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources  
36 Commission. No more than 16 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during  
37 any calendar month, and no more than four days may be scheduled during any calendar week; provided, that a field

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1 trial requiring more than four days may be scheduled during one week upon reduction of the maximum number of  
2 days allowable during some other week so that the monthly maximum of 16 days is not exceeded. Before October 1  
3 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities  
4 between October 22 and November 18 and between December 3 and March 31 shall submit its proposed schedule of  
5 such use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for its consideration and approval. The use of the Sandhills Field Trial  
6 facilities at any time by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills Game Lands dogs may  
7 be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1. Dogs may not be trained  
8 or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on any game land located west of I-95, except when  
9 participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be trained or permitted  
10 to run unleashed from March 15 through June 15 on any game land located east of I-95, except when participating in  
11 field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Additionally, on game lands located west of I-95 where  
12 special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs may not be trained  
13 or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts. A field trial shall  
14 be authorized when such field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the Game Land or field trial  
15 facilities, and the applying organization can demonstrate their experience and expertise in conducting genuine field  
16 trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be granted when  
17 they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do not conflict  
18 with the mission of the agency.

19 (g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0110, .0302, and .0303, trapping of furbearing  
20 ~~animals~~ animals, armadillos, coyotes, and groundhogs is permitted on game lands during the applicable open trapping  
21 ~~seasons,~~ seasons established by rule. Foxes can be trapped on game lands from November 1 through the end of  
22 February in any county with an open fox trapping season that falls between November 1 and the end of February.  
23 Foxes may not be taken by trapping on game lands in counties with a closed fox trapping season or during any fox  
24 trapping season that occurs outside the dates of November 1 through the end of February. Additionally, fox trapping  
25 is allowed on game lands in Clay, Graham, Henderson, Macon, and Tyrrell counties with a daily bag limit of two and  
26 a season bag limit of 10 from the first to the fourth Saturday in January. ~~except that trapping~~ Trapping is prohibited:

- 27 (1) on the ~~field trial course~~ J Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of the Sandhills Game Land;
- 28 (2) in posted "safety zones" located on any game land;
- 29 (3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south,  
30 US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;
- 31 (4) on the John's River Waterfowl Refuge in Burke ~~County;~~ and County;
- 32 (5) on the DuPont State Forest Game ~~Lands;~~ Lands; and
- 33 (6) from April 1 through October 31.

34 ~~On those areas of State-owned land known collectively as the Roanoke River Wetlands, controlled trapping is allowed~~  
35 ~~under a permit system.~~ At each trap, trappers may use a single bait site of grain, fruit, or other foods when trapping if  
36 the food is less than 3 cubic inches and is completely covered to prevent it from being seen from above. Feathers,

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1 including those with attached skin or entire bird wings, hair with or without skin or hide, and bones that include no  
2 attached meat, organs, or viscera are not considered other foods and are excluded from this requirement.

3 (h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on any game land except on those roads constructed,  
4 maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel, unless such person:

- 5 (1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land;  
6 or
- 7 (2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (k) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program  
8 Permit as described in Paragraph (m) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph  
9 (m).

10 (i) Camping.

- 11 (1) No person shall camp on any game land except on an area designated by the landowner for camping.
- 12 (2) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources  
13 Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at  
14 any designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period from May 1 through August 31.  
15 After 14 consecutive days of camping, all personal belongings shall be removed from the game land.

16 (j) Swimming. Swimming is prohibited in the lakes located on the Sandhills Game Land.

17 (k) Disabled Sportsman Program. In order to qualify for permit hunts for disabled sportsmen offered by the  
18 Commission and use of designated blinds during those hunts, an individual shall possess a Disabled Veteran  
19 Sportsman license, a Totally Disabled Sportsman license, or a disabled sportsman hunt certification issued by the  
20 Commission. In order to qualify for the certification, the applicant shall provide medical certification of one or more  
21 of the following disabilities:

- 22 (1) missing 50 percent or more of one or more limbs, whether by amputation or natural causes;
- 23 (2) paralysis of one or more limbs;
- 24 (3) dysfunction of one or more limbs rendering the person unable to perform the task of grasping and  
25 lifting with the hands and arms or unable to walk without mechanical assistance, other than a cane;
- 26 (4) disease, injury, or defect confining the person to a wheelchair, walker, or crutches; or
- 27 (5) deafness.

28 On game lands where the privileges described in Paragraph (m) of this Rule apply, participants in the program may  
29 operate electric wheel chairs, all terrain vehicles, or other passenger vehicles:

- 30 (1) on ungated or open-gated roads normally closed to vehicular traffic; and
- 31 (2) on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular  
32 travel.

33 Each program participant may be accompanied by one companion provided such companion has in his possession the  
34 companion card issued by the Commission. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their  
35 companions may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit  
36 hunting days on a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land.



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- 1 (l) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds,  
2 domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or  
3 feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without prior written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild  
4 fish from one stream to another on game lands without prior written authorization. Written authorization shall be given  
5 when release of such animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native  
6 wildlife in the area and such releases are in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife  
7 Resources Commission.
- 8 (m) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use  
9 on Game Lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (k) of this  
10 Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from the previous sentence but  
11 shall comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans  
12 with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 126) may use wheelchairs or other mobility devices designed for indoor pedestrian  
13 use on any area where foot travel is allowed.
- 14 (n) Disabled Access Program. Permits issued under this program shall be based upon medical evidence submitted by  
15 the person verifying that a handicap exists that limits physical mobility to the extent that normal utilization of the  
16 game lands is not possible without vehicular assistance. Persons meeting this requirement may operate electric wheel  
17 chairs, all terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel  
18 and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on  
19 game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands whose owners have agreed to such use.  
20 Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated in the game land rules section of the  
21 regulations digest and map book. This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths,  
22 or trails planted for wildlife food or cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each  
23 qualified disabled person, may accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is at all  
24 times in visual or verbal contact with the disabled person. The companion may participate in all lawful activities while  
25 assisting a disabled person, provided license requirements are met. Any vehicle used by a qualified disabled person  
26 for access to game lands under this provision shall display the vehicular access permit issued by the Wildlife Resources  
27 Commission in the passenger area of the vehicle where it can easily be seen by Commission staff outside the vehicle.  
28 It is unlawful for anyone other than disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (k) of this Rule and those holding a  
29 Disabled Access Permit to hunt, during waterfowl season, within 100 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the  
30 Wildlife Resources Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind.
- 31 (o) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on any Game Land, including land or water.  
32 For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque  
33 covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while  
34 in a public place.
- 35 (p) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting  
36 ranges for any purpose other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for  
37 other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. All other uses, including camping, building fires, operating

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1 concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, except  
2 for activities that have been approved by the Commission and for which a permit has been issued may be conducted,  
3 provided that the permit authorizing such activity is available for inspection by wildlife enforcement officers at the  
4 time the activity is taking place. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit any debris or refuse on the  
5 grounds of the range. This includes any items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the range, by the  
6 shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot any items made of glass on the grounds of  
7 the range. No person may leave any vehicle or other obstruction in such a location or position that it will prevent,  
8 impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave parked any vehicle  
9 or other object at any place on the shooting range other than such a place or zone as is designated as an authorized  
10 parking zone and posted or marked as such. No person shall handle any firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting  
11 range in a careless or reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other  
12 permanent fixture or structure while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would  
13 cause any rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller  
14 may be allowed to travel from the range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to any person(s). Persons using a  
15 shooting range shall obey posted range safety rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public  
16 safety hazard shall leave the shooting range if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission  
17 employees. No person shall handle any firearms on a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing  
18 substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours  
19 of operation shall be designated on signs and at least one such sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting  
20 range. No person, when using any shooting range, shall do any act that is prohibited or neglect to do any act that is  
21 required by signs or markings placed on such area under authority of this Rule for the purpose of regulating the use  
22 of the area.

23 (q) Limited-access Roads. During the months of June, July, and August, roads posted as "Limited-access Roads" are  
24 open to motorized vehicles from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. only. These roads shall be posted with the opening and  
25 closing times.

26 (r) No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other  
27 part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that has been so mutilated.

28 (s) Baiting. Except as provided in section (g) of this Rule, no person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game  
29 land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written authorization from an agent of the Commission. Written  
30 authorization may be provided for Commission authorized projects or Commission contractors to meet specific  
31 objectives. Except as authorized by rule, no person shall take or attempt to take any wild birds or wild animals attracted  
32 to such foods.

33

## APPENDIX C

### 1 **15A NCAC 10D .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

2 (a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any designated game land shall be under the influence of alcohol  
3 or any narcotic drug, or fail to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the use of the  
4 Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands listed in this Rule.

5 (b) Traffic Requirements. No person shall park a vehicle on game lands in such a manner as to block traffic or gates,  
6 or otherwise prevent vehicles from using any roadway.

7 (c) Tree Stands. It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached  
8 by nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree on any game land designated herein. This prohibition does not apply to lag-  
9 screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.

10 (d) Time and Manner of Taking. Hunting is allowed on game lands only during the open season for game animals  
11 and game birds, unless hunting is allowed by permit. Individual game lands or parts thereof may be closed to hunting  
12 or limited to specific dates by this Chapter. Persons shall hunt only with weapons lawful for the open game animal or  
13 game bird seasons. On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

- 14 (1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- 15 (2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates;
- 16 (3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;
- 17 (4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. each day; and
- 18 (5) not operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

19 On designated youth waterfowl days, youths may hunt on managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before  
20 sunrise to sunset. On designated veterans and military waterfowl days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and  
21 members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty  
22 other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-  
23 only areas from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions (1), (3), and (5) in this Paragraph shall apply. On  
24 waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and waterfowl  
25 hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment  
26 outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone." ~~No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal  
27 taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that has been so mutilated. No  
28 person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written  
29 authorization of the Commission or its agent. A decision to grant or deny authorization shall be made based on the  
30 best management practices for the wildlife species in question. No person shall take or attempt to take any game birds  
31 or game animals attracted to such foods.~~

32 (e) Definitions:

- 33 (1) For purposes of this Section, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be  
34 taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day,  
35 Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.
- 36 (2) For purposes of this Section, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any  
37 game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,

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1 Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this  
2 Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Falconry may also be  
3 practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to either-sex deer hunting seasons listed under  
4 each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until  
5 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

6 (3) For purposes of this Section, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any game  
7 may be taken on the open days of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday  
8 during the open seasons.

9 (4) For purposes of this Section, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game  
10 may be taken during the open season on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays,  
11 Saturdays, and Sundays. On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

12 (A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

13 (B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

14 (C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or  
15 any accessory structure thereof.

16 (5) For purposes of this Section, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game  
17 may be taken during the open season on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. On  
18 Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

19 (A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

20 (B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

21 (C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or  
22 any accessory structure thereof.

23 (f) Hunting with Dogs on Game Lands. Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or  
24 parts of counties where taking deer with dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

25 (g) The listed seasons and restrictions apply in the following game lands:

26 (1) Alcoa Game Land in Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, and Stanly counties

27 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

28 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
29 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter in that portion in Montgomery county,  
30 and deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
31 Antlers Season in those portions in Davidson, Davie, Rowan, and Stanly counties.

32 (C) On the Lick Creek Tract, deer and bear hunting is archery only.

33 (2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County

34 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Day per Week Area

35 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
36 Antlers Season.

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- 1 (C) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days  
2 during the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday first  
3 three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.
- 4 (3) Angola Bay Game Land in Duplin and Pender counties
- 5 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
7 Antlers Season.
- 8 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 9 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 10 (4) Bachelor Bay Game Land in Bertie, Martin, and Washington counties
- 11 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 12 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
13 Antlers Season.
- 14 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 15 (5) Bertie County Game Land in Bertie County
- 16 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 17 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
18 Antlers Season.
- 19 (C) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 20 (6) Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County
- 21 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
23 Antlers Season.
- 24 (C) Except for blackpowder firearms, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.
- 25 (D) On the Singletary Lake Tract, the use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited.
- 26 (E) Wild turkey hunting on the Singletary Lake Tract is by permit only.
- 27 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March  
28 31through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 29 (G) The use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes shall be prohibited from February 15 through  
30 August 1.
- 31 (7) Brinkleyville Game Land in Halifax County
- 32 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 33 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
34 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 35 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 36 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 37 ~~(8) Brunswick County Game Land in Brunswick County~~

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- 1                   (A) ~~Hunting is by permit only.~~
- 2                   (B) ~~The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.~~
- 3       (9)(8) Buckhorn Game Land in Orange County
- 4                   (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 5                   (B)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 6       (10)(9) Buckridge Game Land in Tyrrell County.
- 7                   (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 8                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 9                                   Antlers Season.
- 10                  (C)     Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting days during~~
- 11                                   of the November Bear Season and the first three hunting days of the second week second
- 12                                   Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December Bear Season. ~~If any of these days falls~~
- 13                                   ~~on a Tuesday, Friday or Saturday, bear hunting is allowed on those days.~~
- 14                  (D)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15       (11)(10) Buffalo Cove Game Land in Caldwell and Wilkes Counties
- 16                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 17                  (B)     The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the
- 18                                   Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer of
- 19                                   either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on
- 20                                   or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October
- 21                                   15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible antlers may be taken with
- 22                                   archery equipment the Monday immediately following the closing of the Deer With Visible
- 23                                   Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through January 1. Deer of either sex may be
- 24                                   taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest
- 25                                   October 1 through the Saturday of the second week thereafter.
- 26                  (C)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 27                                   Antlers Season.
- 28                  (D)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and
- 29                                   all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 30       (12)(11) Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Lands in Robeson County
- 31                  (A)     ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 32                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 33                                   Antlers Season.
- 34                  (C)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 35       (13)(12) Butner - Falls of Neuse Game Land in Durham, Granville, and Wake counties
- 36                  (A)     Six Days per Week Area

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- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 3 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:  
4 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
5 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
6 (iii) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.  
7 On the posted waterfowl impoundments a special permit is required for all waterfowl  
8 hunting after November 1.
- 9 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 10 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 11 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- 12 (G) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on that portion west of NC 50 and south of  
13 Falls Lake.
- 14 (H) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not  
15 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable  
16 seasons for game birds and game animals. On designated bicycle riding areas, the use of  
17 bicycles is allowed from May 15 through August 31, and on Sundays only from September  
18 1 through May 14.
- 19 (I) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are  
20 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 21 (J) Camping is allowed at any time in the designated Mountains-to-Sea Trail Camping Area  
22 and shall not exceed a maximum stay of two consecutive nights. Campfires are prohibited  
23 in this camping area.
- 24 ~~(14)~~(13) Buxton Woods Game Land in Dare County:  
25 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
26 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
27 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.  
28 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 29 ~~(15)~~(14) Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land in Pender County  
30 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area  
31 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
32 Antlers Season.  
33 (C) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on that portion known as the Roan Island Tract.  
34 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion of the game land that is west  
35 of the Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck Road,  
36 and south of NC 210 to the Black River.  
37 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

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- 1 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 2 ~~(16)~~(15) Carteret County Game Land in Carteret County
- 3 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 4 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 5 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 6 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 7 (D) Bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract is by permit only.
- 8 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 9 ~~(17)~~(16) R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land in Caswell County
- 10 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 12 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 13 (C) ~~Horseback riding~~ riding, including all equine species, is allowed seven days per week from
- 14 May 16 – August 31, only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays only, September
- 15 1 – May 15, during the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.
- 16 Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and on those gated
- 17 roads and trails that are posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or older horseback riding
- 18 on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 19 (D) The area encompassed by the following roads is permit-only for all quail and woodcock
- 20 hunting, and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on NC 62 to the intersection of
- 21 SR 1746, west on SR 1746 to the intersection of SR 1156, south on SR 1156 to the
- 22 intersection of SR 1783, east on SR 1783 to the intersection of NC 62, north on NC 62 to
- 23 the intersection of SR 1736, east on SR 1736 to the intersection of SR 1730, east on SR
- 24 1730 to NC 86, north on NC 86 to NC 62.
- 25 (E) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit only after
- 26 November 1.
- 27 (F) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are
- 28 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 29 (G) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.
- 30 ~~(18)~~(17) Chatham Game Land in Chatham County
- 31 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 33 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 34 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 35 (D) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August; and on Sundays during
- 36 the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.
- 37 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.



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- 1           ~~(19)~~(18) Chowan Game Land in Chowan County
- 2                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 3                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
- 4                                 Season.
- 5                   (C)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 6           ~~(20)~~(19) Chowan Swamp Game Land in Bertie, Gates, and Hertford counties.
- 7                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 8                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 9                                 Antlers Season.
- 10                  (C)     Bear hunting is restricted to the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting days~~
- 11                                 ~~during~~ of the November bear season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~first~~
- 12                                 ~~three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December bear season except that portion
- 13                                 of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is east of Highway 158/13, south of
- 14                                 Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of Catherine Creek and the Chowan River
- 15                                 where the bear season is the same as the season dates for the Gates County bear season.
- 16                  (D)     Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 17                                 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 18                  (E)     Horseback riding is prohibited except during May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays
- 19                                 only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on
- 20                                 those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- 21                  (F)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 22           ~~(21)~~(20) Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County
- 23                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 24                   (B)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and
- 25                                 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 26                   (C)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 27                                 Antlers Season.
- 28           ~~(22)~~(21) Columbus County Game Land in Columbus County.
- 29                   (A)     ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 30                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 31                                 Antlers Season.
- 32                   (C)     Deer hunting on the Campbell Tract shall be by permit only.
- 33                   (D)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 34           ~~(23)~~(22) Croatan Game Land in Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
- 35                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 36                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 37                                 Antlers Season.

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- 1 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:  
2 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
3 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
4 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 5 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of all waterfowl  
6 seasons, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish  
7 Lake Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.
- 8 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted areas.  
9 During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- 10 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 11 ~~(24)~~(23) Currituck Banks Game Land in Currituck County
- 12 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by  
14 permit only from November 1 through the end of all waterfowl seasons.
- 15 (C) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the  
16 guides do not use a firearm.
- 17 (D) The boundary of the game land shall extend 5 yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.
- 18 (E) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day of  
19 their hunt.
- 20 (F) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand  
21 or blind to a tree.
- 22 (G) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
23 season.
- 24 (H) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 25 ~~(25)~~(24) Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County
- 26 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 27 (B) Deer hunting is by permit only.
- 28 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 29 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted for equestrian use. People age  
30 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Lands license.
- 31 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 32 ~~(26)~~(25) Dare Game Land in Dare and Hyde counties
- 33 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
35 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 36 (C) No hunting is allowed on posted parts of bombing range.
- 37 (D) The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.

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- 1                   (E)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 2     ~~(27)~~(26) Dover Bay Game Land in Craven County
- 3                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 4                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
- 5                                   season.
- 6     ~~(28)~~(27) DuPont State Forest Game Lands in Henderson and Transylvania counties
- 7                   (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 8                   (B)     The training and use of dogs for hunting is prohibited except by special hunt permit holders
- 9                                   during scheduled permit hunts.
- 10    ~~(29)~~(28) Elk Knob Game Land in Watauga County
- 11                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 12                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 13                                   Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 14    ~~(30)~~(29) Embro Game Land in Halifax and Warren counties
- 15                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 17                                   Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 18                   (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 19                   (D)     Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 20    ~~(31)~~(30) Goose Creek Game Land in Beaufort and Pamlico counties
- 21                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 22                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 23                                   Antlers Season.
- 24                   (C)     Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl
- 25                                   impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 26                                   (i)     the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 27                                   (ii)    Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 28                                   (iii)   Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 29                   (D)     Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all
- 30                                   waterfowl seasons, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl
- 31                                   impoundments: Pamlico Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith
- 32                                   Creek, and Hobucken.
- 33                   (E)     On Pamlico Point and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments all activities, except
- 34                                   waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the trapping
- 35                                   season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period November 1
- 36                                   through March 15.

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- 1 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
2 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 3 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1  
4 through January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting  
5 opportunity permit.
- 6 (H) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
7 prohibited on the Beaufort County portion north of NC-33.
- 8 (I) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 9 ~~(32)~~(31) Green River Game Land in Henderson, and Polk counties
- 10 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
12 Antlers Season.
- 13 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 14 ~~(33)~~(32) Green Swamp Game Land in Brunswick County
- 15 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
17 Antlers Season.
- 18 (C) On that portion north of Big Macedonia Road, east of Makatoka Road, south of Little  
19 Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road, hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 20 (D) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
21 prohibited on that portion of the game land that is north of Big Macedonia Road, east of  
22 Makatoka Road, south of Little Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road.
- 23 ~~(34)~~(33) Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County
- 24 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
26 Antlers Season.
- 27 (C) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:  
28 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons; and  
29 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
30 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl season.
- 31 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
32 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
- 33 (E) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days  
34 ~~during~~ the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday first  
35 ~~three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December Bear Season, except for that  
36 portion designated as bear sanctuary.
- 37 ~~(35)~~(34) Harris Game Land in Chatham, Harnett, and Wake counties

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- 1 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 2 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 3 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 4 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
- 5 (i) Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 6 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 7 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 8 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds shall be prohibited.
- 9 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- 10 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 11 (G) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 12 ~~(36)~~(35) Headwaters State Forest Game Land in Transylvania County
- 13 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 15 Antlers Season
- 16 ~~(37)~~(36) Hill Farm Game Land in Stokes County- hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 17 ~~(38)~~(37) Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County
- 18 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 20 Antlers Season.
- 21 (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on the following days:
- 22 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 23 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 24 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 25 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 26 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
- 27 (E) On that portion north of the Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east
- 28 of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, deer hunting and
- 29 bear hunting are permit only.
- 30 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited:
- 31 (i) all open days on that portion of the game land that is south of Baby Branch
- 32 extending west to Stag Park Road, west of Shaw Road, north of Meeks Road
- 33 extending west to Stag Park Road and east of Stag Park Road; and
- 34 (ii) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with the exception of Thanksgiving,
- 35 Christmas, and New Year's days, and except for the area north of Bear Garden
- 36 Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River,

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- 1 south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, where the use of dogs for deer and bear hunting  
2 is by permit only.
- 3 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from September 1 to the  
4 last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting  
5 opportunity permits, unless otherwise authorized by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- 6 (H) Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit may operate an All Terrain Vehicle on and  
7 within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access.
- 8 (I) Target shooting is prohibited, except on the Holly Shelter Shooting Range.
- 9 (J) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.
- 10 ~~(39)~~(38) Hyco Game land in Person County
- 11 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 12 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
13 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 14 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15 ~~(40)~~(39) J. Morgan Futch Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 16 ~~(41)~~(40) Johns River Game Land in Burke County
- 17 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 18 (B) During permitted deer hunts, deer of either sex may be taken by permit holders.
- 19 (C) Entry on posted waterfowl impoundments is prohibited October 1 through March 31,  
20 except by lawful waterfowl hunting permit holders and only on those days written on the  
21 permits.
- 22 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
- 23 (E) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas is  
24 limited to August 31 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 25 ~~(42)~~(41) Jordan Game Land in Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Wake counties
- 26 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 27 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers Season.
- 29 (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on:
- 30 (i) Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 31 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 32 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 33 (D) ~~Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited except~~ allowed only on  
34 those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail and other areas posted for equestrian use.  
35 Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is permitted on posted portions of the American  
36 Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for use. On all other trails posted for equestrian use,  
37 horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 – August 31, only during

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- 1 ~~June, July, and August~~, and on Sundays only from September 1 – May 15, ~~the remainder of~~  
2 ~~the year except during open turkey and deer seasons~~. People age 16 or older must obtain  
3 ~~who ride horseback on trails occurring entirely within the game land boundaries shall~~  
4 ~~possess a Game Lands license~~. license prior to engaging in horseback riding on any area  
5 other than the American Tobacco Trail.
- 6 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 7 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery Zone.
- 8 (G) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not  
9 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable  
10 seasons for game birds and game animals.
- 11 ~~(43)~~(42) Juniper Creek Game Land in Brunswick and Columbus counties
- 12 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- 14 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
15 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 16 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 17 ~~(44)~~(43) Kerr Scott Game Land in Wilkes County
- 18 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- 20 (C) Use of blackpowder firearms, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable  
21 Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.
- 22 (D) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating  
23 the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.
- 24 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
25 Antlers season.
- 26 (F) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- 27 (G) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey is prohibited.
- 28 ~~(45)~~(44) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington counties
- 29 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 30 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
31 Antlers Season.
- 32 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 33 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.
- 34 (E) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- 35 ~~(46)~~(45) Lee Game Land in Lee County
- 36 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

