



## **AGENDA**

### **N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**February 11, 2016, 9:00 a.m.**

**1751 Varsity Drive**

**NCWRC Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**Raleigh, North Carolina**

**CALL TO ORDER** - *Chairman John Litton Clark*

**This meeting is being recorded as a public record and is audio streaming live at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). As a courtesy to others please turn off all cell phones during the meeting.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – *Commissioner Ray Clifton*

**INVOCATION** - *Commissioner John Stone*

### **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

**MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY** - North Carolina General Statute 138A-15(e) mandates that the Commission Chair shall remind all Commissioners of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict under this Chapter, and that the chair also inquire 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 Clark*

**APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 10, 2015 MINUTES** - Take action on the December 10, 2015 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit and distributed to members (**EXHIBIT A**)

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**Financial Status Report** - Receive a financial status report on the Wildlife Operating Fund and Wildlife Endowment Fund – *Lindsey Riddick, Budget Analyst* (**EXHIBIT B**)

**RECEIVE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION REVIEW OF 2015 STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST FOR COMMISSIONER RICHARD EDWARDS** - *Pursuant to NCGS §138A-15(c), any actual or potential conflict of interest by a public servant sitting on a board and cited by the Ethics Commission under NCGS 138A-24(e) is required to be read into the minutes of the applicable board.* Read into the Minutes relevant portions of the evaluation by the N.C. Ethics Commission of the 2015 Statement of Economic Interest for Richard Edwards, Governor Appointee – *Betsy Haywood, Ethics Liaison* (**EXHIBIT C**)

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Land Use and Access Committee Report** – *Tom Berry, Chair*

**Habitat, Nongame and Endangered Species Committee Report** – *Mark Craig, Chair*

**Big Game Webinar Briefing Report, February 3, 2016** – *Neal Hanks, Chair*

**Big Game Committee Report** – *Neal Hanks, Chair*

**Committee of the Whole Report** – *John Litton Clark, Chair*

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – Discover Your Wildlife: SRRI Based Programs** – Receive a presentation highlighting Strategic Recruitment and Retention Initiative based programs – *Kristopher Smith, Wildlife Education Division Chief*

## **INLAND FISHERIES DIVISION**

**Fisheries Update** – Receive an update on the activities of the Inland Fisheries Division – *Christian Waters, Inland Fisheries Division Chief*

**Summary of Public Comments** - Receive summary of public comments on proposed changes to inland fisheries regulations received from statewide district public hearings held in January, from WRC internet portal and correspondence – *Christian Waters* (**EXHIBIT D**)

**Rulemaking** – Review and consider adoption of proposed changes in the 2016-2017 inland fishing regulations – *Christian Waters* (**EXHIBIT E**)

## **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

**Wildlife Management Update** – Receive an update on the activities of the Wildlife Management Division – *Dr. David Cobb, Wildlife Management Division Chief*

**Summary of Public Comments** - Receive summary of public comments on proposed changes to wildlife management regulations received from statewide district public hearings held in January, from WRC internet portal and correspondence – *David Cobb (EXHIBIT F)*

**Rulemaking** – Review and consider adoption of proposed changes in the 2016-2017 wildlife management regulations – *David Cobb (EXHIBIT G)*

## **LAND AND WATER ACCESS SECTION**

### **Land Acquisitions and Property Matters**

**Phase I Land Acquisitions** - Consider approval for staff to work with State Property Office and funding partners to develop acquisition plans for the following properties – *Isaac Harrold, Lands Program Manager (EXHIBITS H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6)*

- Dix Creek Tract, Haywood County (H-1)
- Long Ridge Tract, Pender County (H-2)
- Galloway Tract, Rockingham County (H-3)
- Hill Farm Tract, Stokes County (H-4)
- Vinson Tract, Bladen County (H-5)
- Ward Columbia Depot Tracts, Tyrrell County (H-6)

**Phase II Land Acquisitions** - Consider final approval to proceed with acquisition of the following properties – *Isaac Harrold (EXHIBITS I-1, I-2, I-3, I-4, I-5)*

- Faircloth Access Tract, Bladen County (I-1)
- Poplin Tract, Richmond County (I-2)
- Catherine Gibson Tract – Scotland County (I-3)
- Stainback Tract – Onslow County (I-4)
- Morrison Tract – Wilkes County (I-5)

**Summary of Public Comments** - Receive summary of public comments on proposed changes to game lands management regulations, received from statewide district public hearings held in January 2016, from WRC internet portal and correspondence – *Isaac Harrold (EXHIBIT J)*

**Rulemaking** – Review and consider adoption of proposed changes in the 2016-2017 game land management regulations - *Isaac Harrold (EXHIBIT K)*

## **WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING**

**Proposed No Vessel Entry Zone in Public Swimming Area, Jackson County** - Consider adoption of a proposed no-vessel entry zone in public swimming area at Pines Recreation Area, Lake Glenville, Jackson County – *Kate Pipkin, Operations Manager (EXHIBIT L)*

**Proposed No Wake Zone, Carteret County** - Consider adoption of a proposed no wake zone at Palmetto Drive Canal, Carteret County – *Kate Pipkin (EXHIBIT M)*

**Proposed No Wake Zone Extension, Nantahala Lake, Macon County** – Consider approval to publish Notice of Text in the North Carolina Register for a 60-day open comment period, to extend a no wake zone in Lakes End Cove on Nantahala Lake – 15A NCAC 10F .0366(a)(1) – *Betsy Haywood, No Wake Zone Coordinator (EXHIBIT N-1)*

**Fiscal Note – Nantahala Lake No Wake Zone Extension, Macon County** – Consider approval of the fiscal note review for a no wake zone extension in Lakes End Cove, Nantahala Lake – *Betsy Haywood (EXHIBIT N-2)*

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – CO-MANAGEMENT BETWEEN NCWRC AND US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE OF CERTAIN PROGRAMS ON MATTAMUSKEET NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE** - Consider adoption of an MOU between the NCWRC and USFWS for the co-management of certain programs on Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge - *Gordon Myers, Executive Director and Cynthia Dohner, Southeast Regional Director, USFWS (EXHIBIT O)*

**COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN** – *John Litton Clark*

**COMMENTS BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – *Gordon Myers*

**ADJOURN**



# EXHIBIT A

## February 11, 2016



### MINUTES December 10, 2015 N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission Meeting Raleigh, North Carolina

The December 10, 2015 N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission meeting was called to order by *Commission Chairman* John Litton Clark at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Room at Wildlife Resources Commission Headquarters in Raleigh. Clark reminded everyone that the meeting audio is being streamed live and will be available on the Wildlife Resources Commission website. He requested that everyone silence electronic devices. Commissioner Garry Spence was absent.

Commissioner Dean Proctor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Tommy Fonville gave the invocation.

### **WELCOME AND MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY**

Chairman Clark advised the Commission of the mandatory ethics inquiry as presented in the agenda. He welcomed Commissioners and guests, including Commissioner Brian White's wife Charlotte.

### **COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE**

John Litton Clark  
Richard Edwards  
Nat Harris  
Joe Budd  
Neal Hanks  
Ray Clifton  
Mark Craig  
Tim Spear  
John Stone

Brian White  
Wes Seegars  
Jim Cogdell  
Mike Johnson  
John Coley  
Landon Zimmer  
Tom Berry  
Tommy Fonville  
Dean Proctor

## **VISITORS**

Charlotte White  
Joe McClees – NC Sporting Dog Inc.

Fred Harris – NC Wildlife Federation  
Henri McClees – NC Sporting Dog Inc.

## **SWEAR IN COMMISSIONER MARK CRAIG**

Margo Minkler, *Notary Public, Wildlife Enforcement Division*, swore in Commissioner Mark Craig, *President Pro Tempore Appointee*, for a term ending June 30, 2017.

## **MINUTES**

Upon a motion by Mike Johnson and second by John Coley, the Commission approved the October 22, 2015 Wildlife Resources Commission minutes as presented in **Exhibit A. Exhibit A, the Minutes**, is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## **FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT**

Lindsey Riddick, *Budget Analyst*, presented in **Exhibit B** the financial status report on the Wildlife Operating Fund and the Wildlife Endowment Fund as of October 31, 2015. The Operating Fund balance was \$13,972,116.02. The Endowment Fund balance was \$114,333,306.93. Expendable interest was \$20,941,746.23. **Exhibit B** is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Land Use and Access Committee Meeting Report** – Tom Berry, *Chairman*, reported that the Land Use and Access Committee met in the Commission Room on December 9, 2015. The committee reviewed six Phase I properties and will recommend that the WRC approve staff working with the State Property Office and funding partners to develop acquisition plans for the properties. The Committee then reviewed one Phase II land acquisition proposal. Proposed easements were discussed in the meeting. The committee will recommend that the Commission approve the Phase II property and the easement requests.

**Boating Safety Committee Meeting Report** – Ray Clifton, *Chairman*, reported that the Boating Safety Committee met briefly on December 9, 2015. The committee reviewed one Fiscal Note review and proposed Notice of Text for a no wake zone in Craven County. The committee will recommend approval by the Commission.

**Big Game Committee Meeting Report** – Neal Hanks, *Chairman*, reported that the Big Game Committee met on December 9, 2015. Dr. David Cobb reported that the early deer harvest report was emailed to Commissioners and that a final report will be made at the end of the season. David Sawyer provided an overview of the state-wide 2012-2022 Bear Management Plan. With more than half of North Carolina developed and with larger non-huntable areas, an updated Bear Management Plan is needed. The goal is to use science to manage bear populations in balance with habitats and human expectations. Recommendations to be considered include revising bear season structure in some areas of the state, conserving bear habitat and reducing highway impacts, and developing continuing education programs and publications.

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – BEYOND LICENSING – IT INITIATIVES FOR CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT AND STAFF EFFICIENCY** – CarolAnne Feehan, *IT Business Analyst*, presented an update about recent projects by IT staff to improve engagement with customers and to develop web-based applications that increase efficiencies in license sales, regulatory reporting, and education. Feehan mentioned PAWS, a web based program used by employees, external partners and the public for searches about maps, reports and documents. IVR, a vendor software is used for reporting about big game harvests and migratory birds. Recent applications include the Public Mountain Trout Waters Search, Fish Hatchery Production, and Human/Wildlife Interaction Reports. In development is an on-line form for turning in poachers (TIP). Also being developed are projects for on-line surveys, aquaculture, enforcement assets map, and permit reporting.

## **INLAND FISHERIES**

### **Fisheries Update**

Bob Curry, *Inland Fisheries Division Chief*, provided an update about the activities of the Inland Fisheries Division. Curry stated that sampling of striped bass and hybrids in reservoirs is ongoing and data is being analyzed. Curry stated that recent testing of hatcheries in Tennessee showed no evidence of whirling disease and gill lice. Some testing will be conducted in Virginia, but one facility declined to have its stock tested. Curry stated that the Whirling Disease Action Plan will be posted on the agency website. Gordon Myers, *Executive Director*, announced that Bob Curry has accepted a position with the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington, DC. The Wildlife Resources Commission wished Curry the best of luck and stated that he will be missed.

## **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

### **Wildlife Management Update**

Dr. David Cobb, *Wildlife Management Division Chief*, provided an update about the activities of the Wildlife Management Division. Cobb announced that North Carolina will host the SEAFWA Deer Study meeting February 15-17, 2016 near Charlotte. Cobb reported that preliminary data collected on the statewide deer harvest shows that there is an 11 percent harvest increase statewide. Research initiatives include restoration of forest habitat for Carolina northern flying squirrels and other species, improvements to early successional habitats, and research with NC State University on the Hountable Lands project. The Bird Banding Project participants have banded 1,200 wood ducks and 1,300 doves. The agency continues to be involved with the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Surveillance.

## **PROPERTY MATTERS**

### **Phase I Potential Land Acquisitions**

On a motion by Tom Berry and second by Tommy Fonville, the Commission approved the presentation by Isaac Harrold, *Lands Program Manager*, authorizing staff to work with the State Property Office and funding partners to develop acquisition plans for the following properties, presented in **Exhibits C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, C-5 and C-6**:

- Collette Tract – Carteret County (C-1)
- Lambb Lot 256 – Ashe County (C-2)
- Little Macedonia Tract – Brunswick County (C-3)
- Moorman Farms Tract – Washington County (C-4)
- Pontiac Plywood Tracts – Warren County (C-5)
- Tweed Tract – Buncombe County (C-6)

**Exhibits C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, C-5, and C-6** are hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

### **Phase II Land Acquisition**

On a motion by Tom Berry and second by Tommy Fonville, the Commission gave final approval to proceed with acquisition of the Caldwell Tract in Haywood County, presented in **Exhibit D**. **Exhibit D** is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Easement Request, Scotland County**

On a motion by Tom Berry and second by Tommy Fonville, the Commission approved a request from the NC Department of Transportation, presented in **Exhibit E**, for easements across a portion of Sandhills Game Land in Scotland County to facilitate a bridge improvement project. **Scotland County Easement Request, Exhibit E**, is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Easement Amendment Request, Polk County**

Upon a motion by Tom Berry and second by Tommy Fonville, the Commission approved a request to amend an existing utility easement across a portion of Green River Game Land in Polk County, presented in **Exhibit F**, for the purpose of specifically defining the easement width and location. **Easement Amendment Request, Polk County, Exhibit F**, is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**BOATING SAFETY RULES AND FISCAL NOTES**

**Notice of Text – Proposed No Wake Zone, Slocum Creek, City of Havelock – Craven County**

Upon a motion by Mike Johnson and second by Nat Harris, the Commission approved the recommendation to publish Notice of Text in the NC Register for a proposed no wake zone under 15A NCAC 10F .0347 – Craven County on a portion of Slocum Creek in Havelock, presented in **Exhibit G-1. Exhibit G-1** is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Fiscal Note Review – Proposed No Wake Zone, Slocum Creek, City of Havelock- Craven County**

On a motion by John Coley and second by Nat Harris, the Commission approved the fiscal note analysis for the proposal by the City of Havelock in Craven County to establish a no wake zone on Slocum Creek, presented in **Exhibit G-2. Exhibit G-2** is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

*Chairman* John Litton Clark thanked staff for their efforts in preparing for the WRC meeting. He reminded everyone that the Big Game Committee will meet at 11:00 to discuss the Bear Management Plan. It was announced that Commissioner Jim Cogdell has been added to the Land Use and Access Committee. Clark wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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

Gordon Myers, *Executive Director*, provided an update about water level management at Lake Mattamuskeet. Myers has been in discussions with David Viker and Cindy Dohner of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Ms. Dohner will speak to the Commission at the February 10, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting. Myers will work on an agreement to delineate shared and collaborative responsibilities between the USFWS and NCWRC.

Myers received an award from the USFWS for his partnership in working with that agency collaboratively on recent complicated issues.

Myers reminded the Commission of the January statewide public hearings. Law Enforcement will hold their District meetings prior to the public hearings. He thanked everyone for efforts to present the Commissioner Orientation that was held on December 9.

Myers stated that staff is working with Johnston County on a BB shooting range agreement.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.

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

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John Litton Clark, Chairman

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Date

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Gordon Myers, Executive Director

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Date

## NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

## Exhibit B

February 5, 2016

## Summary and Analysis of Agency Operating Cash Balance - Code 14350, 24350, 24351 and 24352

	November, 2014				November, 2015		
<b>Cash Balance July 1</b>		<b>\$ 17,507,785.09</b>				<b>\$ 11,302,064.79</b>	
<b>Appropriations</b>	<b>2014-2015 Authorized Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>% of</b>	<b>2015-2016 Authorized Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>% of</b>	
Appropriations	\$ 11,332,557.00	\$ 4,822,423.00	42.55%	\$ 10,153,623.00	\$ 4,461,553.00	43.94%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,332,557.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,822,423.00</b>	<b>42.55%</b>	<b>\$ 10,153,623.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,461,553.00</b>	<b>43.94%</b>	
<b>Receipts</b>							
License Receipts	\$ 18,048,750.00	\$ 11,797,396.85	65.36%	\$ 18,313,775.50	\$ 12,166,200.00	66.43%	
Vessel Receipts	11,310,037.00	3,645,350.00	32.23%	11,720,816.32	4,543,390.00	38.76%	
Federal Funds	26,790,957.00	12,170,237.19	45.43%	27,104,387.74	11,897,930.00	43.90%	
Publications	345,432.00	319,683.34	92.55%	9,523,163.26	364,474.63	3.83%	
Professional Services	8,937,075.00	4,602,530.04	51.50%	2,930,204.08	3,750,518.99	128.00%	
Agency Reimbursements	2,863,228.00	1,961,801.31	68.52%	2,930,204.08	1,514,036.13	51.67%	
Other Receipts	1,124,621.00	857,783.07	76.27%	732,551.02	662,678.00	90.46%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 69,420,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 35,354,781.80</b>	<b>50.93%</b>	<b>\$ 73,255,102.00</b>	<b>\$ 34,899,227.75</b>	<b>47.64%</b>	
<b>Expenditures</b>							
Administration	\$ 7,965,285.00	\$ 3,418,160.52	42.91%	\$ 8,341,518.00	\$ 3,761,177.20	45.09%	
Enforcement	22,425,360.00	8,555,811.41	38.15%	21,746,447.00	8,717,075.71	40.09%	
Education	3,827,669.00	1,463,784.71	38.24%	4,484,277.00	2,086,008.35	46.52%	
Inland Fisheries	10,379,260.00	3,849,158.78	37.09%	9,208,953.00	3,297,926.95	35.81%	
Wildlife Management	10,576,320.00	3,129,830.72	29.59%	8,930,868.00	2,646,693.12	29.64%	
Engineering Services	20,439,334.00	11,788,783.67	57.68%	22,572,584.00	10,233,314.13	45.34%	
Habitat Conservation	-	-		874,671.00	374,136.95	42.77%	
W/Life Fund Receipts	9,752,135.00	4,299,308.50	44.09%	9,028,375.00	3,692,673.90	40.90%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 85,365,363.00</b>	<b>\$ 36,504,838.31</b>	<b>42.76%</b>	<b>\$ 85,187,693.00</b>	<b>\$ 34,809,006.31</b>	<b>40.86%</b>	
<b>Cash Balance November 30</b>		<b>\$ 21,180,151.58</b>			<b>\$ 15,853,839.23</b>		

# NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

## ENDOWMENT FUND YEAR-TO-DATE

	<u>November, 2014</u>	<u>November, 2015</u>
<b>Balance Nov 1</b>	\$ 110,333,481.60	\$ 115,672,611.97
Plus: Revenues from Sales	305,627.00	326,513.00
Return on Investment	782,950.03	450,272.55
	<u>111,422,058.63</u>	<u>116,449,397.52</u>
Less: Transfers Out	-	-
<b>Balance Nov 30</b>	<u><b>\$ 111,422,058.63</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 116,449,397.52</b></u>
<b>Market Value</b>	<b>\$ 113,269,663.08</b>	<b>\$ 114,073,803.04</b>

## Endowment Fund Interest

Sources of Interest Available	Expendable	Non Expendable	Transferred to Operations	Transferred to Capital Projects
<b>ADULT Licenses</b>	\$ 20,092,419.76	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>INFANT Licenses</b>	-	10,321,790.75	-	-
<b>YOUTH Licenses</b>	-	859,819.37	-	-
<b>Magazine Subscriptions</b>	366,511.61	-	-	-
<b>Contributions - General</b>	828,751.05	-	-	-
<b>Contributions - Diversity</b>	1,008.67	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u><b>\$ 21,288,691.09</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 11,181,610.12</b></u>	<u><b>\$ -</b></u>	<u><b>\$ -</b></u>

### 2015-16 Budgeted Obligated

Allocation of Endowment Interest - Sportsman Fund	5,095,858.00
Allocation of Endowment Interest - Magazine Fund	271,965.00
	<u><b>\$ 5,367,823.00</b></u>

### 2015-16 Transferred To Date

To Sportsman Fund	-
To Magazine Fund	-
To Capital Projects	-
	<u><b>\$ -</b></u>



# EXHIBIT C

February 11, 2016



*Pursuant to NCGS §138A-15(c), any actual or potential conflict of interest by a public servant sitting on a board and cited by the Ethics Commission under NCGS 138A-24(e) is required to be read into the minutes of the applicable board. Read into the Minutes relevant portions of the evaluation by the N.C. Ethics Commission of the 2015 Statement of Economic Interest for Richard Edwards, District 2 Commissioner appointed by Governor Pat McCrory for a term ending June 30, 2021.*

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. Edwards will fill the role of a representative of District 2 on the Commission. He has ownership interest in North Carolina real estate, including a wildlife preserve. Because these properties may be subject to Commission regulations, he has the potential for a conflict of interest. As such, Mr. Edwards should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties should any entities or properties in which he has a financial interest come before the Commission for official action.



