



AGENDA

N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ELECTRONIC MEETING MAY 7, 2020

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.

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 FEBRUARY 27, 2020 MEETING MINUTES – Approve minutes of February 27, 2020 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting (**EXHIBIT A**)

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT – Receive a financial status report on the Wildlife Operating Fund and Wildlife Endowment Fund – *Steve Chase, Interim Chief Financial Officer* (**EXHIBIT B**)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING REPORT – *Chairman Hoyle*

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

2020-2021 Webless Migratory Birds, Resident Canada Geese, Extended Falconry, and Waterfowl Seasons – Review U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service frameworks, receive public comments, and select the 2020-2021 season dates and bag limits for webless migratory birds, resident Canada geese, extended falconry, and waterfowl – *Brad Howard, Wildlife Management Division Chief* (**EXHIBITS C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4**)

2020 Migrant Peregrine Falconry - Consider staff recommendations to establish a season for taking up to 6 migrant peregrine falcons for use in falconry in 2020 – *Brad Howard (EXHIBIT D)*

RULEMAKING

Temporary Rulemaking Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear – Consider request to publish Notice of Text on the OAH website for temporary rule amendment correcting the open season for bear in Camden, Chowan, and Pasquotank counties – *Michael Smallwood, JD, Policy Analyst for Rules (EXHIBIT E)*

Temporary Rulemaking Public Comments and Final Adoption – 15A NCAC 10H .1501 Controlled Rabbit Hunting Preserves – Review public comments received during the open comment period and from public hearing. Consider adoption of temporary rule 15A NCAC 10H .1501, followed by permanent rulemaking, for the licensing and regulation of controlled rabbit hunting preserves as provided for in SL 2019-204 – *Michael Smallwood (EXHIBITS F1, F-2)*

Permanent Rulemaking Public Comments and Final Adoption – 15A NCAC 10A .1601 License Fee Rule – Review public comments received during the open comment period and from public hearing. Consider adoption of 15A NCAC 10A .1601 to establish license fees in rule and adjust those fees by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) – *Michael Smallwood (EXHIBITS G-1, G-2)*

Temporary Rulemaking Public Comments and Final Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0317 Stanly County - Review public comments received during the open comment period and from public hearing. Consider adoption of temporary rule for 15A NCAC 10F .0317 for a no-wake zone on Lake Tillery in Stanly County, within 50 yards of the fuel docks at the Boathouse and Marina at 712 Berry Hill Drive in Norwood and a temporary rule for 15A NCAC 10F .0317 for a no-wake zone 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the NC Hwy 24/27/73 James B. Garrison bridge eastbound and westbound spans in Stanly County to mitigate water safety hazards during an NC DOT bridge construction project - *Betsy Haywood, No Wake Zone Coordinator (EXHIBITS H-1, H-2)*

Temporary Rulemaking Public Comments and Final Adoption - 15A NCAC 10F .0327 Montgomery County –Review public comments received during the open comment period and from public hearing. Consider adoption of a temporary rule for 15A NCAC 10F .0327 on Lake Tillery in Montgomery County, 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the NC Hwy 24/27/73 James B. Garrison Bridge eastbound and westbound spans, to mitigate water safety hazards during an NC DOT bridge construction project – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBITS I-1, I-2)*

Temporary Rulemaking Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0359 Cherokee County – Consider request to publish Notice of Text on the OAH website for a temporary rule amendment to correct coordinates for a no-wake zone within 50 yards of the Harbor Cove Marina, shore to shore, in the Harbor Cove Marina cove on Hiwassee Lake – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBIT J)*

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN – *Chairman Hoyle*

COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – *Executive Director Gordon Myers*

ADJOURN

EXHIBIT A
May 7, 2020



MINUTES
February 27, 2020
N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission Meeting
Raleigh, North Carolina

The February 27, 2020 N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) meeting was called to order by *Commission Chairman* David Hoyle, Jr. at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Room at NCWRC Headquarters in Raleigh. Hoyle reminded everyone that the meeting audio will be available on newwildlife.org . He requested that everyone silence electronic devices. Commissioner Mike Johnson was absent.

Commissioner Tommy Fonville led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner John Stone gave the invocation.

WELCOME AND MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY

Chairman Hoyle welcomed the Commissioners and guests including Judge Reuben Young, N.C. Court of Appeals, former Commissioner Joe Budd, and District 7 Commissioner-elect Jim Ruffin and his wife Lorre. Chairman Hoyle advised the Commission of the mandatory ethics inquiry as mandated in North Carolina General Statute §138A-15. Commissioner Landon Zimmer recused himself from discussion and action on **Exhibits K-1** and **K-2**.

COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE

John Coley
Wes Seegars
Monty Crump
David Hoyle, Jr.
Tom Berry
Mark Craig
Tommy Fonville
Nat Harris
Steve Windham

Kelly Davis
Ray Clifton
Landon Zimmer
Brad Stanback
Richard Edwards
John Stone
Jim Cogdell
Jim Ruffin
Hayden Rogers

VISITORS

Judge Reuben Young - N.C. Court of Appeals
Hampton Billips – Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton
Joe Budd

Joe McClees - McClees Consulting
Lorre Ruffin

NOTICE OF COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

The Notice of Appointment by Governor Roy Cooper of James M. Ruffin as District 7 Wildlife Commissioner, for a term ending June 30, 2025, was received into the Minutes. **Exhibit A** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The Honorable Reuben Young, *Judge, North Carolina Court of Appeals*, administered the Oath of Office to James M. Ruffin, District 7 Commissioner. Ruffin's wife Lorre held the Bible during the swearing in.

A short recess was called by Chairman Hoyle so that photographs could be taken. The meeting reconvened at 9:09 am.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST FOR COMMISSIONER JAMES M. RUFFIN

Pursuant to NCGS §138A-15(c), applicable portions of the evaluation by the N.C. Ethics Commission of the Statement of Economic Interest for James M. Ruffin were read into the Minutes by Betsy Haywood, *Ethics Liaison*.

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2019 MEETING

On a motion by Wes Seegars and second by Nat Harris the Commission approved the December 5, 2019 NCWRC minutes as presented in **Exhibit B**. The Minutes are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

Financial Status Report – Steve Chase, *Interim Chief Financial Officer*, presented a status report in **Exhibit C** on the Wildlife Operating Fund and the Wildlife Endowment Fund. As of December 31, 2019, the revenues from the Wildlife Operating Fund are \$38,967,278.07 versus last year's revenues of \$37,879,173.36; and expenditures are \$43,284,735.70 versus last year's expenditures of \$39,408,108.08. The Fund Balance as of December 31, 2019 is \$13,624,419.29 versus last year's balance of \$15,535,476.18. Total Endowment Fund balance as of December 31, 2019 is \$140,018,820.96, with \$96,660,718.80 in the Bond Index Fund and \$41,405,741.89 in the Equity Index Fund. There is \$1,952,360.27 in the Short-Term Investment Fund. Expendable interest is \$30,526,759.48. Non-expendable interest is \$13,636,241.05. Expendable interest transferred to operations for the fiscal year to date is \$2,050,800.00. **Exhibit C** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elk and Alligator Management Committee Report – Steve Windham, *Chair*, reported that the Elk and Alligator Management Committee met on February 25, 2020 at 3:00 pm. Topics discussed at the first meeting included management of elk, history of elk in North Carolina, and status of the herd. The committee will develop answers to questions about what the Commission wants to accomplish with the elk herd, long-term goals for its management, and develop a clear vision for the future.

Boating Safety Committee Report – Ray Clifton, *Vice Chair*, reported that the Boating Safety Committee met on February 26, 2020. Three water safety rule proposals were reviewed, and the committee recommends adoption by the Commission. Major Ben Meyer, *Boating Safety Law Administrator*, provided an update about the status of wake boats and conflicts that arise from their wakes causing erosion. Meyer explained that education of all boating enthusiasts is important and reviewed some of the signage and educational materials distributed by the agency.

Finance Committee Report – Landon Zimmer, *Chair*, reported that the Finance Committee met on February 26, 2020. Patrick Hogan of Southwick Associates gave a presentation on North Carolina License Churn Rates and Lifetime License Prices. Mr. Hogan said that North Carolina's churn rates, or the percent of customers in a year who do not buy a license in the next year, is similar to what has been seen in other states. Churn rates for anglers is around 50 percent and around 30 percent for hunters. Churn rates are higher for females and for 16 to 35-year-old constituents. Southwick Associates compared the costs of lifetime licenses versus annual licenses, given the churn rate. Generally, lifetime hunting and fishing licenses compare favorably to annual licenses, but lifetime sportsman's and unified sportsman's licenses may be undervalued for younger constituents. However, it was noted that this is based on certain assumptions. The committee tasked staff with reviewing ways to test those assumptions and bringing that back to the next committee meeting. The committee discussed purchasing domain names similar to ncwildlife.org and tasked staff with identifying the top five potential domain names at the next committee meeting. Steve Chase, *Interim Chief Financial Officer*, provided a summary of expenditures and revenues to date. It was noted that expenditures were significantly higher this year compared to last year, and Chase explained that this was due to several large land acquisitions that had been closed on this year. He also presented an update on the Endowment Fund. The cumulative return this fiscal year for the Bond Index Fund was 2.42 percent., and for the Equity Index Fund was 9.06 percent. A breakdown of percentage of the endowment fund between the BIF and EIF will be provided at the next committee meeting.

Small Game Committee Report – John Stone, *Chair*, reported that the Small Game Committee met on February 26, 2020. Chris Jordan reported on quail management on game lands with an ideal goal of one quail per acre. Brad Howard followed with a report on quail management programs on private lands. Howard followed with a discussion of the Wildlife Conservation Program and a significant increase in signed wildlife habitat agreements. Chris Kreh gave a Pisgah/Nantahala Forest revision update. Staff continues to look for strategies and opportunities to develop wild quail opportunities on game lands. Staff will provide an update at the April meeting.

Land Acquisitions and Property (LAP) Committee Report – Tom Berry, *Chair*, reported that the LAP Committee met on February 26, 2020. The committee received an update on current land acquisitions projects and discussed a Tuckertown planning meeting that will be held on March 6 in Raleigh. Staff reviewed three Phase I projects and five Phase II projects that will be considered for action by the Commission.

Fisheries Committee Report – Tommy Fonville, *Chair*, reported that the Fisheries Committee met on February 26, 2020. Commissioner John Stone reported that he attended the recent open house at the John E. Pechmann Fishing Education Center, which was held to promote awareness of education programs. Scott Loftis gave a report on a Black Bass genetics research study being conducted with Auburn University. The study is looking at the introduction of Alabama bass into numerous reservoirs and its impact on other species of black bass populations through hybridization and competition. Doug Besler followed with an update about a possible year-round catch and release stocked trout program. Fifty locations will be studied to see whether they have the right temperature and an assessment made of hatchery capacity to support catch and release trout. Christian Waters and Director Myers then discussed updates on the process to assess the impacts of draft proposals to make changes to boundaries of inland and coastal waters. Four public meetings are being planned across the coastal region to obtain public input on potential impacts. Meeting dates, times and locations will be widely publicized through a news release, website, and social media.

Committee of the Whole Report – David Hoyle, Jr., *Chair*, reported that the Committee of the Whole met on February 26, 2020. Rules proposals were discussed prior to consideration of adoption by the Commission. Brad Howard discussed the deer and bear harvests and will provide an email to Commissioners about results of the harvests. Erik Christofferson provided the committee with an update about the Wake County Firearms Education Training Center. Gordon Myers gave an overview of capital needs projects. Chris Jordan gave an informative forestry program presentation and Chairman Hoyle asked for a future overview of the use of drones in forestry operations. Director Myers added that the Committee of the Whole went into closed session briefly for discussion to maintain attorney/client privilege.

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – A LOOK BACK AT RECENT NCWRC CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Dean Barbee, *Construction Projects Manager*, and Brad Kleinmaier, *Capital Projects Coordinator*, presented a spotlight about recent construction projects engineered and built by the agency. Barbee stated that we are fortunate to have in-house construction capacity, with six civil engineers, a Capitol Projects Coordinator, mechanical engineers, and surveyor. The Division has won States Organization of Boating Access Awards in three years recently for public access areas on the water. Most states do one construction project per year; the NCWRC does 7-9 projects each year. Among the recent projects are the Holleman Crossing Boating Access Area (BAA) and Public Fishing Area (PFA) where paving and parking were added and floating docks installed, as well as kayak launch and PFA; Apalachia Lake BAA in partnership with the Tennessee Valley Authority; Henrico BAA on Lake Gaston where docks and disabled-accessible parking were added; West Onslow Beach where two ramps were added; Manns Harbor paving project for extra parking; Beaufort BAA where paving was done with pervious grid provided by the Coastal Federation; PFA with ADA access at Veterans Park in Holly Springs; and Boney Mill Pond PFA among others.

The Odom Shooting Range was constructed, providing shooting sports access in a rural area of the state. NCWRC crews did the groundwork with berms and erosion control, contracted for the baffles and built shooting pens. At the Cold Mountain Range crews added the pistol range and baffles on the rifle range. At the Caswell Rifle Range a 3-D archery range was added. The Sandy Creek Bat Hibernaculum was built to repair the cave that was caving in.

Brad Kleinmaier discussed a stream bank stabilization project that crews built at Peak Creek in Ashe County, where an important bog turtle habitat is threatened. Significant repairs have been made to the ponds at the Pechmann Fishing Education Center. Walls around ponds have been replaced, two smaller ponds were combined into a large deeper pond, a float fishing pier and kayak launch have been added. At the Jordan Lake Depot trees have been cleared and two new buildings have been constructed. At the Sandhills Depot \$1.3 million in improvements have been made. Finally, Barbee and Kleinmaier showed a video of the impressive Henrico Boating Access Area project that was completed recently.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION UPDATE

Brad Howard, *Wildlife Management Division Chief*, presented a review of the activities of the North Carolina Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network, coordinated by NCWRC biologists, that monitors sea turtle stranding along North Carolina's coast throughout the year. During winter months, when estuarine water temperatures drop below 50°F, sea turtles strand alive because of cold-stunning (hypothermia). Most of these cold-stunned turtles are in otherwise good health and need only a few weeks or so in a rehabilitation facility before being cleared for release into warmer waters offshore or further south. Some may have complications such as pneumonia or other issues that require longer-term care. A typical cold-stun season in North Carolina results in 50-200 live turtles found and taken to rehab between November and March. He stated that this winter (2019-20) is atypical, with more than 450 live turtles recovered since mid-November, and possibly more to come before the end of March. Greater than 90 percent of the live turtles were juvenile green turtles, estimated to be about 5 years old. About 60 percent of all live turtles were found on the sound side of Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands, and 35 percent found in Cape Lookout Bight; typical areas where cold stunned turtles occur due to prevailing winds and water currents. Howard said that a huge network of collaborators, volunteers and cooperating agencies/groups care for these turtles. Most of the rehabilitation work has been undertaken by the N.C. Aquariums, especially on Roanoke Island, and the Karen Beasley Center for Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation in Surf City. The N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences and the Greensboro Science Museum have made tank space available to help with rehabilitation, and the National Aquarium in Baltimore took in 16 turtles from North Carolina for rehabilitation. To date, 180 cold stunned turtles from this winter have been released back to warmer waters either near the Gulf Stream (via the Coast Guard, research vessels from NCSU, or charter fishing boats), or off eastern Florida beaches, via our partners with Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the National Aquarium of Baltimore. Howard said that NCWRC will continue to work with partners and collaborators to release as many turtles back to the ocean when they are ready, and the weather is conducive for offshore boat trips. Howard thanked the volunteers and cooperating agencies/groups and thanked NCWRC staff who work diligently on these efforts, especially Sarah Finn and Matthew Godfrey for their many hours of work.

ADOPTION OF 2020-2021 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT RULES

Brad Howard presented **Exhibit D-1**, a summary of public comments concerning proposed changes to wildlife management rules received from statewide public hearings held in January 2020 and from the NCWRC internet portal and correspondence.

Five changes to Wildlife Management rules for 2020-2021 were presented in **Exhibit D-2**. The Chair asked that H2 be considered as a separate vote.

H1) Update rule text regarding big game harvest reporting to require month and date validation on the harvest report card authorization line, eliminate the 24-hour time period for registration, and require that all big game, not otherwise required to be reported, must be registered by 12:00 noon the day following harvest. Additionally, rule is updated to require any big game harvested and transferred to another person or otherwise left unattended by the successful hunter to be registered, with the harvest authorization number physically attached to the animal.

15A NCAC 10B.0113

H3) Adjust the current blackpowder firearms season in those parts of Buncombe and Henderson counties enrolled in the maximum deer either-sex firearms season to allow for take of either sex deer during the entire blackpowder firearms season.

15A NCAC 10B.0203

H4) Amend the alligator rule to clearly articulate that the agency may specify size restrictions and allowable manner of restraint on alligator take permits.

15A NCAC 10B.0224

H5) Establish a season and daily bag limit for the take of bullfrogs and to clarify that artificial lights for taking bullfrogs are legal.

15A NCAC 10B.0226

On a motion by Ray Clifton and second by Landon Zimmer H-1, H-3, H-4, and H-5 were adopted.

The Commission then considered H2 separately:

H2) Prohibit the use of cervid excrement (urine, feces, saliva, and other bodily fluids) for taking or attracting wildlife.

15A NCAC 10B.0201

On a motion by John Coley and second by Monty Crump the Commission voted to amend 15A NCAC 10B .0201 prohibiting the use of cervid excrement by adding “this prohibition does not apply to natural substances collected by an individual from non-farmed cervids legally taken in North Carolina or synthetic products.”