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- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 3 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 4 ~~(47)~~(46) Light Ground Pocosin Game Land in Pamlico County
- 5 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer with Visible  
7 Antlers Season.
- 8 ~~(C)~~ Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 9 ~~(48)~~(47) Linwood Game Land in Davidson County
- 10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken on all of the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
12 Antlers Season.
- 13 ~~(49)~~(48) Lower Fishing Creek Game Land in Edgecombe and Halifax counties
- 14 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
16 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 17 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 18 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 19 (F) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 20 ~~(50)~~(49) Mayo Game Land in Person County
- 21 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
23 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 24 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
- 25 (i) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 26 (ii) Christmas and New Year's Days; and
- 27 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 28 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 29 ~~(51)~~(50) Mitchell River Game Land in Surry County
- 30 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 31 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
32 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 33 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and  
34 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 35 ~~(52)~~(51) Nantahala Game Land in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania  
36 counties
- 37 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area



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- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season in that portion located in Transylvania County.
- 3 ~~(53)~~(52) Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain counties.
- 4 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 5 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and  
6 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 7 (C) On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit only.
- 8 ~~(54)~~(53) Neuse River Game Land in Craven County
- 9 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
11 Antlers Season.
- 12 (C) Camping is allowed any time within 100 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the  
13 game land that lies west of NC-43.
- 14 ~~(55)~~(54) New Lake Game Land in Hyde and Tyrrell counties
- 15 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
17 Antlers Season.
- 18 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 19 ~~(56)~~(55) Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 20 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 21 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the  
22 Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 23 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning  
24 the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week  
25 thereafter.
- 26 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second  
27 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- 28 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
29 Antlers Season.
- 30 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 31 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 32 (H) On Lake Upchurch, the following activities are prohibited:
- 33 (i) Operating any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine; and  
34 (ii) Swimming.
- 35 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 36 ~~(57)~~(56) North River Game Land in Camden and Currituck counties
- 37 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

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- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 2 Antlers Season.
- 3 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or
- 4 shoreline.
- 5 (D) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only.
- 6 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 7 ~~(58)~~(57) Northwest River Marsh Game Land in Currituck County
- 8 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 10 Antlers Season.
- 11 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or
- 12 shoreline.
- 13 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 14 ~~(59)~~(58) Pee Dee River Game Land in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties
- 15 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 17 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 18 (C) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties North
- 19 of US-74.
- 20 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 21 (E) Horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 through August 31, and on
- 22 Sundays only September 1 through May 15 only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and
- 23 gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use. only during the following times:
- 24 (i) ~~during June, July, and August; and~~
- 25 (ii) ~~on Sundays during the other months or parts of months when deer and turkey~~
- 26 ~~seasons are closed.~~
- 27 (F) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting shall be
- 28 prohibited on that portion south of US-74.
- 29 ~~(60)~~(59) Perkins Game Land in Davie County
- 30 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 31 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 32 Antlers ~~Season.~~ Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 33 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.
- 34 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 35 ~~(61)~~(60) Pisgah Game Land in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison,
- 36 McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey counties
- 37 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

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- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season.
- 3 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River  
4 (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).
- 5 (D) The use of bicycles shall be restricted to designated trails on the Linville River Tract (Burke  
6 County). Persons engaged in the act of hunting on the Linville River Tract during any open  
7 day of an applicable season for game birds or game animals shall be exempt from this  
8 restriction.
- 9 ~~(62)~~(61) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
12 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 13 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through August 31  
14 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding is prohibited  
15 from November 1 through May 15.
- 16 ~~(63)~~(62) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde County
- 17 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 18 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
19 Antlers Season.
- 20 ~~(64)~~(63) Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County
- 21 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
23 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 24 (C) Bear hunting is prohibited.
- 25 ~~(65)~~(64) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties
- 26 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 27 (B) Swimming is prohibited on the area.
- 28 ~~(66)~~(65) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties
- 29 (A) Hunting and trapping is by Permit only.
- 30 (B) Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission business  
31 or by permit holders.
- 32 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
33 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided, however,  
34 that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-  
35 owned portion of the game land.
- 36 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 37 ~~(67)~~(66) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.

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- 1           ~~(68)~~(67) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County
- 2           (A)     ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 3           (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 4                     Antlers Season.
- 5           (C)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 6           ~~(69)~~(68) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 7           (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 8           (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the
- 9                     Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 10          (C)     Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning
- 11                     the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week
- 12                     thereafter.
- 13          (D)     The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second
- 14                     Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- 15          (E)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 16                     Antlers Season.
- 17          (F)     The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 18          (G)     Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 19          (H)     Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
- 20          (I)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 21          ~~(70)~~(69) Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County - Hunting is by permit only.
- 22          ~~(71)~~(70) Sampson Game Land in Sampson County
- 23          (A)     ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 24          (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 25                     Antlers Season.
- 26          (C)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 27          (D)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 28          ~~(72)~~(71) Sandhills Game Land in Hoke, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland counties
- 29          (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 30          (B)     Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from October 22
- 31                     through March 31 except as follows:
- 32                     (i)     deer of either-sex may be taken with archery equipment on all the open days of
- 33                             the archery season through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day; with
- 34                             blackpowder firearms and archery equipment all the open days of the
- 35                             blackpowder firearms season through the third Wednesday before Thanksgiving
- 36                             Day; and only deer with visible antlers may be taken with all legal weapons from

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- 1 the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following  
2 Thanksgiving Day;
- 3 (ii) dove may be taken all open days from the opening day of the dove season through  
4 the third Saturday thereafter;
- 5 (iii) squirrel (gray and fox) may be taken all the open days from the second Saturday  
6 before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 7 (iv) rabbit may be taken all open days from the second Saturday preceding  
8 Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 9 (v) waterfowl may be taken on open days during any waterfowl season;
- 10 (vi) wild animals and wild birds may be taken as part of a Disabled Sportsmen  
11 Program Permit Hunt; and
- 12 (vii) raccoon and opossum may be taken on open days from sunrise Monday on or  
13 nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- 14 (C) The Deer With Visible Antlers season is the open hunting days from the second Saturday  
15 before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day except on the  
16 J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds.
- 17 (D) The archery season is all open days from the Saturday on or nearest to Sept. 10 to the fourth  
18 Friday before Thanksgiving Day and, except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds,  
19 the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Deer of either sex may be  
20 taken with archery equipment on all open hunting days during the archery season, by permit  
21 during the Deer with Visible antlers season, and the blackpowder firearms season as stated  
22 in this Subparagraph. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday  
23 after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 24 (E) Blackpowder firearms season is all the open days from the fourth Saturday preceding  
25 Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter and, except on  
26 the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day  
27 through January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on all open  
28 hunting days during the blackpowder firearms season and by permit during the Deer With  
29 Visible Antlers season. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday  
30 after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 31 (F) Either-sex deer hunting during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season is by permit only.
- 32 (G) In addition to the regular hunting days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and closing  
33 days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 34 (H) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 35 (I) Horseback riding on field trial grounds from October 22 through March 31 is prohibited  
36 unless participating in authorized field trials. Horseback riding is allowed on the remainder

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- 1 of the Sandhills Game Land seven days per week on roads that are open to vehicular traffic  
2 and gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- 3 (J) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are  
4 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 5 (K) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex.
- 6 ~~(73)~~(72) Sandy Creek Game Land in Nash and Franklin Counties
- 7 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 8 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
9 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 10 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 11 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 12 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 13 ~~(74)~~(73) Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe and Madison counties.
- 14 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer with Visible  
16 Antlers season.
- 17 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
18 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 19 (D) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as allowed  
20 in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(f).
- 21 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of dove  
22 season.
- 23 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 24 ~~(75)~~(74) Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County- hunting is by permit only.
- 25 ~~(76)~~(75) Shocco Creek Game Land in Franklin, Halifax, Nash, and Warren counties
- 26 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 27 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 29 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 30 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 32 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 33 ~~(77)~~(76) South Mountains Game Land in Burke, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford counties
- 34 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 35 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the  
36 Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer of  
37 either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on

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1 or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October  
2 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible antlers may be taken with  
3 archery equipment the Monday immediately following the closing of the Deer With Visible  
4 Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through January 1. Deer of either sex may be  
5 taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest  
6 October 1 through the Saturday of the second week thereafter.

7 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
8 Antlers Season.

9 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails during the following dates:

- 10 (i) January 2 through March 31;
- 11 (ii) May 16 through August 31;
- 12 (iii) Sundays only - April 1 through May 15; and
- 13 (iv) Sundays only - September 1 through January 1.

14 ~~(78)~~(77) Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County

15 (A) Six Days per Week Area

16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
17 Antlers Season.

18 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

19 (D) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.

20 (E) Waterfowl ~~on posted waterfowl impoundments~~ may be taken only on the following days:

- 21 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 22 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 23 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

24 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.

25 (G) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.

26 ~~(79)~~(78) Suggs Mill Pond Game Land in Bladen and Cumberland counties

27 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

28 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
29 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

30 (C) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:

- 31 (i) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and
- 32 (ii) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.

33 (D) During the period of November 1 through January 31, except on Sundays, the use of vessels  
34 on Suggs Mill Pond Lake and Little Singletary Lake is limited to waterfowl hunting only  
35 by waterfowl hunters possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by  
36 the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).

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- 1 (E) During the period of November 1 through March 15, the use of vessels on managed  
2 waterfowl impoundments is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters  
3 possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife  
4 Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).
- 5 ~~(80)~~(79) Sutton Lake Game Land in New Hanover and Brunswick counties
- 6 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 7 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
8 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 9 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 10 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 11 ~~(81)~~(80) Tar River Game Land in Edgecombe County
- 12 (A) Hunting is by permit only
- 13 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited
- 14 ~~(82)~~(81) Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 15 ~~(83)~~(82) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 16 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 17 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
18 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 19 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 20 ~~(84)~~(83) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Alleghany and Wilkes counties
- 21 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
23 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 24 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and  
25 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age 16 or  
26 older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 27 (D) The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground is  
28 14 days within any 30 day period from May 1 through August 31. After 14 consecutive  
29 days of camping all personal belongings must be removed from the game land.
- 30 ~~(85)~~(84) Tillery game Land in Halifax County
- 31 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 34 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 35 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 36 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 37 (F) Target Shooting is prohibited.



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- 1           ~~(86)~~(85) Toxaway Game Land in Jackson and Transylvania counties
- 2           (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 3           (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 4                     Antlers Season.
- 5           (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and
- 6                     all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 7           ~~(87)~~(86) Uwharrie Game Land in Davidson, Montgomery, and Randolph counties
- 8           (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 9           (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 10                    Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 11           (C)     On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may be taken only on the following
- 12                    days:
- 13                    (i)     the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 14                    (ii)    Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 15                    (iii)   Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 16           (D)     Target shooting is prohibited, except at the Flintlock Valley Shooting Range.
- 17           ~~(88)~~(87) Vance Game Land in Vance County
- 18           (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 19           (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 20                    Antlers Season.
- 21           (C)     The use of dogs, centerfire rifles, and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the
- 22                    Nutbush Peninsula tract.
- 23           ~~(89)~~(88) Van Swamp Game Land in Beaufort and Washington counties
- 24           (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 25           (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 26                    Antlers Season.
- 27           (C)     Bear may only be taken the first ~~Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days~~
- 28                    ~~during~~ the November Bear Season and the ~~second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday first~~
- 29                    ~~three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December Bear Season.
- 30           ~~(90)~~(89) Voice of America Game Land in Beaufort County
- 31           (A)     Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 32           (B)     Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 33           ~~(91)~~(90) White Oak River Game Land in Onslow County
- 34           (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 35           (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 36                    Antlers Season.

## APPENDIX C

- 1 (C) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl  
2 impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 3 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
4 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
5 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 6 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all  
7 waterfowl seasons, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.
- 8 (E) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:
- 9 (i) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting  
10 Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to  
11 G.S. 113-264(d);  
12 (ii) hunting is by permit only; and  
13 (iii) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 14 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 15 (G) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 16 ~~(92)~~(91) Whitehall Plantation Game Land in Bladen and Pender counties
- 17 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 18 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
19 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 20 (C) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
21 prohibited on the Long Ridge Tract.
- 22 ~~(93)~~(92) William H. Silver Game Land in Haywood County
- 23 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 24 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
25 Antlers Season.
- 26 (C) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.
- 27 (h) On permitted type hunts, deer of either sex may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed  
28 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of  
29 hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and  
30 are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperator agent or  
31 by phone.
- 32 (i) The following game lands and refuges are closed to all hunting except to those individuals who have obtained a  
33 valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:
- 34 (1) Bertie, Halifax and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;  
35 (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;  
36 (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;  
37 (4) Burke County—John's River Waterfowl Refuge;

## APPENDIX C

- 1           (5)     Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);
- 2           (6)     Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and
- 3           (7)     Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.
- 4 (j) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the
- 5 Commission. Written permission may be granted only when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge will not compromise
- 6 the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid
- 7 need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes
- 8 issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public
- 9 interest.
- 10 (k) Feral swine may be taken by licensed hunters during the open season for any game animal or game bird using any
- 11 legal manner of take allowed during those seasons. Dogs may not be used to hunt feral swine except on game lands
- 12 that allow the use of dogs for hunting deer or bear, and during the applicable deer or bear season.
- 13 (l) Youth Waterfowl Day. On the day declared by the Commission to be Youth Waterfowl Day, youths may hunt on
- 14 any game land and on any impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except where
- 15 prohibited in Paragraph (h) of this Rule.
- 16 (m) Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days. On the day declared by the Commission to be Veterans and Military
- 17 Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including
- 18 members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt
- 19 on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas.
- 20 (n) Permit Hunt Opportunities for Disabled Sportsmen. The Commission may designate special hunts for participants
- 21 of the disabled sportsman program by permit. The Commission may schedule these permit hunts during the closed
- 22 season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be identified on each permit. If the hunt has a limited weapon choice,
- 23 the allowed weapons shall be stated on each permit.
- 24 (o) As used in this Rule, horseback riding includes all equine species.
- 25 (p) When waterfowl hunting is authorized in this Rule on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on
- 26 Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.
- 27

APPENDIX D

1 **15A NCAC 10J .0103 HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

2 (a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area  
3 shall be under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug.

4 (b) Tree Stands. It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached by  
5 nails, screws, bolts or wire to a tree on any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area. This prohibition  
6 shall not apply to lag-screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal left remaining in or attached  
7 to the tree.

8 (c) Time and Manner of Taking. Except where closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by these regulations,  
9 hunting on areas designated and posted as wildlife conservation areas is permitted during the open season for the game  
10 or furbearing species being hunted. Waterfowl hunters shall not enter the areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted  
11 hunting dates, and hunting is prohibited after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates; decoys may not be set out prior to 4:00  
12 a.m. and must be removed by 3:00 p.m. each date. No person shall operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal  
13 combustion engine on the waters of any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area. No person shall  
14 attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess  
15 any bird or animal which has been so mutilated. No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any area designated  
16 and posted as a wildlife conservation area, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written authorization of the  
17 Commission or its agent and no person shall take or attempt to take any game birds or game animals attracted to such  
18 foods. No person shall use an electronic calling device for the purpose of attracting wild birds or wild animals. No live  
19 wild animals or wild birds shall be removed from any designated wildlife conservation area except with the written  
20 permission of the landowner.

21 (d) Hunting Dates:

22 (1) Any game may be taken during the open seasons ~~on the following wildlife conservation areas~~ and  
23 hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's  
24 Days. In addition, deer may be taken with bow and arrow on the opening day of the bow and arrow  
25 season for deer. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00  
26 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays. Additional restrictions apply as indicated in  
27 parentheses following specific designations:

28 (2) Except as otherwise indicated, the following designated wildlife conservation areas or indicated  
29 portions thereof are closed to all hunting:

30 (A) Nona Pitt Hinson Cohen Wildlife Conservation Area - Richmond County.

31 (B) John D. Lewis Wildlife Conservation Area - Wayne County.



## **Fiscal Note for Proposed Land Management Rule Amendments Sunday Hunting on Game Lands**

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

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**Impact Summary:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: No  
Private Impact: Yes  
Substantial impact: Uncertain but potential

**Authority:** G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; S.L. 2017-182

### **I. SUMMARY**

The proposed permanent rule removes the prohibition of Sunday hunting on game lands for 56 of the 94 North Carolina Wildlife Resources (NCWRC) managed lands enrolled in the Game Lands Program (we are awaiting confirmation from the landowner of Dover Bay Game Land; however, for the purposes of the fiscal note, we have included this area as a 7-day per week game land). The following changes are proposed to 15A 10D .0103:

- replacing 6-day per week game lands with 7-day per week game lands (46 game lands)
- replacing 3-day per week game lands with 4-day per week game lands (6 game lands)
- allowing permit hunts on Sundays (4 game lands)

The following is a summary and analysis of the proposed rule amendments to 15A NCAC 10D .0103 to allow Sunday hunting on select game lands. The proposed text is included in Appendix A.

## II. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

When the Outdoor Heritage Act of 2015 passed, it removed the absolute prohibition on hunting with firearms on Sunday in North Carolina that had been in place since 1868. On July 25, 2017, the Outdoor Heritage Enhanced Act was signed by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper granting authority to the Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) to implement new options for hunting on Sundays on its game lands, though hunters are still prohibited from hunting:

- with a firearm between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.;
- deer with the use of dogs; and
- within 500 yards of a place of worship.

The NCWRC began evaluating options associated with Sunday hunting on game lands in 2018 and has continued gathering data and public input to help inform this decision through 2020. This fiscal note summarizes the potential costs and benefits to the State, regulated community, and citizens of North Carolina for increasing hunting opportunities on Wildlife Resources Commission-managed game lands through the allowance of Sunday Hunting on select properties. The Commission has determined the proposed rule will have minor impacts to State Government and private individuals. No impacts have been identified to local (county or municipal) governments. However, an exact quantification of the impacts could not be identified based on existing information.

## III. STATEMENT OF NEED

In 2015, the North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA) removed a longstanding prohibition on Sunday hunting on private property. Two years later, in 2017, the NCGA bestowed the NCWRC with the authority to implement rules and allow Sunday hunting on Game Lands. Following this shift in authority, many stakeholders began to inquire about the possibility of increasing hunting opportunities on NCWRC managed game lands.

A major component of the NCWRC's Strategic Plan is to "*Expand opportunities for all wildlife-associated recreation.*" This includes increasing access to hunting opportunities. By allowing an additional weekday to hunt during hunting seasons, more opportunities are made available to constituents.

Public access to huntable lands is becoming increasingly scarce in North Carolina and many constituents rely on public game lands as their only available hunting spaces. However, the currently limited number of days available for hunting on game lands can create an overcrowding scenario that reduces the overall quality of the activity. By adding an additional day of hunting opportunity, where the resources can accommodate the pressure, the crowding can potentially be reduced.

## IV. BACKGROUND

The Game Lands program was established in 1971, and incorporated approximately 800,000 acres of land. Traditionally, these areas were tightly controlled for the hunting of a limited number of species. The main purpose of the initial establishment of the Game Lands program was to set aside land dedicated for the use of public hunting, trapping, and fishing. However, since their establishment, game lands, now comprising over 2 million acres, have evolved to include a range of wildlife-related uses, including hiking, wildlife watching, photography, horseback riding, camping, and foraging. In fact, multiple surveys have indicated that these "non-traditional" (for the purposes of this fiscal note, non-traditional means activities other

than hunting, trapping, or fishing) uses are much more prevalent on some game lands than hunting and fishing.

In North Carolina, all forms hunting on Sundays had been prohibited from 1868 until 2015. This was largely motivated by “blue laws”, laws enacted based on the religious belief that Sundays were meant for worship or rest (Humphreys, 2016). The Outdoor Heritage Act of 2015, passed in the North Carolina State Legislature, removed this prohibition. The Outdoor Heritage Enhanced Act of 2017 expanded on the former legislation by granting authority to the NCWRC to implement rules for hunting on Sundays on game lands. However, the act still prohibits hunting with a firearm between 9:30am and 12:30 pm, prohibits hunting deer with the use of dogs, and prohibits hunting within 500 yards of a place of worship on Sundays.

Funding for the maintenance of game lands is provided through various sources. The sale of all licenses, including hunting licenses, accounts for approximately 25% of this funding, while US Fish & Wildlife Service wildlife restoration program funds support the remaining 75% of Game Lands management funding. This federal funding is also supported by the sale of hunting licenses, as well as other factors including in-state expenditures on hunting and firearm related items.

Currently, game lands are classified as follows:

- Three Days per Week Area - game lands on which any game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day, except for Game Lands that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. However, Falconry is allowed on Sundays.
- Six Days per Week Area - game lands on which any game may be taken during the open seasons, on any day except Sundays.
- Permit Only - areas only huntable with a NCWRC-issued permit on days specified by the permit.

#### **i.) Determining Feasibility**

A substantial amount of effort was given by the NCWRC in determining the feasibility of allowing Sunday hunting on game lands. The process began by identifying constituent attitudes, preferences, and concerns through a series of surveys. These were addressed in greater detail through public “listening sessions” held in each NCWRC management region. Potential conflicts between user-groups were assessed and opportunities for feedback were provided by online focus group sessions with key stakeholders. Largely based on the results of these events, an iterative process amongst staff aided in development of an exploratory tool, based on structured decision making, which identified key criteria for deciding whether specific game lands were feasible options for hunting on Sundays.

#### ***Survey of Public Opinions***

In 2018, the NCWRC completed its first constituent survey to explore opinions on Sunday Hunting on game lands. The questionnaire was made public to constituents via press-release, social media, emails to the NCWRC listserv, and through cooperation with agency partners. Based on the responses, it was evident that significantly more work would need to be done before a decision on allowing Sunday hunting could be made. However, it did identify themes for both proponents

and opponents of Sunday hunting. The results suggested that public opinion was generally split on Sunday hunting. A divide between individuals for, and against existed between hunters and other user groups, but also within the hunter group. Some of the main themes for those that supported Sunday hunting were that it would increase access and participation to the activity in an already limited season, and that the prohibition of Sunday hunting was not based on science and instead favored religious beliefs. Opposition to Sunday hunting was shaped by safety concerns, user-group conflicts, concerns of wildlife pressure, and religious beliefs.

Following the first survey, the NCWRC decided to further explore additional details of the feasibility of Sunday hunting on game lands. An alternative and more comprehensive survey regarding public preferences was undertaken in 2020. Distributed to the general public via multiple modes, this survey identified some key aspects of the conflict in opinions on Sunday hunting. Over 30,000 responses were collected and opinions on the topic closely resembled the 2018 survey. In addition, the survey identified game lands use behavior, and preferences based on allowing Sunday hunting. Of the respondents, approximately 14,000 indicated that they hunt on game lands, while roughly 17,000 identified with some other activity on game lands. Perceived conflicts between these user groups was the primary driver behind much of the opposition to Sunday hunting.

Sundays were identified as the highest participation day in non-traditional activities such as hiking, biking, and wildlife watching. This held true for both hunter and non-hunters. The results of the second survey indicated that 74% of hunters were in support of Sunday hunting, while 75% of non-hunters were in opposition to the idea.

Hunters supported the idea for a number of reasons. These related to increasing hunting participation and the economic and conservation benefits provided from this increase, as well as the fact that over 40 other states have allowed it without conflict. Additionally, they indicated that it could reduce pressure on Saturdays from working class individuals as they could redistribute the pressure over an additional hunting day. Hunters that opposed the idea were mostly focused around religious beliefs, ecological impacts, safety of non-hunters, and “tradition”.

Non-hunters mostly opposed Sunday hunting due to the perceived safety concerns of co-usage, noise pollution, religious reasons, and impacts to wildlife. Those that support Sunday hunting questioned why Sunday should be treated differently from any other day and didn’t want to see opportunities restricted for other user groups.

It became apparent that the obvious conflict between user groups was going to be a major hurdle in determining whether to allow Sunday hunting on game lands. Those opposed to the idea of Sunday hunting indicated skepticism or “no options” (~60%) surrounding compromises to address concerns around Sunday hunting. Proponents of Sunday hunting felt there were “some” or “many” options available for addressing these concerns. Nevertheless, these options needed to be identified and explored. To do so, the NCWRC hosted listening sessions with the goal of identifying these alternative options and the consensus surrounding them.



### ***State-wide Listening Sessions***

Findings from the surveys were summarized and presented to over 400 individuals at 6 face-to-face externally facilitated listening sessions across the state and two online virtual listening sessions. The goal of these sessions was to review the available information regarding game land use and Sunday hunting, as well as determine some “middle-ground” options between the conflicting opinions and user-groups. The feasible options were determined by polling the listening session participants for consensus.

Many of the concerns that existed regarding safety and impacts to wildlife were quelled based on discussion by experts and between conflicting groups, however safety concerns persisted as a shared concern between groups. Terms of equity became a recurring theme, in that hunter participation largely funds the maintenance of game lands, while the non-hunters reap the benefits for free. In terms of fairness, non-hunters indicated they would also be willing to contribute towards the management of game lands in the form of user fees. The process confirmed that, with a lot of careful listening, compromise solutions for opening Sunday hunting on a limited number of game lands could be developed.