## EXHIBIT D

February 11, 2016

### Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Inland Fishing Regulations for 2016-2017 as of February 8, 2016

Proposal	Proposed Text	Position Count	Comment Types
F1	Modify the lower boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters on the Ararat River in Surry County, adding approximately 1.2 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be the portion of the Ararat River adjacent to the Ararat River Greenway in Mount Airy.	129 :Agree 4 :Disagree	7 :Online 126 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F2	Modify the lower boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on the East Prong Roaring River in Wilkes County, removing approximately 1.3 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters. The new designated reach will be from the Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary to the S.R. 1002 bridge.	119 :Agree 15 :Disagree	7 :Online 127 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F3	Clarify that the portion of Three Top Creek located on Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County is classified as Hatchery Supported Trout Waters.	133 :Agree 2 :Disagree	10 :Online 125 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F4	Clarify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Savannah Creek in Jackson County. The designated reach will be from Shell Branch to Cagle Branch.	134 :Agree 3 :Disagree	6 :Online 131 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F5	Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for black bass in Lake Chatuge (Clay County) by increasing the daily creel limit from 5 fish to 10 fish in aggregate, decreasing the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass from 14 inches except that two fish less than 14 inches can be retained in the daily creel to 12 inches with no exception, and removing the minimum size limit of 14 inches for Smallmouth and Spotted Bass.	121 :Agree 30 :Disagree	7 :Online 144 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F6	Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for black bass in Lake Hampton (Yadkin County) by allowing no Largemouth Bass between 16 and 20 inches to be possessed. The daily creel limit will remain 5 fish, and the minimum size limit will remain 14 inches except that two fish less than 14 inches can be retained in the daily creel.	119 :Agree 14 :Disagree	3 :Online 130 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F7	Modify the exception to the general statewide regulation for black bass in the New River in Alleghany County downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia) by increasing the slot limit of 14 to 20 inches with only one fish greater than 20 inches to a slot limit of 14 to 22 inches with only one fish greater than 22 inches. The daily creel limit will remain 5 fish.	129 :Agree 7 :Disagree	5 :Online 131 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F8	Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for crappie in Lake Chatuge (Clay County) by implementing 30-fish daily creel limit. There is no minimum size limit.	119 :Agree 25 :Disagree	4 :Online 140 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F9	Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for crappie in Lake Hampton (Yadkin County) by implementing an 8-inch minimum size limit and a 20-fish daily creel limit.	129 :Agree 4 :Disagree	3 :Online 130 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F10	Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for Striped Bass and Bodie Bass in Lake Chatuge (Clay County) by increasing the daily creel limit from four fish to 15 fish in aggregate, removing the minimum size limit of 20 inches, and allowing only two fish greater than 22 inches to be retained.	122 :Agree 20 :Disagree	4 :Online 138 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F11	Prohibit transport, possession or release of live White Perch in waters in and west of Haywood, Buncombe, and Rutherford counties.	137 :Agree 8 :Disagree	10 :Online 135 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F12	Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for Blue Catfish in Lake Tillery, Lake Wylie, and Mountain Island Reservoir by allowing only one fish greater than 32 inches to be possessed in the daily creel.	126 :Agree 16 :Disagree	11 :Online 128 :Comment Card 3 :Letter/Email

Proposal	Proposed Text	Position Count	Comment Types
F13	Designate Atlantic Sturgeon as State Endangered when found in inland fishing waters and remove Atlantic Sturgeon from the State Special Concern list. The scientific name of Atlantic Sturgeon will be updated to match currently accepted nomenclature.	130 :Agree 9 :Disagree	10 :Online 129 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
F14	Add dip nets when used in conjunction with a licensed hand-crank electrofisher where authorized by local law to the list of equipment that can be used to take nongame fish for bait or personal consumption in inland fishing waters with an inland fishing license.	106 :Agree 24 :Disagree	6 :Online 124 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
O	Propose a Regulation (Fishing)		14 :Online 14 :Comment Card 2 :Letter/Email
O	Propose a Regulation (General)		0 :Online 0 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email

**Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Inland Fishing Regulations for 2016-2017  
by District  
as of February 8, 2016**

[illegible]

**Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Inland Fishing Regulations for 2016-2017  
by District  
as of February 8, 2016**

[illegible]

Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Inland Fishing Regulations for 2016-2017  
by District  
as of February 8, 2016

Proposal	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	District 9	Out of State
F13	<b>Position Count:</b> 3 : Agree 1 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 7 : Agree 0 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 5 : Agree 0 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 12 : Agree 0 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 13 : Agree 1 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 3 : Agree 0 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 18 : Agree 0 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 20 : Agree 2 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 49 : Agree 5 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Agree 0 : Disagree
	<b>Comment Types:</b> 4 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 6 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 5 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 12 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 13 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 2 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 17 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 22 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 53 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online
F14	<b>Position Count:</b> 3 : Agree 1 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 6 : Agree 0 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 1 : Agree 1 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 11 : Agree 0 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 13 : Agree 2 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 3 : Agree 1 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 15 : Agree 2 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 16 : Agree 4 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 38 : Agree 13 : Disagree	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Agree 0 : Disagree
	<b>Comment Types:</b> 4 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 6 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 11 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 14 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 2 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 17 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 20 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 50 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online
O (Fishing)	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 2 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 3 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 1 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 1 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 6 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 16 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 1 : Other
	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 3 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 1 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 1 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 2 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 4 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 8 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 8 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 1 : Letter/Email 0 : Online
O (General)	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other	<b>Position Count:</b> 0 : Other
	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b>Comment Types:</b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online

Letter Received During the Public Comment Period for the  
2016-2017 Regulatory Cycle  
Inland Fisheries Division

In addition to the individual comments tallied, the Commission received the following letter representing an organization\*:

- 1) Supports establishing an exception to the general statewide regulation for Blue Catfish in Lake Tillery, Lake Wylie, and Mountain Island Reservoir by allowing only one fish greater than 32 inches to be possessed in the daily creel (F12) and requests the proposal be modified to only one fish greater than 32 inches 'per boat'  
Carolina Catfish Club, submitted by Dieter Melhorn, President

\*Complete letter provided electronically. Hard copies available upon request.



# EXHIBIT E

February 11, 2016

## PROPOSED CHANGES IN INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS FOR 2016-2017 AND RULE TEXT FOR COMMISSION ACTION

- F1) Modify the lower boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters on the Ararat River in Surry County, adding approximately 1.2 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be the portion of the Ararat River adjacent to the Ararat River Greenway in Mount Airy.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 9)*
- F2) Modify the lower boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on the East Prong Roaring River in Wilkes County, removing approximately 1.3 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters. The new designated reach will be from the Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary to the S.R. 1002 bridge.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 10)*
- F3) Clarify that the portion of Three Top Creek located on Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County is classified as Hatchery Supported Trout Waters.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 4)*
- F4) Clarify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Savannah Creek in Jackson County. The designated reach will be from Shell Branch to Cagle Branch.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters (page 7)*
- F5) Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for black bass in Lake Chatuge (Clay County) by increasing the daily creel limit from 5 fish to 10 fish in aggregate, decreasing the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass from 14 inches except that two fish less than 14 inches can be retained in the daily creel to 12 inches with no exception, and removing the minimum size limit of 14 inches for Smallmouth and Spotted Bass.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0305 Black Bass (page 12)*
- F6) Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for black bass in Lake Hampton (Yadkin County) by allowing no Largemouth Bass between 16 and 20 inches to be possessed. The daily creel limit will remain 5 fish, and the minimum size limit will remain 14 inches except that two fish less than 14 inches can be retained in the daily creel.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0305 Black Bass (page 12)*



- F7) Modify the exception to the general statewide regulation for black bass in the New River in Alleghany County downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia) by increasing the slot limit of 14 to 20 inches with only one fish greater than 20 inches to a slot limit of 14 to 22 inches with only one fish greater than 22 inches. The daily creel limit will remain 5 fish.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0305 Black Bass (page 12)*
- F8) Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for crappie in Lake Chatuge (Clay County) by implementing 30-fish daily creel limit. There is no minimum size limit.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0306 Crappie (page 14)*
- F9) Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for crappie in Lake Hampton (Yadkin County) by implementing an 8-inch minimum size limit and a 20-fish daily creel limit.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0306 Crappie (page 14)*
- F10) Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for Striped Bass and Bodie Bass in Lake Chatuge (Clay County) by increasing the daily creel limit from four fish to 15 fish in aggregate, removing the minimum size limit of 20 inches, and allowing only two fish greater than 22 inches to be retained.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass (page 15)*
- F11) Prohibit transport, possession or release of live White Perch in waters in and west of Haywood, Buncombe, and Rutherford counties.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0319 White Perch (page 16)*
- F12) Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for Blue Catfish in Lake Tillery, Lake Wylie, and Mountain Island Reservoir by allowing only one fish greater than 32 inches to be possessed in the daily creel.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes: Purchase and Sale (page 17)*
- F13) Designate Atlantic Sturgeon as State Endangered when found in inland fishing waters and remove Atlantic Sturgeon from the State Special Concern list. The scientific name of Atlantic Sturgeon will be updated to match currently accepted nomenclature.  
*15A NCAC 10I .0103 Endangered Species List (page 21)*  
*15A NCAC 10I .0105 Special Concern Species Listed (page 23)*
- F14) Add dip nets when used in conjunction with a licensed hand-crank electrofisher where authorized by local law to the list of equipment that can be used to take nongame fish for bait or personal consumption in inland fishing waters with an inland fishing license.  
*15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait or Personal Consumption (page 19)*

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

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

- (1) "Natural bait" means any living or dead organism (plant or animal), or parts thereof, or prepared substances designed to attract fish by the sense of taste or smell.
- (2) "Artificial lure" means a fishing lure that neither contains nor has been treated by any substance that attracts fish by the sense of taste or smell.
- (3) "Youth anglers" are individuals under 16 years of age.

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

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

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

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

(1) Alleghany

(A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:

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

(B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:

Big Pine Creek

Bledsoe Creek

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

Cranberry Creek

(Big) Glade Creek

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

Meadow Fork

- 1 Pine Swamp Creek
- 2 Piney Fork
- 3 Prathers Creek
- 4 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 5 Big Sandy Creek (portion on Stone Mountain State Park)
- 6 Stone Mountain Creek (portion on Stone Mountain State Park)
- 7 (2) Ashe County
- 8 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 9 Big Horse Creek (Virginia state line to Mud Creek at S.R. 1363, excluding tributaries)
- 10 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 11 Big Horse Creek (S.R. 1324 bridge to North Fork New River)
- 12 Helton Creek (Virginia state line to New River)
- 13 South Fork New River (upstream end of Todd Island to the SR 1351 bridge)
- 14 Trout Lake
- 15 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 16 Beaver Creek (N.C. 221 to South Fork New River)
- 17 Big Horse Creek (Mud Creek at S.R. 1363 to S.R. 1324 bridge)
- 18 Big Laurel Creek (S.R. 1315 bridge to confluence with North Fork New River)
- 19 Buffalo Creek (S.R. 1133 bridge to N.C. 194-88 bridge)
- 20 Cranberry Creek (Alleghany Co. line to South Fork New River)
- 21 Nathans Creek
- 22 North Fork New River (Watauga Co. line to Sharp Dam)
- 23 Old Fields Creek (N.C. 221 to South Fork New River)
- 24 Peak Creek (headwaters to Trout Lake, except Blue Ridge Parkway waters)
- 25 Roan Creek
- 26 Three Top Creek (~~except game land portion~~)
- 27 (3) Avery County
- 28 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 29 Elk River (portion on Lees-McRae College property, excluding the millpond)
- 30 Lost Cove Creek (game land portion, excluding Gragg Prong and Rockhouse Creek)
- 31 (B) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 32 Wilson Creek (game land portion)
- 33 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 34 Boyde Coffey Lake
- 35 Elk River (S.R. 1305 crossing immediately upstream of Big Falls to the Tennessee state
- 36 line)
- 37 Linville River (Land Harbor line [below dam] to the Blue Ridge Parkway boundary line,
- 38 except where posted against trespassing)
- 39 Milltimber Creek
- 40 North Toe River — upper (Watauga St. to Roby Shoemaker Wetlands and Family
- 41 Recreational Park, except where posted against trespassing)
- 42 North Toe River — lower (S.R. 1164 to Mitchell Co. line, except where posted against
- 43 trespassing)
- 44 Squirrel Creek
- 45 Wildcat Lake
- 46 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 47 Birchfield Creek
- 48 Cow Camp Creek
- 49 Cranberry Creek (headwaters to U.S. 19E/N.C. 194 bridge)
- 50 Gragg Prong
- 51 Horse Creek
- 52 Kentucky Creek
- 53 North Harper Creek
- 54 Plumtree Creek
- 55 Roaring Creek
- 56 Rockhouse Creek

- Shawneehaw Creek (portion adjacent to Banner Elk Greenway)
- South Harper Creek
- Webb Prong
- (4) Buncombe County
  - (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Carter Creek (game land portion)
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Bent Creek (headwaters to N.C. Arboretum boundary line)  
Cane Creek (headwaters to S.R. 3138 bridge)  
Corner Rock Creek (Little Andy Creek to confluence with Walker Branch)  
Dillingham Creek (Corner Rock Creek to Ivy Creek)  
Ivy Creek (Ivy River) (Dillingham Creek to U.S. 19-23 bridge)  
Lake Powhatan  
Reems Creek (Sugar Camp Fork to U.S. 19-23 bridge, except where posted against trespassing)  
Rich Branch (downstream from the confluence with Rocky Branch)  
Stony Creek  
Swannanoa (S.R. 2702 bridge near Ridgecrest to Wood Avenue bridge [intersection of N.C. 81 and U.S. 74A in Asheville], except where posted against trespassing)
- (5) Burke County
  - (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Henry Fork (portion on South Mountains State Park)
  - (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Jacob Fork (Shinny Creek to lower South Mountains State Park boundary)
  - (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Carroll Creek (game land portion above S.R. 1405)  
Henry Fork (lower South Mountain State Park line downstream to S.R. 1919 at Ivy Creek)  
Linville River portion within Linville Gorge Wilderness area and portion below Lake James powerhouse from upstream bridge on S.R. 1223 to Muddy Creek)
  - (D) Special Regulation Trout Waters are as follows:  
Catawba River (Muddy Creek to City of Morganton water intake dam)
  - (E) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
All waters located on South Mountains State Park, except those waters identified in parts A and B of this Subparagraph
- (6) Caldwell County
  - (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Wilson Creek (game land portion below Lost Cove Creek to Philips Branch)
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Boone Fork Pond  
Buffalo Creek (mouth of Joes Creek to McCloud Branch)  
Joes Creek (first falls upstream of S.R. 1574 to confluence with Buffalo Creek)  
Wilson Creek (Phillips Branch to Brown Mountain Beach Dam, except where posted against trespassing)  
Yadkin River (Happy Valley Ruritan Community Park to S.R. 1515)
  - (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
Buffalo Creek (Watauga Co. line to Long Ridge Branch including game land tributaries)  
Joes Creek (Watauga Co. line to first falls upstream of the end of S.R. 1574)  
Rockhouse Creek
- (7) Cherokee County
  - (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Davis Creek (confluence of Bald and Dockery creeks to Hanging Dog Creek)  
Hyatt Creek (Big Dam Branch to Valley River)  
Junaluska Creek (Ashturn Creek to Valley River)  
Shuler Creek (Joe Brown Hwy [S.R. 1325] bridge to Tennessee state line)  
Valley River (S.R. 1359 to U.S. 19 ~~business~~ Business bridge in Murphy)
  - (B) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:

- 1 Bald Creek (game land portion)
- 2 Dockery Creek (game land portion)
- 3 North Shoal Creek (game land portion)
- 4 (8) Clay County
- 5 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 6 Fires Creek (USFS Rd. 340A to the foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area)
- 7 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 8 Buck Creek (game land portion downstream of U.S. 64 bridge)
- 9 Fires Creek (foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area to S.R. 1300)
- 10 Tusquitee Creek (Compass Creek to lower S.R. 1300 bridge)
- 11 (9) Graham County
- 12 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 13 (Big) Snowbird Creek (USFS footbridge at the old railroad junction to USFS Rd. 2579)
- 14 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 15 Calderwood Reservoir (Cheoah Dam to Tennessee state line)
- 16 Cheoah Reservoir
- 17 Panther Creek (confluence of Stand Creek and Rock Creek to Lake Fontana)
- 18 ~~Santeelah~~ Santeetlah Creek (Johns Branch to Lake ~~Santeelah~~ Santeetlah)
- 19 (Big) Snowbird Creek (USFS Road 2579 to S.R. 1127 bridge)
- 20 Stecoah Creek (upper game land boundary to Lake Fontana)
- 21 Tulula Creek (S.R. 1201 to lower bridge on S.R. 1275)
- 22 West Buffalo Creek
- 23 Yellow Creek (Lake ~~Santeelah~~ Santeetlah hydropower pipeline to Cheoah River)
- 24 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 25 Little Buffalo Creek
- 26 South Fork Squally Creek
- 27 Squally Creek
- 28 (D) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 29 Deep Creek
- 30 Franks Creek
- 31 Long Creek (game land portion)
- 32 (10) Haywood County
- 33 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 34 West Fork Pigeon River (Queen Creek to the first game land boundary upstream of Lake
- 35 Logan)
- 36 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 37 Cold Springs Creek (Fall Branch to Pigeon River)
- 38 Jonathan Creek (upstream S.R. 1302 bridge to Pigeon River, except where posted against
- 39 trespassing)
- 40 Pigeon River (Stamey Cove Branch to upstream U.S. 19-23 bridge)
- 41 Richland Creek (Russ Avenue [U.S. 276] bridge to U.S. 19 bridge)
- 42 West Fork Pigeon River (Tom Creek to Queen Creek, including portions on game lands,
- 43 except Middle Prong)
- 44 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 45 Hemphill Creek
- 46 Hurricane Creek
- 47 (11) Henderson County
- 48 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 49 North Fork Mills River (game land portion below the Hendersonville watershed dam)
- 50 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 51 (Rocky) Broad River (end of S.R. 1611 to Rutherford Co. line)
- 52 Cane Creek (railroad bridge upstream of S.R. 1551 bridge to U.S. 25 bridge)
- 53 Clear Creek (Laurel Fork to S.R. 1582)
- 54 Green River (Lake Summit powerhouse to game land boundary)
- 55 (Big) Hungry River
- 56 (12) Jackson County

