



**AGENDA**  
**N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**December 5, 2024 9:00 a.m.**  
**1751 Varsity Drive**  
**NCWRC Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**

**CALL TO ORDER** – *Chairman Monty Crump*

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – *Commissioner Tom Berry*

**INVOCATION** – *Commissioner Joe Budd*

**ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT** – *Margo Minkler, Commission Liaison*

**MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY** – North Carolina General Statute §138A-15 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 Crump*

**APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 3, 2024 MEETING MINUTES** – Take action on the October 3, 2024 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT A)**

**FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT** – Receive Financial Status Report on the Wildlife Resources Commission General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and the Endowment Fund. – *Jason Cottle, Chief Financial Officer (EXHIBIT B)*

**2025 WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE** – Consider approval of the proposed 2025 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting schedule – *Cameron Ingram, Executive Director (EXHIBIT C)*

**COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

**Boating Safety Committee** – December 4, 2024 – *J.C. Cole, Chair*

**Small Game & Wild Turkey Committee** – December 4, 2024 – *Jim Ruffin, Chair*

**Fisheries Committee** – December 4, 2024 – *John Stone, Chair*

**Land Acquisition & Property Committee** – December 4, 2024 – *Tom Berry, Chair*

**Big Game Committee – December 4, 2024 – David Hoyle, Chair**  
**Executive Committee – December 3, 2024 – Monty Crump, Chair**  
**Committee of the Whole – December 4, 2024 – Monty Crump, Chair**

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – Invasive catfish management in the Coastal Plain – TD**  
*VanMiddlesworth, District 2 Fisheries Biologist II*

## **LAND ACQUISITIONS AND PROPERTY MATTERS**

**Phase II Land Acquisition** – Consider final approval to proceed with acquisition of the following properties – *Ben Solomon, Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager (EXHIBITS D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5, D-6, D-7)*

- Pork Palace Tract – Bladen County **(D-1)**
- Big Swamp – Robeson County **(D-2)**
- Morris Tract Donation – Pender County **(D-3)**
- Heitman Tract – Davidson County **(D-4)**
- Randy Mabry Tract – Davidson County **(D-5)**
- Ripshin Ridge – Caldwell County **(D-6)**
- White Oak-Ardaman Tract – Haywood County **(D-7)**

**Other Property Matters** – Consider approval of the following other property matters – *Ben Solomon (EXHIBITS E-1, E-2)*

- Sandhills Game Land – Request for ingress, egress and utilities easement on Sandhills Game Land **(E-1)**
- Neuse River Game Land – Request for ingress, egress and utilities easement on Neuse River Game Land **(E-2)**

## **WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING**

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0305 Brunswick County** – Review public comments and consider adoption of a technical correction to a coordinate at Odell Williamson Bridge in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach. Remove Dutchman Creek BAA in Southport from the NCAC as it is a duplicate entry – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBITS F-1, F-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0330 Carteret County** – Review public comments and consider adoption of text changes to clarify address and incorporate into the NC Administrative Code the names and addresses of ten Boating Access Areas maintained by the WRC in Carteret County- *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBITS G-1, G-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0332 Alexander County** – Review public comments and consider adoption amendments to extend the no-wake zone on Lake Hickory in Taylorsville east of the Rink Dam; to create a Restricted Area where vessel entry is prohibited at the Wittenburg Access Area on Lake Hickory in Bethlehem; to incorporate into the NCAC the Dusty Ridge BAA and the Wittenburg BAA; to correct names of some facilities; and to assign responsibility for placement of markers to Alexander County in some areas, and placement and maintenance of markers at some areas to the Wildlife Resources Commission and to Duke Energy LLC – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBITS H-1, H-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCACA 10F .0333 Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties** – Review public comments and consider adoption of a no-wake zone within 50 yards of the docks at Joyner’s Marina and the cove southeast of the docks; define the no-wake zone around the Buster Boyd Bridge with coordinates in North Carolina waters; and remove responsibility from the Lake Wylie Marine Commission at some areas and facilities that are not the responsibility of the LWMC unless specifically stated in Rule – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBITS I-1, I-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0347 Craven County** – Consider Application from Craven County to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and public hearing to establish a no-wake zone in Brice’s Creek near Merchant’s Grocery, docking facilities and fuel dock, and public boat access area, beginning north of Brice’s Creek Bridge to a line southeast of the peninsula and sharp curve on the east side of Brice Creek – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBIT J)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0363 Caswell and Person Counties** – Consider agency request to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and public hearing for a technical correction to assign responsibility for place and maintenance of markers on Hyco Lake to the Boards of Commissioners of Caswell and Person counties – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBIT K)*

## **RULEMAKING**

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – Periodic Review Rules** – Review public comments and consider request to adopt proposed changes to 10G .0501, and 10J .0103 and .0104 – *Carrie Ruhlman, Rulemaking Coordinator (EXHIBITS L-1, L-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 10D .0252 Needmore Game Land Rule** – Review public comments and consider request to adopt proposed changes to the 2024-2025 Annual Cycle deer season companion rule – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBITS M-1, M-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – Youth Definitions – 10B, 10C and 10D Rules** – Consider request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearing for amendments to the 10B, 10C and 10D rules – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBIT N)*

**Temporary Rulemaking Notice of Text – Vessel Liveries – 10F .0307 Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg Counties** – Consider request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearing for vessel livery restrictions and regulations on Lake Norman – *Carrie Ruhlman (EXHIBIT O)*

**COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN** – *Chairman Crump*

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

**ADJOURN**

## EXHIBIT A



### MINUTES

October 3, 2024

### N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Webinar Meeting Raleigh, North Carolina

Chairman Monty Crump called the October 3, 2024 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission webinar meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Crump announced that the webinar meeting audio is being streamed live and will be available on [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). He reminded Commissioners to speak their names before making motions or comments and to mute their devices when not speaking. Crump announced that by the statutory requirement, the roll will be called for attendance and for each vote.

#### ROLL CALL

Margo Minkler, *Commission Liaison*, called the roll. John Stone, Hayden Rogers, John Alexander, and JC Cole were absent.

#### COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE

Monty Crump	Wes Seegars	Jim Ruffin	Landon Zimmer	Reid Smith
Mark Craig	Thomas Fonville	Ray Clifton	Tom Haislip	
David Hoyle	Tom Berry	Kelly Davis	Mike Alford	
John Coley	Brad Stanback	Steve Windham	Joe Budd	

#### MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY

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

#### MINUTES OF JULY 25, 2024 MEETING

On a motion by Mike Alford and second by Landon Zimmer, the Minutes of the July 25, 2024 meeting was approved as presented in **EXHIBIT A**.

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

## **ADMINISTRATION**

On a motion by Landon Zimmer and second by Tom Berry, the Commission approved the FY 2025 Internal Audit Plan presented in **EXHIBIT B** by Elizabeth Davis, *Internal Auditor*

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

## **LAND ACQUISITION AND PROPERTY MATTERS**

**Phase II Land Acquisition** – On a motion by Brad Stanback and second by Wes Seegars, the Commission approved proceeding with acquisition of the following properties presented in (**EXHIBITS C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4**) by *Ben Solomon, Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager*

- West Tract – Cherokee County (**C-1**)
- Turkey Ridge – Callaway Mountain Tract – Yancey County (**C-2**)
- White Oak Mountain Tract – Haywood County (**C-3**)
- Marshall Tract – Bladen County (**C-4**)

**EXHIBITS C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## **WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING**

**Temporary Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0304 Bladen County** – On a motion by Ray Clifton and a second by Mike Alford, the Commission reviewed public comments presented in (**EXHIBIT D-1**) and adopted a temporary rule to require motorboats to travel perpendicular to the shore and at no-wake speed within the restricted area at White Lake in Bladen County presented in (**EXHIBIT D-2**) by *Betsy Haywood, Water Safety Rules Coordinator*

**EXHIBITS D-1, D-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## **RULEMAKING**

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2025-2026 Annual Cycle Inland Fisheries Rules** – On a motion by Mark Craig and second by Joe Budd, the Commission reviewed public comments presented in (**EXHIBIT E-1**) and adopted proposed changes to Inland Fisheries rules presented in (**EXHIBIT E-2**) by *Christian Waters, Inland Fisheries Division Chief*

**EXHIBITS E-1, E-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2025-2026 Annual Cycle Land and Water Access Rules** – On a motion by Landon Zimmer and second by Mike Alford, the Commission reviewed public comments presented in (**EXHIBIT F-1**) adopted proposed changes to Land and Water Access rules presented in (**EXHIBIT F-2**) by *Daron Barnes, Land and Water Access Division Chief*

**EXHIBITS F-1, F-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2025-2026 Annual Cycle Wildlife Management Rules –**  
On a motion by Tom Berry and second by David Hoyle, the Commission reviewed public comments presented in **(EXHIBIT G-1)** adopted proposed changes to Wildlife Management rules presented in **(EXHIBIT G-2)** by *Brad Howard, Wildlife Management Division Chief*

**EXHIBITS G-1, G-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN** – Chairman Crump expressed gratitude to the staff for their hard work and contributions in supporting the board’s work throughout the year. On behalf of the board, he acknowledged the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene and commended staff members involved in the agency's rescue and relief efforts. The board extended their full support to those affected by the hurricane and the ongoing recovery efforts. The Chairman also provided a status update on the search for the new Executive Director, noting that the process is ongoing and progress is being made.

**COMMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – Director Ingram provided an update on the agency's involvement in the rescue and relief efforts following Hurricane Helene. He expressed relief and gratitude to hear that employees and Commissioners living in the affected areas are safe and shared that they remain in his thoughts. He emphasized the agency’s continued commitment to supporting the recovery, noting that while significant resources have already been allocated, the agency will remain engaged in relief efforts for the long term. In closing, the Executive Director mentioned the recent "Back in the Woods Hunt" in Chatham County, an event that gives disabled sportsmen the opportunity to return to the woods for deer hunting. He expressed appreciation for the staff members who attended and assisted in making the event a success.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the WRC webinar meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.  
All exhibits are incorporated into the official record of this meeting by reference and are filed with the minutes.

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Monty Crump, Chairman

Date

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Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

Date

**NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**CAFR 52G - STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES and CHANGES in FUND BALANCES**

**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**AS OF SEP 30, 2024**

	FY 2025 General Fund	FY 2025 Capital Improvement Fund
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Federal funds	\$ 4,469,876.07	\$ 44,842.50
Local funds	\$ 475.55	\$ -
Investment earnings	\$ 125,648.01	\$ -
Sales and services	\$ 3,845,402.39	\$ -
Rental and lease of property	\$ 27,700.00	\$ -
Fees, licenses and fines	\$ 10,699,655.50	\$ -
Contributions, gifts and grants	\$ 177,581.72	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 750.00	\$ -
Unclassified/invalid accounts	\$ -	\$ -
Other Financing Sources - Sale of capital assets	\$ 77,815.29	\$ -
Other Financing Sources - Insurance recoveries	\$ -	\$ -
Other Financing Sources - Transfers in	\$ 24,767,073.84	\$ 5,448,196.91
Other Financing Sources - Appropriations	\$ 4,178,143.00	\$ -
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 48,370,121.37</b>	<b>\$ 5,493,039.41</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Personal services	\$ 10,827,853.26	\$ -
Employee benefits	\$ 5,093,569.18	\$ -
Contracted personal services	\$ 2,467,087.63	\$ 2,222.42
Supplies and materials	\$ 2,334,708.35	\$ -
Purchases for Resale	\$ 41,415.84	\$ -
Travel	\$ 228,452.21	\$ -
Communication	\$ 185,525.72	\$ -
Utilities	\$ 137,585.58	\$ -
Data processing services	\$ 82,293.61	\$ -
Other services	\$ 1,187,754.09	\$ -
Principal Retirement	\$ 3,246.00	\$ -
Interest and Fees	\$ 54.00	\$ -
Claims and benefits	\$ 385,957.20	\$ -
Other fixed charges	\$ 71,532.54	\$ 100.00
Capital outlay	\$ 1,851,918.62	\$ 2,053,462.65
Grants, state aid and subsidies	\$ 892,293.94	\$ -
Insurance and bonding	\$ 155,053.93	\$ -
Other expenditures	\$ 714,183.36	\$ 14,398.88
Reimbursements	\$ (84,970.51)	\$ -
Unclassified/invalid accounts	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Other Financing (Uses) - Transfers out	\$ 19,712,733.59	\$ -
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 46,288,748.14</b>	<b>\$ 2,070,183.95</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 2,081,373.23</b>	<b>\$ 3,422,855.46</b>
FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, 2024	\$ 28,742,870.36	\$ 4,689,552.52
<b>FUND BALANCE - SEP 30, 2024</b>	<b>\$ 30,824,243.59</b>	<b>\$ 8,112,407.98</b>

# NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ENDOWMENT PORTFOLIO

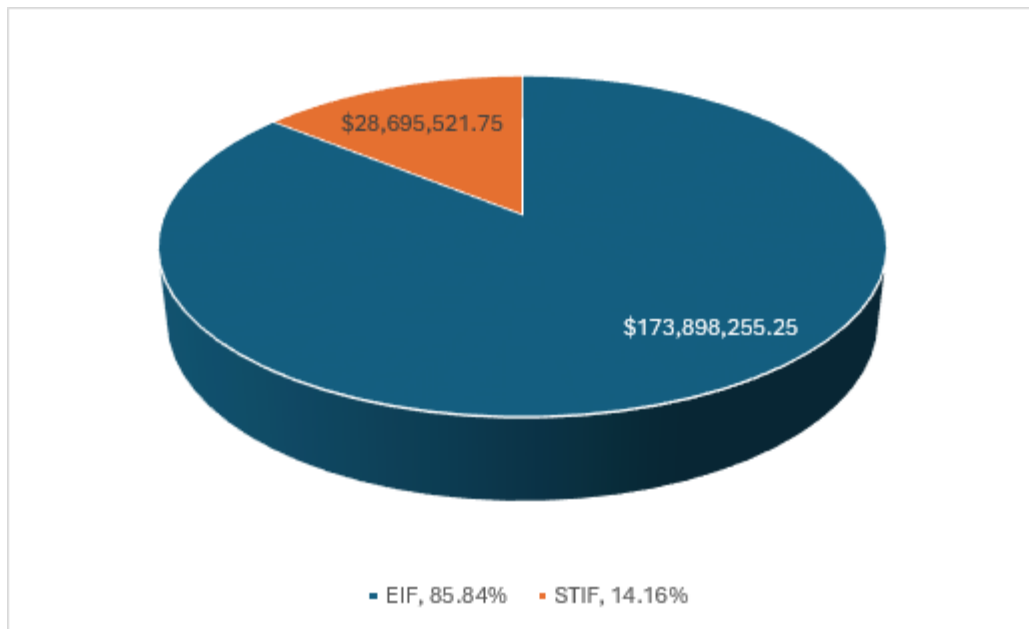
**Fund Balance\*:** e 2024 **\$202,93,777.00**

\* Based On Financial Institutions' Data And Does Not Include Time-Lag Entries.

§ 143-250.1. Wildlife Endowment Fund

- (d) (3). No expenditure or disbursement shall be made from the principal of the Wildlife Endowment Fund except as otherwise provided by law.
- (d) (4). The income received and accruing from the investments of the Wildlife Endowment Fund must be spent only in furthering the conservation of wildlife resources and the efficient operation of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission in accomplishing the purposes of the agency as set forth in G.S. 143-239.
- (g) The Wildlife Endowment Fund and the investment income therefrom shall not take the place of State appropriations or Agency receipts placed in the Wildlife Resources Fund, or any part thereof, but any portion of the income of the Wildlife Endowment Fund available for the purpose set out in subdivision (4) of subsection (d) shall be used to supplement other income of and appropriations to the Wildlife Resources Commission to the end that the Commission may improve and increase its services and become more useful to a greater number of people.

## ASSET ALLOCATION





2024	September					
Status:		Principal	ANI Nonexpendable	ANI Expendable		Total
	Adult	\$ 88,697,516.20		\$ 68,581,606.23		\$ 157,279,122.43
	Magazine	\$ 1,573,477.50		\$ 997,014.84		\$ 2,570,492.34
	Contributions	\$ 862,835.30		\$ 3,184,382.55		\$ 4,047,217.85
	Diversity	\$ 307,614.40		\$ 69,426.47		\$ 377,040.87
	Infant	\$ 21,939,603.50	\$ 12,276,771.30			\$ 34,216,374.80
	Youth	\$ 3,093,716.00	\$ 1,124,132.70			\$ 4,217,848.70
						\$ 202,708,096.99
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 116,474,762.90</b>	<b>\$ 13,400,904.00</b>	<b>\$ 72,832,430.09</b>		<b>\$ 202,708,096.99</b>
						\$ -

Of the amount noted above as expendable income, the figures below represent WRC's known obligations for Endowment income over the next three years:

Setzer Hatchery Renovation	\$19,700,000.00
Other Capital Projects	<u>\$ 3,744,974.00</u>
Other Agency Priorities	\$ 4,650,211.00
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>\$ 5,615,219.00</u>

Remaining Available Expendable Income \$39,122,026.09

# **EXHIBIT C**

**December 5, 2024**



## **2025 WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETINGS**

### **DRAFT SCHEDULE**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025**

**THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025**

# Exhibit D-1

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

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**Tract Name:** Pork Palace Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 12/06/2023

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):**

Wildlife Restoration Funds	\$800,000
TOTAL COST	\$800,000

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Explain Details:

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
State Property Office	Glenn Real Estate Group, Inc.	July 12, 2024	\$760,000

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?**  Yes  No  N/A

**Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):**

75% Wildlife Restoration Funds: 25% State

**Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):**

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$ 31,893.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$ 0.00

# Exhibit D-1

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

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#### Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs				
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment	1.8	Mile	\$500	\$900
Boundary Maintenance (yr 5)	1.8	Mile	\$135	\$243
Gate Installation	1	Gate	\$750	\$750
Parking Area Construction	1	Parking Area	\$5,000	\$5,000
Dove Field Planting (yrs 1-5)	20	Acre	\$250	\$25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$31,893</b>

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
None	None	NA	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				

**EXHIBIT D-1**  
**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**  
**Land Acquisition Investigation Form**  
**– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Chesley Ward
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	December 6, 2023
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Pork Palace Tract
<b>County:</b>	Bladen
<b>Acreage:</b>	237.73
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$321,070
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Owner - Pork Palace LLC / Representative - Steve Wilson
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resource Protection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource Management
<input type="checkbox"/>	User Access
<input type="checkbox"/>	WRC Facility

**Program Potential:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Game Land
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife Conservation Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	Access Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	None

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Purchase
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lease
<input type="checkbox"/>	Easement

**Type of Parcel:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tract
<input type="checkbox"/>	Riparian Corridor

**Grant Potential:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NCLWF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAWCA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enviva

**Owner Interest:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Tax Value:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	2023	Year Assessed
<input type="checkbox"/>	No	PUV?

**Stewardship Considerations:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	PR	Source:
<input type="checkbox"/>	75/25	Match:

**Funding Considerations:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Donation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bargain Sale
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partner Contribution

**Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

**Recommendation:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do Not Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Defer

**Additional Comments:**

This property joins the Marshall tract that WRC is currently working with The Nature Conservancy to acquire. Acquiring the Pork Palace tract will add 0.57 miles of road frontage ownership along NC-53 and 0.55 miles of ownership along Bivens Bridge Road. It will also reduce the distance that WRC would have to build a road to gain access to the large portion of the Marshall tract. It shares 1.12 miles of boundary with the Marshall tract.

EXHIBIT D-1

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form  
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name:	Pork Palace Tract
County:	Bladen

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The Pork Palace tract is a 238-acre property in Bladen County that is adjacent to the 3,297-acre Marshall tract that WRC has partnered with The Nature Conservancy to acquire, which is directly across NC Highway 53 from the Whitehall Tract of Whitehall Plantation Game Land. 60 percent (142 acres) of the property lies in the Conkill Bay Complex Significant Natural Heritage Area, which has an overall ranking of Very High. This Natural Area is an integral part of a larger and connected complex of natural areas and managed timberlands that provide extensive travel and dispersal corridor functions benefiting a large suite of animal groups. Furthermore, much of the Pork Palace tract has a Relative Conservation Value of 10 out of 10 for biodiversity and wildlife habitat which has been assessed by the NC Natural Heritage Program.

Approximately 76 acres of the property is made up of an intact Carolina Bay and there is 57 acres of agriculture land that would provide opportunities for longleaf pine community restoration, early successional habitat management, or dove field. Roughly 16 acres of mixed upland pine habitat with some longleaf pines exist on portions of the tract.

WRC biologists have identified 30 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) that are likely to occur on the Pork Palace Tract as it currently exists. This property fits well into the regional and local land protection efforts that WRC and its partners have made in recent decades.

Tract Name **Pork Palace Tract**  
 Date **November 22, 2023**  
 Staff Completing Form **Chesley Ward**

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.370</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	1
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0

**Comments**  
 Overall biodiversity for terrestrial species is high and wetland species is moderate. 30 Species of Greatest Conservation Need are likely to exist on the property. No water bodies or aquatic habitat exists on the property that WRC staff are aware of.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.500</b>
Size	1
Quality	1
Diversity	1
Rare/Important	2
Connectivity	2
Buffer	2

**Comments**  
 Protection of the Pork Palace tract will help improve landscape level connectivity for many rare & important species that depend on longleaf pine habitats. The size of these habitats in this part of NC is hugely important to a landscape level approach to managing species & populations.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>0.333</b>
Hunting/Viewing	3
Fishing	0
Boating	0

**Comments**  
 Excellent hunting, trapping, & wildlife viewing opportunities exist on this property. There are no fishing & boating opportunities.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.467</b>
Hunting	3
Viewing	3
Fishing	0
Boating	0
Education	1

**Comments**  
 Excellent hunting opportunities exist for deer, black bear, turkey, quail, & several small game species. Wildlife viewing opportunities are similar & include many nongame wildlife species.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Timber Harvest	2
Local Economy	2
Quality of Life	2

**Comments**  
 There are good opportunities to manage and harvest timber resources.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Existing Infrastructure	3
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	3
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	0
Proximity to Users	1

**Comments**  
 The property has 0.6 miles of roads and is very compatible for multiple uses and the adjoining lands.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.917</b>
Species Restoration	3
Habitat Restoration	3
Access Improvement	2
Threat Mitigation	3

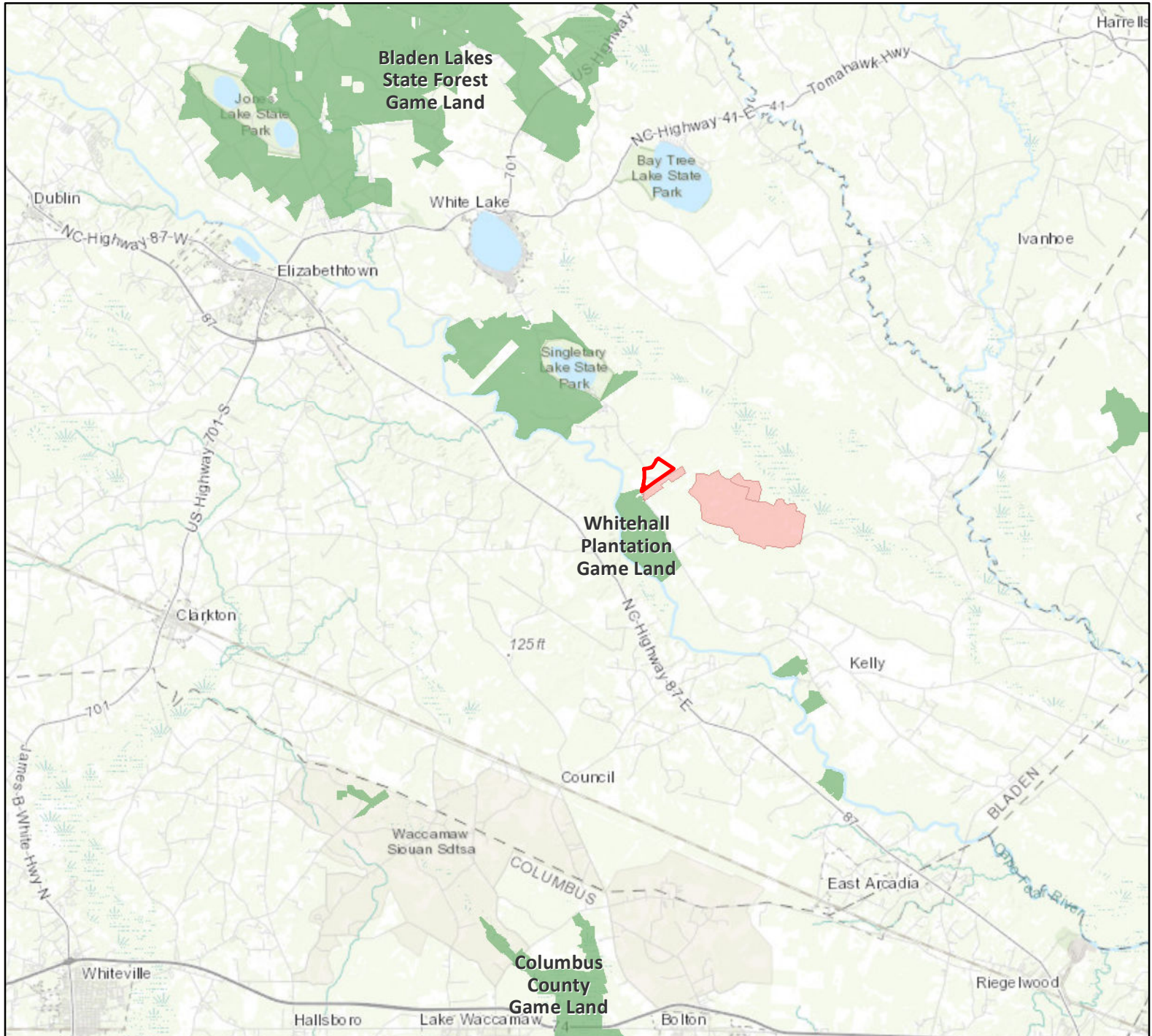
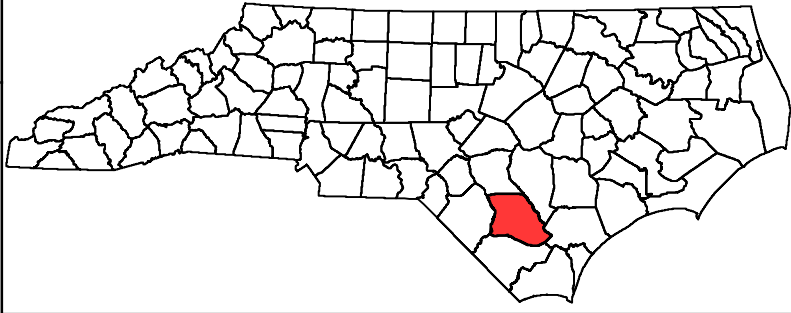
**Comments**  
 Excellent opportunities exist for species & habitat restoration & improvement. Some habitat conditions are present for rare species but restoration & improvement activities through prescribed burning and planting will greatly improve overall conditions for most habitats on the property.

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.400</b>
Number	2
Severity	2
Imminence	1
Manageability	0
Management Cost	1

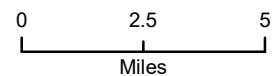
**Comments**  
 Two threats to this property exist: wildfire & land conversion. The greatest severity would be from land conversion. Catastrophic wildfire would have negative impacts to existing resource values, but restoration efforts could overcome damages but would take decades to realize benefits. Low intensity prescribed fire is greatly needed to improve habitat & reduce fuel loads.