### ***Focus Groups***

The compromise solutions identified through the listening sessions were used as potential elements of a consensus solution and used as input into 3 focus groups. These focus groups consisted of 32 key stakeholders from various user-groups comprised of hunters and non-hunters. During these sessions, stakeholders discussed the potential solutions proposed from the survey and listening sessions. Key criteria for selecting suitable game lands were identified. And tangentially related to the topic of Sunday hunting, stakeholders discussed funding equity and the possibility for a user-pay scheme.

### ***Structured Decision Making***

After receiving substantial and informative feedback from our constituency in the form of survey responses, listening sessions, and focus groups with key stakeholders, the NCWRC was tasked with making a final decision on which game lands would be suitable for Sunday hunting. The decisions would rely on the expertise of NCWRC game lands managers/staff and biological experts. In order to make sure decisions were unbiased, these decisions would need to be made based on a specified set of criteria.

In an iterative process between agency staff, and guided by the agency social scientist, key sets of criteria were determined within a framework of structured decision making. These criteria were based on agency considerations and stakeholder considerations. The agency considerations related to the capacity of the NCWRC to allow Sunday hunting with regards, to ecological impacts, infrastructure impacts, Game Land capacity, species availability for hunting, and the regulatory complexity of Sunday hunting. Stakeholder considerations were largely based off the focus group outcomes and included the level of non-hunting use, proximity to large populations of users, proximity to alternative public lands for non-hunting use, level of non-hunting activities that are negatively impacted by

allowing hunting, and the level of acceptance or non-conflict with land owners adjoining game lands. In a similar iterative process between staff members, these criteria were weighted for their importance in the decision-making process (Table 1).

Table 1: NCWRC decision guiding criteria and criteria weighting.

<b>Agency Considerations</b>	<b>Weights</b>
Size of Game Land (<1000 1pt., 1000-10k 2-4 pts., >10k 5pts.)	<b>0.1</b>
Game species availability (Small number of huntable species 1 pt., most huntable species available, 5 pts.)	<b>0.15</b>
Infrastructure impacts of increased activity (High level of impact 1 pt, no impact 5 pts.)	<b>0.2</b>
Potential for overharvest of ANY game species or substantial resource disturbance with increased effort (high potential 1pt, no potential 5 pts.)	<b>0.3</b>
Game land complexity	<b>0.25</b>
<b>Stakeholder Considerations</b>	
Level of hunting use vs. other use- -consider number of non-hunter specific attractions (high # of other users/non-hunt attractions 1pt., moderate # of other users/attractions 2-4 pts., primarily hunting use and low # of other users 5 pts.)	<b>0.25</b>
Proximity to urban centers (high population density); (<10 miles 1pt., 10-20 miles 2-4pts., >20 miles 5 pts.)	<b>0.15</b>
Proximity to alternative public lands for recreation purposes (>20 miles 1pt., 10-20 miles 2-4 pts., <10 miles 5pts.)	<b>0.2</b>
Level of other activities being negatively impacted by Sunday Hunting (3 or more activities 1pt, 1 to 3 activities 2-4 pts., 0 activities 5pts.)	<b>0.25</b>
Level of acceptance/non-conflict with adjacent landowners (Low acceptance/high conflict 1 pt., moderate acceptance/conflict 2-4 pts., high acceptance/low conflict 5pts.)	<b>0.15</b>

After the criteria and weights were identified, a panel of game land experts, comprised of game lands staff, wildlife biologists, social scientists, and agency management were tasked with scoring each criterion for each game land from 1 to 5. Based on the recorded scores for each criterion, total scores were formulated for each set of considerations (agency and stakeholder), based on the weights of the criterion. The total scores for each consideration category were plotted on an XY scatterplot to determine whether the game lands were “feasible for Sunday hunting”, “feasible with considerations”, or currently “not feasible for Sunday hunting (Figure 1).

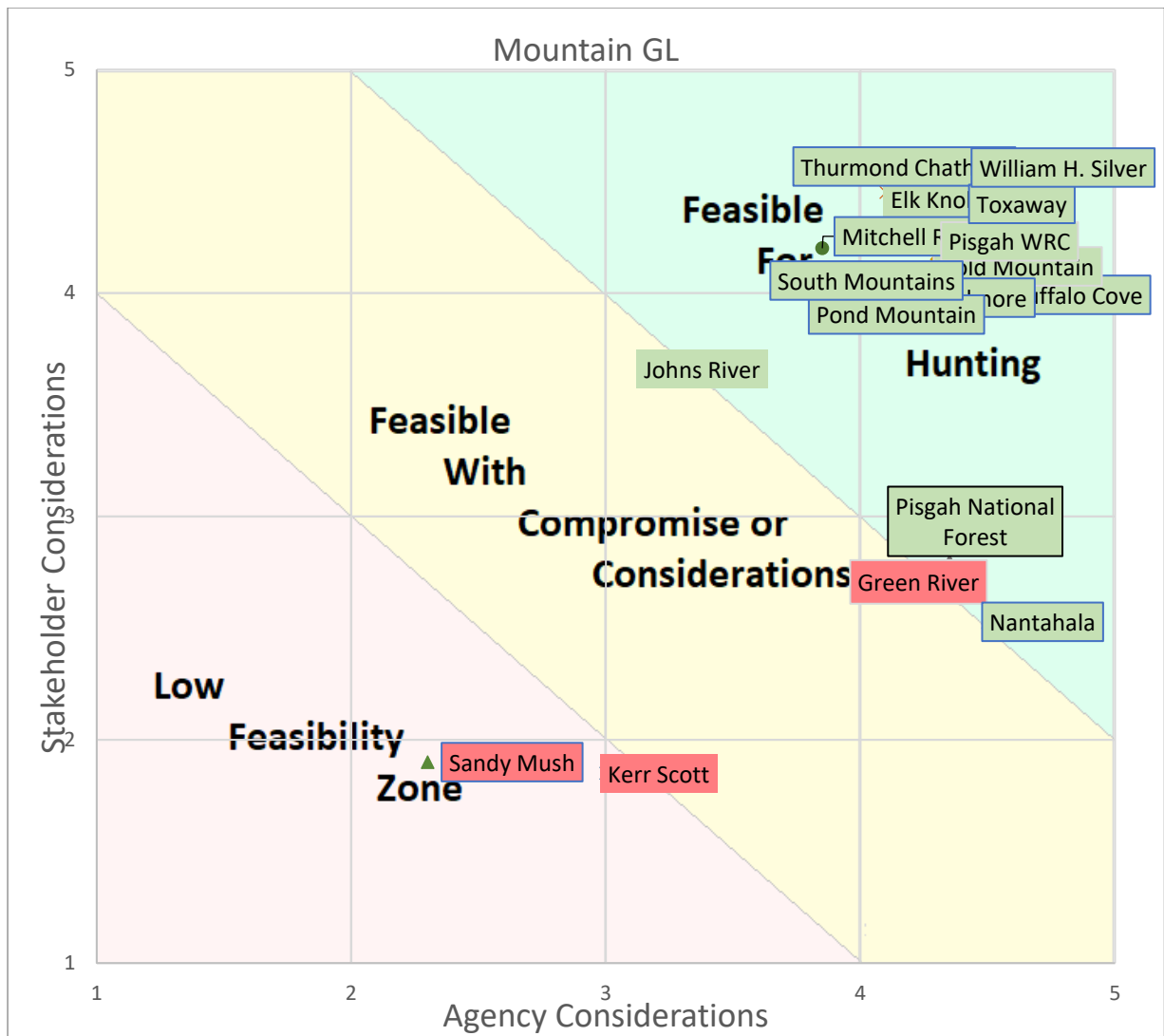


Figure 1: Feasibility plot for Sunday Hunting on Mountains Game Lands, based on scoring of feasibility criteria. Green labels will allow Sunday hunting.

### ***Staff Recommendations***

The structured decision-making tool helped to guide game lands experts towards their final recommendations on the feasibility of allowing Sunday hunting on certain game lands. However, several other context specific factors were up to the judgement of the experts. It should be noted that not all game lands managed by the NCWRC were up for consideration, as the private landowners in some instances were opposed to Sunday hunting. However, based on the remaining game lands available for consideration, NCWRC staff determined that Sunday hunting is currently feasible on 56 game lands and gave brief statements of why, apart from the decision tool (Appendix B). In some instances, exceptions needed to be made over concerns of wildlife impacts. As a result, hunting bear with dogs received some additional restrictions.

## V. IMPACTS

The impacts of these Sunday hunting decisions are all but clear. Some impacts to the NCWRC could be estimated in terms of costs of signage, marketing and additional staff work. Decisions with regards to allowing Sunday hunting on game lands were centered around minimizing the impacts on game lands use and users. These potential impacts such as a change in usage can only be speculated at this time. There is not expected to be any additional impacts on local governments. In any case, these impacts are uncertain but may be substantial.

### i.) State Impacts

#### Costs

The costs to the NCWRC are expected to be minimal but will involve those associated with signage changes on the game lands, and marketing and communications materials and staff time to notify the public of these changes. However, these costs are anticipated to be offset by the potential for increased sales of hunting licenses and permits. Additionally, increased expenditures by hunters due to an additional day of hunting for those that rely on public land to hunt may generate additional tax revenue for the state. These additional expenditures are not expected to be substantial, however they could benefit local economies as well.

Costs to the state will come in the form of signage and marketing efforts to inform constituents of these rule changes. Although, these costs are expected to be minimal. An estimated \$5 per sign with an average of 3 signs per game land amounts to a one-time cost of \$855 ( $\$5/\text{sign} \times (3 \text{ signs}/\text{game land} \times 56 \text{ game lands}) = \$855$ ) for signage state-wide. Staff time required to post signs are estimated at a one-time cost of approximately \$1,980 ( $60 \text{ hours} \times \$33/\text{hour} = \$1,980$ ). Thus, the agency anticipates a one-time cost of approximately \$2,835 to post signage.

Additional costs to the agency are anticipated for outreach to the public to inform them of the rule change. The creation of new outreach materials are anticipated to cost the agency approximately \$11,640, which includes paid social media campaigns, web ads, and search engine optimization (\$5,000), and creation of outreach and webpage material and website updates, ( $80 \text{ hours} \times 2 \text{ staff} \times 41.50/\text{hour} = \$6,640$ ). Because materials can be re-used, no recurring cost was calculated.

#### Benefits

Increasing opportunities and the quality of one's hunting experience can contribute to the NCWRC's commitment to the recruitment, retention, and reactivation (R3) of hunters. As an agency that relies on the funding of game land management through income generated from the sale of licenses, particularly hunting licenses, R3 strategies are meant to bolster participation and there for increase the sale of licenses (Larson *et al.* 2014). While, the exact impact of additional available public land hunting days on license sales is unknown at this point, it may generate more agency revenue through increased license purchases.

An increase in license sales could also benefit game land management through increased funding from the license sales and federal funds issued to the agency based on these sales. An increase in hunting participation also amounts to an increase in expenditures on hunting related items, which may contain a federal excise tax used to generate more funding for game lands (Pittman-Robertson Act). However, the

estimates on these impacts could not be made as there are currently no data on the number of daily hunters on game lands.

Increasing opportunities for participation could also lead to increased applications for permit hunts, as four of the 56 game lands proposed for Sunday hunting are hunted by permit only. The fee to apply for permit hunts is \$8 and hunters may apply for as many permit hunts as they want. Over the past three hunting seasons, Rocky Run has offered seven permit hunts, Tar River two, Upper Roanoke 12, and Johns River on average 15. At this time, it is anticipated that the same number of hunts will be issued but the hunting days may change to include Sundays. The average number of applications received over the past three hunting seasons, for each of the four proposed game lands allowing permit hunts on Sundays, is as follows: Rocky Run = 124, Tar River = 122, Upper Roanoke = 2,385, and Johns River = 1,397. While the Commission cannot accurately estimate how many applications will be submitted if hunting is allowed on Sundays, the number is anticipated to increase, as weekend days are assumed to be more conducive to hunting for work and scheduling reasons.

## **ii.) Private Impacts**

### Costs

It is currently unknown how the level of game lands use will be impacted for each user-group based on the allowance of Sunday hunting. The NCWRC typically rejected recommending Sunday hunting on game lands where user-conflicts were likely to result in major user impacts.

During the big game hunting seasons, horseback riders have been allowed to ride on certain game lands only on Sundays. Now, horseback riding will still be allowed on Sundays on those game lands, but hunting will also be allowed. Because of this, participation in horseback riding on the game lands where hunting will be allowed on Sundays could decrease and result in reduced local expenditures generated by the transportation of horses to the game lands and associated expenses with a horseback riding trip if they choose not to ride because of hunting. However, game lands where this activity may be impacted are in proximity to alternative public lands where horseback riding can occur. Additionally, hunting is not allowed on Sundays from 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. As a result, it is unlikely these expenditures will change.

### Benefits

Non-hunting related wildlife associated recreation contributes a considerable amount of expenditures to the American economy. A 2016 survey of this group associated roughly \$76 Billion in economic activity based on their recreation (*2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*). Rosenberger *et al.* (2017) estimated the mean daily expenditures of various hunting and non-hunting related activities. Common activities that occur on Game Lands, such as hiking, biking, and nature viewing were estimated to have average daily expenditures of \$78.19, \$98.94, and \$63.46 respectively, while “other” recreation was estimated at \$62.06. Based on some of the discussion surrounding the listening sessions held by the NCWRC, it is possible that some of these non-hunters may no longer participate in recreation on game lands, on Sundays if Sunday hunting is allowed.

Casola *et al.* (2020) explored how Sunday hunting could impact the visitation to North Carolina Game Lands by various user-groups (Table 3). In a survey of game lands

users, the authors found that non-hunters (current Sunday users) were less likely to visit the game land on Sundays if hunting were allowed. However, in general, aside from birders and equestrians, most non-traditional user groups do not have statistically significant opinions for or against Sunday hunting and hikers may be the only non-traditional user group who would visit game lands less often if Sunday hunting were allowed. Since the number of daily hikers per game land is currently unknown, a total impact value cannot be estimated. However, it is estimated that their participation in hiking on game lands could be reduced by as much as 21.6%.

Since horseback riding is already regulated, bird watchers are the only significantly impacted group. However, decision making for Sunday hunting also involved a NCWRC bird biologist, NC Birding trail organizer, and liaison to the birding community who provided valuable data on birding participation on game lands. The estimates were based on data collected through a mobile birding app (eBird), which allowed decision makers to view birder effort on various Game Lands. Most of the game lands that have been identified as feasible for Sunday Hunting had very little birder participation that would be impacted. However, these impacts could result in a decrease in participation of birding on game lands by up to an estimated 33%.

Table 2: Sunday visitation impacts by game lands users if Sunday hunting is allowed. (Source: Casola et al., 2020)

Activity	Visitation Impacts (N = 2069)			
	Count	Visit More	Visit Less	No Impact
Hunting	1152	61.4%	5.3%	33.3%
Trapping	63	68.3%	3.2%	28.6%
Fishing	1017	47.2%	8.46%	44.3%
Hiking	997	30.9%	21.6%	47.5%
Camping	581	39.1%	16.0%	45.1%
Birding	323	27.6%	33.4%	39.3%
Biking	227	27.8%	23.1%	49.5%
Motorized Boating	362	46.7%	11.6%	42.0%
Canoeing/Kayaking	572	25.9%	19.1%	55.2%
Horseback Riding	121	26.4%	34.7%	39.7%
Shooting Range	432	46.5%	4.17%	49.3%
Field Trials	127	40.2%	16.5%	43.3%
Other	145	14.5%	31.7%	54.5%
All Users Combined	2069	38.3%	15.3%	46.4%

An expectation of the agency is that by allowing Sunday hunting on game lands, it will generate more participation by hunters. Based on the results indicated in Table 3, 61.4% of hunters indicated they would visit game lands more on Sunday if hunting were allowed, representing a significant increase in participation. The average daily expenditure of hunters has been estimated at approximately \$76.72 (Rosenberger et al., 2017). This could potentially result in a significant increase in hunting related expenditures with an additional day of hunting available on public land. However, data do not exist to quantify this potential increase at this time.

## **VI. ALTERNATIVES**

There are two alternatives to the proposed rule changes. The first being that all forms of Sunday hunting are allowed on all game lands. The second being no change to the rule at all.

The NCNCWRC has decided to forego the idea of allowing all forms of Sunday hunting on all game lands for several major issues. The first and most prohibitive is the issue of land ownership. While the NCNCWRC is responsible for managing all game lands, it does not have complete authority to implement rules for privately owned land. In some instances, these private landowners enrolled in the Game Lands program opposed Sunday hunting on their lands. Additionally, extreme conflicts between user-groups were identified on several game lands which the NCWRC would greatly like to minimize. Finally, not all game lands can sustain the pressure of Sunday hunting. As a result, this alternative is not feasible and is rejected by the NCNCWRC.

The other alternative of maintaining the existing rule is also not an option for the NCNCWRC. In doing so would ignore the interests of our constituent base. Additionally, it goes against the agency objectives of increasing opportunities for wildlife users, such as hunters. Hunters are significantly more likely to use the game lands for recreation on Sunday if hunting is allowed, compared to a general indifference in the visitation behavior of other users. This increase in participation and the associated funding and expenditures will be lost if the existing rule is withheld, representing a potentially high opportunity cost. As a result of these factors, the NCNCWRC rejects this alternative.

## **VII. CONCLUSIONS**

Following the Outdoor Heritage Enhanced Act of 2017, the NCWRC has received substantial public interest in both allowing and disallowing Sunday hunting on game lands. Significant research, collaboration, and planning went into determining potential impacts. Providing opportunities for wildlife-associated recreation is a pillar of the agency's mission. The Commission believes that the anticipated non-market benefits provided to hunters in the form of additional recreational opportunity will far outweigh the impacts of allowing Sunday hunting on the proposed 56 game lands.

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## APPENDIX A

### 1 **15A NCAC 10D .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

2 (a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any designated game land shall be under the influence of  
3 alcohol or any narcotic drug, or fail to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding  
4 the use of the Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands listed in this Rule.

5 (b) Traffic Requirements. No person shall park a vehicle on game lands in such a manner as to block traffic or  
6 gates, or otherwise prevent vehicles from using any roadway.

7 (c) Tree Stands. It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached  
8 by nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree on any game land designated herein. This prohibition does not apply to  
9 lag-screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.

10 (d) Time and Manner of Taking. Hunting is allowed on game lands only during the open season for game animals  
11 and game birds, unless hunting is allowed by permit. Individual game lands or parts thereof may be closed to  
12 hunting or limited to specific dates by this Chapter. Persons shall hunt only with weapons lawful for the open  
13 game animal or game bird seasons. On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

- 14 (1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- 15 (2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates;
- 16 (3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;
- 17 (4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. each day; and
- 18 (5) not operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

19 On designated youth waterfowl days, youths may hunt on managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before  
20 sunrise to sunset. On designated veterans and military waterfowl days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and  
21 members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active  
22 duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as  
23 permit-only areas from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions (1), (3), and (5) in this Paragraph shall apply.

24 On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and  
25 waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities allowed on the portion of the  
26 impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone." ~~No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of  
27 any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that has  
28 been so mutilated. No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods  
29 without prior written authorization of the Commission or its agent. A decision to grant or deny authorization shall  
30 be made based on the best management practices for the wildlife species in question. No person shall take or  
31 attempt to take any game birds or game animals attracted to such foods.~~

32 (e) Definitions:

33 (1) For purposes of this Section, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be  
34 taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day,  
35 Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.

36 (2) For purposes of this Section, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any  
37 game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,  
38 Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in  
39 this Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Falconry may  
40 also be practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to either-sex deer hunting seasons

1 listed under each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on  
2 Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

3 (3) For purposes of this Section, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any  
4 game may be taken on the open days of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and  
5 Saturday during the open seasons.

6 (4) For purposes of this Section, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which  
7 game may be taken during the open season on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays,  
8 Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

9 (A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

10 (B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

11 (C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b),  
12 or any accessory structure thereof.

13 (5) For purposes of this Section, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game  
14 may be taken during the open season on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. On  
15 Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

16 (A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

17 (B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

18 (C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b),  
19 or any accessory structure thereof.

20 (f) Hunting with Dogs on Game Lands. Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or  
21 parts of counties where taking deer with dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

22 (g) The listed seasons and restrictions apply in the following game lands:

23 (1) Alcoa Game Land in Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, and Stanly counties

24 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
26 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter in that portion in Montgomery  
27 county, and deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer  
28 With Visible Antlers Season in those portions in Davidson, Davie, Rowan, and Stanly  
29 counties.

30 (C) On the Lick Creek Tract, deer and bear hunting is archery only.

31 (2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County

32 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Day per Week Area

33 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
34 Antlers Season.

35 (C) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of ~~three hunting days~~  
36 ~~during~~ the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday  
37 ~~first three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December Bear Season.

38 (3) Angola Bay Game Land in Duplin and Pender counties

39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

40 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
41 Antlers Season.

- 1 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 2 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 3 (4) Bachelor Bay Game Land in Bertie, ~~Martin~~, and Washington counties
- 4 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 5 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 6 Antlers Season.
- 7 (5) Bertie County Game Land in Bertie County
- 8 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 10 Antlers Season.
- 11 (C) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 12 (6) Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County
- 13 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 15 Antlers Season.
- 16 (C) Except for blackpowder firearms, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.
- 17 (D) On the Singletary Lake Tract, the use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited.
- 18 (E) Wild turkey hunting on the Singletary Lake Tract is by permit only.
- 19 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 20 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 21 (G) The use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes shall be prohibited from February 15
- 22 through August 1.
- 23 (7) Brinkleyville Game Land in Halifax County
- 24 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 26 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 27 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 28 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 29 ~~(8) Brunswick County Game Land in Brunswick County~~
- 30 ~~(A) Hunting is by permit only.~~
- 31 ~~(B) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.~~
- 32 ~~(9)~~(8) Buckhorn Game Land in Orange County
- 33 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 34 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 35 ~~(10)~~(9) Buckridge Game Land in Tyrrell County.
- 36 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 37 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 38 Antlers Season.
- 39 (C) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting days~~
- 40 ~~during of~~ the November Bear Season and the ~~first three hunting days of the second~~
- 41 ~~week~~ second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December Bear Season. ~~If any of~~

1 ~~these days falls on a Tuesday, Friday or Saturday, bear hunting is allowed on those~~  
2 ~~days.~~

3 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.

4 ~~(11)~~(10) Buffalo Cove Game Land in Caldwell and Wilkes Counties

5 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

6 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from  
7 the Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving.  
8 Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the  
9 Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on  
10 or nearest October 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible  
11 antlers may be taken with archery equipment the Monday immediately following the  
12 closing of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through  
13 January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open days  
14 beginning the Monday on or nearest October 1 through the Saturday of the second  
15 week thereafter.

16 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
17 Visible Antlers Season.

18 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31  
19 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

20 ~~(12)~~(11) Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Lands in Robeson County

21 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area

22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
23 Antlers Season.

24 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

25 ~~(13)~~(12) Butner - Falls of Neuse Game Land in Durham, Granville, and Wake counties

26 (A) Six Days per Week Area

27 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

29 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:

- 30 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
31 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
32 (iii) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

33 On the posted waterfowl impoundments a special permit is required for all waterfowl  
34 hunting after November 1.

35 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited.

36 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

37 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.

38 (G) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on that portion west of NC 50 and south  
39 of Falls Lake.

40 (H) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does  
41 not apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the

1 applicable seasons for game birds and game animals. On designated bicycle riding  
2 areas, the use of bicycles is allowed from May 15 through August 31, and on Sundays  
3 only from September 1 through May 14.

4 (I) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas  
5 are limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May  
6 14.

7 (J) Camping is allowed at any time in the designated Mountains-to-Sea Trail Camping  
8 Area and shall not exceed a maximum stay of two consecutive nights. Campfires are  
9 prohibited in this camping area.

10 ~~(14)~~(13) Buxton Woods Game Land in Dare County:

11 (A) Six Days per Week Area

12 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
13 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.

14 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

15 ~~(15)~~(14) Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land in Pender County

16 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

17 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
18 Antlers Season.

19 (C) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on that portion known as the Roan Island Tract.

20 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion of the game land that is  
21 west of the Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck  
22 Road, and south of NC 210 to the Black River.

23 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

24 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

25 ~~(16)~~(15) Carteret County Game Land in Carteret County

26 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

27 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

29 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

30 (D) Bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract is by permit only.

31 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

32 ~~(17)~~(16) R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land in Caswell County

33 (A) Three Days per Week Area

34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
35 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.

36 (C) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed seven days per week  
37 from May 16 – August 31, only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays only,  
38 September 1 – May 15, during the remainder of the year except during open turkey  
39 and deer seasons. Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic  
40 and on those gated roads and trails that are posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or  
41 older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.

