



WRC COMMISSION ACTIONS ON PROPOSED CHANGES IN FISHING, HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS FOR 2009-2010

March 4, 2009

FISHING

- F1) Wilson Creek (Caldwell County)** – Classify 3.5 miles of this stream as Delayed Harvest Trout Waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

Adopted

- F2) Mill Creek (McDowell County)** – Classify 0.7 miles of this stream in the Town of Old Fort as Delayed Harvest Trout Waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

Adopted

- F3) Hiwassee River (Clay County)** – Classify 13 miles of this river as Wild Trout/Natural Bait Trout Waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

Disapproved

- F4) Winkler Creek (Watauga County)** – Classify 1.6 miles of this stream in the Town of Boone as Wild Trout Waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

Adopted

- F5) Clear Creek (Henderson County)** – Classify 4.6 miles of this stream as Hatchery Supported Trout Waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

Adopted

- F6) Buck Creek (Clay County)** – Reclassify 2.5 miles of this stream from Wild Trout/Natural Bait to Hatchery Supported Trout Waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

Adopted

- F7) Hemphill Creek (Haywood County)** – Reclassify from Hatchery-Supported to Wild Trout/Natural Bait Trout Waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

Adopted

- F8) South Toe River (Yancey County)** - Reclassify 2.5 miles from Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only to Wild Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Disapproved
- F9) Little River (Transylvania County)** – Identify the lower boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters as “100 yards downstream of Hooker Falls.”
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
15A NCAC 10D .0104 Fishing on Game Lands
Adopted
- F10) Jonathan Creek (Haywood County)** – Identify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters as “upstream of SR 1302 bridge” and correct the spelling of the stream’s name.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F11) Richland Creek (Haywood County)** – Identify the lower boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters as “US 23-74 bridge.”
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F12) Watauga River (Watauga County)** – Identify the upper boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters as “adjacent to the intersection of SR 1557 and SR 1558.”
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F13) Green River (Polk County)** – Change the lower boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters from Brights Creek to the natural gas pipeline crossing.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
15A NCAC 10D .0104 Fishing on Game Lands
Adopted
- F14) Lake Lure (Rutherford County)** – Establish the statewide creel and length regulations for trout in undesignated waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0305 Open Seasons: Creel and Size Limits
Adopted
- F15) North Shoal Creek (Cherokee County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation on private land and reclassify the portion on game lands to Wild Trout/Natural Bait Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F16) Webb Creek (Cherokee County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation on private land.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted

- F17) Big Tuni Creek (Clay County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation on private land.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F18) Vineyard Creek (Clay County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation on private land.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F19) Little Cove Creek (Polk County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation on private land.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F20) Cove Creek (Polk County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation on private land.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F21) Hoskins Fork (Ashe County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F22) Hothouse Branch (Clay County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F23) Tessentee Creek (Macon County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F24) Shooting Creek (Clay County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation on private land.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F25) Camp Creek (Polk and Henderson counties)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation on private land.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted
- F26) Ramey Creek (Alleghany County)** – Remove the Public Mountain Trout Waters designation on private land.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
Adopted

- F27) Lake Lure (Rutherford County)** – Establish the general statewide creel and length regulations for largemouth and smallmouth bass.
15A NCAC 10C .0305 Open Seasons: Creel and Size Limits
Adopted
- F28) Roanoke River** – Increase the minimum size limit for crappie from eight to ten inches on Roanoke River below Roanoke Rapids dam to Albemarle Sound, including Cashie, Middle, and Eastmost rivers.
15A NCAC 10C .0305 Open Seasons: Creel and Size Limits
Adopted
- F29)** Reduce the number of grass carp that can be taken by bow and arrow from Lake James, Lookout Shoals, Lake Norman, Mountain Island, Lake Gaston, and Roanoke Rapids Lake from two to one fish per day.
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes: Purchase and Sale
Adopted
- F30)** Add Lake Wylie to the list of reservoirs where possession of grass carp is prohibited, except that one fish per day may be taken by bow and arrow.
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes: Purchase and Sale
Adopted
- F31)** Prohibit the possession of zebra mussels.
15A NCAC 10C .0211 Possession of Certain Fishes
Adopted
- F32)** Eliminate the special size restriction on bow, dip, and landing nets in the Roanoke and Dan rivers.
15A NCAC 10C .0208 Spawning Areas
Adopted
- F33)** Include members of the U.S. Armed Forces, military families on appreciation days, and those with physical or mental limitations among those qualified to receive fishing license exemptions during special fishing events.
15A NCAC 10C .0216 Fishing License Exemptions
Adopted
- F34)** Include Community Fishing Program waters among those waters where fish size and creel limits that differ from statewide regulations are posted.
15A NCAC 10E .0104 Use of Areas Regulated
Adopted

HUNTING AND TRAPPING

- H1)** Require persons harvesting deer through the Deer Management Assistance Program to use tags provided by the Commission and report their harvests, whether those deer are antlerless or antlered. Allow harvest of deer on DMAP areas under the big game harvest report card and the bonus antlerless deer harvest report card, where applicable.