<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.520</b>
----------------------	--------------

**Pork Palace Tract  
+/- 238 acres  
Bladen County**

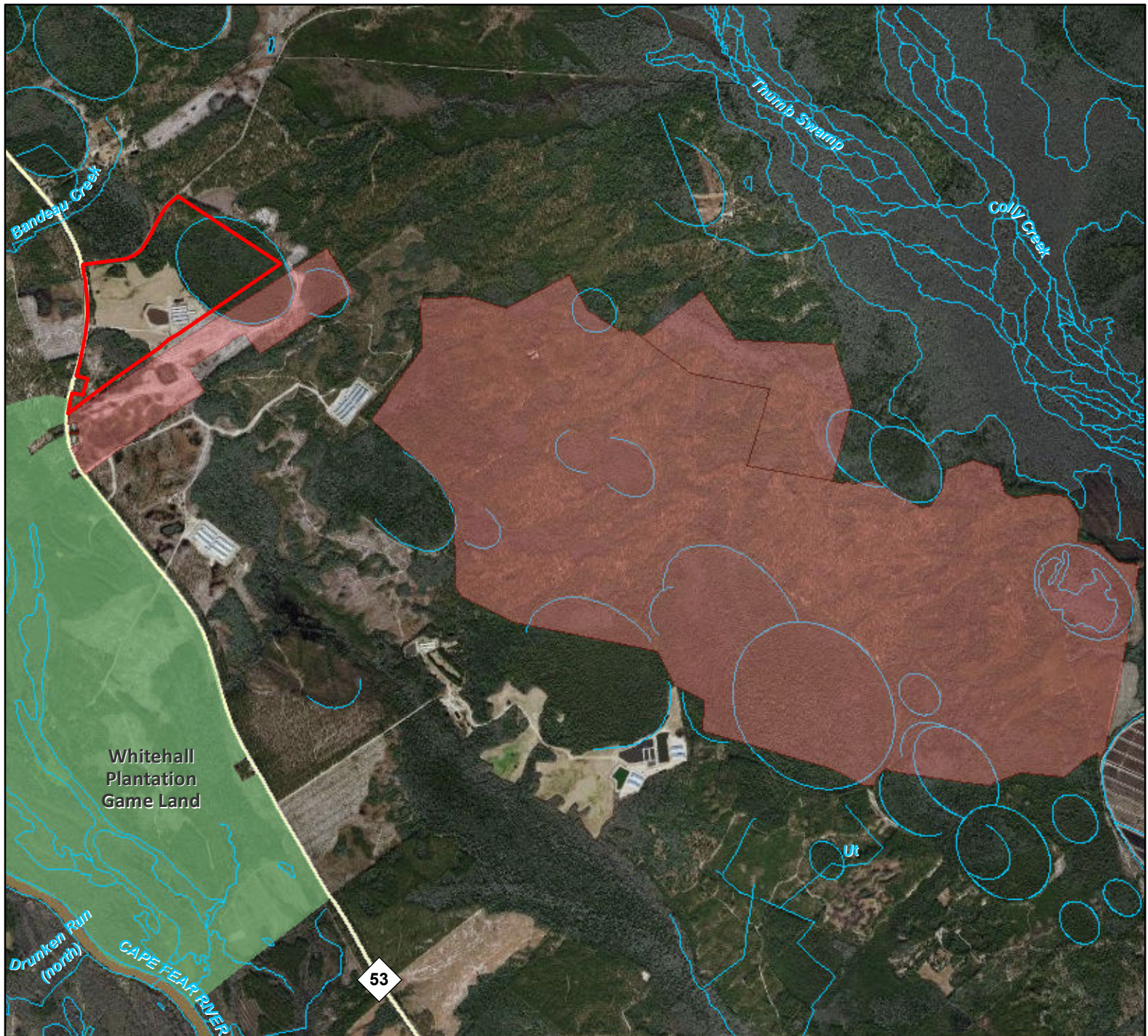
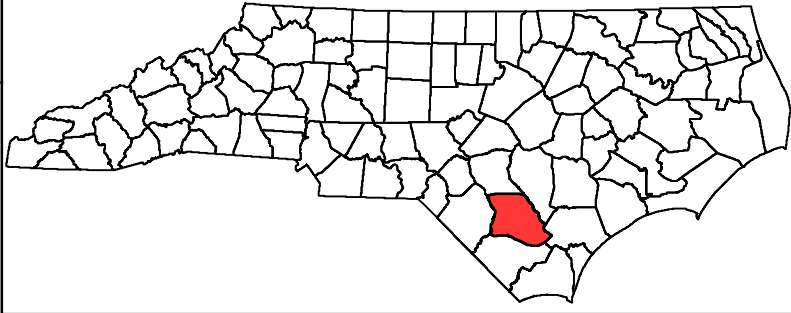


- Pork Palace Tract
- NCWRC Game Land
- Marshall Tract

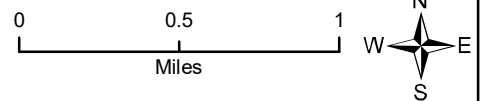




**Pork Palace Tract  
+/- 238 acres  
Bladen County**



-  Pork Palace Tract
-  Marshall Tract
-  NCWRC Game Land



# Exhibit D-2

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

---

**Tract Name:** Big Swamp Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 8/17/2022

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):**

NC Land and Water Fund Grant	\$1,200,000
North American Wetland Conservation Act Grant	\$500,000
Enviva Forest Conservation Fund Grant	\$125,000
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$1,825,000</b>

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

**If Yes, Explain Details:**

Landowner Donation/Bargain Sale	\$1,425,000
---------------------------------	-------------

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

**If Yes, Describe in Table:**

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
Open Space Institute	Holstein Appraisals	June 13, 2022	\$3,250,000

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?**  Yes  No  N/A

**Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):**

75% Wildlife Restoration Funds: 25% State

**Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):**

<b>Total Stewardship Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 17,104.00</b>
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 60,000.00</b>

# Exhibit D-2

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

---

#### Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs				
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment	17.88	Mile	\$500	\$8,940
Boundary Maintenance (yr 5)	17.88	Mile	\$135	\$2,414
Gate Installation	1	Gate	\$750	\$750
Parking Area Construction	1	Parking Area	\$5,000	\$5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$17,104</b>

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
Timber Harvest	150	Acres	\$400	\$60,000
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 60,000</b>

**Exhibit D-2**  
**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**  
**Land Acquisition Investigation Form**  
**– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Chesley Ward
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	August 17, 2022
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Big Swamp
<b>County:</b>	Robeson
<b>Acreage:</b>	2475.00
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$816,793
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Open Space Institute/Patrick Moore
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resource Protection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource Management
<input type="checkbox"/>	User Access
<input type="checkbox"/>	WRC Facility

**Program Potential:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Game Land
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife Conservation Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	Access Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	None

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Purchase
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lease
<input type="checkbox"/>	Easement

**Type of Parcel:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tract
<input type="checkbox"/>	Riparian Corridor

**Grant Potential:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	NCLWF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAWCA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enviva

**Owner Interest:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Tax Value:**

2010	Year Assessed
No	PUV?

**Stewardship Considerations:**

PR	Source:
75/25	Match:

**Funding Considerations:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Donation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bargain Sale
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partner Contribution

**Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

**Recommendation:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do Not Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Defer

**Additional Comments:**

This is a partnership project with Open Space Institute (OSI). OSI plans to purchase and hold the property and provide a bargain sale to NCWRC.

Exhibit D-2

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form  
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name:	Big Swamp
County:	Robeson

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The Big Swamp tract is a +/- 2,475-acre property in Robeson County that is largely made up of blackwater floodplain forests of cypress-tupelo swamp and bottomland hardwoods. A patchwork of nonforested wetlands exist on the property, which provides excellent wintering waterfowl habitat and waterfowl hunting opportunities. Approximately 20% (540 acres) of the property is made up of managed pine timberland that will offer good opportunities for wildlife habitat improvement activities through timber harvests, prescribed burning, and wildlife openings. This tract has excellent access with more than 10.5 miles of roads and trails.

The Big Swamp tract is located just 2.3 miles east of north from Warwick Bay State Natural Area, which is critical for bird conservation. It has a very large wading bird colony including one of the largest Wood Stork colonies in North Carolina. This tract is also located 1.75 miles west of south from Hester Millpond, home to another growing Wood Stork colony. Wood Storks are a federally threatened species. The Big Swamp tract's location between these two colonies and its expansive swamp forests provide extremely valuable habitat for Wood Storks and other wading birds.

WRC biologists have identified 58 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) that are very likely to use this property and benefit from its protection. 14 of those species have a state or federal status designation as Threatened, Endangered, or Special Concern.

Tract Name **Big Swamp tract**  
 Date **August 2, 2022**  
 Staff Completing Form **Chesley Ward**

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.630</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2

**Comments**  
 This tract has terrestrial, wetland, and aquatic habitats with good biodiversity within each habitat type.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Size	2
Quality	2
Diversity	1
Rare/Important	2
Connectivity	3
Buffer	2

**Comments**  
 This is a large tract with very important habitat in a location that augments a highly ecologically significant part of NC. Its proximity to two Wood Stork colonies is important for their long-term resilience along with many other Species of Greatest Conservation Need.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>0.556</b>
Hunting/Viewing	2
Fishing	2
Boating	1

**Comments**  
 Public access to a large portion of the tract is good because of an extensive road and trail system. Some trails lead to waters that provide fishing opportunities. Portions of the tract can be accessed by boat when waters aren't at low levels.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.467</b>
Hunting	2
Viewing	2
Fishing	1
Boating	1
Education	1

**Comments**  
 Excellent hunting opportunities exist for many game species as well as good opportunities for wildlife viewing. Good bank fishing opportunities exist as a few select locations. The tract has many channels that can be traveled in a small boat. Provides public use opportunity in a county with limited game lands.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.889</b>
Timber Harvest	3
Local Economy	2
Quality of Life	3

**Comments**  
 Great opportunities exist to produce, manage, and harvest pine timber. This part of NC would greatly benefit from this large tract that offers good public hunting opportunities for many game species.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.600</b>
Existing Infrastructure	2
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	1
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	1
Proximity to Users	2

**Comments**  
 There is a large quantity of roads and trails of mediocre quality. Most adjoining land is likely hunted and managed similarly.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.583</b>
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	2
Access Improvement	2
Threat Mitigation	1

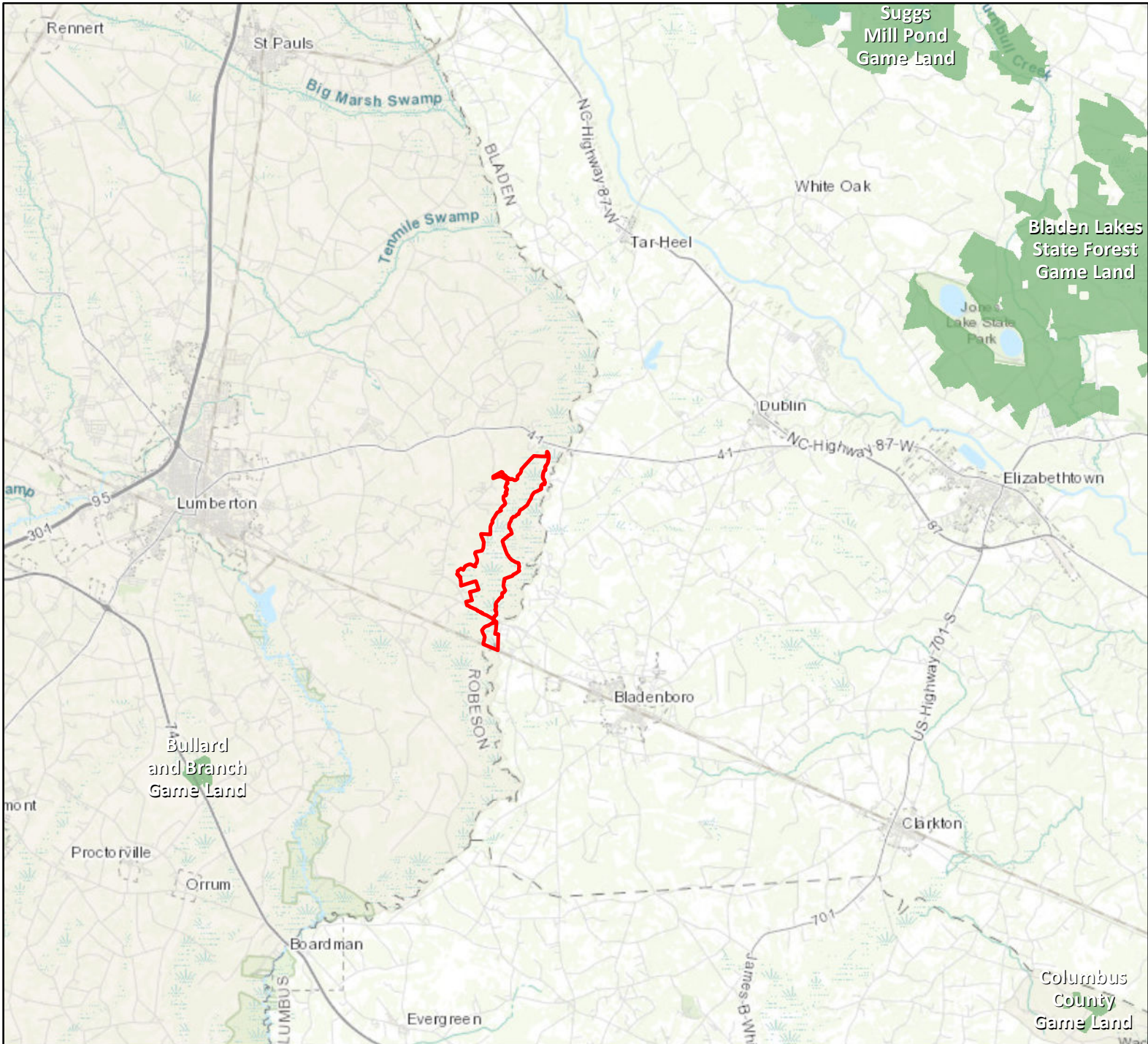
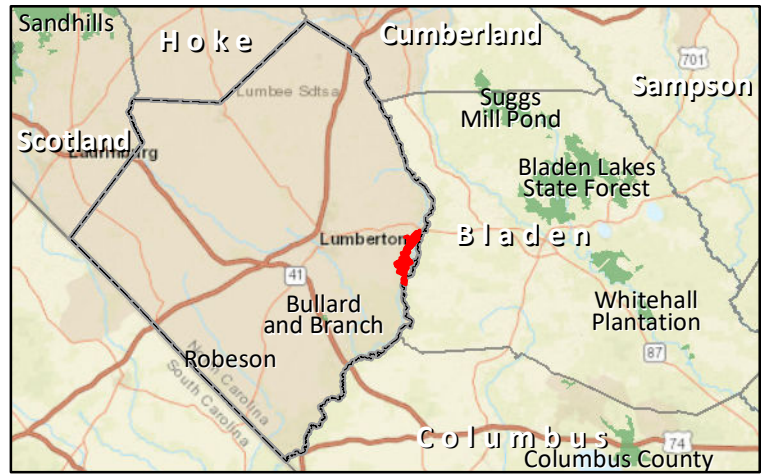
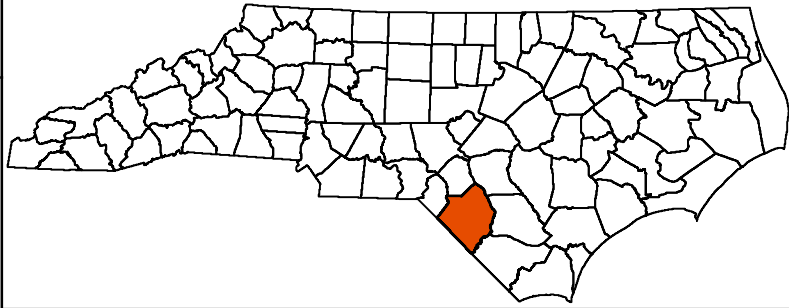
**Comments**  
 Wetland and terrestrial habitats could be restored through management and/or allowing areas to mature under their own making. Many wildlife species would benefit. Aquatic habitats and water quality will be improved from adjacent land protection and proper management.



<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.267</b>
Number	1
Severity	2
Imminence	1
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0

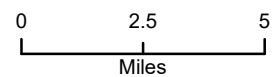
**Comments**  
 Left unprotected, the forested wetlands & adjacent aquatic habitat would be threatened by shovel logging.

<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>4.124</b>
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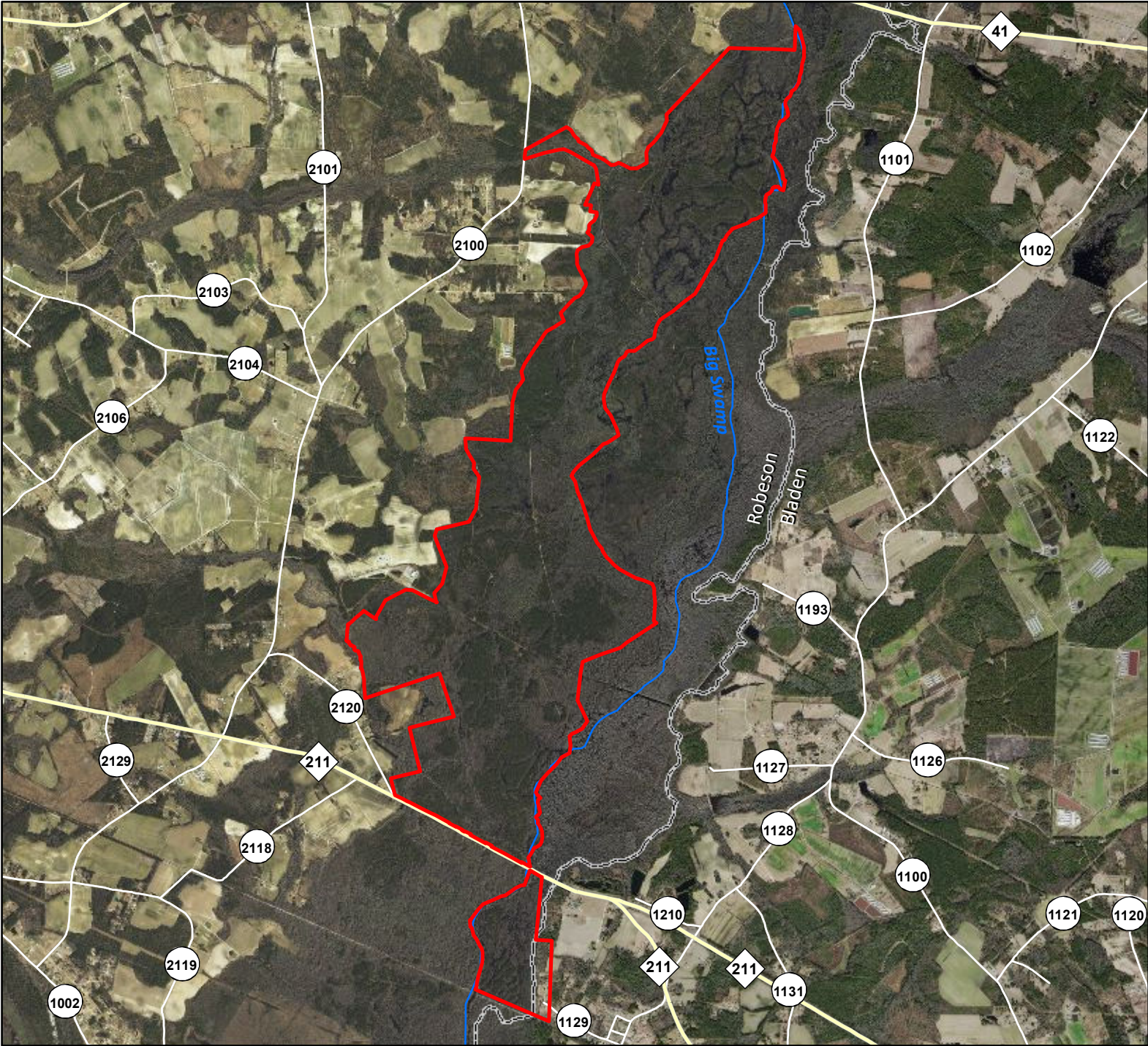
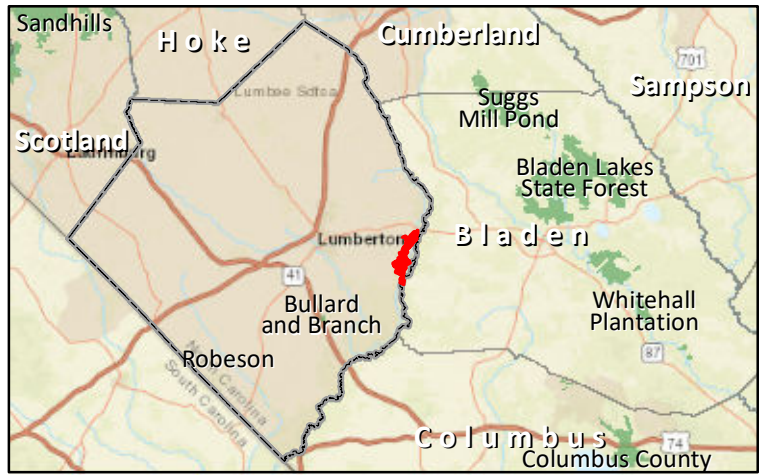
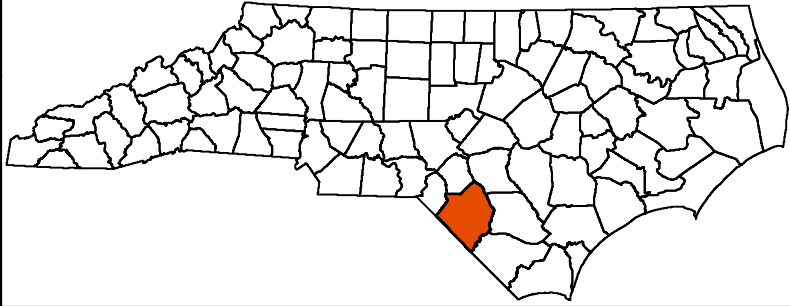
# Big Swamp Tract Robeson County ~2,475 Acres





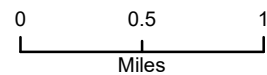
 Big Swamp Tract  
 Game Land



# Big Swamp Tract Robeson County ~2,475 Acres



 Big Swamp Tract  
 Game Land





# Exhibit D-3

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

**Tract Name:** Morris Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 12/04/2024

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):**

Donation

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Explain Details

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?**  Yes  No  N/A

**Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):**

75%: Wildlife Restoration Funds 25%: State

**Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):**

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$802.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

# Exhibit D-3

December 5, 2024

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form

## Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

---

### Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs				
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment	0.76	Mile	\$1,056	\$802.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 802.00</b>

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 0.00</b>

# NC Wildlife Resources Commission

## Land Acquisition and Property

### *Phase 1*



Tract Name: Morris-Holly Shelter

**Type of Acquisition:**

Purchase

Tract Owner: J L MORRIS ENTERPRISES

Deed Acreage: 11.18

**Purpose of Acquisition:**

Game Land, Holly Shelter

County: Pender

Tax Value: Not Available

Asking Price: \$0

**Funding Considerations:**

Donation

Date First Presented: 12/04/2024

**Resource Assessment:**

Parcel consists of approximately 6 acres open ground and approximately 6 acres of woodland, mostly loblolly.

**Public Access:**

Parcel is directly adjacent to Holly Shelter GL. Additional access would be from Hwy 17 at new Hampstead bypass.

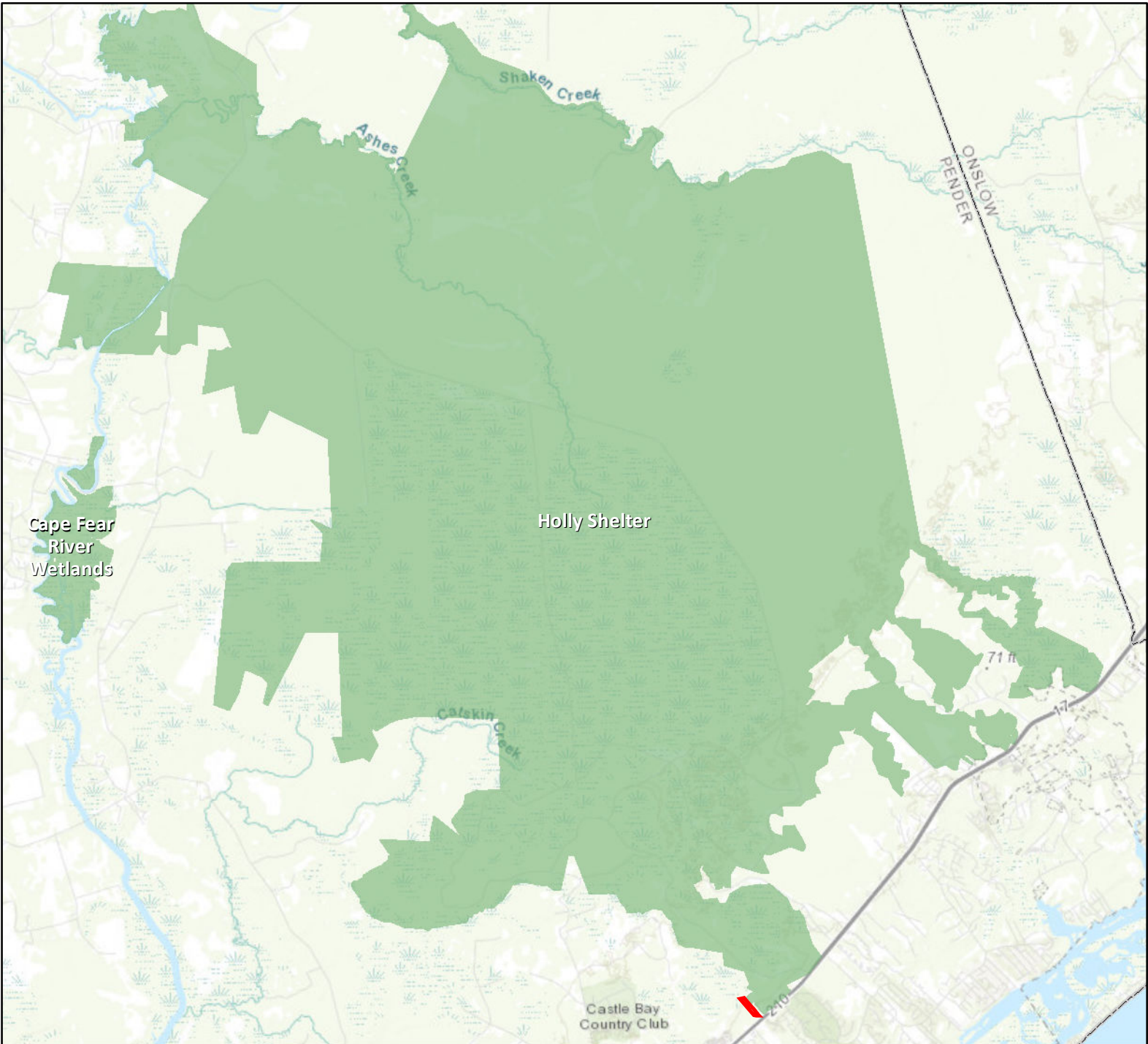
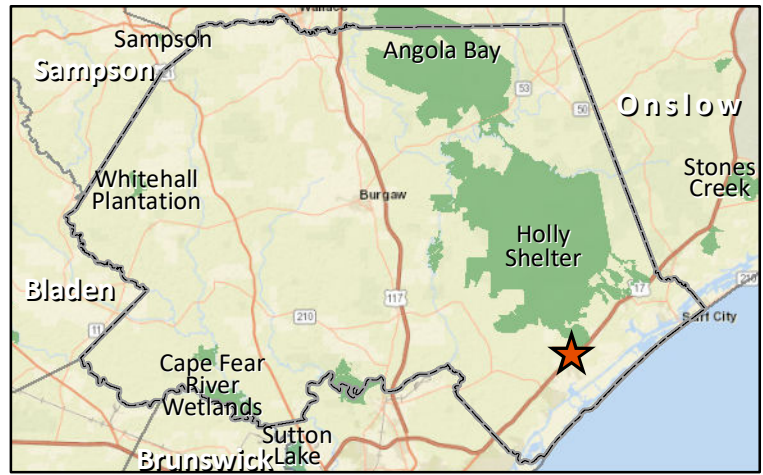
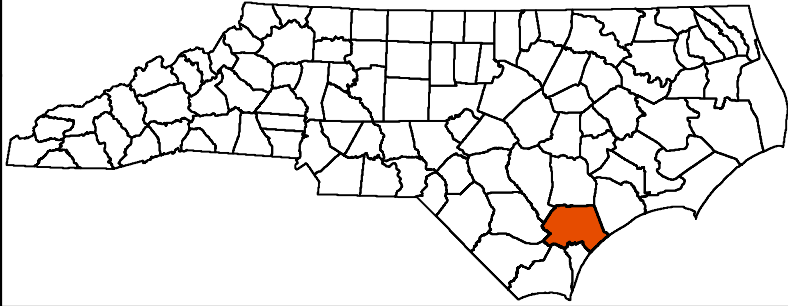
**Existing Infrastructure:**



No existing infrastructure.

**Additional Comments:**

Acquisition would buffer from new development.

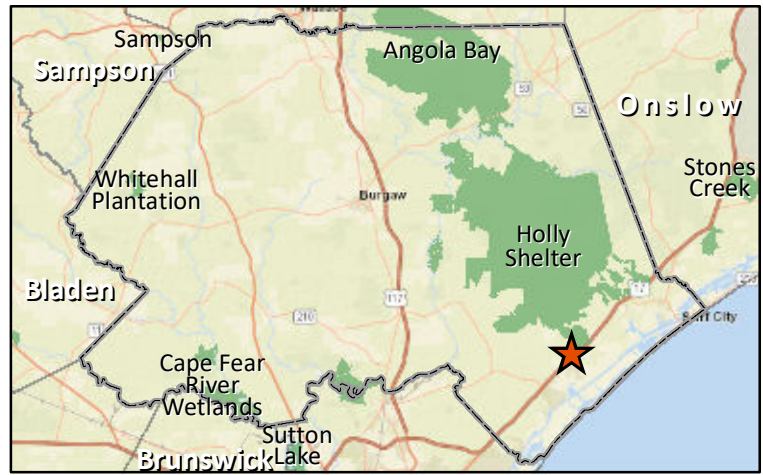
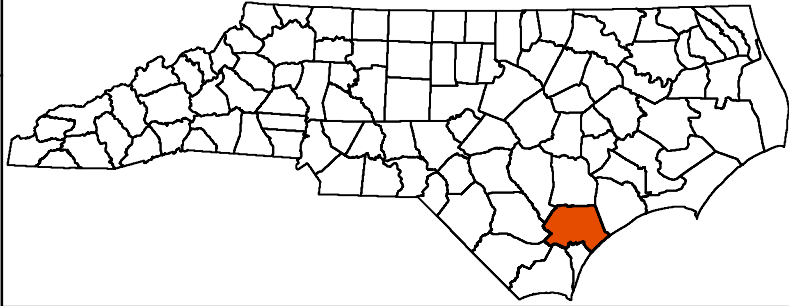
**Morris Tract**  
**Pender County**  
**+/- 12 Acres**



-  Morris Tract
-  NCWRC Game Land



**Morris Tract**  
**Pender County**  
**+/- 12 Acres**

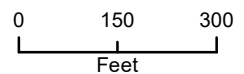


Morris Tract

NCWRC Game Land



Parcel Boundaries



# Exhibit D-4

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

---

**Tract Name:**

Heitman Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 7/24/2024

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding)**

State Funds	\$51,000
Total:	\$51,000

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Explain Details

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
State Property Office	Integra Realty Resources	September 19, 2024	\$51,000.00

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?**  Yes  No  N/A

**Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):**

75%: Wildlife Restoration Funds 25%: State

**Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):**

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$6,140.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

# Exhibit D-4

December 5, 2024

North Carolina Wildlife Resources  
Commission Land Acquisition Investigation  
Form

## Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

---

### Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs				
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment	.4	Mile	\$350	\$140
Est. Parking Area	1	Ea.	\$4500	\$4,500
Gate Installation	1	Ea.	\$1500	\$1,500
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$6,140</b>

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$0</b>

**EXHIBIT D-4**  
**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**  
**Land Acquisition Investigation Form**  
**– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Chris Dawes, Cody Fulk, Tracy Parsons
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	07/24/2024
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Jordan and Marissa Heitman Tract
<b>County:</b>	Davidson
<b>Acreage:</b>	2.14
<b>Listed Price:</b>	Undetermined. Seller understands state process/appraised value restrictions.
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$27,170
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Jordan Heitman
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resource Protection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resource Management
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	User Access
<input type="checkbox"/>	WRC Facility

**Program Potential:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Game Land
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife Conservation Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	Access Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	None

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Purchase
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lease
<input type="checkbox"/>	Easement

**Type of Parcel:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tract
<input type="checkbox"/>	Riparian Corridor

**Grant Potential:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	CWMTF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (NC EEP/NAWCA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

**Owner Interest:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Tax Value:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Year Assessed (2023)
<input type="checkbox"/>	PUV?