Exhibit D-2 with amendment to H2 is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

INLAND FISHERIES DIVISION UPDATE

Christian Waters, *Inland Fisheries Division Chief*, presented an update on the activities of the Inland Fisheries Division. He reported that Muskellunge and Walleye brood fish are being collected. Seven Muskellunge were collected, including the Muskellunge state record from Lake Adger - a fish weighing 48 pounds. The eggs have been collected and every attempt will be made to return the fish to the water. Walleye collection has included 16 females and 50 males from the Catawba River. The first spawn occurred at Table Rock Fish Hatchery. Fry were transported to Watha Hatchery to grow and then to move to the mountains to stock. Hatchery Walleye have been stocked in reservoirs. The Division is preparing a survey of anglers to determine what percentage are interested in Walleye and whether they are interested in other types of stockings. Waters stated that the 2020 trout stocking dates are available on the agency website.

ADOPTION OF 2020-2021 INLAND FISHERIES RULES

Christian Waters presented in **Exhibit E-1** a summary of comments concerning the proposed changes to 25 inland fisheries rules received from statewide public hearings held in January 2020 and from the NCWRC internet portal and correspondence.

On a motion by Wes Seegars and second by John Coley, the Commission adopted 25 changes to Inland Fisheries rules for 2020-2021 presented in **Exhibit E-2**:

F1) Modify the upper boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters on Fires Creek in Clay County, adding 200 feet to Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be Rockhouse Creek to the foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

F2) Modify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on West Fork French Broad River in Transylvania County, adding 200 feet to Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be S.R. 1312 to the confluence with North Fork French Broad River.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

F3) Modify the lower boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on South Prong Lewis Fork in Wilkes County, adding approximately 0.2 miles to Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be Fall Creek to U.S. 421 bridge adjacent to the S.R. 1155 intersection.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

F4) Modify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Puncheon Fork in Madison County removing 0.6 miles from Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be Wolf Laurel Branch to Big Laurel Creek.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

F5) Clarify the lower boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters on Mitchell River in Surry County. This proposal will not add or remove any Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will remain 0.6 miles upstream of the end of S.R. 1333 to the lowermost bridge on S.R. 1330.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

F6) Define “artificial fly” when used in Public Mountain Trout Waters as one single hook dressed with feathers, hair, thread, tinsel, rubber, or any similar material to which no additional hook, spinner, spoon or similar device is added.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

F7) Define “single hook” when used in Public Mountain Trout Waters as a fishhook with only one point.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

F8) Specify that the impounded waters of power reservoirs and municipally owned water supply reservoirs that are open to the public for fishing when Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are closed to fishing. The reservoirs are: Bear Creek Lake, Buckeye Creek Reservoir, Calderwood Reservoir, Cedar Cliff Lake, Cheoah Reservoir, Cliffside Lake, Tanassee Creek Lake, Queens Creek Lake, and Wolf Lake.

15A NCAC 10C .0316 Trout

F9) Remove the restriction that only one Largemouth Bass greater than 20 inches may be possessed at Randleman Reservoir and implement the general statewide regulation for Largemouth Bass. The daily creel limit is five fish, and there is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but only two of them may be less than 14 inches.

15A NCAC 10C .0305 Largemouth Bass

F10) Modify the current rule applying to all black bass species making the rule specific to Largemouth Bass and relocating rule text for other black bass species to new, separate rules.

15A NCAC 10C .0305LargemouthBass

F11) Establish a rule specific to Smallmouth Bass and relocate rule text specific to Smallmouth Bass from the current rule applying to all black bass species.

15A NCAC 10C .0321Smallmouth Bass

F12) Update the Inland Game Fishes Designation for black bass to include Alabama Bass, *Micropterus henshalli*.

15A NCAC 10C .0301 Inland Game Fishes Designated

F13) Establish a general statewide regulation of no minimum size limit and no daily creel limit for Alabama Bass and Spotted Bass.

15A NCAC 10C .0322Alabama Bass and Spotted Bass

F14) Establish a general statewide regulation of no minimum size limit for Redeye Bass, *Micropterus coosae*, but only two of them may be less than 14 inches and a five-fish daily creel limit.

15A NCAC 10C .0323 Redeye Bass

F15) Remove the 8-inch minimum size limit and 20-fish daily creel limit for crappie in Badin Lake, Falls Lake (Stanly and Montgomery counties), Lake Tillery, Blewett Falls Lake, and the Pee Dee River from Blewett Falls Dam to the South Carolina state line.

15A NCAC 10C .0306 Crappie

F16) Clarify that the 20-fish daily creel and 8-inch minimum length limit for crappie applies to Cane Creek Lake in Union County.

15A NCAC 10C .0306 Crappie

F17) Remove the 16-inch minimum size limit for Bodie Bass on Arrowhead Lake (Anson County) and High Rock Pond (Caswell County). The general statewide regulation of a 20-inch minimum size limit and a four fish daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids will apply.

15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass

F18) Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for Bodie Bass in Hyco Reservoir by implementing a 16-inch minimum size limit. The daily creel limit will be four fish.

15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass

F19) Decrease the general statewide daily creel limit for Kokanee Salmon from seven fish to four fish.

15A NCAC 10C .0308 Kokanee Salmon

F20) Designate Black Bullhead, Brown Bullhead, Flat Bullhead, Snail Bullhead, White Catfish, and Yellow Bullhead as Inland Game Fish when found in Inland Fishing Waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0301 Inland Game Fishes Designated

F21) Establish a general statewide regulation for Black Bullhead, Brown Bullhead, Flat Bullhead, Snail Bullhead, White Catfish, and Yellow Bullhead by implementing a 10 fish daily creel limit in combination. There is no minimum size limit or closed season.

15A NCAC 10C .0324 Catfish

F22) Increase the daily creel limit for Channel Catfish from six to seven fish in waters 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. The daily creel will no longer apply to White or Blue Catfish.

15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes

F23) Add Blue Catfish to the list of species for which no permit shall be issued to stock into inland fishing waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0209 Transportation of Live Fish

F24) Prohibit the harvest and possession of Margined Madtom and Tadpole Madtom in inland fishing waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes

F25) Add the Redtail Catfish 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.

15A NCAC 10C .0211 Possession of Certain Fishes

LAND AND WATER ACCESS DIVISION UPDATE

Brian McRae, *Land and Water Access Division Chief*, gave an update on the activities of the Land and Water Access Division. He announced that Three Rivers Land Trust gave the Government Partner of the Year Award to the Land and Water Access Division for their work on the High Rock acquisition. Jessie Birkhead and Kerrick Robinson put together a short survey to learn reasons and priorities for the agency to acquire land. Results of the survey will be presented to the Commission. Sunday Hunting on Game Lands meetings were held in January. McRae thanked Carrie Ruhlman, Fairley Mahlum and Chris Bova for their work on these meeting. Focus groups will be formed for further analysis and a final report presented to the Commission in August for consideration prior to the next regulatory cycle.

ADOPTION OF GAME LAND MANAGEMENT RULES FOR 2020-2021

Summary of Public Comments Pertaining to Proposed Changes in Game Land Rules – Brian McRae presented in **Exhibit F-1** a summary of public comments received from statewide district public hearings held in January 2020 and from the NCWRC internet and correspondence, pertaining to proposed changes to game land rules.

2020-2021 Game Land Management Rules – On a motion by Monty Crump and second by John Coley, the Commission adopted fourteen 2020-2021 Game Land Rules as presented in **Exhibit F-2**. **Exhibit F-2** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting:

Game Lands

G1. Create the designation of a “Sensitive Habitat Zone” that can restrict access or usage in specific areas on game lands. Proposals for this designation will be presented at a public input meeting and at an official Commission meeting for final approval.

15A NCAC 10D .0102 General regulations regarding use

G2. Allow veterans, active duty members of the armed forces, active duty national guardsmen, and active duty reservists with valid credentials to hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G3. Clarify NCAC rule text that posted impoundments and Wildlife Resources Commission managed hunting blinds at Croatan, Currituck Banks, Goose Creek, and White Oak River game lands are permit-only areas during designated veterans/military waterfowl days.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G4. Expand the timeframe in which pursuing or taking foxes with dogs is prohibited on Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land. Justification: The current prohibition on using dogs for hunting foxes is from March 15 through July 15. This rule would extend that timeframe to be from February 15 through August 1.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G5. Expand horseback riding opportunities at South Mountains Game Land by allowing it to occur on designated trails from January 2 – March 31 and on Sundays April 1 – May 15 and September 1 – January 1.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G6. Prohibit target shooting on Sandy Mush Game Land.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G7. Prohibit the pursuing or chasing of deer and bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting on the Pee Dee River Game Land south of US 74.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G8. Designate deer hunting on the Campbell Tract of Columbus County Game Land as permit-only.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G9. Designate bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract of Carteret County Game Land as permit-only.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G10. Align the squirrel season with the rabbit season and deer with visible antlers season at the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Area at Sandhills Game Land.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G11. Restrict the use of bicycles to designated trails only on the State-owned Linville River Tract of Pisgah Game Land. This restriction will not apply to hunters using bicycles during open days of applicable hunting seasons.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G12. Clarify NCAC rule text that deer of either sex may be taken during the blackpowder firearms season at Buffalo Cove Game Land and South Mountains Game Land.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G13. Clarify NCAC rule text that hunting and trapping at J. Morgan Futch, Roanoke River Wetlands, and Texas Plantation game lands is by permit only.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

G14. Clarify NCAC rule text that at Sandhills Game Land deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment during the archery season, with archery equipment and blackpowder firearms during the blackpowder season, and by permit during the deer with visible antlers season. Also clarify that only deer with visible antlers may be taken during the extended primitive weapons season.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

LAND ACQUISITION AND PROPERTY MATTERS

Phase II Land Acquisitions

On a motion by Tom Berry and second by John Coley, the Commission approved the following property matters presented by Jessie Birkhead, *Land Acquisition and Grants Manager*, in **Exhibits G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, G-5:**

Sparta Wetland BRC Tract – Alleghany County (G-1)
Lawrence Tract – Scotland County (G-2)
Staples Tract – Camden County (G-3)
Russell Tract – Wilkes County (G-4)
Mt. Holly Depot Tract – Lincoln County (G-5)

Exhibits G-1 through G-5 are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

Property Dispositions

Marion Aquaculture Building Disposition – On a motion by Tom Berry and second by John Coley, the Commission approved the request from staff presented in **Exhibit H-1** to demolish an existing structure at Marion Fish Hatchery to make room for a new facility.

Gibson Fox Trial Facility Disposition – As part of the same motion and with Commissioner Landon Zimmer opposed, the Commission approved the request from staff in **Exhibit H-2** to dispose of the Gibson Fox Trial Facility property in Scotland County.

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

WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING

Review Public Comments and Consider Final Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0327 Montgomery County – The Commission received no public comments from a public hearing and open comment period regarding a request by Montgomery County for a restricted swim area on Badin Lake at Pinehaven Village in New London. (**Exhibit I-1**)

On a motion by Ray Clifton and second by Nat Harris, the Commission adopted an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0327 Montgomery County, presented in **Exhibit I-2** by Betsy Haywood, *No-Wake Zone Coordinator*, for a restricted swim area on Badin Lake.

Exhibits I-1 and I-2 are incorporated into the record of this meeting.

Review Public Comments and Consider Final Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0340 Currituck County – The Commission reviewed public comments received during the open comment period, presented in **Exhibit J-1**, for a proposed amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0340 to establish a no-wake zone within canals at Carova Beach.

On a motion by Hayden Rogers and second by Tom Berry, the Commission adopted with changes based on input from the public and Enforcement that there is shoaling at the mouth of the canals leading from Knotts Island Bay, an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0340 presented in **Exhibit J-2**, to establish a no-wake zone inside the mouths of the canals at Carova Beach.

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

Temporary Rulemaking Notice of Text - 15A NCAC 10F .0317 Stanly County and 15A NCAC 10F .0327 Montgomery County – With Commissioner Landon Zimmer recused, and on a motion by Jim Cogdell and second by Ray Clifton, the Commission approved staff request presented in **Exhibits K-1** and **K-2** to propose text on the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) website for a temporary rule for a no-wake zone on Lake Tillery in Stanly County, within 50 yards of the fuel docks at the Boathouse and Marina at 712 Berry Hill Drive in Norwood; and a temporary rule 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the NC Hwy 24/27/73 James B. Garrison bridge eastbound and westbound spans in Stanly County (**EXHIBIT K-1**); and on Lake Tillery in Montgomery County, 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the NC Hwy 24/27/73 James B. Garrison Bridge eastbound and westbound spans, to mitigate water safety hazards during an NC DOT bridge construction project (**EXHIBIT K-2**).

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

OTHER RULEMAKING

On a motion by Mark Craig and second by Wes Seegars, the Commission adopted **Exhibits L-1, L-2, M, N, O, and P**, presented by Michael Smallwood, *Policy Analyst for Rules*:

Approval of Fiscal Note and Proposed Notice of Text - Wildlife Conservation Land Program – 15A NCAC 10L .0100 Wildlife Reserve – The Commission approved the Fiscal Note (**Exhibit L-1**) and approved publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with open public comment period with one public hearing, for proposed permanent rules addressing the activities required for land to qualify for present-use value taxation as wildlife conservation land that creates and is actively and regularly used as a reserve for hunting, fishing, shooting, wildlife observation or wildlife activities, presented in **Exhibit L-2**.

Proposed Notice of Text - Totally Disabled Lifetime Licenses – 15A NCAC 10G .0601 – The Commission approved **Exhibit M**, a request to approve publishing Notice of Text in the *NC Register* and open the public comment period with public hearing for proposed amendments to 10G .0601, to provide an alternative method for certification of a qualifying disability.

Proposed Notice of Text - Dog Training and Field Trials – 15A NCAC 10B .0114 – The Commission approved **Exhibit N**, request to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* and open the public comment period with one public hearing for proposed amendments to 10B .0114, to provide for the issuance of Field Trial Permits via online portal at www.ncwildlife.org.

Proposed Notice of Text - Taxidermist Records and Reporting Requirements – 15A NCAC 10H .1003 – The Commission approved the request in **Exhibit O** to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* and open the public comment period with one public hearing, for proposed amendments to 10H .1003 to institute taxidermy reporting requirements pursuant to the taxidermy cervid certification.

Temporary Rulemaking - Controlled Rabbit Hunting Preserves – 15A NCAC 10H – The Commission approved publishing Notice of Text on the OAH website for temporary rules for the licensing and regulation of controlled rabbit hunting preserves as provided for in SL 2018-204, presented in **Exhibit P**.

ADOPTION OF LOCATION CHANGE FOR APRIL 22-23, 2020 WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETINGS

On a motion by Brad Stanback and second by Nat Harris, the Commission approved moving the location of the April 22 and 23, 2020 Wildlife Resources Commission meetings to the Setzer Fish Hatchery in Pisgah Forest. The Commission will have an opportunity to tour the hatchery and examine the schematic design for a \$15 million renovation to the hatchery. There will be an opportunity to visit the Marion Fish Hatchery on Tuesday, April 21.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Hoyle thanked staff for the presentation about the recent capital projects. He thanked staff and thanked Chris Jordan for the forestry presentation. He stated he would enjoy a drone presentation at a future meeting. Chairman Hoyle reminded Commissioners that there will be a group photograph taken immediately after the meeting in the auditorium.

COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Gordon Myers thanked staff for their outstanding presentations. He reminded everyone that the Recovering America's Wildlife Act apportionment to North Carolina will be \$25 million per year. Implementation of the Wildlife Action Plan is a priority, for the benefit of land and water, humans, and threatened vertebrates and invertebrates.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman David Hoyle at 10:20 a.m.

All exhibits are incorporated into the official record of this meeting by reference and are filed with the minutes.

David Hoyle, Jr., Chairman

Date

Gordon Myers, Executive Director

Date

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
CAFR 52G - Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
As of March 31, 2020

	FY 2020 General	FY 2020 Capital Improvement	FY 2020 Permanent
REVENUES			
Federal funds	22,227,633.71	8,171,885.00	0.00
Local funds	3,899.40	0.00	0.00
Investment earnings	137,792.61	0.00	1,962,824.14
Sales and services	6,193,659.88	0.00	0.00
Rental and lease of property	42,226.95	0.00	0.00
Fees, licenses and fines	22,400,160.22	0.00	3,354,831.50
Contributions, gifts and grants	688,759.24	3,287,227.00	34,194.00
Miscellaneous	511,992.35	0.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES	52,206,124.36	11,459,112.00	5,351,849.64
EXPENDITURES			
Personal services	26,501,700.30	0.00	0.00
Employee benefits	11,495,586.62	0.00	0.00
Contracted personal services	7,061,164.98	373,417.21	0.00
. Supplies and materials	5,679,245.21	123,322.65	0.00
Travel	367,709.73	0.00	0.00
Communication	592,747.37	23,469.00	0.00
Utilities	525,995.97	681.58	0.00
Data processing services	466,024.05	0.00	0.00
Other services	2,668,001.54	0.00	0.00
. Claims and benefits	1,076,238.09	0.00	0.00
Other fixed charges	210,265.85	44,207.31	0.00
Capital outlay	4,429,811.89	13,813,203.18	0.00
. Grants, state aid and subsidies	1,431,085.33	0.00	0.00
. Insurance and bonding	52,684.20	0.00	0.00
Other expenditures	966,301.57	15,023.11	0.00
. Unclassified/invalid accounts	6,653.74	0.00	0.00
. Reimbursements	-703,090.15	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	62,828,126.29	14,393,324.04	0.00
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-10,622,001.93	-2,934,212.04	5,351,849.64
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	6,045,022.93	2,847,159.12	-3,132,942.00
. Sale of capital assets	121,873.94	0.00	0.00
. Insurance recoveries	14,283.78	0.00	0.00
. Transfers in	32,816,703.62	2,897,159.12	0.00
. Transfers out	-35,879,858.80	-50,000.00	-3,132,942.00
. Appropriations	8,972,020.39	0.00	0.00
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	6,045,022.93	2,847,159.12	-3,132,942.00
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	-4,576,979.00	-87,052.92	2,218,907.64
FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, As previously stated	15,317,893.28	3,983,533.15	133,812,403.02
FUND BALANCE - MARCH 31	10,740,914.28	3,896,480.23	136,031,310.66

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

BOND INDEX FUND (BIF)	\$96,618,156.66
EQUITY INDEX FUND (EIF)	36,577,865.95
SHORT TERM INVESTMENT FUND (STIF)	318,104.67
TOTAL WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCE AS OF 3/31/2020	<u>\$ 133,514,127.28</u>

INTEREST INCOME WITHIN FUNDS	EXPENDABLE	NON-EXPENDABLE
ADULT LICENSE SALES	\$27,571,243.87	
INFANT LICENSE SALES		\$12,648,843.25
YOUTH LICENSE SALES		1,151,228.57
CONTRIBUTIONS	1,862,649.48	
WILDLIFE DIVERSITY	945.87	
MAGAZINE SALES	1,460,543.05	
	\$ 30,895,382.27	\$ 13,800,071.82

EXPENDABLE INTEREST TRANSFERRED TO OPERATIONS FISCAL YTD
\$3,132,942.00
\$ 3,132,942.00

EXHIBIT C-1

May 7, 2020



Proposed Regulations Frameworks for 2020–21 Hunting Seasons on Certain Migratory Game Birds

Special September Teal Season

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

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

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

Waterfowl

Atlantic Flyway

Ducks, Mergansers, and Coots

Outside Dates: Between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 26) and January 31.