- 1 (D) The area encompassed by the following roads is permit-only for all quail and  
2 woodcock hunting, and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on NC 62 to the  
3 intersection of SR 1746, west on SR 1746 to the intersection of SR 1156, south on SR  
4 1156 to the intersection of SR 1783, east on SR 1783 to the intersection of NC 62,  
5 north on NC 62 to the intersection of SR 1736, east on SR 1736 to the intersection of  
6 SR 1730, east on SR 1730 to NC 86, north on NC 86 to NC 62.
- 7 (E) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit only after  
8 November 1.
- 9 (F) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas  
10 are limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May  
11 14.
- 12 (G) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.
- 13 ~~(18)~~(17) Chatham Game Land in Chatham County
- 14 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
16 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 17 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 18 (D) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August; and on Sundays  
19 during the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.
- 20 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 21 ~~(19)~~(18) Chowan Game Land in Chowan County
- 22 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 23 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
24 Season.
- 25 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 26 ~~(20)~~(19) Chowan Swamp Game Land in Bertie, Gates, and Hertford counties.
- 27 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 28 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
29 Antlers Season.
- 30 (C) Bear hunting is restricted to the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting~~  
31 ~~days during~~ of the November bear season and the second Saturday, Monday, and  
32 Tuesday ~~first three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December bear  
33 season except that portion of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is  
34 east of Highway 158/13, south of Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of  
35 Catherine Creek and the Chowan River where the bear season is the same as the season  
36 dates for the Gates County bear season.
- 37 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
38 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 39 (E) Horseback riding is prohibited except during May 16 through August 31 and on  
40 Sundays only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular  
41 traffic and on those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.

- 1 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 2 ~~(21)~~(20) Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County
- 3 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 4 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31
- 5 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 6 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With
- 7 Visible Antlers Season.
- 8 ~~(22)~~(21) Columbus County Game Land in Columbus County.
- 9 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 11 Antlers Season.
- 12 (C) Deer hunting on the Campbell Tract shall be by permit only.
- 13 ~~(23)~~(22) Croatan Game Land in Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
- 14 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 16 Antlers Season.
- 17 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
- 18 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 19 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 20 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 21 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of all waterfowl
- 22 seasons, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish
- 23 Lake Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.
- 24 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted
- 25 areas. During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- 26 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 27 ~~(24)~~(23) Currituck Banks Game Land in Currituck County
- 28 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 29 (B) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted
- 30 by permit only from November 1 through the end of all waterfowl seasons.
- 31 (C) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided
- 32 the guides do not use a firearm.
- 33 (D) The boundary of the game land shall extend 5 yards from the edge of the marsh or
- 34 shoreline.
- 35 (E) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the
- 36 day of their hunt.
- 37 (F) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree
- 38 stand or blind to a tree.
- 39 (G) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
- 40 season.
- 41 (H) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

- 1           ~~(25)~~(24) Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County
- 2                   (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 3                   (B)     Deer hunting is by permit only.
- 4                   (C)     Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 5                   (D)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted for equestrian use. People
- 6                             age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Lands license.
- 7                   (E)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 8           ~~(26)~~(25) Dare Game Land in Dare and Hyde counties
- 9                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 10                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 11                             Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 12                  (C)     No hunting is allowed on posted parts of bombing range.
- 13                  (D)     The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.
- 14           ~~(27)~~(26) Dover Bay Game Land in Craven County
- 15                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 17                             Antlers season.
- 18                  (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 19           ~~(28)~~(27) DuPont State Forest Game Lands in Henderson and Transylvania counties
- 20                  (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 21                  (B)     The training and use of dogs for hunting is prohibited except by special hunt permit
- 22                             holders during scheduled permit hunts.
- 23           ~~(29)~~(28) Elk Knob Game Land in Watauga County
- 24                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 25                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 26                             Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 27           ~~(30)~~(29) Embro Game Land in Halifax and Warren counties
- 28                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 29                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 30                             Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 31                  (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 32                  (D)     Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 33           ~~(31)~~(30) Goose Creek Game Land in Beaufort and Pamlico counties
- 34                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 35                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 36                             Antlers Season.
- 37                  (C)     Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl
- 38                             impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 39                             (i)     the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 40                             (ii)    Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 41                             (iii)   Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.



- 1 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all  
2 waterfowl seasons, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl  
3 impoundments: Pamlico Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith  
4 Creek, and Hobucken.
- 5 (E) On Pamlico Point and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments all activities, except  
6 waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the  
7 trapping season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period  
8 November 1 through March 15.
- 9 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
10 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 11 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1  
12 through January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid  
13 hunting opportunity permit.
- 14 (H) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
15 prohibited on the Beaufort County portion north of NC-33.
- 16 (I) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 17 ~~(32)~~(31) Green River Game Land in Henderson, and Polk counties
- 18 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
20 Visible Antlers Season.
- 21 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 22 ~~(33)~~(32) Green Swamp Game Land in Brunswick County
- 23 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 24 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
25 Antlers Season.
- 26 (C) On that portion north of Big Macedonia Road, east of Makatoka Road, south of Little  
27 Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road, hunting and trapping is by permit  
28 only.
- 29 (D) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
30 prohibited on that portion of the game land that is north of Big Macedonia Road, east  
31 of Makatoka Road, south of Little Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road.
- 32 ~~(34)~~(33) Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County
- 33 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
35 Antlers Season.
- 36 (C) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following  
37 days:
- 38 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons; and
- 39 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 40 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl season.

- 1 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
2 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
- 3 (E) Bear may only be taken the first ~~Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday~~ of ~~three hunting days~~  
4 ~~during~~ the November Bear Season and the ~~second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday~~  
5 ~~first three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December Bear Season, except  
6 for that portion designated as bear sanctuary.
- 7 ~~(35)~~(34) Harris Game Land in Chatham, Harnett, and Wake counties
- 8 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
10 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 11 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
- 12 (i) Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 13 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 14 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 15 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds shall be prohibited.
- 16 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- 17 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 18 (G) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 19 ~~(36)~~(35) Headwaters State Forest Game Land in Transylvania County
- 20 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 21 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
22 Antlers Season
- 23 ~~(37)~~(36) Hill Farm Game Land in Stokes County- hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 24 ~~(38)~~(37) Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County
- 25 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 26 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
27 Antlers Season.
- 28 (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on the following days:
- 29 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 30 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 31 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 32 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
33 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
- 34 (E) On that portion north of the Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch,  
35 east of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, deer hunting  
36 and bear hunting are permit only.
- 37 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited:
- 38 (i) all open days on that portion of the game land that is south of Baby Branch  
39 extending west to Stag Park Road, west of Shaw Road, north of Meeks Road  
40 extending west to Stag Park Road and east of Stag Park Road; and

- 1 (ii) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with the exception of Thanksgiving,  
2 Christmas, and New Year's days, and except for the area north of Bear Garden  
3 Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear  
4 River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, where the use of dogs for deer and  
5 bear hunting is by permit only.
- 6 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from September 1 to  
7 the last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting  
8 opportunity permits, unless otherwise authorized by the Wildlife Resources  
9 Commission.
- 10 (H) Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit may operate an All Terrain Vehicle on  
11 and within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access.
- 12 (I) Target shooting is prohibited, except on the Holly Shelter Shooting Range.
- 13 (J) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.
- 14 ~~(39)~~(38) Hyco Game land in Person County
- 15 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
17 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 18 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 19 ~~(40)~~(39) J. Morgan Futch Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 20 ~~(41)~~(40) Johns River Game Land in Burke County
- 21 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 22 (B) During permitted deer hunts, deer of either sex may be taken by permit holders.
- 23 (C) Entry on posted waterfowl impoundments is prohibited October 1 through March 31,  
24 except by lawful waterfowl hunting permit holders and only on those days written on  
25 the permits.
- 26 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
- 27 (E) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas  
28 is limited to August 31 through the last day of February and March 31 through May  
29 14.
- 30 ~~(42)~~(41) Jordan Game Land in Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Wake counties
- 31 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season.
- 34 (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on:
- 35 (i) Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 36 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 37 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 38 (D) ~~Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited except~~ allowed only  
39 on those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail and other areas posted for equestrian  
40 use. Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is permitted on posted portions of the  
41 American Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for use. On all other trails posted for

1 equestrian use, horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 – August  
2 31, only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays only from September 1 –  
3 May 15, the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons. People  
4 age 16 or older must obtain who ride horseback on trails occurring entirely within the  
5 game land boundaries shall possess a Game Lands license. license prior to engaging in  
6 horseback riding on any area other than the American Tobacco Trail.

7 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

8 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery  
9 Zone.

10 (G) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does  
11 not apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the  
12 applicable seasons for game birds and game animals.

13 ~~(43)~~(42) Juniper Creek Game Land in Brunswick and Columbus counties

14 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers  
16 Season.

17 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
18 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

19 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

20 ~~(44)~~(43) Kerr Scott Game Land in Wilkes County

21 (A) Six Days per Week Area

22 (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

23 (C) Use of blackpowder firearms, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable  
24 Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.

25 (D) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating  
26 the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.

27 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers season.

29 (F) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

30 (G) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey is prohibited.

31 ~~(45)~~(44) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington counties

32 (A) Six Days per Week Area

33 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
34 Antlers Season.

35 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

36 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.

37 (E) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

38 ~~(46)~~(45) Lee Game Land in Lee County

39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

40 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
41 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

- 1 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 2 ~~(47)~~(46) Light Ground Pocosin Game Land in Pamlico County
- 3 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 4 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer with Visible
- 5 Antlers Season.
- 6 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 7 ~~(48)~~(47) Linwood Game Land in Davidson County
- 8 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken on all of the open days of the applicable Deer With
- 10 Visible Antlers Season.
- 11 ~~(49)~~(48) Lower Fishing Creek Game Land in Edgecombe and Halifax counties
- 12 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 14 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 15 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 16 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 17 (F) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 18 ~~(50)~~(49) Mayo Game Land in Person County
- 19 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 20 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 21 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 22 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
- 23 (i) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 24 (ii) Christmas and New Year's Days; and
- 25 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 26 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 27 ~~(51)~~(50) Mitchell River Game Land in Surry County
- 28 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 29 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 30 Antlers Season through the second ~~Wednesday~~ Tuesday thereafter.
- 31 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31,
- 32 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 33 ~~(52)~~(51) Nantahala Game Land in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania
- 34 counties
- 35 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 36 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With
- 37 Visible Antlers Season in that portion located in Transylvania County.
- 38 ~~(53)~~(52) Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain counties.
- 39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 40 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31,
- 41 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

1 (C) On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit  
2 only.

3 ~~(54)~~(53) Neuse River Game Land in Craven County

4 (A) Six Days per Week Area

5 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
6 Antlers Season.

7 (C) Camping is allowed any time within 100 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of  
8 the game land that lies west of NC-43.

9 ~~(55)~~(54) New Lake Game Land in Hyde and Tyrrell counties

10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
12 Antlers Season.

13 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

14 ~~(56)~~(55) Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County

15 (A) Three Days per Week Area

16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from  
17 the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the fourth Friday before  
18 Thanksgiving Day.

19 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days  
20 beginning the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the  
21 second week thereafter.

22 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the  
23 second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after  
24 Thanksgiving Day.

25 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
26 Antlers Season.

27 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

28 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

29 (H) On Lake Upchurch, the following activities are prohibited:

30 (i) Operating any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine;  
31 and

32 (ii) Swimming.

33 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.

34 ~~(57)~~(56) North River Game Land in Camden and Currituck counties

35 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

36 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
37 Antlers Season.

38 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or  
39 shoreline.

40 (D) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only.

41 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

1 ~~(58)~~(57) Northwest River Marsh Game Land in Currituck County

- 2 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 3 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 4 Antlers Season.
- 5 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or
- 6 shoreline.
- 7 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

8 ~~(59)~~(58) Pee Dee River Game Land in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties

- 9 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 11 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 12 (C) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties
- 13 North of US-74.
- 14 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15 (E) Horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 through August 31,
- 16 and on Sundays only September 1 through May 15 only on roads opened to vehicular
- 17 traffic and gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use. ~~only during the following~~
- 18 ~~times:~~
- 19 (i) ~~during June, July, and August; and~~
- 20 (ii) ~~on Sundays during the other months or parts of months when deer and turkey~~
- 21 ~~seasons are closed.~~
- 22 (F) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting shall
- 23 be prohibited on that portion south of US-74.

24 ~~(60)~~(59) Perkins Game Land in Davie County

- 25 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 26 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With
- 27 Visible Antlers ~~Season.~~ Season through the second Tuesday thereafter.
- 28 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.
- 29 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.

30 ~~(61)~~(60) Pisgah Game Land in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison,

31 McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey counties

- 32 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 33 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With
- 34 Visible Antlers Season.
- 35 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River
- 36 (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell
- 37 counties).
- 38 (D) The use of bicycles shall be restricted to designated trails on the Linville River Tract
- 39 (Burke County). Persons engaged in the act of hunting on the Linville River Tract
- 40 during any open day of an applicable season for game birds or game animals shall be
- 41 exempt from this restriction.

- 1           ~~(62)~~(61) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 2                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 3                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 4                             Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 5                   (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through
- 6                             August 31 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding
- 7                             is prohibited from November 1 through May 15.
- 8           ~~(63)~~(62) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde County
- 9                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 10                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 11                             Antlers Season.
- 12           ~~(64)~~(63) Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County
- 13                  (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 14                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 15                             Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 16                  (C)     Bear hunting is prohibited.
- 17           ~~(65)~~(64) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties
- 18                  (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 19                  (B)     Swimming is prohibited on the area.
- 20           ~~(66)~~(65) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties
- 21                  (A)     Hunting and trapping is by Permit only.
- 22                  (B)     Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission
- 23                             business or by permit holders.
- 24                  (C)     Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 25                             through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided,
- 26                             however, that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River
- 27                             on the state-owned portion of the game land.
- 28                  (D)     Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 29           ~~(67)~~(66) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.
- 30           ~~(68)~~(67) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County
- 31                  (A)     ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 32                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 33                             Antlers Season.
- 34                  (C)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 35           ~~(69)~~(68) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 36                  (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 37                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from
- 38                             the Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 39                  (C)     Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days
- 40                             beginning the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the
- 41                             second week thereafter.



- 1 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the  
2 second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after  
3 Thanksgiving Day.
- 4 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
5 Antlers Season.
- 6 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 7 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 8 (H) Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
- 9 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 10 ~~(70)~~(69) Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County - Hunting is by permit only.
- 11 ~~(71)~~(70) Sampson Game Land in Sampson County
- 12 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
14 Antlers Season.
- 15 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 16 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 17 ~~(72)~~(71) Sandhills Game Land in Hoke, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland counties
- 18 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from October 22  
20 through March 31 except as follows:
- 21 (i) deer of either-sex may be taken with archery equipment on all the open days  
22 of the archery season through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day;  
23 with blackpowder firearms and archery equipment all the open days of the  
24 blackpowder firearms season through the third Wednesday before  
25 Thanksgiving Day; and only deer with visible antlers may be taken with all  
26 legal weapons from the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through  
27 the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 28 (ii) dove may be taken all open days from the opening day of the dove season  
29 through the third Saturday thereafter;
- 30 (iii) squirrel (gray and fox) may be taken all the open days from the second  
31 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following  
32 Thanksgiving Day;
- 33 (iv) rabbit may be taken all open days from the second Saturday preceding  
34 Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 35 (v) waterfowl may be taken on open days during any waterfowl season;
- 36 (vi) wild animals and wild birds may be taken as part of a Disabled Sportsmen  
37 Program Permit Hunt; and
- 38 (vii) raccoon and opossum may be taken on open days from sunrise Monday on or  
39 nearest October 15 through the last day of February.

- 1 (C) The Deer With Visible Antlers season is the open hunting days from the second  
2 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day  
3 except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds.
- 4 (D) The archery season is all open days from the Saturday on or nearest to Sept. 10 to the  
5 fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day and, except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial  
6 Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Deer of either  
7 sex may be taken with archery equipment on all open hunting days during the archery  
8 season, by permit during the Deer with Visible antlers season, and the blackpowder  
9 firearms season as stated in this Subparagraph. Only deer with visible antlers may be  
10 taken from the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 11 (E) Blackpowder firearms season is all the open days from the fourth Saturday preceding  
12 Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter and, except  
13 on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving  
14 Day through January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on  
15 all open hunting days during the blackpowder firearms season and by permit during  
16 the Deer With Visible Antlers season. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from  
17 the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 18 (F) Either-sex deer hunting during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season is by permit only.
- 19 (G) In addition to the regular hunting days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and  
20 closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 21 (H) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 22 (I) Horseback riding on field trial grounds from October 22 through March 31 is  
23 prohibited unless participating in authorized field trials. Horseback riding is allowed  
24 on the remainder of the Sandhills Game Land seven days per week on roads that are  
25 open to vehicular traffic and gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- 26 (J) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas  
27 are limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May  
28 14.
- 29 (K) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex.  
30 ~~(73)~~(72) Sandy Creek Game Land in Nash and Franklin ~~Counties~~ counties
- 31 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 34 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 35 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 36 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 37 ~~(74)~~(73) Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe and Madison counties.
- 38 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 39 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer with  
40 Visible Antlers season.

- 1 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31  
2 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 3 (D) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as  
4 allowed in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(f).
- 5 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of  
6 dove season.
- 7 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 8 ~~(75)~~(74) Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County- hunting is by permit only.
- 9 ~~(76)~~(75) Shocco Creek Game Land in Franklin, Halifax, Nash, and Warren counties
- 10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
12 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 13 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 14 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
15 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 16 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 17 ~~(77)~~(76) South Mountains Game Land in Burke, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford counties
- 18 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from  
20 the Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving.  
21 Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the  
22 Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on  
23 or nearest October 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible  
24 antlers may be taken with archery equipment the Monday immediately following the  
25 closing of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through  
26 January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open days  
27 beginning the Monday on or nearest October 1 through the Saturday of the second  
28 week thereafter.
- 29 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
30 Visible Antlers Season.
- 31 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails during the following dates:
- 32 (i) January 2 through March 31;
- 33 (ii) May 16 through August 31;
- 34 (iii) Sundays only - April 1 through May 15; and
- 35 (iv) Sundays only - September 1 through January 1.
- 36 ~~(78)~~(77) Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County
- 37 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 38 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
39 Antlers Season.
- 40 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- 41 (D) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.

- 1 (E) Waterfowl ~~on posted waterfowl impoundments~~ may be taken only on the following  
2 days:
- 3 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
4 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
5 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 6 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 7 (G) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.
- 8 ~~(79)~~(78) Suggs Mill Pond Game Land in Bladen and Cumberland counties
- 9 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 10 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
11 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 12 (C) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:
- 13 (i) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and  
14 (ii) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.
- 15 (D) During the period of November 1 through January 31, except on Sundays, the use of  
16 vessels on Suggs Mill Pond Lake and Little Singletary Lake is limited to waterfowl  
17 hunting only by waterfowl hunters possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity  
18 Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).
- 19 (E) During the period of November 1 through March 15, the use of vessels on managed  
20 waterfowl impoundments is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters  
21 possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife  
22 Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).
- 23 ~~(80)~~(79) Sutton Lake Game Land in New Hanover and Brunswick counties
- 24 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
26 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 27 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 28 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 29 ~~(81)~~(80) Tar River Game Land in Edgecombe County
- 30 (A) Hunting is by permit only
- 31 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited
- 32 ~~(82)~~(81) Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 33 ~~(83)~~(82) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 34 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 35 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
36 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 37 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 38 ~~(84)~~(83) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Alleghany and Wilkes counties
- 39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 40 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
41 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

- 1 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31,  
2 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age  
3 16 or older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 4 (D) The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground  
5 is 14 days within any 30 day period from May 1 through August 31. After 14  
6 consecutive days of camping all personal belongings must be removed from the game  
7 land.
- 8 ~~(85)~~(84) Tillery ~~game~~ Game Land in Halifax County
- 9 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
11 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 12 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 13 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 14 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 15 (F) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 16 ~~(86)~~(85) Toxaway Game Land in Jackson and Transylvania counties
- 17 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 18 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
19 Visible Antlers Season.
- 20 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31  
21 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 22 ~~(87)~~(86) Uwharrie Game Land in Davidson, Montgomery, and Randolph counties
- 23 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 24 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
25 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 26 (C) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may be taken only on the following  
27 days:
- 28 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 29 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 30 (iii) Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 31 (D) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the Flintlock Valley Shooting Range.
- 32 ~~(88)~~(87) Vance Game Land in Vance County
- 33 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
35 Antlers Season.
- 36 (C) The use of dogs, centerfire rifles, and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the  
37 Nutbush Peninsula tract.
- 38 ~~(89)~~(88) Van Swamp Game Land in Beaufort and Washington counties
- 39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 40 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
41 Antlers Season.

1 (C) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days  
2 during the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday  
3 first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.

4 ~~(90)~~(89) Voice of America Game Land in Beaufort County

5 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

6 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited.

7 ~~(91)~~(90) White Oak River Game Land in Onslow County

8 (A) Three Days per Week Area

9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
10 Antlers Season.

11 (C) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl  
12 impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:

13 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

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

15 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

16 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all  
17 waterfowl seasons, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.

18 (E) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:

19 (i) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting  
20 Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant  
21 to G.S. 113-264(d);

22 (ii) hunting is by permit only; and

23 (iii) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

24 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

25 (G) Target Shooting is prohibited.

26 ~~(92)~~(91) Whitehall Plantation Game Land in Bladen and Pender counties

27 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

28 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
29 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

30 (C) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
31 prohibited on the Long Ridge Tract.

32 ~~(93)~~(92) William H. Silver Game Land in Haywood County

33 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
35 Visible Antlers Season.

36 (C) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.

37 (h) On permitted type hunts, deer of either sex may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed  
38 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the  
39 dates of hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the  
40 hunt, and are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife  
41 cooperator agent or by phone.

1 (i) The following game lands and refuges are closed to all hunting except to those individuals who have obtained  
2 a valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:

- 3 (1) Bertie, Halifax and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;
- 4 (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;
- 5 (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;
- 6 (4) Burke County—John's River Waterfowl Refuge;
- 7 (5) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);
- 8 (6) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and
- 9 (7) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

10 (j) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the  
11 Commission. Written permission may be granted only when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge will not  
12 compromise the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can  
13 demonstrate a valid need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business.  
14 "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to  
15 conduct activities in the public interest.

16 (k) Feral swine may be taken by licensed hunters during the open season for any game animal or game bird using  
17 any legal manner of take allowed during those seasons. Dogs may not be used to hunt feral swine except on game  
18 lands that allow the use of dogs for hunting deer or bear, and during the applicable deer or bear season.

19 (l) Youth Waterfowl Day. On the day declared by the Commission to be Youth Waterfowl Day, youths may hunt  
20 on any game land and on any impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except  
21 where prohibited in Paragraph (h) of this Rule.

22 (m) Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days. On the day declared by the Commission to be Veterans and Military  
23 Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including  
24 members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for training, with valid credentials may  
25 hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas.

26 (n) Permit Hunt Opportunities for Disabled Sportsmen. The Commission may designate special hunts for  
27 participants of the disabled sportsman program by permit. The Commission may schedule these permit hunts  
28 during the closed season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be identified on each permit. If the hunt has a  
29 limited weapon choice, the allowed weapons shall be stated on each permit.

30 (o) As used in this Rule, horseback riding includes all equine species.