**Stewardship Considerations:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Source: PR 75%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Match: Timber Fund 25%

**Funding Considerations:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Donation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bargain Sale
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partner Contribution

**Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

**Recommendation:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do Not Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Defer

**Additional Comments:**

The Jordan & Marissa Heitman tract is located in Davidson County at the near end of Kesler Rd. (673 Kesler rd). This tract is small at 2.14 acres but is bounded by gameland on the east and western property lines. This parcel is of high value to WRC because it also has a portion of Kesler Rd within its boundary. Kesler Road is the singular land access point to an approximately 140 acre adjacent gameland parcel acquired during the Alcoa lands acquisition.



EXHIBIT D-4

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form  
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name:	Jordan and Marisa Heitman
County:	Davidson

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The Jordan and Marissa Heitman tract is 2.14 acres of undeveloped property containing approximately 100 feet of Kesler Rd. The property has approximately 130 feet of existing gameland boundary on the western boundary. The property has approximately 127 feet of shared gameland boundary on the eastern boundary line. The property also has a power line running west-east to supply power for any potential development. The property is comprised of mixed pine and hardwood species common to Davidson county including Virginia and loblolly pine, red oak, white oak, and yellow poplar. This property is of value to WRC and the citizens of North Carolina because of it's location rather than its wildlife habitat or natural features. Currently legal access via terrestrial means, to the surrounding 130 plus acres of state-owned Yadkin River gameland (formerly Alcoa), is in limbo. Neighbor(s) claim the WRC has no right-of-way or easement to utilize Kesler Rd. WRC has not been able to locate the original Tallahassee power and light deed circa 1928 to corroborate or disprove any claims. Traditionally Kesler Rd has been the access to the property. A singular land owner, owning two separate parcels totaling 6.6 acres is currently impeding access to the 130+ acre tract for the public and WRC staff. The Jordan and Marissa Heitman tract is located between two tracts owned by the landowner impeding access, as well as touches existing gameland on two sides. This parcel is in the ideal location to create user and administrative access from Kesler Road. Further the tract deed has clear language expressly granting an access easement from Boone's Cave Rd to Kesler Road to access the Jordan and Marrisa Heitman 2.14 acres, which also touches current gameland. This parcel was introduced to LAWA staff via enforcement as a potential solution to the increasing access issue surrounding this gameland tract. LAWA staff contacted the landowners who are interested in selling to WRC to assist with the access issue. Enforcement and LAWA staff have fielded various conflicts and issues concerning access via Kesler Road and Enforcement indicated that a deed with clear access language is the best course of action to allow legal means for officers to manage any conflicts with neighboring property owners. Recreational opportunity within this 2.14 acre property will be limited due to proximity to road and residential dwellings, however, the acquisition of this parcel will allow for a myriad of gameland recreational use on the surrounding approximately 130 acres of adjoining gameland. This gameland tract has upland hunting opportunity as well as small game, deer, turkey, and waterfowl. This parcel is the northernmost portion of the Yadkin River Game Land (formerly Alcoa).

Tract Name	Jordan and Marissa Heitman
Date	June 17, 2024
Staff Completing Form	Dawes, Fulk, Parsons

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.074</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	1
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	1
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0

<b>Comments</b>
No SGCN species documented on this tract due to size. Many species documented on adjoining game land parcel that this tract provides direct access to. Biodiversity and habitat are not the value sources of this tract, rather location and access to other high value tracts that do offer biodiversity and habitat value. Hunting would not be likely to occur on this tract. Rather access to adjoining high value recreational areas through this tract. Habitat and biodiversity management on this tract are not priority. Priority is to develop an access route for managers and the public to safely utilize the surrounding game lands tract on Yadkin River.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.333</b>
Size	0
Quality	1
Diversity	1
Rare/Important	0
Connectivity	2
Buffer	2

<b>Comments</b>
This tract has very low value in the habitat and diversity categories. It is an access acquisition to allow ingress/egress to tracts that do have high value for diversity and habitat. The parcel does not necessarily provide any wildlife corridors, but does provide managers a route in which to manage lands that do provide connectivity for wildlife movement. The parcel provides a small amount of buffer in the form of preventing additional residential development directly joining game land.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Hunting/Viewing	3
Fishing	3
Boating	0

<b>Comments</b>
This parcel provides access to a currently inaccessible large contiguous tract of game land for a wide variety of hunting and fishing opportunity on the Yadkin River.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.467</b>
Hunting	2
Viewing	2
Fishing	2
Boating	0
Education	1

<b>Comments</b>
This parcel provides access to a wide variety of uses on the adjoining game land tract that is currently inaccessible, rendering it virtually useless to the public as well as unmanaged for quality habitat and timber revenue. Acquisition of this parcel will allow for wildlife related recreation on the adjoining tract with a safe place for the public and managers to access the adjoining property. This property would be the entrance for all activities on adjoining lands.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.778</b>
Timber Harvest	3
Local Economy	1
Quality of Life	3

<b>Comments</b>
This parcel has little to no value in terms of habitat, or timber. However, this parcel provides the only means of access to a much larger tract with approximately \$120,000 worth of current timber revenue, with the only route for extraction being via this parcel. The adjoining

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Existing Infrastructure	1
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	1
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	2
Inholding/Corridor	3
Proximity to Users	3

<b>Comments</b>
Current infrastructure includes a powerline and possibly a modern well and new septic. The parcel was originally intended for a residential dwelling. Current owners have decided they prefer to divest the property to WRC for access enhancement. Property provides the only terrestrial means of access to a larger currently inaccessible tract of game land. Parcel touches existing game land on two sides and would be the ideal location for an access and

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.500</b>
Species Restoration	0
Habitat Restoration	0
Access Improvement	3
Threat Mitigation	3

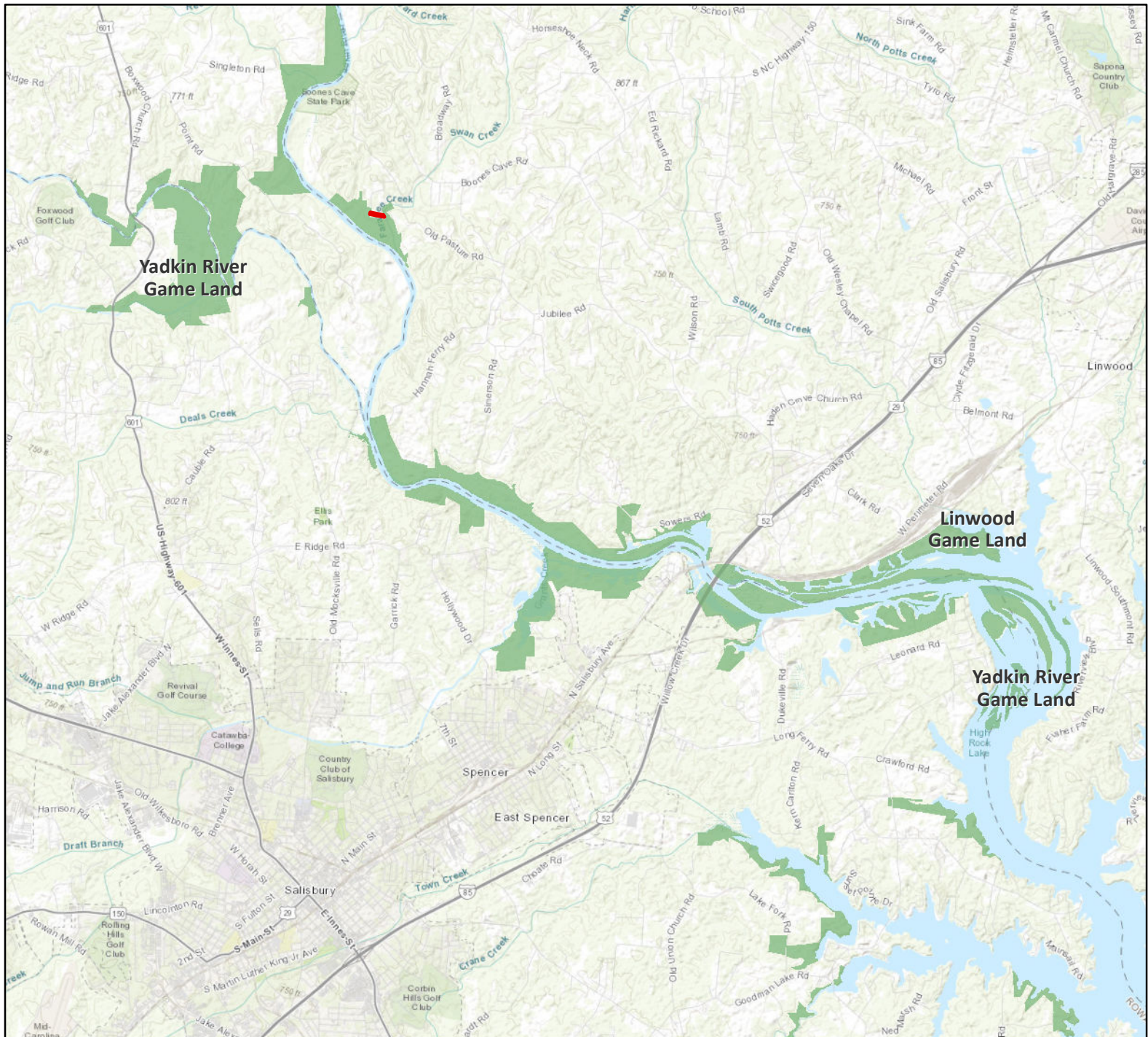
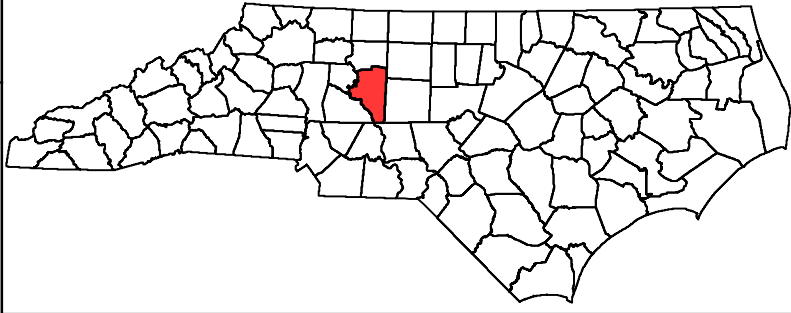
<b>Comments</b>
No habitat improvements are expected for this parcel. This parcel will provide the only ingress for habitat work on the adjoining gamland parcel. This parcel mitigates the imminent loss of access to a current large tract of WRC owned Yadkin River Game land.



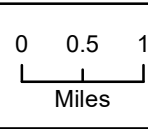

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.267</b>
Number	1
Severity	1
Imminence	1
Manageability	0
Management Cost	1

<b>Comments</b>
This parcel will ultimately be developed as residential if not purchased by WRC. This would mean loss of access to the larger high value adjoining tract of game land and the ability for public to utilize it, as well as loss of timber revenue and management. Additional threats include neighbors who have blocked current access.

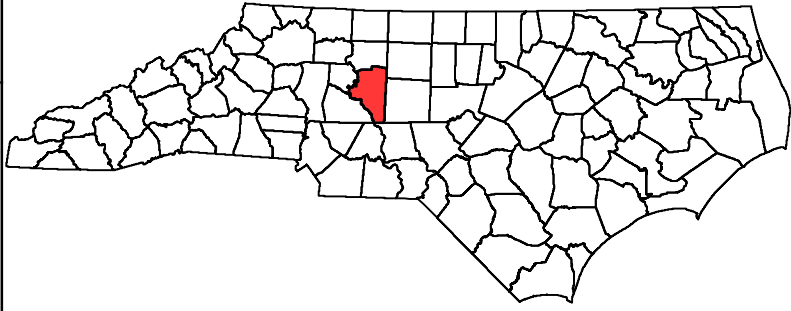
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.219</b>
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**Heitman Tract**  
**2.14 acres**  
**Davidson County**



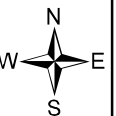
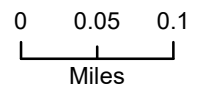
   

**Heitman Tract**  
**2.14 acres**  
**Davidson County**



 Heitman Tract  
 Parcel Boundaries

 NCWRC Game Land



# Exhibit D-5

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

**Tract Name:** Randy Mabry Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 4/17/2024

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):**

Wildlife Restoration Funds	\$109,000
TOTAL COST	\$109,000

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Explain Details

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
State Property Office	Tallent and Associates	October 31, 2024	\$109,000

Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?  Yes  No  N/A

**Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):**

75% Wildlife Restoration Funds : 25% State

**Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):**

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$2,540.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

# Exhibit D-5

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET Estimated Five Year

#### Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections

Estimated Stewardship Costs				
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment	0.4	Mile	\$350	\$140
Est Firebreaks	0.4	Mile	\$3000	\$1,200
Prescribed Burn	1	Ac	\$30	\$1,200
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$2,540</b>

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$0</b>

**EXHIBIT D-5**  
**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**  
**Land Acquisition Investigation Form**  
**– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Chris Dawes, Cody Fulk, Tracy Parsons
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	4/17/2024
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Randy Mabry Tract
<b>County:</b>	Davidson
<b>Acreage:</b>	49.50
<b>Listed Price:</b>	Undetermined. Seller understands state process/appraised value restrictions.
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$106,430
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Michael St. Germain (realtor)
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resource Protection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resource Management
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	User Access
<input type="checkbox"/>	WRC Facility

**Program Potential:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Game Land
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife Conservation Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	Access Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	None

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Purchase
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lease
<input type="checkbox"/>	Easement

**Type of Parcel:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tract
<input type="checkbox"/>	Riparian Corridor

**Grant Potential:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	CWMTF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (NC EEP/NAWCA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

**Owner Interest:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Tax Value:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Year Assessed (2021)
<input type="checkbox"/>	PUV?

**Stewardship Considerations:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Source:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Match: Timber Fund

**Funding Considerations:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Donation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bargain Sale
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partner Contribution

**Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

**Recommendation:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do Not Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Defer

**Additional Comments:**

The Randy Mabry Tract is an approximately 49.5 acre inholding nestled within the recently acquired Yadkin River Game Land (formerly Alcoa) complex in Davidson county. The Randy Mabry tract is bounded on three sides by NCWRC owned Yadkin River Game Land for a total length of .87 miles of shared gameland boundary. This parcel has been identified as high priority and is critical to the protection of Yadkin River Game Land wildlife and user value. This parcel provides protection of an unnamed tributary to the Yadkin River (Tuckertown Reservoir) from which, city of Albemarle extracts water supply.

EXHIBIT D-5

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form  
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name:	Randy Mabry Tract
County:	Davidson

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

The Randy Mabry tract is 49.5 acres comprised of 96 percent mature loblolly pine plantation. These pines are approximately 45-50 years old with average basal area exceeding 120. Pine timber has received a single thinning and averages 13+ inches in DBH (diameter at breast height). The midstory is comprised of yellow-poplar, chestnut oak, red maple, and black cherry. The remaining area is composed of mixed upland hardwood species consistent with the area. These areas are primarily chestnut oak dominant with yellow-poplar scattered throughout. The tract is bisected by a small unnamed tributary to the Yadkin River where loblolly pine, American beech, Black gum, yellow-poplar, American holly, chestnut oak, and scattered hickory species occur. The property would receive timber extraction of loblolly plantation, revenues from which, would exceed any stewardship costs to ownership, management, and protection of this property. The tributary area would be buffered from timber extraction and managed as a natural area. A portion (about 18 acres) of the Randy Mabry tract is on the eastern slope of Bald Mountain with a representation rating collective rating of R5/C5 (General). This portion of the property is categorized as Dry-mesic Oak/Hickory Forest. Within this 18 acres also occurs elemental portions Piedmont Monadnock Forest with a ranking of S3 and G3/G4 upland community. These habitat types are of high importance to the region and are in serious decline. Management of the entire Randy Mabry tract would allow conversion from pine plantation back to these natural communities via timber extraction and natural successional processes. Within the natural communities associated with the Randy Mabry tract, species of note include; *Crotalus horridus* (timber rattlesnake ranked SC), *Amorpha schwerinii* (Piedmont indigo-bush WL), and *Helianthus schweinitzii* (Shweinitz's Sunflower E). *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (Bald Eagle) regularly occurs within and adjacent to the property. *Ambystoma talpoideum* (mole salamander) ranked SNR/GNR occurs within the expectant area of the property. Smooth sunflower (SC) and Heller's Rabbit tobacco (SR), may also occur within the property with proper management. Recreational opportunity within this property mirrors that of the surrounding game land, however this property provides game land connectivity east-west and protects the eastern slope of Bald Mountain viewshed. Hunting opportunity for White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginiana*), and Eastern Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallapavo*), are extremely abundant with access to this tract directly through the Bald Mountain complex. Small game hunting opportunity will be high on this tract as well. Off-trail hiking and wildlife viewing opportunities will be abundant and will further enhance the existing values of the Bald Mountain trail system. Unique rock outcrops across the property provide habitat for wildlife while also providing picturesque views of the landscape. No structures exist on the property, and the property has been historically used as hunting and timber land. Several old logging trails serpentine through the property, two of which connect with game land logging roads. Trails could be enhanced for administrative access. Boundary would only need new posting on the southern line of the property, less than 1/4 mile.



Tract Name **Randy Mabry**  
 Date **May 8, 2024**  
 Staff Completing Form **Dawes, Fulk, Parsons**

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.222</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0

**Comments**  
 Likely occurring SGCN's; Timber rattlesnake, Tri-colored Bat, Southeastern Bat, Little Brown Bat, Big Brown Bat, Eastern Mole, Northern Bobwhite, American Woodcock, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, American Kestrel, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Hooded Warbler, Swainson's Warbler, Whip-poor-will, Chuck-will's-widow, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Prothonotary Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Eastern Wood Pewee, Wood Thrush, Box Turtle, Mole Salamnder, Three-lined Salamander, Spotted Salamander, Marbled Salamander

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.722</b>
Size	0
Quality	3
Diversity	2
Rare/Important	2
Connectivity	3
Buffer	3

**Comments**  
 This tract affords protection to the Bald Mountain viewshed and associated habitat types. At 49.5 acres the tract is a vital inholding bounded on three sides by NCWRC owned property. The quality is above the normal ranking for habitat within the area, while the quality, diversity, and rare/improtant features are comparabel to the other Tuckertown sections of the Yadkin River Game Land complex.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>0.222</b>
Hunting/Viewing	2
Fishing	0
Boating	0

**Comments**  
 This parcel fills a critical inholding within existing public access and protects a high use area from future disturbance and development. Parcel buffers the Bald Mountain trail/viewshed.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.467</b>
Hunting	3
Viewing	3
Fishing	0
Boating	0
Education	1

**Comments**  
 Hunting and wildlife viewing opportunites are excellent for many species within this property. Deer, turkey, squirrel and woodcock opportunity is currently high, with future mangement, bobwhite uail could be expected to move in from the surrounding game land. Like the surrounding Yadkin River gameland, this area would recieve very high use, due to proximity to high population areas.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.778</b>
Timber Harvest	3
Local Economy	2
Quality of Life	2

**Comments**  
 The parcel currently has merchantable loblolly pine plantation that is mature 45-50 years. Timber extraction would be a viable management strategy for this parcel with chip-n-saw sized wood. being the primary forest product.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.867</b>
Existing Infrastructure	1
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	3
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	3
Proximity to Users	3

**Comments**  
 There is no current infrastructure other than unmaintained logging paths. These could be reclaimed as they connect to existing game land. This property is a significant inholding that is well suited to fill a 50 acre gap in game land connectivity and further simplify the boundary lines. Like all of Yadkin River Game Land, this parcel is within 100 miles of 80% of the NC population

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.750</b>
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	3
Access Improvement	2
Threat Mitigation	2

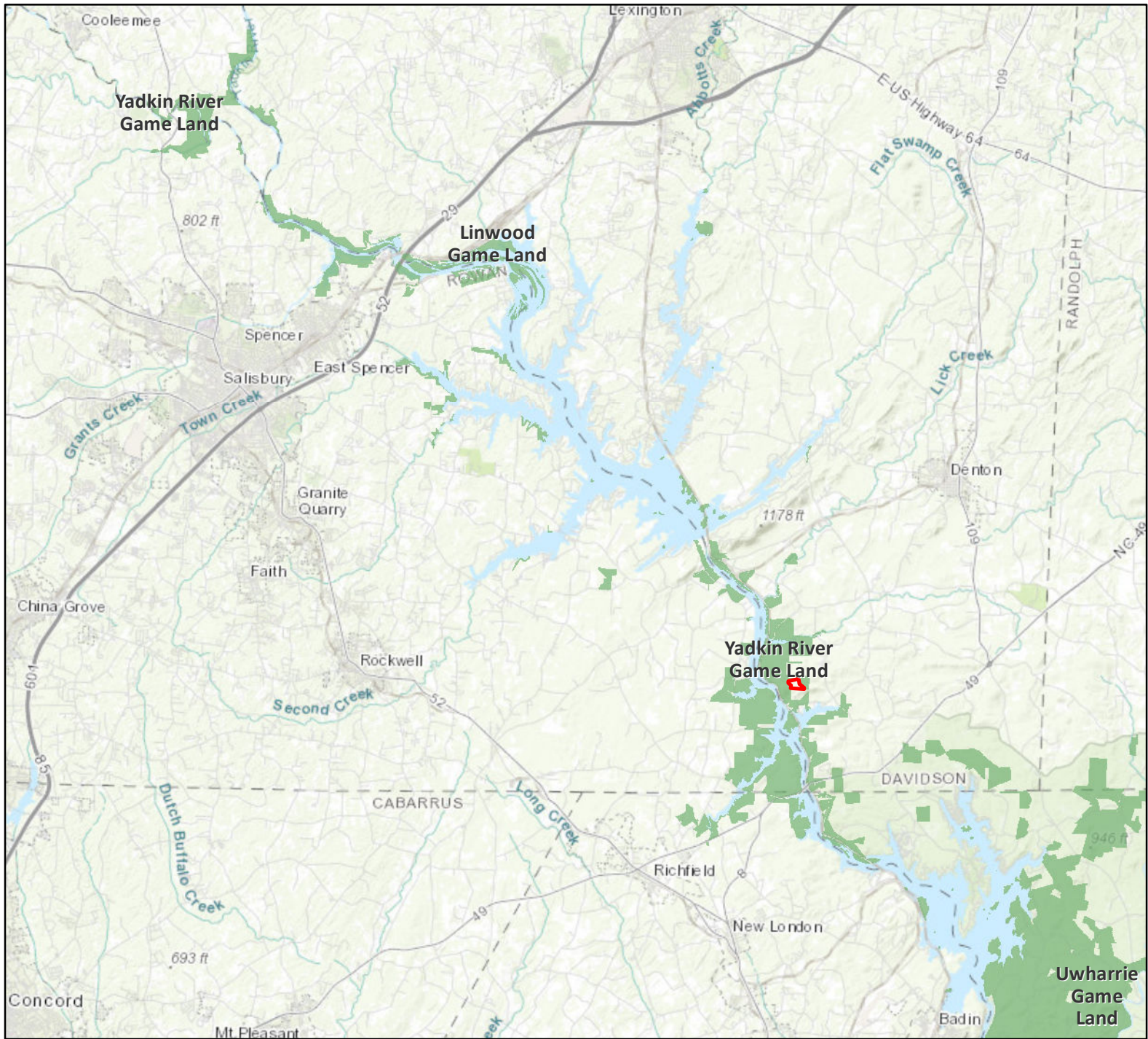
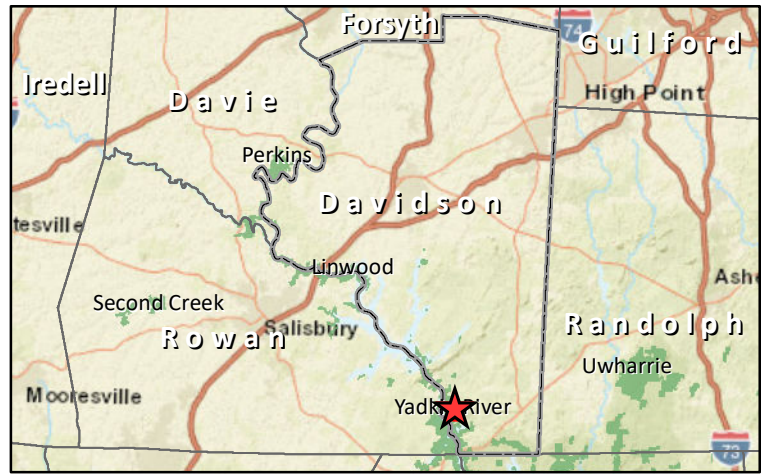
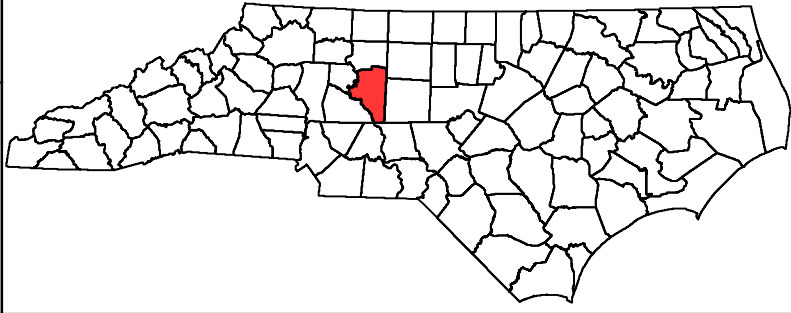
**Comments**  
 Utilizing timber management, and prescribed fire, this parcel could be restored to a natural state allowing natural sucesional process to re-populate the area in native hardwoods. This starategy would support existing SGCN species and likely increase use of the parcel by those and potentially other species in the surrounding area.

<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.067</b>
Number	1
Severity	0
Imminence	0
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0

**Comments**  
 Threat of development in this location is moderate due to the landlocked nature of the tract, however, this area is one of the fastest growing areas within District 6. Development of properties within and surrounding Yadkin River Gameland are an imminent threat. Costs for immediate management or infrastructure are inconsequential on this tract.