- (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Flat Creek  
Tuckasegee River (upstream from the Clark property)
- (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Tuckasegee River (downstream N.C. 107 bridge to the falls located 275 yards upstream of the U.S. 23-441 bridge [marked by a sign on each bank])
- (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Balsam Lake  
Bear Creek Lake  
Cedar Cliff Lake  
Cullowhee Creek (Tilley Creek to Tuckasegee River)  
Dark Ridge Creek (Jones Creek to Scott Creek)  
Greens Creek (Greens Creek Baptist Church on S.R. ~~4730~~ 1370 to Savannah Creek)  
Savannah Creek (~~downstream of S.R. 1300 bridge~~ Shell Branch to Cagle Branch)  
Scott Creek (Dark Ridge Creek to Tuckasegee River, except where posted against trespassing)  
Tanasee Creek Lake  
Tuckasegee River — upper (John Brown Branch to the downstream N.C. 107 bridge)  
Tuckasegee River — lower (falls located 275 yards upstream of U.S. 23-441 bridge [marked by a sign on each bank] to S.R. 1534 bridge at Wilmot)  
Wolf Creek Lake
- (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
Gage Creek  
North Fork Scott Creek  
Tanasee Creek  
Whitewater River (downstream from Silver Run Creek to South Carolina state line)  
Wolf Creek (except Balsam Lake and Wolf Creek Lake)
- (E) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:  
Buff Creek  
Chattooga River (S.R. 1100 bridge to the South Carolina state line)  
Lower Fowler Creek (game land portion)  
Scotsman Creek (game land portion)
- (13) Macon County
- (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Nantahala River (Whiteoak Creek to Nantahala hydropower discharge canal)
- (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Burningtown Creek (Left Prong to Little Tennessee River)  
Cartoogechaye Creek (downstream U.S. 64 bridge to Little Tennessee River)  
Cliffside Lake  
Cullasaja River (Sequoyah Dam to U.S. 64 bridge near junction of S.R. 1672)  
Nantahala River — upper (Dicks Creek to Whiteoak Creek)  
Nantahala River — lower (Nantahala hydropower discharge canal to Swain Co. line)  
Queens Creek Lake
- (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:  
Chattooga River (S.R. 1100 bridge to South Carolina state line)  
Jarrett Creek (game land portion)  
Kimsey Creek  
Overflow Creek (game land portion)  
Park Creek  
Tellico Creek (game land portion)  
Turtle Pond Creek (game land portion)
- (14) Madison County
- (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Big Laurel Creek (N.C. 208 bridge to the U.S. 25-70 bridge)  
Shelton Laurel Creek (N.C. 208 bridge at Belva to the confluence with Big Laurel Creek)

- 1 Spring Creek (N.C. 209 bridge at Hot Springs city limits to iron bridge at end of Andrews  
2 Ave.)
- 3 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
4 Big Laurel Creek (Mars Hill watershed boundary to the S.R. 1318 [Big Laurel Rd.] bridge  
5 downstream of Bearpen Branch)  
6 Big Pine Creek (S.R. 1151 bridge to French Broad River)  
7 Little Ivy Creek (confluence of Middle Fork and Paint Fork at Beech Glen to confluence  
8 with Ivy Creek at Forks of Ivy)  
9 Max Patch Pond  
10 Meadow Fork Creek (S.R. 1165 to Spring Creek)  
11 Puncheon Fork (Hampton Creek to Big Laurel Creek)  
12 Roaring Fork (Fall Branch to Meadow Fork)  
13 Shelton Laurel Creek (confluence of Big Creek and Mill Creek to N.C. 208 bridge at Belva)  
14 Shut-in Creek  
15 Spillcorn Creek  
16 Spring Creek (junction of N.C. 209 and N.C. 63 to USFS Rd. 223)  
17 West Fork Shut-in Creek (lower game land boundary to confluence with East Fork Shut-  
18 in Creek)
- 19 (C) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:  
20 Big Creek (headwaters to the lower game land boundary)
- 21 (15) McDowell County  
22 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
23 Newberry Creek (game land portion)  
24 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
25 Catawba River (portion adjacent to Marion Greenway)  
26 Curtis Creek (game land portion downstream of the USFS boundary at Deep Branch)  
27 Mill Creek (U.S. 70 bridge to I-40 bridge)  
28 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
29 Armstrong Creek (Cato Holler line downstream to upper Greenlee line)  
30 Catawba River (Catawba Falls Campground to Old Fort Recreation Park)  
31 Little Buck Creek (game land portion)  
32 Mill Creek (upper railroad bridge to U.S. 70 bridge, except where posted against  
33 trespassing)  
34 North Fork Catawba River (headwaters to North Cove School at S.R. 1569 bridge)
- 35 (16) Mitchell County  
36 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
37 Cane Creek (N.C. 226 bridge to S.R. 1189 bridge)  
38 North Toe River (U.S. 19E bridge to N.C. 226 bridge)  
39 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
40 Big Rock Creek (headwaters to N.C. 226 bridge at S.R. 1307 intersection)  
41 Cane Creek (S.R. 1219 to N.C. 226 bridge)  
42 East Fork Grassy Creek  
43 Grassy Creek (East Fork Grassy Creek to mouth)  
44 Little Rock Creek (Green Creek bridge to Big Rock Creek, except where posted against  
45 trespassing)  
46 North Toe River (Avery Co. line to S.R. 1121 bridge)  
47 (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
48 Green Creek (headwaters to Green Creek bridge, except where posted against trespassing)  
49 Little Rock Creek (above Green Creek bridge, including all tributaries, except where  
50 posted against trespassing)  
51 Wiles Creek (game land boundary to mouth)
- 52 (17) Polk County  
53 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
54 Green River (Fishtop Falls Access Area to the confluence with Cove Creek)  
55 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
56 Green River (Mouth of Cove Creek to the natural gas pipeline crossing)

- 1 North Pacolet River (Joels Creek to N.C. 108 bridge)
- 2 (18) Rutherford County
- 3 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 4 (Rocky) Broad River (Henderson Co. line to U.S. 64/74 bridge, except where posted
- 5 against trespassing)
- 6 (19) Stokes County
- 7 (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 8 Dan River (Virginia state line downstream to a point 200 yards below the end of S.R. 1421)
- 9 (20) Surry County
- 10 (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
- 11 Ararat River (~~N.C. 103 bridge to U.S. 52 bridge~~ portion adjacent to the Ararat River
- 12 Greenway)
- 13 Mitchell River (.6 mile upstream of the end of S.R. 1333 to the S.R. 1330 bridge below
- 14 ~~Kapps Kapps~~ Mill Dam)
- 15 (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 16 Ararat River (S.R. 1727 bridge downstream to the N.C. 103 bridge)
- 17 Big Elkin Creek (dam 440 yards upstream of N.C. 268 bridge to a point 265 yards
- 18 downstream of N.C. 268 [marked by a sign on each bank])
- 19 Fisher River (Cooper Creek) (Virginia state line to I-77 bridge)
- 20 Little Fisher River (Virginia state line to N.C. 89 bridge)
- 21 Lovills Creek (U.S. 52 Business bridge to Ararat River)
- 22 Pauls Creek (Virginia state line to .3 miles below S.R. 1625 bridge)
- 23 (21) Swain County
- 24 (A) ~~Delayed Harvest Waters Trout Waters are as follows:~~
- 25 Tuckasegee River (U.S. 19 bridge to Slope Street bridge)
- 26 ~~(A)(B)~~ Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 27 Alarka Creek (game land boundary to Fontana Reservoir)
- 28 Calderwood Reservoir (Cheoah Dam to Tennessee state line)
- 29 Cheoah Reservoir
- 30 Connelly Creek (Camp Branch to Tuckasegee River)
- 31 Deep Creek (Great Smoky Mountains National Park Boundary line to Tuckasegee River)
- 32 Nantahala River (Macon Co. line to existing Fontana Lake water level)
- 33 ~~(B) Delayed Harvest Waters Trout Waters are as follows:~~
- 34 ~~Tuckasegee River (U.S. 19 bridge to Slope Street bridge)~~
- 35 (22) Transylvania County
- 36 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters are as follows:
- 37 Davidson River (headwaters to Avery Creek, excluding Avery Creek, Looking Glass Creek
- 38 and Grogan Creek)
- 39 (B) Delayed Harvest Waters Trout Waters are as follows:
- 40 East Fork French Broad River (Glady Fork to French Broad River)
- 41 Little River (confluence of Lake Dense to 100 yards downstream of Hooker Falls)
- 42 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
- 43 Davidson River (Avery Creek to lower USFS boundary)
- 44 French Broad River (confluence of North Fork French Broad River and West Fork) French
- 45 Broad River to the Island Ford Rd. [S.R. 1110] Access Area
- 46 Middle Fork French Broad River (upstream U.S. 178 bridge to French Broad River)
- 47 West Fork French Broad River (Camp Cove Branch to confluence with North Fork French
- 48 Broad River)
- 49 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
- 50 All waters located on Gorges State Park
- 51 Whitewater River (downstream from Silver Run Creek to South Carolina state line)
- 52 (E) Wild Trout Waters/Natural Bait are as follows:
- 53 North Fork French Broad River (game land portion downstream of S.R. 1326)
- 54 Thompson River (S.R. 1152 to South Carolina state line, except where posted against
- 55 trespassing)
- 56 (23) Watauga County



- (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Dugger Creek (portions on Blue Ridge Mountain Club)  
Laurel Creek (portions on Blue Ridge ~~mountain~~Mountain Club and Powder Horn Mountain Development)  
Pond Creek (headwaters to Locust Ridge Rd. bridge, excluding the pond adjacent to Coffee Lake)
- (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
~~Coffee~~ Lake Coffey  
Watauga River (adjacent to intersection of S.R. 1557 and S.R. 1558 to N.C. 105 bridge and S.R. 1114 bridge to N.C. 194 bridge at Valle Crucis)
- (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Beaverdam Creek (confluence of Beaverdam Creek and Little Beaverdam Creek to an unnamed tributary adjacent to the intersection of S.R. 1201 and S.R. 1203)  
Beech Creek  
Buckeye Creek (Buckeye Creek Reservoir dam to Grassy Gap Creek)  
Buckeye Creek Reservoir  
Cove Creek (S.R. 1233 bridge at Zionville to S.R. 1233 bridge at Amantha)  
Dutch Creek (second bridge on S.R. 1134 to mouth)  
Elk Creek (S.R. 1510 bridge at Triplett to Wilkes Co. line, except where posted against trespassing)  
Laurel Creek (S.R. 1123 bridge at S.R. 1157 intersection to Watauga River)  
Meat Camp Creek (S.R. 1340 bridge at S.R. 1384 intersection to N.C. 194)  
Middle Fork New River (Lake Chetola dam to South Fork New River)  
Norris Fork Creek  
South Fork New River (canoe launch 70 yards upstream of U.S. 421 bridge to lower boundary of Brookshire Park)  
Stony Fork (S.R. 1500 bridge at S.R. 1505 intersection to Wilkes Co. line)
- (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
Dutch Creek (headwaters to second bridge on S.R. 1134)  
Howard Creek  
Maine Branch (headwaters to North Fork New River)  
North Fork New River (from confluence with Maine and Mine branches to Ashe Co. line)  
Watauga River (Avery Co. line to S.R. 1580 bridge)  
Winkler Creek (lower bridge on S.R. 1549 to confluence with South Fork New River)
- (24) Wilkes County
- (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Dugger Creek (portions on Blue Ridge Mountain club)  
Harris Creek (portion on Stone Mountain State Park)
- (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
East Prong Roaring River (Bullhead Creek downstream to Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary)  
Elk Creek — upper (Watauga Co. line to lower boundary of the Blue Ridge Mountain Club)  
Elk Creek — lower (portion on Leatherwood Mountains development)  
Reddies River (Town of North Wilkesboro water intake dam to confluence with the Yadkin River)  
Stone Mountain Creek (from falls at ~~Allegheny~~Alleghany Co. line to confluence with East Prong Roaring River and Bullhead Creek)
- (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Bell Branch Pond  
Cub Creek (.5 mile upstream of S.R. 2460 bridge to S.R. 1001 bridge)  
Darnell Creek (North Prong Reddies River) (downstream ford on S.R. 1569 to confluence with North Fork Reddies River)  
East Prong Roaring River (Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary to S.R. 1002 bridge)  
Fall Creek (S.R. 1300 bridge to confluence with South Prong Lewis Fork, except where posted against trespassing)

1 Middle Fork Reddies River (Clear Prong) (headwaters to bridge on S.R. 1580)  
 2 Middle Prong Roaring River (headwaters to bridge on S.R. 1736)  
 3 North Fork Reddies River (Vannoy Creek) (headwaters to Union School bridge on S.R.  
 4 1559)  
 5 Pike Creek  
 6 Pike Creek Pond  
 7 South Fork Reddies River (S.R. 1355 bridge to confluence with Middle Fork Reddies  
 8 River)  
 9 South Prong Lewis Fork (Fall Creek to S.R. 1155 bridge)  
 10 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
 11 Big Sandy Creek (portion on Stone Mountain State Park)  
 12 Garden Creek (portion on Stone Mountain State Park)  
 13 Widow Creek (portion on Stone Mountain State Park)  
 14 (25) Yancey County  
 15 (A) Catch and Release/Artificial Flies Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
 16 South Toe River (headwaters to Upper Creek)  
 17 Upper Creek  
 18 (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
 19 Cane River (Blackberry Ridge Rd. to downstream boundary of Cane River County Park)  
 20 (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
 21 Bald Mountain Creek (except where posted against trespassing)  
 22 Cane River (Bee Branch [S.R. 1110] to Bowlens Creek)  
 23 Price Creek (junction of S.R. 1120 and S.R. 1121 to Indian Creek)  
 24 South Toe River (Clear Creek to lower boundary line of Yancey Co. ~~recreation~~  
 25 ~~park~~ Recreation Park, except where posted against trespassing)  
 26 (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
 27 Cattail Creek (bridge at Mountain Farm Community Rd. to N.C. 187197 bridge)  
 28 Licksillet Creek  
 29 Middle Creek (game land boundary to mouth)  
 30  
 31 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-272; 113-292;*  
 32 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
 33 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993;*  
 34 *October 1, 1992;*  
 35 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
 36 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
 37 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*  
 38 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;*  
 39 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 6/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
 40 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
 41 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
 42 *2003);*  
 43 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012;*  
 44 *August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1,*  
 45 *2005.*

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

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

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

(c) In Lake Santeetlah in Graham County, there is no daily creel limit for Black Bass less than 14 inches. The daily creel limit for Black Bass greater than 14 inches is five fish.

(d) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Black Bass is 10 fish, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 12 inches, with no exceptions, and there is no minimum size limit for Smallmouth Bass and Spotted Bass.

~~(d)~~(e) The minimum size limit for Black Bass is 14 inches, with no exceptions in:

- (1) Lake Raleigh in Wake County;
- (2) Lake Mattamuskeet and associated canals in Hyde County;
- (3) Pungo Lake in Washington and Hyde counties;
- (4) New Lake in Hyde County;
- (5) and the Currituck, Roanoke, Croatan and Albemarle sounds and all their tributaries including Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam, Chowan River, Yeopim River, Pasquotank River, Perquimans River, North River, Northwest River, Scuppernong River and Alligator River (including the Alligator/Pungo Canal east of the NC Hwy 264/45 bridge).

~~(e)~~(f) In Cane Creek Lake in Union County, and Buckhorn Reservoir in Wilson and Nash counties, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 16 inches, with no exceptions.

~~(f)~~(g) In Lake Phelps the minimum size limit is 14 inches, with no exceptions, and no fish between 16 and 20 inches may be possessed.

~~(g)~~(h) In Shearon Harris Reservoir and Lake Hampton in Yadkin County, there is no minimum size limit for Black Bass, but only two Black Bass less than 14 inches and no Black Bass between 16 and 20 inches may be possessed.

~~(h)~~(i) In Randleman Reservoir, there is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but only two Largemouth Bass less than 14 inches and only one Largemouth Bass greater than 20 inches may be possessed.

~~(i)~~(j) In Lake Thom-A-Lex in Davidson County, the minimum size limit for Black Bass is 18 inches with no exceptions.

~~(j)~~(k) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia) there is no minimum size limit for Black Bass, but no fish between 14 and ~~20~~22 inches in length may be possessed and only one Black Bass greater than ~~20~~22 inches may be possessed.

~~(k)~~(l) In Sutton Lake, the minimum size limit for Black Bass is 14 inches with no exceptions and no Black Bass may be possessed from December 1 through March 31.

~~(l)~~(m) For purposes of this Rule, creel limits apply to Largemouth, Smallmouth and Spotted Bass in aggregate unless otherwise specified.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 10, 1990, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1990;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 22, 1990, for a period of 168 days to expire on November 1, 1990;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 1991, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1991;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; October 1, 1992;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1994 for a period of 180 days or until the permanent rule becomes effective, whichever is sooner;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1999;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*

1           *Temporary Amendment Eff. March 8, 2002 [This rule replaces the rule proposed for permanent*  
2           *amendment effective July 1, 2002 and approved by RRC in May 2001];*  
3           *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC in April 2002);*  
4           *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
5           *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July*  
6           *17, 2003);*  
7           *Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; November 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; March 1, 2012; August 1,*  
8           *2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2008; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June*  
9           *1, 2005.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0306 CRAPPIE**

(a) There is no daily creel limit for Crappie, except for waters identified in Paragraphs (b), (c), ~~and~~ (d) and (e) of this Rule. There is no minimum size limit for these fish, except for waters identified in Paragraphs ~~(e)(d)~~ and ~~(d)(e)~~. There is no closed season.

(b) In Buckhorn Reservoir in Wilson and Nash counties the daily creel limit is 20 fish.

(c) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County the daily creel limit is 30 fish.

~~(e)(d)~~ In the following waters, the daily creel limit is 20 fish and the minimum size limit is 10 inches:

- (1) B. Everett Jordan Reservoir,
- (2) Roanoke River and its tributaries downstream of Roanoke Rapids dam,
- (3) Cashie River and its tributaries,
- (4) Middle River and its tributaries, and
- (5) Eastmost River and its tributaries.

~~(d)(e)~~ In the following waters, the daily creel limit is 20 fish and the minimum size limit is eight inches:

- (1) Pee Dee River from Blewett Falls Dam to the South Carolina state line;
- (2) Badin Lake;
- (3) Falls Lake (Stanly and Montgomery counties);
- (4) Lake Tillery;
- (5) Blewett Falls Lake;
- (6) Lake Norman;
- (7) Lake Hyco;
- (8) Lake Ramseur;
- (9) Cane Creek Lake;
- (10) Lake Hampton (Yadkin County);
- ~~(10)(11)~~ Tar River downstream of Tar River Reservoir Dam;
- ~~(11)(12)~~ Neuse River downstream of Falls Lake Dam;
- ~~(12)(13)~~ Haw River downstream of Jordan Lake Dam;
- ~~(13)(14)~~ Deep River downstream of Lockville Dam;
- ~~(14)(15)~~ Cape Fear River;
- ~~(15)(16)~~ Waccamaw River downstream of Lake Waccamaw Dam;
- ~~(16)(17)~~ Lumber River including Drowning Creek;
- ~~(17)(18)~~ all other public fishing waters east of Interstate 95, except Tar River Reservoir in Nash County, Sutton Lake in New Hanover County, and waters listed in Paragraph ~~(e)(d)~~ of this Rule; and
- ~~(18)(19)~~ all public waters west of Interstate 77, except Lake Chatuge.

For waters in Subparagraphs ~~(10)(11)~~ through ~~(18)(19)~~, the restrictions apply to all tributaries.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015.*

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

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

(b) In the Dan River upstream from its confluence with Bannister River to the dam at Union Street in Danville, VA and in John H. Kerr Reservoir, the daily creel limit on Striped Bass and its hybrids is two in the aggregate and the minimum size limit is 24 inches from October 1 through May 31. From June 1 through September 30, the daily creel limit on Striped Bass and its hybrids is four in the aggregate with no minimum size limit.