31 (p) When waterfowl hunting is authorized in this Rule on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on  
32 Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

33

APPENDIX B

<b>Game Land</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Sunday Hunting</b>
Alligator River	Large, 24,000 acres, many species available, important to birders, nearby public land without Sunday hunting (Alligator River NWR, Pettigrew State Park), Buckridge Game Land nearby	Yes
Angola Bay	34,000 acres, all game species available, a lot of roads in organic soil, Low overharvest risk, low non-traditional use, some birding and horseback riding, no conflicts with landowners, very close to Holly Shelter Game Land	Yes
Bachelor Bay	TNC property, they supportive of Sunday hunting at this location, boat access only	Yes
Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve	No impacts to infrastructure (no roads/trails), no overharvest, low non-traditional users, mainly hunters, close to Lumber River state park, no conflicts expected	Yes
Cape Fear River Wetlands	Large, 7,200 acres, low impact to infrastructure expected, no overharvest expected, mainly hunters, no sensitive species, low non-traditional use, close proximity to alternative land	Yes
Carteret County	7,100 acres, all species available, a lot of roads, low overharvest, rural, low non-traditional use, few conflicts expected, Cedar Island NWR nearby	Yes
Chowan	Small, low impact, boating access only, no use of non-traditional users	Yes
Columbus County	10,000 acres, low overharvest risk, minimal infrastructure, low non-traditional use, Lake Waccamaw State park near one tract	Yes
Croatan National Forest	Low overharvest potential, not complex, has horse trails and bike trails, high non-traditional use, state parks nearby, USFS supports allowing hunting on Sunday	Yes
Currituck Banks	Nearby parks, low impact on other uses, no issue from TNC partnership; Jockey Ridge State Park is nearby	Yes
Dare	Permit hunting, low potential for overharvest, low impact for infrastructure, surrounded by Alligator River NWR	Yes



<b>Game Land</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Sunday Hunting</b>
Goose Creek	All species available, no infrastructure issues, mild complexities, low non-traditional use, mainly hunters, rural, little conflict expected	Yes
Gull Rock	Low risk of overharvest, low impact on other uses, rural, no conflicts	Yes
Juniper Creek	20,000 acres, some infrastructure in the form of roads, no overharvest risk to most species, some concern about bear harvest, low non-traditional use, primarily hunters, close to Lake Waccamaw state park, close to Green Swamp Game Land	Yes
Light Ground Pocosin	Not much game species, low overharvest potential, no infrastructure, rural, low non-traditional use, low conflict, no other public lands nearby	Yes
New Lake	Minimal access, low non-traditional use, low conflict, no harvest issues, rural, Mattamuskeet and Pocosin NWRs nearby	Yes
North River	Some non-traditional use, close to Dismal Swamp state park, large enough for Sunday hunting, mainly hunters, rural,	Yes
Northwest River Marsh	Remote, BAA access only, low use in general, not much non-traditional use, Mackay Island NWR, Great Dismal Swamp NWR nearby	Yes
Robeson	Low potential for overharvest, primarily hunting use, little non-traditional use, close to other public lands (Lumber River State Park), small tract	Yes
Rocky Run	Low species availability, permit only, low non-traditional use, mainly hunters, public land close by (Hammocks Beach State Park), no conflicts expected	Yes
Sampson	No infrastructure, no potential for overharvest, primarily hunting use	Yes
Sutton Lake	Low non-traditional use, no conflicts expected, conservative deer season, no infrastructure impacts	Yes
Van Swamp	Heavy use of dogs for deer, bear hunts in Nov/Dec, options for other hunts and non-traditional use nearby-minimizes risk for overharvest, Pettigrew State Park, RR NWR nearby. VOA Game Land nearby.	Yes

<b>Game Land</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Sunday Hunting</b>
Alcoa	Large game land, important to hunters, near Morrow Mtn. State Park, low conflicts expected	Yes
Brinkleyville	Large, Rural, all species available, important to hunters, low non-traditional use, next to Medoc Mtn. state park	Yes
Chatham	All species available, low non-traditional use, close to state parks (Haw River, Raven Rock), close to Jordan Game Land	Yes
Embryo	Large, 8,000 acres, rural, important to hunters, little non-traditional use, similar to Brinkleyville, right next to it	Yes
Harris	Next to Chatham and Lee, non-traditional users prevalent, close to state parks (Haw River, Raven Rock, Deep River), close to Jordan Game Land	Yes
Hycow	Little use by non-hunters, rural, far from public lands or urban center, low conflict with landowners	Yes
Lee	Low non-traditional use, mostly hunters, close to other parks for non-traditional users (Haw River, Raven Rock), close to Jordan Game Land, close to Raleigh	Yes
Linwood	Moderate hunting, no conflict w/ landowners	Yes
Lower Fishing Creek	Low nt use, mainly hunters, rural, far from other public lands or urban centers, high game species availability, little conflicts expected	Yes
Mayo	Large, all game species available, no complex rules, low non-traditional use, mostly hunters, rural, not near urban centers	Yes
Pee Dee River	Multiple counties, dog restrictions, close to urban centers, some adjacent areas for non-traditional user (Pee Dee NWR, Morrow Mtn. State Park), diversity of species to hunt, some horseback riding and camping	Yes
Perkins	One county, mostly hunting use, no known conflicts	Yes
Sandy Creek	All species available, low non-traditional use, mostly hunters, rural, Medoc Mtn. State Park is close, no conflicts with others	Yes

<b>Game Land</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Sunday Hunting</b>
Shocco Creek	All game species available, no overharvest concerns, close to Medoc Mtn. state park, low non-traditional users, mostly hunting use, few conflicts expected	Yes
Tar River	Permit only, low non-traditional use, small, close to county parks for non-traditional users	Yes
Tillery	Low non-traditional use, far from urban centers, low conflict with landowners, all species available	Yes
Upper Roanoke River Wetlands	Large, permit only, all species, low non-traditional use, not close to urban centers, no conflicts expected	Yes
Uwharrie National Forest	Large game land, Heavy Sunday non-traditional use, some recreation areas, many species available, low potential for overharvest, close to other recreational opportunities; USFS supports allowing hunting on Sunday	Yes
Buffalo Cove	Low non-traditional use, no special amenities (one riding trail), rural, hard to get to, close to Pisgah for non-traditional users	Yes
Cold Mountain	Close to other land for non-traditional use, high hunting use	Yes
Elk Knob	No non-traditional use allowed, landowner agreeable to Sunday hunting	Yes
Johns River	Permit only, looking to see if we can fit more hunts in	Yes
Mitchell River	Limited game, remote, 3 day a week area, going to 4 day wouldn't impact pressure on game if added Sundays	Yes
Nantahala National Forest	2 sections asked to exclude from Sunday hunting by rangers (Jack Rabbit and Tsali). [USFS sent email to retract this request about Jack Rabbit and Tsali]. Support from Sunday hunting from focus group participants; USFS supports allowing hunting on Sunday	Yes

<b>Game Land</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Sunday Hunting</b>
Needmore	Close to other tracts for non-traditional use, rural, Little Tennessee River through middle (watersport users), some traditional ideas about Sunday as a day of rest	Yes
Pisgah National Forest	USFS supportive of Sunday hunting on Pisgah, support from focus group participants	Yes
Pisgah NCWRC	Shared borders with US Forest Service-manage the same as USFS property	Yes
Pond Mountain	Remote, some non-traditional use but more hunting than non-traditional, low on ebird data/use	Yes
South Mountains	Some non-traditional use-adjoints South Mountain state park	Yes
Three Top Mountain	Some non-traditional use, some hunting, close to Elk Knob state park, no conflicts expected	Yes
Thurmond Chatham	Not much non-traditional use, mostly hunters, next to Stone Mtn. state park	Yes
Toxaway	Close to state park for non-traditional use, some hiking but not enough for conflict	Yes
William H. Silver	Close to Great Smoky Mtn. National Park for non-traditional use, close to Rendezvous Mtn., lot of use for hunting bear/hog/elk and deer	Yes

# EXHIBIT H-1

October 22, 2020



## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

October 22, 2020

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian McRae, Section Chief  
Land and Water Access

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

SUBJECT: Supporting information for the Riverstone Jenerette Acquisition

The Land Acquisition and Property Committee will review the Riverstone Jenerette Tract Acquisition (Exhibit X-1) at their October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting before making a recommendation on the project to the full Board of Commissioners on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The standard exhibit for this project, including both Phase I and Phase II documentation, is attached to this memo. This property would come to the WRC as a donation; however approximately 10 acres of it is encumbered with a life estate that merits additional explanation beyond our typical documentation.

Our partners at The Nature Conservancy are working directly with the owners of the Riverstone Jenerette Tract and have done an excellent job establishing the parameters of the life estate. The life estate is approximately 10 acres on the river and is believed to include the oxbow area. TNC is going to have it surveyed once water levels in the area go down to allow the surveyor to complete their work. There is no existing survey, but a description is provided in DB 199, p. 417:

“Reserving to H.G. Jenrette (Sr.) one of the grantors, Harry Garland Jenrette, Jr. (minor), Harry Thomas Jenrette (minor), and Helen Melinda Jenrette, (minor), an estate for their natural lives and the life of the last survivor of said four persons in the following described tract: BEGINNING at a stake on the River Bank across the river from White’s Landing; running thence North 76 degrees West 1150 feet to a stake; thence South 14

Land and Water Access

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

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

Phone: 919-707-0150

Fax: 919-707-0162

degrees West 800 feet to a stake; thence South 76 degrees East 800 feet to a stake on the river bank; thence with said river to the Beginning; containing ten (10) acres, more or less; and including the lake known as Old River.”

Two of the 4 individuals granted the reserved life estate are living and they are siblings. When they die the estate is extinguished and the WRC would have full ownership of the land. Helen Melinda Jenrette Miller (age ~74) lives in Florida and doesn't use this land. Tom Jenrette (age ~76) lives in Little River, SC. He has told TNC that he sometimes takes a boat there to fish but has no further plans for use of his life estate.

Staff have carefully reviewed this life estate and feel that it is reasonable to accept the property with the life estate. Once the survey of the area is complete, we will post the life estate boundary for as long as the life estate holders are living to prevent any conflicts with game lands users. While accepting the property with the life estates is not ideal, the important conservation benefits and opportunities provided with this donation outweigh the complications that come with this small life estate. Staff will recommend approval of this Phase II donation from the Land Acquisition and Property Committee and the full Board of Commissioners.

# Exhibit H-1

October 22, 2020

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

---

**Tract Name:** Riverstone Jenerette Tract

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

**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 Assistance Grant – 75% federal: 25% state

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

<b>Total Stewardship Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 3,810.00</b>
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

# Exhibit H-1

October 22, 2020

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

---

#### Estimated Five-Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections: Riverstone Jenerette Tract

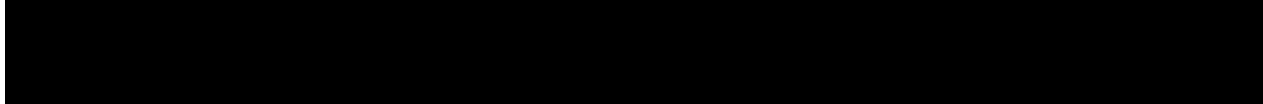
Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary establishment	6	Miles	One-time	\$500	\$3,000.00
Boundary maintenance	6	Miles	Recurring	\$135	\$810.00
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$3,810.00</b>

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



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

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Chesley Ward
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	19-Oct-20
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Jenerette Tract
<b>County:</b>	Columbus
<b>Acreage:</b>	410.05
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$143,276
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Riverstone Properties LLC / Hervey McIver - The Nature Conservancy



<p><b>Primary Purpose:</b></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Management <input type="checkbox"/> User Access <input type="checkbox"/> WRC Facility	<p><b>Program Potential:</b></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Game Land <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Conservation Area <input type="checkbox"/> Access Area <input type="checkbox"/> None
<p><b>Type of Acquisition:</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement	<p><b>Type of Parcel:</b></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tract <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Corridor
<p><b>Grant Potential:</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> CWMTF <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p><b>Owner Interest:</b></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p><b>Tax Value:</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 2020 Year Assessed <input type="checkbox"/> No PUV?	<p><b>Stewardship Considerations:</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> PR Source: <input type="checkbox"/> 75/25 Match:
<p><b>Funding Considerations:</b></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/> Bargain Sale <input type="checkbox"/> Partner Contribution	<p><b>Reviewed Appraisal &amp; Purchase Requirements?</b></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pursue <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Pursue <input type="checkbox"/> Defer	

**Additional Comments:**  
 This property will be purchased by The Nature Conservancy and donated to WRC at no cost. The property will have public access by water only, but administrative access by road is available through adjacent private property owners. There is a life estate attached to the oxbow on this property. TNC has been in contact with the life estate holders, both of whom are elderly and live out of state.

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

---

<b>Tract Name:</b>	Jenerette Tract
<b>County:</b>	Columbus

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

The Jenerette Tract is a +/- 410-acre property in Columbus County. It has slightly less than 1.5 miles of frontage along the Waccamaw River and is located approximately three miles downstream from the Pireway Boating Access Area. It's entirely made up of blackwater floodplain forest habitat.

This tract is part of a long and large conservation effort to conserve lands in the Waccamaw River basin. WRC and other partners have been engaged in protecting lands along the river for several decades. The Jenerette Tract fits well into this significant regional conservation work. It lies within the exceptionally-ranked Waccamaw River Oxbow Site Natural Heritage Area.

WRC biologists have identified 58 Species of Greatest Conservation Need that are very likely to use this property and would benefit from it's protection.

Tract Name **Jenerette Tract**  
 Date **September 11, 2020**  
 Staff Completing Form **Chesley Ward**

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.630</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	1
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	1
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	2

**Comments**  
 Because the entire tract is seasonally flooded and/or extremely wet, scores for the terrestrial metric are low. Wetland and aquatic species and diversity scored higher because of the swamp forest habitat on the tract and the adjacent river. Game species are likely limited due to it's single habitat type.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Size	1
Quality	2
Diversity	1
Rare/Important	3
Connectivity	2
Buffer	3

**Comments**  
 The tract lies within the exceptionally-ranked Waccamaw River Oxbow Site Natural Heritage Area and adjacent to the exceptionally-ranked Waccamaw River Aquatic Habitat Natural Heritage Area. It's also less than 300 yards from Lay's Lake Natural Heritage Area. It buffers 12,500 feet of the river and Marlow Branch

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

**Comments**  
 Public access would be by boat only. Fishing opportunities exist in the sloughs and oxbow lake that exist on the property. No boating opportunities exist on the tract.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.267</b>
Hunting	1
Viewing	1
Fishing	1
Boating	0
Education	1

**Comments**  
 The habitat on this tract and poor access limit the hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and education uses.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.222</b>
Timber Harvest	0
Local Economy	1
Quality of Life	1

**Comments**  
 Poor access and wetland habitats result in low scores for these metrics. WRC would not be conducting timber harvests on this tract.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.333</b>
Existing Infrastructure	0
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	1
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	0
Proximity to Users	1

**Comments**  
 There is only one short access road into the property. Surrounding lands are similar in type and use.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.750</b>
Species Restoration	3
Habitat Restoration	3
Access Improvement	0
Threat Mitigation	3

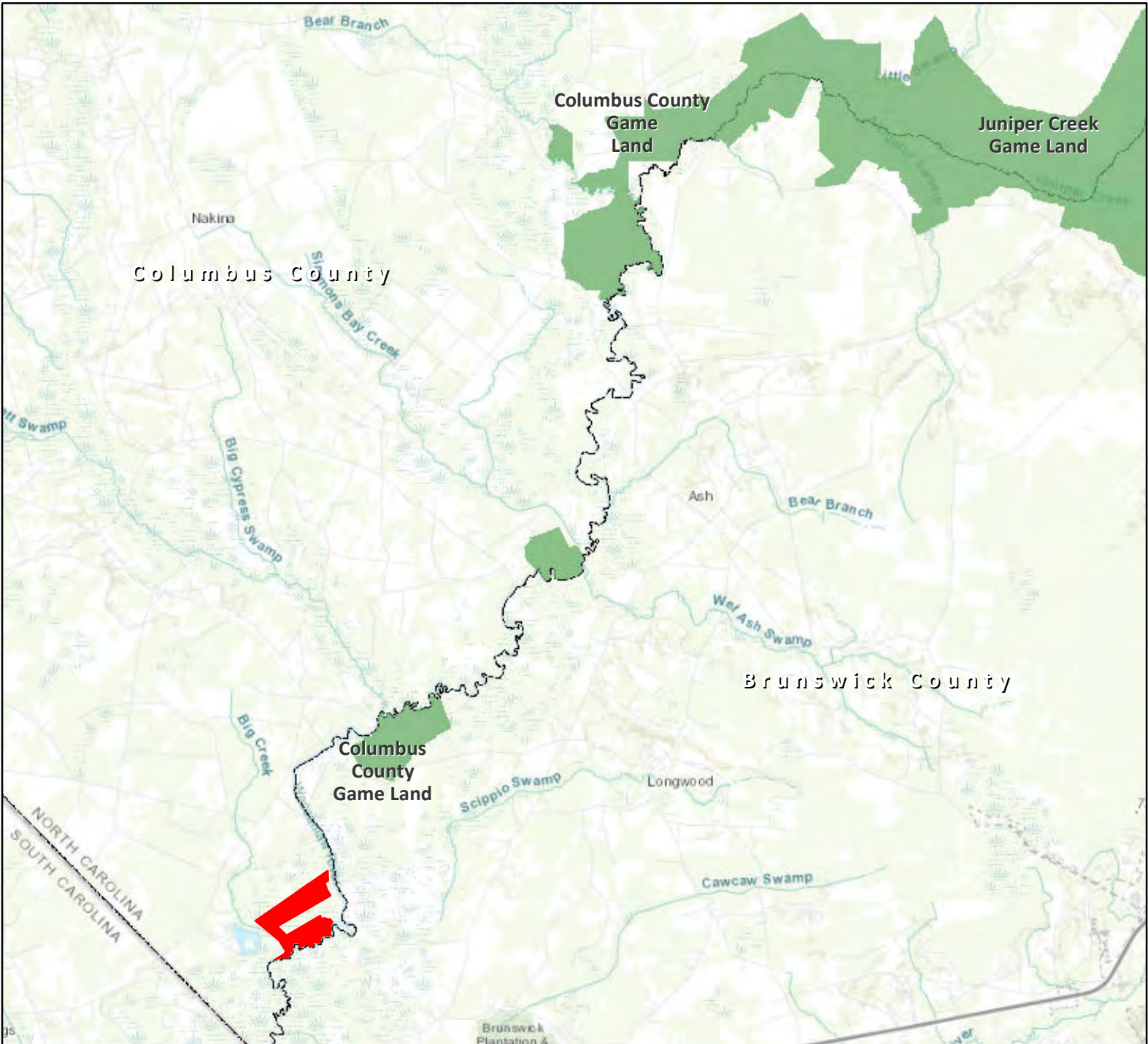
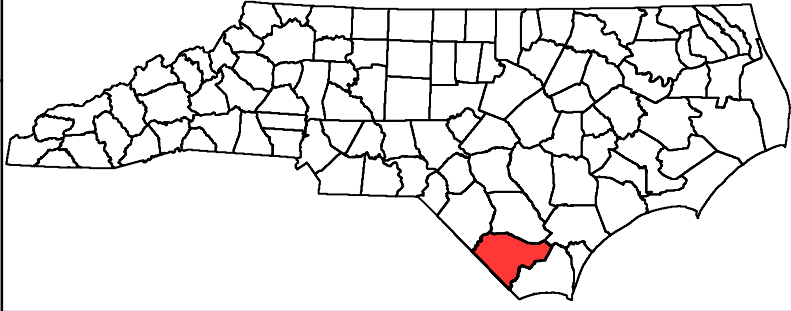
**Comments**  
 200 +/- acres were logged about 10 years ago. These acres can be greatly improved by allowing natural processes to occur. The threat of additional shovel logging will be mitigated.

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.267</b>
Number	1
Severity	2
Imminence	1
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0


**Comments**  
 All the river front contains mature bottomland hardwood and cypress-gum swamp forest. The threat of additional shovel logging of these 210 +/- acres will be avoided at no cost upon acquisition.

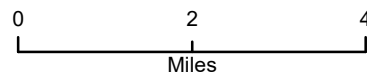
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>2.935</b>
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**Jenerette Tract  
Columbus County  
+/- 410 Acres**

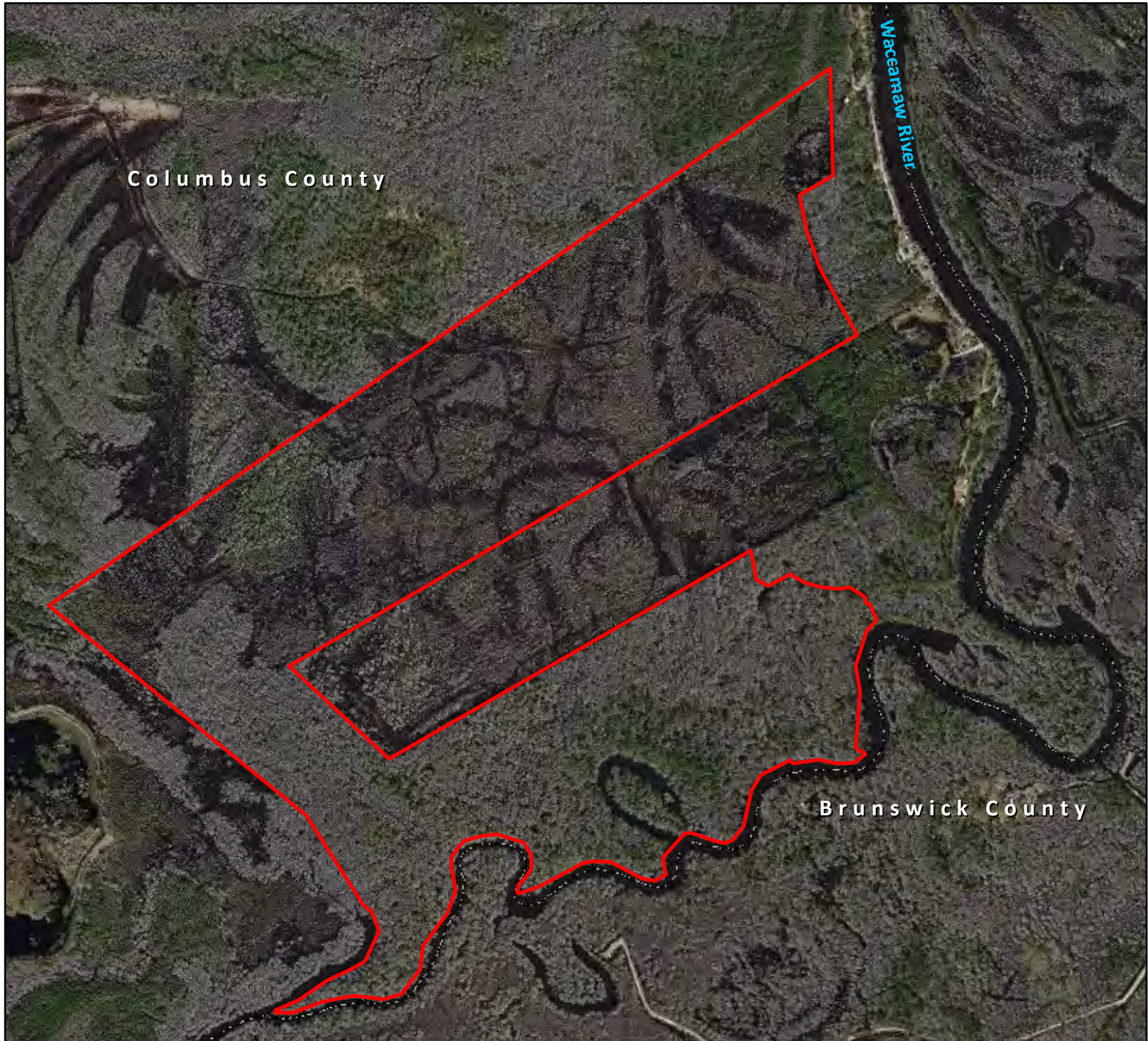
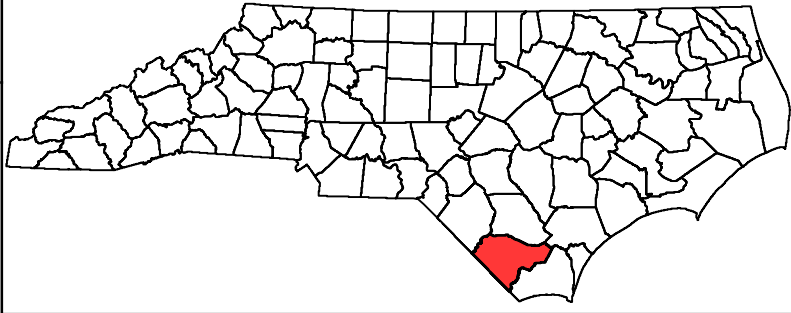


October 13, 2020

 Jenerette Tract

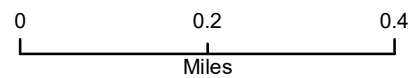


**Jenerette Tract**  
**Columbus County**  
**+/- 410 Acres**



October 13, 2020

 Jenerette Tract



# Exhibit H-2

October 22, 2020

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

---

**Tract Name:** Pitzer Road PFA Tract

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

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

Donation from Duke Energy

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

If Yes, Explain Details:

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

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value

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

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

Federal Assistance Grant – 75% federal: 25% state

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

<b>Total Stewardship Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 15,750</b>
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

# Exhibit H-2

October 22, 2020

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

## Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

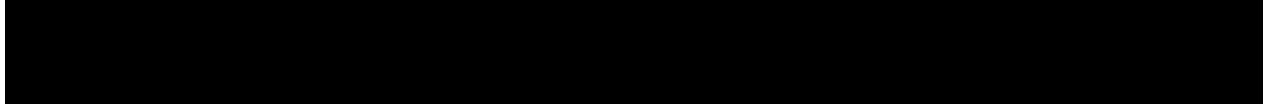
### Estimated Five-Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections: Pitzer Road PFA Tract

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary posting and signage	1	Site	One-time	\$500	\$500
Kiosks	2	Each	One-time	\$750	\$1,500
Routine maintenance (5 yr. period)	5	Year	Recurring	\$2,250	\$11,250
Gravel	1	Site	One-time	\$2,500	\$2,500
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$ 15,750</b>

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

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

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Kin Hodges
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	19-Oct-20
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Pitzer Road PFA
<b>County:</b>	Stokes
<b>Acreage:</b>	4 acres
<b>Tax Value:</b>	
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Duke Energy



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

**Additional Comments:**

Under the terms of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Program, Duke Energy is required to acquire and develop public access facilities on the Dan River to help mitigate for the 2014 coal ash spill that occurred at the Dan River Steam Station. The Pitzer Road parcel is in an ideal location in relation to existing access points on the river and it was selected collaboratively by Duke Energy, the Commission, and Stokes County. Duke Energy will be developing an access road, parking area, and access structure (concrete ramp or stairs) on the property and donating the property to the Commission once the site is fully developed.