<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.961</b>
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**Randy Mabry Tract**  
**+/- 49.5 acres**  
**Davidson County**

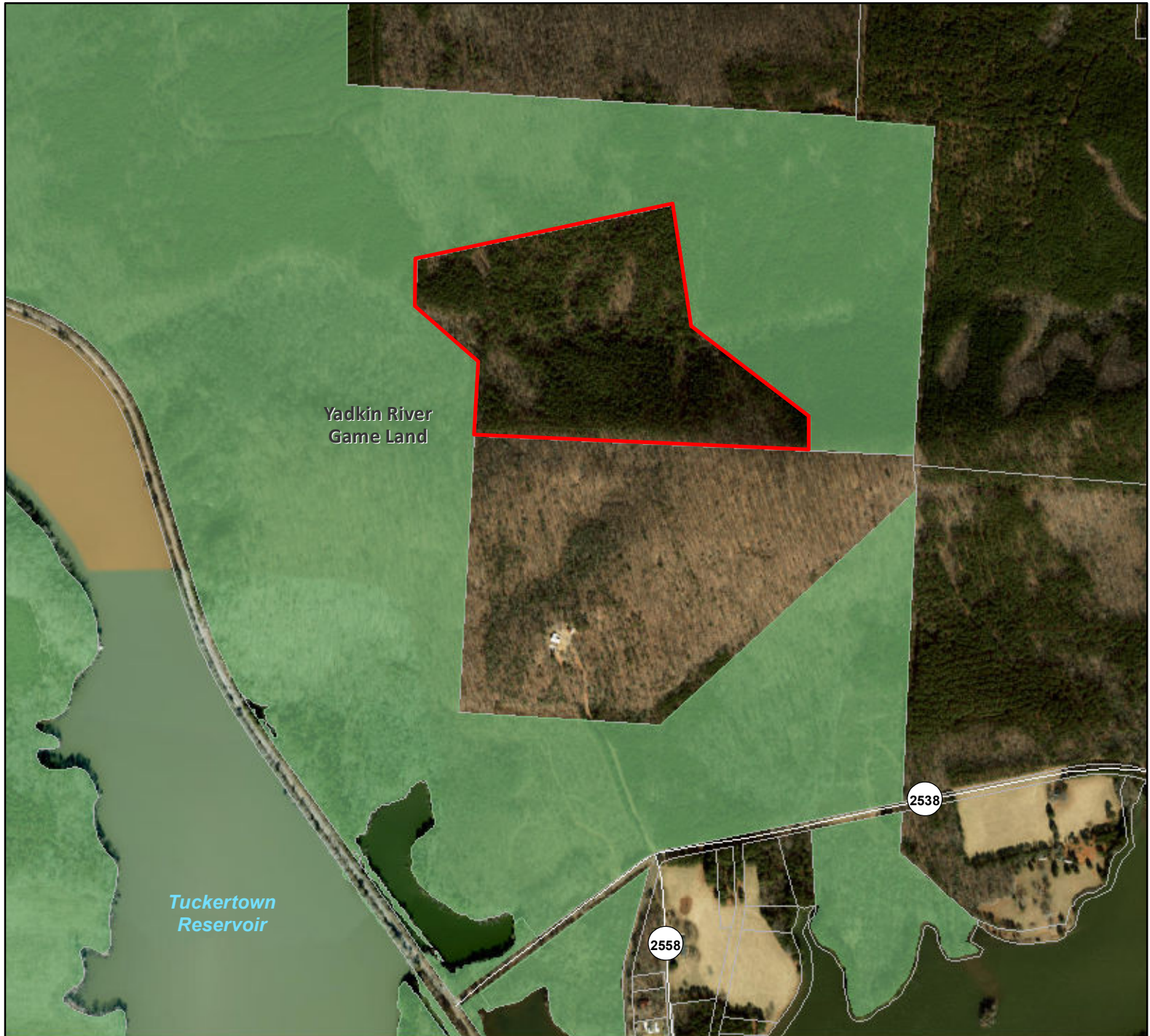
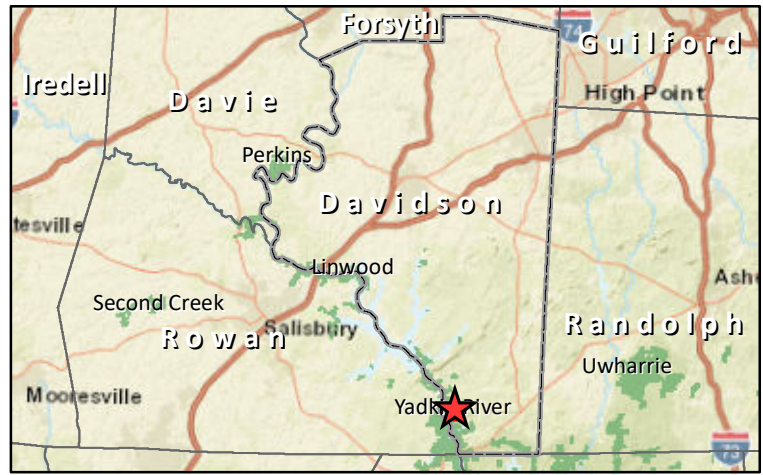
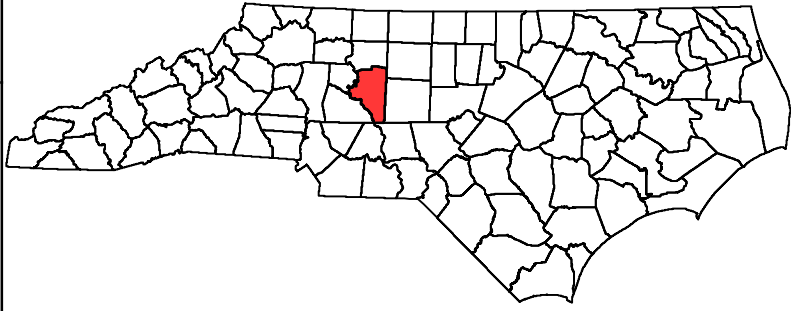




Randy Mabry Tract

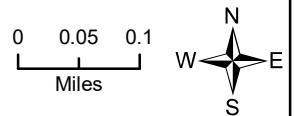
NCWRC Game Land

0 1 2  
Miles

**Randy Mabry Tract**  
**+/- 49.5 acres**  
**Davidson County**



 Randy Mabry Tract  
 NCWRC Game Land



# Exhibit D-6

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

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**Tract Name:**

Ripshin Ridge

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 12/6/2023

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):**

NC Land and Water Fund	\$562,628
Wildlife Restoration Funds	\$110,000
Total:	\$672,628

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Explain Details

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
State Property Office	Austin M. Smith, Jr.	April 18, 2024	\$1,200,000

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?**  Yes  No  N/A

**Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):**

75% Pittman Robertson: 25% State

**Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):**

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$22,720.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

# Exhibit D-6

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

#### Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

STEWARDSHIP					
Estimated Stewardship Expenditures					
Tract Name	Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Ripshin Ridge	Boundary Establishment	19,720	Ft.	\$1.00	\$19,720
	Establish Parking Area	1	1	\$3,000	\$3,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$22,720</b>
<i>Insert additional rows in table as needed</i>					

REVENUE					
Estimated Revenue Projections					
Tract Name	Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
					\$ -
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$ 0.00 -</b>
<i>Insert additional rows in table as needed</i>					

**EXHIBIT D-6**  
**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**  
**Land Acquisition Investigation Form**  
**– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –**

<b>WRC Staff Contact:</b>	Paul Thompson
<b>Date First Presented to Commission:</b>	12/06/2023
<b>Tract Name:</b>	Ripshin Ridge
<b>County:</b>	Caldwell
<b>Acreage:</b>	(+/-) 341
<b>Tax Value:</b>	\$625,500
<b>Property Owner/Representative:</b>	Tom Kenney-Foothills Conservancy
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

**Primary Purpose:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resource Protection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resource Management
<input type="checkbox"/>	User Access
<input type="checkbox"/>	WRC Facility

**Program Potential:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Game Land
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife Conservation Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	Access Area
<input type="checkbox"/>	None

**Type of Acquisition:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Purchase
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lease
<input type="checkbox"/>	Easement

**Type of Parcel:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tract
<input type="checkbox"/>	Riparian Corridor

**Grant Potential:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NC LWF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

**Owner Interest:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Tax Value:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Year Assessed
<input type="checkbox"/>	PUV?

**Stewardship Considerations:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Source:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Match:

**Funding Considerations:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Donation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bargain Sale
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partner Contribution

**Reviewed Appraisal & Purchase Requirements?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A

**Recommendation:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do Not Pursue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Defer

**Additional Comments:**  
 Foothills Conservancy was awarded \$562,628 from NC LWF (grant 2022-036) for acquisition of 341 acres in Caldwell County adjoining Buffalo Cove Game Land. WRC would provide \$110,000 towards total project cost.

EXHIBIT D-6

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form  
– PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name:	Ripshin Ridge
County:	Caldwell

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):**

Acquisition of Ripshin Ridge would solidify WRC ownership in that portion of Buffalo Cove Game Land and provide additional resource protection. Access to the tract is provided via Whisnant Rd (SR 1517). Though high-graded around the mid-1990's, forests onsite contain numerous large, very mature trees throughout, especially in Rich Cove, Alluvial, and Oak-Hickory Forests. Seven natural communities occur onsite, four of which are listed as by NCNHP as "rare"; these include Chestnut Oak Forest (Mesic Subtype), Low Elevation Seep (Montane Subtype), Low Mountain Pine Forest (Montane Pine Subtype), and Rich Cove Forest (Foothills Intermediate Subtype). The parcel contains very-high quality, intact, and mature interior forest conditions throughout, excellent first order headwater streams, and numerous seeps. Eight NCNHP Rare and Watch List species were observed onsite to include the following: A Wood Sedge, Small Spreading Pogonia, Sweet Fern, Ashy Hydrangea, Canada hemlock, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, and a live, visual observation of the state "imperiled" spotted skunk. Common species found on the tract include black bear, white-tailed deer, raccoon, wild turkey, and gray squirrel. Public recreational opportunities will include will include hunting, hiking, bird watching, photography, and general nature study.

Tract Name	Ripshin Ridge
Date	November 21, 2023
Staff Completing Form	Paul Thompson

<b>Species</b>	<b>0.370</b>
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	0
SGCN Species	0
Game Species	0
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	0

<b>Comments</b>
The Ripshin Mountain Property contains a mixture of good to fair quality montane and western foothills forest communities and plant species, most notably a small boulderfield forest and over 10 Low Elevation Seeps. Several small first order headwater streams exist, along with approximately .30 mile of second order Walnut Branch. No aquatic or wetland game species exist.

<b>Habitat</b>	<b>0.722</b>
Size	1
Quality	2
Diversity	2
Rare/Important	2
Connectivity	3
Buffer	3

<b>Comments</b>
The tract contains multiple 'rare' species and community types. It adjoins current Buffalo Cove GL and will provide additional buffer for resource protection and management.

<b>Public Access</b>	<b>0.222</b>
Hunting/Viewing	2
Fishing	0
Boating	0

<b>Comments</b>
Access for hunting/viewing is good but no fishing or boating opportunities exist.

<b>Wildlife Uses</b>	<b>0.333</b>
Hunting	2
Viewing	2
Fishing	0
Boating	0
Education	1

<b>Comments</b>
Hunting/viewing opportunities are good but no fishing or boating opportunities exist.

<b>Other Values</b>	<b>0.444</b>
Timber Harvest	2
Local Economy	1
Quality of Life	1

<b>Comments</b>
Evidence of past timber harvests occurring in the 1990's. There is opportunity to provide benefit to local economy or quality of life.

<b>Feasibility &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>0.667</b>
Existing Infrastructure	0
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	3
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	2
Proximity to Users	2

<b>Comments</b>
No infrastructure exists. Minimal issues with multiple use and adjoining landowners. The tract is located 8 miles from Lenoir.

<b>Restoration/Mitigation Potential</b>	<b>0.417</b>
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	2
Access Improvement	1
Threat Mitigation	0

<b>Comments</b>
The tract may have some habitat restoration potential and may offer some potential for access improvement.

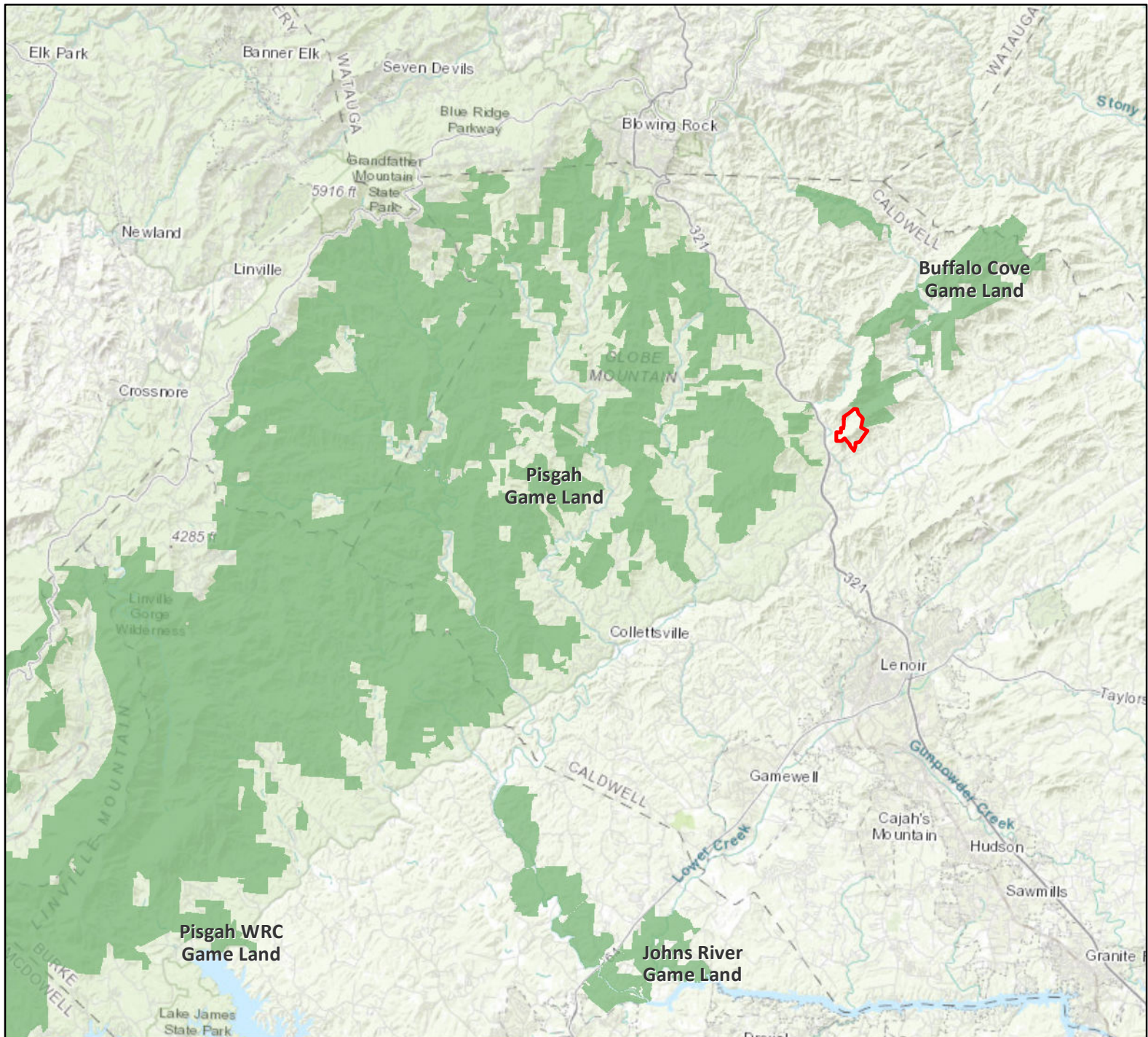
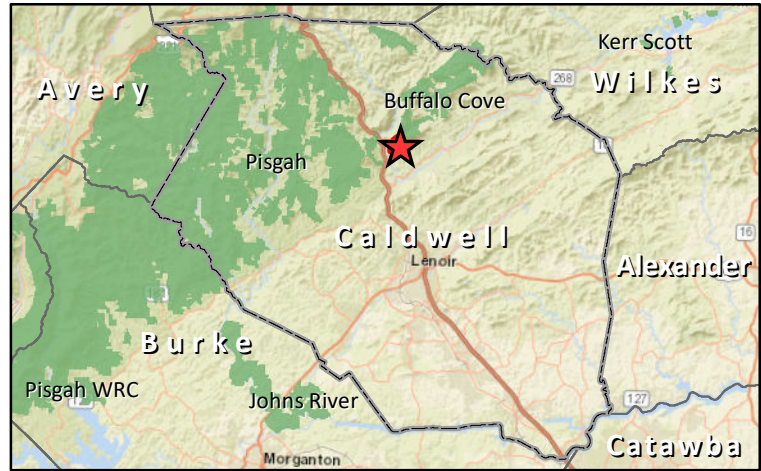
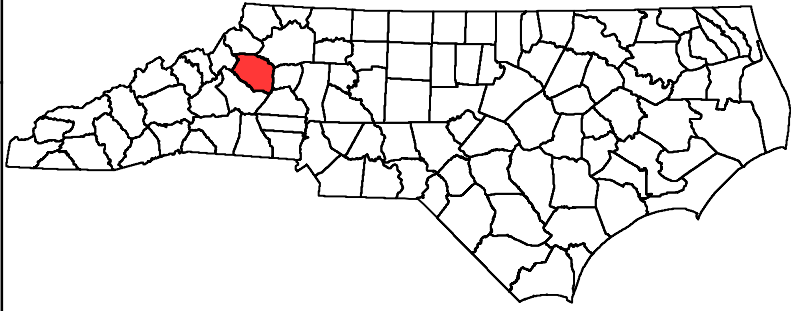
<b>Threats</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Number	0
Severity	0
Imminence	0
Manageability	0
Management Cost	0



<b>Comments</b>
No known threats.

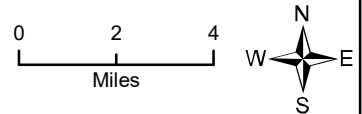
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.176</b>
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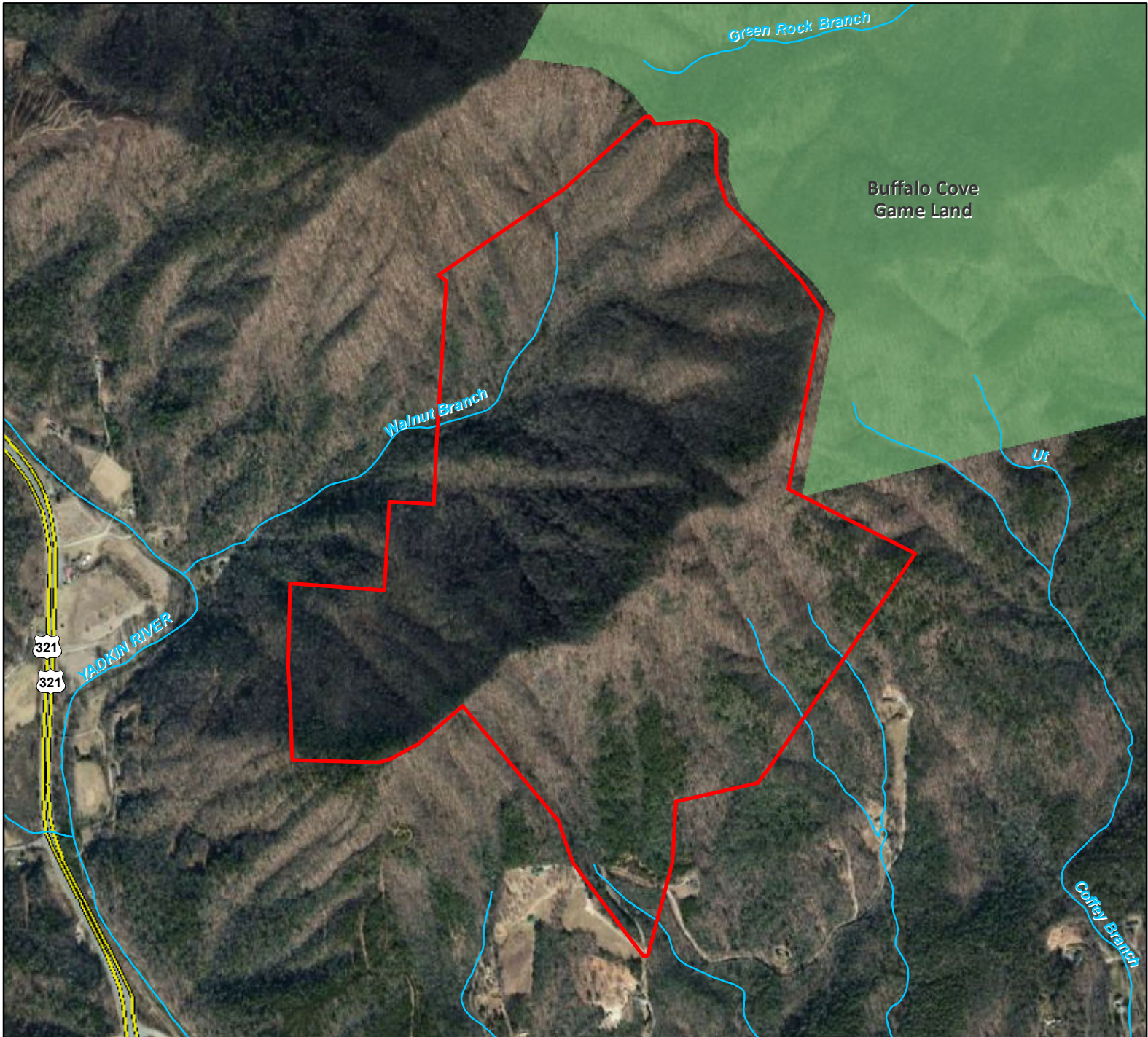
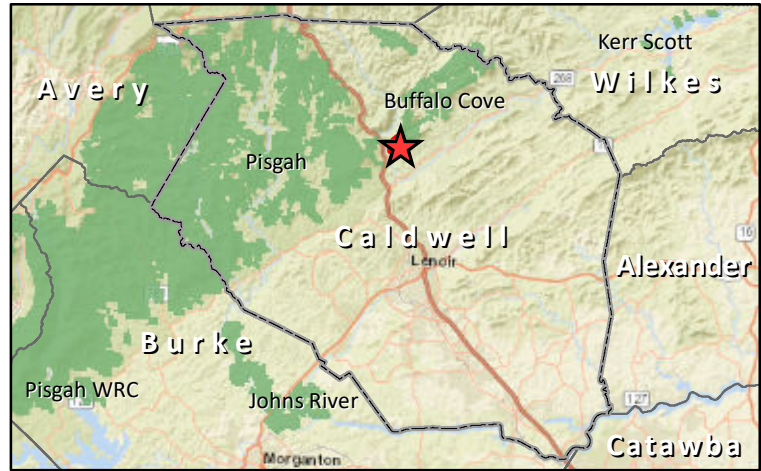
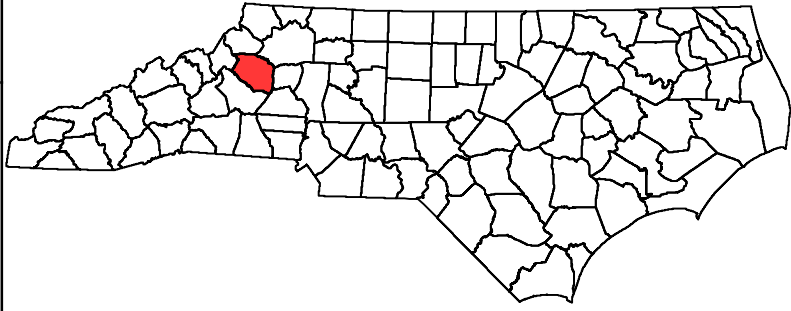
**Ripshin Ridge Tract  
+/- 341 acres  
Caldwell County**





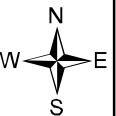
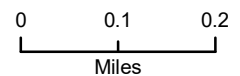
-  Ripshin Ridge Tract
-  NCWRC Game Land



**Ripshin Ridge Tract  
+/- 341 acres  
Caldwell County**



 Ripshin Ridge Tract  
 NCWRC Game Land



# Exhibit D-7

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

---

**Tract Name:**

White Oak-Ardaman Tract

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** 12/4/2024

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):**

Donation from Southern Appalachian Highland Conservancy

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Explain Details

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal?**  Yes  No  N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

Requested By	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?**  Yes  No  N/A

**Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):**

75% Wildlife Restoration Funds: 25% State

**Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):**

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$28,400.00
Total Projected Revenue	\$0.00

# Exhibit D-7

December 5, 2024

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

---

#### Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections:

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Expense Type	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Boundary Establishment	4.5	Mile		\$400	\$1800
Gates	2			\$800	\$1600
Access Road Maintenance	4	Mile	Gravel and Grade		\$20,000
Establish Parking Area	1				\$5000
<b>TOTAL</b>					\$28,400.00

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
				\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>				\$0

# NC Wildlife Resources Commission

## Land Acquisition and Property

### *Phase 1*



Tract Name: White Oak - Ardaman

**Type of Acquisition:**

Purchase

Tract Owner: ARDAMAN, A KURT

Deed Acreage: 460

**Purpose of Acquisition:**

Game Land, William H. Silver

County: Haywood

Tax Value: \$1,175,300

Asking Price: Not Available

**Funding Considerations:**

Donation

Date First Presented: 12/04/2024

**Resource Assessment:**

The Ardaman Tract is a mostly wooded tract composed of mixed hardwood with some pine. Elevation ranges from around 2800 feet up to 3909 feet. The tract shares over two miles of boundary with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and an additional half mile of boundary with USFS Pisgah Game Land. Creeks/streams found on the property include Whiteoak Creek, Liz Branch, Laurel Branch, and Snelson Branch. Portions of the property are within Audubon Society's "Great Smoky Mountains National Park Important Bird Area". The property is entirely within the "Great Smoky Mountains Priority Reptile and Amphibian Conservation Area". Acquisition of the property is crucial to preserving the integrity of the area.

**Public Access:**

The Ardaman Tract can be accessed from Roadman Drive, off White Oak Road. This is the NCWRC access as well as public access. There are more than four miles of improved access roads on the tract. More than two miles of the improved roads are being considered for open gate public access. This would give access through the majority of the tract as well as access to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and USFS Pisgah Game Land. Old logging roads will provide access for management.

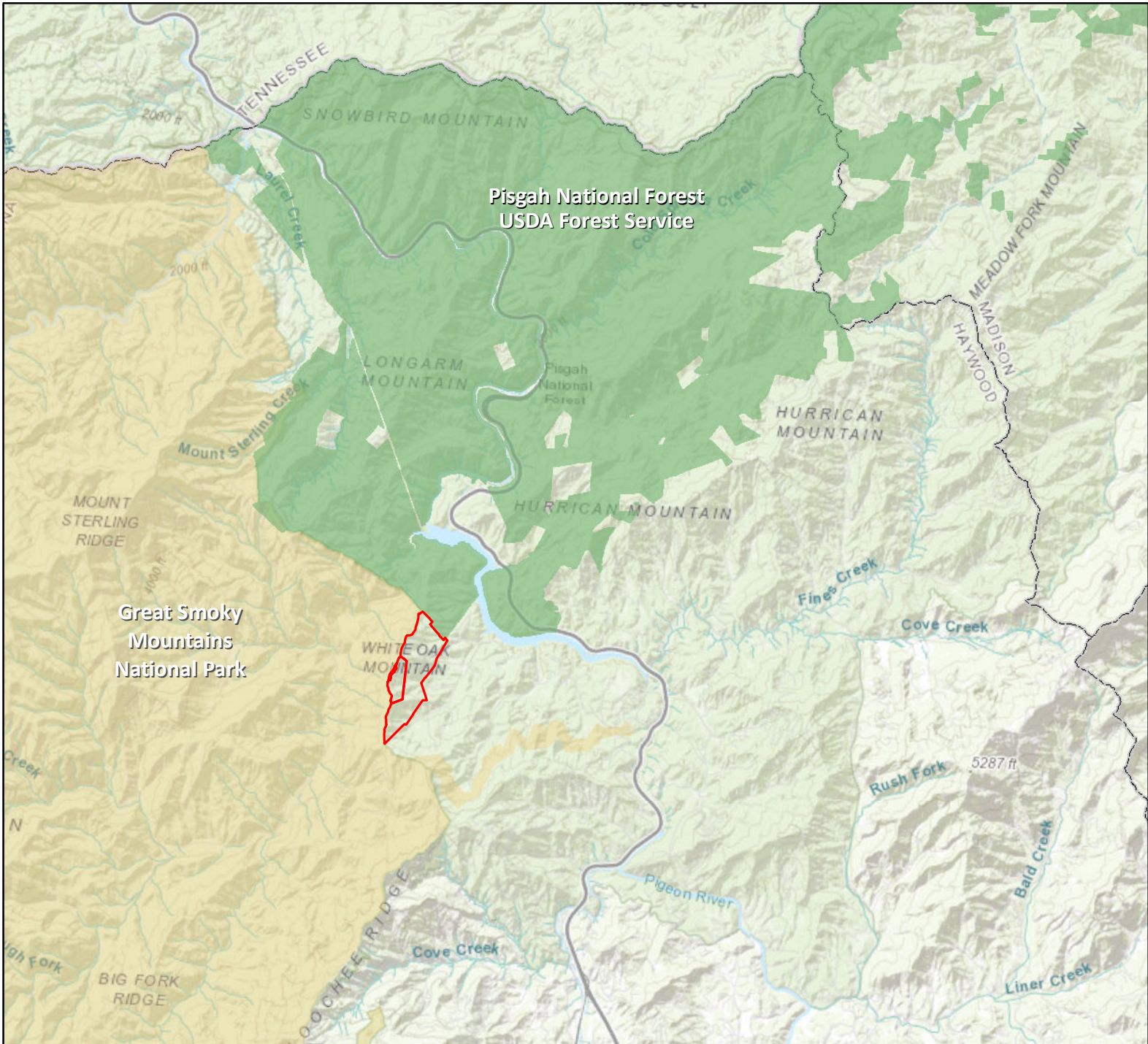
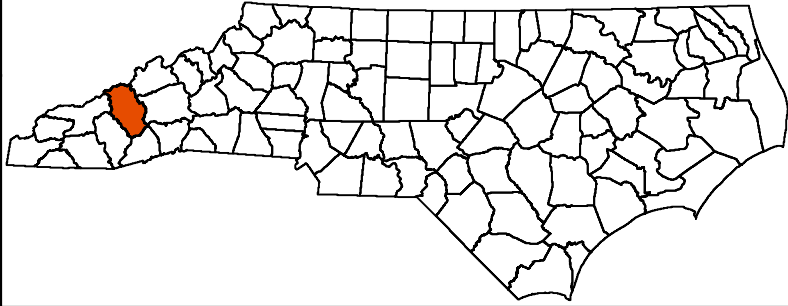
**Existing Infrastructure:**

Existing infrastructure is access roads and culverts. Roads are in need of grading and graveling.

**Additional Comments:**

Adequate elk habitat is the limiting factor of elk growth in North Carolina. Elk are currently using the Ardaman Tract, but acquisition of the tract would ensure that the existing habitats are conserved. Some habitats on the tract can be improved and limited habitats can be created. No habitat management is allowed on the national park but there are currently timber harvests/habitat improvement projects on the adjacent USFS lands. Any habitat improvements on the Ardaman Tract would complement habitat improvements on the USFS lands. The Ardaman Tract is bordered on the south side by a tract that has a conservation easement held by Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy.