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

(d) In Lake Norman, Arrowhead Lake (Anson Co.), High Rock Pond (Caswell Co.), Moss Lake, Mountain Island Reservoir, Oak Hollow Lake, Lake Thom-A-Lex, Lake Townsend, and Salem Lake the minimum size limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is 16 inches.

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

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

~~(f)(g)~~ In the inland fishing waters of Neuse, Pungo, and Tar Pamlico rivers and their tributaries extending upstream to the first impoundment of the main course on the river or its tributaries, and in all other inland fishing waters east of Interstate 95 not specified in Paragraphs ~~(e)(f)~~, ~~(g)~~, (h), ~~and (i)~~ and (j) of this Rule, the daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is two fish in the aggregate. The minimum size limit is 18 inches but no Striped Bass or hybrids between the lengths of 22 inches and 27 inches shall be possessed. In these waters, the season for taking and possessing Striped Bass is closed from May 1 through September 30.

~~(g)(h)~~ In the inland fishing waters of the Cape Fear River and its tributaries downstream of Buckhorn Dam, the season for taking and possessing Striped Bass is closed year-round.

~~(h)(i)~~ In the inland and joint fishing waters [as identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0107(1)(e)] of the Roanoke River Striped Bass Management Area, which includes the Roanoke, Cashie, Middle, and Eastmost rivers and their tributaries, the open season for taking and possessing Striped Bass and its hybrids is March 1 through April 30 from the joint-coastal fishing waters boundary at Albemarle Sound upstream to Roanoke Rapids Lake dam. During the open season, the daily creel limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids is two fish in the aggregate and the minimum size limit is 18 inches. No fish between 22 inches and 27 inches in length shall be possessed in the daily creel limit. Only one fish larger than 27 inches may be possessed in the daily creel limit.

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

~~(j)(k)~~ The Executive Director may, by proclamation, suspend, or extend the hook-and-line season for Striped Bass in the inland and joint waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries. It is unlawful to violate the provisions of any proclamation issued under this authority.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0319 WHITE PERCH**

(a) There is no daily creel limit and no minimum limit size for White Perch. There is no closed season for White Perch.

(b) In and west of Haywood, Buncombe, and Rutherford counties, it is unlawful to transport, possess, or release live White Perch.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2016.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0401 MANNER OF TAKING NONGAME FISHES: PURCHASE AND SALE**

(a) Except as permitted by the rules in this Section, it is unlawful to take nongame fishes from the inland fishing waters of North Carolina in any manner other than with hook and line or grabbling. Nongame fishes may be taken by hook and line or grabbling at any time without restriction as to size limits or creel limits, with the following exceptions:

- (1) Blue crabs shall have a minimum carapace width of five inches (point to point) and it is unlawful to possess more than 50 crabs per person per day or to exceed 100 crabs per vessel per day.
- (2) While boating on or fishing in the following inland fishing waters, no person shall take river herring (alewife and blueback) that are greater than six inches in length or possess such herring regardless of origin in:
  - (A) Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam;
  - (B) Tar River downstream of Rocky Mount Mill Dam;
  - (C) Neuse River downstream of Milburnie Dam;
  - (D) Cape Fear River downstream of Buckhorn Dam;
  - (E) Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam;
  - (F) Lumber River including Drowning Creek;
  - (G) all the tributaries to the rivers listed above; and
  - (H) all other inland fishing waters east of I-95.
- (3) Grass carp shall not be taken or possessed on Lake James, Lookout Shoals Lake, Lake Norman, Mountain Island Reservoir, Lake Wylie, and John H. Kerr Reservoir, except that one fish per day may be taken with archery equipment.
- (4) No trotlines or set-hooks shall be used in the impounded waters located on the Sandhills Game Land or in designated public mountain trout waters.
- (5) In Lake Waccamaw, trotlines or set-hooks may be used only from October 1 through April 30.
- (6) In inland fishing waters, gray trout (weakfish) recreational seasons, size limits and creel limits are the same as those established by Marine Fisheries Commission rule or proclamations issued by the Fisheries Director in adjacent joint or coastal fishing waters.

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

(c) Nongame fishes taken by hook and line, grabbling, or by licensed special devices may be sold, with the following exceptions:

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

(d) Freshwater mussels, including the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*), may be taken only from impounded waters, except mussels shall not be taken in Lake Waccamaw and in University Lake in Orange County. The daily possession limit for freshwater mussels is 200 in the aggregate, except there is no daily possession limit for the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*).

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

(f) ~~In Lake Norman and Badin Lake, the~~ The daily creel limit for blue catfish greater than 32 inches is one fish. ~~fish in the following reservoirs:~~

- (1) Lake Norman;
- (2) Mountain Island Lake;
- (3) Lake Wylie;
- (4) Badin Lake; and
- (5) Lake Tillery.

(g) The daily creel limit for American eels taken from or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing in inland fishing waters is 25, and the minimum size limit is 9 inches.

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



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

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

(a) It is unlawful to take nongame fish for bait or personal consumption in the inland waters of North Carolina using equipment other than:

- (1) a net of dip net design not greater than six feet across;
- (2) a seine of not greater than 12 feet in length (except in Lake Waccamaw where there is no length limitation) and with a bar mesh measure of not more than one-fourth inch;
- (3) a cast net;
- (4) a bow net for the seasons and waters in which the use of bow nets is authorized in 15A NCAC 10C .0407;
- ~~(5)~~ a dip net when used in conjunction with a licensed hand-crank electrofisher where authorized by local law;
- ~~(5)(6)~~ a gig (except in Public Mountain Trout Waters);
- ~~(6)(7)~~ up to three traps for the seasons and waters in which the use of traps is authorized in 15A NCAC 10C .0407;
- ~~(7)(8)~~ up to two eel pots;
- ~~(8)(9)~~ a spear gun for the seasons and waters in which the use of a spear gun is authorized in 15A NCAC 10C .0407;
- ~~(9)(10)~~ minnow traps not exceeding 12 inches in diameter and 24 inches in length, with funnel openings not exceeding one inch in diameter, and that are under the immediate control and attendance of the individual operating them;
- ~~(10)(11)~~ a hand-held line with a single bait attached;
- ~~(11)(12)~~ a single, multiple-bait line for taking crabs not to exceed 100 feet in length, marked on each end with a solid float no less than five inches in diameter, bearing legible and indelible identification of the user's name and address, and under the immediate control and attendance of the person using the device, with a limit of one line per person and no more than one line per vessel; or
- ~~(12)(13)~~ a collapsible crab trap with the largest open dimension not greater than 18 inches and that by design is collapsed at all times when in the water, except when it is being retrieved or lowered to the bottom, with a limit of one trap per person.

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

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

(d) No person shall take or possess during one day more than 200 nongame fish in aggregate for bait or personal consumption subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) No more than 25 eels, none of which may be less than 9 inches in length, shall be taken from or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing in inland fishing waters;
- (2) While boating on or fishing in the following inland fishing waters, no river herring (alewife and blueback) that are greater than six inches in total length shall be taken and no such river herring shall be possessed regardless of origin:
  - (A) Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam;
  - (B) Tar River downstream of Rocky Mount Mill Dam;
  - (C) Neuse River downstream of Milburnie Dam;
  - (D) Cape Fear River downstream of Buckhorn Dam;
  - (E) Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam;
  - (F) Lumber River including Drowning Creek;
  - (G) the tributaries to the rivers listed above; and
  - (H) all other inland fishing waters east of Interstate 95.
- (3) No more than 50 crabs per person per day or 100 per vessel per day with a minimum carapace width of five inches (point to point) shall be taken.

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

(f) It is unlawful to take nongame fish for bait or any other fish bait from designated public mountain trout waters and from the bodies of water specified for the following counties:

- (1) Chatham County:
  - Deep River
  - Rocky River
  - Bear Creek

- 1 (2) Lee County:  
2 Deep River  
3 (3) Moore County:  
4 Deep River  
5 (4) Randolph County:  
6 Deep River below the Coleridge Dam  
7 Fork Creek  
8 (g) In the waters of the Little Tennessee River, including all the tributaries and impoundments thereof, and on adjacent  
9 shorelines, docks, access ramps, and bridge crossings, it is unlawful to transport, possess, or release live alewife or  
10 live blueback herring.  
11  
12 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-135; 113-135.1; 113-272; 113-272.3; 113-292;  
13 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
14 Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; July 1, 1998; July 1, 1993; July 1, 1992; May 1, 1992; July 1, 1989;  
15 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;  
16 Amended Eff. July 18, 2002;  
17 Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;  
18 Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,  
19 2003);  
20 Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2010;  
21 May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006.

15A NCAC 10I .0103      **ENDANGERED SPECIES LISTED**

(a) The following species of resident wildlife are designated as federally-listed endangered species:

(1) Amphibians:

None Listed At This Time.

(2) Birds:

- (A) Bachman's warbler (*Vermivora bachmanii*);
- (B) Ivory-billed woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*);
- (C) Kirtland's warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*);
- (D) Piping plover (*Charadrius melodus circumcinctus*);
- (E) Red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*);
- (F) Roseate tern (*Sterna dougallii dougallii*);
- (G) Wood stork (*Mycteria americana*).

(3) Crustacea: None Listed At This Time.

(4) Fish:

- (A) Cape Fear shiner (*Notropis mekistocholas*);
- (B) Roanoke logperch (*Percina rex*);
- (C) Shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), when found in inland fishing waters; ~~waters;~~
- (D) Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*), when found in inland fishing waters.

(5) Mammals:

- (A) Carolina northern flying squirrel (*Glaucomys sabrinus coloratus*);
- (B) Eastern cougar (*Puma concolor*);
- (C) ~~(B)~~ Gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*);
- (D) ~~(C)~~ Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*);
- (E) ~~(D)~~ Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*), when found in inland fishing waters;
- (F) ~~(E)~~ Virginia big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus*).

(6) Mollusks:

- (A) Appalachian elktoe (*Alasmidonta raveneliana*);
- (B) Carolina heelsplitter (*Lasmigona decorata*);
- (C) Dwarf wedge mussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*);
- (D) James spinymussel (*Pleurobema collina*);
- (E) Little-wing pearlymussel (*Pegias fabula*);
- (F) Tan riffleshell (*Epioblasma florentina walkeri*);
- (G) Tar River spinymussel (*Elliptio steinstansana*).

(7) Reptiles:

- (A) Kemp's ridley seaturtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*);
- (B) Atlantic hawksbill seaturtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata imbricata*);
- (C) Leatherback seaturtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*).

(b) The following species of resident wildlife are designated as state-listed endangered species:

(1) Amphibians: Green salamander (*Aneides aeneus*).

(2) Birds:

- (A) American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*);
- (B) Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*).

(3) Crustacea: Bennett's Mill cave water slater (*Caecidotea carolinensis*).

(4) Fish:

- (A) Blotchside logperch (*Percina burtoni*);
- (B) Bridle shiner (*Notropis bifrenatus*);
- (C) Dusky darter (*Percina sciera*);
- (D) Orange-fin madtom (*Noturus gilberti*);
- (E) Paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*);
- (F) Robust redhorse (*Moxostoma robustum*);
- (G) Rustyside sucker (*Thoburnia hamiltoni*);
- (H) Stonecat (*Noturus flavus*).

(5) Mammals: None Listed At This Time.

(6) Mollusks:

- 1 (A) Atlantic pigtoe (*Fusconaia masoni*);  
2 (B) Barrel floater (*Anodonta couperiana*);  
3 (C) Brook floater (*Alasmidonta varicosa*);  
4 (D) Carolina creekshell (*Villosa vaughaniana*);  
5 (E) Fragile glyph (*Glyphyalinia clingmani*);  
6 (F) Green floater (*Lasmigona subviridis*);  
7 (G) Greenfield rams-horn (*Helisoma eucosmium*)  
8 (H) Knotty elimia (*Elimia christyi*);  
9 (I) Magnificent rams-horn (*Planorbella magnifica*);  
10 (J) Neuse spike (*Elliptio judithae*);  
11 (K) Purple wartyback (*Cyclonaias tuberculata*);  
12 (L) Savannah lilliput (*Toxolasma pullus*);  
13 (M) Slippershell mussel (*Alasmidonta viridis*);  
14 (N) Tennessee clubshell (*Pleurobema oviforme*);  
15 (O) Tennessee heelsplitter (*Lasmigona holstonia*);  
16 (P) Tennessee pigtoe (*Fusconaia barnesiana*);  
17 (Q) Yellow lampmussel (*Lampsilis cariosa*);  
18 (R) Yellow lance (*Elliptio lanceolata*).  
19 (7) Reptiles:  
20 (A) Eastern coral snake (*Micrurus fulvius fulvius*);  
21 (B) Eastern diamondback rattlesnake (*Crotalus adamanteus*).  
22

23 *History Note:* *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-292; 113-333;*  
24 *Eff. June 11, 1977;*  
25 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; May 1, 2008; April 1, 2001; February 1, 1994; November 1, 1991;*  
26 *April 1, 1991; June 1, 1990.*

**15A NCAC 10I .0105 SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES LISTED**

The following species of resident wildlife are designated as state-listed special concern species:

(1) Amphibians:

- (a) Crevice salamander (*Plethodon longicrus*);
- (b) Dwarf salamander (*Eurycea quadridigitata*);
- (c) Eastern hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*);
- (d) Four-toed salamander (*Hemidactylium scutatum*);
- (e) Longtail salamander (*Eurycea longicauda longicauda*);
- (f) Mole salamander (*Ambystoma talpoideum*);
- (g) Mountain chorus frog (*Pseudacris brachyphona*);
- (h) Mudpuppy (*Necturus maculosus*);
- (i) Neuse River waterdog (*Necturus lewisi*);
- (j) River frog (*Rana heckscheri*);
- (k) Southern zigzag salamander (*Plethodon ventralis*);
- (l) Weller's salamander (*Plethodon welleri*).

(2) Birds:

- (a) American oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*);
- (b) Bachman's sparrow (*Aimophila aestivalis*);
- (c) Black-capped chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*);
- (d) Black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*);
- (e) Black skimmer (*Rynchops niger*);
- (f) Brown creeper (*Certhia americana nigrescens*);
- (g) Cerulean warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*);
- (h) Common tern (*Sterna hirundo*);
- (i) Glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*);
- (j) Golden-winged warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*);
- (k) Henslow's sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*);
- (l) Least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*);
- (m) Least tern (*Sterna antillarum*);
- (n) Little blue heron (*Egretta caerulea*);
- (o) Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*);
- (p) Olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*);
- (q) Painted bunting (*Passerina ciris*);
- (r) Red crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*);
- (s) Snowy egret (*Egretta thula*);
- (t) Tricolored heron (*Egretta tricolor*);
- (u) Vesper sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus*);
- (v) Wilson's plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*);
- (w) Yellow-bellied sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius appalachiensis*).

(3) Crustacea:

- (a) Broad River spiny crayfish (*Cambarus spicatus*);
- (b) Carolina skistodiaptomus (*Skistodiaptomus carolinensis*);
- (c) Carolina well diacyclops (*Diacyclops jeannelli putei*);
- (d) Chowanoke crayfish (*Orconectes virginienensis*);
- (e) Graceful clam shrimp (*Lynceus gracilicornis*);
- (f) Greensboro burrowing crayfish (*Cambarus catagius*);
- (g) Hiwassee headwaters crayfish (*Cambarus parrishi*);
- (h) Little Tennessee River crayfish (*Cambarus georgiae*);
- (i) North Carolina spiny crayfish (*Orconectes carolinensis*);
- (j) Oconee stream crayfish (*Cambarus chaugaensis*);
- (k) Waccamaw crayfish (*Procambarus braswelli*).

(4) Fish:

- ~~(a) Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*);~~
- ~~(b)~~(a) Bluefin killifish (*Lucania goodei*);
- ~~(c)~~(b) Blue Ridge sculpin (*Cottus caeruleomentum*);
- ~~(d)~~(c) Blueside darter (*Etheostoma jessiae*);

- 1 ~~(e)~~(d) Broadtail madtom (*Noturus* sp.) (Lumber River and its tributaries and Cape Fear River  
2 and its tributaries);  
3 ~~(f)~~(e) Carolina darter (*Etheostoma collis*);  
4 ~~(g)~~(f) Cutlip minnow (*Exoglossum maxillingua*);  
5 ~~(h)~~(g) Freshwater drum (*Aplodinotus grunniens*) (French Broad River);  
6 ~~(i)~~(h) Highfin carpsucker (*Carpiodes velifer*) (Cape Fear River and its tributaries);  
7 ~~(j)~~(i) Kanawha minnow (*Phenacobius teretulus*);  
8 ~~(k)~~(j) Lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*);  
9 ~~(l)~~(k) Least killifish (*Heterandria formosa*);  
10 ~~(m)~~(l) Longhead darter (*Percina macrocephala*);  
11 ~~(n)~~(m) Mooneye (*Hiodon tergisus*);  
12 ~~(o)~~(n) Mountain madtom (*Noturus eleutherus*);  
13 ~~(p)~~(o) Olive darter (*Percina squamata*);  
14 ~~(q)~~(p) Pinewoods darter (*Etheostoma mariaae*);  
15 ~~(r)~~(q) River carpsucker (*Carpiodes carpio*);  
16 ~~(s)~~(r) Riverweed darter (*Etheostoma podostemone*);  
17 ~~(t)~~(s) Sandhills chub (*Semotilus lumbee*);  
18 ~~(u)~~(t) Sharpnose darter (*Percina oxyrhynchus*);  
19 ~~(v)~~(u) Smoky dace (*Clinostomus* sp.) (Little Tennessee River and tributaries);  
20 ~~(w)~~(v) Striped shiner (*Luxilus chrysocephalus*);  
21 ~~(x)~~(w) Tennessee snubnose darter (*Etheostoma simoterum*);  
22 ~~(y)~~(x) Thinlip chub (*Cyprinella zanema*) (Lumber River and its tributaries and Cape Fear River  
23 and its tributaries);  
24 ~~(z)~~(y) Waccamaw killifish (*Fundulus waccamensis*);  
25 ~~(aa)~~(z) Wounded darter (*Etheostoma vulneratum*);  
26 ~~(bb)~~(aa) Yellowfin shiner (*Notropis lutipinnis*) (Savannah River and its tributaries);  
27 (5) Mammals:  
28 (a) Allegheny woodrat (*Neotoma magister*);  
29 (b) Buxton Woods white-footed mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus buxtoni*);  
30 (c) Coleman's oldfield mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus colemani*);  
31 (d) Eastern big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii macrotis*);  
32 (e) Eastern small-footed bat (*Myotis leibii leibii*);  
33 ~~(f) Elk (*Cervus elaphus*);~~  
34 ~~(g)~~(f) Florida yellow bat (*Lasiurus intermedius floridanus*);  
35 ~~(h)~~(g) Pungo white-footed mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus easti*);  
36 ~~(i)~~(h) Southeastern bat (*Myotis austroriparius*);  
37 ~~(j)~~(i) Southern rock shrew (*Sorex dispar blitchi*);  
38 ~~(k)~~(j) Southern rock vole (*Microtus chrotorrhinus carolinensis*);  
39 ~~(l)~~(k) Southern water shrew (*Sorex palustris punctulatus*);  
40 ~~(m)~~(l) Star-nosed mole (*Condylura cristata parva*).  
41 (6) Mollusks:  
42 (a) Appalachian gloss (*Zonitoides patuloides*);  
43 (b) Bidentate dome (*Ventridens coelaxis*);  
44 (c) Black mantleslug (*Pallifera hemphilli*);  
45 (d) Blackwater ancyliid (*Ferrissia hendersoni*);  
46 (e) Blue-foot lancetooth (*Haplotrema kendeighi*);  
47 (f) Cape Fear spike (*Elliptio marsupiobesa*);  
48 (g) Dark glyph (*Glyphyalinia junaluskana*);  
49 (h) Dwarf proud globe (*Patera clarki clarki*);  
50 (i) Dwarf threetooth (*Triodopsis fulciden*);  
51 (j) Fringed coil (*Helicodiscus fimbriatus*);  
52 (k) Glossy supercoil (*Paravitrea placentula*);  
53 (l) Great Smoky slitmouth (*Stenotrema depilatum*);  
54 (m) High mountain supercoil (*Paravitrea andrewsae*);  
55 (n) Honey glyph (*Glyphyalinia vanattai*);  
56 (o) Lamellate supercoil (*Paravitrea lamellidens*);