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

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<b>Tract Name:</b>	Pitzer Road PFA
<b>County:</b>	Stokes

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

The proposed project is intended to improve river access to the Dan River and it is situated midway between existing access points at Moratock Park in Danbury and the Hemlock Golf Course PFA near Walnut Cove. The sole purpose of this project is to provide river access and no biological benefits are anticipated.

Tract Name	Pitzer Road PFA
Date	
Staff Completing Form	Kin Hodges

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.000</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0

<b>Comments</b>
This is strictly an access project. Due to the small size of the parcel, no direct benefit to species conservation is anticipated.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.167</b>
Size	0
Quality	0
Diversity	0
Rare/Important	0
Connectivity	3
Buffer	0

<b>Comments</b>
This is strictly an access project. No direct benefit to species or habitats is anticipated. The project will significantly improve connectivity between existing river access points.

<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 Dan 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 to 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>0.667</b>
Existing Infrastructure	3
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	2
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	2
Inholding/Corridor	0
Proximity to Users	3

<b>Comments</b>
No access infrastructure currently exists, but the site will be fully developed before it is donated to the Commission.

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

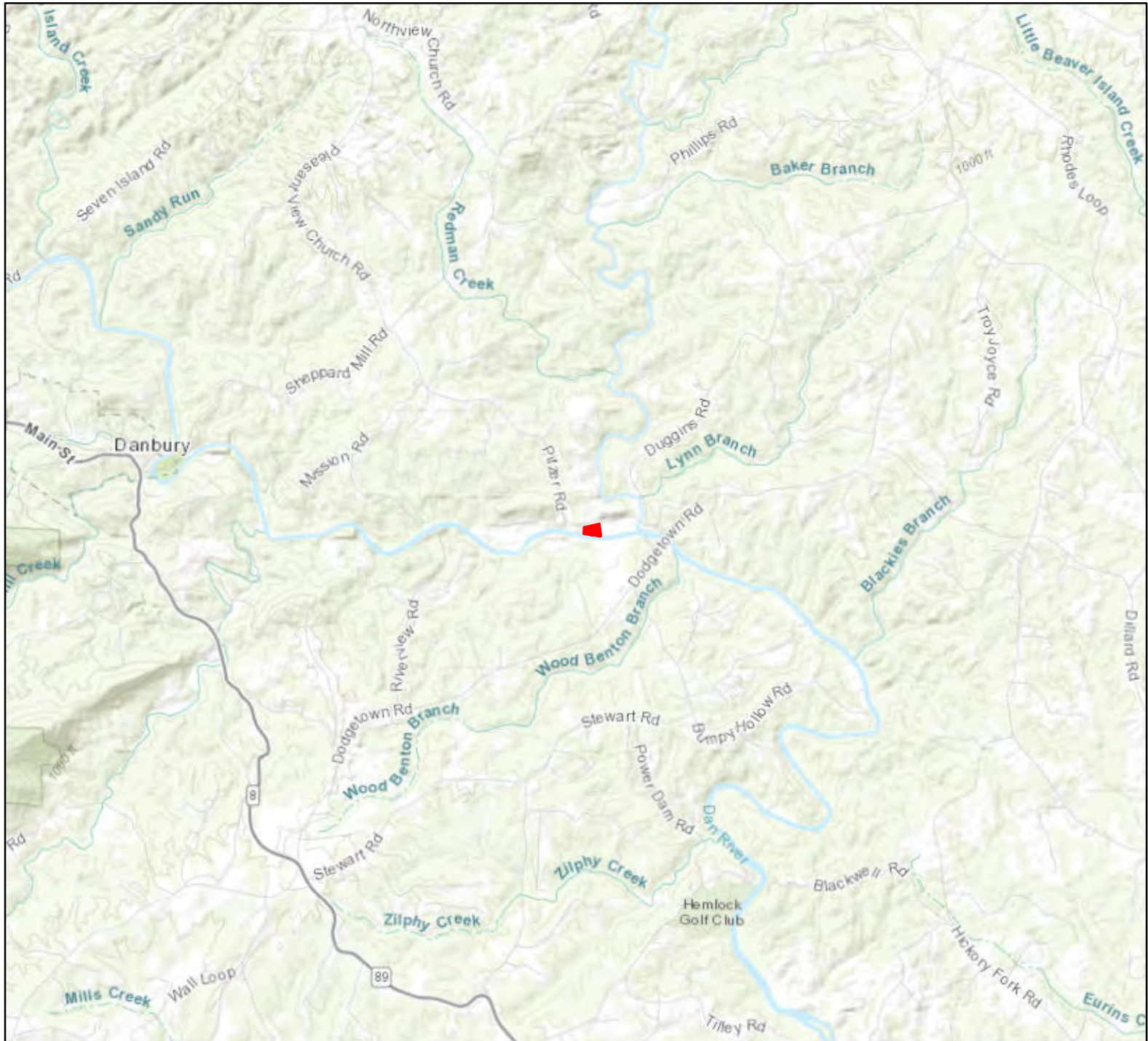
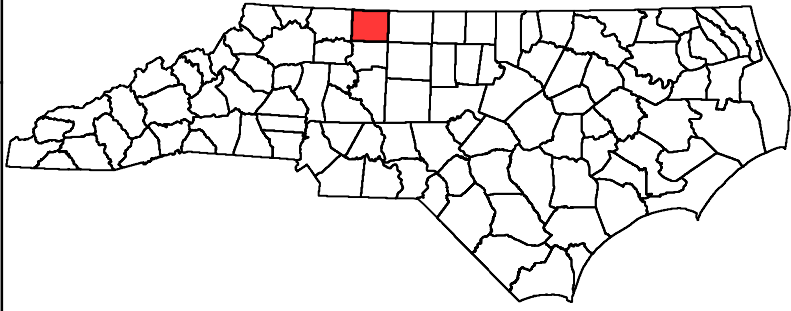
<b>Comments</b>
This is strictly an access project. No direct benefit to species or habitats is anticipated.

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Number	0
Severity	0
Imminence	0
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0

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

<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.483</b>
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**Pitzer Road PFA Tract  
Stokes County  
+/-5 Acres**



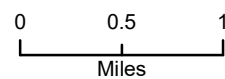
October 12, 2020



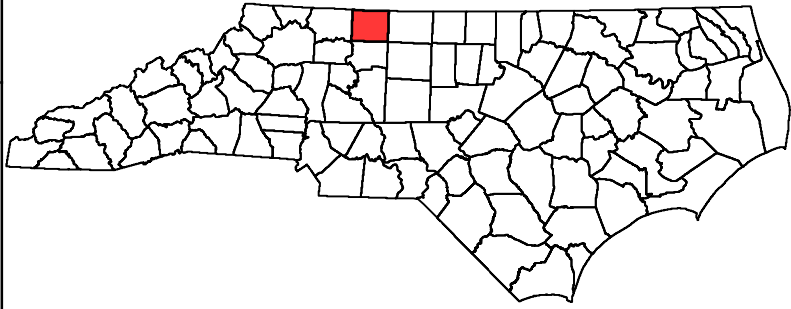
WRC Boating Access Area





Pitzer Rd PFA Tract



**Pitzer Road PFA Tract  
Stokes County  
+/-5 Acres**



October 12, 2020

-  WRC Boating Access Area
-  Pitzer Rd PFA Tract



# Exhibit H-3

October 22, 2020

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

**Tract Name:** North Fork Catawba River PFA Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** October 22, 2020

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

Agency Funds	\$15,000
TOTAL	\$15,000

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

**If Yes, Explain Details:**

Bargain Sale from Foothills Conservancy (total price reduction of \$240,000)

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

**If Yes, Describe in Table:**

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
Foothills Conservancy	CDN Appraisal Inc.	April 24, 2020	\$255,000

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

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

Federal Assistance Grant – 75% federal: 25% state

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

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$ 23,000
Total Projected Revenue	\$ 0

# Exhibit H-3

October 22, 2020

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

## Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

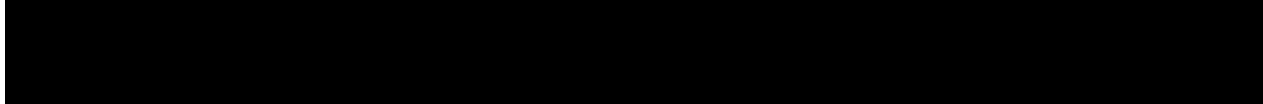
### Estimated Five-Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections: North Fork Catawba River PFA Tract

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary posting and signage	1	Site	One-time	\$8,500	\$8,500
Kiosks	1	Each	One-time	\$750	\$750
Routine maintenance (5 yr. period)	5	Year	Recurring	\$2,250	\$11,250
Gravel	1	Site	One-time	\$2,500	\$2,500
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$ 23,000</b>

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

**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>	19-Oct-20
<b>Tract Name:</b>	North Fork Catawba River
<b>County:</b>	McDowell
<b>Acreage:</b>	40+/-
<b>Tax Value:</b>	
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina / Andrew Kota, Executive Director



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

**Additional Comments:**

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

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<b>Tract Name:</b>	North Fork Catawba River
<b>County:</b>	McDowell

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

This parcel is located at the mouth of North Fork Catawba River as it enters Lake James in McDowell County. The primary agency interest in this parcel is to act as a direct take-out for float anglers on the North Fork Catawba River and indirect take out for Catawba River anglers as they enter Lake James. The site could be potentially managed as step-down or trailored boat launch. The location is also an excellent wading location for White Bass and Walleye during their annual spawning run and for other warmwater species such as Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, Black Crappie, and catfish. The tract would make a good addition to the Wallace Gray tract of Pisgah Game Land and help solidify WRC GL ownership in this area. The tract will also provide some additional hunting and wildlife related opportunities. Southern Appalachian Oak and Southern Appalachian Cove forests are the predominant forest cover types on this tract, and management objectives will include restoring or maintaining these priority wildlife habitat types.



Tract Name	North Fork Catawba
Date	August 26, 2020
Staff Completing Form	Doug Besler and Paul Thompson

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.481</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	1
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2

<b>Comments</b>
Aquatic Wildlife Diversity staff (Thomas Russ) surveyed this reach in 2019 and did not find mussels; however, Cambarus johni, Carolina Foothills Crayfish (NC SR) and Cambarus eeseehensis, Grandfather Mountain Crayfish (NC SR) were found. The fish diversity represents a common Catawba River basin assemblage for this location.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.611</b>
Size	0
Quality	2
Diversity	2
Rare/Important	2
Connectivity	3
Buffer	2

<b>Comments</b>
Tract will provide good connectivity to current game land. Diversity and quality of habitat are common for this general area. Will provide some additional buffer to adjoining lands.

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

<b>Comments</b>
Parcel would provide a direct take-out for float anglers on the North Fork Catawba River and indirect take-out for Catawba River anglers as they enter Lake James from the southwest.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.733</b>
Hunting	2
Viewing	2
Fishing	3
Boating	3
Education	1

<b>Comments</b>
Provides seasonal takeout access for Catawba River Walleye and trout anglers. Provides wade and boat access to Smallmouth Bass fishery in North Fork Catawba River.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.556</b>
Timber Harvest	1
Local Economy	2
Quality of Life	2

<b>Comments</b>
Timber harvest low due to tract size and stand composition. May provide some benefit to local economy and improve quality of life.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.600</b>
Existing Infrastructure	0
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	2
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	2
Inholding/Corridor	2
Proximity to Users	3

<b>Comments</b>
Tract is compatible with both hunting, fishing, and wildlife related activities. Minimal conflicts with adjacent landowners and the tract will provide a corridor to current game land on the east side of N. Fork Catawba River. Tract is in close proximity to a populous area.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.500</b>
Species Restoration	1
Habitat Restoration	1
Access Improvement	3
Threat Mitigation	1

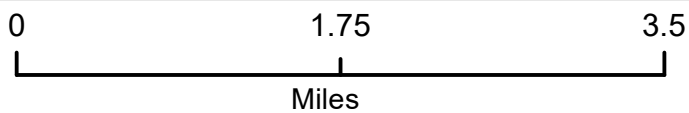
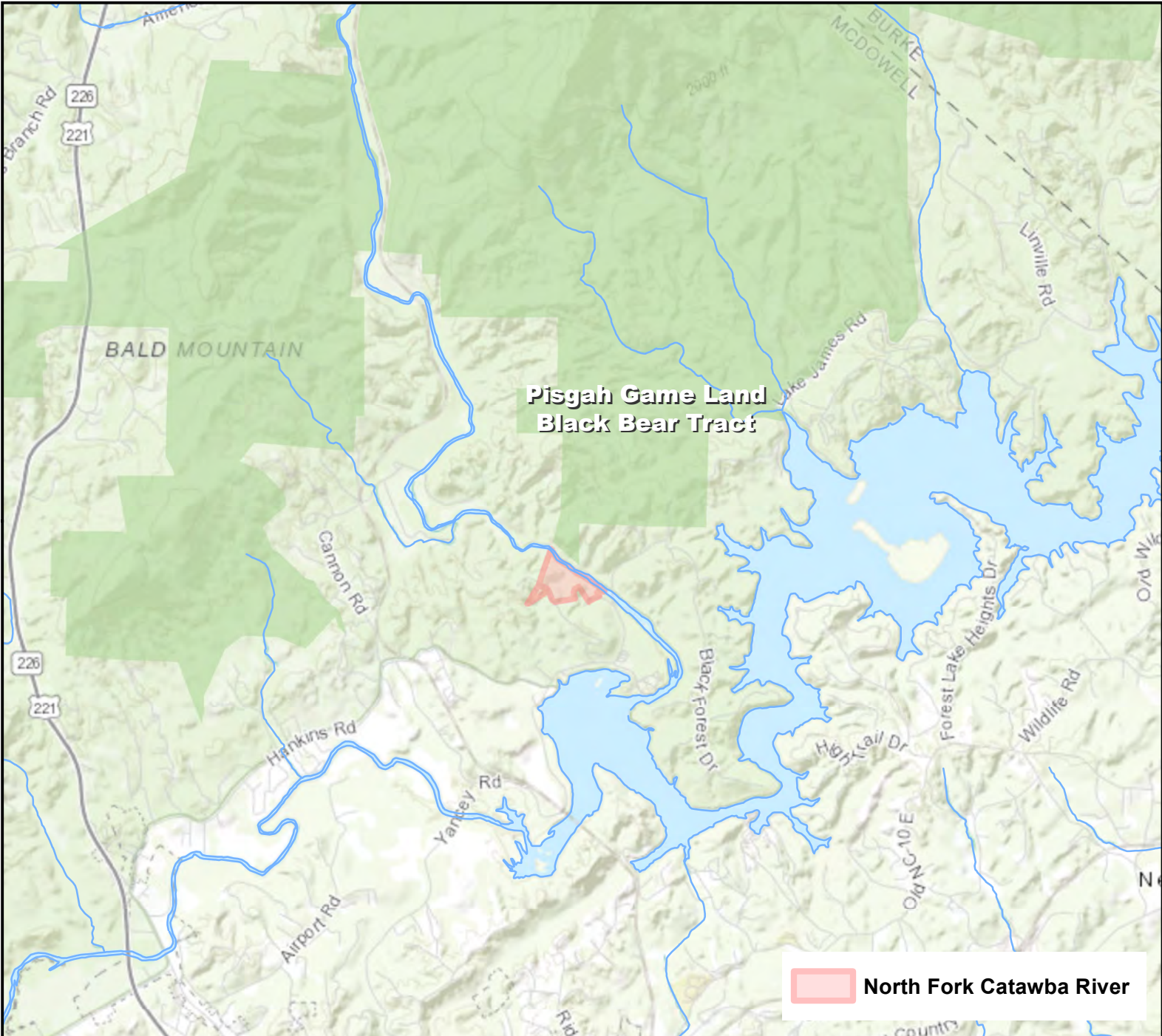
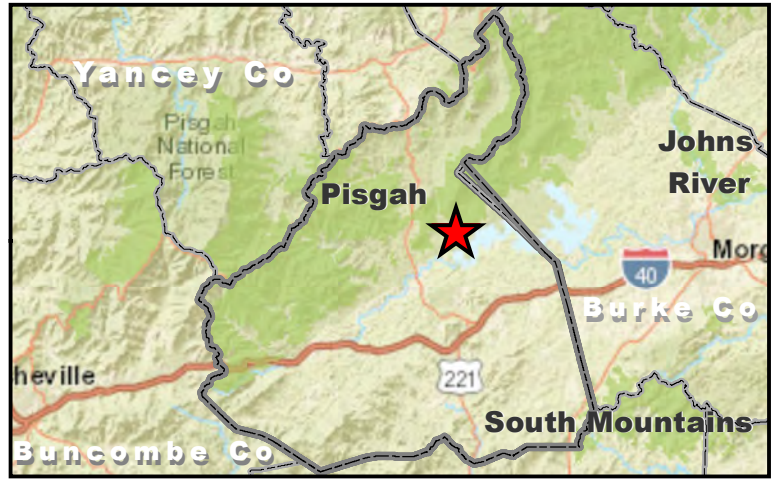
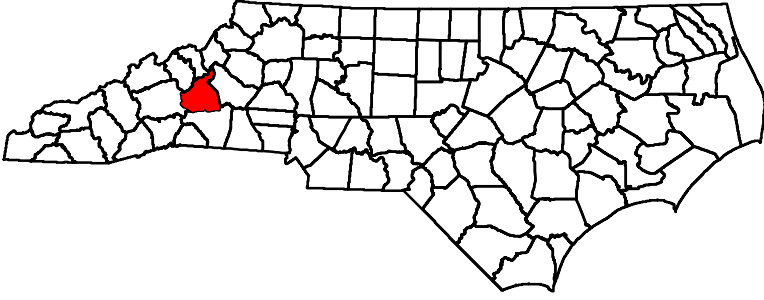
<b>Comments</b>
Will provide additional boating, fishing, and hunting access. Few opportunities for habitat or species restoration.

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

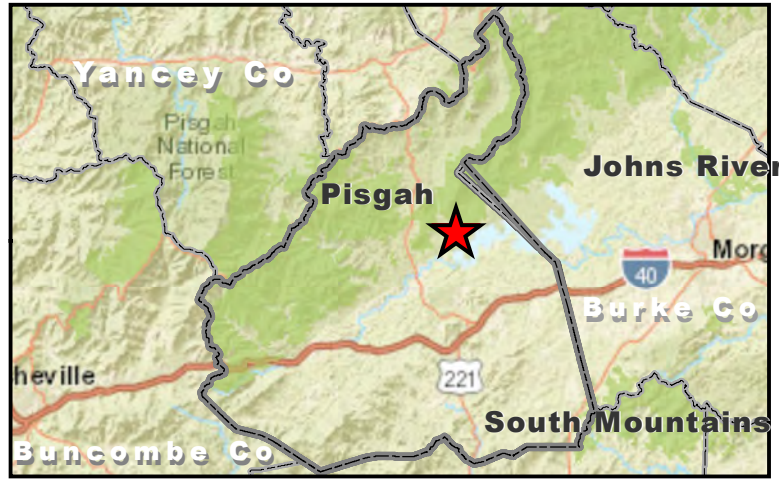
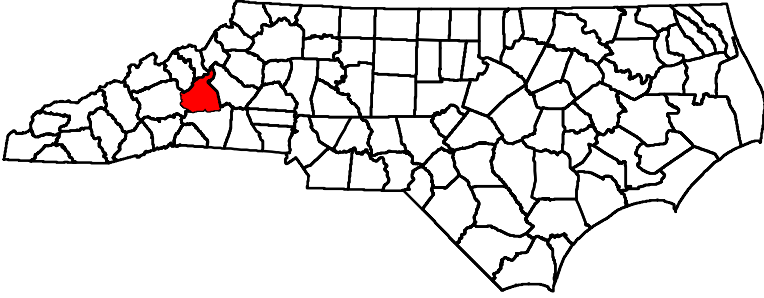
<b>Comments</b>
Threats to the tract are very low.

<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>4.215</b>
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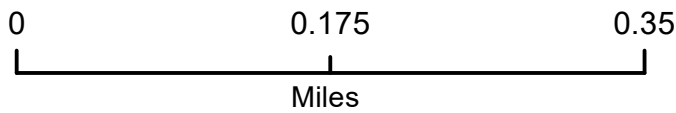
**North Fork Catawba River  
McDowell County  
+/- 40 Acres**



**North Fork Catawba River  
McDowell County  
+/- 40 Acres**



 **North Fork Catawba River**



# EXHIBIT I

October 22, 2020



## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

October 19, 2020

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian McRae, Section Chief  
Land and Water Access

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

SUBJECT: Request to demolish Elizabethtown Depot Shed

The WRC's Elizabethtown Depot in Bladen County has an existing pole shed used for equipment storage that is currently a hazard due to a severe termite infestation. The structure has been inspected by both a pest control expert and a structural engineer, both of whom found significant damage throughout the structure. It has been determined that due to the extent of the damage there is no way to repair or reconstruct the shed cost effectively, nor to salvage any materials from the current shed for use in a replacement structure. A complete condition report of the structure is attached to this memo including photos of documented damage.

Based on these concerns, staff request approval to demolish the shed so that a new shed can be built meeting current building codes. If approved, staff will work with the State Property Office to follow state-mandated procedures for disposition of the structure.

Land and Water Access

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

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

Phone: 919-707-0150

Fax: 919-707-0162

## ELIZABETHTOWN POLE SHED CONDITION REPORT – 8/19/20

### Condition Notes:

The pole shed used for equipment storage at WRC's Elizabethtown Depot has been hit with a termite infestation that has done severe damage to the supporting structure of the building. A pest control inspection noted that there was active termite evidence on support posts throughout the structure and evidence on the ceiling supports in at least a portion of the structure. Subsequent inspection by an engineer found that replacement of the structure is WRC's best option. Repair of the structure was considered but it was determined this was not the optimal route as the full extent of the termite damage would not be determined until portions of the building were deconstructed and full inspection possible. The deconstruction, inspection, and salvaging of materials would be labor intensive and would involve WRC entering into a project with unknown end cost and that would not result in as good an end product as a new structure. Additionally, the repair route could lead to water infiltration as siding and roofing is reinstalled but holes from initial installation are not used or sealed and therefore become infiltration points. With all factors considered WRC feels it is in the best interest of the state to demolish this building and replace with a new structure meeting current building codes.

This building has Building Asset ID 12888.



Photo 1: Front of Elizabethtown Pole Shed



Photo 2: Severe termite damage of timber girt that provides bracing and attachment point for siding



Photo 3: Evidence of termite presence inside timber support post

ELIZABETHTOWN POLE SHED CONDITION REPORT – 8/19/20



Photo 4: Timber support at north wall completely detached due to termite damage



Photo 5: Timber support at north wall completely detached due to termite damage

ELIZABETHTOWN POLE SHED CONDITION REPORT – 8/19/20



Photo 6: Most severe damage along north side resulting in distortion of north wall



Photo 7: Water staining on underside of roof supports indicates some existing leaking of roof



# EXHIBIT J - 1

October 22, 2020



## EMERGENCY RULEMAKING REQUEST TO PROPOSE TEXT 15A NCAC 10F .0323 – BURKE COUNTY, LAKE JAMES

Staff recommends approval to propose text to the Office of Administrative Hearings to start the emergency rulemaking process for a no-wake zone in Mill Creek on Lake James at Lake James State Park in Burke County, shore to shore for a distance of 345 yards, and a safety zone where vessel entry not authorized by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is prohibited, in the creek northeast and northwest of the no-wake zone. The no-wake zone and safety zone are necessary to mitigate water safety hazards caused by construction equipment during construction of a pedestrian bridge connected with the Lake James Visitor Center and Fonta Flora Trail.