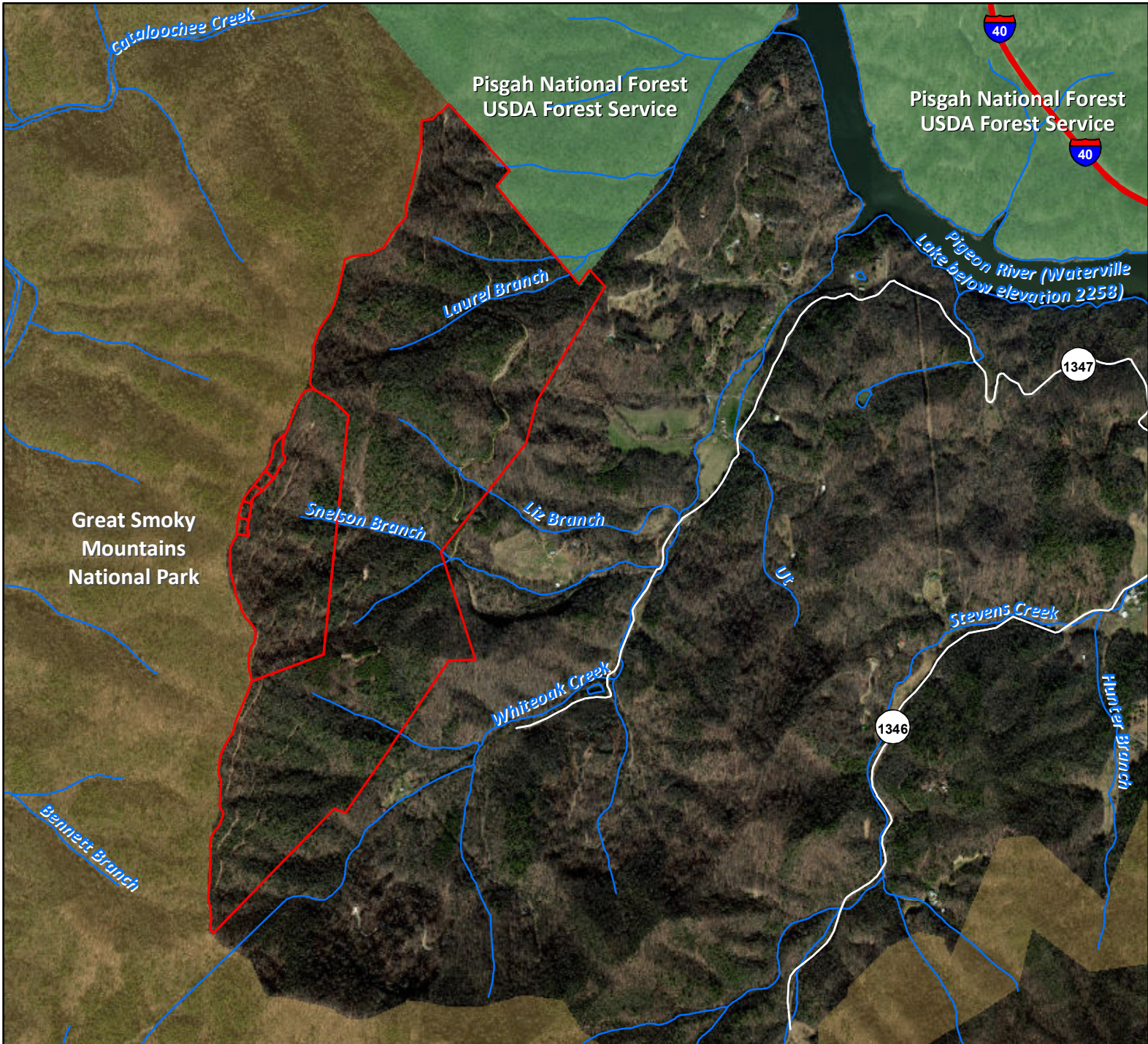
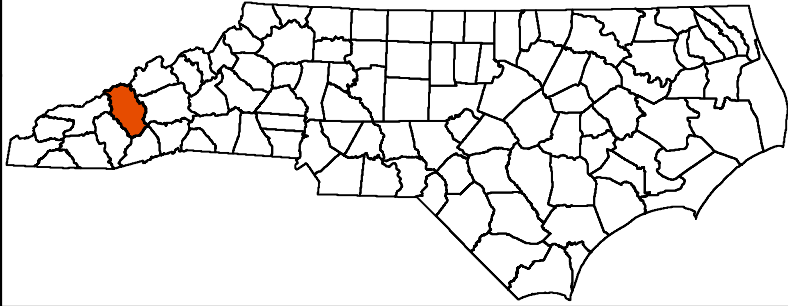
**Ardaman Tracts - Donation  
Haywood County  
+/- 460 Acres**



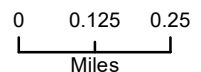
- Ardaman Tracts
- NCWRC Game Land



# Ardaman Tracts - Donation Haywood County +/- 460 Acres



- Ardaman Tracts
- NCWRC Game Land



# EXHIBIT E-1

December 5, 2024



☒ NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ☒

Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

December 5, 2024

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Daron Barnes, Division Chief  
Land and Water Access

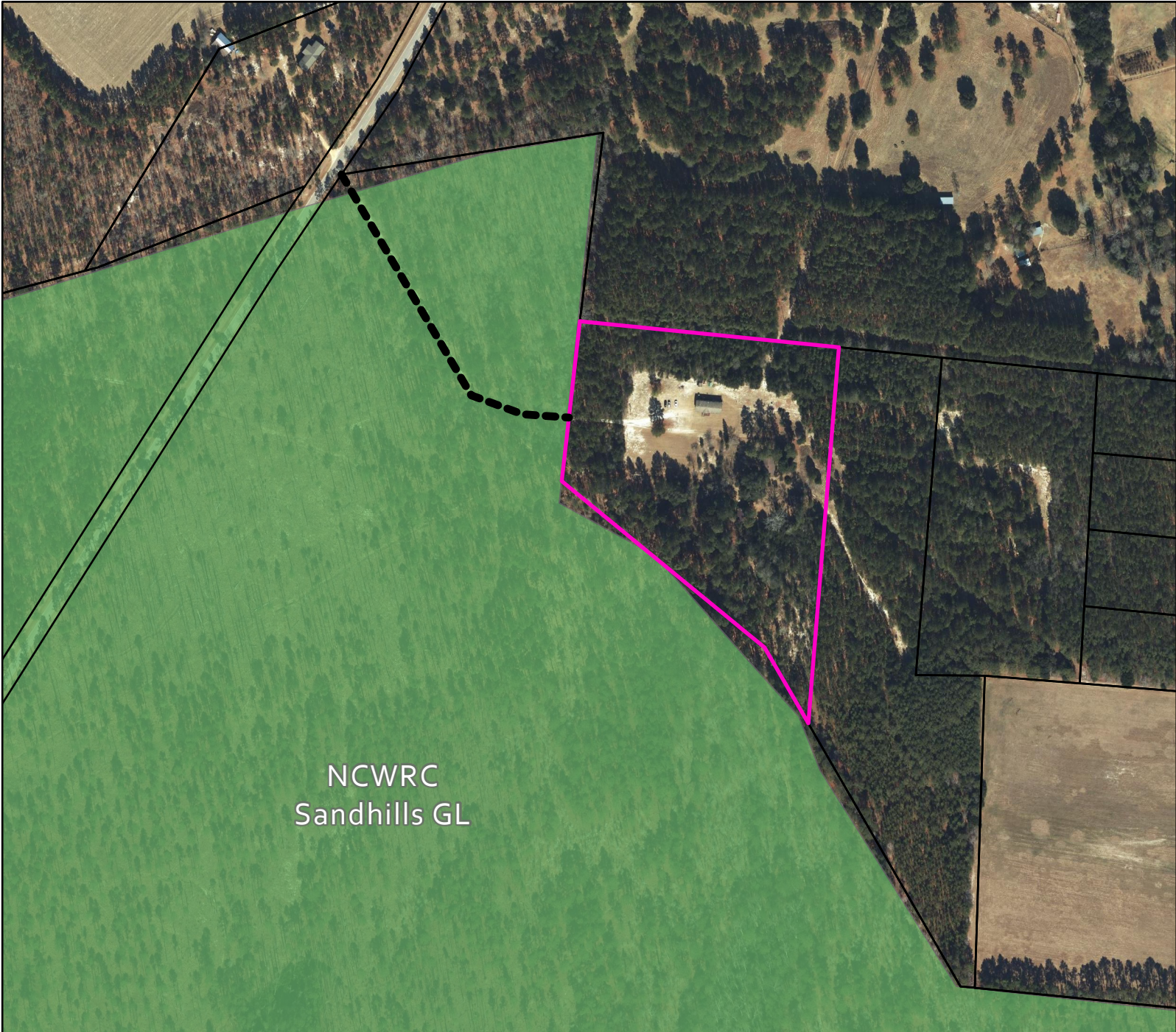
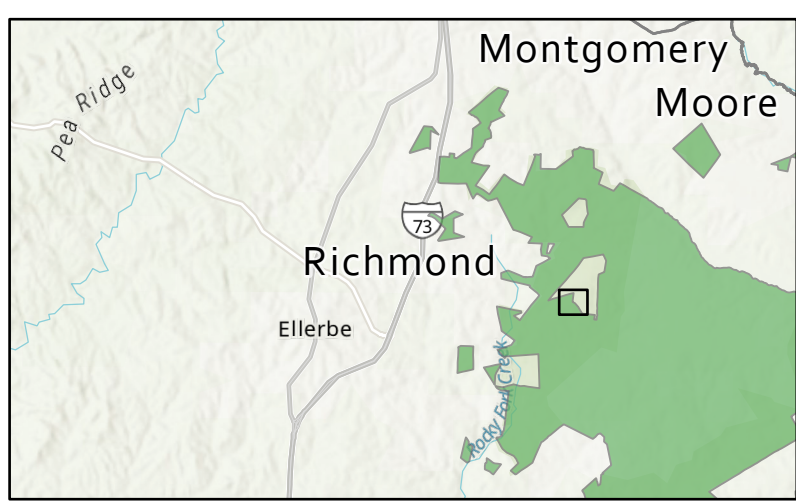
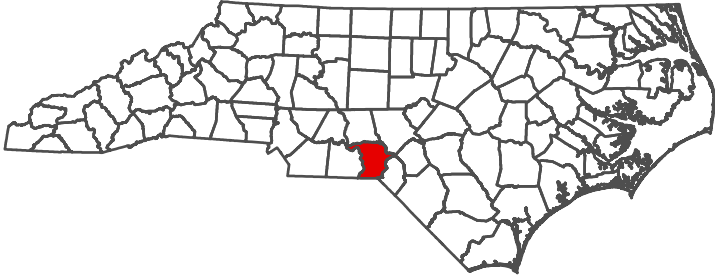
FROM: Ben Solomon, Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager  
Land and Water Access

SUBJECT: Sandhills Game Land - Easement Request

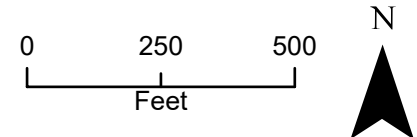
A private landowner seeks a Right of Way easement on Sandhills Game Land in Richmond County. The landowner requests an easement for ingress, regress and utilities. If approved, the value of this easement will be determined by the State Property Office.



# Easement Request Sandhills Game Land Richmond County



- Access Easement Request - 906 ft
- Hudson Parcel
- NCWRC Property
- Parcels



# EXHIBIT E-2

December 5, 2024



☒ NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ☒

Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

## MEMORANDUM

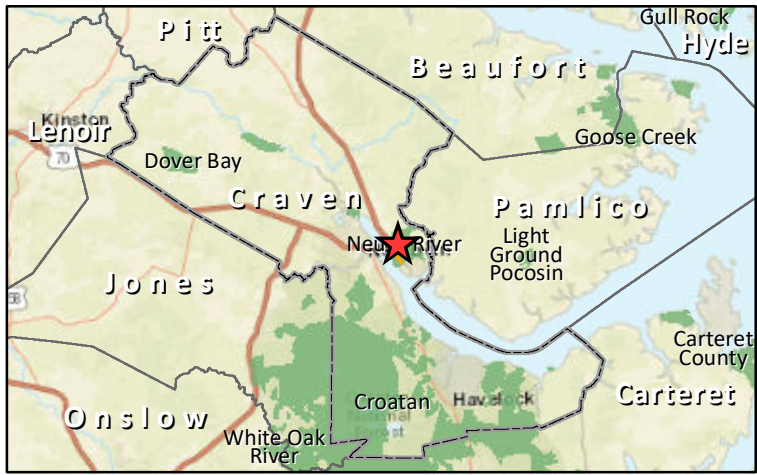
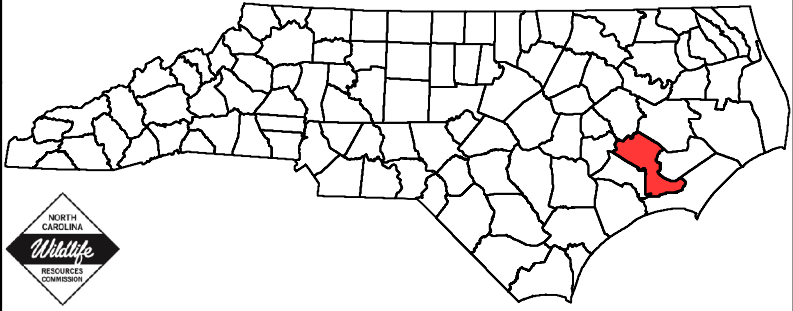
TO: Daron Barnes, Division Chief  
Land and Water Access

FROM: Ben Solomon, Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager

SUBJECT: Neuse River Game Land Easement Request – Craven County

Mr. Thomas McKnight has requested an ingress, egress, and utilities easement at Neuse River Game Land. The requested easement is 30 foot wide and would impact approximately 12.75 acres along suggested route. If approved, the value of this easement will be determined by the State Property Office.

# Neuse River Game Land-Easement Request Craven County 18,505 feet (3.5 miles)

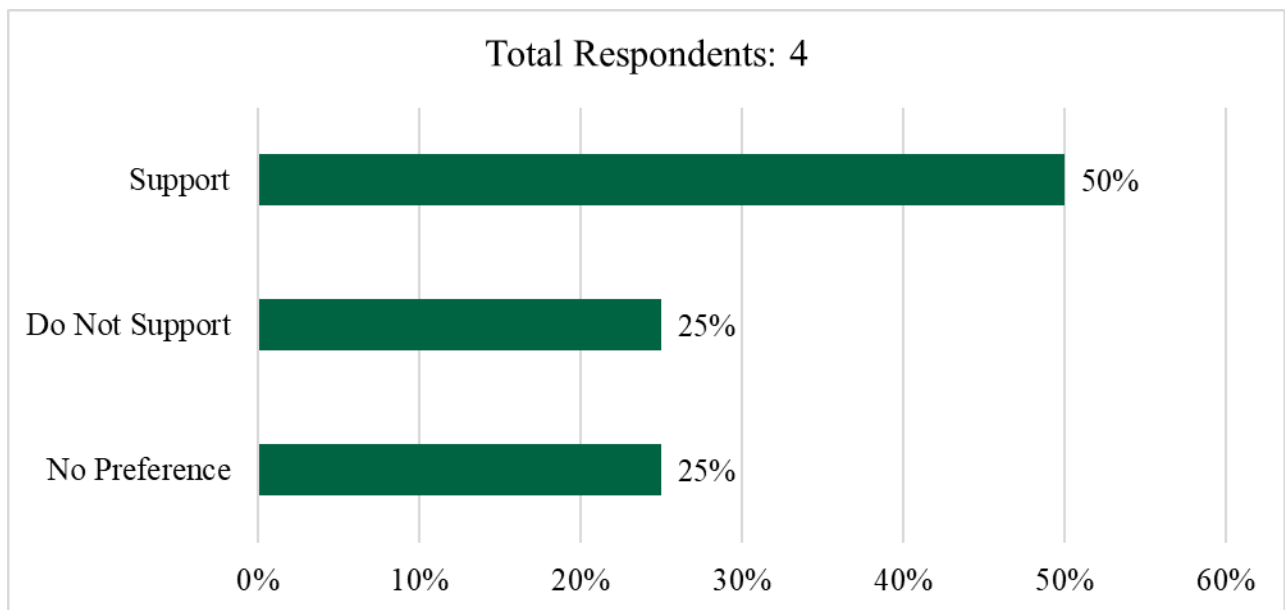


# EXHIBIT F-1

December 5, 2024



## Summary of Public Comments for 15A NCAC 10F .0305 Brunswick County



District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Do Not Support	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

One public hearing was held on October 23, 2024. There were no attendees.

# EXHIBIT F-2

December 5, 2024



## ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS -TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO 15A NCAC 10F .0305 BRUNSWICK COUNTY

The Notice of Text for adoption of amendments for technical corrections to 15A NCAC 10F .0305 Brunswick County, to correct coordinates at the Odell Williamson Bridge in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach and to remove from the NC Administrative Code the Dutchman Creek Boating Access Area in Southport, as it is listed in the Rule as Oak Island BAA, was published in the September 3, 2024 *NC Register* with open comment period and public hearing, per the Administrative Procedure Act.

Staff seeks your adoption of the proposed Rule amendment, subject to final review by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. The earliest effective date of the Rule will be February 1, 2025.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0305 BRUNSWICK COUNTY

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

- (1) Lockwood Folly River in the Town of Varnamtown, from a point at 33.94966 N, 78.22587 W, 500 yards northwest of the boat ramp located at the end of S.R. 1123 otherwise known as Fisherman Road, to a point at 33.94498 N, 78.22206 W, 180 yards southeast of the boat ramp, and including the portion of the river otherwise known as Mill Creek where it meets Lockwood Folly River directly across from the boat ramp, to a point 100 feet northeast at 33.94687 N, 78.22235 W;
- (2) Calabash River in the Town of Calabash, from a point in the water at the end of Marina Drive at 33.88638 N, 78.56254 W to a point 650 yards southwest at the southern end of the deep-sea fishing docks at 33.88344 N, 78.56751 W;
- (3) Morningstar Marinas Southport, shore to shore beginning at its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91685 N, 78.02865 W;
- (4) Shallotte River east of S.R. 1233, otherwise known as Village Point Road SW south of the Town of Shallotte, shore to shore from its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91477 N, 78.37103 W to point 500 feet north at 33.91613 N, 78.37126 W;
- (5) Montgomery Slough, otherwise known as Davis Creek, within 100 yards of the hotel and marina at the northern end of 57<sup>th</sup> Place West in the Town of Oak Island;

- (6) the waters in the natural and concrete canals located on the south side of the Intracoastal Waterway, east of N.C. Highway 904 in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach;
- (7) Town Creek east of S.R. 1609, otherwise known as Clearview Lane in Town Creek Township, shore to shore from a point at 34.16788 N, 78.07139 W, north and east around a bend in the creek to a point at 34.16910 N, 78.07030 W;
- (8) Montgomery Slough, otherwise known as Davis Creek, shore to shore from its entrance at the Intracoastal Waterway west of SW Yacht Drive at a point at 33.92145 N, 78.19408 W, to the canal end at NE 40<sup>th</sup> Street in the Town of Oak Island;
- (9) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Sunset Beach in the vicinity of the S.R. 1172 Sunset Beach Bridge and Sunset Beach Boating Access Area at 101 Sunset Boulevard, shore to shore from a point 150 yards east of the Sunset Beach Bridge at 33.88173 N, 78.50995 W, to a point 50 yards west of the bridge at 33.88111 N, 78.51194 W;
- (10) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach in the vicinity of the N.C. Highway 904 Odell Williamson Bridge and Ocean Isle Beach Boating Access Area at 67 Causeway Drive, shore to shore from a point 100 yards east of the N.C. Highway 904 Odell Williamson Bridge at 33.89578 N, 78.43870 W, to a point 100 yards west of the Bridge at ~~33.89567 N, 78.51194 W;~~ 33.89551 N, 78.44077 W;
- (11) Lockwood Folly River at Rourk's Landing Subdivision, beginning at a point south of the subdivision at 33.95338 N, 78.22553 W, north and west around two sharp bends in the channel and ending north at a point at 33.95539 N, 78.22900 W;
- (12) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Holden Beach, N.C. Highway 130 Holden Beach Bridge and Holden Beach Boating Access Area at 99 S. Shore Drive, shore to shore between a point 250 feet west and a point 100 feet east of the Holden Beach Bridge;
- (13) Intracoastal Waterway, within 50 yards of the Oak Island Boating Access Area at 4950 Fish Factory Road SE in Southport;
- (14) within 50 yards of the Sunset Harbor Boating Access Area adjacent to the Intracoastal Waterway at 356 Riverview Drive SE in Bolivia;
- (15) within 20 yards of the shoreline and 50 yards east and 50 yards west of the Brick Landing Boating Access Area on the Intracoastal Waterway at 1921 Brick Landing Road SW in Shallotte;
- (16) within 50 yards of Rices Creek Boating Access Area on Rice Creek at 797 Gordon Lewis Drive SE in Winnabow;
- (17) within 50 yards of the Pireway Boating Access Area on Waccamaw River at 9739 Pireway Road NW in ~~Ash;~~ and Ash.
- ~~(18) within 50 yards of the Dutchman Creek Boat Ramp on Dutchman Creek in Southport.~~

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

(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The following agencies shall place or place and maintain markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

- (1) the Board of Aldermen of Varnamtown for placement in the area indicated in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule;
- (2) the Board of Commissioners of Brunswick County for placement in areas indicated in Subparagraphs (a)(2) through (8) and (a)(11) of this Rule; and
- (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the placement and maintenance of areas indicated in Subparagraphs (a)(9), (a)(10), and (a)(12) ~~through (18)~~ through (17) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15.*

*Eff. February 1, 1976;*

*Amended Eff. April 1, 1997; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; January 1, 1989; January 1, 1987;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. March 1, 1998;*

*Amended Eff. April 1, 2009; April 1, 1999;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*

*Amended Eff. May 1, 2021; July 1, 2018;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 2022;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. August 15, 2023;*

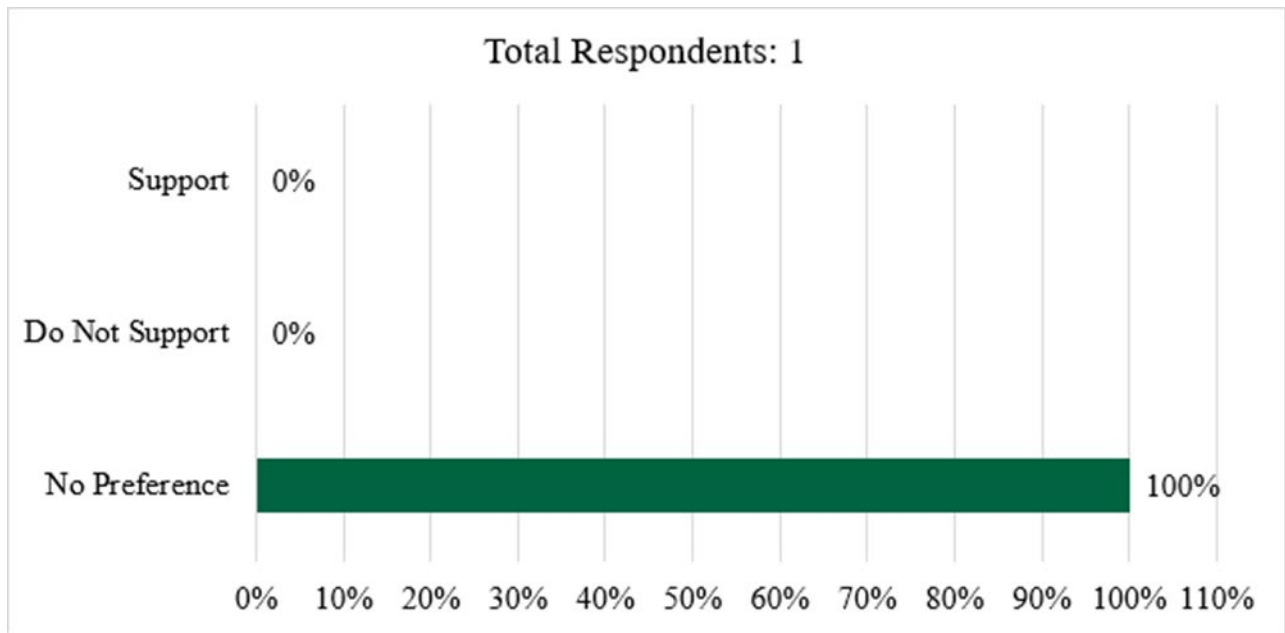
*Amended Eff. February 1, 2024.*

# EXHIBIT G-1

December 5, 2024



## Summary of Public Comments for 15A NCAC 10F .0330 Carteret County



District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Do Not Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

One public hearing was held on October 23, 2024. There were no attendees.



# EXHIBIT G-2

December 5, 2024



## ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO 15A NCAC 10F .0330 CARTERET COUNTY

The Notice of Text for adoption of amendments to 15A NCAC 10F .0330 Carteret County, for text changes to clarify addresses and to incorporate into the NC Administrative Code the names and addresses of ten Boating Access Areas maintained by the WRC in Carteret County, was published in the September 3, 2024 *NC Register* with open comment period and public hearing, per the Administrative Procedure Act.

Staff seeks your adoption of the proposed Rule amendment, subject to final review by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. The earliest effective date of the Rule will be February 1, 2025.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0330 CARTERET COUNTY

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule ~~shall apply~~ applies to the following waters in Carteret County:

- (1) the waters of Money Island Slough in Atlantic Beach, beginning at the east end of Money Island near the Anchorage Marina Basin at a point at 34.70187 N, 76.72938 W and ending at the west end of Money Island where Brooks Avenue dead ends at a point at 34.70235 N, 76.73271 W;
- (2) the waters of Taylor Creek in Beaufort, shore to shore from its intersection with the Newport River at the western end, to a line at the eastern end between a point on the north shore at 34.70762 N, 76.61784 W, south-southwest to the eastern tip of Carrot Island;
- (3) the waters of Peletier Creek in Morehead City, beginning at the entrance to Peletier Creek at the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 34.72543 N, 76.78044 W and ending at U.S. Highway 70;
- (4) the waters of Bogue Sound Harbor Channel in Morehead City, between Sugarloaf Island and the seawall on the south side of Evans, Shepard, and Shackelford Streets, from the east at the State Ports Authority, west to a point at 34.71848 N, 76.72015 W at the southern end of South 13<sup>th</sup> Street;
- (5) the waters of Gallants Channel in Beaufort, from the U.S. 70 Grayden Paul Bridge at a point at 34.72248 N, 76.66936 W, south to Taylor Creek at a point at 34.71775 N, 76.66950 W;
- (6) the waters of Cedar Island Bay and Harbor in the Town of Cedar Island, from N.C. Highway 12 to Cedar Island Bay Channel Light 8;
- (7) the waters of the small cove on the west side of Radio Island in Beaufort south of Old Causeway Road;

- (8) the waters of the Newport River in Beaufort, from a point north of the U.S. 70 Grayden Paul Bridge at 34.72265 N, 76.66930 W, north northwest to marker # 6;
- (9) the waters of Spooner Creek in Morehead City, north of a point where it enters the Intracoastal Waterway at 34.72570 N, 76.80294 W;
- (10) the waters of the Newport River at Bogue Sound in Morehead City, including all waters surrounding the Port of Morehead City to Goat Island as delineated by appropriate markers;
- (11) the waters of Newport River, known as Morgan Creek in Beaufort, west northwest of a point at the mouth at 34.71611 N, 76.67814 W;
- (12) the waters of Cannonsgate Marina and the Cannonsgate Marina Channel in Newport, beginning at its intersection with Bogue Sound at 34.70163 N, 76.98157 W, as delineated by appropriate markers;
- (13) the waters of ~~the~~ Newport River within 200 yards of the Newport River Beach Access Boat Ramp, 301 U.S. Highway 70 East, Morehead City, beginning at the shore north of the U.S. Highway 70 Newport River Bridge at a point at 34.72141 N, 76.68707 W, west to a point at 34.72128 N, 76.68893 W, north to a point at 34.72376 N, 76.68911 N, then east to the shore at 34.72371 N, 76.68631 W;
- (14) the waters of Palmetto Drive ~~canal, a tributary to Canal on~~ the White Oak River in the Town of Cedar Point, beginning at a point on the western shore at 34.67903 N, 77.10142 W to a point on the eastern shore at 34.67899 N, 77.10098 W and extending the entire length of the canal; ~~and~~
- (15) the portion of the canal at Dolphin Bay ~~Estates, a tributary to Estates on~~ the White Oak River in the Town of Cedar Point, beginning 30 yards inside the entrance to the canal and extending the entire length of the ~~canal.~~ canal;
- (16) the waters within approximately 50 yards of the Gordon S. Myers Boating Access Area at Cedar Point Boating Access Area, but not extending into the Intracoastal Waterway channel setback, at 144 Cedar Point Boulevard, Cedar Point;
- (17) the waters of the navigation channel from a point in Bogue Sound at 34.67392 N, 77.00725 W to the Emerald Isle Boating Access Area, a distance of 345 yards, at 6800 Emerald Drive, Emerald Isle;
- (18) the waters within 50 yards of the Newport Boating Access Area on Newport River, at 333 E. Chatham Street, Newport;
- (19) the waters within 50 yards of the Morehead City Boating Access Area on the Intracoastal Waterway, 3407 Arendall Street, Morehead City;
- (20) the waters within 50 yards of the West Beaufort Boating Access Area on Newport River, 298 West Beaufort Road, Beaufort;
- (21) the waters within 50 yards of the Taylors Creek Boating Access Area on Taylors Creek, 2370 Lennoxville Road, Beaufort;
- (22) the waters within 50 yards of the Straits Landing Boating Access Area on North River, 1648 Harkers Island Road, Straits;

- (23) the waters within 50 yards of the Oyster Creek Boating Access Area on Oyster Creek, 1300 U.S. Highway 70, Davis;
- (24) the waters within 50 yards of the Salters Creek Boating Access Area on Salters Creek, 200 Wildlife Ramp Road, Sealevel; and
- (25) the waters within 50 yards of the Cedar Island Boating Access Area on Pamlico Sound, 115 Driftwood Drive, Cedar Island.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The following agencies shall ~~be the designated agencies for placement of~~ place the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of Carteret County, for the regulated areas designated in ~~Subparagraphs~~ Parts (a)(1), (3), (5) through (8), (11), and (12) of this Rule;
- (2) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Beaufort, for the regulated area designated in ~~Subparagraph~~ Part (a)(2) of this Rule;
- (3) the Board of Commissioners of Morehead City, for the regulated areas designated in ~~Subparagraphs~~ Parts (a)(4), (9), and (13) of this Rule;
- (4) the North Carolina State Ports Authority, for the regulated area designated in ~~Subparagraph~~ Part (a)(10) of this Rule; ~~and~~
- (5) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Cedar Point for the regulated areas designated in ~~Subparagraphs~~ Parts (a)(14) and (15) of this ~~Rule.~~ Rule; and
- (6) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall place and maintain markers for the areas designated in Parts (a)(16) through (25) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*

*Eff. March 4, 1979;*

*Amended Eff. October 1, 1997; May 1, 1995; June 1, 1994; February 1, 1994; July 1, 1993;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. February 1, 1998;*

*Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. March 1, 1999; November 1, 1998;*

*Amended Eff. May 1, 2016; July 1, 2012; September 1, 2010; July 1, 2000;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2016;*

*Amended Eff. April 1, 2017;*

*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018.*

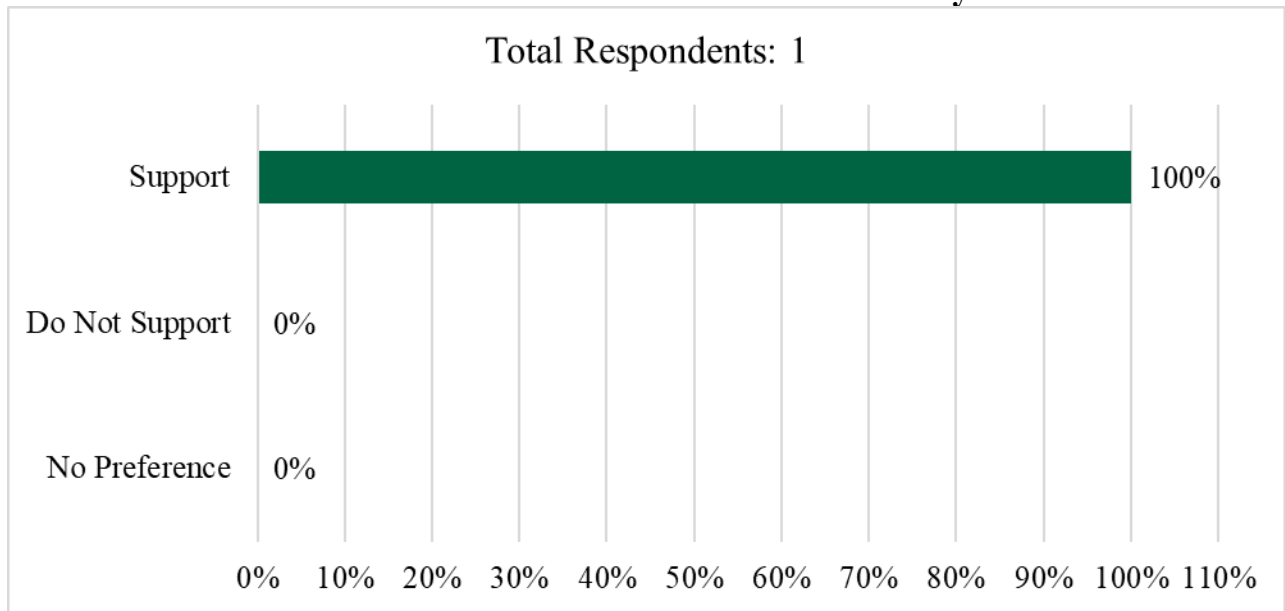
*Amended Eff. February 1, 2025.*

# EXHIBIT H-1

December 5, 2024



## Summary of Public Comments for 15A NCAC 10F .0332 Alexander County



District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Do Not Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

One public hearing was held on October 23, 2024. There were no attendees.