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

Closures: The season on harlequin ducks is closed.

Merganser Limits: The daily bag limit of mergansers is 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers. In States that include mergansers in the duck bag limit, the daily limit is the

same as the duck bag limit, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers.

Coot Limits: The daily bag limit is 15 coots.

Zoning and Split Seasons: Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia may split their seasons into three segments; Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont may select hunting seasons by zones and may split their seasons into two segments in each zone.

Scoters, Eiders, and Long-tailed Ducks

Special Sea Duck Seasons:

Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Virginia may select a Special Sea Duck Season in designated Special Sea Duck Areas. If a Special Sea Duck Season is selected, scoters, eiders, and long-tailed ducks may be taken in the designated Special Sea Duck Area(s) only during the Special Sea Duck Season dates; scoters, eiders, and long-tailed ducks may be taken outside of Special Sea Duck Area(s) during the regular duck season, in accordance with the frameworks for ducks, mergansers, and coots specified above.

Outside Dates: Between September 15 and January 31.

Special Sea Duck Seasons and Daily Bag Limits: 60 consecutive hunting days, or 60 days that are concurrent with the regular duck season, with a daily bag limit of 5, of the listed sea duck species, including no more than 4 scoters, 4 eiders, and 4 long-tailed ducks. Within the special sea duck areas, during the regular duck season in the Atlantic Flyway, States may choose to allow the above sea duck limits in addition to the limits applying to other ducks during the regular season. In all other areas, sea ducks may be taken only during the regular open season for ducks and are part of the regular duck season daily bag (not to exceed 4 scoters, 4 eiders, and 4 long-tailed ducks) and possession limits.

Special Sea Duck Areas: In all coastal waters and all waters of rivers and streams seaward from the first upstream bridge in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York; in New Jersey, all coastal waters seaward from the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) Demarcation Lines shown on National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Nautical Charts and further described in 33 CFR 80.165, 80.501, 80.502, and 80.503; in any waters of the Atlantic Ocean and in any tidal waters of any bay that are separated by at least 1 mile of open water from any shore, island, and emergent vegetation in South Carolina and Georgia; and in any waters of the Atlantic Ocean and in any tidal waters of any bay that are separated by at least 800 yards of open water from any shore, island, and emergent vegetation in Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, and Virginia; and provided that any such areas have been described, delineated, and designated as special sea duck hunting areas under the hunting regulations adopted by the respective States.

Canada Geese

Special Early Canada Goose Seasons:

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

Daily Bag Limits: Not to exceed 15 Canada geese.

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

Regular Canada Goose Seasons

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

North Carolina

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

Northeast Hunt Unit: A 14-day season may be held between the Saturday prior to December 25 (December 19) and January 31, with a 1-bird daily bag limit.

Light Geese

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

Brant

Season Lengths, Outside Dates, and Limits: States may select a 50-day season between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 26) and January 31, with a 2-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Swans

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

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

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

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

In the Atlantic Flyway

- The season may be 90 days, between October 1 and January 31.
- In Delaware, no more than 67 permits may be issued. The season is experimental
- In North Carolina, no more than 4,895 permits may be issued.
- In Virginia, no more than 638 permits may be issued.

Common Moorhens and Purple Gallinules

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

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

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

Rails

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

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

Daily Bag Limits

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

aggregate of the two species.

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

Snipe

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

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

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

American Woodcock

Outside Dates: States in the Eastern Management Region may select hunting seasons between October 1 and January 31. States in the Central Management Region may select hunting seasons between the Saturday nearest September 22 (September 21) and January 31.

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

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

Doves

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

Eastern Management Unit

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

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

Special Falconry Regulations

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

Extended Seasons: For all hunting methods combined, the combined length of the extended season, regular season, and any special or experimental seasons must not exceed 107 days for any species or group of species in a geographical area. Each extended season may be divided into a maximum of 3 segments.

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

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

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

EXHIBIT C-2



Summary of Comments for 2020 Migratory Bird Seasons 5/07/2020

Regulation Type	Proposed Text	Proposal	Agree	Disagree	Option 1	Option 2
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Dove Gun Season Dates (includes mourning dove and white-winged dove)</p> <p>Frameworks: 90 days, no more than 3 season segments Earliest opening date: September 1st Latest closing date: January 31st</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for doves are: September 5th – October 10th, November 14th – November 28th, December 12th – January 30th.</p>	GB1	25	0	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Woodcock Gun Season Dates</p> <p>Frameworks: 45 days, no more than 2 season segments Earliest opening date: October 1st Latest closing date: January 31st</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for woodcock are: December 10th – January 30th.</p>	GB2	4	1	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Snipe Gun Season Dates</p> <p>Frameworks: 107 days, no more than 2 season segments Earliest opening date: September 1st Latest closing date: February 28th</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for snipe are: October 27th – February 27th.</p>	GB3	5	0	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Rails, Gallinules and Moorhens Gun Season Dates</p> <p>Frameworks: 70 days, no more than 2 season segments Earliest opening date: September 1st Latest closing date: January 31st</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for rails, gallinules and moorhens are: September 1st – November 20th.</p>	GB4	5	0	0	0

Regulation Type	Proposed Text	Proposal	Agree	Disagree	Option 1	Option 2
Migratory Game Bird	<p style="text-align: center;">September Teal Season Dates</p> <p>Frameworks: 16 consecutive hunting days (east of US Hwy 17 only) Earliest opening date: September 1st Latest closing date: September 30th</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for September teal are: September 12th – September 30th.</p>	GB5	13	2	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Frameworks: 60 days, no more than 3 season segments Earliest opening date: September 26th Latest Closing date: January 31st</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for the general duck season are: October 7th – October 10th, November 7th – November 28th, December 19th – January 30th.</p>	GB6	18	10	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p style="text-align: center;">Scaup Hunting Season</p> <p>Based on a moderate regulatory choice (60 days, 2-bird bag limit) for the 2019-20 hunting season on scaup and an estimated 2019-20 breeding population size of 3.59 million scaup, the optimal regulatory choice for the 2020-21 hunting season on scaup calls for a restrictive season.</p> <p>Frameworks: In the Atlantic Flyway, and within the general duck season, states may choose to hold all of their 60 scaup hunting days with a 1-bird daily bag limit, or states may choose to have a “hybrid” scaup hunting season. Under a hybrid season, states may choose 40 days of scaup hunting with a 1-bird daily bag limit and 20 days of scaup hunting with a 2-bird daily bag limit (60 total days).</p> <p>Please choose one of the options below for the 2020-21 scaup hunting season.</p> <p>Option 1: Within the general duck season, 60 scaup hunting days with a 1-bird daily bag limit</p> <p>Option 2: Within the general duck season, 40 scaup hunting days with a 1-bird daily bag limit, and 20 days of scaup hunting with a 2-bird daily bag limit. The 20 days of scaup hunting with a 2-bird daily bag would be held at the end of the general duck season (January 8-30)</p>	GB7	0	0	7	16
Migratory Game Bird	<p style="text-align: center;">Special Sea Duck Season Dates (In Special Sea Duck Area only)</p> <p>Frameworks: 60 consecutive hunting days or must be set concurrently with the general duck season Earliest opening date: September 15th Latest Closing date: January 31st</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for the Special Sea Duck season (in Special Sea Duck Area only) are: November 23rd – January 30th.</p>	GB8	11	1	0	0

<i>Regulation Type</i>	<i>Proposed Text</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Option 1</i>	<i>Option 2</i>
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Canada Goose Season Dates (also includes white-fronted geese) – Resident Population (RP) Zone</p> <p>Frameworks: 80 days, no more than 3 season segments Earliest opening date: October 1st Latest closing date: March 10th</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for Canada geese (also includes white-fronted geese) in the Resident Population (RP) Zone are: October 7th – October 17th, November 7th – November 28th, December 19th – February 13th.</p>	GB9	12	2	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Northeast Hunt Zone Canada Goose Season Dates (also includes white-fronted geese)</p> <p>Frameworks: 14 days Earliest opening date: December 19th Latest closing date: January 31st</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for Canada geese (also includes white-fronted geese) in the Northeast Hunt Zone are: January 15th – January 30th.</p>	GB10	4	3	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Light Goose Regular Season Dates (includes snow geese and Ross’s geese)</p> <p>Frameworks: 107 days, no more than 3 season segments Earliest opening date: October 1st Latest closing date: March 10th</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for the regular light goose season are: October 13th – February 13th.</p>	GB11	5	0	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Light Goose Conservation Order Season Dates (includes snow geese and Ross’s geese)</p> <p>Frameworks: Must occur when no other waterfowl seasons are open.</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for the Light Goose Conservation Order season are: February 15th – March 31st.</p>	GB12	5	0	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Brant Season Dates</p> <p>Frameworks: 50 days, no more than 2 season segments Earliest opening date: September 26th Latest closing date: January 31st</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for brant are: December 19th – January 30th.</p>	GB13	10	1	0	0

Regulation Type	Proposed Text	Proposal	Agree	Disagree	Option 1	Option 2
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Tundra Swan Season Dates</p> <p>Frameworks: 90 days, permit only (4,895 permits) Earliest opening date: October 1st Latest closing date: January 31st</p> <p>The proposed 2020-21 season dates for tundra swan are: November 7th – January 30th.</p>	GB14	15	0	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Youth Waterfowl Day(s)</p> <p>Two special youth duck hunting days are allowed. Guidelines for selecting youth days include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The day(s) can occur up to 14 days before or after any regular hunting season for ducks, mergansers, and coots or in the closed portion between season segments. The day must occur on any non-school day. In North Carolina, this includes Saturdays and any statewide holidays. <p>The proposed 2020-21 Youth Waterfowl Days are: February 6th and February 13th.</p>	GB15	12	3	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Veterans/Military Waterfowl Day(s)</p> <p>Guidelines for selecting veteran and active duty military days include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The day(s) can occur up to 14 days before or after any regular hunting season for ducks, mergansers, and coots or in the closed portion between season segments. There can be no more than 2 special veteran/military waterfowl days and no more than 2 special youth waterfowl days (4 total special days). Special veterans/military waterfowl days can be held concurrently with the special youth waterfowl days. <p>The proposed 2020-21 Veterans/Military Waterfowl Days are: February 6th and February 13th.</p>	GB16	7	10	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Extended Falconry Season Dates for Doves</p> <p>Guidelines for extended falconry seasons include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The season must fall between September 1st and March 10th. Total available falconry days (including gun season) must not exceed 107 days. <p>The proposed 2020-21 extended falconry season dates for doves are: October 17th – October 31st.</p>	GB17	3	0	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Extended Falconry Season Dates for Woodcock</p> <p>Guidelines for extended falconry seasons include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The season must fall between September 1st and March 10th. Total available falconry days (including gun season) must not exceed 107 days. <p>The proposed 2020-21 extended falconry season dates for woodcock are: November 7th – November 28th and February 1st – February 27th.</p>	GB18	4	0	0	0

<i>Regulation Type</i>	<i>Proposed Text</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Option 1</i>	<i>Option 2</i>
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Extended Falconry Season Dates for Rails, Gallinules and Moorhens</p> <p>Guidelines for extended falconry seasons include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The season must fall between September 1st and March 10th. Total available falconry days (including gun season) must not exceed 107 days <p>The proposed 2020-21 extended falconry season dates for rails, gallinules and moorhens are: November 28th – January 2nd.</p>	GB19	4	0	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	<p>Extended Falconry Season Dates for Ducks</p> <p>Guidelines for extended falconry seasons include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The season must fall between September 1st and March 10th. Days allocated to the gun season + extended falconry days may not exceed 107 days <p>The proposed 2020-21 extended falconry season dates for ducks are: October 17th – October 31st, Feb 1st – February 13th.</p>	GB20	3	0	0	0
Migratory Game Bird	Use this space to provide any additional comment(s) regarding hunting seasons or issues relating to migratory game bird species.	GB21	0	0	0	0

Proposed Regulation Comments for 2020
Report Date: 04/01/2020

Regulation Number	District	Position	CommentText	County	UserName
GB1					
GB1	District 5	Agree	I feel that the dove day hours should be set where the birds can have some time of the day(morning or afternoon) to have an opportunity to feed in the fields without being shot at.	Durham	CHAMBERS, WALLACE A
GB1	District 3	No Position	Testing	Wake	Mulrine, William
GB2					
GB2	District 5	Disagree	Woodcock season should align with snipe.	Person	CATES, RICHARD C
GB3					
			GB3 Has No Additional Comments		
GB4					
			GB4 Has No Additional Comments		
GB5					
GB5	District 3	Agree	Student in central NC. Would be great if the area to hunt teal was increased to statewide for the September season.	Wake	NEWMAN, WILL N
GB5	District 5	Disagree	The teal season should extend beyond US Hwy 17.	Person	CATES, RICHARD C
GB5	District 6	Disagree	I don't understand why early Teal is limited to areas east of Hwy 17. I see great number of Teal using the local lakes in the center of the state.	Stanly	MILANO, ROBERT D
GB5	District 5	No Position	I would like to see an early teal season for areas west of Hwy 17. T here are numbers of teal that pass thru this portion of the state and identifying what you are shooting at is NO different than any other time of the year. Teal characteristics are different than wood ducks	Guilford	BOYD, JAMES H
GB6					
GB6	District 1	Agree	I am very happy that you all have extended the november season and started the december season later. We missed alot of ducks this year in november with the later season and consitently do well that time of year, while december is consistently slower. I fully agree with the new season proposals. I really hope these are the framework for next year. Thank you1	Tyrrell	WINN III, WENDALL L
GB6	District 1	Agree	I would like to shorten the October season, or remove it. But I like as many days as in November and to run late into January	Pasquotank	SORRELL, JOSHUA S
GB6	District 1	Agree	The additional days in November are an excellent decision. Thank you! Would like to see the Oct. season moved a week or two later due to how warm (hot) Oct has become.	Camden	CANNON, WILLIAM B
GB6	District 2	Agree	I have no issue with the proposed dates, but personally, I would really prefer to see a single season rather than these splits... or at least combine the second and third split into a single block.	Duplin	LOUGHLIN, WILLIAM P
GB6	District 2	Agree	While I'll agree those dates are the best I've seen in decades, I'd still like to see: A. The October season open a week or two later OR.. B. Open the Oct. season for a Fri/Sat, add the other 2 days to Nov. OR.. C. Do away with Oct. season, add all to November. Reasoning: Early October is usually still hot, bugs and snakes are still very active. But fact is migrators will be much more prevalent STATEWIDE later in Oct. than in early Oct. And statewide, we still should have the majority of, if not more wood ducks throughout the state because what few do leave will be replaced other woodiesand other ducks. Peak migrators (calendar birds) numbers traditionally occur ~Thanksgiving. There are plenty of birds here by the beginning of Nov. and why I would like all of November open. I understand we might decide to opt for zoning, that very well might be the solution to letting the westerners have there early wood duck shoot and allow us easterners dates better suited for us.	New Hanover	GIBSON JR, JAMES F
GB6	District 5	Agree	I am in favor of the proposed season dates, especially the November season dates	Guilford	BOYD, JAMES H