Simultaneous commencement of temporary rulemaking is required when an agency adopts an emergency rule (*See G.S. 150B-21.1A*)

### 15A NCAC 10F .0323 BURKE COUNTY

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule applies ~~only~~ to the following waters or portions of waters in Burke County:

- (1) Lake Hickory;
- (2) Lake James, delineated by markers consistent with Paragraph (e) of this Rule, at the following locations:
  - (A) Holiday Shores Subdivision;
  - (B) Lake James Campground;
  - (C) Laurel Pointe Subdivision;
  - (D) The waters of Boyd Moore Cove shore to shore, north of a line from a point on the northwest shore at 35.76667 N, 81.82337 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.76558 N, 81.82245 W;
  - (E) East Shores development;
  - (F) Eastern shore of Lake James at Mallard Cove;
  - (G) *That portion of Lake James shore to shore, beginning 50 yards northeast of the NC Highway 126 bridge at a line from a point on the north shore at 35.74398 N, 81.88426 W, to a point on the south shore at 35.74334 N, 81.88383 W, and ending at a line 215 yards southwest of the NC Highway 126 bridge, from a point on the northwest shore at 35.74257 N, 81.88679 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.74160 N, 81.88516 W; 385 yards*

northeast of the NC Highway 126 bridge at a line from a point on the north shore at 35.74652 N, 81.88231 W to a point on the south shore at 35.74440 N, 81.88017 W, and ending at a line 550 yards southwest of the NC Highway 126 bridge and 50 yards south of the Canal Bridge Boating Access Area dock from a point on the northwest shore at 35.74163 N, 81.88943 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.73869 N, 81.88652 W;

~~(H) Within 50 yards of the Canal Bridge Boating Access area dock;~~

~~(H)~~ (H) The waters within 50 yards of the end of the South Pointe Subdivision peninsula from a point east of the peninsula at 35.76399 N, 81.83768 W, and surrounding the peninsula from a point east of the peninsula at 35.76399 N, 81.83768 W, and surrounding the peninsula to a point west of the peninsula at 35.76307 N, 81.83648 W; and

~~(I)~~ (I) The waters of Sherman's Hollow Cove shore to shore, and contiguous with those waters beginning at a point on the west shore of the mouth of Sherman's Hollow Cove at 35.76423 N, 81.82748 W, extending northeast within 50 yards of Linville Point to a point on the northeast shore of Linville Point at 35.76596 N, 81.82432 W.

(3) Lake Rhodhiss.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any designated public boat launching ramp, bridge, marina, boat storage structure, boat service area, dock, or pier; or while on designated waters of the areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Speed Limit in Mooring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while within a marked mooring area on the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(d) Restricted Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any marked public swimming area on the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

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

(f) Notwithstanding Paragraphs (a) through (e) of this Rule, no person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the waters known as Mill Creek at Lake James State Park, on Lake James shore to shore, beginning 345 yards northwest of a line from a point on the southwest shore at 35.76016 N, 81.87322 W to a point on the northeast shore at 35.762040 N, 81.87150 W, and ending at a line from a point on the southwest shore at 35.76215 N, 81.87624 W to a point on the northeast shore at 35.76343 N, 81.87442 W. Vessel entry not authorized by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be prohibited by establishment of a safety zone in the waters of Mill Creek on Lake James, northeast and northwest of a line from a point on the southwest shore at 35.76215 N, 81.87624 W to a point on the northeast shore at 35.76343 N, 81.87442 W. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers for this regulated area.

History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15; 102-1.1;





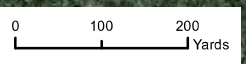
Lake James State Park

Lake James State Park

Lake James State Park Rd

Lake James

-  Safety Zone
-  Temporary NWZ



# EXHIBIT J - 2

October 22, 2020



## TEMPORARY RULEMAKING REQUEST TO PROPOSE TEXT 15A NCAC 10F .0323 – BURKE COUNTY, LAKE JAMES

Staff recommends approval to propose text to the Office of Administrative Hearings for temporary rulemaking for a no-wake zone in Mill Creek on Lake James at Lake James State Park in Burke County, shore to shore for a distance of 345 yards, and a safety zone where vessel entry not authorized by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is prohibited, in the creek northeast and northwest of the no-wake zone. The no-wake zone and safety zone are necessary to mitigate water safety hazards caused by construction equipment during construction of a pedestrian bridge connected with the Lake James Visitor Center and Fonta Flora Trail.

Simultaneous commencement of temporary rulemaking is required when an agency adopts an emergency rule (*See G.S. 150B-21.1A*).

One virtual public hearing will be held (due to Covid-19 closures) along with a comment period of at least 15 days. The temporary rule may be adopted at the December Commission meeting.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0323 BURKE COUNTY

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule applies ~~only~~ to the following waters or portions of waters in Burke County:
- (1) Lake Hickory;
  - (2) Lake James, delineated by markers consistent with Paragraph (e) of this Rule, at the following locations:
    - (A) Holiday Shores Subdivision;
    - (B) Lake James Campground;
    - (C) Laurel Pointe Subdivision;
    - (D) The waters of Boyd Moore Cove shore to shore, north of a line from a point on the northwest shore at 35.76667 N, 81.82337 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.76558 N, 81.82245 W;
    - (E) East Shores development;
    - (F) Eastern shore of Lake James at Mallard Cove;

- (G) *That portion of Lake James shore to shore, beginning ~~50 yards northeast of the NC Highway 126 bridge at a line from a point on the north shore at 35.74398 N, 81.88426 W, to a point on the south shore at 35.74334 N, 81.88383 W, and ending at a line 215 yards southwest of the NC Highway 126 bridge, from a point on the northwest shore at 35.74257 N, 81.88679 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.74160 N, 81.88516 W; 385 yards northeast of the NC Highway 126 bridge at a line from a point on the north shore at 35.74652 N, 81.88231 W to a point on the south shore at 35.74440 N, 81.88017 W, and ending at a line 550 yards southwest of the NC Highway 126 bridge and 50 yards south of the Canal Bridge Boating Access Area dock from a point on the northwest shore at 35.74163 N, 81.88943 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.73869 N, 81.88652 W;~~*
- ~~(H) — Within 50 yards of the Canal Bridge Boating Access area dock;~~
- ~~(H)~~ *(H) The waters within 50 yards of the end of the South Pointe Subdivision peninsula from a point east of the peninsula at 35.76399 N, 81.83768 W, and surrounding the peninsula from a point east of the peninsula at 35.76399 N, 81.83768 W, and surrounding the peninsula to a point west of the peninsula at 35.76307 N, 81.83648 W; and*
- ~~(I)~~ *(I) The waters of Sherman's Hollow Cove shore to shore, and contiguous with those waters beginning at a point on the west shore of the mouth of Sherman's Hollow Cove at 35.76423 N, 81.82748 W, extending northeast within 50 yards of Linville Point to a point on the northeast shore of Linville Point at 35.76596 N, 81.82432 W.*

(3) Lake Rhodhiss.

- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any designated public boat launching ramp, bridge, marina, boat storage structure, boat service area, dock, or pier; or while on designated waters of the areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Speed Limit in Mooring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while within a marked mooring area on the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (d) Restricted Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any marked public swimming area on the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (e) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Burke County is the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

(f) Notwithstanding Paragraphs (a) through (e) of this Rule, no person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the waters known as Mill Creek at Lake James State Park, on Lake James shore to shore, beginning 345 yards northwest of a line from a point on the southwest shore at 35.76016 N, 81.87322 W to a point on the northeast shore at 35.762040 N, 81.87150 W, and ending at a line from a point on the southwest shore at 35.76215 N, 81.87624 W to a point on the northeast shore at 35.76343 N, 81.87442 W. Vessel entry not authorized by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be prohibited by establishment of a safety zone in the waters of Mill Creek on Lake James, northeast and northwest of a line from a point on the southwest shore at 35.76215 N, 81.87624 W to a point on the northeast shore at 35.76343 N, 81.87442 W. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers for this regulated area.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15; 102-1.1;*

# EXHIBIT K-1

OCTOBER 22, 2020



## Fiscal Note Review of Proposed Wildlife Resources Commission No-Wake Zone Rule 15A NCAC 10F .0305 – Brunswick County, Town of Ocean Isle Beach

Contact: Betsy Haywood, No Wake Zone Coordinator  
1701 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, N.C 27699-1701  
(919) 707-0013  
betsy.haywood@ncwildlife.org

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

Authority: G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15

The proposed permanent amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0305 - Brunswick County (APPENDIX 1) will add a no-wake zone in the waters of the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW), shore to shore from a point 100 yards east of the Odell Williamson bridge, otherwise known as the N.C. Hwy 904 Causeway bridge to a point 100 yards west of the bridge in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach.

The Town of Ocean Isle Beach applied for rulemaking to mitigate hazards to boater safety. This area of the ICW is narrow and shallow. The WRC Boating Access Area (BAA) just east of the bridge is busy, with diminished sight lines coming east under the bridge and caused by bridge pilings and the fender system. The fender system creates a very narrow channel passage. It is located near a canal that is utilized for vessel fueling, restaurant usage, vessel rentals and numerous commercial purposes. Concurrence has been received from the US Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District to allow placing a no-wake zone within that part of the ICW.

The Town of Ocean Isle Beach will mark the no-wake zone at an estimated cost of \$1,560.00. Of that cost, the Town will spend \$400.00 for the Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) permit required under § 113A-118 before placing structures in waters in coastal counties. Two pilings will be placed by a contractor at a cost of \$500.00 for each piling. The \$1000.00 cost includes pilings and contractor labor to install the pilings. The Town of Ocean Isle Beach will purchase four no-wake signs, two signs on each piling, at a cost of \$40.00 each (\$40.00 x 4=\$160.00.) No additional cost for installation hours will be incurred, as placement of markers is the responsibility of the contractor.

**State Impact Analysis:** None.

**Local Impact Analysis:** The Town of Ocean Isle Beach will incur a cost of no more than \$1560.00 for the CAMA permit and purchase and placement of pilings and signage.

**Private Impact:** The rule has minimal private fiscal impact. The regulated community will not incur any direct financial cost as a result of this rule change, but their behavior will be restricted in the waters of the ICW in the vicinity of the bridge and the BAA. However, the benefit of that restriction is increased boater safety.

**Substantial Economic Impact:** There will be no substantial economic impact to the public.

## APPENDIX 1

### 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; ~~and~~
- (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, 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; ~~and~~
- (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the area indicated in Subparagraph (a)(9) of this ~~Rule~~ Rule; ~~and~~
- (4) the Town of Ocean Isle Beach for the area indicated in Subparagraph (a)(10) of this Rule.

*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. July 1, 2018.*



# EXHIBIT K-2

October 22, 2020



## APPLICATION FOR RULEMAKING FROM TOWN OF OCEAN ISLE BEACH AMENDMENT TO 15A NCAC 10F .0305 – BRUNSWICK COUNTY

The Wildlife Resources Commission received a formal application and Resolution from the Town of Ocean Isle Beach on August 21, 2020, requesting consideration of rulemaking for a no-wake zone in a portion of the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW), shore to shore from a point 100 yards west of the N.C. Highway 904 Causeway Bridge to a point 100 yards east of the bridge.

The Town of Ocean Isle Beach agreed to purchase and place pilings and no-wake signage necessary to mark the no-wake zone, and to purchase a CAMA permit required in coastal counties. A Fiscal Note (**Exhibit I-1**) detailing the expected expense incurred by a subdivision of the State (Town of Ocean Isle Beach) as the result of rulemaking was submitted to the Office of State Budget and Management.

Agency Enforcement has investigated the area and returned the Assessment Matrix (**Attachment A**). Hazards to boater safety were found including the bridge structure over a narrow portion of the ICW and a boating access area immediately adjacent to the bridge. There is heavy vessel traffic on both sides of the bridge as vessels try to pass through the narrow channel that is surrounded by a fender system under the bridge.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District was consulted and concurs with placement of markers and pilings in this portion of the ICW for mitigation of boater safety. (concurrence email from USACE-Wilmington District is in Attachment A.)

Staff recommends that the Commission approve publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* for adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0305, with an open comment period of at least 60 days and one virtual public hearing (due to Covid-19 pandemic closures) per the Administrative Procedure Act. Upon the close of the open comment period, the WRC will then consider adoption of the no wake zone.



## NO-WAKE ZONE WATER SAFETY HAZARDS MATRIX

### SECTION 1:

Name of organization/entity: Town of Ocean Isle Beach

Primary contact information: *Justin Whiteside, Asst. Town Administrator 910-579-3469*  
[justin@oibgov.com](mailto:justin@oibgov.com)

Exact location of requested no-wake zone:

Body of water and County: AIWW at Ocean Isle Beach, Brunswick County

Location: waters of the AIWW shore to shore on both sides of the Hwy 904 Odell Williamson bridge, Causeway Drive

Popular name of area, if any: Ocean Isle Beach Bridge

Width of No-Wake Zone: Narrowest Point: 400 feet Widest Point: 515 feet

Brief Description of area (example: bridge overpass, obstructed views, Intracoastal Waterway; etc) The Hwy 904 bridge passes over a narrow portion of the AIWW and a boating access area is immediately adjacent to the bridge. There is heavy vessel traffic on both sides of the bridge as vessels try to pass through the narrow channel surrounded by a fender system under the bridge. WRC has obtained concurrence from the Wilmington District of USACE to place a no-wake zone in the vicinity of the bridge.

7/2/2020

From HORTON, J TODD CIV USARMY CESAW (US) [James.T.Horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:James.T.Horton@usace.army.mil)

Hello Betsy,

Yes, we would concur with a no wake zone in the vicinity of the Ocean Isle Beach Bridge, especially since there is a boat ramp directly behind the fender system. What distance were you considering?

Todd Horton

Navigation Branch Deputy

Chief, Waterways Management Section

USACE Wilmington District. Office: (910) 251-4067; Cell: (910) 685-32

**Attach map of designated no-wake zone \* distance on both sides is suggested at 100 yards – please advise**

Ensure proposed no-wake zone map/and or location is agreed upon by point of contact

**Attach detailed reason given from point of contact for the request**

*Mr. Whiteside reports that at the boat ramp boats go under the bridge at speeds above idle, creating waves coming through the timbers of the fender system, creating rough water and hazards for boats as they load or unload. Boats exiting the ramp have blind spots at the timbers as they enter the ICW. The blind spots from the timbers create dangerous conditions as boats enter the canal for fueling or supplies. Traffic is very heavy in the confined area on both sides of the bridge as boats try to maneuver under the bridge.*

Is the proposed no-wake zone located within an area that is regulated by the U.S Army Corps of Engineers or the Division of Coastal Management (CAMA) i.e.; Intracoastal Waterway?

YES  ICW – concurrence received 7-2-2020; CAMA permit required by Town

NO

**(When dealing with the point of contact, please advise that placement of markers in these waters is subject to prior approval of above agency in waters where applicable. NCWRC has no authority to supersede these rules.)**

**SECTION 2:**

**PUBLIC SAFETY HAZARD**

What public safety hazard exists? High Traffic area, access area close by, blind spot created by bridge pilings, commercial area with canal leading out into waterway at bridge.

Is this a public swimming or recreational area?

NO

YES  would the establishment of a roped swimming area or placement of no-wake regulatory buoys be more appropriate? **ROPED SWIM AREA**

**NO-WAKE BUOYS**

**SECTION 3:**

**NAVIGATIONAL HAZARDS**

Identify any and all potential hazards associated with the proposed no-wake zone (check all that apply)

**OBSTRUCTIONS**  (Identify) Bridge piling/fender system is visual obstruction to vessels entering and exiting.

NARROW CHANNEL  (give approximate width) 80 feet between bridge fender system where vessels normally pass through.

SHALLOW WATER  (give average depth) \_\_\_\_\_

OBSTRUCTED VISION  (for approximately how great a distance) 250 feet

STRUCTURES (Check all applicable)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DAM                                | <input type="checkbox"/> LOCK                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SPILLWAY                           | <input type="checkbox"/> JETTY               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURE            | <input type="checkbox"/> SUBMERGED STRUCTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TRESTLE                            | <input type="checkbox"/> SANDBAR             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> POWER LINE                         | <input type="checkbox"/> SHOAL               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FUELING DOCK            | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE DOCKS       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RESTAURANT DOCKS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BRIDGE   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESS AREA/BOAT LAUNCH | <input type="checkbox"/> PIER                |

OTHER (list and describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 4:**

If approved, will the no-wake zone extend into a designated channel?

NO

YES  (if yes, identify on map)

What is the total distance boaters will travel at a no-wake speed 600 feet

Estimated time to travel for boaters through the proposed no-wake zone at no-wake speed 3 to 4 minutes

**SECTION 5:** List any other known incidents, safety concerns or problems that have occurred?  
No boat incidents have occurred at this location up to this point. There have been numerous requests from boat operators and access area users for a no wake zone in this area.

---

---

Rate traffic density in this area from light to heavy

LIGHT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 HEAVY

Is traffic density specific to weekend/and or holidays? Consistent on a daily basis during spring and summer months.

Does traffic density or ability to maneuver a vessel due to traffic cause safety issues? YES   
NO

---

Rate the likelihood of an incident occurring in this area compared to other similar areas on this same body of water **VERY UNLIKELY** 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **MORE LIKELY**

### SECTION 6:

#### OFFICER ASSESSMENT OF WATER SAFETY HAZARDS

YES:

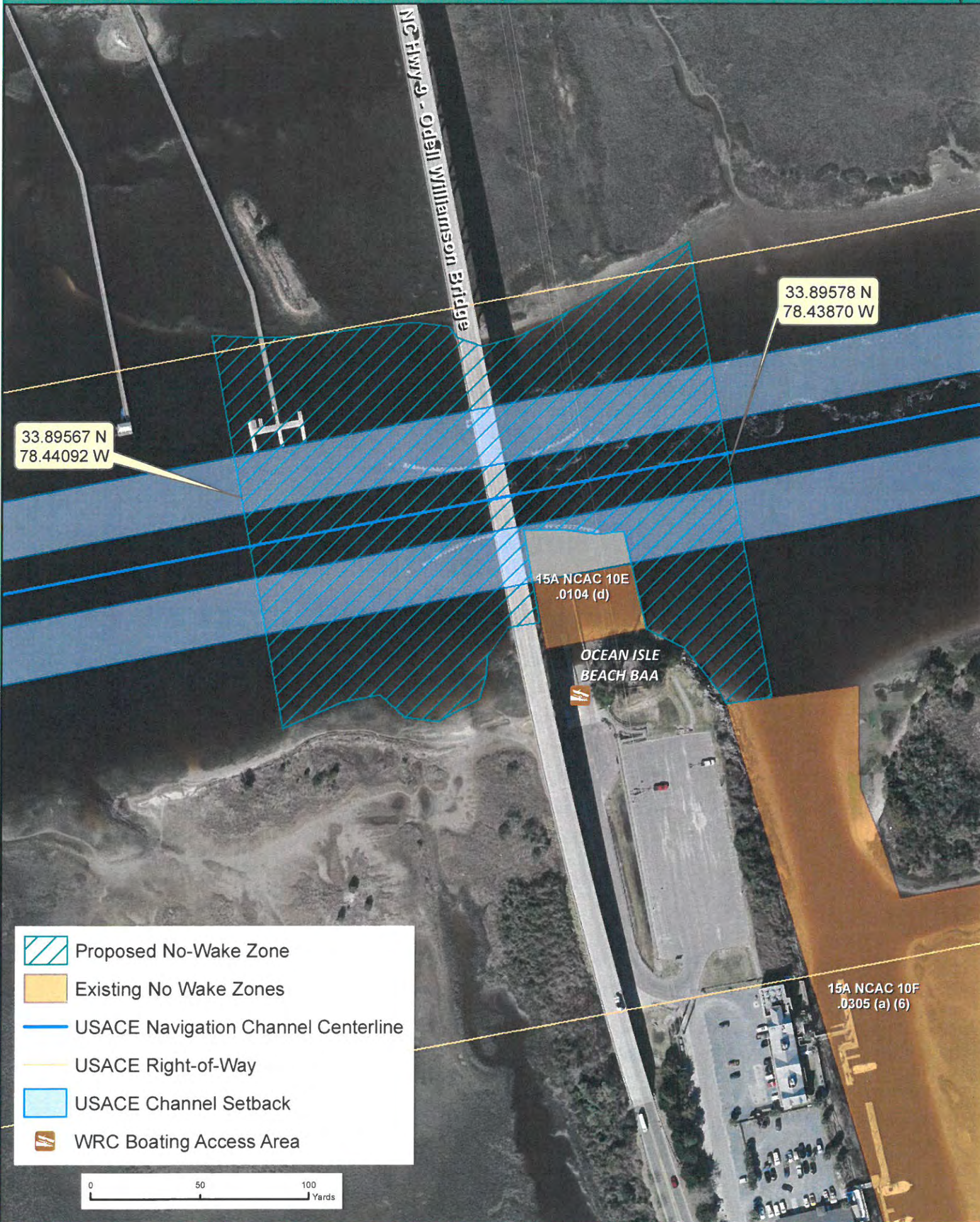
NO:







Reasons: This area is located close to an access area where numerous vessels are launched and recovered. It is also located near a canal that is utilized for fueling of vessels, restaurant usage, vessel rentals and numerous commercial purposes. Vessels are continuously entering and exiting this area near the bridge and access area. The bridge pilings and fender system create a visual obstruction for oncoming vessels. The number of vessels coming through this area create wakes that are detrimental to those trying to launch and recover vessels at the access area. The narrow channel created by the fender system of the bridge causes vessels to have to operate in very close proximity to one another when passing under the bridge, which could lead to potential incidents.

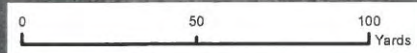
Officer: Sgt. Scott Pritchard

Date: 07/14/2020

*Sgt. Scott Pritchard #909*



-  Proposed No-Wake Zone
-  Existing No Wake Zones
-  USACE Navigation Channel Centerline
-  USACE Right-of-Way
-  USACE Channel Setback
-  WRC Boating Access Area





Town of Ocean Isle Beach

Resolution No. 2020 - 7  
Date Adopted: August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHMENT OF  
"NO WAKE" ZONE IN AIWW AT ODELL WILLIAMSON BRIDGE**

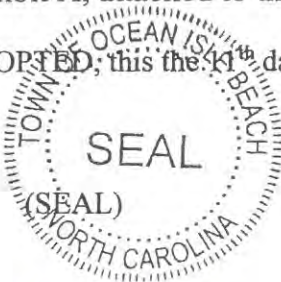
**Whereas**, under authority of Section 15A NCAC 10-F.0340 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, a municipality may, after public notice, make formal application to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission for special rules and regulation with reference to the safe and reasonable operation of vessels of any water within its territorial limits; and

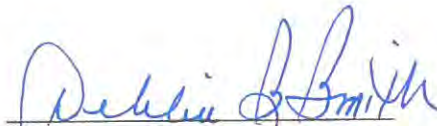
**Whereas**, The Town of Ocean Isle Beach has given public notice of its intention to make a formal application to the Wildlife Resources Commission for special rules and regulation with reference to the safe and reasonable operation of vessels within the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway at the Odell Williamson Bridge (HWY 904/Causeway Drive) located in Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, the pertinent substance of which proposed regulations is as follows:

To designate a "No Wake" Zone for the following:

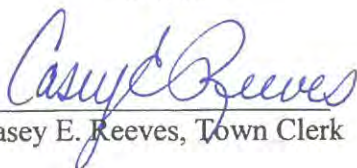
The area shore to shore 100 yards east and 100 yards west of the Odell Williamson Bridge within the AIWW. The entire area will be designated "No Wake" as shown in Exhibit A, attached to this resolution and incorporated by reference.

ADOPTED, this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.



  
Debbie Smith, Mayor

8/11/2020  
Date

  
Casey E. Reeves, Town Clerk



August 21, 2020

Ms. Betsy Haywood  
No Wake Zone Coordinator  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission  
1701 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1701

RE: Ocean Isle Beach No Wake Zone Application

Ms. Haywood,

Please find the attached No Wake Zone Application as well as a resolution from our Board of Commissioners requesting rule making. The Town agrees to purchase the required markers and work with NC Wildlife staff on the installation.

Thank you for your assistance with this application. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin W. Whiteside".

Justin W. Whiteside  
Asst. Town Administrator  
Town of Ocean Isle Beach

Enc.



# EXHIBIT L

October 22, 2020



## Proposed Rules for Adoption

### Section 15A NCAC 10H .1500 – Wildlife and Alligator Control Agents Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment and Presentation at Public Hearing

Session Law 2019-204 established the Wildlife Control Agent (WCA) License and Alligator Control Agent (ACA) Certification in statute. The rules proposed for adoption in this Section will replace current agency rules for the Wildlife Damage Control Agent (WDCA) program found in 15A NCAC 10B .0106.