- 1 (p) Mirey Ridge supercoil (*Paravitrea clappi*);
- 2 (q) Notched rainbow (*Villosa constricta*);
- 3 (r) Open supercoil (*Paravitrea umbilicaris*);
- 4 (s) Pink glyph (*Glyphyalinia pentadelphia*);
- 5 (t) Pod lance (*Elliptio folliculata*);
- 6 (u) Queen crater (*Appalachina chilhoweensis*);
- 7 (v) Rainbow (*Villosa iris*);
- 8 (w) Ramp Cove supercoil (*Paravitrea lacteodens*);
- 9 (x) Saw-tooth disc (*Discus bryanti*);
- 10 (y) Spike (*Elliptio dilatata*);
- 11 (z) Spiral coil (*Helicodiscus bonamicus*);
- 12 (aa) Velvet covert (*Inflectarius subpalliatu*);
- 13 (bb) Waccamaw amnicola (*Amnicola* sp.);
- 14 (cc) Waccamaw lampmussel (*Lampsilis crocata*);
- 15 (dd) Waccamaw siltsnail (*Cincinnatia* sp.);
- 16 (ee) Wavy-rayed lampmussel (*Lampsilis fasciola*).
- 17 (7) Reptiles:
- 18 (a) Carolina pigmy rattlesnake (*Sistrurus miliarius miliarius*);
- 19 (b) Carolina watersnake (*Nerodia sipedon williamengelsi*);
- 20 (c) Diamondback terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*);
- 21 (d) Eastern smooth green snake (*Opheodrys vernalis vernalis*);
- 22 (e) Eastern spiny softshell (*Apalone spinifera spinifera*);
- 23 (f) Mimic glass lizard (*Ophisaurus mimicus*);
- 24 (g) Northern pine snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus*);
- 25 (h) Outer Banks kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getula sticticeps*);
- 26 (i) Southern hognose snake (*Heterodon simus*);
- 27 (j) Stripeneck musk turtle (*Sternotherus minor peltifer*);
- 28 (k) Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*).
- 29
- 30 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-292; 113-333;*
- 31 *Eff. September 1, 1989;*
- 32 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; May 1, 2008; July 18, 2002; April 1, 2001; November 1, 1991; April*
- 33 *1, 1991; June 1, 1990.*





# EXHIBIT F

February 11, 2016

## Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Wildlife Management Regulations for 2016-2017 as of February 8, 2016

Proposal	Proposed Text	Position Count	Comment Types
H1	Allow the sale of raw (untanned) deer hides from an animal lawfully taken by hunting, because of depredation, or as road kill. Individuals or deer processors would be allowed to sell raw hides. Current regulations regarding the reporting and identification of harvested deer would apply, but there are no proposed additional tagging requirements for selling hides. Processed hides require a Trophy Sale permit in order to be legally sold.	182 :Agree 26 :Disagree	34 :Online 174 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
H2	Change the definition of a bear cub from any bear weighing less than 50 pounds to any bear weighing less than 75 pounds.	198 :Agree 21 :Disagree	35 :Online 184 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
H3	Remove Gum Swamp in Pamlico and Beaufort counties from the bear sanctuary program.	158 :Agree 35 :Disagree	29 :Online 163 :Comment Card 1 :Letter/Email
H4	Allow hunting of American alligators under the following conditions: the season for American alligators is from September 1 to October 1; hunting is by permit only; the bag limit is one per permit; and manner of take is: catch pole, harpoon, gig, wooden peg, bang stick, archery equipment and artificial lights. Firearms shall only be used to dispatch American alligators that are restrained.	196 :Agree 134 :Disagree	149 :Online 177 :Comment Card 4 :Letter/Email
H5	Open an elk hunting season with the following restrictions: the season for elk is from October 1 to November 1; hunting is by permit only; the bag limit is one per permit; and elk may be taken by any legal firearm or archery equipment.	211 :Agree 73 :Disagree	66 :Online 215 :Comment Card 3 :Letter/Email
H6	Change a Commission rule that prohibits hunting on Sundays with firearms to conform to state law that regulates hunting on Sundays. State law passed in the 2015 legislative session allows hunting on Sundays with firearms on private lands with the following restrictions: hunting is limited to any landowner or member of the landowner's family, or any person with written permission from the landowner; hunting on Sunday between 9:30 A.M. and 12:30 P.M. is prohibited, except on controlled hunting preserves; hunting of migratory birds on Sunday is prohibited; the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs on Sunday is prohibited; hunting on Sunday within 500 yards of a place of worship or any accessory structure thereof, or within 500 yards of a residence not owned by the landowner, is prohibited; and hunting on Sunday in a county having a population greater than 700,000 people is prohibited (currently Wake and Mecklenburg counties). The Commission rule will continue to allow hunting on Sundays with archery equipment and falconry on private lands in all counties from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, except migratory game birds cannot be taken.	180 :Agree 53 :Disagree	64 :Online 169 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
H7	Designate the Red Knot (shorebird) and the Northern Long-eared Bat as federally-listed threatened species in North Carolina.	167 :Agree 10 :Disagree	27 :Online 150 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
H8	Remove the Eastern Cougar as a federally-listed endangered species in North Carolina.	152 :Agree 37 :Disagree	30 :Online 158 :Comment Card 1 :Letter/Email
H9	Remove the elk from the state list of special concern species.	177 :Agree 52 :Disagree	41 :Online 188 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
H10	Allow for Wildlife Damage Control Agents (WDCAs) to renew their status every three years by attending the Commission's training course or completing an equivalent in continuing education courses.	174 :Agree 8 :Disagree	27 :Online 155 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email

Proposal	Proposed Text	Position Count	Comment Types
O	Propose a Regulation (Hunting)		75 :Online 116 :Comment Card 7 :Letter/Email
O	Propose a Regulation (General)		0 :Online 0 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email

**Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Wildlife Management Regulations for 2016-2017  
by District  
as of February 8, 2016**

[illegible]

**Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Wildlife Management Regulations for 2016-2017  
by District  
as of February 8, 2016**

Proposal	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	District 9	Out of State	District 0
H8	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 7 : Agree 1 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 6 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 10 : Agree 4 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 10 : Comment Card 1 : Letter/Email 3 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 5 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 7 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 19 : Agree 0 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 16 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 3 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 18 : Agree 1 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 17 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 3 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 4 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 20 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 20 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 28 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 25 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 5 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 42 : Agree 22 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 60 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 4 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Agree 1 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Agree 0 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online
H9	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 10 : Agree 1 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 7 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 4 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 8 : Agree 4 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 10 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 6 : Agree 4 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 10 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 13 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 13 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 21 : Agree 3 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 20 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 4 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 6 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 4 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 4 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 20 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 20 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 27 : Agree 5 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 27 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 5 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 66 : Agree 28 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 87 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 7 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Agree 1 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Agree 0 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online
H10	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 11 : Agree 0 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 8 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 3 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 11 : Agree 1 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 10 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 2 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 8 : Agree 0 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 8 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 16 : Agree 0 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 15 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 22 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 21 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 3 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 5 : Agree 0 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 4 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 20 : Agree 1 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 20 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 25 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 23 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 4 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 56 : Agree 2 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 54 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 4 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Agree 0 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Agree 0 : Disagree  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online
O (Hunting)	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 15 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 7 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 8 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 17 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 12 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 5 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 14 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 4 : Letter/Email 10 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 15 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 10 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 5 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 24 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 17 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 7 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 13 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 4 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 9 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 8 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 8 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 36 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 23 : Comment Card 3 : Letter/Email 10 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 55 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 35 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 20 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 1 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online
O (General)	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other  <b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online

Letters and Petitions Received During the Public Comment Period for the  
2016-2017 Regulatory Cycle  
Wildlife Management Division

In addition to the individual comments tallied, the Commission received the following letters representing an organization\*:

- 1) Opposed to allowing the hunting of American alligators (H4)  
Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, signed by Aaron M. Bauer, President
- 2) Opposed to allowing the hunting of American alligators (H4)  
NC Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, signed by Jerry Reynald, Chair and seven other members of the steering committee
- 3) Opposed to allowing the hunting of American alligators (H4)  
Carteret County Wildlife Club, signed by Gene Huntsman, President
- 4) Opposed to allowing the hunting of American alligators (H4)  
Coastal Plain Conservation Group, signed by Andy Wood, Director
- 5) Opposed to allowing the hunting of American alligators (H4)  
NC Wildlife Federation, signed by Tim Gestwicki, CEO
- 6) Opposed to allowing the hunting of American alligators (H4)  
NC Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, signed by Dr. Elizabeth Kalies
- 7) Opposed to allowing the hunting of American alligators (H4)  
Alligator Alliance, signed by Lisa and John McNeill
- 8) Opposed to allowing the hunting of American alligators (H4)  
Pamlico Albemarle Wildlife Conservationists, signed by Attila Nemecz, President
- 9) Opposed to allowing the hunting of American alligators (H4)  
NC Herpetological Society, signed by T.J. Hilliard, President
- 10) Supports opening an elk hunting season (H5)  
NC Wildlife Federation, signed by Tim Gestwicki, CEO
- 11) Supports opening an elk hunting season (H5)  
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, signed by M. David Allen, President and CEO
- 12) Opposed to removing Gum Swamp in Pamlico and Beaufort counties from the bear sanctuary program (H3)  
Pamlico Albemarle Wildlife Conservationists, signed by Attila Nemecz, President

In addition to the individual comments tallied, the Commission received the following petition:

- 1) Extend archery season in the Western deer season after the gun season closes to January 1.  
255 signatures

\*Complete letters provided electronically. Hard copies available upon request.



## EXHIBIT G

February 11, 2016

### PROPOSED CHANGES IN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS FOR 2016-2017 AND RULE TEXT FOR COMMISSION ACTION

- H1) Allow the sale of raw (untanned) deer hides from an animal lawfully taken by hunting, because of depredation, or as road kill. Individuals or deer processors would be allowed to sell raw hides. Current regulations regarding the reporting and identification of harvested deer would apply, but there are no proposed additional tagging requirements for selling hides. Processed hides require a Trophy Sale permit in order to be legally sold.  
*15A NCAC 10B .0118 Sale of Wildlife (page 3)*
- H2) Change the definition of a bear cub from any bear weighing less than 50 pounds to any bear weighing less than 75 pounds.  
*15A NCAC 10B .0107 Black bear (page 4)*
- H3) Remove Gum Swamp in Pamlico and Beaufort counties from the bear sanctuary program.  
*15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear (page 5)*
- H4) Allow hunting of American alligators under the following conditions:
- The season for American alligators is from September 1 to October 1.
  - Hunting is by permit only.
  - The bag limit is one per permit.
  - Manner of take is: catch pole, harpoon, gig, wooden peg, bang stick, archery equipment and artificial lights. Firearms shall only be used to dispatch American alligators that are restrained.
- 15A NCAC 10B .0224 American alligator (page 7)*
- H5) Open an elk hunting season with the following restrictions:
- The season for elk is from October 1 to November 1.
  - Hunting is by permit only.
  - The bag limit is one per permit.
  - Elk may be taken by any legal firearm or archery equipment.
- 15A NCAC 10B .0225 Elk (page 8)*

H6) Change a Commission rule that prohibits hunting on Sundays with firearms to conform to state law that regulates hunting on Sundays. State law passed in the 2015 legislative session allows hunting on Sundays with firearms on private lands with the following restrictions:

- Hunting is limited to any landowner or member of the landowner's family, or any person with written permission from the landowner.
- Hunting on Sunday between 9:30 A.M. and 12:30 P.M. is prohibited, except on controlled hunting preserves.
- Hunting of migratory birds on Sunday is prohibited.
- The use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs on Sunday is prohibited.
- Hunting on Sunday within 500 yards of a place of worship or any accessory structure thereof, or within 500 yards of a residence not owned by the landowner, is prohibited.
- Hunting on Sunday in a county having a population greater than 700,000 people is prohibited (currently Wake and Mecklenburg counties).

The Commission rule will continue to allow hunting on Sundays with archery equipment and falconry on private lands in all counties from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, except migratory game birds cannot be taken.

*15A NCAC 10B .0201 Prohibited taking and manner of take (page 9)*

H7) Designate the Red Knot and the Northern Long-eared Bat as federally-listed threatened species in North Carolina.

*15A NCAC 10I .0104 Threatened species listed (page 10)*

H9) Remove the elk from the state list of special concern species.

*15A NCAC 10I .0105 Special concern species listed (page 13)*

H10) Allow for Wildlife Damage Control Agents (WDCAs) to renew their status every three years by attending the Commission's training course or completing an equivalent in continuing education courses.

*15A NCAC 10B .0106 Wildlife taken for depredations (page 15)*

1 **15A NCAC 10B .0118 SALE OF WILDLIFE**

2 (a) The carcasses or pelts of bobcats, opossums, and raccoon that have been lawfully taken by any hunting method,  
3 upon compliance with applicable fur tagging requirements set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0400, may be sold to licensed  
4 fur dealers. The sale of carcasses or pelts of bobcats, opossums, and raccoon killed accidentally or taken by hunting  
5 for control of depredations is permitted under the conditions set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0106(e)(4) and 15A NCAC  
6 10B .0127.

7 (b) Except as otherwise provided in Paragraphs (a), (d), (e), and (f) of this Rule, the sale of game birds and game  
8 animals or parts thereof is prohibited, except that processed products other than those made from edible portions may  
9 be sold, provided that no label or advertisement identifies the product as a game bird, game animal, or part thereof;  
10 and provided further that the game bird or game animal was lawfully acquired and the product is not readily  
11 identifiable as a game bird, game animal, or part thereof.

12 (c) The sale of edible portions or products of game birds and game animals is prohibited, except as may be otherwise  
13 provided by statute.

14 (d) The pelt or feathers of deer, elk, fox, pheasant, quail, rabbit, or squirrel (fox and gray) may be bought or sold for  
15 the purpose of making fishing flies provided that the source of these animals can be documented as being legally  
16 obtained from out of state sources or from lawfully operated commercial breeding facilities. The buying and selling  
17 of migratory game birds shall be in accordance with 50 C.F.R. 20.91. 50 C.F.R. 20.91 is hereby incorporated by  
18 reference, shall include any later amendments and editions of the incorporated material, and may be accessed free of  
19 cost at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2014-title50-vol9/pdf/CFR-2014-title50-vol9-sec20-91.pdf>.

20 (e) The Executive Director or his designee may issue Trophy Wildlife Sale permits as authorized in G.S. 113-274 for  
21 the sale of lawfully taken and possessed individual dead wildlife specimens or their parts that are mounted, stuffed, or  
22 otherwise permanently preserved that may be sold under G.S. 113-291.3. A copy of the permit shall be retained with  
23 the specimen.

24 (g) Raw hides from any lawfully-taken or possessed white-tailed deer may be sold.

25  
26 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274; 113-276.2; 113-291.3; 113-337; 50 C.F.R. 20.91;*  
27 *Eff. November 9, 1980;*  
28 *Amended Eff. May 1, 2015; May 1, 2014; August 1, 2002; April 1, 1991; February 1, 1990;*  
29 *Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015.*  
30



1  
2 **15A NCAC 10B .0107    BLACK BEAR**

3 It is unlawful to take or possess a female bear with a cub or cubs at its side, or to take or possess a cub bear. For the  
4 purpose of this Rule, a cub bear is defined as any bear weighing less than 75 ~~50~~ pounds.  
5

6 *History Note:*     *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.7;*  
7                         *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
8                         *Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; June 1, 2005; July 1, 1985.*  
9

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

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

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

(b) Restrictions

- (1) For purposes of this Paragraph, "bait" means any natural, unprocessed food product that is a grain, fruit, nut, vegetable, or other material harvested from a plant crop that is not modified from its raw components.
- (2) Bears shall not be taken with the use or aid of:
  - (A) any processed food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), any animal, animal part or product, salt, salt lick, honey, sugar, sugar-based material, syrups, candy, pastry, gum, candy block, oils, spices, peanut butter, or grease;
  - (B) any extracts of substances identified in Part (A) of this Subparagraph;
  - (C) any substances modified by substances identified in Part (A) of this Subparagraph, including any extracts of those substances; or
  - (D) any bear bait attractant, including sprays, aerosols, scent balls, and scent powders.
- (3) Bears may be taken with the aid of bait from the first open Monday through the following Saturday only in the counties in Subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(5) of this Rule. In counties with a season split into two or more segments, this Subparagraph applies only to the first segment.
- (4) Bears shall not be taken while in the act of consuming bait.
- (5) Bears may be taken with the aid of bait during the entire open season in the counties identified in Subparagraph (a)(6) of this Rule.
- (6) Hunters shall not take bears using dogs in the following counties: Alamance south of Interstate 85, Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Franklin, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange south of Interstate 85, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Union, and Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98. In all other counties and parts of counties, hunters may take bears using dogs and may release dogs in the vicinity of bait.

(c) No Open Season. There is no open season in those parts of counties included in the following posted bear sanctuaries:

Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties--Daniel Boone bear sanctuary except by permit only  
Beaufort, Bertie, and Washington counties--Bachelor Bay bear sanctuary  
~~Beaufort and Pamlico counties--Gum Swamp bear sanctuary~~  
Bladen County--Suggs Mill Pond bear sanctuary  
Brunswick County--Green Swamp bear sanctuary  
Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, and Transylvania counties--Pisgah bear sanctuary  
Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties--Croatan bear sanctuary  
Clay County--Fires Creek bear sanctuary  
Columbus County--Columbus County bear sanctuary  
Currituck County--North River bear sanctuary  
Dare County--Bombing Range bear sanctuary except by permit only

- 1 Haywood County--Harmon Den bear sanctuary  
2 Haywood County--Sherwood bear sanctuary  
3 Hyde County--Gull Rock bear sanctuary  
4 Hyde County--Pungo River bear sanctuary  
5 Jackson County--Panthertown-Bonas Defeat bear sanctuary  
6 Macon County--Standing Indian bear sanctuary  
7 Macon County--Wayah bear sanctuary  
8 Madison County--Rich Mountain bear sanctuary  
9 McDowell and Yancey counties--Mt. Mitchell bear sanctuary except by permit only  
10 Mitchell and Yancey counties--Flat Top bear sanctuary  
11 Wilkes County--Thurmond Chatham bear sanctuary  
12 (d) The daily bag limit is one, the possession limit is one, and the season limit is one.  
13 (e) Kill Reports. The carcass of each bear shall be reported as provided by 15A NCAC 10B .0113.  
14

15 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305;  
16 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
17 Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; April 14, 1992;  
18 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;  
19 Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;  
20 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;  
21 Amendment Eff. August 1, 2002;  
22 Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2003;  
23 Temporary Amendment Expired Eff. December 27, 2003;  
24 Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2010;  
25 May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005.  
26  
27

**15A NCAC 10B .0224 AMERICAN ALLIGATOR**

(a) The season for taking American alligators by hunting is September 1 to October 1.

(b) Hunting is by permit only.

(c) The bag limit is one per permit.