Regulation Number	District	Position	CommentText	County	UserName
GB6	District 6	Agree	<p>1. Give veterans their own day; do not combine them with the youth days. Veterans could have a Saturday between the Nov. and Dec. splits. I do not like the idea of Veterans sharing the same days with youth. Youth hunts should be special and the limited coastal areas were crowded with adults during the last (combined) veteran and youth days.</p> <p>2. Youth Days should be set on February 6 and February 13. The birds get a break and that means more success for youth hunters.</p> <p>3. Make youth for only those under 16. If you can drive your own truck and boat, then you can hunt throughout the regular 60 day season.</p> <p>4. Get rid of the 500 yard blind rule in Pamlico County and buy James Johnson's property on Goose Creek Island. This would free up shoreline from Jones bay to Pamlico Point and add a dozen impoundments to the Goose Creek Gamelands draw system. Ghost blinds made from three tomato stakes and burlap that will never be hunted should not infringe on the rights of others to hunt navigable water</p>	Cabarrus	HAWKINS, ANTHONY D
GB6	Out of State	Agree	These dates look perfect.	Out of State	RHODES, EVAN J
GB6	District 2	Disagree	I would like to see the October season days added into one of the later seasons.	Pitt	CASTLEBERRY, DAVID M
GB6	District 2	Disagree	<p>Would like to see October season either closed, or move to 2 days towards the end of October. November is the main natural migration, where Calendar ducks migrate on the full moon at the end of October, or the first of November. Would like to see as many days as possible allowed in the month of November. December is the slowest migration month in the mid-Atlantic. Close the season at the end of November or first week of December. We would like to see the season open this year on October 31st and close on November 28th. That gives us 25 days in the prime of the early migration. We know most hunters want to hunt around Christmas, myself included. With that being said, if the season opened on December 22nd and ran thru the last Saturday in January, that would be 35 days to give us our 60 day season. The entire month of January is typically good, and good chances of strong fronts to push more migrators thru as the waters north of us freeze up, and fields become covered with snow.</p>	Pender	ROBBINS, JAROD D
GB6	District 3	Disagree	Get rid of the October season and open the final split on December 15.	Wake	THOMPSON III, CARL S
GB6	District 3	Disagree	I propose the Third split starting a week earlier and ending a week sooner. By late January birds are paired up for breeding, might as well leave the healthy ones to head back up north.	Wake	ROSE, ANDREW K
GB6	District 3	Disagree	Please include SUNDAYS.....What is NC's problem with ducks on Sunday?.....How about something like 10/24 - 10/31, 11/21 - 11/28, 12/19 - 1/31.	Franklin	MYRICK II, DAVID G
GB6	District 3	Disagree	With the weather pattern changing I would rather see no short October season and starting regular duck season later too like around Dec and go into February. There has not been much of a migration till late or at the end of the season	Johnston	Quiel, Greg
GB6	District 4	Disagree	<p>Glad to see the early regular duck is a bit later. I'm a proponent of delaying the early season to at least the second week of the season.</p> <p>Start the second season on the 14th of November. End the 2nd season as proposed. Add the proposed 2nd season start week to the beginning of the third season. See below:</p> <p>(November 14-28, December 12-January 30.)</p> <p>Agree with the hybrid season for scaup as long as the two bird limit is at the end of the third season.</p>	Cumberland	VINENT JR, ANDRES A
GB6	District 5	Disagree	I believe there is a large majority of NC duck hunters that would like to see a 2 day october season. Add the additional 2 days to the beginning of november.	Rockingham	GWALTNEY, GREYSON W
GB6	District 5	Disagree	The November season should be reduced and October season expanded.	Person	CATES, RICHARD C
GB6	District 6	Disagree	Eliminate the Oct. season and add 4 "special" Sunday hunting during the splits of Nov & December.	Moore	HOLMES, PHILIP B
GB6	District 6	No Position	<p>It would be nice to be able to have duck season extended a week or even 2.</p> <p>Sometimes it seems like some ducks don't ever get pushed all the way down here until a hard cold towards the end of January and into February.</p>	Richmond	ROBINSON, WILLIAM F

Regulation Number	District	Position	CommentText	County	UserName
GB7					
GB7	District 1	Option 1	The limit on scaup should definitely be one for all 60 days. I hunt Pamlico Sound and this past season was by far the lowest numbers of scaup I have seen in my lifetime and I've been hunting 36 years. Also throw in the factor of excessive guiding and the one a day for 60 days should be a no brainer.	Dare	SCARBOROUGH JR, HARVEY D
GB7	District 2	Option 1	As evidenced by last years VERY POOR scaup numbers here on the entire coast AND USF&WS's reasoning for changing from last year's liberal season to a restrictive one, it stands to reason scaup could be in some real trouble. As we have done with Brant by recommending only one be taken per day albeit the Feds say we can take 2, we might want to consider doing the same for scaup. We typically have more divers and hunters chasing them later in January and if the word is out that birds are around then that will lead to even more pressure on a resource that quite frankly doesn't need it. I'll take what's given (season) but I think it would behoove us all to err on the side of caution in this case.	New Hanover	GIBSON JR, JAMES F
GB7	District 2	Option 1	I really prefer to just keep it simple. Complicated regulations seem to lead to hunter attrition.	Duplin	LOUGHLIN, WILLIAM P
GB7	District 6	Option 1	Where I believe the lack of full migration this past season must have benefited the overall population of ducks(earlier season closures up north equals less late season pressure and less distance traveled equals stronger healthier birds to return to the breeding grounds), I believe if the scientists that calculate population estimation along with estimation of potential mortality due to hunting think that there needs to be a drastic restriction on taking scaup, then I am in favor of a one bird entire season. That is in the hope of potentially 20 days worth of an extra bird not taken will assist somewhat in overall population recovery. I also believe that it would be more simple thus easier for the public to remember and easier on law enforcement. My biggest understanding is that I am not a scientist and all of my statements are a random (although, in my opinion, well thought out) guess.	Rowan	TARPLEE III, WILLIAM H
GB7	District 1	Option 2	I prefer option two. If the science shows bluebills need protection then the more conservative season should be chosen.	Pasquotank	SORRELL, JOSHUA S
GB7	District 2	Option 2	As I'm reading this, Scaup will still be allowed to be harvested all duck season either way, with the exception being the ability to harvest two a day at the end of the season. I think this is the best option if I am understanding correctly.	Pitt	CASTLEBERRY, DAVID M
GB7	District 4	Option 2	I support option #2 for a 20 day 2 bird limit	Columbus	HOLDEN, CHARLES B
GB7	District 4	Option 2	I support Option 2, the hybrid season for the scaup season recommendation.	Bladen	PADGETT, THOMAS M
GB7	District 6	Option 2	Scaup is one of the most common species of diver duck, reducing the number to 1 for the hole season would make it tough on the hunter. This is especially true when simple mistakes are made, multiple birds with one shot and misidentification to species such as the ring neck. This could also have an economic impact, as I for one would limit my trips to the coast if I don't have to opportunity to possibly fill a mixed bag.	Stanly	MILANO, ROBERT D
GB7	District 6	Option 2	Scaup really only show up in large numbers in January. This season they showed up the evening of the last youth day. So 2 birds at the end of the season would be ideal.	Cabarrus	HAWKINS, ANTHONY D
GB8					
GB8	District 2	Agree	One thing I'll say about sea ducks. They are getting hammered by a lot more people now! Don't know how much more they can take but some thoughts on restriction might want to be looked at in the not so instant future.	New Hanover	GIBSON JR, JAMES F
GB9					
GB9	District 2	Agree	I would prefer to see a single season, rather than these odd splits.	Duplin	LOUGHLIN, WILLIAM P
GB9	District 4	Disagree	November 14-28, December 12-February 13 Made a similar request for the general duck seasons	Cumberland	VINENT JR, ANDRES A
GB9	District 5	Disagree	To much emphasis on the regular duck season. Goose season dates should reflect the resident population, not the current duck season with extra days in Oct and Feb. I suggest applying days from Oct forward as later in the season is when migration happens.	Person	CATES, RICHARD C
GB9	District 5	No Position	I would like to see all federal framework days utilized with the additional days being added in December when the duck season is closed	Guilford	BOYD, JAMES H

Regulation Number	District	Position	CommentText	County	UserName
GB10					
GB10	District 1	Disagree	Many Northeast NC hunters would really appreciate the reasoning behind maintaining these restrictions. They have not worked and now we are gassing/egg oiling resident geese. From the goose hunting capital of the world the goose gassing capital is not a good look. At least let us hunt geese in Oct.	Camden	CANNON, WILLIAM B
GB10	District 2	Disagree	There are tons of geese in Hyde/Dare and every other Northeast county in May, June, July, August and every other month of the year. This is the only area left in the state that still has a different season, and it doesn't make any sense to me. Those are resident birds. If there are still any migrating down from up north, and they haven't recruited more birds by now, it will never happen so open the season up to match the rest of the state.	Beaufort	HAWLEY, JOSEPH T
GB10	District 5	Disagree	Segregating a small region is useless.	Person	CATES, RICHARD C
GB10	District 6	No Position	In the last 3-5 years, I have noticed a dramatic increase in (what appears to be) migratory Canada Geese in the Northeast Hunt Zone. Nothing like the legends of the 1960's and 1970's but the most I've seen since I was young. That said, I have the rhetorical questions of is it time to revisit research to determine if that is the case? Is there room to expand the season by dates or by the number of birds?	Rowan	TARPLEE III, WILLIAM H
GB11					
			GB11 Has No Additional Comments		
GB12					
			GB12 Has No Additional Comments		
GB13					
GB13	District 1	Agree	I think it should be closed altogether but glad you want the more restrictive option.	Camden	CANNON, WILLIAM B
GB13	District 3	Disagree	Need to close the season on Atlantic Brant.	Halifax	PURVIS SR, JOHN C
GB14					
			GB14 Has No Additional Comments		
GB15					
GB15	District 2	Agree	Yes, let them hunt when dates allow AFTER the regular season. That one week of zero distractions, no boat traffic, and no guns going off does a world of good in making them suddenly "show up" again. We want our youth to be successful whether they're shooting birds or just by observing lots and lots of birds that they wouldn't have otherwise. The goal of the youth hunt IMO, is a teaching moment designed to show and excite our youth to just how much enjoyment one can acquire when spent in the outdoors with nature. This needs to be done at the earliest age possible and I think it's paramount that it be done independent of Veteran's day special hunt. I believe a youth's age should be quantified as age 15. If you are 16 and can drive your truck and pull a boat, sorry but you're NOT a youth! You also are required to have a hunting license ...and the day before your 18th birthday you can still youth hunt, then sign up for the military the next day. (I know, it's a federal classification).	New Hanover	GIBSON JR, JAMES F
GB15	District 3	Agree	Having youth days immediately after (next day) regular season did not benefit youth hunters.	Wake	ATWELL, MASON J
GB15	District 6	Agree	Do not combine the youth days with veterans day(s). Youth hunts should be special with unpressured birds. This makes the hunt more successful and enjoyable for youth hunters. Youth hunters should be under the age of 16. If you can drive your own truck and boat to hunt, then you can hunt in the regular 60 day season. Last year was poorly planned with the first youth day being the day after the 3rd split closing day, and coastal shorelines and impoundments were crowded with adults (veterans).	Cabarrus	HAWKINS, ANTHONY D

Regulation Number	District	Position	CommentText	County	UserName
GB15	District 6	Agree	Please do not include (adult) veterans on the February 6th and 13th hunt dates. These dates are supposed to give youth hunters a better chance at a good hunt. When you include adults and little enforcement to check if they are actually veterans, it takes away from the youths' experiences. Limited opportunities (especially coastal impoundments and shoreline limited by ridiculous 500 yards blind rules) should be for youth only. Give veterans a day between the splits. Also, youth hunters should be under the age of 16. If you can drive your own truck and boat, then you can hunt any day during the regular season.	Cabarrus	HAWKINS, RANDALL C
GB15	District 3	Disagree	This should be repealed all together or allowed during only one weekend. At this point birds are paired up for breeding, secondly we all know that Dad's and Uncle's do the killing and the kids are the excuse to do so.	Wake	ROSE, ANDREW K
GB15	District 4	Disagree	The NCWRC should not discriminate outdoor activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age or sex. ;-)	Bladen	PADGETT, THOMAS M
GB15	District 5	Disagree	NCWRC should consider a youth day in Oct and the latest possible date in Feb. We want kids to kill birds, these are the best opportunities.	Person	CATES, RICHARD C
GB15	District 1	No Position	There should be no more than one youth day	Dare	SCARBOROUGH JR, HARVEY D
GB16					
GB16	District 3	Agree	Maybe have a First Responder Day.	Johnston	WILE JR, CARL F
GB16	District 6	Agree	As a veteran I greatly appreciate this opportunity. I also like it being on youth day for the reason of I usually try and carry at least one or two kids out on these days.	Stanly	MILANO, ROBERT D
GB16	District 1	Disagree	Don't care for these exceptions	Camden	CANNON, WILLIAM B
GB16	District 1	Disagree	I disagree with the veteran days. I am a Verteran. At the very least they shouldn't be on the same days as youth days. The point of youth day is to get kids out without competition from adults. We had grown ups in our permitted blind when we arrived on youth day. It's the one day this should not happen.	Pasquotank	SORRELL, JOSHUA S
GB16	District 2	Disagree	Leave the youth days as youth days. Let veterans have the Friday and Saturday of the split between seasons.	Beaufort	HAWLEY, JOSEPH T
GB16	District 2	Disagree	Strongly disagree!! While I love the military and have an active duty family member, these are grown men and women that do not need to be competing with our youth hunters! There are not a lot of good public places to hunt but when one is found, who do you think will secure it first? The ones with the most desire and ability will, that's a given. I've been at this now for 55 seasons and went to all kinds of extremes when I found birds. I can't do that now and I know for sure the true youth don't have the physical abilities to out run, etc. a military person when the gates open up at 4am on the state impoundment hunts. If veterans must hunt, please keep it separate from our youth days or you'll see fewer youths hunting.	New Hanover	GIBSON JR, JAMES F
GB16	District 3	Disagree	Let the Youth dates be youth only. Put the Military/Veteran dates in the closed portion between the 2nd and 3rd split.	Wake	REVER, MATTHEW J
GB16	District 4	Disagree	The NCWRC should not discriminate on the basis of occupation.	Bladen	PADGETT, THOMAS M
GB16	District 5	Disagree	Days for Veterans should not align with youth. Give veterans another day, maybe between splits.	Person	CATES, RICHARD C
GB16	District 6	Disagree	Having adults hunting the same days as designated youth days takes away from the youths' experience and chances at a successful hunt. Now youths have to get up at 3 AM to beat adults to promising spots in coastal impoundments or coastline limited by stupid 500 yard blind rules. The other problem here is that there were probably a lot of non-veteran adults hunting these days too last year. There are not enough game wardens to check everyone to see if they have a dd214, active duty ID, or vetrans status on their <u>drivers licences</u> .	Cabarrus	HAWKINS, RANDALL C
GB16	District 6	Disagree	These days should not be held on the same dates as the youth season. Youth days should be for youth only.	Moore	CAMERON, JAMES B

<i>Regulation Number</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>CommentText</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>UserName</i>
GB16	District 6	Disagree	<p>This takes away from the youth hunters. Crowded coastal shorelines and impoundments. Kids have to wake up at 2 am to get a good spot. I am a US Army veteran; I hunt during the 60 day regular season splits. I take youth hunters on youth days.</p> <p>If you want veterans to have a day, let them hunt on the Saturday between the November and December splits.</p> <p>This must be enforced by game wardens; veteran hunters should have to show veterans status on their driver's license, a military ID, or a DD214. I have a feeling that a lot of adults were hunting these days that were not veterans.</p>	Cabarrus	HAWKINS, ANTHONY D
GB16	District 1	No Position	There should be no more than one military day	Dare	SCARBOROUGH JR, HARVEY D
GB17					
			GB17 Has No Additional Comments		
GB18					
			GB18 Has No Additional Comments		

Regulation Number	District	Position	CommentText	County	UserName
GB19					
			GB19 Has No Additional Comments		
GB20					
			GB20 Has No Additional Comments		
GB21					
GB21	District 1	No Position	I think it is finally time to start looking at a shorter general duck season. I hunt along the outer banks and the hunting has declined dramatically the last 5 years and in particular the last 3. There has never been this much hunting pressure in history in this area. The excessive amount of guiding is unbelievable and the lack of respect for the resource is disgusting. Almost every hunter I know is now saying that the season should be shortened including some I never thought I would ever hear say that.	Dare	SCARBOROUGH JR, HARVEY D
GB21	District 2	No Position	I strongly support using biological and environmental science in determining seasons, limits, etc. I appreciate the work the Commission is doing.	Duplin	LOUGHLIN, WILLIAM P
GB21	District 3	No Position	Would love to see Sunday hunting opportunities for migratory birds in this state. College student and can really only hunt on the weekends. Would greatly expand my hunting opportunities.	Wake	NEWMAN, WILL N
GB21	District 4	No Position	Are you considering a cormorant season?	Cumberland	VINENT JR, ANDRES A
GB21	District 4	No Position	The NCWRC should not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, AGE, or sex Eliminate "youth" waterfowl hunts. Are there any special waterfowl hunting days available for those over 65 or 70? Not to my knowledge. Please stop the hypocrisy and discrimination.	Bladen	PADGETT, THOMAS M
GB21	District 6	No Position	Offer 4 "Special" or "Bonus" Sunday duck hunts in December & January in lieu of the October season.	Moore	HOLMES, PHILIP B
GB21	District 6	No Position	I think there needs to be revisions to the migratory bird act. It isn't fair that people are hunting flooded crop fields that still have every bit of the crop standing. This is nothing more than baiting. I also think no person shall use bait to attract waterfowl during a open season. This is to include land owners on water ways and photographers. Hunters already have enough to complete with, and are the ones funding the conservation of wildlife though license fees and memberships to organization that promote ethical hunting.	Stanly	MILANO, ROBERT D
GB21	District 6	No Position	I love that the Canada goose zone was changed last year to mostly all of the state. One of my concerns is the chance for waterfowl hunting on Sundays, I very much oppose this because waterfowl hunting success has declined over the past 10 years due to the number of hunters and pressure already on the birds, the birds definitely need 1 day of rest on public lands. My other concern would be about the public lands around Hyde/Tyrell countys, I believe starting blind laws and not allowing hunters to come use public lands and being lock out by neighboring land owners is not fair to the part of money that I pay that goes to having access to these lands. I am from the piedmont and we see very few birds as is, even less now that the pressure is crazy here. So when I get to go down east to hunt, I don't think its fair that a land owner could potentially lock me out. Thank you.	Rowan	REAVIS, CASEY S
GB21	District 8	No Position		McDowell	GOUGE, GARY E

Summary of Online Public Comments on Migratory Game Bird for 2020-2021
by District

<i>Proposal</i>	<i>District 1</i>	<i>District 2</i>	<i>District 3</i>	<i>District 4</i>	<i>District 5</i>	<i>District 6</i>	<i>District 7</i>	<i>District 8</i>	<i>District 9</i>	<i>Out of State</i>
GB1	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 3: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 5: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 4: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 4: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 5: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB2	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB3	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB4	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB5	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 3: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 4: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB6	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 4: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 2: No 4: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 4: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 2: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 4: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes
GB7	<u>Position Count</u> 1: Option 1 2: Option 2	<u>Position Count</u> 2: Option 1 2: Option 2	<u>Position Count</u> 2: Option 1 0: Option 2	<u>Position Count</u> 1: Option 1 3: Option 2	<u>Position Count</u> 0: Option 1 4: Option 2	<u>Position Count</u> 1: Option 1 5: Option 2	<u>Position Count</u> 0: Option 1 0: Option 2	<u>Position Count</u> 0: Option 1 0: Option 2	<u>Position Count</u> 0: Option 1 0: Option 2	<u>Position Count</u> 0: Option 1 0: Option 2
GB8	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 3: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB9	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 4: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 3: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB10	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB11	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes

<i>Proposal</i>	<i>District 1</i>	<i>District 2</i>	<i>District 3</i>	<i>District 4</i>	<i>District 5</i>	<i>District 6</i>	<i>District 7</i>	<i>District 8</i>	<i>District 9</i>	<i>Out of State</i>
GB12	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB13	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 4: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 3: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB14	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 3: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 3: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 4: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB15	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 3: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 3: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB16	<u>Position Count</u> 2: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 2: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 1: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 3: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB17	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB18	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB19	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB20	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 2: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 1: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes	<u>Position Count</u> 0: No 0: Yes
GB21	GB21 was an additional space left for individuals to submit comments unrelated to any Migratory Game Bird Proposal listed above. There were no positions, only additional comments which are provided in the comment report below.									