15A NCAC 10B .0113 Big Game Kill Reports

15A NCAC 10B .0203 White-tailed Deer

Adopted

- H2)** Change the description of where bonus antlerless deer harvest report cards may be used from “private lands” to “lands other than those enrolled in the Commission’s Game Land Program” in order to permit the use of these cards on military installations, national wildlife refuges, and other public lands that are NOT game lands.

15A NCAC 10B .0203 White-tailed Deer

Adopted

- H3)** Remove the daily bag limit for deer.

15A NCAC 10B .0203 White-tailed Deer

Adopted

- H4)** Allow hunters to use archery equipment to harvest deer during the muzzleloading firearms season on game lands.

15A NCAC 10B .0203 White-tailed Deer

Adopted

- H5)** Shorten the bow season by one week and open the muzzleloader season one week earlier to create a two week muzzleloader season.

15A NCAC 10B .0203 White-tailed Deer

Adopted

- H6)** Establish a uniform deer season (matching the current Eastern Deer Season) in and east of Yancey, McDowell and Rutherford counties (WRC Districts 1-8), on private lands only, with the following structure:

- bow and arrow season opens on the Saturday on or nearest to September 10 and ends the fourth Friday thereafter;
- muzzleloader season opens the Saturday on or nearest to October 8 and ends the following Friday;
- and all lawful weapon seasons opens the Saturday on or nearest to October 15 and ends January 1.
- Bow and arrow will be allowed during the muzzleloader season.

15A NCAC 10B .0203 White-tailed Deer

Motion from Big Game Committee to modify as follows: *Deer seasons in the Northwestern Deer Season will be changed so that the regular gun season is extended through January 1. Deer seasons in the Eastern, Central, and Western deer season structures will remain unchanged.*

Adopted (as modified).

- H7)** Establish a uniform deer season (matching the current Eastern Deer Season) in and east of Yancey, McDowell and Rutherford counties (WRC Districts 1-8), on public lands, with the following structure:
- bow and arrow season opens on the Saturday on or nearest to September 10 and ends the fourth Friday thereafter;
 - muzzleloader season opens the Saturday on or nearest to October 8 and ends the following Friday;
 - and all lawful weapon seasons opens the Saturday on or nearest to October 15 and ends January 1.
 - Bow and arrow will be allowed during the muzzleloader season.

15A NCAC 10B .0203 White-tailed Deer

Motion from Big Game Committee to modify as follows: *Deer seasons on game lands in the Northwestern Deer Season will be changed so that the regular gun season is extended through January 1. Deer seasons on game lands in the Eastern, Central, and Western deer season structures will remain unchanged.*

Adopted (as modified).

- H8)** Open all counties in and east of Yancey, McDowell and Rutherford counties to the maximum either-sex deer season.

15A NCAC 10B .0203 White-tailed Deer

Motion from Big Game Committee to modify as follows: *Open all private lands in the Eastern, Central, and Northwestern Deer seasons to the maximum either-sex deer season.*

Adopted (as modified).

- H9)** Assign all of Moore County to the Eastern Deer Season

15A NCAC 10B .0203 White-tailed Deer

Adopted

- H10)** Allow bear hunting on the Daniel Boone bear sanctuary by permit only.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

Adopted

- H11)** Add the western portions of Northampton and Halifax counties to the bear season currently open in the eastern part of those counties.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

Adopted

- H12)** Change the bear season in Pamlico County to open on the second Monday in November and close on January 1.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

Adopted

- H13)** Eliminate the winter either-sex turkey season.

15A NCAC 10B .0209 Wild Turkey

Adopted

- H14)** Replace Youth Only Wild Turkey Season with a Friends and Family Afield Wild Turkey Season. This season shall be the first Saturday in April and every person hunting on that

day must be accompanied by at least one other person. The shooting hours during this season shall end at 1pm. The bag limit is one bird (male or bearded).