(d) American alligators may be taken by: catch pole, harpoon, gig, wooden peg, bang stick, archery equipment and artificial lights. Firearms shall only be used to dispatch American alligators that are restrained.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291; 113-291.2;*

*Eff. August 1, 2016*

**15A NCAC 10B .0225 ELK**

- (a) The season for taking elk by hunting is **October 1 to November 1. ~~September 1 to October 1.~~**
- (b) Hunting is by permit only.
- (c) The bag limit is one per permit.
- (d) Elk may be taken by any legal weapon.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291; 113-291.2;  
Eff. August 1, 2016*

**15A NCAC 10B .0201 PROHIBITED TAKING AND MANNER OF TAKE**

(a) It is unlawful for any person to take, or have in possession, any wild animal or wild bird listed in this Section except during the open seasons and in accordance with the limits herein prescribed, or as prescribed by 15A NCAC 10B .0300 pertaining to trapping or 15A NCAC 10D applicable to game lands managed by the Wildlife Resources Commission, unless otherwise permitted by law. Lawful seasons and bag limits for each species apply beginning with the first day of the listed season and continue through the last day of the listed season, with all dates being included. When any hunting season ends on a January 1 that falls on a Sunday, that season is extended to Monday, January 2.

(b) On Sundays, hunting on private lands is allowed under with the following conditions: restrictions:

(1) ~~Only archery~~ Archery equipment as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, falconry, and dogs where and when allowed the other days of the week are lawful methods of take, except as prohibited in G.S. 103-2: take; and

(2) Firearms are lawful methods of take when used as described in G.S. 103-2; and

~~(2)(3)~~ Migratory game birds may not be taken.

(c) On Sundays, hunting on public lands is allowed with the following restrictions:

(1) Only falconry and dogs used in conjunction with falconry are lawful methods of take; and

(2) Migratory game birds may not be taken.

These restrictions do not apply to military installations under the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government.

(d) Those animals not classified as game animals in G.S. 113-129(7c), and for which a season is set under this Section, may be taken during the hours and methods authorized for taking game animals.

Note: Where local laws govern hunting, or are in conflict with this Subchapter, the local law shall prevail.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 103-2; 113-291.1(a); 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.3;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;*

*Amended Eff. May 1, 2016; August 1, 2012; July 10, 2010; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1987.*

**15A NCAC 10I .0104 THREATENED SPECIES LISTED**

(a) The following species of resident wildlife are designated as federally-listed threatened species:

- (1) Amphibians: None Listed At This Time.
- (2) Birds: ~~Piping plover (*Charadrius melodus melodus*)~~.
  - (A) Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus melodus*)
  - (B) Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*)
- (3) Crustacea: None Listed At This Time.
- (4) Fish:
  - (A) Spotfin chub (*Cyprinella monacha*); and
  - (B) Waccamaw silverside (*Menidia extensa*).
- (5) Mammals: Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)
- (6) Mollusks: Noonday globe (*Patera clarki nantahala*).
- (7) Reptiles:
  - (A) Bog turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*);
  - (B) American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*);
  - (C) Green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*); and
  - (D) Loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*).

(b) The following species of resident wildlife are designated as state-listed threatened species:

- (1) Amphibians:
  - (A) Carolina gopher frog (*Rana capito capito*);
  - (B) Eastern tiger salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum tigrinum*);
  - (C) Junaluska salamander (*Eurycea junaluska*); and
  - (D) Wehrle's salamander (*Plethodon wehrlei*).
- (2) Birds:
  - (A) Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*);
  - (B) Gull-billed tern (*Sterna nilotica aranea*); and
  - (C) Northern saw-whet owl (*Aegolius acadicus*).
- (3) Crustacea: None Listed At This Time.
- (4) Fish:
  - (A) American brook lamprey (*Lampetra appendix*);
  - (B) Banded sculpin (*Cottus carolinae*);
  - (C) Bigeye jumprock (*Scartomyzon ariommus*);
  - (D) Blackbanded darter (*Percina nigrofasciata*);
  - (E) Carolina madtom (*Noturus furiosus*);
  - (F) Carolina pygmy sunfish (*Elassoma boehlkei*);
  - (G) Carolina redbreast (*Moxostoma* sp.) (Pee Dee River and its tributaries and Cape Fear River and its tributaries);
  - (H) Least brook lamprey (*Lampetra aepyptera*);
  - (I) Logperch (*Percina caprodes*);
  - (J) Rosyface chub (*Hybopsis rubrifrons*);
  - (K) Sharphead darter (*Etheostoma acuticeps*);
  - (L) Sicklefin redbreast (*Moxostoma* sp.) (Hiwassee River and its tributaries and Little Tennessee River and its tributaries);
  - (M) Turquoise darter (*Etheostoma inscriptum*); and
  - (N) Waccamaw darter (*Etheostoma perlongum*).
- (5) Mammals:
  - (A) Eastern woodrat (*Neotoma floridana floridana*);
  - (B) Rafinesque's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii rafinesquii*); and
  - (C) Red wolf (*Canis rufus*).
- (6) Mollusks:
  - (A) Alewife floater (*Anodonta implicata*);
  - (B) Big-tooth covert (*Fumonelix jonesiana*);
  - (C) Cape Fear threetooth (*Triodopsis soelneri*);
  - (D) Carolina fatmucket (*Lampsilis radiata conspicua*);
  - (E) Clingman covert (*Fumonelix wheatleyi clingmanicus*);
  - (F) Eastern lampmussel (*Lampsilis radiata radiata*);

1 (G) Eastern pondmussel (*Ligumia nasuta*);  
 2 (H) Engraved covert (*Fumonelix orestes*);  
 3 (I) Mountain creekshell (*Villosa vanuxemensis*);  
 4 (J) Roan supercoil (*Paravitrea varidens*);  
 5 (K) Roanoke slabshell (*Elliptio roanokensis*);  
 6 (L) Sculpted supercoil (*Paravitrea ternaria*);  
 7 (M) Seep mudalia (*Leptoxis dilatata*);  
 8 (N) Smoky Mountain covert (*Inflectarius ferrissi*);  
 9 (O) Squawfoot (*Strophitus undulatus*);  
 10 (P) Tidewater mucket (*Leptodea ochracea*);  
 11 (Q) Triangle floater (*Alasmidonta undulata*);  
 12 (R) Waccamaw ambersnail (*Catinella waccamawensis*);  
 13 (S) Waccamaw fatmucket (*Lampsilis fullerkati*);  
 14 (T) Waccamaw spike (*Elliptio waccamawensis*).  
 15 (7) Reptiles: None Listed At This Time.  
 16 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-292; 113-333;  
 17 Eff. March 17, 1978;  
 18 Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; June 1, 2008; April 1, 2001; November 1, 1991; April 1, 1991; June  
 19 1, 1990; September 1, 1989;  
 20 Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015.  
 21



**15A NCAC 10I .0105 SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES LISTED**

The following species of resident wildlife are designated as state-listed special concern species:

(1) Amphibians:

- (a) Crevice salamander (*Plethodon longicrus*);
- (b) Dwarf salamander (*Eurycea quadridigitata*);
- (c) Eastern hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*);
- (d) Four-toed salamander (*Hemidactylium scutatum*);
- (e) Longtail salamander (*Eurycea longicauda longicauda*);
- (f) Mole salamander (*Ambystoma talpoideum*);
- (g) Mountain chorus frog (*Pseudacris brachyphona*);
- (h) Mudpuppy (*Necturus maculosus*);
- (i) Neuse River waterdog (*Necturus lewisi*);
- (j) River frog (*Rana heckscheri*);
- (k) Southern zigzag salamander (*Plethodon ventralis*);
- (l) Weller's salamander (*Plethodon welleri*).

(2) Birds:

- (a) American oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*);
- (b) Bachman's sparrow (*Aimophila aestivalis*);
- (c) Black-capped chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*);
- (d) Black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*);
- (e) Black skimmer (*Rynchops niger*);
- (f) Brown creeper (*Certhia americana nigrescens*);
- (g) Cerulean warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*);
- (h) Common tern (*Sterna hirundo*);
- (i) Glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*);
- (j) Golden-winged warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*);
- (k) Henslow's sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*);
- (l) Least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*);
- (m) Least tern (*Sterna antillarum*);
- (n) Little blue heron (*Egretta caerulea*);
- (o) Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*);
- (p) Olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*);
- (q) Painted bunting (*Passerina ciris*);
- (r) Red crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*);
- (s) Snowy egret (*Egretta thula*);
- (t) Tricolored heron (*Egretta tricolor*);
- (u) Vesper sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus*);
- (v) Wilson's plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*);
- (w) Yellow-bellied sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius appalachiensis*).

(3) Crustacea:

- (a) Broad River spiny crayfish (*Cambarus spicatus*);
- (b) Carolina skistodiaptomus (*Skistodiaptomus carolinensis*);
- (c) Carolina well diacyclops (*Diacyclops jeannelli putei*);
- (d) Chowanoke crayfish (*Orconectes virginienensis*);
- (e) Graceful clam shrimp (*Lynceus gracilicornis*);
- (f) Greensboro burrowing crayfish (*Cambarus catagius*);
- (g) Hiwassee headwaters crayfish (*Cambarus parrishi*);
- (h) Little Tennessee River crayfish (*Cambarus georgiae*);
- (i) North Carolina spiny crayfish (*Orconectes carolinensis*);
- (j) Oconee stream crayfish (*Cambarus chaugaensis*);
- (k) Waccamaw crayfish (*Procambarus braswelli*).

(4) Fish:

- ~~(a) Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*);~~
- ~~(b)(a)~~ Bluefin killifish (*Lucania goodei*);
- ~~(c)(b)~~ Blue Ridge sculpin (*Cottus caeruleomentum*);
- ~~(d)(c)~~ Blueside darter (*Etheostoma jessiae*);

- 1 ~~(e)~~(d) Broadtail madtom (*Noturus* sp.) (Lumber River and its tributaries and Cape Fear River  
2 and its tributaries);  
3 ~~(f)~~(e) Carolina darter (*Etheostoma collis*);  
4 ~~(g)~~(f) Cutlip minnow (*Exoglossum maxillingua*);  
5 ~~(h)~~(g) Freshwater drum (*Aplodinotus grunniens*) (French Broad River);  
6 ~~(i)~~(h) Highfin carpsucker (*Carpionodes velifer*) (Cape Fear River and its tributaries);  
7 ~~(j)~~(i) Kanawha minnow (*Phenacobius teretulus*);  
8 ~~(k)~~(j) Lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*);  
9 ~~(l)~~(k) Least killifish (*Heterandria formosa*);  
10 ~~(m)~~(l) Longhead darter (*Percina macrocephala*);  
11 ~~(n)~~(m) Mooneye (*Hiodon tergisus*);  
12 ~~(o)~~(n) Mountain madtom (*Noturus eleutherus*);  
13 ~~(p)~~(o) Olive darter (*Percina squamata*);  
14 ~~(q)~~(p) Pinewoods darter (*Etheostoma mariaae*);  
15 ~~(r)~~(q) River carpsucker (*Carpionodes carpio*);  
16 ~~(s)~~(r) Riverweed darter (*Etheostoma podostemone*);  
17 ~~(t)~~(s) Sandhills chub (*Semotilus lumbee*);  
18 ~~(u)~~(t) Sharpnose darter (*Percina oxyrhynchus*);  
19 ~~(v)~~(u) Smoky dace (*Clinostomus* sp.) (Little Tennessee River and tributaries);  
20 ~~(w)~~(v) Striped shiner (*Luxilus chrysocephalus*);  
21 ~~(x)~~(w) Tennessee snubnose darter (*Etheostoma simoterum*);  
22 ~~(y)~~(x) Thinlip chub (*Cyprinella zanema*) (Lumber River and its tributaries and Cape Fear River  
23 and its tributaries);  
24 ~~(z)~~(y) Waccamaw killifish (*Fundulus waccamensis*);  
25 ~~(aa)~~(z) Wounded darter (*Etheostoma vulneratum*);  
26 ~~(bb)~~(aa) Yellowfin shiner (*Notropis lutipinnis*) (Savannah River and its tributaries);  
27 (5) Mammals:  
28 (a) Allegheny woodrat (*Neotoma magister*);  
29 (b) Buxton Woods white-footed mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus buxtoni*);  
30 (c) Coleman's oldfield mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus colemani*);  
31 (d) Eastern big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii macrotis*);  
32 (e) Eastern small-footed bat (*Myotis leibii leibii*);  
33 ~~(f) Elk (*Cervus elaphus*);~~  
34 ~~(g)~~(f) Florida yellow bat (*Lasiurus intermedius floridanus*);  
35 ~~(h)~~(g) Pungo white-footed mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus easti*);  
36 ~~(i)~~(h) Southeastern bat (*Myotis austroriparius*);  
37 ~~(j)~~(i) Southern rock shrew (*Sorex dispar blitchi*);  
38 ~~(k)~~(j) Southern rock vole (*Microtus chrotorrhinus carolinensis*);  
39 ~~(l)~~(k) Southern water shrew (*Sorex palustris punctulatus*);  
40 ~~(m)~~(l) Star-nosed mole (*Condylura cristata parva*).  
41 (6) Mollusks:  
42 (a) Appalachian gloss (*Zonitoides patuloides*);  
43 (b) Bidentate dome (*Ventridens coelaxis*);  
44 (c) Black mantleslug (*Pallifera hemphilli*);  
45 (d) Blackwater ancyliid (*Ferrissia hendersoni*);  
46 (e) Blue-foot lancetooth (*Haplotrema kendeighi*);  
47 (f) Cape Fear spike (*Elliptio marsupiobesa*);  
48 (g) Dark glyph (*Glyphyalinia junaluskana*);  
49 (h) Dwarf proud globe (*Patera clarki clarki*);  
50 (i) Dwarf threetooth (*Triodopsis fulciden*);  
51 (j) Fringed coil (*Helicodiscus fimbriatus*);  
52 (k) Glossy supercoil (*Paravitrea placentula*);  
53 (l) Great Smoky slitmouth (*Stenotrema depilatum*);  
54 (m) High mountain supercoil (*Paravitrea andrewsae*);  
55 (n) Honey glyph (*Glyphyalinia vanattai*);  
56 (o) Lamellate supercoil (*Paravitrea lamellidens*);

- (p) Mirey Ridge supercoil (*Paravitrea clappi*);
  - (q) Notched rainbow (*Villosa constricta*);
  - (r) Open supercoil (*Paravitrea umbilicaris*);
  - (s) Pink glyph (*Glyphyalinia pentadelphia*);
  - (t) Pod lance (*Elliptio folliculata*);
  - (u) Queen crater (*Appalachina chilhoweensis*);
  - (v) Rainbow (*Villosa iris*);
  - (w) Ramp Cove supercoil (*Paravitrea lacteodens*);
  - (x) Saw-tooth disc (*Discus bryanti*);
  - (y) Spike (*Elliptio dilatata*);
  - (z) Spiral coil (*Helicodiscus bonamicus*);
  - (aa) Velvet covert (*Inflectarius subpalliatu*);
  - (bb) Waccamaw amnicola (*Amnicola* sp.);
  - (cc) Waccamaw lampmussel (*Lampsilis crocata*);
  - (dd) Waccamaw siltsnail (*Cincinnatia* sp.);
  - (ee) Wavy-rayed lampmussel (*Lampsilis fasciola*).
- (7) Reptiles:
- (a) Carolina pigmy rattlesnake (*Sistrurus miliarius miliarius*);
  - (b) Carolina watersnake (*Nerodia sipedon williamengelsi*);
  - (c) Diamondback terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*);
  - (d) Eastern smooth green snake (*Opheodrys vernalis vernalis*);
  - (e) Eastern spiny softshell (*Apalone spinifera spinifera*);
  - (f) Mimic glass lizard (*Ophisaurus mimicus*);
  - (g) Northern pine snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus*);
  - (h) Outer Banks kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getula sticticeps*);
  - (i) Southern hognose snake (*Heterodon simus*);
  - (j) Stripeneck musk turtle (*Sternotherus minor peltifer*);
  - (k) Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-292; 113-333;*  
*Eff. September 1, 1989;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; May 1, 2008; July 18, 2002; April 1, 2001; November 1, 1991; April*  
*1, 1991; June 1, 1990.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0106 WILDLIFE TAKEN FOR DEPREDACTIONS**

(a) Depredation permits allow the taking of undesirable or excess wildlife resources as described in Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph. Only employees of the Wildlife Resources Commission and Wildlife Damage Control Agents may issue depredation permits. Each permit shall be written on a form supplied by the Commission. No permit is needed for the owner or lessee of a property to take wildlife while committing depredations on the property; however the manner of taking, disposition of dead wildlife, and reporting requirements as described in this Rule still apply.

No permit shall be issued to take any endangered or threatened species of wildlife listed under 15A NCAC 10I, except alligators, by reason of depredations to property. Only the Executive Director may issue depredation permits for Special Concern species listed in 15A NCAC 10I .0105 and for alligators. An individual may take an endangered or threatened species in immediate defense of his own life or of the lives of others without a permit. Any endangered or threatened species that may constitute a demonstrable but non-immediate threat to human safety shall be reported to a federal or state wildlife enforcement officer, who, upon verification of the report, may take or remove the specimen as provided by 15A NCAC 10I .0102. Depredation permits for other species shall be issued under the following conditions:

- (1) for taking wildlife that is or has been damaging or destroying property provided there is evidence of property damage. No permit may be issued for the taking of any migratory birds and other federally-protected animals unless a corresponding valid U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service depredation permit, if required, has been issued. The permit shall name the species allowed to be taken and may contain limitations as to age, sex, or any other condition within the species so named. The permit shall be issued to a landholder or an authorized representative of a unit of local government for depredations on public property; and the permit shall be used only by individuals named on the permit.
- (2) for taking of wildlife resources in circumstances of overabundance or when the wildlife resources present a danger to human safety. Cities as defined in G.S. 160A-1(2) seeking such a depredation permit must apply to the Executive Director using a form supplied by the Commission requesting the following information:
  - (A) the name and location of the city;
  - (B) the acreage of the affected property;
  - (C) a map of the affected property;
  - (D) the signature of an authorized city representative;
  - (E) the nature of the overabundance or the threat to public safety; and
  - (F) a description of previous actions taken by the city to ameliorate the problem.

(b) Wildlife Damage Control Agents: Upon completion of a training course designed for the purpose of reviewing and updating information on wildlife laws and safe, humane wildlife handling techniques, and demonstration of a knowledge of wildlife laws and safe, humane wildlife handling techniques, an individual with no record of wildlife law violations may apply to the Wildlife Resources Commission (Commission) to become a Wildlife Damage Control Agent (WDCA). Those persons who demonstrate knowledge of wildlife laws and safe, humane wildlife handling techniques by a passing score of at least 85 percent on a written examination provided by a representative of the Wildlife Resources Commission, in cooperation with the training course provider, shall be approved. Those persons failing to obtain a passing score shall be given one chance for re-testing without re-taking the course. Those persons approved as agents by the Commission may then issue depredation permits for depredation as defined in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule to landholders and be listed as a second party to provide the control service. WDCAs may not issue depredation permits for coyotes in the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, Washington; big game animals; bats; or species listed as endangered, threatened, or special concern under 15A NCAC 10I .0103, .0104 and .0105 of this Chapter. WDCAs shall report to the Wildlife Resources Commission the number and disposition of animals taken, by county, annually. Records shall be available for inspection by a Wildlife Enforcement officer at any time during normal business hours. Wildlife Damage Control Agent status shall be revoked at any time by the Executive Director when there is evidence of violations of wildlife laws, failure to report, or inhumane treatment of animals by the WDCA. A WDCA may not charge for the permit, but may charge for his or her investigations and control services. In order to maintain a knowledge of current laws, rules, and techniques, each WDCA shall renew his or her agent status every three years by showing proof of having attended at least one training course provided for the purpose of reviewing and updating information on wildlife laws, and safe, humane wildlife handling techniques within the previous 12 ~~months~~ months or equivalent in continuing education credits.