EXHIBIT C-3

May 7, 2020



2020-21 Migratory Game Bird Gun Season Proposed Frameworks and WMD Staff Recommendations

Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommendations	
		Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Mourning Dove & White-winged dove	Outside Dates: September 1 – January 31, 90 days with 3 segments daily bag of 15 singly or in the aggregate	September 5 – October 10, November 14 – November 28 December 12 – January 30	15
King & Clapper Rails	Outside Dates: September 1 – January 31 70 days with 2 segments daily bag of 15 singly or in the aggregate	September 1 – November 20	15
Sora & Virginia Rails	Outside Dates: September 1 – January 31 70 days with 2 segments daily bag of 25 singly or in the aggregate	September 1 – November 20	25
Gallinule & Moorhens	Outside Dates: September 1 – January 31 70 days with 2 segments daily bag of 15 singly or in the aggregate	September 1 – November 20	15
Woodcock	Outside Dates: October 1 – January 31 45 days with 2 segments, daily bag of 3	December 10 – January 30	3
Common Snipe	Outside Dates: September 1 – February 28 107 days with 2 segments daily bag of 8	October 27 – February 27	8

Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommendations	
		Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Canada Goose (September season)	<p>Outside Dates: September 1 – 30 (statewide), 30 days daily bag of 15</p> <p>Special methods: During the September Canada goose season only, the following expanded hunting methods area allowed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extended shooting hours to ½ hour after sunset. 2. unplugged guns 3. electronic calls <p>Note: The special methods are not allowed in areas with another open waterfowl season, e.g, September teal.</p>	<p>September 1 – 30 (statewide)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. extend shooting hours to ½ hour after sunset 2. allow use of unplugged guns 3. allow use of electronic calls <p>These expanded methods are <u>only</u> to be allowed west of U.S. 17.</p>	15
September Teal	<p>Outside Dates: September 1 – 30, 16 consecutive days, daily bag of 6, east of U.S. 17 only</p>	<p>September 12 – September 30 (East of U.S. 17 only)</p>	6
General Duck Season	<p>Outside Dates: Saturday nearest September 24 (September 26) – January 31, 60 days with 3 segments, daily bag of 6</p> <p>Includes a total of 6 ducks with no more than 4 scoters, 4 eiders, 4 long-tailed ducks, 3 wood ducks, 2 mallards with no more than 1 hen mallard, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, 2 black ducks, 1 pintail, 1 mottled duck, and 1 fulvous whistling duck. For scaup, states can choose a 60-day season with a 1 bird daily bag limit, or a “hybrid” season consisting of 40 consecutive days with a 1-bird daily bag limit and 20 consecutive days with a 2-bird daily bag limit. The season on harlequin ducks is closed.</p>	<p>October 7 – October 10, November 7 – November 28, December 19 – January 30</p>	<p>Includes a total of 6 ducks with no more than 4 scoters, 4 eiders, 4 long-tailed ducks, 3 wood ducks, 2 mallards with no more than 1 hen mallard, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, 2 black ducks, 1 pintail, 1 mottled duck and 1 fulvous whistling duck. Prior to January 8 the scaup bag limit is 1, on January 8 and after it is 2. The season on harlequin ducks is closed. The season on black ducks and mottled ducks is closed until November 21.</p>

Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommendations	
		Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Mergansers	Dates: same as general duck season, daily bag of 5 mergansers with no more than 2 hooded mergansers	Same as general duck season	5 mergansers with no more than 2 hooded mergansers
Coots	Dates: same as general duck season, daily bag of 15 coots	Same as general duck season	15 coots
Special Sea Duck Season (in the special sea duck area)	Outside Dates: September 15 – January 31 60 consecutive days or season must coincide with the general duck season, daily bag of 5 sea ducks with no more than 4 scoters, 4 eiders and 4 long-tailed ducks	November 23 – January 30	5 sea ducks with no more than 4 scoters, 4 eiders and 4 long-tailed ducks.
Canada Geese (Resident Population Zone) – includes Canada Geese and White-fronted geese	Outside Dates: October 1 – March 10 80 days with 3 segments, daily bag of 5 Canada geese or white-fronted geese singly or in the aggregate	October 7 – October 17, November 7 – November 28, December 19 – February 13	5
Canada Geese (Northeast Hunt Zone) – includes Canada Geese and White-fronted geese	Outside Dates: Saturday prior to December 25 (December 19) – January 31 14 days, daily bag of 1 Canada goose or white-fronted goose	January 15 – January 30	1 with a valid permit (unlimited point of sale permits available)

Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommendations	
		Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Brant	Outside Dates: Saturday nearest September 24 (September 26) – January 31 50 days with 2 segments, daily bag of 2	December 19 – January 30 (37 days total)	1
Light Geese (includes snow and Ross's geese) – regular season	Outside Dates: October 1 – March 10 107 days with 3 segments, daily bag of 25 (no possession limit)	October 13 – February 13	25 (no possession limit)
Light Geese (includes snow and Ross's geese) – Conservation Order season	Outside Dates: Must occur when no other waterfowl season is open, no daily bag, no possession limit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • electronic calls allowed • unplugged guns allowed • extended shooting hours to ½ hour past sunset allowed 	February 15 – March 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no daily bag limit • no possession limit • electronic calls allowed • unplugged guns allowed • allow shooting to extend to ½ hour past sunset
Tundra Swan	Outside Dates: October 1 – January 31 90 days, no segments allowed, 1 per season with valid permit (4,895 permits available)	November 7 – January 30	1 per season with valid permit

Species	Frameworks	Staff Recommendations	
		Staff Recommended Season	Daily Bag
Youth Waterfowl Day(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 youth days allowed • The day(s) can occur up to 14 days before or after any regular duck season or in the closed portion between season segments. • The day must occur on any non-school day. In North Carolina, this includes Saturdays and any statewide holidays. • States may use their established definition of age for youth hunters. However, youth hunters may not be over the age of 17. 	February 6 & February 13	Includes ducks, geese, brant, tundra swans, mergansers and coots. Must have a valid permit if hunting tundra swans and Canada geese (Northeast Hunt Zone only)
Veterans/Military Waterfowl Day(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 veterans/military days allowed • Includes veterans and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including National Guard and Reserves on active duty (other than for training). • The day(s) can occur up to 14 days before or after any regular duck season or in the closed portion between season segments. • Can be held concurrently with the Youth Waterfowl Day(s) 	February 6 & February 13	Includes ducks, geese, brant, tundra swans, mergansers and coots. Must have a valid permit if hunting tundra swans and Canada geese (Northeast Hunt Zone only)

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

EXHIBIT C-4

May 7, 2020

Guidelines & WMD Staff Recommendations for 2020-21 Extended Falconry Seasons for Migratory Game Bird Species

General Restrictions/Guidelines

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

WMD Staff Recommendations

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

Mourning dove/White-winged dove	October 17 – October 31
Rails, Gallinule and Moorhens	November 28 – January 2
Woodcock	November 7 – November 28 and February 1 – February 27
Ducks, mergansers and coots	October 17 – October 31 and February 1 – February 13

EXHIBIT D

May 7, 2020



Staff Recommendations to Allow Take of Migrant Peregrine Falcons From the Wild for Use in Falconry- 2020

The Atlantic, Mississippi, and Central Flyway Councils approved an allowable take of 144 Peregrine Falcons by falconers. Based upon this allocation, the USFWS is allowing the take of up to 48 fall migrants in 2020 east of 100 degrees W longitude to Atlantic Flyway states. North Carolina is allocated up to 6 birds.

Based on this allocation of up to 6 birds for take from within North Carolina, WMD staff recommends that the WRC accept the USFWS allocation framework and establish a season in 2020 with the following stipulations.

- Total allowable take is up to 6 birds during the period from September 20, 2020 through October 20, 2020.
- Any bird taken must be a juvenile.
- Take would be allowed only by permit from the WRC and only east of US Highway 17.
- No banded birds could be taken. Any banded birds captured must be released immediately at the site of capture.
- Permits will be issued through our special hunts permitting system (random).
- An individual issued a permit must have the proper state and federal falconry licenses/permits.
- Each person receiving a permit must complete a post-season survey provided by WMD staff and submit that survey no later than December 15, 2020.

EXHIBIT E

May 7, 2020



Temporary Rulemaking Request to Propose Text for 15A NCAC 10B .0202 – Bear

Title 15A NCAC 10B .0202 – Bear

Due to calendar anomalies, 15A NCAC 10B .0202 is proposed for amendment to correct the open season for bear in Camden, Chowan, and Pasquotank counties.

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,
18 and 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; April 14, 1992;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;
Amendment Eff. August 1, 2002;
Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2003;
Temporary Amendment Expired Eff. December 27, 2003;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May
1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 31, 2016;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2020; August 1, 2019.

EXHIBIT F-1

May 7, 2020



Public Comments for 15A NCAC 10A .1601 Controlled Rabbit Hunting Preserves

Public Comments Received

I disagree with the purposed rabbit hunting perserves regulations.

As a a lifelong resident of NC I am very concerned about the temporary Rabbit Preserve regulation. Using the temporary authority yet not demonstrating any "immediate, serious or unforeseen act" to justify it makes us suspect of the motivations behind it. Only scheduling one public hearing which allowed no comments and holding it at 11:00 AM on a Wednesday morning when many stakeholders could not attend does not meet any protocol. We hope this will be tabled and a committee including stakeholders can be formed to come up with a fair and equitable resolution.

There are many concerns from a hunter and voter perspective. Why is there no distinction for the size and purpose of enclosures designed for training our tracking dogs? Training areas can range from 1/2 acre to 5, 10, 20, up to 50 acres or more.

Using the Temporary Regulation status to push this through is unjustified. Nothing about this meets the criteria that there is an issue or threat that an immediate serious or unforeseen act has occurred?

Rabbits can be trapped and sold for food or given away in NC but not sold for release inside training enclosures where they are fed and provided cover and escape areas. Fox preserves are allowed to pay for trapped foxes and coyotes for training, why can we not compensate a rabbit trapper for his or her expenses?

This is a sport more than 100 years old. There are no criminal or civil issues related to our sport. We build fences as to keep our training on our properties, we have no trespassing issues. We have the largest Entries of any AKC field trial events in NC. Hundreds if not thousands of people migrate here from around the country to train and compete each year. We stimulate the economies around the various NC Beagle Clubs in restaurants hotels and entrants spending money for their various travel expenses. We need support from our government not excessive regulation that could cripple or end our sport.

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As a lifelong resident of NC I am very concerned about the temporary Rabbit Preserve regulation. Using the temporary authority yet not demonstrating any "immediate, serious or unforeseen act" to justify it makes us suspect of the motivations behind it. Only scheduling one public hearing which allowed no comments and holding it at 11:00 AM on a Wednesday morning when many stakeholders could not attend does not meet any protocol. We hope this will be tabled and a committee including stakeholders can be formed to come up with a fair and equitable resolution.

There are many concerns from a hunter and voter perspective. Why is there no distinction for the size and purpose of enclosures designed for training our tracking dogs? Training areas can range from 1/2 acre to 5, 10, 20, up to 50 acres or more.

Using the Temporary Regulation status to push this through is unjustified. Nothing about this meets the criteria that there is an issue or threat that an immediate serious or unforeseen act has occurred?

Rabbits can be trapped and sold for food or given away in NC but not sold for release inside training enclosures where they are fed and provided cover and escape areas. Fox preserves are allowed to pay for trapped foxes and coyotes for training, why can we not compensate a rabbit trapper for his or her expenses?

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We at Green River Beagle Club are apposed to this regulation, and the method it came into being. I can not think of one reason, why this regulation should be imposed on our sport. It accomplish nothing of value.

I am differently against more control and harrassment from our Gov. Officials. We are tax paying ,law abiding , voting sportsmen. This sport of training and competing with beagles has been followed for over 100 years with no serious problems. But now the government (wildlife commission) thinks they know what's best for Beaglers. They want to make us jump through hoops and pay them for ruining our sport for us. My experience is the less gov. involvement the better . They don't really care about anything but growing Government control of our lives and wasting our money.

How can you make a law that has no explanation Size of pens vary.
How can you keep count when owls hawks or other prey can take out your rabbits
Is this for public pens and paid pens. How about people who have just private pens that dont hunt just train dogs. And only run there personal dogs. I consider my pen a training pen not a preserve

No details in your agenda or specific

It is now Easter Sunday as I submit my comments about a webinar which took place on Wednesday April 8, 2020 that placed a deadline of April 13, 2020 for comments. I found out about this webinar this morning. The deadline for comments gives me one day to reply. The first question is "Why the rush?"

I am a 68 year old, second generation retired military veteran, and retired North Carolina teacher. I have participated in American Kennel Club (AKC) brace beagle field trials in multiple states since the late 1950's. I have been a resident of Hickory, North Carolina since 1997 and am currently the President of the Carolina's Championship and handle field trial secretary duties for each club conducting AKC licensed trials in North Carolina. I spend on average 10-15 hours a week training dogs and attend approximately 65-70 days of field trials annually. Needless to say my dogs and field trials are a big part of my life.

I respectfully submit my concerns and questions that are as follows:

My first concern is that we beginning descent on a slippery slope that will result in jeopardizing the future of hunting dog sports in our state and country. It is no secret that our second amendment is under attack. Dog ownership is facing increased regulatory requirements. Wildlife habitat and hunter numbers are decreasing. I have had the privilege of hunting in Germany where unless you are a landowner you hunt by invitation only. In our county, hunting is considered an American Tradition. For heavens sake let us not regulate it into something only enjoyed by few.

My second concern is that which is considered the unnecessary involvement of the government on what is done on private land. Private individuals and clubs that erect enclosures on their property do so to create a habitat that will support an abundant supply of rabbits. I understand the purpose of game regulations are to protect and propagate the states wildlife resources and I accept the fact that wildlife is the property of the state. Where do the goals of the state and private land owners who erect an enclosure differ? Please understand, the erection and maintenance of an enclosure is labor intensive and expensive. I question the wisdom of using Wildlife personnel to enforce the requirements of this regulation when they could be more effectively employed in programs such as hunter safety, water safety, habitat development, etc.

What has prompted the sudden interest in regulating rabbit enclosures? Beagle clubs and privately owned enclosures have existed in North Carolina for the better part of a century. In fact a large percentage of the best field trial beagles in the nation are bred, born, and trained in North Carolina. Are rabbit enclosures creating problems? If so what are they?

What is the desired outcome of this purposed legislation?

Has the North Carolina Wild Life Commission done an economic impact study on what contributions beagle clubs and beagle field trials make to the state's economy? No enclosure, no dogs, no land, no field trials equal reduced customers for restaurants, hotels and shopping centers, no fence costs, reduced dog food purchases, reduced vet fees, reduced farming equipment / supplies etc. The cost of maintaining a properly maintained enclosure can run into the tens of thousands of dollars annually.

If not for enclosed training grounds, where does the Wild Life Commission purpose that I can safely train my dogs that are within reasonable driving distance? As it now stands some clubs require schedules for members to train their dogs, and not all clubs have open membership.

Thank you for your time and interest. I would appreciate a response to my concerns and questions.

The NCWRC should make it easier for us to run and train our beagles rather than harder. With all the issues relating to dog hunters trespassing on other land, you should be encourage us to use enclosures to train our dogs, this overreaching government proposal discourages and makes it harder for privately owned and beagle clubs to operate. A lot of beagle clubs are just getting bye as it is.

Most if not all enclosure owner and operator manages their land for small game, but theres times we need to bring rabbits into enclosures, due to predators.

The regulations proposed will discourage some folks from bringing new rabbits to the enclosures.

I see nothing wrong with reimbursing some one for their time and expense for bringing rabbits to enclosures owner operators

These enclosures are the best way for new Beaglers to get started when training their beagle.

Enclosures are the best place to break our beagles (without fear of losing them) from running off game.

Please help us to encourage new beaglers rather than imposing burdensome regulation to discourage.

I disagree with the proposed G.S 150B-21.1 Enclosure owners cause no harm and it is the only way as rabbit hunters can train dogs without intervering with Deerhunters since it seems you only give them more freedom than small game hunters please throw this out

As a resident of North Carolina, a hunter and fisherman that has always gone by the rules, I am concerned with the rabbit preserve regulation that is up for discussion based on (No) discussion from the public. When I attempted to follow the meeting on Zoom I was never connected and missed the meeting. In my opinion this needs to be tabled until the pandemic is over allowing us to have live meetings over the state. A lot of older hunters and sportsmen do not have access to the internet.