15A NCAC 10B .0209 Wild Turkey

Disapproved

- H15)** Open Spring Wild Turkey Season the day after Friends and Family Afield and end the season the Saturday of the fourth week thereafter. During the first six days of this season (Sunday through Friday) shooting hours end at 1 pm. The bag limit shall be one bird for the first six days of the season. If a hunter takes a bird during Friends and Family Afield Wild Turkey Season, the hunter may not take another bird during the first six days of the spring season. After the first six days have passed, the shooting hours end at one-half hour after sunset and the season bag limit is two birds (male or bearded).

15A NCAC 10B .0209 Wild Turkey

Motion from Big Game Committee to modify as follows: *In WRC Districts 1 through 9, open spring wild turkey season on the first day hunting is allowed after Youth Turkey season and close the fifth Saturday thereafter, with shooting hours and bag limits to remain as currently established.*

Motion to modify passed. Modified proposal was Disapproved.

- H16)** Remove permit requirements for youth hunting on Youth Turkey Day on these game lands: Croatan, Holly Shelter, North River and Van Swamp.

15A NCAC 10B .0209 Wild Turkey

Adopted

- H17)** Open wild boar season on the Monday on or nearest September 10 and end it on the last day of February. Allow hunting wild boar with dogs only during open bear season and never on bear sanctuaries. Allow wild boar to be taken in the deer bow and arrow season, deer muzzleloading season, deer gun season and any small game season using only weapons and manner of take prescribed for that hunting season.

15A NCAC 10B .0204 Wild Boar

Adopted

- H18)** Open bear sanctuaries to wild boar hunting during the entire wild boar season. Dogs may not used to hunt wild boar on bear sanctuaries.

15A NCAC 10B .0204 Wild Boar

Adopted

- H19)** Require hunters to attach a physical tag to big game harvests at the site of harvest. Delay implementation of this rule change until the 2010 hunting season.

15A NCAC 10B .0113 Big Game Kill Reports

Motion from Big Game Committee that proposal H19 be tabled for further exploration by staff.

Motion to table was approved.

- H20)** Set the season on red and grey squirrels to open Oct. 1 and close on the second Saturday of February.
15A NCAC 10B .0206 Squirrel
Adopted
- H21)** Allow the Commission to authorize the use of unplugged shotguns and electronic calls when allowed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for hunting migratory game birds.
15A NCAC 10B .0105 Migratory Game Birds
Adopted
- H22)** Change the season for crows to include the state observed holidays of July 4th, New Years Day and Martin Luther King Jr. Day and change the opening day of the season from June 1st to the first Wednesday in June.
15A NCAC 10B .0215 Crows
Adopted
- T23)** Remove the bag limits on otters in the western region of North Carolina.
15A NCAC 10B .0303 Bag Limits
Adopted
- T24)** Allow raccoons to be trapped in and west of Madison, Buncombe, Henderson and Polk counties (District 9).
15A NCAC 10B .0302 Open Seasons
Adopted
- H25)** Allow falconry on Sundays, except for migratory game birds.
15A NCAC 10B .0201 Manner of Take
Adopted
- H26)** Allow bow hunting on Sundays on private lands only, except for migratory game birds.
15A NCAC 10B .0201 Manner of Take
Adopted
- H27)** Allow bow hunting on Sundays on game lands, except for migratory game birds.
15A NCAC 10B .0201 Manner of Take
Disapproved
- H28)** Allow the use of crossbows, without permit, anytime bow and arrows are legal weapons.
15A NCAC 10B .0116 Permitted Archery Equipment
Adopted
- H29)** Remove restrictions on firearms allowed on game lands during open hunting seasons but while big game seasons are closed.
15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use
Adopted
- H30)** Prohibit the training and running of dogs from March 15 through June 15 on any game land located east of I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Commission.

15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use

Adopted

- H31)** Specify the use of permit hunts as the means by which the Commission will create additional hunting opportunities for Disabled Sportsman Program participants. Allow the Commission to schedule these disabled sportsman permit hunts during the closed season and limit the weapon type if necessary.

15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use

Adopted

- H32)** Clarify that the use of disabled sportsman blinds on game lands is for individuals enrolled in the Disabled Sportsman Program and their able bodied companions exclusively and their use of these blinds shall be on a first come basis during regular scheduled hunting days. On permit hunts the Commission will designate use of the blinds.