(c) Each depredation permit shall have an expiration date or time after which the depredation permit is no longer valid. The depredation permit authorizes possession of any wildlife resources taken under the permit and shall be retained as long as the wildlife resource is in the permittee's possession. All individuals taking wildlife resources

under the authority of a depredation permit are obligated to the conditions written on the permit and the requirements specified in this Rule.

(d) Manner of Taking:

- (1) Taking Without a Permit. Wildlife taken without a permit while committing depredations to property may, during the open season on the species, be taken by the landholder by any lawful method. During the closed season, such depredating wildlife may be taken without a permit only by the use of firearms or archery equipment as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116.
- (2) Taking With a Permit. Wildlife taken under a depredation permit may be taken only by the method or methods authorized by the permit. When trapping is authorized, in order to limit the taking to the intended purpose, the permit may specify a reasonable distance from the property sought to be protected, according to the particular circumstances, within which the traps shall be set. The Executive Director or agent may also state in a permit authorizing trapping whether or not bait may be used and the type of bait, if any, that is authorized. In addition to any trapping restrictions that may be contained in the permit, the method of trapping shall be in accordance with the requirements and restrictions imposed by G.S. 113-291.6 and other local laws passed by the General Assembly. No depredation permit shall authorize the use of poisons or pesticides in taking wildlife except in accordance with the provisions of the North Carolina Pesticide Law of 1971, the Structural Pest Control Act of 1955, and G.S. 113, Article 22A. No depredation permit shall authorize the taking of wildlife by any method by any landholder upon the lands of another except when the individual is listed as a second party on a depredation permit.
- (3) Intentional Wounding. It is unlawful for any landholder, with or without a depredation permit, intentionally to wound a wild animal in a manner so as not to cause its immediate death as suddenly and humanely as the circumstances permit.

(e) Disposition of Wildlife Taken:

- (1) Generally. Except as provided by the succeeding Subparagraphs of this Paragraph, any wildlife killed without a permit while committing depredations shall be buried or otherwise disposed of in a safe and sanitary manner on the property. Wildlife killed under a depredation permit may be transported to an alternate disposal site if desired. Anyone in possession of carcasses of animals being transported under a depredation permit shall have the depredation permit in his or her possession. Except as provided by Subparagraphs of (d)(2) through (5) of this Rule, all wildlife killed under a depredation permit shall be buried or otherwise disposed of as stated on the permit.
- (2) Deer and feral swine. The edible portions of feral swine and deer may be retained by the landholder for consumption but shall not be transported from the property where the depredations took place without a valid depredation permit. The landholder may give a second party the edible portions of the feral swine and deer taken under the depredation permit. The receiver of the edible portions shall hold a copy of the depredation permit. The nonedible portions of any deer carcass, including head, hide, feet, and antlers, shall be disposed of as specified in Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph or turned over to a wildlife enforcement officer for disposition.
- (3) Fox. Any fox killed under a depredation permit may be disposed of as described in Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph or, upon compliance with the fur tagging requirements of 15A NCAC 10B .0400, the carcass or pelt thereof may be sold to a licensed fur dealer.
- (4) Furbearing Animals. The carcass or pelt of any furbearing animal killed during the open season for taking such furbearing animal for control of depredations to property, whether with or without a permit, may be sold to a licensed fur dealer provided that the person offering such carcass or pelt for sale has a valid hunting or trapping license; provided further that, bobcats and otters may only be sold upon compliance with any required fur tagging requirement set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0400.
- (5) Animals Taken Alive. Wild animals in the order Carnivora, armadillos, groundhogs, nutria, and beaver shall be humanely euthanized either at the site of capture or at a facility designed to humanely handle the euthanasia or released on the property where captured. Feral swine shall be euthanized while still in the trap in accordance with G.S. 113-291.12. For all other animals taken alive, the animal shall be euthanized or released on property with permission of the landowner. When the relocation site is public property, written permission must be obtained from an appropriate local, state, or federal official before any animal may be released. Animals transported or held for euthanasia must be euthanized within 12 hours of capture. Anyone in possession of live animals

1 being transported for relocation or euthanasia under a depredation permit shall have the depredation  
2 permit in his or her possession.

3 (f) Reporting Requirements. Any landholder who kills an alligator, a coyote in the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde,  
4 Tyrrell, or Washington, deer, Canada goose, bear, or wild turkey under a valid depredation permit shall report such  
5 kill on the form provided with the permit and mail the form upon the expiration date to the Wildlife Resources  
6 Commission. Any landowner who kills a coyote in the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington  
7 shall report such kill as directed on the form provided with the depredation permit. The killing and method of  
8 disposition of every alligator and bear, or coyote in the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell or Washington taken  
9 without a permit shall be reported to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 24 hours following the time of such  
10 killing.

11  
12 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274; 113-291.4; 113-291.6; 113-300.1; 113-300.2; 113-307;  
13 113-331; 113-333; 113-334(a); 113-337;  
14 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
15 Amended Eff. May 1, 2016; August 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; August 1 2010; July 1, 2010; May 1,  
16 2008; August 1, 2002; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1995; January 1, 1995; January 1, 1992; August 1,  
17 1990.  
18 Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2014 and shall remain in effect until amendments expire as  
19 specified in G.S. 150B-21.1(d) or the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North  
20 Carolina's court order number 2:13-CV-60-BOs signed on May 13, 2014 is rescinded, whichever  
21 date is earlier. The court order is available at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org);  
22 Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015.

# EXHIBIT H-1

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-

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**WRC Staff Contact:** David Stewart

**Date First Presented to WRC:** February 11, 2016

**Tract Name:** Dix Creek (PIN: 8643-61-4955)

**Acreage:** 160

**County:** Haywood

**Estimated Value:** \$456,000 Asking Price

**Property Owner or Representative:** 130 of Chatham  
c/o Carl Silverstein, Executive Director  
Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy

**Phone:** (828) 253-0095 x 202

**Address:** 34 Wall Street, Suite 502, Asheville, NC 28801

**Status:** ☒ High Interest ☐ Moderate Interest ☐ Low Interest ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☐ CWMTF

☒ OTHER (explain): Pittman Robertson Land Acquisition Grant with 25% match from Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy.

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** The property is located in Haywood County, approximately 6 miles east-southeast of Waynesville and 6 miles south-southwest Candler. Tract is located directly adjacent to Cold Mountain Game Land and the Shining Rock Wilderness Area of Pisgah National Forest. It is accessed via U.S Highway 276 to Dix Creek Rd. (SR1106). The property is listed in the Haywood County Register of Deeds under Deed book 630 and Page 1423. Elevations on the property range from a low of just over 3900 feet along the northern line, to a high of about 5500 feet in the southernmost corner. The property consists of a series of small stream valleys alternating with side ridges. Both the valleys and the ridges cut through the property in a generally northwest to southeast direction. The main branch of Dix Creek extends roughly to the center of the property. With the exception of the stream valleys, the majority of the landmass is convex in form. The aspect of the property is predominantly north to west. Degree of slope inclination varies greatly. The ridgetops and

stream bottoms are flat to rolling, while side slopes commonly exceeds 70% slope, especially in the southern half of the property. A notable boulderfield occupies a large area in the southern half of the property. The property is fully forested with several species of trees present. Some of the most prominent species include ash, basswood, beech, black birch, black cherry, black oak, buckeye, chestnut oak, hemlock, hickory, Northern red oak, pitch pine, red maple, sugar maple, yellow birch and yellow poplar. In the understory sourwood, dogwood, sassafras and striped maple are common. Acquisition of this property is significant as part of the total management project being carried out in the mountain Eco region. WRC ownership of the Dix Creek Tract will increase conservation ownership of properties in the immediate area such as the Cold Mountain Game Land, Pisgah National Forest, Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy lands, and various private holdings in the vicinity that are in conservation ownership or protected with conservation easements. In a broader sense, WRC ownership of the tract will help ensure ecosystem integrity at the landscape level by increasing connectivity of lands in conservation ownership.

Management objectives will focus on expanding the management currently being implemented on Cold Mountain Game Land. WRC ownership would ensure that important habitats are conserved

Public recreational opportunities may include hunting, hiking, bird watching, photography, and general nature study. Educational opportunities may exist as priority wildlife habitats are managed for or maintained. Common wildlife species found on the tract include wild turkey, black bear, white-tailed deer, gray squirrel, ruffed grouse, and various songbirds, salamanders, and small mammals. Priority species likely to occur on the tract are identified in the attached table.

**Additional Comments:** The Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy has made a commitment for the 25% matching funds needed in order to use PR funding for the purchase of this tract.

Preliminary estimates of five-year stewardship expenditures include establishing/maintaining property boundary 1.4 miles of property boundary (\$8,596), erection of 2 gates to control vehicular traffic (\$2,000) and development of 1 parking area (\$1,000) for a total estimated cost of \$11,596.

No short-term revenue is projected from the tract

**Program Potential:** ☒ Game Land (Cold Mountain) ☐ Wildlife Conservation Area  
☐ Fishing Access Area ☐ None

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal: state match rates):**  
Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):** 30 of 30

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition ☐ Defer ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes ☐ No



# WORKSHEET

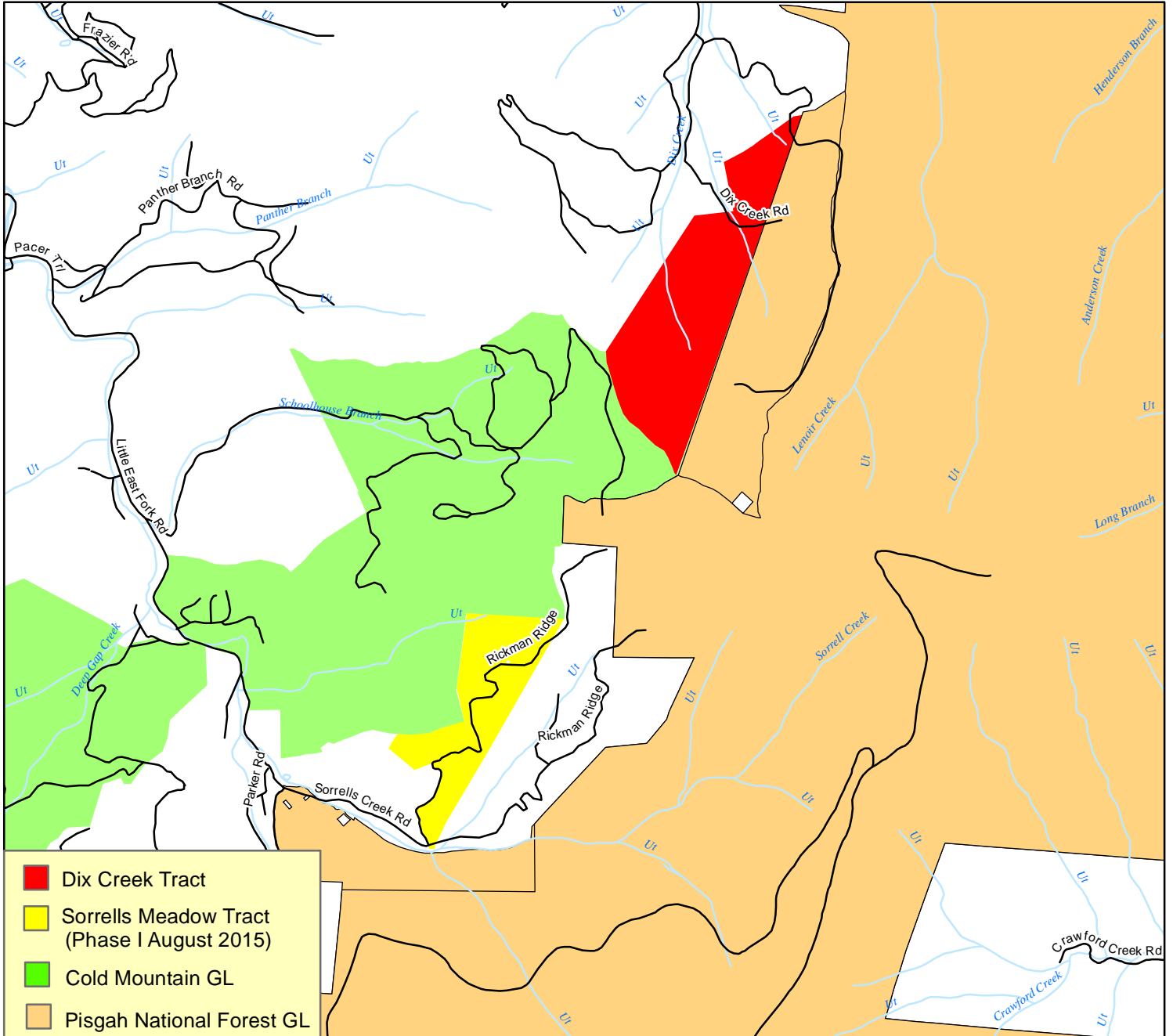
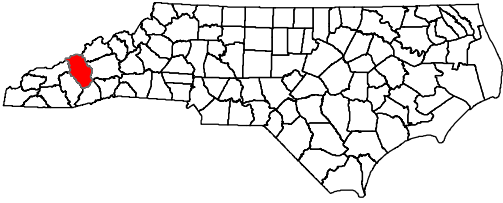
## Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Cold Mountain GL) Dix Creek Tract

Criterion	Score (1-5) 5=Excellent 1=Poor
1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.	<u>5</u>
2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.	<u>5</u>
3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.	<u>5</u>
4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.	<u>5</u>
5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts.	<u>5</u>
6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.	<u>5</u>
7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?	<u>NA</u>
8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?	<u>NA</u>
9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?	<u>NA</u>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<u>30</u>

Dix Creek Tract (Haywood County) - Priority Species			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LISTED	STATE LISTED
AMPHIBIANS			
Plethodon glutinosus	Slimy Salamander		
Plethodon ventralis	Southern Zigzag Salamander		SC
Desmognathus santeetlah	Santeetlah Dusky Salamander		SR
Desmognathus wrighti	Pygmy Salamander		SR
Hemidactylium scutatum	Four-toed Salamander		SC
Ambystoma talpoideum	Mole Salamander		SC
Necturus maculosus	Mudpuppy		SC
Cryptobranchus alleganiensis	Hellbender		SC
BIRDS			
Accipiter striatus	Sharp-shinned Hawk		SR
Falco sparverius	American Kestrel		
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon		E
Coccyzus erythrophthalmus	Black-billed Cuckoo		SR
Tyto alba	Barn Owl		SR
Sphyrapicus varius	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		
Empidonax alnorum	Alder Flycatcher		SR
Empidonax minimus	Least Flycatcher		
Corvus corax	Common Raven		
Sitta canadensis	Red-breasted Nuthatch		
Certhia americana	Brown Creeper		SC
Troglodytes troglodytes	Winter Wren		
Regulus satrapa	Golden-crowned Kinglet		
Vermivora pinus	Blue-winged Warbler		SR
Vermivora chrysoptera	Golden-winged Warbler		SC
Dendroica magnolia	Magnolia Warbler		SR
Dendroica cerulea	Cerulean Warbler		SC
Limnothlypis swainsonii	Swainson's Warbler		
Ammodramus savannarum	Grasshopper Sparrow		
Icterus galbula	Baltimore Oriole		
MAMMALS			
Sorex dispar	Long-tailed Shrew		SC
Sorex hoyi	Pygmy Shrew		
Corynorhinus rafinesquii	Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat		T
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary Bat		
Lasiurus seminolus	Seminole Bat		
Myotis septentrionalis	Northern Myotis		
Myotis leibii	Eastern Small-footed Myotis		SC
Sylvilagus obscurus	Appalachian Cottontail		SR-G
Zapus hudsonius	Meadow Jumping Mouse		
Mustela nivalis	Least Weasel		SR-G
Spilogale putorius	Eastern Spotted Skunk		
REPTILES			
Glyptemys muhlenbergii	Bog Turtle	LT, SAT	T
Apalone spinifera spinifera	Eastern Spiny Softshell		SC
Eumeces anthracinus	Coal Skink		SR
Lampropeltis triangulum elapsoides	Scarlet Kingsnake		
Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum	Eastern Milk Snake		
Virginia valeriae	Smooth Earth Snake		

# Dix Creek Tract Cold Mountain GL Haywood County 160 Acres



- Dix Creek Tract
- Sorrells Meadow Tract (Phase I August 2015)
- Cold Mountain GL
- Pisgah National Forest GL

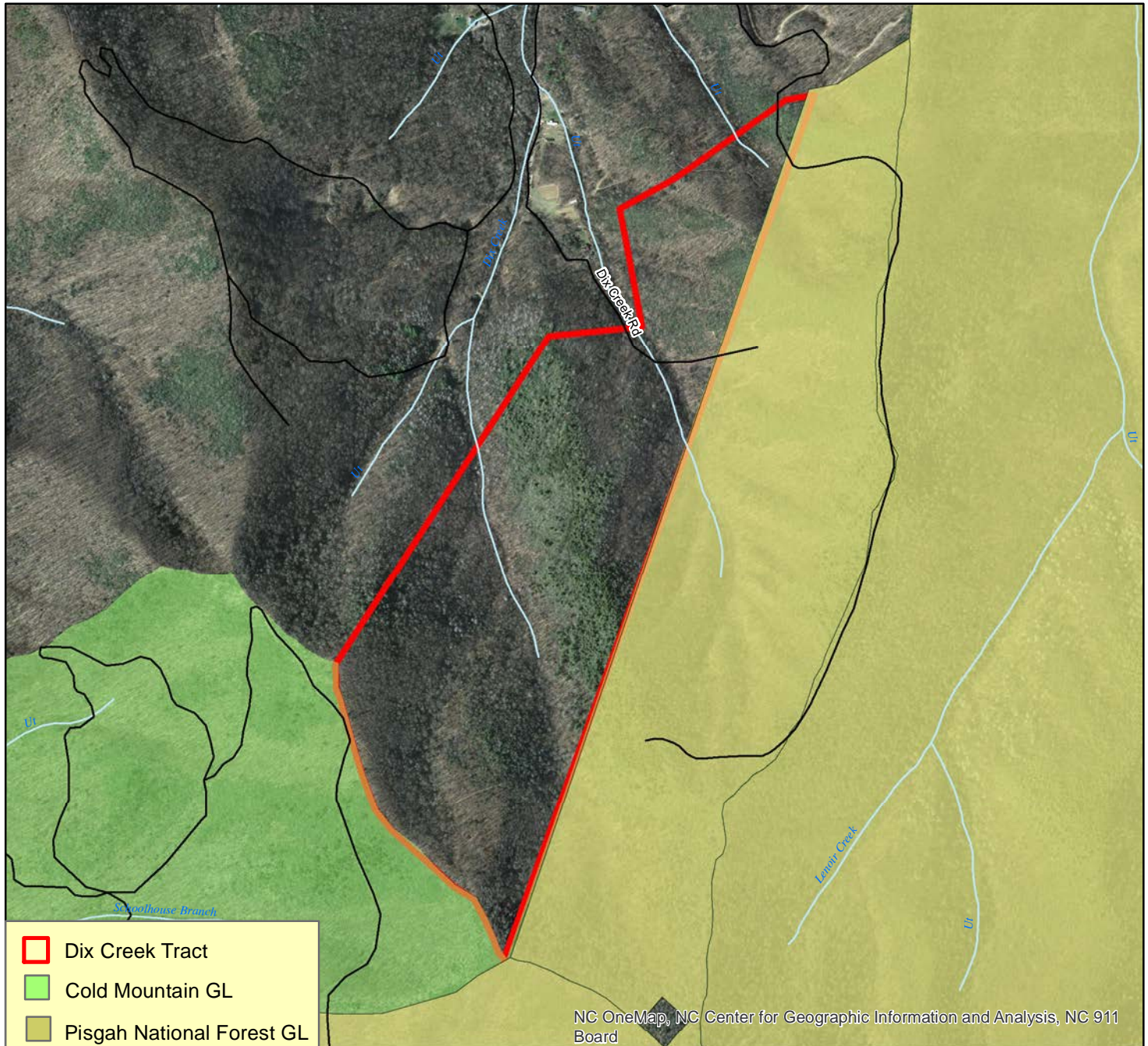


January 17, 2016

0 0.5 1 Miles



**Dix Creek Tract  
Cold Mountain GL  
Haywood County  
160 Acres**



January 17, 2016

0 0.25 0.5 Miles





# EXHIBIT H-2

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Jeff Hall ([jeff.hall@ncwildlife.org](mailto:jeff.hall@ncwildlife.org)); 252-917-1683

**Date First Presented to WRC:** February 11, 2016

**Tract Name:** Long Ridge (PIN 2249-49-6159-0000)

**Acreage:** 812 +/-

**County:** Pender

**Estimated Value:** \$1,390,000 (Asking Price)

**Property Owner or Representative:** Ben Wolfe, Realtor, [bwolfe@wolfesre.com](mailto:bwolfe@wolfesre.com)

The property is owned by former NCWRC Wildlife Enforcement Officer, Herman Strickland. Mr. Strickland is anxious to sell in order to purchase an alternative tract in the Western US.

