



**Small Game Committee
Meeting Summary – May 20, 2015
Commission Room, Raleigh NC**

Garry Spence, *Chair*, called the meeting of the Small Game Committee to order at 9:00 a.m.

Attendees

Committee Members

Garry Spence, Chair
David Hoyle, Jr.

Tommy Fonville

Commissioners

Ray Clifton
Neal Hanks
John Litton Clark
Tom Berry

Joe Barker
Mark Craig
Jim Cogdell

Staff

David Cobb
Gordon Myers
Betsy Haywood
Jon Evans
Ashton Godwin
Erik Christofferson
David O'Neal
Collen Olfenbuttel
Landon Tholkes
Mitch Kirkland
David Cobb
Mark Jones
Kris Smith
Steven Bullins

Chris Kreh
Mallory Martin
Kate Pipkin
Chris Huebner
Carolina Medina
Kyle Briggs
Thomas Harvey
Richard Tucker
Geoff Cantrell
Brad Howard
Isaac Harrold
David Sawyer
Brandon Sherrill
Isaac Harrold

Guests

Tony White – NC Trappers Assoc.
David Denton – NCTA
Ned Jones – NC Trout Unlimited

Dan Hunt – NCTA
Fred Harris – NCWF

Concepts for Establishing Wild Quail Emphasis Areas

Dr. David Cobb, *Wildlife Management Division Chief*, and Chris Kreh, *Upland Game Bird Biologist* provided an overview of concepts for establishment of quail emphasis areas. Concepts, which would require rulemaking and additional scientific study before implementation, include nest predator control from March through May, supplemental feeding part of the year, and wild quail translocation to supplement areas with few quail. Emphasis areas would require at least 1500 acres with at least fifteen percent of the area in year-round quail habitat. Landowners would have responsibility for conducting fall covey counts, and detailed records of trapping, feeding and translocation.

Opportunity for Field Inspection of Quail Management – Di-Lane Plantation Wildlife Management area

Mark Jones, *Supervising Wildlife Biologist*, discussed an opportunity for Commissioners and staff to attend field inspections of quail management at Di-Lane Plantation Management Area, owned by the State of Georgia near Augusta. The 5100 acres have been intensively managed by changing the landscape to make it suitable for quail. The trip will be held on August 19, 2015.

Opportunities for Enhancing Collaboration between WRC and NC Trappers Association

Executive Director Gordon Myers welcomed members of the NC Trappers Association to the Small Game Committee meeting. Tony White, *President*, told the committee about part of Senate Bill 647 that will make trapper education mandatory in North Carolina. An advanced trapper education course has been developed by David Denton and includes trapping best management plans. The course is taught as part of the Hunter Education Program. Myers stated that SB 647 points out the important role of trapping in North Carolina. He appointed a work group led by Kris Smith, *Wildlife Education Division Chief*, along with Colleen Olfenbuttel, Travis Casper, and Chris Huebner, to collaborate with members of the NC Trappers Association.

Chairman Spence reminded everyone that the next Small Game Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 15, in conjunction with the July 16 WRC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.