15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use

Adopted

- H33)** Remove the disabled hunting dates required by 15A NCAC 10D .0103 on Bladen Lakes and Holly Shelter game lands. Disabled hunts on these game lands will be available through the permit system.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

- H34)** Change the shooting hours for hunting waterfowl on Butner - Falls of Neuse Game Land from a 1 p.m. ending to all day.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

- H35)** Add Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday to the list of applicable hunt days for waterfowl on Butner –Falls of Neuse Game Land.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

- H36)** Implement permit-only hunting and restrict vehicular access from September 1 to the end of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting opportunity permit on the Parker Farm Tract of Goose Creek Game Land and the Pender 4 Tract of Holly Shelter Game Land.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

- H37)** Implement permit-only hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments located on Goose Creek and White Oak game lands during October and through the end of the waterfowl season.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

- H38)** Allow hunters who possess disabled access permits to operate All Terrain Vehicles on and within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access on Holly Shelter Game Land.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H39) Allow youth to hunt the Camden County portion of the North River Game Land during the Youth-only Wild Turkey Season without a permit.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H40) Add one week to dove hunting on the field trial grounds of the Sandhills Game Land with the last hunting day being the third Saturday of September instead of the current second Saturday in September.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H41) Limit consecutive nights stay to 14 days in any 30 day period on designated campgrounds on Thurmond Chatham Game Land from May 1 to August 31 and require the removal of personal property at the end of a 14 day period.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H42) Identify the hunting opportunity permit as the type of permit needed to access Hargett Ave on the White Oak River Game Land.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H43) Create Buxton Woods Game Land in Dare County as a six-day-per-week game land and Conservative Either Sex Deer Season.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H44) Limit dog training on Sandy Mush Game Lands to Mondays, Wednesday and Saturdays.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H45) Prohibit vessels powered by internal combustion engines and swimming at Lake Upchurch in Nicholson Creek Game Land.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H46) Create Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County as a permit-only area.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H47) Change the description of areas of Gull Rock Game Land in the N.C. Administrative Code so that new tracts are automatically open to bear hunting unless the tracts are designated as part of the bear sanctuary.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

Adopted

H48) Disallow the selling of live foxes and coyotes taken under a depredation permit to controlled hunting preserves.

15A NCAC 10B .0106 Wildlife Taken for Depredations or Accidentally
15A NCAC 10B .0404 Trappers and Hunters
15A NCAC 10B .0409 Sale of Live Foxes and Coyotes to Controlled Fox Hunting
Preserves

Adopted

- H49)** Remove the 1,000 acre upper limit on controlled hunting preserves.

15A NCAC 10H .0102 Establishment and Operation

Adopted

- H50)** Allow a landowner with a valid depredation permit to give away the edible portions of deer to anyone. Require the recipient to retain a copy of the depredation permit.

15A NCAC 10B .0106 Wildlife Taken for Depredations or Accidentally

Adopted

- H51)** Eliminate the requirement that a landholder must get a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit for the taking of migratory birds before getting a Commission permit to do so.

15A NCAC 10B .0106 Wildlife Taken for Depredations or Accidentally

Adopted

- H52)** Allow the executive director to issue depredation permits for special concern species.

15A NCAC 10I .0102 Protection of Endangered/Threatened/Special Concern

Adopted

- H53)** Add importation as an action that would require a native reptile and amphibian possession permit.

15A NCAC 10H .1302 Possession of Reptiles and Amphibians

Adopted

- H54)** Remove spotted turtles from being uniquely listed under the collection license.

15A NCAC 10B .0119 Wildlife Collectors

Adopted

- H55)** Eliminate the fox hunting/trapping season in Stokes County that is described in the N.C. Administrative Code.

15A NCAC 10B .0212 Foxes (Gray and Red)

Adopted

- H56)** Remove Broad River Game Land from the game land program.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands
Adopted
- H57)** Remove Caswell Farm Game Land from the game land program.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands
Adopted
- H58)** Allow camping anytime within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands
Adopted
- H59)** Add or delete counties to the descriptions of these game lands in the NCAC to accurately reflect the locations of these game lands: Bachelor Bay, Elk Knob, Embro, Juniper Creek, Lower Fishing Creek, North River, Rhodes Pond, Shocco Creek, Suggs Mill Pond, Thurmond Chatham and Toxaway.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands
Adopted
- H60)** Eliminate the requirement that controlled hunting preserve operators and game bird propagators apply to the Commission for permits to use quail call pen traps, the requirement that they provide the Commission with a map of quail call pen traps and attach a registration card to each one. Require persons placing call pen traps on their property to label those traps with their contact information. Eliminate the limit on the number of traps that may be placed by controlled hunting preserve operators and game bird propagators.
15A NCAC 10H .0109 Quail Call-Pen Traps
15A NCAC 10H .0907 Quail Call-Pen Traps
Adopted
- H61)** Eliminate the limit on the number of bird feeders that may be placed on controlled hunting preserves. Eliminate the requirement that controlled hunting preserve operators provide the Commission with a map of bird feeders.
15A NCAC 10H .0108 Bird Feeders
Adopted