# EXHIBIT H-2

December 5, 2024



## ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO 15A NCAC 10F .0332 ALEXANDER COUNTY

The Notice of Text for adoption of amendments to 15A NCAC 10F .0332 Alexander County, to extend the no-wake zone on Lake Hickory in Taylorsville east of the Rink Dam; to create a Restricted Area where vessel entry is prohibited at the Wittenburg Access Area on Lake Hickory in Bethlehem; to incorporate into the NCAC the Dusty Ridge BAA and the Wittenburg BAA; to correct names of some facilities; and to assign responsibility for placement of markers to Alexander County in some areas, and placement and maintenance of markers at some areas to the Wildlife Resources Commission and to Duke Energy LLC, was published in the September 3, 2024 *NC Register* with open comment period and public hearing, per the Administrative Procedure Act.

Staff seeks your adoption of the proposed Rule amendment, subject to final review by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. The earliest effective date of the Rule will be February 1, 2025.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0332 ALEXANDER COUNTY

~~(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Lake Hickory within Alexander County:~~

- ~~(1) — the waters shore to shore at a line 150 yards southeast of SR 1137 bridge otherwise known as the Rink Dam Road bridge in Taylorsville, from a point on the south shore at 35.82843 N, 81.26389 W to a point on the north shore at 35.82919 N, 81.26272 W, northwest to a point at the Rink Dam at 35.83035 N, 81.26669 W;~~
- ~~(2) — the waters within 50 yards of the Taylorsville Beach Marina and docks, located at 420 Taylorsville Beach Court in Taylorsville;~~
- ~~(3) — the waters within 50 yards of Rivers Edge Marina and docks, located at 5803 Icard Ridge Road in Hickory; and~~
- ~~(4) — the waters within 50 yards of the Lakeside Marina and docks located at 81 Marina Drive in Hickory.~~

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

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

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule applies to the waters of Lake Hickory.

- (1) Taylorsville:
  - (A) the waters shore to shore from the Rink Dam at 35.83035 N, 81.26670 W, east-southeast to a point that is 195 yards southeast of the S.R. 1137 bridge known as the Rink Dam Road bridge, and 50 yards southeast of the Sandbar Marina and Grill docks;
  - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Lake Hickory Scuba and Marina and docks, located at 420 Taylorsville Beach Court; and
  - (C) the waters within 50 yards of the Dusty Ridge Boating Access Area, 508 Dusty Ridge Access Road.
- (2) Hickory:
  - (A) the waters within 50 yards of Rivers Edge Marina and docks, located at 5803 Icard Ridge Road; and
  - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Lakeside Marina and docks, located at 81 Marina Drive.
- (3) Bethlehem. The waters within 50 yards of the Wittenburg Boating Access Area, located at 175 Wildlife Access Road.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas described in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (a)(2)(A) and (B), and Subparagraph (a)(3) of this Rule.

(c) Wittenburg Access Area Restricted Area, Bethlehem. Vessel entry is prohibited in the waters of the cove south of the Wittenburg Access Area where the marked swim beach is located, west of a line from a point at 35.80480 N, 81.31101 W to a point at 35.80437 N, 81.31100 W.

d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Alexander County shall place markers implementing the regulated areas designated in Part (a)(1)(A) and (B), and Part (a)(2)(A) and (B) of this Rule.

(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The following agencies shall place and maintain markers implementing the regulated areas designated in this Rule:

- (1) The Wildlife Resources Commission for the regulated areas designated in Subparagraph (a)(1)(C) and (a)(3); and
- (2) Duke Energy, LLC for the regulated area designated in Paragraph (c) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. March 25, 1979;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1995; February 1, 1987;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. April 1, 2000;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2010; July 1, 2000;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2025; October 1, 2018.*

15A NCAC 10F .0332 - Requested No-Wake Zone Extension by Alexander County  
Lake Hickory, Alexander County



15A NCAC 10F .0332 - Requested No-Wake Zone by Duke Energy  
Lake Hickory, Alexander County



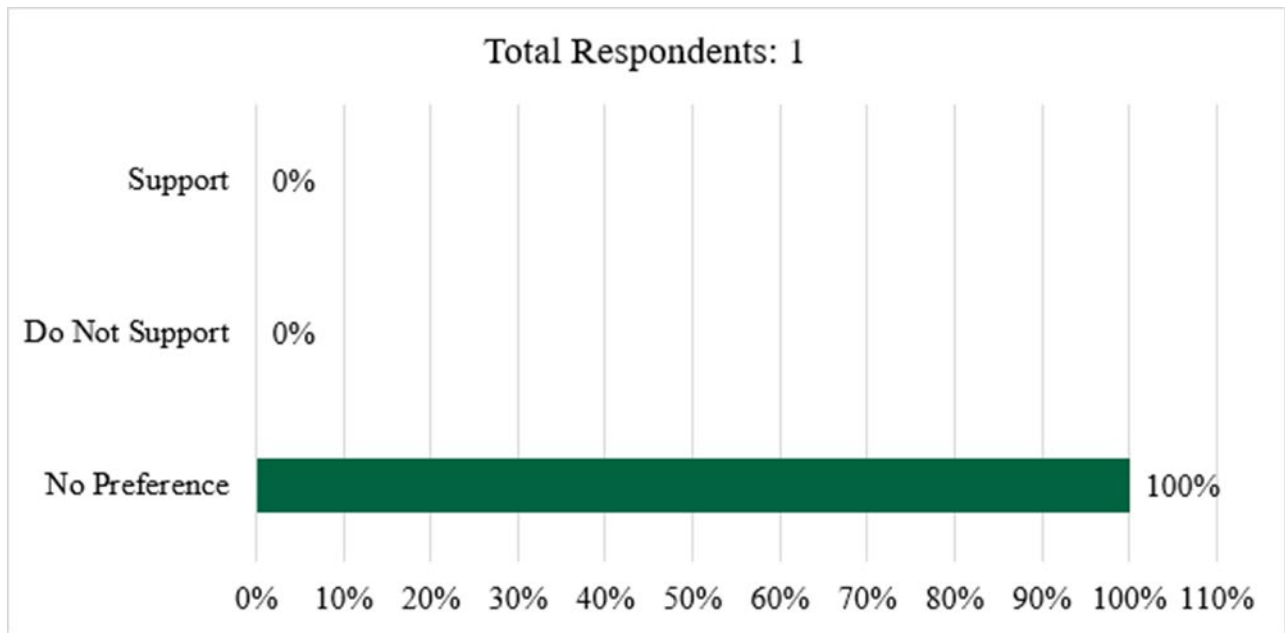


# EXHIBIT I-1

## December 5, 2024



### Summary of Public Comments for 15A NCAC 10F .0333 Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties



District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Do Not Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

One public hearing was held on October 23, 2024. There were no attendees.

# EXHIBIT I-2

December 5, 2024



## ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO 15A NCAC 10F .0333 MECKLENBURG AND GASTON COUNTIES LAKE WYLIE

The Notice of Text for adoption of amendments to 15A NCAC 10F .0333 Mecklenburg and Gaston counties on Lake Wylie, for a no-wake zone within 50 yards of the docks at Joyner's Marina and the cove southeast of the docks; to define the no-wake zone around the Buster Boyd Bridge with coordinates in North Carolina waters; and remove responsibility from the Lake Wylie Marine Commission at some areas and facilities that are not the responsibility of the Lake Wylie Marine Commission unless specifically stated in the Rule, was published in the September 3, 2024 *NC Register* with open comment period and public hearing, per the Administrative Procedure Act.

Staff seeks your adoption of the proposed Rule amendment, subject to final review by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. The earliest effective date of the Rule will be February 1, 2025.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0333 MECKLENBURG AND GASTON COUNTIES

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule ~~shall apply~~ applies to the following waters of Lake Wylie in Mecklenburg and Gaston counties:

- (1) McDowell Park. The waters of the coves adjoining McDowell Park and the Southwest Nature Preserve in Mecklenburg County shore to shore, east of the mouth of the cove at a line from a point on the south shore at 35.10272 N, 81.03026 W to a point on the north shore at 35.10556 N, 80.02964 W;
- (2) Gaston County Wildlife Club Cove. The waters of the cove west of the Gaston County Wildlife Club on South Point Road in Belmont, north of a line at the mouth of the cove from a point on the east shore at 35.15628 N, 81.01427 W to a point on the west shore at 35.15628 N, 81.01615 W;
- (3) Buster Boyd Bridge. The waters from a point 250 feet east of the Buster Boyd Bridge on N.C. Highway 49 in Mecklenburg County at ~~35.10293 N, 81.03932 W~~, 35.10187 N, 81.03913 W to a point 150 feet west of the Buster Boyd Bridge at ~~35.10242 N, 81.04089 W~~; 35.10165 N, 81.04070 W;
- (4) N.C. Highway 27 Bridge. The waters shore to shore, from a point 50 yards north of the N.C. Highway 27 bridge in Mecklenburg and Gaston counties at 35.29849 N, 81.00346 W to a point 190 yards south of the N.C. Highway 27 bridge at 35.29635 N, 81.00424 W;

- (5) Brown's Cove. The area beginning at the mouth of Brown's Cove in Mecklenburg County shore to shore, at a point at 35.16453 N, 81.00474 W, west to a point at 35.16480 N, 81.00309 W;
- (6) Paradise Point Cove. The waters of Paradise Point Cove in Gaston County between Paradise Circle and Lake Front Drive, west of a line from a point on the south shore at 35.18853 N, 81.04036 W to a point on the north shore at 35.18991 N, 81.04136 W;
- (7) Withers Cove. The waters of Withers Cove in Mecklenburg County, shore to shore, beginning at a line north of the Mecklenburg Charlotte Fire Department and Police Department Boathouse from a point on the west shore at 35.14632 N, 81.00383 W to a point on the east shore at 35.14713 N, 81.00173 W, and ending at a point 50 feet southeast of the Withers Bridge on S.R. 1116, otherwise known as Shopton Road, at 35.14576 N, 81.00187 W;
- (8) Sadler Island. The waters shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on the west shore of Lake Wylie in Gaston County at 35.27481 N, 81.0138 W east to a point on the east shore of the Lake in Mecklenburg County at 35.27423 N, 81.01111 W, extending south on the Lake west of Sadler Island to a line from a point on the west shore of the Lake in Gaston County at 35.27079 N, 81.01525 W, east to a point on the west side of Sadler Island in Mecklenburg County at 35.27051 N, 81.01396 W, and the waters shore to shore east of Sadler Island in Mecklenburg County from a point at 35.27441 N, 81.01185 W, south-southwest to a line from a point on the south shore of Sadler Island at 35.26635 N, 81.01432 W, south to a point on the Lake shore at 35.26494 N, 81.01368 W;
- (9) Other Bridges. The waters within 50 feet of a bridge in North Carolina that crosses the waters of Lake Wylie that is not otherwise specifically mentioned in this Paragraph;
- (10) Yachtsman on Lake Wylie Community. The waters within 50 yards of the community piers near the terminus of Waterside Drive in Mecklenburg County, and northward to include the waters east of the island that is west of Point Lookout Road, ending at a line from a point on the northern end of the island at 35.12226 N, 81.03306 W, east to a point on the shore at 35.12253 N, 81.03190 W;
- (11) Brown's Cove. The waters of Brown's Cove in Mecklenburg County, beginning at a line from a point on the east shore at 35.16892 N, 80.99702 W to a point on the west shore at 35.16948 N, 80.99783 W, northeast to a line from a point on the south shore at 35.16913 N, 80.99556 W to a point on the north shore at 35.17043 N, 80.99684 W;
- (12) South Point Boating Access Area. The waters within 50 yards of the South Point Boating Access Area in Gaston County, 199 Boat Launch Road in Belmont; and
- (13) ~~Other Facilities. The waters within 50 yards of a public boat launching ramp not otherwise specified in this Paragraph, public dock, public pier, public marina, public boat storage structure, or public boat service area; and~~
- (14) ~~Marked Swimming and Mooring Areas. The waters within 50 yards of a marked swimming area or marked mooring area.~~
- (13) the waters within 50 yards of the docks at Joyner's Marina, 16310 York Road in Charlotte, and including the cove southeast of the docks to a point on the shore at 35.10084 N, 81.03610 W.

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

(c) Restricted Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall allow it to enter the waters of the restricted area with swim beach at the South Point Access Area in Gaston County, at 199 Boat Launch Road in Belmont, north of the rope in the cove east of the South Point Boating Access Area.

(d) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The following agencies are the designated agencies for placement and maintenance of markers implementing this Rule:

- (1) the Lake Wylie Marine Commission for the regulated areas designated in Subparagraphs (a)(1) through (11), ~~(13) and (14)~~; and (13);
- (2) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the regulated area designated in Subparagraph (a)(12); and
- (3) Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for the restricted area designated in Paragraph (c).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*

*Eff. July 1, 1980;*

*Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; June 1, 1985; June 1, 1984; March 1, 1983;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. January 1, 1998;*

*Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. February 4, 2000;*

*Amended Eff. April 1, 2009; June 1, 2004; July 1, 2000;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 2015;*

*Amended Eff. October 1, 2015;*

*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018;*

*Amended Eff. February 1, 2025; January 1, 2024; June 1, 2023; June 1, 2022; May 1, 2019.*

15A NCAC 10F .0333 - Requested No-Wake Zone  
Joyner's Marina, Lake Wylie, Mecklenburg County



# EXHIBIT J

December 5, 2024



## 15A NCAC 10F .0347 CRAVEN COUNTY APPLICATION FOR RULEMAKING FOR NO-WAKE ZONE AT BRICE CREEK

The Wildlife Resources Commission received an application and Resolution from Craven County, for rulemaking to establish a no-wake zone in Brice Creek, from north of Brice's Creek Bridge south-southwestward around Merchant's Grocery, docking facilities and fuel dock, and a public boat ramp, and ending at a line southeast of the peninsula and sharp curves on the east side of Brice Creek.

The County states that if the Rule is adopted, private citizens will bear the cost for purchase and placement of regulatory markers at no expense to the County. No Fiscal Note is required. Craven County is a coastal county subject to the Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) permitting requirements. The WRC's blanket CAMA permit authorizes the local government to place or replace Aids to Navigation (ATONS) at no additional cost.

Agency Enforcement has investigated the area and returned the Assessment Matrix (**Attachment A**). Enforcement found known hazards that justify creation of a no-wake zone. At the Brices Creek bridge, the channel between the bridge piers is about 50 feet wide. A power line just south of the bridge hangs two feet above the bottom of the bridge. There is a fuel dock and public boat ramp and dock near Merchant's Grocery. There are two 90-degree bends in the creek with diminished sight lines around the peninsula that juts from the eastern shore of the creek. There has been one non-motorized boating incident at the bridge.

Staff requests Commission approval to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and public hearing, for rulemaking for a no-wake zone in Brice Creek. Upon the close of the open comment period, the WRC will consider adoption of the amendment for Craven County.

**15A NCAC 10F .0347 CRAVEN COUNTY**

~~(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply applies to the following waters in Craven County:~~

- ~~(1) — the portion of Northwest Creek from the entrance buoys at Northwest Creek Marina north of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.06357 N, 76.96934 W to a point on the west shore at 35.06343 N, 76.97106 W, to south of a line from a point on the east shore of Northwest Creek at 35.06903 N, 76.97030 W to a point on the west shore at 35.06779 N, 76.97225 W, northeast to include all waters, shore to shore, of the bulkheaded area of Fairfield Harbour otherwise known as Spring Creek;~~
- ~~(2) — Olde Towne Lake, shore to shore from its intersection with the Trent River west of a point at 35.08098 N, 77.05833 W;~~
- ~~(3) — the triangular area in the waters at the end of the Matthews Point Marina main pier located at the confluence of Clubfoot and Mitchell Creeks off of the Neuse River, between a point 300 feet east of the pier at 34.90619 N, 76.76490 W, and a point 300 feet west of the pier at 34.90610 N, 76.76262 W, and a point 150 feet south of the pier at 34.90571 N, 76.76377 W;~~
- ~~(4) — the waters within 50 yards of the fuel dock at Eastern Carolina Yacht Club on the Trent River in Trent Woods; and~~
- ~~(5) — the portion of Southwest Prong Slocum Creek in the City of Havelock, shore to shore east of a line from a point on the north shore at 34.89122 N, 76.92302 W to a point on the south shore at 34.89102 N, 76.92304 W and extending northeast, shore to shore to a line from a point on the north shore at 34.89370 N, 76.92109 W to a point on the southeast shore at 34.89358 N, 76.92089 W.~~

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule applies to the following waters in Craven County:

(1) New Bern:

- (A) the portion of Northwest Creek from the entrance buoys at Northwest Creek Marina, north of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.06357 N, 76.96934 W to a point on the west shore at 35.06343 N, 76.97106 W, to south of a line from a point on the east shore of Northwest Creek at 35.06903 N, 76.97030 W to a point on the west shore at 35.06779 N, 76.97225 W, northeast to include all waters, shore to shore, of the bulkheaded area of Fairfield Harbour otherwise known as Spring Creek;
- (B) Olde Towne Lake, shore to shore from its intersection with the Trent River west of a point at 35.08098 N, 77.05833 W;
- (C) within 50 yards of the Spring Garden Boating Access Area on Neuse River, 585 NW Craven Middle School Road, New Bern;
- (D) within 50 yards of Cool Springs Boating Access Area on Swift Creek, 1065 Cool Springs Road, New Bern;
- (E) within 50 yards of Brices Creek Boating Access Area on Brice Creek, 953 Perrytown Road, New Bern; and
- (F) the portion of Brice Creek beginning 50 yards north of the Brices Creek Bridge shore to shore, south-southwest around Merchant's Grocery, docking facilities, fuel dock, and a

public boat ramp, then southeastward, south of the peninsula and sharp curve on the east side of Brice Creek to a line from a point on the west shore at 35.06587 N, 77.07078 W to a point on the east shore at 35.06638 N, 77.06893 W.

- (2) Havelock:
- (A) the triangular area in the waters at the end of the Bishops Marina main pier located at the confluence of Clubfoot and Mitchell Creeks off of Neuse River, between a point 300 feet east of the pier at 34.90619 N, 76.76490 W, and a point 300 feet west of the pier at 34.90610 N, 76.76262 W, and a point 150 feet south of the pier at 34.90571 N, 76.76377 W;
- (B) the portion of Southwest Prong Slocum Creek, shore to shore east of a line from a point on the north shore at 34.89122 N 76.92302 W to a point on the south shore at 34.89102 N, 76.92304 W and extending northeast, shore to shore to a line from a point on the north shore at 34.89370 N, 76.92109 W to a point on the southeast shore at 34.89358 N, 76.92089 W;
- (C) within 50 yards of the Slocum Creek Boating Access Area on Slocum Creek, 99 U.S. Highway 70 W, Havelock; and
- (D) within 50 yards of the Hancock Creek Boating Access Area on Hancock Creek, 1100 Cahogue Creek Road, Havelock.
- (3) Trent Woods. The waters within 50 yards of the fuel dock at Eastern Carolina Yacht Club on Trent River at 4005 Trent Pines Drive, Trent Woods.
- (4) Bridgeton. The waters within 50 yards of the Bridgeton Boating Access Area on Neuse River, 880 Wildlife Road, Bridgeton.
- (5) Grifton. The waters within 50 yards of the Maple Cypress Boating Access Area on Neuse River, 360 Maple Cypress Road, Grifton.
- (6) Vanceboro. The waters within 50 yards of the Cow Pen Landing Boating Access Area on Neuse River, 1199 Cow Pen Landing Road, Vanceboro.

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

~~(d) (c) Placement of Markers. Subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the following agencies shall be the designated agencies for placement of markers implementing this Rule: The following agencies shall place or place and maintain markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:~~

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of Craven County for placement in areas indicated in ~~Subparagraphs (a)(1),(2), (3), and (4) of this Rule; Parts (A)(1)(A), (B), and (F), and Part (a)(2)(A);~~
- (2) the City of Havelock for placement in the area indicated in ~~Subparagraph (a)(5) Part (a)(2)(B) of this Rule.~~ Rule; and



(3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for placement and maintenance of markers in Parts (a)(1)(C), (D), and (E), (2)(C) and (D); and Parts (4), (5), and (6) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*

*Eff. August 1, 1984;*

*Amended Eff. December 1, 1990; October 1, 1989; June 1, 1989;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. April 1, 1998;*

*Amended Eff. July 1, 2016; July 1, 1998;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*

*Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*



North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Application for Water Safety Rulemaking on Navigable Waters of the State of North Carolina

Water safety rulemaking applications are considered at July and December NCWRC meetings.
Please submit information at least six (6) weeks in advance.

1. Governmental Unit: Craven County Date: 11/5/2024
Contact Name: Chad Strawn
Mailing Address: [Redacted] Phone: [Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]

2. In accordance with G.S. 75A-15, the above-named subdivision of the State applies to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for water safety rulemaking in the following waters:

Name of Body of Water, County, Location: Brice's Creek, Craven County, Near Merchant's Grocery

Popular Name (if any): Brice's Creek

Describe Proposed Regulated Area -- No-Wake Zone, Swim Area, Other:

The area of the proposed No Wake Zone has public docking facilities, boat slips and a fueling dock. This area is popular among residents of Craven County and experiences a high volume of mixed activities including but not limited to boating, jet-skiing, canoes, kayaking, and paddle boarding etc. The area of the No Wake Zone is proposed to be shore to shore from 50 yds. north of Brices Creek Bridge to a point 50 yds. south of the peninsula on the east shore of the creek.

3. Safety hazard prompting rulemaking request (No Wake Zones, marked swim areas, and mooring areas shall be approved to mitigate hazards to boater and recreational water safety):
The NC Wildlife Resources Commission is charged with promulgating water safety rules. By statute, No Wake Zones may be established in public trust waters only to mitigate hazards to boating safety. The statutory authority of the WRC does not allow creation of a no wake zone in some instances. Some of those instances include:

- Erosion
Noise Abatement
Property Damage
Protection of Docks or Piers
Future Development
Wildlife Area Protection
Wake issues for a particular type of vessel

Is the purpose of the requested NO WAKE ZONE for an area that falls into one of the instances listed above?

YES [ ] NO [x]

If YES, please know that the NCWRC by statute may not be able to approve the requested NWZ

Does the proposed NO WAKE ZONE have any of the following water safety hazards?

- Known navigational hazards
- Structures in the area such as dams, spillways, flood control structures, trestles, power lines, and fueling docks
- Narrow and shallow waters
- Areas of obstructed vision
- Designated recreational or swimming areas
- Congested areas with high traffic
- History of documented accidents
- Public boat access areas
- Areas due to other circumstances present a critical risk to public safety

Does the requested NO WAKE ZONE include any of the above?

YES  NO

If yes, please explain which one(s) in detail:

A No-Wake Zone to mitigate multiple hazards to boater safety, in a portion of Brice's Creek, has been proposed where Merchant's Grocery on Perrytown Road on Brice Creek has obtained a CAMA Major Permit. The CAMA Major Permit consist of new docks, piers, abutments, docking facilities, boat slips and a fueling dock.

The creek is narrow with multiple curves including a sharp curve and obstructed sight lines near Merchant's Grocery. A peninsula juts out on the east side of the creek across from Merchant's Grocery. The creek becomes highly congested beginning north of the Brice's Creek Bridge. There is a public boat access area on Perrytown Road across from Merchant's Grocery and additional docking facilities have added to the congestion in this part of the creek.

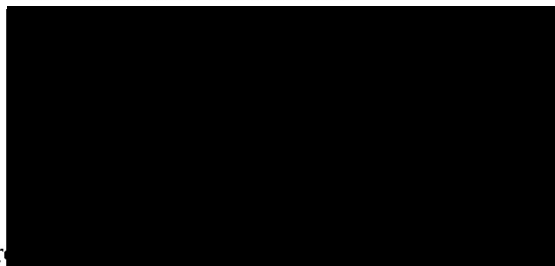
4. Include the following information with your application:

- a. Statement that public notice was given of the intention to make application to the Wildlife Resources Commission for the Rule that is being proposed
- b. A resolution from the above-named governmental unit requesting rulemaking for the waters named in Item 2
- c. Affirmation that the local unit of government *or* a designee agrees to purchase and place markers that conform to U.S. Aids to Navigation (USATONS) standards to implement a Rule. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is required to submit a Fiscal Note to the Office of State Budget and Management to report the fiscal impact of a Rule on a state or local unit of government.

Regulatory markers that do not conform to USATONS standards and that are placed without authorization by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission shall be unlawful.

Mail or Email completed application and supporting documents to:

- **No Wake Zone Coordinator**



Signature

Date

11/5/2024



**NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC HEARING OF THE  
CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD  
OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGARDING  
A PROPOSED NO WAKE  
ZONE RESOLUTION**

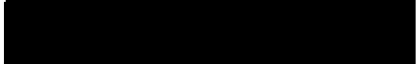
NOTICE is hereby given that the Craven County Board of Commissioners will consider a resolution requesting rulemaking for the proposed No Wake Zone along Brices' Creek in the vicinity of Merchants Fueling Station and Boat Ramp. The meeting will be held on Monday, December 2, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. (or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached) in the Commissioners' Room in the Craven County Administration Building, which is located at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Street, New Bern, NC 28562.

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission completed an assessment and found the proposed No Wake Zone is necessary to ensure the safety of the recreating public in the area. Copies of the Resolution are available for public review Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Craven County Planning Department, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] online at [https://\[REDACTED\]](https://[REDACTED])

Abigail G. Wilson, Clerk,  
Craven County Board of  
Commissioners



November 23rd, 2024

**FISHER STORES, INC.**



October 16, 2024

No Wake Zone Coordinator  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter serves as a commitment from Fisher Stores Inc. to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission regarding a No-Wake Zone on Brice's Creek in New Bern, North Carolina. We accept financial responsibility for the establishment of five No-Wake Buoys. It is our understanding that this will be a one time fee and the state of North Carolina will be responsible for future maintenance of the buoys.

Thank you for your help with this matter.

Sincerely,

James Fisher  
Fisher Stores Inc.