Therefore their voice will not be heard. This is not an emergent regulation and does not need to be slipped in without allowing public voice. We need time to form a fair and equitable resolution.

As a lifelong resident of NC I am very concerned about the temporary Rabbit Preserve regulation. Using the temporary authority yet not demonstrating any immediate, serious or unforeseen act to justify it makes us suspect of the motivations behind it. Only scheduling one public hearing which allowed no comments and holding it at 11:00 AM when many stakeholders could not attend does not meet any protocol. We hope this will be tabled and a committee including stakeholders can be formed to come up with a fair and equitable resolution.

There are many concerns from a hunter and voter perspective. Why is there no distinction for the size and purpose of TRAINING Enclosures? Training areas can range from 1/2 acre to 5, 10, 20, up to 50 acres or more. We build fences as to keep our training on our properties, we have no trespassing issues. Does this regulation only apply if we are releasing wild rabbits into a fenced enclosure?

What studies have been done that would indicate NC has problems related to trapping and releasing rabbits into enclosures? (Declining numbers or disease) There are none! Using the Temporary Regulation status to push this through is unjustified. Nothing about this meets the criteria that there is an issue or threat that an immediate serious or unforeseen act has occurred?

Rabbits can be trapped and sold for food or given away in NC but not sold for release inside training enclosures where they are fed and provided cover and escape areas. Fox preserves are allowed to pay for trapped foxes and coyotes for training, why can we not compensate a rabbit trapper for his or her expenses? This is a sport more than 100 years old. There are no criminal or civil issues related to our sport. We build fences as to keep our training on our properties, we have no trespassing issues. We have the largest Entries of any AKC field trial events in NC. Hundreds if not thousands of people migrate here from around the country to train and compete each year. We stimulate the economies around the various NC Beagle Clubs in restaurants hotels and entrants spending money for their various travel expenses. We need support from our government not excessive regulation that could cripple or end our sport.

As a lifelong rabbit hunter I am trying to understand the purpose of this regulation. As a North Carolina sportsman a rabbit preserve is not about chasing rabbits but about tracking rabbits as well as maintaining a self sufficient habitat for rabbits. As a hunter I see year after year where it is harder to locate rabbits as well as find property to train beagles.

Rabbit hunting has been going on for many years and I feel this regulation will put a major setback for this great sport. I am against this regulation and do not see where this regulation will make a higher rabbit population or control disease in the eastern cottontail. There is no reason to regulate rabbit preserves, and I hope this regulation does not pass for this will further injure an already dying sport.

Other tulates in the past have used wording differently that I understand this rules wording. The work "take" implies that animals are killed in these pens. While I'm sure dogs will, can, and have killed rabbits in a pen. I'm sure for the vast majority of rabbit pen operators that is not the intention of the pen.

I run a small pen and use it to start my pups and around 20-25 pups for friends a year. I trap my own rabbits and try to keep one rabbit to an acre in the pen. More regulation on those of us who have spent the time and money to put pens up to increase our chances of making better hounds doesn't seem necessary.

Buying and selling wild game is not permitted and perhaps time should be spent enforcing those laws if that is the intention of of yet another law imposed on the men and women hunters of North Carolina.

1. What is the need of these new proposed regulations and why now?
2. Why was there no public forum to ask questions and gain understanding? No two way communications seem to have taken place.
3. What are the implications of the new rules on privately owned land?
4. What are the new proposed fees? What will be the benefit for the preserve owner?
5. Training beagles is the only pastime many older residents enjoy. It is a wonderful form of exercise for many. Why would the NC Wildlife commission need to complicate a simple sport of Field trials or training beagles by inserting new regulations?

I think this is a bad idea, just another way for y'all to get more money, rabbit season is not long enough anyways y'all cater to the deer and bear hunters all the time how about leaving us small game hunters alone

I logged onto Zoom this week for information and input on the proposed regulations regarding what you are calling rabbit hunting preserves. Respectfully, that was a total waste of my time. Fifteen minutes of posted script that was already available with no input from the public.

What has brought about this proposed regulation? Is it going to be all about money? Is it going to be like all the other public hearings in which public input is ignored completely and you go ahead and do as you please anyway? What is the rush to get this done in the manner it is being presented? My feeling is that you are trying to ramrod this through during the pandemic knowing you will get less resistance to a poorly written, very ambiguous regulation that will leave the public confused and angry, not knowing who is being affected.

I am 73 years old, too old to try to build an enclosure to train my beagle puppies, but if I did then: Would a one half acre enclosure be regarded the same as a forty acre enclosure, or a hundred acre enclosure? Would an enclosure on private land be the same as one owned by a beagle club and used for field trials? If an enclosure is built around good habitat and managed so that no additional rabbits are added, would that be regulated the same as others. I know it is illegal to trap and sell rabbits but will this regulation make it legal if the enclosure is licensed? It sounds as if you are trying to make it legal, or are you trying to trap people into admitting they break an existing law by identifying who and where trapped rabbits come from or go to.

Where does it end? We the people that enjoy the great outdoors are taxed and gladly pay taxes to enjoy the things that make who we are. We pay a fairly high conservation tax on things we buy to hunt. I have bought two lifetime licenses. For some one have to pay for a pen on their own land that they pay taxes on already is a slap to the face. We are not making any money from it. The pens are to help maintain and prepare dogs for hunting. The reason for pens is because small game hunters are kinda second place hunters. We all know deer hunting is king. Rabbit hunters can't hardly find places to hunt during season let alone run during the off season. That is the reason there has been a rise in running pen being built so we don't upset other hunters. That in lies the problem a few people have capitalized on it and are charging to run in pens. If they want to make money they have to have game to run. If they can't catch rabbits on their own they will pay someone to do it. These are the ones that should have to pay. I've seen in studies that ncwrc have done we're hunting and fishing is on the decline. Do you think that money could be one cause? Outdoorsmen pay a lot to enjoy the outdoors. So more fees are only going to hurt. The less hunters and fishermen we have the less your jobs are needed. Maybe put a rule of the size of pen, if they charge to run, have field trials or charge to train dogs. These are the ones that can afford to pay the fee. Someone that has a pen for personal use should not!

Why is the WRC in such a hurry to pass laws concerning rabbit preserves when there hasn't been a need before, what or who is the push. We as beagle clubs should have ample opportunity to speak and present our side. I'm very disappointed in this organization in whom I thought represented and cared about sportsman.

I am wanting to extend my opposing comments regarding the 15A NCAC 10H .1501 CONTROLLED RABBIT HUNTING PRESERVES.

As a native North Carolina rabbit hunter with dogs from age 16-35 years old and a private property owner, I would like to express that I disagree with the adoption of this rule by the NC wildlife. I feel there are other ways to ensure animal protection within the small game realm in efforts to reduce this agencies' "intruding efforts" to hunters by requiring more fees, documents, and allowing representatives onto private properties for inspection and data collection. Each year, licenses and fees increase and have generously felt this money went to an agency that keeps animal preservice as their key priority, not to make hunting activity and heritage preservice more cumbersome.

The following are my reasons for opposing the adoption of this rule:

1. Hunting license is already required for game land and private property. No further need in additional rules, fees, etc. Additional rules and fees like this one are only making the hunting activity cumbersome and confusing, detouring future generations from carrying on the hunting heritage in training hunting dogs, which has been a big part of history for mankind. As you already know.....
2. There is already a season established to include the bag limit and when trapping is allowed for small game. How do you guarantee this is recorded/reported correctly on private property as the current rules exist? They could be killed or released into a training pasture and not be recorded. No improvement can be expected in adopting this rule, data for records/research will still not be guaranteed as game collected in traps may/may not be recorded. Thus being the same loophole for hunters. You don't truly know when or where game is trapped, especially on private property.....So pitching this as an opportunity to enhance scientific research or animal preservice is bogus. My point, this additional rule produces more regulation hurdles, but does not improve anything for data collection.
3. Owners of Private property are allowed to do any activity within any county, state and federal regulations or guidelines. In this case, raising of domestic game such as quail, chickens, pheasants, and rabbits, etc are allowed. Does this rule only apply for wild trapped rabbits or does this include farm raised rabbits being released into training pastures? What if only farm raised rabbits are released into training pastures? If this ruling does include farm raised rabbit release, then the NC wildlife agency is now regulating activity on private property which I do not agree as this is seen as intrusive regulation to private property owners.
4. For purposes of training dogs, I would agree that weapons for hunting on game/private land, not for personal protection, for means to take an animal in the offseason shall not be allowed. Game may only be taken by means of dog year round. Game lands are closed to running dogs for a time period, which is already regulated. Therefore, this could be included in the "hunting with dogs" guidelines without adding another rule.

Again, I do not think this rule should be adopted into the NCWildlife agency regulations as it does not improve anything or give better data, that is not already provided with the existing rules in place. Private training pastures are "private" and collecting of game to release into these areas should be within the existing guidelines and should be enforced by agency representative. Farm Raised animal release should be of no concern to wildlife agency as these activities are regulated by city, county, state and federal laws.

I hope this message is considered and it is understood as an attempt to ensure our hunting heritage is sustained with sound regulation so that future generations can enjoy the same freedoms.

As a lifelong resident of NC I am concerned about the temporary rabbit preserve regulation. Using temporary authority yet not demonstrating any immediate, serious or unforeseen act to justify it makes us suspect of the motivations behind it. The scheduling of one public hearing which allowed no comments and holding it at 11:00 am when many stakeholders could not attend, does not meet appropriate protocols for input. We hope this will be tabled and a committee including stakeholders can be formed to come up with a fair and equitable resolution.

There are many concerns from a hunter and voter perspective. Why is there no distinction for the size and purpose of TRAINING Enclosures? Training areas can range from 1/2 acre to 5, 10, 20, up to 50 acres or more.

We build fences to keep our training on our properties so we have no trespassing issues.

Does this regulation only apply if we are releasing wild rabbits into a fenced enclosure?

What studies have been done that would indicate NC has problems related to trapping and releasing rabbits into enclosures? (Declining numbers or disease).

Using the temporary regulation status to push this through is unjustified. Nothing about this meets the criteria that there is an issue or threat that an immediate serious or unforeseen act has occurred?

Rabbits can be trapped and sold for food or given away in NC but not sold for release inside training enclosures where they are fed and provided cover and escape areas. Fox preserves are allowed to pay for trapped foxes and coyotes for training. Why can rabbit preserves not compensate a rabbit trapper for his or her expenses?

This is a sport more than 100 years old. There are no criminal or civil issues related to our sport. We build fences to keep our training on our properties and we have no trespassing issues. We have the largest entries of any AKC field trial events in NC. Hundreds if not thousands of people migrate here from around the country to train and compete each year. We stimulate the economies around the various NC Beagle Clubs in restaurants hotels and entrants spending money for their various travel expenses. We need support from our government to continue a viable sport bringing dollars into NC, not excessive regulation that could cripple or end our sport.

Please reconsider this proposed regulation and educate yourselves on how this sport functions and the benefits it provides to NC hunters, sportsmen, and local economies.

The American Kennel Club (AKC) respectfully writes on behalf of our North Carolina beagle clubs, who have a long and proud heritage in the state, to ask that you consider postponing the temporary rulemaking for controlled rabbit hunting preserves (15A NCAC 10H.1501). Some of our clubs and those who participate in AKC field trials have only just learned about the proposal, or were unable to make comments at the public hearing for technical reasons, and would like to work with you to ensure an effective and reasonable set of regulations that address the concerns of the commission, while also avoiding unintended consequences that may negatively impact the ability of clubs to hold their events and conduct training.

For over 125 years, the AKC has promoted the study, breeding, exhibiting, and advancement of purebred dogs. As the world's largest not-for-profit purebred dog registry, the AKC represents 145 dog clubs in the state of North Carolina, and thousands of North Carolina residents and taxpayers. The AKC's Operations Center is located in Raleigh and employs dozens of North Carolinians who work to protect the health and welfare of all dogs and the rights of dog owners, and promote the ideals of responsible dog ownership.

The American Kennel Club has a long tradition of supporting activities and events that enhance the human-canine bond, encourage responsible dog ownership and breeding, and celebrate the traits for which many dogs were originally bred. This includes AKC hunt tests, field trials, sporting competitions and performance events. In 2019, approximately 50 AKC-sanctioned beagle hunt tests and field trials were held throughout North Carolina with over 3,700 entries from multiple states. These events – and also training conducted by the clubs and individuals participating in the events – are conducted with the utmost respect for the environment, surrounding community, and the animals involved. During Beagle field trials, extensive measures are taken to ensure the safety of both the rabbits and the dogs involved and to prevent any trespassing to lands outside those in which the training and events take place.

When deliberating on appropriate regulations regarding rabbit enclosures, we respectfully ask the commission to work with AKC beagle clubs and hunters, who have decades of experience in field trials and training in North Carolina, and desire to partner with you to develop reasonable, effective solutions to this issue.

I am associated with a couple different beagle clubs in Eastern NC and I have several concerns from this proposed bill we get permits for all our trials and try to do our best to conform to the laws set for our sport we bring in a lot of economic resources in our community when we hold our trials We have competitors from all parts of the country comes and participate in these trials I'm not saying we don't want to do something different just be fair and reasonable about it with open discussion and not just one meeting through video that half the people could not log on and view. We would like more public discussion before this said Bill is proposed and passed. Thank you and have a blessed day

On behalf of Tarheel Beagle Club and its 60 members. We are very concerned about the temporary Rabbit Preserve regulation. Using the temporary authority yet not demonstrating any "immediate, serious or unforeseen act" to justify it makes us suspect of the motivations behind it.

Many of our older members weren't able to participate public hearing as they have no internet access. Many of our members that are part of NC workforce wasn't able to participate due to work obligations. public hearing which allowed no comments.

We hope this will be tabled and a committee including stakeholders can be formed to come up with a fair and equitable resolution.

We the members of Tarheel Beagle Club manage our 76 acres for small game and because of our management practices we have a good population of rabbits. With the possible passing of these so called temporary regulations, we fear it would discourage our members from releasing any rabbits they trap. We rely on our members to replenish the population of rabbits that have been caught by predators especially late winter when our cover has died out and made our rabbits vulnerable to aerial predators as well as ground predators that climb or jump our fence, or rabbits that escape because of holes (we continually have to perform maintenance to our fence due to age).

Rabbits can be trapped and sold for food or given away in NC but not sold for release inside training enclosures where they are fed and provided cover and escape areas. Fox preserves are allowed to pay for trapped foxes and coyotes for training, why can we not compensate a rabbit trapper for his or her expenses?

This is a sport more than 100 years old. There are no criminal or civil issues related to our sport. We build fences as to keep our training on our properties, we have no trespassing issues. We have the largest Entries of any AKC field trial events in NC. Hundreds if not thousands of people migrate here from around the country to train and compete each year. We stimulate the economies around the various NC Beagle Clubs in restaurants hotels and entrants spending money for their various travel expenses. We need support from our government not excessive regulation that could cripple or end our sport.

I am not in favor of controlled rabbit hunting preserves. Maybe I don't have all the facts, but I am particularly not in favor of the "manner of take". I have seen a rabbit run to death on a free range rabbit and it is not pretty. That's about the only way I can see a rabbit taken by dogs. Those rabbits are as stiff as a board when they finally cannot run any longer. That would make the meat unfavorable for table fare. I actually felt sorry for the rabbit, and swore from then on to only still hunt rabbits.

Please inform me if I am missing something here. I have hunted rabbits all my life in N.C. , with my father as I grew up, we would only walk thru the woods and "jump" them up to shoot. He also taught me how to get one out of a hollow log by using a "rope briar" to stick in the log and twist it in the rabbits fur to pull it out, thereby saving on valuable shotgun shells not having to be used to harvest the rabbit. Please, do not allow dog only manner of take here. I look forward to hearing from you.

The WRC meeting held 8th via teleconference was an absolute joke. By the time i got signed on it was over without any Q&A. I think the meeting was like seven minutes long. I feel like the WRC is ramrodding this bill through legislation without any concern for private pen owners and or beagle clubs. It's sad to say this....i don't think the WRC really wants any feedback. That's the impression they have left us with.

I just cannot understand why the WRC would schedule a meeting via online when so many people that love to hunt and run beagles cannot get online for this type of meeting due to working. These very same people have bought hunting licenses and has supported the WRC for many years!

A lot of private pen owners / beagle clubs just like myself have invested heavily into a place to train, run their beagles because of the limited access to game lands and private farms to run / hunt. We take our enclosures very serious. Pen owners spend a lot of money and time year round to keep their enclosures in great shape. A lot of money and time spent planting food plots, keeping unwanted predators out, improving the habitat to raise rabbits year round as well as paying taxes on the land we own or lease. I have been a member at a beagle club for almost twenty years and spent eight years as club President. I can tell you that our beagle club and many other clubs just like ours work year round to improve the quality our enclosures to insure a greater success for raising new rabbits.

I have many questions for the WRC. Here are just a few. What is the WRC going to do for me? Why is the WRC looking to make fenced in pen enclosure a "Wildlife Preserve"? Why? Is this just another revenue stream for the WRC because they are losing money every year? I would like to know why now!

This world has already lost a lot of its Values, Morales and Traditions! Hunting is an "American Tradition" that has been passed down to generations for many years. My love for hunting, running beagles was passed down to me by my grandfather and dad. I have passed it down to my son and hopefully to pass it down to my three grandsons one day!

I think the WRC really needs to take a closer at this bill and seek for input from those who support the WRC.