#### **10H .1501**

Establishes definitions and details training and exam requirements for a WCA license.

*10H .1501 Wildlife Control Agent License Eligibility and Requirements (pg. 3)*

#### **10H .1502**

Provides detail on the issuance of depredation permits by WCAs; specifies species for which the issuance of a permit is prohibited; and clarifies that WCAs cannot receive compensation for a depredation permit.

*10H .1502 Depredation Permits Issued by Wildlife Control Agents (pg. 4)*

#### **10H .1503**

Incorporates manner of take and disposition of wildlife requirements in 10B .0106; establishes WCA license number and trapper identification number equivalency; and establishes a bat eviction and exclusion activity period August 1 to April 30.

*10H .1503 Manner of Take (pg. 5)*

#### **10H .1504**

Provides details on record-keeping, reporting, and record retention requirements for WCAs.

*10H .1504 Records and Reporting Requirements (pg. 6)*

**10H .1505**

Specifies requirements for the renewal of the annual WCA license; and provides that the Executive Director may warn, cite, or revoke a WCA's license for certain violations as specified.

*10H .1505 Wildlife Control Agent License Renewal and Revocation (pg. 7)*

**10H .1506**

Establishes definitions and details training and exam requirements for WCAs to qualify for ACA certification.

*10H .1506 Alligator Control Agent Certification (pg. 8)*

**10H .1507**

Sets forth additional permits (endangered species and Commission-issued depredation permits) required for ACAs to handle and relocate alligators; and establishes requirements for authorization in emergency situations.

*10H .1507 Additional Permit Requirements for Alligator Control Agents (pg. 9)*

**10H .1508**

Provides details on record-keeping, reporting, and record retention requirements for ACAs.

*10H .1508 Alligator Control Agent Records and Reporting Requirements (pg. 10)*

**10H .1509**

Specifies requirements for the renewal of the annual ACA certification; and provides that the Executive Director may warn, cite, or revoke an ACA certification for certain violations as specified.

*10H .1509 Alligator Control Agent Certification Renewal and Revocation (pg. 11)*

1 **15A NCAC 10H .1501 Wildlife Control Agent License Eligibility and Requirements**

2 (a) The following definitions shall apply in this Section:

3 (1) “Wildlife control agent” or “WCA” means an individual that holds a current and valid wildlife  
4 control agent license issued by the Commission.

5 (2) “Wildlife control agent license” or “WCA license” means a license issued by the Commission that  
6 authorizes an individual to engage in wildlife damage control or wildlife removal activities by means  
7 of a depredation permit.

8 (b) It shall be unlawful to engage in wildlife damage control or wildlife removal activities for compensation,  
9 including eviction or exclusion activities, without first obtaining a wildlife control agent (WCA) license from the  
10 Commission, except that licensed trappers taking wild animals during the applicable open trapping season for that  
11 species shall not be required to obtain a WCA license.

12 (c) Individuals meeting the following requirements shall qualify for a WCA license:

13 (1) completion of a Commission-approved, WCA training course, that reviews the following:

14 (A) wildlife laws and rules, including methods of take, trapping, and depredation; and

15 (B) safe, humane wildlife handling techniques.

16 (2) a passing score of at least 80 percent on the WCA examination as specified in Paragraph (e) of this  
17 Rule.

18 (3) no wildlife misdemeanor convictions, as specified in G.S. 113-294 or G.S. 14, Article 47, that  
19 resulted in a license suspension or revocation within the five years preceding completion of the  
20 WCA training course.

21 (d) Individuals may register for a Commission-approved training course at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca). Required  
22 information shall include the following:

23 (1) the applicant's name, mailing address, email address, residence address, telephone number, driver's  
24 license number, and date of birth; and

25 (2) organizational affiliation, if applicable.

26 (e) Individuals scoring at least an 80 percent on the WCA examination provided by the Commission shall be deemed  
27 to have received a passing score and to have successfully demonstrated knowledge of wildlife laws and safe, humane  
28 wildlife handling techniques. Individuals failing to obtain a passing score on the WCA examination shall receive one  
29 opportunity to re-take the examination and receive a passing score without being required to retake the WCA training  
30 course.

31 (f) A WCA license shall not be transferable between individuals.

32  
33 History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274  
34

1 **15A NCAC 10H .1502 Depredation Permits Issued by Wildlife Control Agents**

2 (a) WCAs may issue depredation permits to landholders and may be listed as a second party on the permit to provide  
3 wildlife damage control or wildlife removal services. Depredation permits shall be issued and administered in  
4 accordance with the applicable provisions and requirements of 15A NCAC 10B .0106.

5 (b) WCAs shall not issue depredation permits for the following:

6 (1) any endangered, threatened, or special concern species listed in 15A NCAC 10I .0103 - .0105;

7 (2) coyotes in Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, or Washington counties;

8 (3) big game animals, including Black Bear, White-tail Deer, and Wild Turkey;

9 (4) elk; and

10 (5) bats.

11 (c) WCAs shall be authorized to issue depredation permits for the taking of wildlife not prohibited in Paragraph (b)  
12 of this Rule, provided there is evidence that the wildlife is or has been damaging or destroying property.

13 (d) Depredation permits shall not be issued for the taking of migratory birds unless a corresponding, valid U.S. Fish  
14 and Wildlife Service depredation permit, as required by 50 CFR 21.41, has been obtained, if required.

15 (e) WCAs shall not receive compensation for the issuance of depredation permits; however, nothing in this Section  
16 shall be construed to limit the ability of a WCA to receive compensation for investigations or wildlife damage control  
17 and removal services.

18  
19 History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274

1 **15A NCAC 10H .1503 Manner of Take**

2 (a) WCAs shall comply with applicable manner of taking and disposition of wildlife requirements specified in 15A  
3 NCAC 10B .0106.

4 (b) A WCA license number shall be equivalent to a trapper identification number for the purpose of meeting trap  
5 identification requirements specified in G.S. 113-291.6(b)(4) for all trap types used.

6 (c) WCAs may only engage in bat eviction and exclusion activities from August 1 through April 30 of the next  
7 calendar year unless otherwise approved by the Commission, on a case-by-case basis, for reasons of public health and  
8 safety, species conservation, or animal health.

9  
10 History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274

1 **15A NCAC 10H .1504 Records and Reporting Requirements**

2 (a) WCAs shall maintain the following records:

- 3 (1) a copy of each depredation permit issued; and  
4 (2) the species, number, and disposition of each animal taken, organized by county.

5 (b) WCAs shall submit the following information to the Commission each calendar quarter for each animal taken  
6 pursuant to a depredation permit:

- 7 (1) depredation permit number and date of issue of the permit that authorized take;  
8 (2) WCA license number;  
9 (3) county where permit issued;  
10 (4) type of damage;  
11 (5) species;  
12 (6) number of animals estimated to be taken;  
13 (7) number of animals taken;  
14 (8) method of take; and  
15 (9) disposition of animal.

16 (c) Records shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request or during the  
17 Commission's business hours.

18 (d) Records shall be retained by the WCA for 12 months following expiration of the WCA license.

19  
20 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274

1 **15A NCAC 10H .1505 Wildlife Control Agent License Renewal and Revocation**

2 (a) A WCA may renew his or her WCA license by completing at least one Commission-approved continuing  
3 education course within the previous year. A list of Commission-approved continuing education courses may be  
4 found at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca).

5 (b) WCAs that do not renew their license for two consecutive calendar years shall be ineligible for renewal and  
6 shall be required to repeat the requirements specified in 15A NCAC 10H .1501, prior to obtaining a new WCA  
7 license.

8 (c) The Executive Director or his or her designee, may warn, cite, or revoke a WCA's license, if the WCA violates  
9 any provision of G.S. 14, Article 47; G.S. 113, Subchapter IV; any rules promulgated by the Commission; conditions  
10 of the WCA license; or standards taught in a Commission-approved WCA training course. The determination whether  
11 to warn, cite, or revoke a WCA's wildlife control agent license shall be based upon the seriousness of the violation.

12  
13 History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274  
14

1 **15A NCAC 10H .1506 Alligator Control Agent Certification Eligibility and Requirements**

2 (a) The following definitions shall apply in this Section:

3 (1) “Alligator control agent” or “ACA” means a licensed Wildlife Control Agent that holds a current  
4 and valid alligator control agent certification issued by the Commission.

5 (2) “Alligator control agent certification” or “ACA certification” means a certification issued by the  
6 Commission that authorizes a Wildlife Control Agent to engage in alligator damage control or  
7 alligator removal activities by means of a Commission-issued depredation permit.

8 (b) It shall be unlawful to engage in alligator damage control or alligator removal activities for compensation without  
9 first obtaining an alligator control agent (ACA) certification from the Commission.

10 (c) Only individuals with a valid WCA license shall be eligible for ACA certification.

11 (d) WCAs meeting the following requirements shall qualify for ACA certification:

12 (1) completion of a Commission-approved ACA training course that reviews the following:

13 (A) alligator regulations;

14 (B) procedures for alligator data collection activities; and

15 (C) safe, humane alligator capture, handling, and transporting techniques.

16 (2) a passing score on the ACA written examination as specified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

17 (3) demonstration to the Commission of necessary equipment to safely and humanely capture and  
18 relocate alligators, including ropes, cables, snares, poles, passive integrated transponder (PIT) tag  
19 reader, and an alligator transport device.

20 (e) WCAs may register for a Commission-approved ACA training course at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca)

21 (f) WCAs scoring at least an 80 percent on the ACA examination provided by the Commission shall be deemed to  
22 have received a passing score. WCAs failing to obtain a passing score on the examination shall receive one opportunity  
23 to re-take the examination and receive a passing score without being required to retake the ACA training course.

24 (g) An ACA certification shall not be transferable between individuals.

25  
26 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*



1 **15A NCAC 10H .1507 Additional Permit Requirements for Alligator Control Agents**

2 (a) ACAs shall obtain an endangered species permit from the Commission each calendar year prior to conducting any  
3 alligator handling and relocation activities.

4 (b) ACAs shall only handle alligators after a separate depredation permit for each alligator has been issued from a  
5 representative of the Commission.

6 (c) In emergency situations, where an alligator must be moved without delay due to a current or imminent threat to  
7 human safety, the safety of the alligator, or disruption of traffic, ACAs shall obtain an authorization code from a  
8 representative of the Commission prior to conducting any alligator handling and relocation activities. Authorization  
9 codes may be obtained from Commission District Biologists or by contacting the Commission's communications  
10 center at 1-800-662-7137 to be directed to an appropriate Commission representative.

11  
12 History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274

1 **15A NCAC 10H .1508 Alligator Control Agent Records and Reporting Requirements**

2 (a) ACAs shall maintain alligator datasheets for each alligator handled or relocated, which shall include the following  
3 information:

- 4 (1) dates and times of capture and release;
- 5 (2) the GPS locations of the capture and release sites;
- 6 (3) PIT tag number inserted or found upon scanning;
- 7 (4) scute numbers removed;
- 8 (5) total length and snout-to-vent length measurements;
- 9 (6) gender as determined by cloacal examination;
- 10 (7) general observations on physical condition including any injuries observed; and
- 11 (8) the Commission-issued depredation permit number or authorization code.

12 (b) ACAs shall follow the reporting requirements on the endangered species permit.

13 (c) Records shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request or during the  
14 Commission's business hours.

15 (d) Records shall be retained by the ACA for 12 months following expiration of the ACA certification.

16  
17 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

18

1 **15A NCAC 10H .1509 Alligator Control Agent Certification Renewal and Revocation**

2 (a) An ACA may renew his or her alligator control agent certification by certifying proof of attending at least one  
3 Commission-approved alligator-specific continuing education course within the previous year. A list of Commission-  
4 approved renewal courses may be found at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

5 (b) ACAs shall maintain a valid WCA license at all times.

6 (c) The Executive Director or his or her designee may warn, cite, suspend, or revoke an ACA's certification, if the  
7 ACA violates any provision of G.S. 14, Article 47, or G.S. 113, Subchapter IV, or any rules promulgated by the  
8 Commission; conditions of the certification; or standards taught in a Commission-approved ACA training course. The  
9 determination whether to warn, cite, suspend, or revoke an ACA's certification shall be based upon the seriousness of  
10 the violation.

11  
12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

# EXHIBIT M

October 22, 2020



## **Proposed Amendments to 15A NCAC 10B .0106 – Wildlife Taken for Depredations Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment and Presentation at Public Hearing**

Because of the Wildlife and Alligator Control Agent rules proposed for Section 10H .1500, 10B .0106 required updates to remove the Wildlife Damage Control Agent Certification and requirements.

### **10B .0106**

This Rule was amended to remove language concerning Wildlife Damage Control Agent Certification and update and clarify language.

*15A NCAC 10B .0106 Wildlife Taken for Depredations (pgs.2-5)*

1 **15A NCAC 10B .0106 WILDLIFE TAKEN FOR DEPREDATIONS**

2 ~~(a) Depredation permits allow the taking of undesirable or excess wildlife resources as described in Subparagraphs~~  
3 ~~(b)(1) and (b)(2) of this Paragraph. Only employees of the Wildlife Resources Commission (Commission) and~~  
4 ~~Wildlife Damage Control Agents (WDCA) may issue depredation permits. Only depredation permits prepared on a~~  
5 ~~form supplied by the Commission shall be valid. No permit is needed for the owner or lessee of a property to take~~  
6 ~~wildlife while committing depredations on that property; however, the manner of taking, disposition of dead wildlife,~~  
7 ~~and reporting requirements as described in this Rule still apply.~~

8 (a) Depredation permits shall authorize the taking, destruction, transfer, removal, transplanting, or driving away of  
9 undesirable, destructive, or excess wildlife or wildlife resources as specified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

10 (b) The following conditions shall apply to depredation permits:

- 11 (1) depredation permits shall be prepared on a form supplied by the Commission; and  
12 (2) depredation permits shall only be issued by authorized employees of the Commission or licensed  
13 Wildlife Control Agents (WCA).

14 (c) Depredation permits shall not be required for the owner or lessee of a property to take wildlife while committing  
15 depredations on that property; however, the manner of take, disposition of dead wildlife, and reporting requirements  
16 specified in this Rule shall apply.

17 ~~(b) (d)~~ (d) No permit shall be issued to take any endangered or threatened species of wildlife listed under 15A NCAC  
18 10I, except alligators, by reason of depredations to property. Only the The Executive Director or his or her designee  
19 may issue depredation permits for Special Concern species listed in 15A NCAC 10I .0105 and for alligators. An  
20 individual may take an endangered or threatened species in immediate defense of his or her own life or of the lives of  
21 others without a permit. Any endangered or threatened species that may constitute a demonstrable but non-immediate  
22 threat to human safety shall be reported to a federal or Commission wildlife enforcement officer, who, upon  
23 verification of the report, may take or remove the specimen as provided by 15A NCAC 10I .0102. Depredation permits  
24 for other species may be issued under the following conditions:

- 25 (1) for taking wildlife that is or has been damaging or destroying property, provided there is evidence  
26 of property damage. No permit may be issued for the taking of migratory birds and other federally-  
27 protected animals unless a corresponding, valid U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service depredation  
28 permit(s), if required, has been issued. A permit issued pursuant to this Rule shall name the species  
29 allowed to be taken and may include limitations as to age, sex, type of depredation, location of  
30 animal or damage, and local laws. The permit shall be issued to a landholder or an authorized  
31 representative of a unit of local government for depredations on public property. The permit shall  
32 be used only by individuals named on the permit.
- 33 (2) for taking of wildlife resources in circumstances of overabundance or when the wildlife resources  
34 present a danger to human safety. Cities, as defined in G.S. 160A-1(2), seeking a depredation permit  
35 pursuant to these circumstances shall apply to the Commission using an application available from  
36 the Commission. The application shall include the following information:
- 37 (A) the name and location of the city;  
38 (B) the acreage of the affected property;

- (C) a map of the affected property;
- (D) the signature of an authorized city representative;
- (E) the nature of the overabundance or the threat to public safety; and
- (F) a description of previous actions taken by the city to ameliorate the problem.

~~(e) Wildlife Damage Control Agents. Individuals meeting the following eligibility requirements may apply to become a Wildlife Damage Control Agent (WDCA):~~

~~(1) Successful completion of a training course that is designed to:~~

- ~~(A) review wildlife laws;~~
- ~~(B) review safe, humane wildlife handling techniques.~~

~~(2) No wildlife misdemeanor conviction, as specified in G.S. 113-294 that resulted in a license suspension or revocation, within the last five years prior to application to become a WDCA.~~

~~Those individuals who demonstrate knowledge of wildlife laws and safe, humane wildlife handling techniques by a passing score of 80 percent or better on a written examination provided by a representative of the Commission, in cooperation with the training course provider, shall be approved. Those individuals failing to obtain a passing score shall be given one chance for re-testing without re-taking the course. Those individuals approved as agents by the Commission may then issue depredation permits for depredation as defined in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule to landholders and be listed as a second party to provide the control service. WDCAs may not issue depredation permits for coyotes in the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, Washington; big game animals; bats; or any species listed as endangered, threatened, or special concern under 15A NCAC 10I .0103, .0104, and .0105 of this Chapter. WDCAs shall annually report to the Commission the number and disposition of animals by county. Records shall be available for inspection by a wildlife enforcement officer at any time during the posted business hours of the Commission at [newwildlife.org](http://newwildlife.org). The Executive Director shall revoke WDCA status when there is evidence of violations of wildlife laws, failure to report, or inhumane treatment of animals by the WDCA. A WDCA may not charge for the permit, but may charge for his or her investigations and control services. Each WDCA shall renew his or her agent status every three years by showing proof of having attended at least one training course provided for the purpose of reviewing and updating information on wildlife laws and safe, humane wildlife handling techniques within the previous 12 months or agency approved continuing education credits.~~

~~(d) (e) Each depredation permit shall have an expiration date or time after which the depredation permit is no longer valid. date. The A depredation permit authorizes the possession of any wildlife resources taken under the authority of the permit permit. and Depredation permits shall be retained as long as the wildlife resource is in the permittee's authorized individual's possession. All individuals~~ Individuals taking wildlife resources under the authority of a depredation permit shall comply with the conditions ~~written on~~ of the permit and the requirements specified in this Rule.

~~(e)-(f) Manner of Taking:~~

- (1) Taking Without a Permit. Wildlife taken without a permit while committing depredations to property may, during the open season on the species, be taken by the landholder by any lawful method. During the closed season, such depredating wildlife may be taken without a permit only by the use of firearms or archery equipment as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116.

- 1 (2) Taking With a Permit. Wildlife taken under a depredation permit may be taken only by the method  
2 or methods authorized by the permit. When trapping is authorized, in order to limit the taking to the  
3 intended purpose, the permit may specify a reasonable distance from the property sought to be  
4 protected, within which the traps shall be set. The Executive Director, Commission employee, or  
5 ~~agent~~ WCA may also state in a permit authorizing trapping whether or not bait or lure may be used  
6 and the type of bait or lure that is authorized based upon factors such as type of depredation,  
7 locations of animal or damage, and local laws. In addition to any trapping restrictions that may be  
8 contained in the permit, the method of trapping shall be in accordance with the requirements and  
9 restrictions imposed by G.S. 113-291.6 and other local laws passed by the General Assembly. No  
10 depredation permit shall authorize the use of poisons or pesticides in taking wildlife except in  
11 accordance with the provisions of the North Carolina Pesticide Law of 1971, G.S. 143, Article 52,  
12 the Structural Pest Control Act of 1955, G.S. 106, Article 4C, and G.S. 113, Article 22A. No  
13 depredation permit shall authorize the taking of wildlife by any method by any landholder upon the  
14 lands of another except when the individual is listed as a second party on a depredation permit.
- 15 (3) Intentional Wounding. It is unlawful for any landholder, with or without a depredation permit, to  
16 intentionally wound a wild animal in a manner so as not to cause its immediate death as suddenly  
17 and humanely as the circumstances permit.

18 ~~(f)~~ (g) Disposition of Wildlife Taken:

- 19 (1) Generally. Except as provided by Subparagraphs (2) through (5) of this Paragraph, any wildlife  
20 killed without a permit while committing depredations shall be buried or disposed of in a safe and  
21 sanitary manner on the property where taken. Wildlife killed under a depredation permit may be  
22 transported to an alternate disposal site if desired. Anyone in possession of carcasses of animals  
23 being transported under a depredation permit shall have the depredation permit in his or her  
24 possession. Except as provided by Subparagraphs ~~(f)(2) through (5) of this Rule,~~ (2) through (5) of  
25 this Paragraph, all wildlife killed under a depredation permit shall be buried or otherwise disposed  
26 of as stated on the permit.
- 27 (2) Deer and feral swine. The edible portions of feral swine and deer may be retained by the landholder  
28 for consumption but shall not be transported from the property where the depredations took place  
29 without a valid depredation permit. The landholder may give a second party the edible portions of  
30 feral swine or deer taken under a depredation permit. The receiver of the edible portions shall hold  
31 a copy of the depredation permit. The nonedible portions of any deer carcass, including head, hide,  
32 feet, and antlers, shall be disposed of as specified in Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph or turned  
33 over to a wildlife enforcement officer for disposition.
- 34 (3) Fox. Any fox killed under a depredation permit may be disposed of as described in Subparagraph  
35 (1) of this Paragraph or, upon compliance with the fur tagging requirements of 15A NCAC 10B  
36 Section .0400, the carcass or pelt thereof may be sold to a licensed fur dealer.
- 37 (4) Furbearing Animals. The carcass or pelt of any furbearing animal killed during the open season for  
38 taking such furbearing animal for control of depredations to property, whether with or without a

1 permit, may be sold to a licensed fur dealer provided that the person offering such carcass or pelt  
2 for sale has a valid hunting or trapping license; provided further that bobcats and otters may only be  
3 sold upon compliance with any required fur tagging requirement set forth in 15A NCAC 10B  
4 Section .0400.

5 (5) Animals Taken Alive. Wild animals in the order Carnivora, armadillos, groundhogs, nutria, and  
6 beaver shall be humanely euthanized either at the site of capture or at a facility designed to humanely  
7 handle the euthanasia, or such wild animals must be released on the property where captured. Feral  
8 swine shall be euthanized while still in the trap in accordance with G.S. 113-291.12. For all other  
9 animals taken alive, the animal shall be euthanized or released on property with permission of the  
10 landowner. When the relocation site is public property, written permission shall be obtained from  
11 the local, state, or federal official authorized to manage the property before any animal may be  
12 released. Animals transported or held for euthanasia shall be euthanized within 12 hours of ~~capture~~  
13 possession. Anyone in possession of live animals being transported for relocation or euthanasia  
14 under a depredation permit shall have the depredation permit in his or her possession.

15 ~~(g)~~ (h) Reporting Requirements. Any landholder who kills an alligator; coyote in the counties of Beaufort, Dare,  
16 Hyde, Tyrrell, or Washington; deer; Canada goose; bear; elk; or wild turkey under a valid depredation permit shall  
17 report the kill on the form provided with the permit, including the number and species of animal(s) killed, and submit  
18 the form upon the expiration date of the depredation permit to the Commission. Any landowner who kills a coyote in  
19 the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington shall report the kill, including the number of coyotes  
20 killed, on the form provided with the depredation permit. The killing and method of disposition of every alligator;  
21 coyote in the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington; bear; or elk taken without a permit shall be  
22 reported to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 24 hours following the time of such killing.

23 (i) Exemption for Animal Control Officers. Animal Control Officers, as defined by G.S. 130A-184(1) when in the  
24 performance of official duties, shall be exempt from obtaining a depredation permit when taking wild animals that:

- 25 (1) Exhibit visible signs of rabies;
- 26 (2) Exhibit unprovoked aggression that may be associated with rabies;
- 27 (3) Are suspected to be rabid; or
- 28 (4) Have or may have exposed humans, pets, or livestock to rabies.

29



**EXHIBIT N**  
**October 22, 2020**



**Schedule for January 2021 Public Hearings for Proposed Changes to Wildlife,  
Fisheries, and Game Land Rules**

**Hearing Time: 7:00 p.m.**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>REGION</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
January 12, 2021 (Tuesday)	Coastal	New Bern	<i>Craven County Courthouse (District Courtroom #4) 302 Broad Street New Bern, NC 28560</i>
January 14, 2021 (Thursday)	Piedmont	Asheboro	<i>AVS Catering and Banquet Center 2045 N. Fayetteville Street Asheboro, NC 27203</i>
January 19, 2021 (Tuesday)	Mountain	Marion	<i>McDowell Technical Community College 54 College Drive Marion, NC 28752</i>
January 21, 2021 (Thursday)	All	Raleigh	<i>Virtual</i>

# **EXHIBIT O**

**October 22, 2020**



## **2021 WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETINGS**

### **DRAFT SCHEDULE**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021**

**THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2021**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2021**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020**