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING RULEMAKING FOR THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF A NO WAKE ZONE LOCATED ALONG BRICES'  
CREEK IN THE VICINTY OF MERCHANTS FUELING STATION AND BOAT  
RAMP**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission completed an assessment of the area and made a recommendation to establish the proposed No Wake Zone; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission found the proposed No Wake Zone is needed to ensure the safety of the recreating public in this area; and


**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission will enforce the No Wake Zone once buoys are installed; and


**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of Craven County will submit an Application for Water Safety Rulemaking to establish the No Wake Zone in accordance with the attached map; and

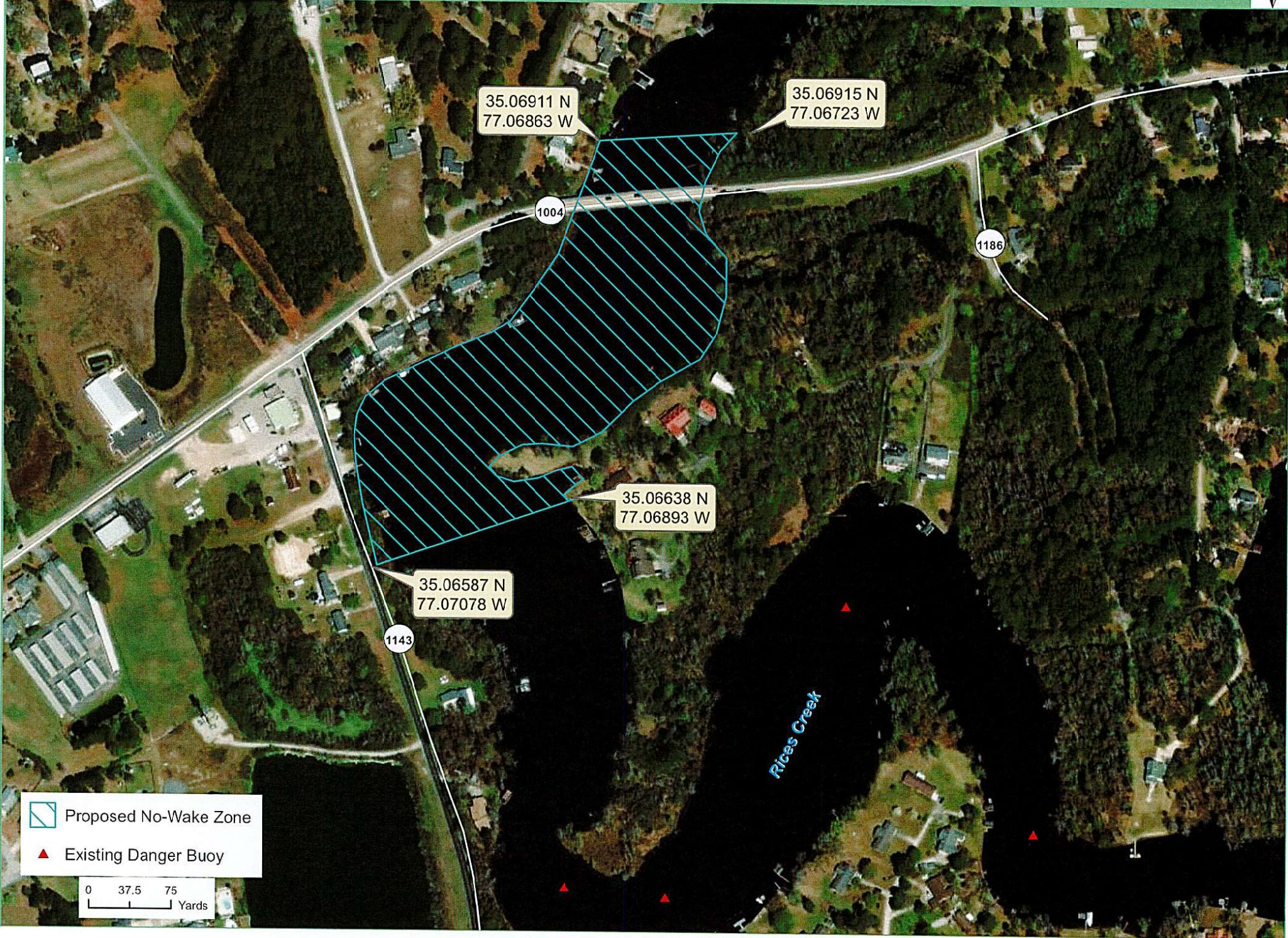
**WHEREAS**, Craven County has given public notice of intention to apply for rulemaking on waters within the County's territorial jurisdiction.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Commissioners of Craven County, North Carolina hereby adopts the following resolution in order for the state to consider establishing the No Wake Zone area in accordance with the attached map.

This 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Jones, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Abigail Wilson, Clerk to the Board





## NO-WAKE ZONE INVESTIGATION MATRIX

- Name of organization/entity: Craven County
- Primary contact information: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Location of requested no-wake zone:
    - Body of water and County: Brice's Creek, Craven County
    - Location: Shore to shore from 50 yds north of Brices Creek bridge to a point 50 yds south of peninsula on east shore of creek \_\_\_\_\_
    - Popular name of area, if any: Brice's Creek
    - Width of No-Wake Zone: Narrowest Point: 280'      Widest Point: 450'
    - Brief Description of area (example: bridge overpass, obstructed views, Intracoastal Waterway; etc.)  
 Bridge supports are in the creek, narrow congested area with sharp curve and obstructed sight lines, fueling dock at Merchant's Grocery. Public boat access area on Perrytown Road across from the grocery.

**\*Attach map of designated no-wake zone\***

**\*Ensure proposed no-wake zone map/and or location is agreed upon by point of contact\***





## NO-WAKE ZONE INVESTIGATION MATRIX

### **Provide detailed reason given from point of contact for the request**

Jason Frederick, Craven Co Asst. Planning Director, requests a no-wake zone to mitigate multiple hazards to boater safety in a portion of Brice's Creek, where Merchant's Grocery on Perrytown Road on Brice Creek has obtained CAMA major works permit for docks, piers, abutments, and docking facilities with boat slips and a fueling dock. The CAMA major works permit materials are included in the package sent to WRC. The creek is narrow with multiple curves including a sharp curve and obstructed sight lines near Merchant's Grocery. A peninsula juts out on the east side of the creek across from Merchant's Grocery. The creek becomes highly congested beginning north of the Brice's Creek Bridge. There is a public boat access area on Perrytown Road across from Merchant's Grocery and additional docking facilities have added to the congestion in this part of the creek. The applicant requests consideration of beginning the NWZ 50 yards north of the Brices Creek Road bridge, consistent with some other NC bridges that have no wake zones around bridge abutments.

- Is the proposed no-wake zone located within an area that is regulated by the U.S Army Corps of Engineers or the Division of Coastal Management (CAMA) i.e., Intracoastal Waterway?

YES  CAMA Major Works Permit obtained May 30,2024

NO

**When dealing with the point of contact, please advise that placement of markers in these waters is subject to prior approval of above agency in waters where applicable. NCWRC has no authority to supersede these rules.**



# NO-WAKE ZONE INVESTIGATION MATRIX

## SECTION 2: PUBLIC SAFETY HAZARD

Identify all public safety hazards in this section by checking the block and listing name and/or location

FUELING DOCK OR FACILITY

Name of Facility: Merchant's Grocery

PUBLIC SWIMMING OR RECREATIONAL AREA

Would the establishment of a roped swimming area or placement of no-wake regulatory buoys be more appropriate?

ROPED SWIM AREA

NO-WAKE BUOYS

PUBLIC BOAT ACCESS

Name of Access Area: Merchant's Ramp. Note there is a \$3.00 fee to launch.

PUBLIC FISHING PIER OR FISHING ACCESS AREA

Name of Pier/Access Area: \_\_\_\_\_

RESTAURANT DOCKS

Name of Restaurant: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Docks: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER (list and describe)

## SECTION 3: NAVIGATIONAL HAZARDS

Identify all potential hazards associated with the proposed no-wake zone (check all that apply)

OBSTRUCTIONS (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

Can obstructions be removed?  YES  NO

NARROW CHANNEL (give approximate width) \_\_\_\_\_

SHALLOW WATER (give average depth) \_\_\_\_\_



# NO-WAKE ZONE INVESTIGATION MATRIX

OBSTRUCTED VISION (for approximately how great a distance) \_\_\_\_\_

STRUCTURES: (Check all applicable)

DAM Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SPILLWAY Location: \_\_\_\_\_

FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURE Location: \_\_\_\_\_

BRIDGE Roadway: Brice's Creek Road  
Height above water: Approximately 14-15' depending on the tide  
Width between piers: Approximately 50 feet

TRESTLE Height above water: \_\_\_\_\_  
Width between piers: \_\_\_\_\_

POWER LINE Hangs about two feet above bottom of bridge next to it.  
\_\_\_\_\_

LOCK Lock Number: \_\_\_\_\_

JETTY \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMERGED STRUCTURE Identify Structure: \_\_\_\_\_

▪ Would placement of "Danger" buoys or other informational markers mitigate the hazards in lieu of a no-wake zone?  YES  NO

SANDBAR \_\_\_\_\_

SHOAL \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER (list and describe)



# NO-WAKE ZONE INVESTIGATION MATRIX

## SECTION 4: SUMMARY OF BOATING SAFETY STATISTICS

Identify known data reflecting safety concerns:

BOAT INCIDENTS      Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

CITATIONS ISSUED      Violations: Operate a vessel in a reckless or negligent manner

VERIFIED COMPLAINTS      List: Refer to final justification

=====

- Rate traffic density in this area    LIGHT
- Is traffic density specific to weekend/and or holidays?    YES       NO
- Does traffic density or ability to maneuver a vessel due to traffic cause safety issues?  
YES       NO

## SECTION 5: CURRENT REGULATIONS

- List existing local laws currently in place restricting vessel speed in the requested area:  
N/A
- Would enforcement of existing boating laws mitigate the issues and concerns addressed in the proposed area?

YES      Identify Violations: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NO



## NO-WAKE ZONE INVESTIGATION MATRIX

### SECTION 6: NO-WAKE ZONE DIMENSIONS AND SCOPE

Evaluate the applicant's proposed no-wake request based on criteria and complete Section 6. If investigated area does not meet criteria for a no-wake zone, move to section 7. If the area meets no-wake zone criteria but the proposed area exceeds the need to address the issues, recommend appropriately sized area and attach map with changes.

#### A. PROPOSED

- If approved, does no-wake zone extend into a designated channel?  
 YES      Distance extended into channel: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NO
- Total distance travelled at no-wake speed (in feet): Approximately 1370
- Estimated travel time through propose area at no-wake speed: Approximately four minutes
- Width of proposed no-wake zone (in feet): Narrowest: 280      Widest: 450
- Does proposed no-wake zone meet criteria for consideration?  
 YES: Appropriately sized  
 YES: Adjusted size recommended  
 NO
- Description/Explanation of adjusted size
  
- Adjusted map attached



# NO-WAKE ZONE INVESTIGATION MATRIX

## SECTION 7: OFFICER ASSESSMENT OF WATER SAFETY HAZARDS

- Does the proposed area meet the criteria to be recommended as a no-wake zone?

YES:

NO:

- Justification:

In deciding whether a body of water should include a posted no wake zone, which would restrict the speed of vessels, it is necessary to consider the statutorily required hazards to navigation. These hazards include dams, spillways, trestles, power lines, fuel docks, narrow and shallow waters, areas of obstructed vision, designated swim areas, congested areas with high traffic, and public boat access areas. A history of boating collisions and other incidents should also be considered. If a substantial risk of hazard does exist, it must be decided if the risk of hazard justifies limiting the restriction of free movement and transportation upon waters of this state.

When considering the proposed no wake zone in Brice's Creek, the known hazards do justify the creation of a no wake zone. Traffic density in Brice's Creek is light on weekdays and light to medium on weekends and holidays. However, within the proposed area of the no wake zone, there are several public safety and navigational hazards. There is a bridge with only around 50 feet between the piers. A power line is just south of the bridge and hangs only about two feet above the bottom of the bridge. There are two bends in the creek that are around 90 degrees. Additionally, there is a fueling dock and a public boat ramp/dock. Note that this boat ramp gets limited use. The proposed no wake zone is approximately 450 feet at its widest point and approximately 280 feet at its narrowest point. The length of the proposed no wake zone is approximately 1,370 feet. At no wake speed, it takes approximately four minutes to travel the full distance of the proposed no wake zone. The water depth in Brice's Creek is generally not an issue.

I am aware of one known complaint/incident in recent years that occurred in the area of the proposed no wake zone. Regarding this incident, there was an occupied canoe underneath the Brice's Creek Road bridge that was swamped and pushed into one of the piers of the bridge by a large vessel. The canoe was damaged but not to the degree that it was considered a reportable boating incident. There were no injuries as a result of this incident however I did charge the operator of the large vessel with operating in a reckless or negligent manner. If the large vessel was traveling at no wake speed, it is likely that this incident would not have occurred.

In conclusion, I do recommend the creation of a no wake in the proposed area of Brice's Creek as the known risks justify limiting the speed of vessels within the area.

Officer: N/A

Date: N/A

Sergeant: David Midyette

Date: 10/07/2024

# EXHIBIT K

December 5, 2024



## 15A NCAC 10F .0347 CASWELL AND PERSON COUNTIES – HYCO LAKE

Staff requests Commission approval to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with an open comment period and public hearing, for rulemaking for a technical correction to the Rule for Hyco Lake.

The technical correction will assign responsibility for placement and maintenance of regulatory markers on Hyco Lake to the Boards of Commissioners of Caswell and Person counties.

### 15A NCAC 10F .0363 CASWELL AND PERSON COUNTIES

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule ~~shall apply~~ applies to the waters of Hyco Lake in Caswell and Person counties.
- (b) Speed Limit Near Bridges. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any bridge that crosses the waters of Hyco Lake.
- (c) Speed Limit in Canals. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any canals on Hyco Lake.
- (d) ~~Placement of Markers.~~ Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The ~~Board~~ Boards of Commissioners of Caswell and Person Counties ~~shall be~~ are the designated agencies for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule.

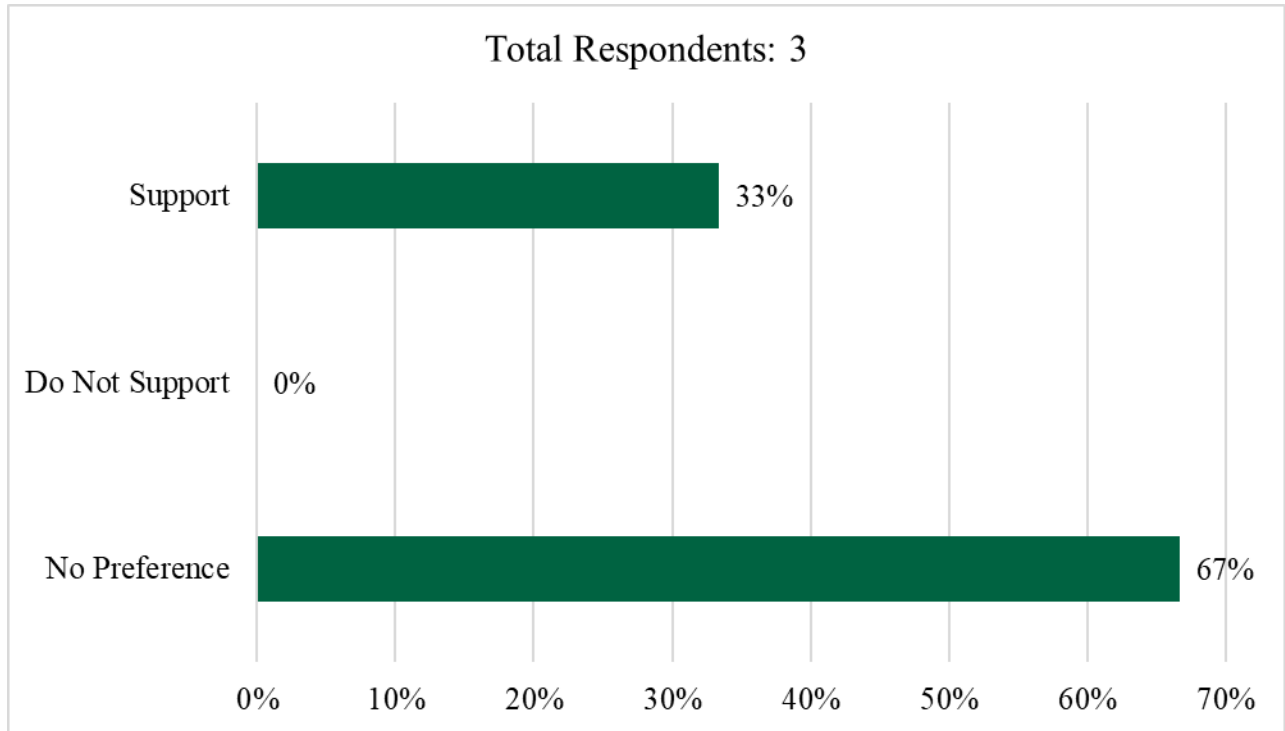
*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. November 1, 1990;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

# EXHIBIT L-1

December 5, 2024



## Summary of Public Comments on Periodic Review Rules 15A NCAC 10G .0501 – License Requirements



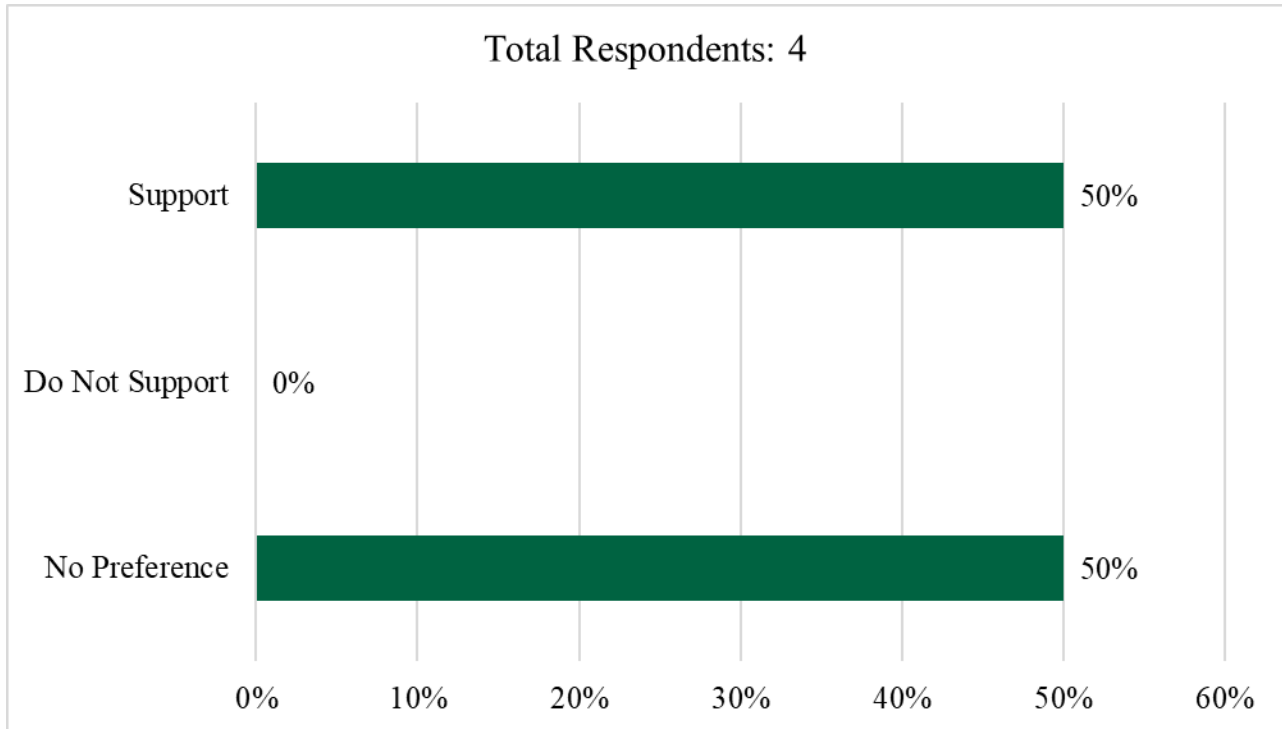
District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Do Not Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

One public hearing was held on October 23, 2024.





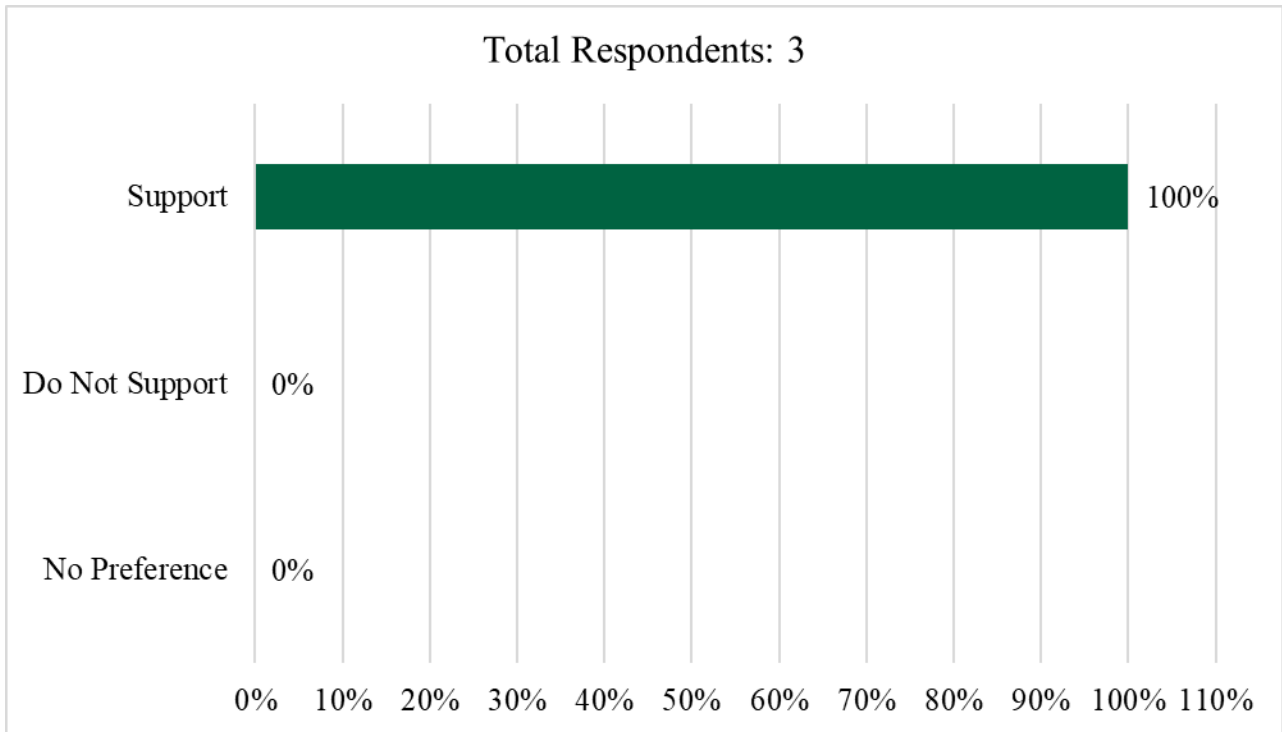
**Summary of Public Comments on  
Periodic Review Rules  
15A NCAC 10J .0103 – Hunting on Wildlife Conservation Areas**



District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Do Not Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>



**Summary of Public Comments on  
Periodic Review Rules  
15A NCAC 10J .0104 Fishing on Wildlife Conservation Areas**



District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	3
Do Not Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

# EXHIBIT L-2

## December 5, 2024



### **Proposed Amendments for Periodic Review of Rules Recommended by Agency Staff for Adoption**

Rules in Subchapters 10G and 10J were determined to be “necessary with substantive public interest” and are required to be readopted as part of the periodic review.

#### **15A NCAC 10G .0501 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

Proposed rule language has been updated to align with the current rule formatting requirements.

*15A NCAC 10K .0501 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS (pg. 2)*

#### **15A NCAC 10J .0103 HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

Proposed rule language has been updated to align with the current general statutes and rule formatting requirements.

*15A NCAC 10J .0103 HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS (pg. 3-4)*

#### **15A NCAC 10J .0104 FISHING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

Proposed rule language has been updated to align with the current rule formatting requirements.

*15A NCAC 10J .0104 FISHING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS (pg. 5)*

1 **15A NCAC 10G .0501 LICENSEE REQUIREMENTS**

2 ~~(a) In order to show entitlement to licenses~~ An individual exercising the privilege of a license issued by the Wildlife  
3 Resources Commission, ~~Commission~~ persons exercising the privilege of any license shall carry on their person and  
4 show to ~~any a~~ Wildlife Enforcement ~~Officer, Officer~~ upon ~~request a~~ request, the following documents:

- 5 (1) an electronic or physical license that entitles the individual to that privilege; and  
6 (2) a valid picture identification card which that includes the license holder's correct name, address, and  
7 date of birth, birth.

8 ~~(b) except that no~~ No person shall be in violation of this Rule if the required identification is provided to the Wildlife  
9 Resources Commission prior to the assigned court date. ~~The North Carolina Driver's License or the North Carolina~~  
10 ~~Picture ID Card issued by the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles is one type of identification card that is~~  
11 ~~acceptable for the purposes of this Rule.~~

12

13 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;*

14 *Eff. April 1, 1997.*

15

1 **15A NCAC 10J .0103 HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

2 (a) ~~Safety Requirements.~~ No person shall be under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-  
3 4.01(48b) while hunting on any area a designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area Wildlife Conservation  
4 Area, shall be under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug.

5 (b) ~~Tree Stands.~~ It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached  
6 by nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree on any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area. Erecting or  
7 occupying a tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree for the purpose of hunting on a  
8 designated Wildlife Conservation Area is prohibited. This prohibition shall not apply to lag-screw steps or portable  
9 stands that are removed after use with no metal left remaining in or attached to the tree.

10 (c) ~~Time and Manner of Taking.~~ Hunting on designated Wildlife Conservation Areas during the open season for game  
11 or furbearing species is permitted. ~~Except~~ except where the area is closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by the  
12 rules of this Chapter ~~Chapter~~, hunting on areas designated and posted as wildlife conservation areas is permitted during  
13 the open season for the game or furbearing species being hunted.

14 (1) ~~Waterfowl~~ waterfowl hunters shall not enter the areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting  
15 dates, and hunting is prohibited after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates; decoys may not be set out  
16 prior to 4:00 a.m. and must be removed by 3:00 p.m. each date.

17 (2) game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,  
18 Saturdays and Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

19 (3) deer may be taken with archery equipment as specified in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 on the opening  
20 day of the archery season.

21 (d) The following shall be prohibited while hunting on Wildlife Conservation Areas:

22 (1) ~~No person shall operate~~ operating any a vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine  
23 engine; on the waters of any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area.

24 (2) ~~No person shall attempt~~ attempting to obscure the sex or age of any a game bird or game animal  
25 taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any a bird or animal which that has  
26 been so mutilated. mutilated;

27 (3) ~~No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any area designated and posted as a wildlife~~  
28 conservation area, placing salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written authorization of the  
29 Commission or its agent agent; and no person shall take or attempt attempting to take any game  
30 birds or game animals attracted to such foods. foods;

31 (4) ~~No person shall use~~ using an electronic calling device for the purpose of attracting wild birds or wild  
32 animals. animals; and

33 (5) ~~No removing~~ live wild animals or wild birds birds, shall be removed from any designated wildlife  
34 conservation area except with the written permission of the landowner.

35 (e) The Nona Pitt Hinson Cohen Wildlife Conservation Area - Richmond County is closed to hunting.

36 (d) ~~Hunting Dates:~~

1           (1)     ~~Any game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,~~  
2                     ~~Saturdays and Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days. In addition, deer Deer may be taken~~  
3                     ~~with bow and arrow on the opening day of the bow and arrow season for deer. Raccoon and opossum~~  
4                     ~~hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight~~  
5                     ~~on Saturdays.~~

6           (2)     ~~Except as otherwise indicated, the following designated wildlife conservation areas or indicated~~  
7                     ~~portions thereof are closed to all hunting:~~

8                     ~~(A) — Nona Pitt Hinson Cohen Wildlife Conservation Area — Richmond County.~~

9                     ~~(B) — John D. Lewis Wildlife Conservation Area — Wayne County.~~

10

11     *History Note:*     ~~Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-136; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-305;~~

12                     ~~Eff. February 1, 1990;~~

13                     ~~Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; October 1, 1994.~~

14

1 **15A NCAC 10J .0104 FISHING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

2 (a) ~~Generally. Except as otherwise indicated herein, fishing on designated wildlife conservation areas which are open~~  
3 ~~to fishing shall be in accordance with the statewide regulations. All designated Designated wildlife conservation areas~~  
4 ~~Wildlife Conservations Areas are open to public fishing except restocked ponds when posted against fishing.~~

5 (b) ~~No trotline or set hook nor any, net, trap, gig or other special fishing device of a type mentioned specified in 15~~  
6 ~~NCAC 10C .0403 [~~.0404,~~ .0404 and .0206, except archery ~~equipment~~ equipment, may be used in the impounded~~  
7 ~~waters or free-running streams located on designated wildlife conservation areas. Wildlife Conservation Areas. Except~~  
8 ~~as otherwise indicated, the following designated wildlife conservation areas or indicated portions thereof are closed~~  
9 ~~to all fishing, except for special fishing clinics authorized or conducted by the Commission: John D. Lewis Wildlife~~  
10 ~~Conservation Area—Wayne County.~~

11 (b) ~~Designated Public Mountain Trout Waters: Fishing Hours. It is unlawful to fish in designated public mountain~~  
12 ~~trout waters on any a designated wildlife conservation area Wildlife Conservation Area from one half hour after sunset~~  
13 ~~to one half hour before sunrise.~~

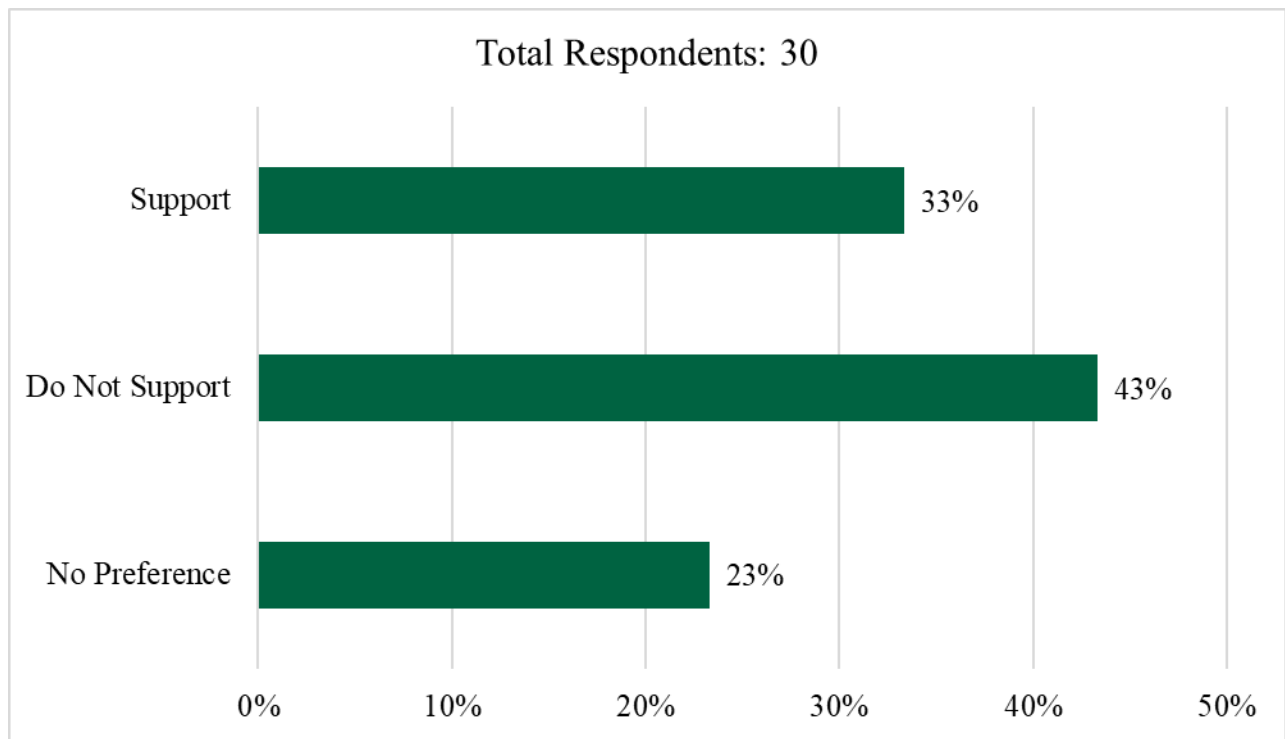
14  
15 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-272; 113-292; 113-305;*  
16 *Eff. February 1, 1990;*  
17 *Amended Eff. October 1, 1994.*  
18

# EXHIBIT M-1

December 5, 2024



## Summary of Public Comments on Needmore Game Land Rule Deer Season Changes 15A NCAC 10D .0252 – Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain Counties



NOTE: Total % < 100% due to rounding.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	2	1	0	1	2	1	0	3	0	0	10
Do Not Support	0	4	2	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	0	13
No Preference	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>

One public hearing was held on August 28, 2024.