I have been receiving calls from some of our member clubs in North Carolina concerning the temporary rabbit preserve regulations and am very disappointed to find out that the public hearing on this issue was held midday during the week when most people would be at work and not able to participate. The sport of Beagle field trials is very popular in North Carolina and our Federation has eight member clubs in the state that hold events drawing many participants to the area that patronize the local motels , restaurants and other small businesses I would first like to clarify that the purpose of the preserves or inclosures as we call them is to attempt to keep the predators out and the dogs where they are allowed to be and not trespassing on other properties, secondly their are never any rabbits shot in these preserves .

We would like to request that this issue is tabled until a date can be established when at least most of the Parties involved could be present and have an opportunity to participate and help reach a reasonable resolution.

As a 62 year old rabbit hunter, I am highly disturbed to hear of this over reaching attempt to regulate a man's use of his private property!

I use a friend's enclosure to train and condition my dogs. It allows me opportunity to exercise my dogs that I would not have otherwise. In addition it ensures that other people's property are not accidentally infringed upon.

What statistics or data is there to illustrate any domestic or civil issues with these enclosures? There are no such regulations on fox pens!

I love this sport and have been involved for all my 62 years. I implore you to table this regulation and establish a committee to research this and obtain the opinions of those who are affected and love this sport so dearly! This is a free country and the property rights of individuals is the foundation of our great nation

Through the Dachshund Club of America's liaison with the American Kennel Club, we have been made aware The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is proposing new regulations with regard to hunting dogs.

I have attached the additions that should be considered in Chapter 10 for field trials concerning section 3 (d)(e) 3 and is highlighted in green on page two of the attachment.

In addition to Beagles which are already listed, the following breeds also hold similar field trials - Dachshunds, Basset Hounds, Petite Basset Griffon Vendeens (PBGV), Grand Basset Griffon Vendeens (GBGV), and Portuguese Pequeno Podengos. They should also be under the same rules as Beagles with no hunting licenses required for field trial participants and judges.

These breeds hunt by scent, no guns are involved, the rabbit is long gone by the time the dogs are released, rabbits are not killed with a very rare exception, and if that happens the handler of the dog is fined. These breeds' clubs rent Beagle club grounds to hold their field trials. In many cases, Beagle clubs that do this are able to make some much needed funds to continue to maintain their grounds, which gets more expensive every year.

I think it is a shame that the government has to get involved with the hobbies of American citizens. These field trails already cost to enter, now with all the red tape to own a training enclosure it will just get worse. If people has the land and money to start their own enclosure good for them, let them be. You know the rabbits will be taken care of so why do you need to try to control them. You guys raise fees and come up with new rules ever year. I always thought if it's not broke why fix it. Why dont you guys try to help the sportsmen instead of hurting us.

I thank people that has bought and paid for there land should have the right to build there rabbit lot, without any harassment from any one. The rabbits that's put in will be the less rabbits that's caught by coyotes and foxes and other predators that's been turned loose. Nobody should be able to tell people what they can do on their own land and they shouldn't have to get a license to do the sport they like to do on there own bought and paid for land.

Attached is a letter from the American Kennel Club expressing our appreciation to you for extending the comment period and scheduling a second public hearing on the proposed regulations regarding rabbit hunting preserves (Proposed regulation 15A NCAC 10H.1501). We respectfully ask that you consider temporarily tabling this measure and working with all stakeholders on a reasonable, effective solution that addresses the commission's concerns while still allowing field trials and training to continue in the state.

Thank you again for your consideration and your continued willingness to listen to the concerns of stakeholders on this issue.

I wish to comment on the proposed regulations for 15A NCAC 10H .1501 CONTROLLED RABBIT HUNTING PRESERVES. I understand that Session Law 2019-204 established Rabbit Preserves as one of the types of Controlled Hunting Preserves (G.S. 113-273(g)), with an effective date of September 1, 2019. However, the current extreme circumstances we all find ourselves in with the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic demand a thorough and careful review.

“Three fourths of all emerging infectious diseases of humans are zoonotic; most originate in wildlife, and their incidence since 1940 has increased.” (Jones, KE, Patel, NG, Levy, MA, Storeygard, A, Balk, D, Gittleman, JL, Daszak, P: Global trends in emerging infectious diseases. Nature 451:990–993, 2008.)

I am alarmed that the State of North Carolina, or any other responsible governmental body, would authorize untrained individuals to retain and/or breed captive wildlife. These are the precise conditions that brought us to the devastation we all presently face with the COVID-19 pandemic. I have attached just two of numerous research documents that confirm this concern.

I therefore request that you keep this regulation on hold until further scientific and/or medical research can be completed to ensure public safety from the threat of zoonotic pathogens that could originate from these confined wildlife pens. It should extend to all captive wildlife, not solely rabbits.

If you still determine to proceed with implementing this regulation, despite the risks we now know from the current COVID-19 outbreak, please consider the following:

Top Concerns

- 1) Nothing in the regulation specifies the size of these rabbit pens. Experts in wildlife biology should be consulted to determine if such an unnatural limitation could lead to disease and potential pathogen transmission to other wildlife, pets, or humans.
- 2) I see no requirements for knowledge of wildlife biology, zoonotic disease, etc. on the part of the “preserve” owners. Again, this is not an area where the unskilled should be dabbling at the risk of everyone else.
- 3) There are no provisions specifying a required number of on-site inspections. At a minimum, a pre-approval inspection by knowledgeable, trained NC WRC staff should be required before a license is granted.
- 4) There is mention of record keeping, but no requirement to submit. Records should be submitted regularly (at least quarterly) to the NC WRC and maintained. Should an outbreak occur at some point, it would be important to be able to contact those individuals who had visited these preserves and to be able to contact them to notify them of possible infection, as well as to be able to alert other state health agencies..

EXHIBIT F - 2

May 7, 2020



Proposed Temporary 10H .1501 – Controlled Rabbit Hunting Preserves Not Recommended by Agency Staff for Final Adoption

Title 15A NCAC 10H .1501 – Controlled Rabbit Hunting Preserves

This temporary Rule is proposed for final adoption to provide for the licensing and regulation of controlled rabbit hunting preserves as established in SL 2019-204 and sets out operational conditions, and application and recordkeeping requirements.

1 **15A NCAC 10H .1501 Controlled Rabbit Hunting Preserves**

2
3 (a) For the purposes of this Rule, a controlled rabbit hunting preserve or preserve shall mean an area that
4 is completely and permanently enclosed with a metal fence designed to prevent the escape or entry of
5 rabbits at any time where box-trapped rabbits are released for the purposes of hunting with dogs.

6 (b) The following conditions shall apply to the take of rabbits on controlled rabbit hunting preserves:

7 (1) take of rabbits shall be authorized year-round; and

8 (2) dogs shall be the only authorized manner of take.

9 (c) It shall be unlawful for an individual to operate a controlled rabbit hunting preserve without first
10 obtaining a controlled hunting preserve operator license from the Commission.

11 (d) A controlled hunting preserve operator license issued pursuant to this Rule shall entitle the license holder
12 to operate a controlled rabbit hunting preserve.

13 (e) Controlled hunting preserve operator licenses shall not be transferable, either by transferring the license
14 or by relocating the site of the preserve.

15 (f) Application for a controlled hunting preserve operator license shall be made on a form available from
16 the Commission online at www.ncwildlife.org or at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity
17 Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576. The application shall include the following information:

18 (1) the applicant's name, address, telephone number, date of birth; and

19 (2) the preserve name, address, county, acreage, and GPS coordinates of preserve entrance.

20 (g) Unless otherwise exempt from license requirements, every person participating in the pursuit of rabbits
21 on a controlled rabbit hunting preserve shall have a valid resident or nonresident hunting license or a
22 controlled hunting preserve hunting license in his or her possession, in accordance with 15A NCAC 10B
23 .0114.

24 (h) License holders shall keep an accurate record of all rabbits released into or removed from the preserve.
25 Records shall contain the following information:

26 (1) the number of rabbits released into the preserve;

27 (2) the county of origin; and

28 (3) name, address, and phone number of the individual that provided the rabbits to the preserve.

29 (i) The records required by this Rule shall be available for inspection by a representative of the Commission
30 upon request and shall be retained by the license holder for 12 months following expiration of the license.

31 (j) Representatives of the Commission shall be permitted to enter the premises of any licensed controlled
32 rabbit hunting preserve upon request or during the preserve's operating hours for inspection, enforcement,
33 or scientific purposes.

EXHIBIT G-1

May 7, 2020



Public Comments for 15A NCAC 10A .1601 License Fee Rule

Public Comments Received

I strongly advise against taking away from voters the right to vote on the statutes by their Legislators for the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. Rules will give too much power to a Commission with appointed commissioners at the expense of the voters who also pay the taxes to fund the commission.

There is no mutual benefit here for the residents and voters for this change, but rather it will be at the expense of the taxpayer having no power of who runs the commission and how their taxpayer dollars are spent.

Respectively, I am strongly against this proposal.

Please do not increase our licensing costs. It's already an expensive undertaking to hunt and fish for most serious sportsman.

Please seek alternative funding sources to make up the shortfall gap or reduce governmental spending before imposing greater costs on the body of NC hunters.

EXHIBIT G-2

May 7, 2020



Proposed 15A NCAC 10A .1601 – License Fees Recommended by Agency Staff for Final Adoption

All licenses, permits, stamps, and certifications issued and administered by the Commission (except the Recreational Commercial Gear License), and associated fees have been moved from statute to this rule in accordance with G.S. 113-270.1B(e). Additionally, those fees not adjusted by Session Laws 2018-90 or 2019-204 were increased by the total increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rounded up to the next whole dollar, since the last fee change (6%).

Justification:

This proposed permanent rule will replace the temporary rule that became effective January 1, 2020.

1 **15A NCAC 10A .1601 LICENSE FEES.**

2 (a) License fees established by the Commission in this Rule shall be subject to the requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B(e).

3 (b) The following fees shall apply to combination hunting and inland fishing licenses issued by the Commission, as
4 set forth in G.S. 113-270.1C:

- 5 (1) Resident Annual Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$35.00.
- 6 (2) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.
- 7 (3) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.

8 (c) The following fees shall apply to sportsman licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.1D:

- 9 (1) Annual Sportsman License - \$53.00.
- 10 (2) Infant Lifetime Sportsman License - \$212.00.
- 11 (3) Youth Lifetime Sportsman License - \$371.00.
- 12 (4) Adult Resident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$530.00.
- 13 (5) Nonresident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$1,272.00.
- 14 (6) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$16.00.
- 15 (7) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Sportsman License - \$106.00.
- 16 (8) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Sportsman License - \$106.00.

17 (d) The following fees shall apply to hunting licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.2:

- 18 (1) Resident State Hunting License - \$25.00.
- 19 (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Hunting License - \$265.00.
- 20 (3) Controlled Hunting Preserve Hunting License - \$22.00.
- 21 (4) Resident Annual Comprehensive Hunting License - \$39.00.
- 22 (5) Nonresident State Hunting Licenses:
 - 23 (A) Season License - \$100.00.
 - 24 (B) Ten-Day License - \$80.00.
- 25 (6) Falconry Hunting License - \$25.00.

26 (e) The following fees shall apply to special activity licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.3:

- 27 (1) Resident Big Game Hunting License - \$14.00.
- 28 (2) Nonresident Bear Hunting License - \$239.00.
- 29 (3) Bear Management Stamp - \$11.00.
- 30 (4) Nonresident Big Game Hunting License:
 - 31 (A) Season License - \$100.00.
 - 32 (B) Ten-Day License - \$80.00.
- 33 (5) Bonus Antlerless Deer License - \$11.00.
- 34 (6) Game Land License - \$16.00.
- 35 (7) Falconry License - \$11.00.
- 36 (8) Migratory Waterfowl Hunting License - \$14.00.
- 37 (9) Resident American Alligator License - \$250.00.

1 (10) Nonresident American Alligator License - \$500.00.

2 (11) Resident Elk License - \$500.00.

3 (12) Nonresident Elk License - \$1,000.00.

4 (f) The following fees shall apply to hunting and fishing guide licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S.
5 113-270.4:

6 (1) Resident Hunting and Fishing Guide License - \$16.00.

7 (2) Nonresident Hunting and Fishing Guide License - \$159.00.

8 (g) The following fees shall apply to trapping licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.5:

9 (1) Resident State Trapping License - \$32.00.

10 (2) Resident Lifetime Trapping License - \$300.00.

11 (3) Nonresident State Trapping License - \$133.00.

12 (h) The following fees shall apply to hook-and-line licenses in inland and joint fishing waters issued by the
13 Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-271:

14 (1) Resident State Inland Fishing License - \$25.00.

15 (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Inland Fishing License - \$265.00.

16 (3) Nonresident State Inland Fishing License - \$45.00.

17 (4) Short-Term Inland Fishing License:

18 (A) Resident 10-day Inland Fishing License - \$9.00.

19 (B) Nonresident 10-day Inland Fishing License - \$23.00.

20 (5) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$16.00.

21 (6) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.

22 (7) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$11.00.

23 (8) Special Landholder and Guest Fishing License - \$106.00.

24 (9) Mountain Heritage Trout Waters 3-Day Fishing License - \$8.00.

25 (i) The following fees shall apply to special device licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.2:

26 (1) Resident Special Device License - \$80.00.

27 (2) Nonresident Special Device License - \$530.00.

28 (j) The fee for a collection license issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.4 shall be \$10.00.

29 (k) The following fees shall apply to captivity licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.5:

30 (1) Captivity License for Holding - \$50.00.

31 (2) Captivity License for Rehabilitation - \$10.00.

32 (l) The following fees shall apply to dealer licenses issued by the Commission as set forth in G.S. 113-273:

33 (1) Resident Fur-dealer License - \$64.00.

34 (2) Nonresident Fur-dealer License - \$318.00.

35 (3) Fur-dealer Station License - \$128.00.

36 (4) Controlled Hunting Preserve Operator License - \$100.00.

37 (5) Game Bird Propagation License - \$10.00.

- 1 (6) Furbearer Propagation License - \$27.00.
- 2 (7) Taxidermy License - \$50.00.
- 3 (8) Taxidermy Cervid Certification - \$5.00.
- 4 (9) Wildlife Control Agent License - \$50.00.
- 5 (10) Alligator Control Agent Certification - \$25.00.

6 (m) The following fees shall apply to permits issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-274:

- 7 (1) Possession Permit - \$10.00.
- 8 (2) Exportation or Importation Permit - \$10.00.
- 9 (3) Trophy Wildlife Sale Permit - \$10.00.
- 10 (4) Endangered Species Permit - \$10.00.
- 11 (5) Field Trial Permit - \$10.00.

12 (n) The following fees shall apply to unified hunting and fishing licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in
13 G.S. 113-351:

- 14 (1) Annual Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$69.00.
- 15 (2) Annual Resident Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$41.00.
- 16 (3) Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses:
 - 17 (A) Infant Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$292.00.
 - 18 (B) Youth Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$477.00.
 - 19 (C) Resident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License -
20 \$716.00.
 - 21 (D) Nonresident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License -
22 \$1,643.00.
 - 23 (E) Resident Age 70 Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License -
24 \$32.00.
 - 25 (F) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing
26 License - \$117.00.
 - 27 (G) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing
28 License - \$117.00.
- 29 (4) Resident Lifetime Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$477.00.

30 (o) The following fees shall apply to Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in
31 G.S. 113-174.2:

- 32 (1) Annual Resident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$16.00.
- 33 (2) Annual Nonresident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$32.00.
- 34 (3) Ten-Day Resident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$6.00.
- 35 (4) Ten-Day Nonresident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$11.00.
- 36 (5) Infant Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$106.00.
- 37 (6) Youth Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$159.00.

- 1 (7) Resident Adult Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$265.00.
- 2 (8) Nonresident Adult Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$530.00.
- 3 (9) Resident Age 70 Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$16.00.
- 4 (10) Resident Disabled Veteran Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$11.00.
- 5 (11) Resident Totally Disabled Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$11.00.

6
7
8

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-270.1B(e);

EXHIBIT H-1

May 7, 2020



PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE OPEN COMMENT PERIOD 15A NCAC 10F .0317 STANLY COUNTY – LAKE TILLERY TEMPORARY RULEMAKING

A public hearing was held on April 8, 2020 to receive comments on the proposed temporary rules for Lake Tillery in Stanly County, at the Boathouse and Marina and the Hwy 24/77/73 James B. Garrison Bridge.

During the open comment period there were no comments received.

EXHIBIT H-2

May 7, 2020



TEMPORARY RULEMAKING FINAL ADOPTION 15A NCAC 10F .0317(a)(B) and (f) – STANLY COUNTY, LAKE TILLERY

A temporary rule for the no-wake zone within 50 yards of the fuel docks at the Boathouse and Marina in Norwood will expire before the earliest effective date of the permanent rule. Renewed temporary rulemaking also is necessary within 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the NC Hwy 24/27/73 James B. Garrison bridge eastbound and westbound spans, to mitigate water safety hazards during an NC DOT bridge construction project.

No comments were received during the open comment period. **(EXHIBIT H-1)** Staff recommends adoption of temporary rules for Stanly County.

15A NCAC 10F .0317 STANLY COUNTY

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

- (1) Badin Lake.
- (2) Lake Tillery.
 - (A) Turner Beach Cove shore to shore, south of a point at 35.22529 N, 80.09318 W.
 - (B) The waters within 50 yards of the fuel docks at the Boathouse and Marina at 712 Berry Hill Drive in Norwood.

(b) Speed Limit Near Ramps. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any public boat launching ramp while on the waters of a regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any marked public swimming area on the waters of a regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

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

(e) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Stanly County shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule.

(f) Notwithstanding Paragraphs (a) through (e) of this Rule, no person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the waters of Lake Tillery shore to shore, within 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the NC Hwy 24/27/73 bridge eastbound and westbound spans, otherwise known as the James B. Garrison Bridge. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers for this regulated area.