# **EXHIBIT M-2**

## **December 5, 2024**



### **Proposed Permanent Amendments to Needmore Game Land Rule Deer Season Recommended by Agency Staff for Adoption**

The antlerless deer harvest during the introductory gun season is limited by 15A NCAC 10D .0251(b) on Nantahala Game Land solely to that portion which is located in Transylvania County. The majority of Nantahala Game Land is outside of Transylvania County and will not have an antlered or antlerless gun season. This proposal will standardize the antlered or antlerless blackpowder and gun seasons between Needmore and Nantahala Game Land. This is particularly important as both game lands have a shared boundary. If the Nantahala Game Land had a more conservative antlered or antlerless season than Needmore, the additional hunting pressure could result in negative impacts to resources and game land use during that period.

This proposal will remove the one day of introductory antlerless deer harvest during the gun season on the Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain County and will align Needmore Game Land with the same antlerless deer season structure as Nantahala Game Land in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, and Swain counties.

*15A NCAC 10D .0252 NEEDMORE GAME LAND IN MACON AND SWAIN COUNTIES*

1 **15A NCAC 10D .0252 NEEDMORE GAME LAND IN MACON AND SWAIN COUNTIES**

2 Needmore game land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 3 (1) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and all  
4 horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 5 (2) On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit only.
- 6 (3) ~~No antlerless deer may be taken during the first open Saturday of the Deer With Visible Antlers~~  
7 ~~season on Needmore Game Land.~~ No antlerless deer shall be taken during the Deer With Visible  
8 Antler season.

9

10 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
11 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*  
12 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 8, 2024.*

# **EXHIBIT N**

**December 5, 2024**



## **Proposed Amendments to the Age of Youth and the Youth Deer Season Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearing**

Standardize the age of youth to individuals under the age of 16 throughout Rules in Subchapters 10B, 10C and 10D.

Create a two-day youth season for deer like exists for waterfowl and turkey, in response to hunter recommendations.

*15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER (pg. 2-6)*

*15A NCAC 10C .0316 MOUNTAIN TROUT (pg. 7-8)*

*15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE (pg. 9-15)*

1 **15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER**

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

3 (1) Deer With Visible Antlers. Deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as distinguished  
4 from knobs or buttons covered by skin or velvet, may be taken during the following seasons,  
5 including on game lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

6 (A) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in Beaufort, Bladen, Brunswick,  
7 Carteret, Columbus, Cumberland, Craven, Dare, Duplin, Harnett, Hoke, Hyde, Jones,  
8 Lenoir, Moore, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson,  
9 Scotland, Tyrrell, and Washington counties. It is unlawful to hunt or kill deer in Lake  
10 Waccamaw or within 50 yards of its shoreline in Columbus County.

11 (B) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in Bertie, Camden, Chowan,  
12 Currituck, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Johnston, Martin,  
13 Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Vance, Wake, Warren, Wayne, and  
14 Wilson counties.

15 (C) Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe,  
16 Catawba, Cleveland, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Polk, Rutherford, Stokes,  
17 Surry, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yadkin counties.

18 (D) Saturday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell,  
19 Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell,  
20 Mitchell, Swain, Transylvania, and Yancey counties.

21 (E) Two Saturdays before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Alamance, Anson,  
22 Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville, Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg,  
23 Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union  
24 counties.

25 (F) Saturday on or nearest September 10 through January 1 in the parts of Camden, Gates, and  
26 Pasquotank counties known as the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge; in the parts  
27 of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington counties known as the Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife  
28 Refuge; in the part of Hyde county known as Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife  
29 Refuge; in the parts of Dare and Hyde counties known as Alligator River National Wildlife  
30 Refuge; in the parts of Anson and Richmond counties known as the Pee Dee National  
31 Wildlife Refuge; and in the part of Currituck County known as the Mackay Island National  
32 Wildlife Refuge.

33 (2) Antlered or Antlerless Deer. Except on Game Lands, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during  
34 the open seasons and in the counties and portions of counties listed in Parts (A) through (G) of this  
35 Subparagraph. ~~Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the fourth Saturday in September in all~~  
36 ~~counties and on Thanksgiving Day and the Friday following in those counties listed in Parts~~  
37 ~~(a)(1)(D) of this Rule by persons under the age of 18.~~

- 1 (A) The open antlered or antlerless deer hunting dates established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
2 Service from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through January 1 in the parts of  
3 Camden, Gates, and Pasquotank counties known as the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife  
4 Refuge; in the parts of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington counties known as the Pocosin Lakes  
5 National Wildlife Refuge; in the parts of Anson and Richmond counties known as the Pee  
6 Dee National Wildlife Refuge; and in the parts of Currituck County known as the Currituck  
7 National Wildlife Refuge and the Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge.
- 8 (B) The open antlered or antlerless deer hunting dates established by the military commands at  
9 the military installations listed in this Paragraph, from Saturday on or nearest October 15  
10 through January 1 in the part of Brunswick County known as the Sunny Point Military  
11 Ocean Terminal, in the part of Craven County known and marked as Cherry Point Marine  
12 Base, in the part of Onslow County known and marked as the Camp Lejeune Marine Base,  
13 on Fort Liberty Military Reservation, and on Camp Mackall Military Reservation.
- 14 (C) The first open Saturday of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season described in Subparagraph  
15 (a)(1) of this Rule in Cherokee, Clay, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania  
16 counties.
- 17 (D) The first open day of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season described in Subparagraph  
18 (a)(1) of this Rule through the first Saturday thereafter in Buncombe, Henderson, Madison,  
19 and McDowell counties, except in the areas described in Subparts (a)(2)(G)(i) and (ii) of  
20 this Rule.
- 21 (E) The first open day of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph  
22 (a)(1) of this Rule through the second Saturday thereafter in Avery, Burke, Caldwell,  
23 Mitchell, and Yancey counties.
- 24 (F) The first open day of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph  
25 (a)(1) of this Rule through the fourth Saturday thereafter in Cleveland, Polk, and  
26 Rutherford counties.
- 27 (G) Open days of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph (a)(1)  
28 of this Rule in and east of Ashe, Watauga, Wilkes, Alexander, Catawba, Lincoln, and  
29 Gaston counties and in the following parts of counties:
- 30 (i) The part of Buncombe County east of N.C. 191, south of the French Broad and  
31 Swannanoa Rivers, west of U.S. 25, and north of N.C. 280; and
- 32 (ii) The part of Henderson County east of N.C. 191 and north and west of N.C. 280.

33 (b) Open Archery Seasons for hunting deer:

- 34 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph and the bag  
35 limits set out in Paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of this Rule, deer may be taken with archery equipment from  
36 Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately preceding the first open day of

1 the Blackpowder Firearms Season described in Subparagraph (c)(1) of this Rule, including on game  
2 lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

3 (2) Restrictions

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

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

10 (C) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during Archery Season specified by Part (b)(1)(A)  
11 of this Rule.

12 (c) Open Blackpowder Firearms Seasons for hunting deer:

13 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, deer may be  
14 taken only with blackpowder firearms and archery equipment from two Saturdays preceding the  
15 first day of the open season for Deer with Visible Antlers described in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (D),  
16 (E), and (F) of this Rule through the second Friday thereafter including on game lands unless  
17 otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

18 (2) Restrictions

19 (A) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during Blackpowder Firearms Season in a county  
20 or county part set forth in Part (a)(2)(D), (E), (F), or (G) of this Rule that has one or more  
21 open days within the All Lawful Weapons Season to legally harvest antlerless deer.

22 (B) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during the second open Saturday of the  
23 Blackpowder Firearms Season thru the first Friday thereafter in any county or county part  
24 set forth in Part (a)(2)(C) of this Rule.

25 (C) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the second open Saturday of the Blackpowder  
26 Firearms Season in any county or county part not set forth in Subparagraph (a)(2) of this  
27 Rule.

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

32 (3) As used in this Rule, "blackpowder firearms" means any firearm, including any firearm with a  
33 matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system, manufactured before 1899,  
34 that cannot use fixed ammunition; any replica of this type of firearm if the replica is not designed  
35 or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition; and any muzzle-  
36 loading rifle, muzzle-loading shotgun, or muzzle-loading or cylinder-loading handgun that is

1 designed to use blackpowder, blackpowder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through the  
2 muzzle, cylinder, or breech and that cannot use fixed ammunition.

3 (d) Open Urban Season for hunting deer:

4 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph and the bag  
5 limits set out in Paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of this Rule, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with archery  
6 equipment in participating cities in the State, as defined in G.S. 160A-1(2), from the second Saturday  
7 following January 1 through the sixth Sunday thereafter. Deer shall not be taken on game lands  
8 within a city boundary.

9 (2) Participation. Cities that intend to participate in the Urban Season shall send a letter to that effect  
10 no later than April 1 of the year prior to the start of the Urban Season to the Executive Director or  
11 his designee at 1722 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1700. Cities shall also submit a map  
12 of the city's boundaries within which the Urban Season shall apply.

13 (3) Restrictions:

14 (A) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
15 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the Urban Season except a  
16 single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance with  
17 G.S. 113-291.1(k).

18 (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for taking deer  
19 shall be used during the Urban Season.

20 (e) Open Youth Days for hunting deer. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with all lawful weapons by individuals  
21 under 16 years of age during the following days:

22 (1) The fourth Saturday in September and the Sunday immediately thereafter in all counties; and

23 (2) Thanksgiving Day and the Friday immediately thereafter in the counties listed in Part (a)(1)(D) of  
24 this Rule.

25 ~~(e)~~ (f) Bag limits. The possession and season limit is six deer, two that may be deer with visible antlers and four that  
26 may be antlerless deer. Antlerless deer include males with knobs or buttons covered by skin or velvet as distinguished  
27 from spikes protruding through the skin. A hunter may obtain multiple Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report Cards  
28 from the Wildlife Resources Commission or any Wildlife Service Agent to allow the harvest of two additional  
29 antlerless deer per card for deer harvested during the season described in Paragraph (d) of this Rule within the  
30 boundaries of participating municipalities, except on State-owned game lands. Antlerless deer harvested and reported  
31 on the bonus antlerless harvest report card shall not count as part of the possession and season limit.

32 ~~(f)~~ (g) Deer Management Assistance Program. The bag limits described in Paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of this Rule do not apply  
33 to deer harvested in areas covered in the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) as described in G.S. 113-  
34 291.2(e) for those individuals using Commission-issued DMAP tags and reporting harvest as described on the DMAP  
35 license. Season bag limits shall be set by the number of DMAP tags issued and in the hunters' possession. All deer  
36 harvested under this program, regardless of the date of harvest, shall be tagged with DMAP tags and reported as  
37 instructed on the DMAP license. The hunter does not have to validate the Big Game Harvest Report Card provided

1 with the hunting license for deer tagged with the DMAP tags. Any deer harvested on lands enrolled in the DMAP and  
2 not tagged with DMAP tags may only be harvested during the regularly established deer seasons subject to the  
3 restrictions of those seasons, including bag limits, and reported using the big game harvest report card or the bonus  
4 antlerless harvest report card.

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6 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.5;  
7 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
8 Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996, July 1, 1995; December 1, 1994; July 1,  
9 1994; July 1, 1993;  
10 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;  
11 Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;  
12 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;  
13 Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (Approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);  
14 Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;  
15 Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,  
16 2003);  
17 Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016;  
18 August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; July 10, 2010;  
19 June 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;  
20 Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022;  
21 Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023.  
22



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

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

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

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

9 (d) The daily creel limit for trout in Delayed Harvest Trout Waters is seven fish. There is no minimum size limit for  
10 these fish. The Youth-only Delayed Harvest Trout Water Season is from 6:00 a.m. on the first Saturday in June until  
11 12 p.m. that same day. During this season individuals under ~~the~~ 16 years of age ~~of 18~~ may fish. From 12:00 p.m. on  
12 the first Saturday in June until September 30, the Delayed Harvest Trout Waters Season is open for anglers. From  
13 October 1 to one-half hour after sunset on the Friday before the first Saturday in June, trout shall not be harvested or  
14 possessed while fishing these waters. Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are closed to fishing from one-half hour after  
15 sunset on the Friday before the first Saturday in June to 6 a.m. on the first Saturday in June.

16 (e) The daily creel limits, size limits, and seasons for trout in Special Regulation Trout Waters are as follows:

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

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

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

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

26 (1) Bear Creek Lake;

27 (2) Buckeye Creek Reservoir;

28 (3) Calderwood Reservoir;

29 (4) Cedar Cliff Lake;

30 (5) Cheoah Reservoir;

31 (6) Cliffside Lake;

32 (7) Tanssee Creek Lake;

33 (8) Queens Creek Lake; and

34 (9) Wolf Lake.

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

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

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*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;*  
*Eff. November 1, 2013;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2015;*  
*Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020.*

1 **15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE**

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

- 3 (1) "Permanent Hunting Blind" means a structure that is used for hunter concealment, constructed from  
4 manmade or natural materials, and that is not disassembled and removed at the end of the day's hunt.  
5 (2) "Target shooting" means the discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or  
6 self-defense.  
7 (3) "Youth" means individuals under ~~18~~ 16 years of age.

8 (b) Trespass. Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the  
9 landowner. The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified the following areas on game lands that have additional  
10 restrictions on entry or usage:

- 11 (1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to archery  
12 equipment and falconry. During the open deer seasons for these areas, antlered and antlerless deer  
13 may be taken.  
14 (2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person  
15 shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on a  
16 game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.  
17 (3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use  
18 of centerfire rifles is prohibited.  
19 (4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to use by the public,  
20 and entry on these areas is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources  
21 Commission. The Commission may authorize entry when the primary purpose for the Restricted  
22 Zone shall not be compromised and the persons requesting entry demonstrate a valid need, or official  
23 business of the Commission is being conducted by a contractor or agent of the Commission. Valid  
24 needs may include access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to  
25 conduct activities in the public interest.  
26 (5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are  
27 closed to use by the public, and entry is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife  
28 Resources Commission. An area of a game land shall be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone  
29 when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public.  
30 (6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge  
31 of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.  
32 (7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting  
33 Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S.  
34 113-264(d).  
35 (8) Day Use Only Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" the use by the  
36 public shall be prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

1 (9) Sensitive Habitat Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Sensitive Habitat Zones" are closed to  
2 use by the public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry is prohibited without written  
3 approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission by calling 919-707-0150 and requesting a  
4 permit.

5 The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing  
6 the following zones: archery, restricted firearms, restricted deer hunting, day use only, or sensitive habitat. After the  
7 input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final determination.

8 (c) Littering. No person shall deposit litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse on any game land except in receptacles  
9 provided for disposal of refuse at designated camping and target-shooting areas. No garbage dumps or sanitary  
10 landfills shall be established on a game land by a person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality, except as  
11 permitted by the landowner.

12 (d) Use of weapons. No person shall discharge:

- 13 (1) a weapon within 150 yards of a game land building or designated game land camping area, except  
14 where posted otherwise;
- 15 (2) a weapon within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to game lands, except on Butner-  
16 Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and
- 17 (3) a firearm within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan  
18 Game Lands.

19 No person shall hunt with or have in possession a shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on a posted  
20 waterfowl impoundment on a game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer  
21 hunting. Individuals carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-415.11, even  
22 if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan, Kerr Scott,  
23 and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other  
24 weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is  
25 incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document may be accessed at  
26 [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov) at no cost. On Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hycos, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee  
27 River Game Land north of U.S. 74; and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of  
28 U.S. 158 and east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days  
29 for game birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:

- 30 (1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length  
31 and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;
- 32 (2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;
- 33 (3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or
- 34 (4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

35 (e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

1 (1) Except as provided in Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph, a person entering a game land to hunt,  
2 trap, run dogs, or train dogs using wildlife shall have in his or her possession a valid North Carolina  
3 hunting or trapping license.

4 (2) For Commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114, in  
5 a field trial using wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license, except non-residents may  
6 substitute hunting licenses from their state(s) of residence.

7 (3) For other field trials using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall  
8 possess a North Carolina hunting license.

9 (4) Exceptions:

10 (A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his parent or legal  
11 guardian;

12 (B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103 (j)(1) of this Section, the game lands license is  
13 required for hunting doves; other activities are subject to the control of the landowners.

14 (f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. An individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial  
15 area shall file an application with the Commission to use the area with the facility use fee computed at the rate of three  
16 hundred dollars (\$300.00) for each scheduled day of the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from  
17 12:00 noon of the day preceding the first scheduled day of the trial to 10:00 a.m. of the day following the last scheduled  
18 day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for all intermediate days on which trials are not run but the building  
19 or facilities are used or occupied. A fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day shall be charged to sporting,  
20 educational, or scouting groups for scheduled events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or  
21 other entity shall enter or use the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area or the Laurinburg Fox  
22 Trial facility without written approval from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission, and no entry  
23 or use of a facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The Sandhills Field Trial facilities  
24 shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources Commission. No more than  
25 20 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during a calendar month, and no  
26 more than five days may be scheduled during a calendar week. A field trial requiring more than five days may be  
27 scheduled during one week with reduction of the maximum number of days allowable during some other week so that  
28 the monthly maximum of 20 days is not exceeded. Before October 1 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial  
29 Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities between the Wednesday on or nearest October  
30 18 and the second Friday before Thanksgiving and between the first Monday following Thanksgiving and March 31  
31 shall submit its proposed schedule of use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for consideration and approval. The  
32 use of the Sandhills Field Trial facilities by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills  
33 Game Lands dogs may be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1.  
34 Dogs may not be trained or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on game lands located west  
35 of I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be  
36 trained or permitted to run unleashed from March 15 through June 15 on game lands located east of I-95, except when  
37 participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Additionally, on game lands located

1 west of I-95 where special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs  
2 may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts.  
3 A field trial shall be authorized when the field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the game land or  
4 field trial facilities, and the applying organization demonstrates their experience and expertise in conducting genuine  
5 field trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be granted  
6 when they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do not  
7 conflict with the mission of the agency.

8 (g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0300, trapping of furbearing animals,  
9 armadillos, coyotes, and groundhogs is permitted on game lands during the open trapping seasons for those areas,  
10 established by rule. Foxes may be trapped on game lands from October 1 through the end of February in a county with  
11 an open fox trapping season that falls between October 1 and the end of February. Foxes may not be taken by trapping  
12 on game lands in counties with a closed fox trapping season or during a fox trapping season that occurs outside the  
13 dates of October 1 through the end of February. Additionally, fox trapping is allowed on game lands in Clay, Graham,  
14 Henderson, Macon, and Tyrrell counties with a daily bag limit of two and a season bag limit of 10 from the first to the  
15 fourth Saturday in January. Trapping is prohibited:

- 16 (1) on the J Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of Sandhills Game Land;
- 17 (2) in posted "safety zones" located on a game land;
- 18 (3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south,  
19 US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;
- 20 (4) on the DuPont State Forest Game Lands; and
- 21 (5) from April 1 through September 31.

22 At a trap, trappers may use a single bait site of grain, fruit, or other foods when trapping if the food is not a processed  
23 food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), is less than 3 cubic inches and is covered to prevent it from being seen  
24 from above. Feathers, including those with attached skin or entire bird wings, hair with or without skin or hide, and  
25 bones that include no attached meat, organs, or viscera do not need to be covered.

26 (h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on a game land except on roads constructed,  
27 maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and on trails posted for vehicular travel, unless the person:

- 28 (1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land;  
29 or
- 30 (2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (l) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program  
31 Permit as described in Paragraph (l) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph  
32 (k).

33 (i) Camping.

- 34 (1) No person shall camp on a game land except on an area posted by the landowner for camping.
- 35 (2) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources  
36 Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at a  
37 designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period, unless otherwise specified in rules of

1 this Subchapter. After 14 consecutive days of camping, personal belongings shall be removed from  
2 the game land.

- 3 (3) A hunting, fishing, trapping or Game Lands License is required for individuals age 16 or older to  
4 camp on game lands in areas posted for camping except when camping within 100 yards of the  
5 Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land, within 100  
6 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the game land west of NC-43, and in posted areas along  
7 the Mountains-to-Sea Trail on Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land.

8 (j) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds,  
9 domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or  
10 feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild fish  
11 from one stream to another on game lands without written authorization. Written authorization shall be given when  
12 release of animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native wildlife in  
13 the area and is in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

14 (k) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use  
15 on game lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (l) of this  
16 Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from this restriction but shall  
17 comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans with  
18 Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 126) may use wheelchairs or other all-terrain wheelchairs on areas where foot travel is  
19 allowed. Off road vehicles including ATVs, UTVs, and ebikes are not permitted.

20 (l) Disabled Access Program. Disabled individuals who meet the requirements of G.S. 113-296 may obtain a Disabled  
21 Access Permit and Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification online at [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org). The Disabled Access Permit allows  
22 individuals to operate electric wheel chairs, all-terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-  
23 maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads  
24 otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands  
25 whose owners have agreed to that use. Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated  
26 online, at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths, or  
27 trails planted for wildlife food or cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each qualified  
28 disabled person, may accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is constantly in  
29 visual or verbal contact with the disabled person. The companion may participate in lawful activities while assisting  
30 a disabled person, provided license requirements are met. A vehicle used by a qualified disabled person for access to  
31 game lands under this provision shall have the Disabled Access Permit available for inspection by wildlife  
32 enforcement officers upon request. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their companions  
33 may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit hunting days on  
34 a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land. It is unlawful for  
35 anyone other than disabled persons holding a Disabled Access Permit, during waterfowl season, to hunt within 100  
36 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the Wildlife Resources Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind.

1 The Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification allows individuals to apply for available Disabled sportsman permit  
2 hunting opportunities as prescribed in G.S. 113-296.

3 (m) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on game lands, including land or water.  
4 For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque  
5 covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while  
6 in a public place.

7 (n) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting  
8 ranges for purposes other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for  
9 other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. Other uses, including camping, building fires, operating  
10 concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, unless  
11 written authorization is obtained from the Commission. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit  
12 debris or refuse on the grounds of the range. This includes items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the  
13 range, by the shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot items made of glass on the  
14 grounds of the range. No person may leave a vehicle or other obstruction in a location or position that it will prevent,  
15 impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave a vehicle or other  
16 object parked in a place on the shooting range other than the place or zone that is designated and posted or marked as  
17 an authorized parking zone. No person shall handle firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting range in a careless or  
18 reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other permanent fixture or structure  
19 while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore  
20 projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller may be allowed to travel from the  
21 range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to a person. Persons using a shooting range shall obey posted range safety  
22 rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public safety hazard shall leave the shooting range  
23 if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission employees. No person shall handle firearms on  
24 a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic  
25 beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours of operation shall be designated on signs and at  
26 least one sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting range. No person, when using a shooting range, shall do  
27 an act that is prohibited or neglect to do an act that is required by signs or markings placed on the area under authority  
28 of this Rule for regulating the use of the area.

29 (o) Limited-access Roads. During the months of June, July, and August, roads posted as "Limited-access Roads" are  
30 open to motorized vehicles from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. These roads shall be posted with the opening and closing  
31 times.

32 (p) No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of a bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part  
33 thereof, or possess a bird or animal that has been so mutilated.

34 (q) Baiting. Except as provided in Paragraph (g) of this Rule, no person shall place, or cause to be placed on a game  
35 land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without written authorization from an agent of the Commission. Written  
36 authorization may be provided for Commission authorized projects or Commission contractors to meet specific



1 objectives. Except as authorized by rule, no person shall take or attempt to take wild birds or wild animals attracted to  
2 these foods.

3

4 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-270.3; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-305; 113-306;*  
5 *143-318.10;*

6 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

7 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; April 1, 1992;*

8 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 1993;*

9 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;*

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

11 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*

12 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 31, 2001;*

13 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002;*

14 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004; (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
15 *2003);*

16 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; June 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May*  
17 *1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; November 1, 2005;*

18 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2014;*

19 *Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; August 1, 2022; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2017;*

20 *August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*

21 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;*

22 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2023.*

23

**EXHIBIT O**  
**December 5, 2024**



**Proposed Temporary Amendments**  
**to 10F .0307 – Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg Counties**  
**Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at**  
**Public Hearing**

Wildlife Resources Commission staff were recently notified of safety concerns and enforcement challenges surrounding vessel liveries on Lake Norman. Despite the ability of the Lake Norman Marine Commission to establish regulations concerning public recreation and water safety, enforcement of those regulations without joint resolution, as required by S.L.1969-1089, of the four enforcement entities patrolling the lake, or regulations codified in Rule, has made it difficult to enact and enforce regulations, leading to lack of action against liveries and increased safety concerns among lake users.

Codifying vessel livery safety requirements in Rule will clarify standards for livery companies, facilitate and streamline enforcement activities, and improve public safety.

*15A NCAC 10F .0307 CATAWBA, IREDELL, LINCOLN, AND MECKLENBURG COUNTIES*

1 **15A NCAC 10F .0307 CATAWBA, IREDELL, LINCOLN, AND MECKLENBURG COUNTIES**

2 (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to Lake Norman in Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg counties:

- 3 (1) within 50 yards of the shoreline at Jetton Park in Mecklenburg County, from a point on the west side of  
4 the park at 35.47082 N, 80.90427 W, south and around the point at 35.46703 N, 80.90360 W, then  
5 northeast to a point at 35.47262 N, 80.89727 W;
- 6 (2) Bluff Point Cove in Cornelius shore to shore, east of a line from a point 50 yards west of the south shore  
7 of the cove mouth at 35.45327 N, 80.89520 W to a point 50 yards west of the north shore of the cove  
8 mouth at 35.45487 N, 80.89440 W; and
- 9 (3) the cove immediately north of the inlet of Hager Creek in Iredell County, north of a line from a point on  
10 the north shore at 35.55760 N, 80.94730 W southwest to a point on the island at the inlet of Hager Creek  
11 at 35.55695 N, 80.94971 W, and east of a line from the same point on the island northwest to a point on  
12 the north shore at 35.55754 N, 80.95029 W.

13 (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed within the regulated areas described in  
14 Paragraph (a) of this Rule and as set forth in G.S. 75A-14.1.

15 (c) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any marked  
16 swimming area on the waters of Lake Norman.

17 (d) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Lake Norman Marine Commission shall be the designated agency for  
18 placement and maintenance of navigational aids and regulatory markers on the waters of Lake Norman.

19 (e) Vessel Liveries. Vessel liveries operating on Lake Norman shall conduct the following activities with each vessel renter  
20 prior to relinquishing control of the vessel:

- 21 (1) a pre-rental vessel inspection to ensure that safety equipment required by Rule 10F .0201 is on board and  
22 accessible; and
- 23 (2) provide and review instruction on safe operation of the vessel rented including review of navigation rules  
24 in G.S. 75A-6.1, operating restrictions in G.S. 75A-10, an electronic or waterproof navigational map of  
25 Lake Norman, and the U.S. Coast Guard's U.S. Aids to Navigation System pamphlet.

26 Documentation of adherence to these requirements shall be signed by both parties and be available for inspection by law  
27 enforcement officers upon request from the livery company for up to two years and from the vessel renter while that  
28 individual is in control of the vessel.

29  
30 *History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*

31 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

32 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; October 1, 1992; May 1, 1989; March 25, 1978;*

33 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*

34 *Amended Eff. October 1, 2019; October 1, 2018.*

35