15A NCAC 10F .0317 (a) (2) (B) Proposed No Wake Zone
Boathouse & Marina on Berry Hill Drive, Norwood, Stanly County



Proposed Temporary No Wake Zone on Lake Tillery
15A NCAC 10F .0317 - Stanly County, 15A NCAC 10F .0327 - Montgomery County

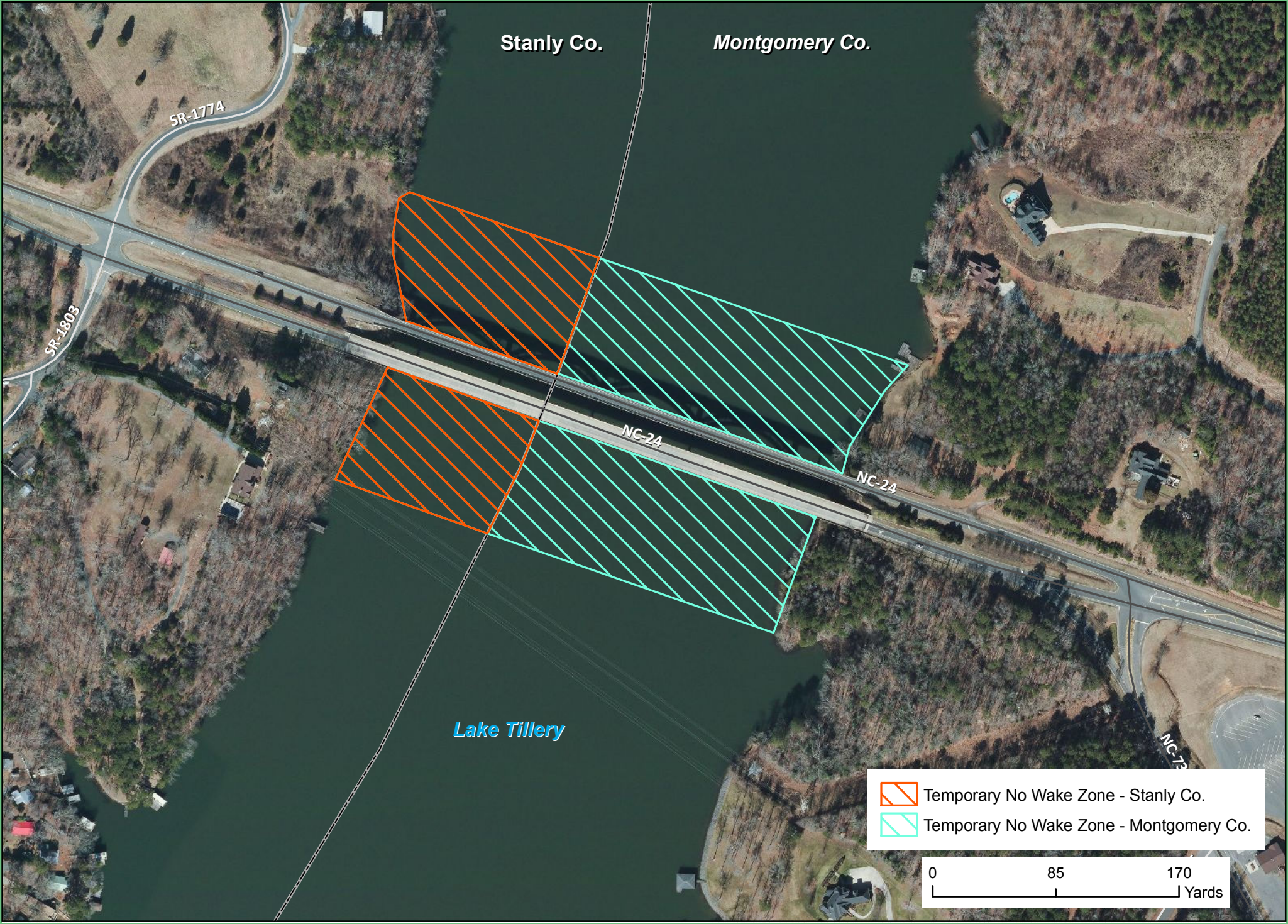


EXHIBIT I-1

May 7, 2020



PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE OPEN COMMENT PERIOD 15A NCAC 10F .0327 MONTGOMERY COUNTY – LAKE TILLERY TEMPORARY RULEMAKING

A public hearing was held on April 8, 2020 to receive comments on the proposed temporary rules for Lake Tillery in Montgomery County, at the 24/77/73 James B. Garrison Bridge.

During the open comment period there were no comments received.

EXHIBIT I-2

May 7, 2020



TEMPORARY RULEMAKING FINAL ADOPTION 15A NCAC 10F .0327(f) – MONTGOMERY COUNTY, LAKE TILLERY

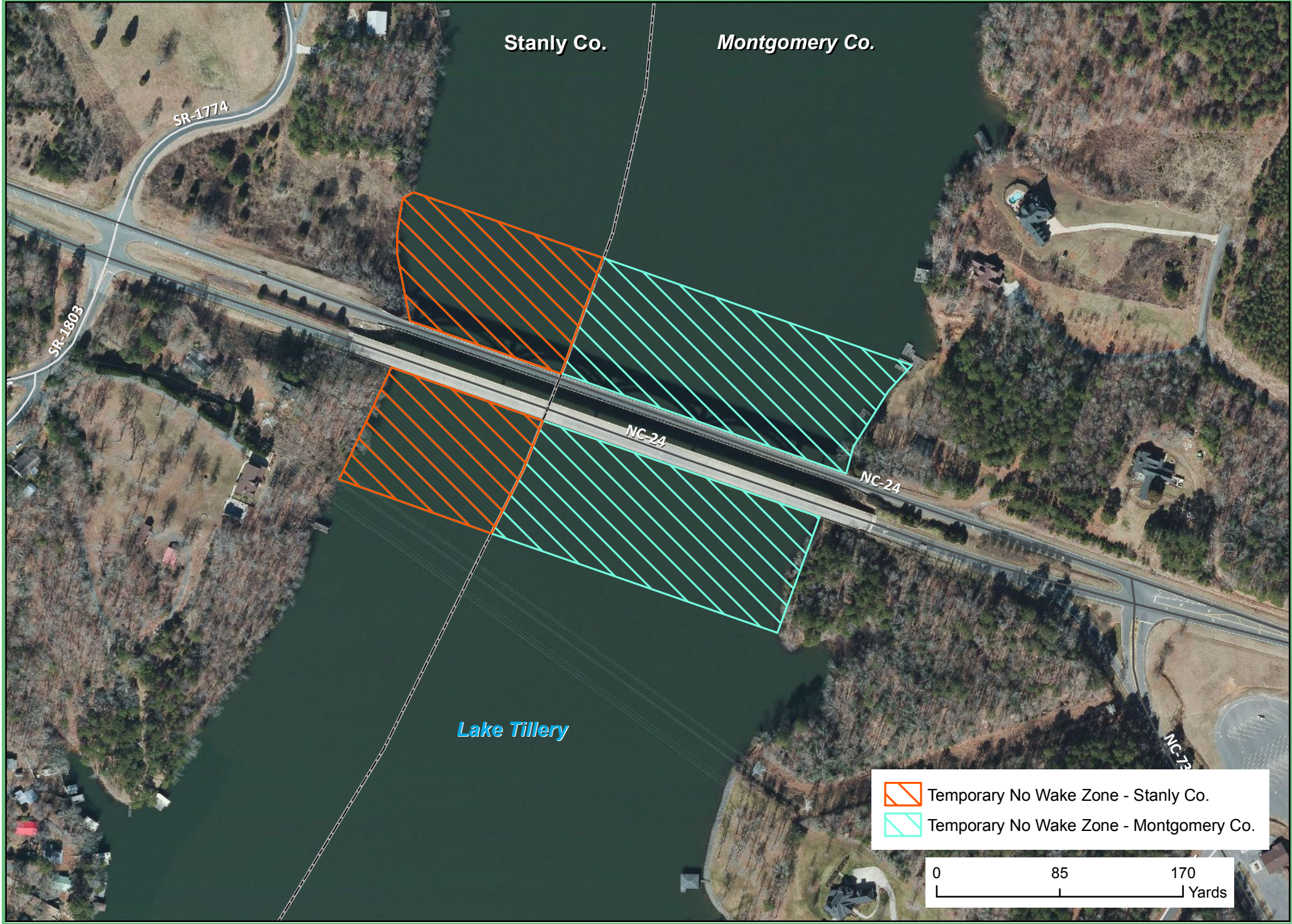
Staff recommends final adoption of temporary rulemaking for a no-wake zone on Lake Tillery in Montgomery County. Renewed temporary rulemaking is necessary shore to shore, within 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the NC Hwy 24/27/73 James B. Garrison bridge eastbound and westbound spans, to mitigate water safety hazards during an NC DOT bridge construction project.



No public comments were received during the open comment period. **(EXHIBIT I-1)**

15A NCAC 10F .0327 MONTGOMERY COUNTY

(f) Notwithstanding Paragraphs (a) through (e) of this Rule, no person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the waters of Lake Tillery shore to shore, within 85 yards north and 85 yards south of the NC Hwy 24/27/73 bridge eastbound and westbound spans, otherwise known as the James B. Garrison Bridge. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers for this regulated area.

Proposed Temporary No Wake Zone on Lake Tillery
15A NCAC 10F .0317 - Stanly County, 15A NCAC 10F .0327 - Montgomery County



-  Temporary No Wake Zone - Stanly Co.
-  Temporary No Wake Zone - Montgomery Co.

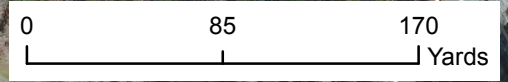


EXHIBIT J

May 7, 2020



TEMPORARY RULEMAKING REQUEST TO PROPOSE TEXT 15A NCAC 10F .0359 HIWASSEE LAKE, CHEROKEE COUNTY

The Dam Boat Dock LLC, DBA Harbor Cove Marina in Cherokee County on Hiwassee Lake, is expanding its marina facilities under a special use permit with the US Forest Service for use of the National Forest as part of the marina's operational area, and a permit with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) which sets the harbor limits. The expansion of the existing marina facilities to the area on the map (**ATTACHMENT A**) outlined with red hatch marks (summer pool harbor limits extension) requires that the no-wake zone that is within 50 yards of the marina be moved east, 50 yards from the new harbor limits.

Staff recommends approval to propose text to the Office of Administrative Hearings for a temporary rule, followed by permanent rulemaking, to move the no-wake zone that is within 50 yards of the current Harbor Cove Marina property boundary on Hiwassee Lake to 50 yards east of its newly permitted boundary shown on the map (**ATTACHMENT B**).

15A NCAC 10F .0359 CHEROKEE COUNTY

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

- (1) Dukes Hideaway Marina cove shore to shore, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.11989 N, 84.10420 W to a point on the south shore at 35.11902 N, 84.10386 W;
- (2) Shooks Marina cove shore to shore, south of a line from a point on the northwest shore at 35.15458 N, 84.14425 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.15462 N, 84.14291 W;
- (3) Mountain View Marina cove, shore to shore, west of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.15270 N, 84.16471 W to a point on the south shore at 35.15120 N, 84.16313 W;
- (4) within 50 yards of the Tennessee Valley Authority boat launch at Micken Branch Ramp at 35.11890 N, 84.16806 W;
- (5) Harbor Cove Marina cove, shore to shore, west of a line from a point on the north shore at ~~35.13899 N, 84.17592 W~~ 35.13947 N, 84.17475 W to a point on the south shore at ~~35.13771 N, 84.17593 W;~~ 35.13754 N, 84.17465 W.

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

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



File Code: 2720
Date: December 13, 2019

Keri Chartrand
TVA - Recreation
400 W. Summit Hill Dr.
Knoxville TN 37902

Dear Keri,


This letter is to confirm the recent discussions between the Forest Service and TVA concerning the Forest Service's position regarding future expansion of the facilities of The Dam Boat Dock LLC., DBA Harbor Cove Marina, located on Hiwassee Lake in Cherokee County, North Carolina. Harbor Cove Marina currently has special use permit TUS560903 with the Forest Service for use of the National Forest as part of the business operational area of the marina. It is understood that Harbor Cove Marina is also required to have certain permits from TVA for use of Hiwassee Lake, which is owned and managed by TVA, including the TVA 26a permit which sets the harbor limits for the marina.

As expressed in numerous recent emails and phone conversations, the Forest Service supports the expansion of Harbor Cove Marina's harbor limits, as defined and administered by TVA, so as to potentially allow future expansion of its facilities that serve the public. Currently, Harbor Cove Marina is permitted for two 30 slip facilities, plus associated support facilities.

Harbor Cove Marina expressed to the Forest Service a desire for future facilities expansion during the recent (2017) permit process, specifically to adding an additional 30 slips. The expansion of the harbor limits would allow future consideration of Harbor Cove Marina expanding its facilities. Any expansion of facilities beyond what the current Forest Service permit allows would still need to go through the normal permit process, requiring approval from both the Forest Service and TVA.

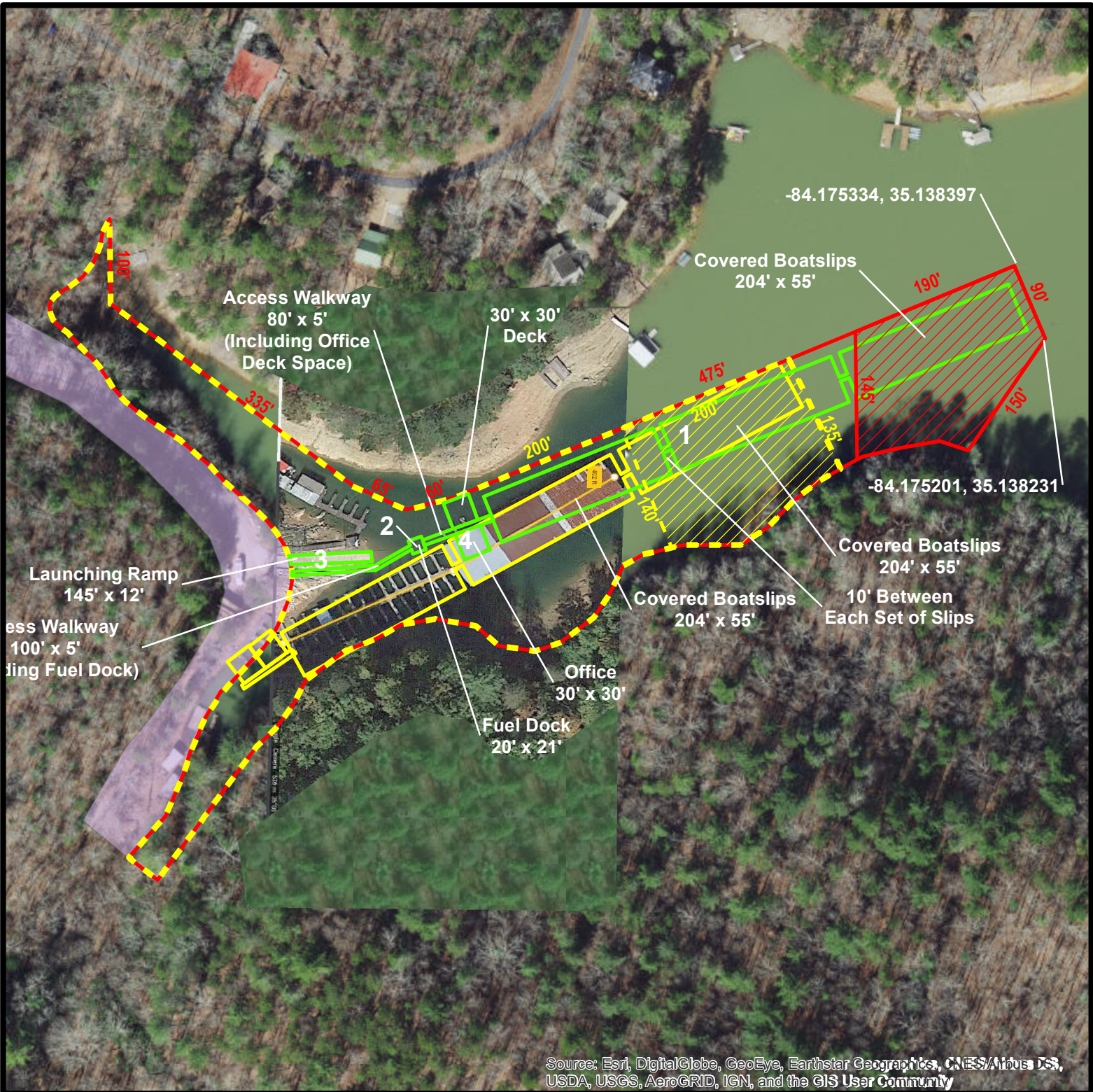
Thank you for your help with this matter. If you have additional questions, please contact our permit administrator Bob Vance at 828-837-5152, Ext. 117, or at robert.e.vance@usda.gov.

Sincerely,



Andrew V. Gaston
District Ranger





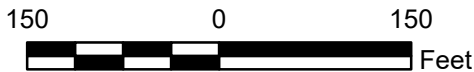
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Legend

-  Summer Pool Harbor Limits Extension (approx. 0.7 acre)
-  Winter Pool Harbor Limits Extension (approx. 0.7 acre)
-  Summer Pool Harbor Limits (90 slips) (approx. 4.2 acres)
-  Winter Pool Harbor Limits (90 slips) (approx. 3.1 acres)
-  Facilities (90 slips) - Summer Pool
-  Facilities (90 slips) - Winter Pool
-  USFS Special Use Permit

April 30, 2020

Exhibit Map
26a _____
Harbor Cove Marina
Tract XTBF-1
Hiwassee River Mile 81.3L
Cherokee County, North Carolina
Hiwassee Reservoir



Map Reference:
D-stage 1
Attachment A

15A NCAC 10F .0359 (a) (5) - No Wake Zone Extension Request
Harbor Cove Marina cove, Hiwassee Lake, Cherokee County