**Phone:** Office: 919-781-2992; Mobile: 919-219-8997; Fax: 919-781-2998

**Address:** 8009 Crooked Chute Ct., Raleigh, NC 27612

**Status:** ☒ High Interest ☐ Moderate Interest ☐ Low Interest ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☒ CWMTF ☒ OTHER (explain): State Wildlife Grant monies; USF&W Section 6 Recovery Land Acquisition Grant; WRC Nongame Fund; The Nature Conservancy or Coastal Land Trust as possible partners

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** This tract is near the current Cone's Folly property, and is in a very wildlife rich area of Pender County, particularly for rare species. Red-Cockaded Woodpeckers (RCWs) are located on the property. Numerous rare reptile and amphibian species are in the area including Southern Hognose Snake, Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake, Eastern Coral Snake, and Mabey's Salamander, as well as some potential for Pine Barrens Treefrog. The tract contains old growth upland Longleaf Pine forest, as well as other timber types, and some wetlands, including a Carolina Bay and a beaver pond. Along with Cone's Folly (private) nearby, this landscape comprises exceptional biological diversity. In addition, due to the high quality management activities occurring on the property, including prescribed fire, thinning, and wildlife plantings, the property is a haven for many wildlife species. Acquiring this property would enhance the sustainability of RCWs as well as numerous other species of wildlife.

**Additional Comments:** This property is easily accessed by numerous roads throughout the property. The main entrance road connects via a common dirt road to SR 1201 (Beatty's Bridge Rd) near Atkinson, NC. There is currently an access easement on the dirt road right-of-way which likely would restrict public use. However, future targeted acquisition of adjacent tracts may lead to public access that would allow for outstanding hunting opportunities.

Based upon data found in the NC Conservation Planning Tool, 60% of the Long Ridge tract averages a score of 8 out of 10 (1- low-10 high values) for the Biodiversity index. Another 30% averages 6-7 and the remaining 10% is in the 0-5 range. The Biodiversity/Wildlife Habitat Index prioritizes aquatic and terrestrial habitat, landscape function and connectivity. Areas that support this level of species richness should be targeted for protection.

Five-year estimated stewardship expenditures are estimated at approximately \$30,000 (\$6,000/yr.).

Five-year revenues are estimated at \$335,600.

**Program Potential:** ☐ Game Land ☒ Wildlife Conservation Area  
☐ Fishing Access Area ☐ None

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):** Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):** 27 of 30

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition ☐ Defer ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

# WORKSHEET

## Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name Long Ridge (Pender County)

Criterion Score (1-5)  
5=Excellent 1=Poor

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |     |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--|
| 1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.                                               | 3   |  |
| 2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.                                                                                           | 5   |  |
| 3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.                                                                                                                                                              | 5   |  |
| 4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.                                       | 5   |  |
| 5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts. | 4   |  |
| 6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.                           | 5   |  |
| 7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?                                                                                | Yes |  |
| 8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?                                                                       | Yes |  |
| 9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?                                                                          | NA  |  |

**TOTAL SCORE** 27

### 5- Year Estimated Stewardship Costs

Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit/Cost	Total (5-yrs)
Maintain Gate – yr. 2 - 5	5	ea.	\$ 200	\$ 1,000
Boundary Establishment – yr. 1	4.5	mi	\$ 1,500	\$ 6,750
Boundary Maintenance- yr. 4	4.5	mi	\$ 500	\$ 2,250
Prescribe Burning	462	ac	\$ 30	\$ 13,860
Manage existing wildlife openings	8	ac	\$ 150	\$ 6,000
<b>Total estimated expenditures (5 yr.)</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 29,860</b>

### 5-Year Anticipated Revenue

			Value	Total
Timber sales of mid-aged pine stands	85	ac	\$ 400	\$ 34,000
*Thin mature longleaf and loblolly	377	ac	\$ 800	\$ 301,600
<b>Total estimated revenue (5 yr.)</b>				<b>\$ 335,600</b>

\*Timber sales values are estimates - not based on actual timber volumes.



Bird Species of Greatest Conservation Concern Likely to be Present on Long Ridge Property

<b>BIRDS</b>  <b>Species - Habitat Associations</b> <b>February 2015</b>						<b>Wetland Communities</b>			
	Dry Longleaf Pine Forests	Mixed Hardwood Pine Forest/ Managed Timberland/	Successional Communities			Nonalluvial Mineral Wetlands	Pocosins	Upland Pools & Depressions	Wet Pine Savannas
			Herb	Shrub	Woody				
Common Name	COASTAL PLAIN								
Cooper's Hawk	X	X							
Henslow's Sparrow	X		X	X					X
Green Heron				X				X	
Hermit Thrush		X				X	X		
Northern Harrier			X	X					
Sedge Wren			X						
Northern Bobwhite	X		X	X	X				X
Yellow Rail			X	X					
Acadian Flycatcher						X	X		
Rusty Blackbird						X			
Merlin			X				X		X
American Kestrel	X		X						X
Common Gallinule								X	
Worm-Eating Warbler	X					X	X		
Least Bittern			x	x					
Loggerhead Shrike			X	X					
Swainson's Warbler						X	X		

<b>BIRDS (continued)</b>									
Red-Headed Woodpecker	X	X					X		X
Lincoln's Sparrow			X	X					
Wood Stork			X	X				X	
Yellow-Crowned Night-Heron						X			
Orange-Crowned Warbler			X	X	X				
Louisiana Waterthrush						X			
Savannah Sparrow			X	X					
Bachman's Sparrow	X		X	X					X
Red-Cockaded Woodpecker	X						X		X
Pied-Billed Grebe								X	
Prothonotary Warbler								X	
King Rail			X						
Virginia Rail			X						
Golden-Crowned Kinglet	X	X					X		
American Woodcock			X						
Prairie Warbler	X		X	X	X		X		X
Yellow-Throated Warbler	X						X		X
Wayne's Black-Throated Green Warbler						X	X		
Brown-Headed Nuthatch	X	X							X
Tree Swallow		X	X	X	X				
Barn Owl		X	X	X					

Amphibian Species of Greatest Conservation Concern Likely to be Present on Long Ridge Property

Species - Habitat Associations February 2015	Terrestrial Communities						Wetland Communities					Aquatic Communitie s
	Dry Longleaf Pine Forests	Mixed Hardwood Pine Forest/ Managed Timberland/	Successional Communities			Sparsely Settled/ Mixed Habitats	Nonalluvial Mineral Wetlands	Pocosins	Upland Pools & Depressions	Upland Seepages & Spray Cliffs	Wet Pine Savannas	Headwater Streams/ Small Creeks
			Herb	Shrub	Woody							Warm
Common Name	COASTAL PLAIN											
Mabee's Salamander									X		X	
Southern Dusky Salamander							X	X				
Four-toed Salamander							X		X	X		
Pine Barrens Treefrog								X	X		X	
Oak Toad	X	X					X		X		X	
Brimley's Chorus Frog									X		X	
Southern Chorus Frog	X	X					X	X	X		X	
Ornate Chorus Frog									X		X	
Eastern Lesser Siren									X			
Many-Lined Salamander								X				

Reptile Species of Greatest Conservation Concern Likely to be Present on Long Ridge Property

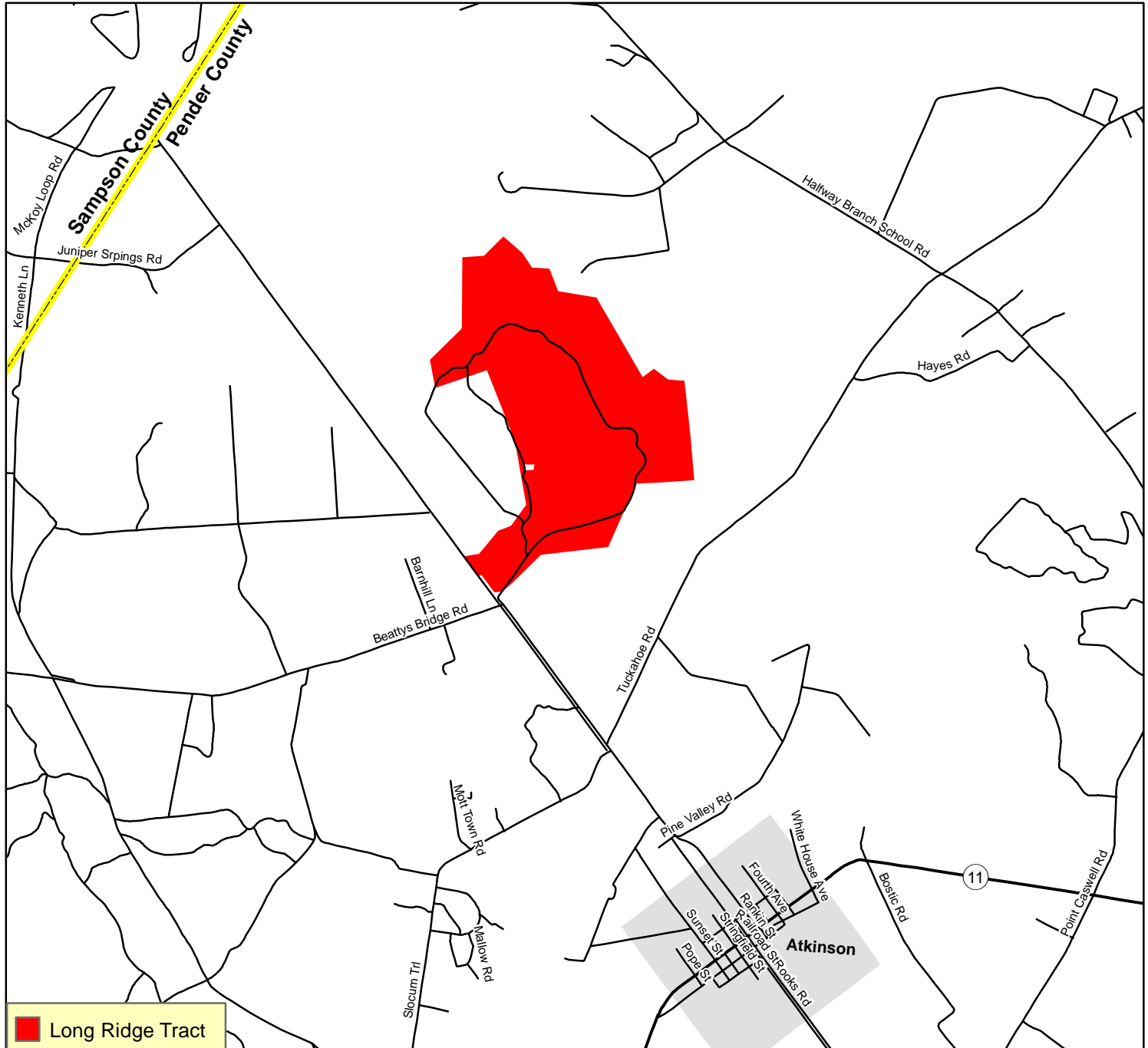
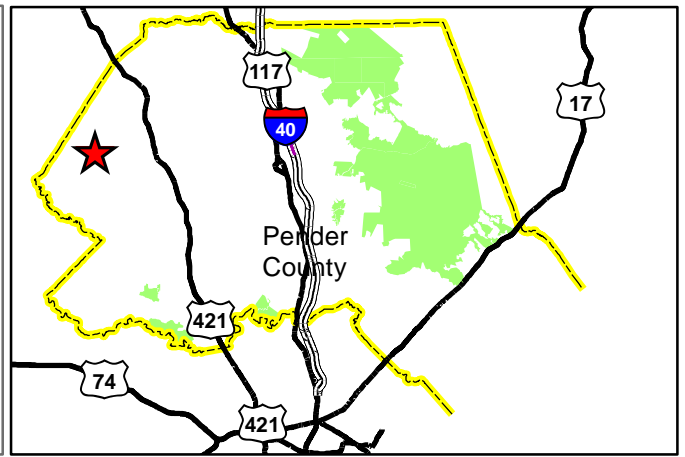
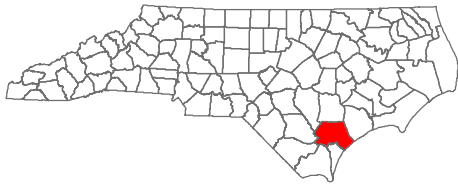
REPTILES  Species - Habitat Associations February 2015	Terrestrial Communities						Wetland Communities				Aquatic Communities		
	Dry Longleaf Pine Forests	Mixed Hardwood Pine Forest/ Managed Timberland/	Successional Communities			Sparsely Settled/ Mixed Habitats	Nonalluvial Mineral Wetlands	Pocosins	Upland Pools & Depressions	Wet Pine Savannas	GW, Springs/ Caves	Head- water Streams/ Small Creeks	Stream Swamps
Herb			Shrub	Woody	Cold						Warm	Warm	
	COASTAL PLAIN												
Common Name													
American Alligator													X
Northern Scarlet Snake	X	X					X						
Spotted Turtle									X				
Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake	X		X	X	X								
Timber Rattlesnake	X	X					X						
Eastern Chicken Turtle									X				
Striped Mud Turtle							X	X	X	X		X	X
Rainbow Snake													X
Southern Hognose Snake	X				X								
Mole Kingsnake			X	X	X	X							
Scarlet Kingsnake	X						X			X			
Eastern Coachwhip	X		X	X	X		X						
Coral Snake	X												
Eastern Slender Glass Lizard	X		X	X	X					X			

<b>REPTILES (continued)</b>													
Mimic Glass Lizard							X			X			
Glossy Crayfish Snake									X				
Pine Woods Litter Snake							X			X			
Carolina Swamp Snake									X				X
Eastern Box Turtle		X	X	X	X								
Smooth Earth Snake	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Eastern Ribbon Snake												X	X
Carolina Pigmy Rattlesnake	X						X						

Mammal Species of Greatest Conservation Concern Likely to be Present on Long Ridge Property

MAMMALS  Species - Habitat Associations February 2015	Terrestrial Communities					Wetland Communities				Aquatic Communities	
	Dry Longleaf Pine Forests	Mixed Hardwood Pine Forest/ Managed Timberland/	Successional Communities			Nonalluvial Mineral Wetlands	Pocosins	Upland Pools & Depressions	Wet Pine Savannas	Headwater Streams/ Small Creeks	Stream Swamps
			Herb	Shrub	Woody					Warm	Warm
	COASTAL PLAIN										
Common Name											
Star-Nosed Mole			X	X			X	X			
Rafinesque's Big-Eared Bat - Coastal Plain Pop		X									
Hoary Bat										X	X
Northern Yellow Bat						X					
Seminole Bat	X					X					
Southeastern Bat						X					
Little Brown Bat	X	X		X							
Northern Long-Eared Bat	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		
Little Brown Bat	X	X		X							
Eastern Woodrat - Coastal Plain population						X					X
Tri-Colored Bat	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X

# Long Ridge Tract Pender County 812 Acres



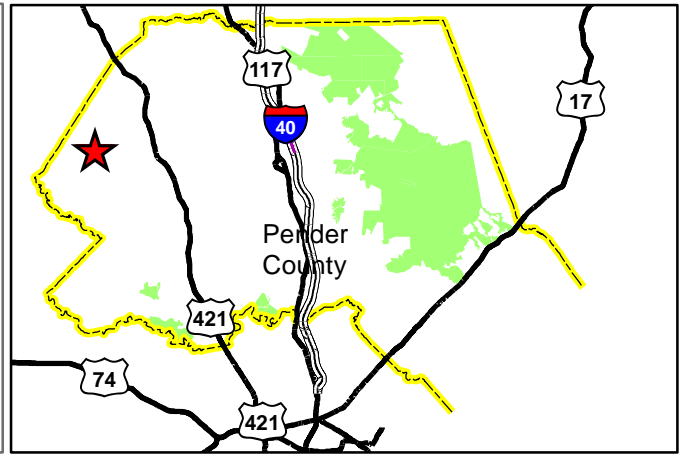
January 23, 2016

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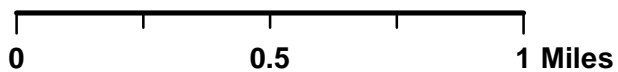




# Long Ridge Tract Pender County 812 Acres



January 23, 2016





# EXHIBIT H-3

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Todd Ewing & Isaac Harrold

**Date First Presented to WRC:** February 11, 2016

**Tract Name:** Galloway Tract (Dan River): PIN 796800534204

**Acreage:** 1,768

**County:** Rockingham

**Estimated Value:** \$4.25 million

**Property Owner or Representative:** Kevin Redding, Piedmont Land Conservancy

**Phone:** (336) 691-0088

**Address:** 1515 W Cornwallis Dr. # 205  
Greensboro, NC 27408

**Status:** ☒ High Interest      ☐ Moderate Interest      ☐ Low Interest      ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☒ CWMTF

☒ OTHER (explain): National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Coal  
Ash Settlement funds

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** This tract is located in central Rockingham County, south of Eden. It has approximately 3.8 miles of frontage on the Dan River. Acquisition of this tract will help protect the federally-listed Roanoke Logperch, several State Listed species, and multiple Wildlife Action Plan species. This tract will offer angler access to the Dan River, which contains a popular Largemouth Bass, Sunfish, and Channel Catfish fishery. Also, there is potential for canoe access area.

The vast majority of the uplands on this property have been converted in the last quarter century to extensive loblolly pine plantations, thus creating a large percentage of early successional habitat. The bottomlands and slopes, have also been clearcut or severely high-graded in the last half century. Except for riparian buffer areas, there is very little mature or high quality forest remaining. (Riparian buffers on this tract total almost 530 acres.) However, the slopes have recovered somewhat and the bottomland second growth has returned to pole stage/pulpwood size.

There are approximately 72 acres of fields currently in agricultural production or at least being maintained as open, with considerable acreage, especially in the bottomlands that has been abandoned and has returned to typical floodplain forest species. One unique opportunity exists to create a managed waterfowl impoundment along the southwestern corner of the property between the slopes and the river. Site specifics and soil characteristics were not determined, but from topographical examination, an impoundment of 130-140 acres could possibly be built. There are a few old small “farm” ponds in various states of function, but these only total ~2.5 acres. Natural wetlands (semi-permanent impoundments) at the northern end of the property total ~12-15 acres in wet times.

This tract would provide excellent hunting opportunities for both big game and small game species. Deer and turkey hunting would likely need to be administered through the Permit Hunt Opportunities Program. Small game and migratory bird hunting should be monitored by Point-of-Sale Permitting. This tract has great potential for public dove field development, appears premier for rabbit hunting, offers good opportunity for squirrel and raccoon, likely still retains some Bobwhite Quail, and certainly holds good numbers of wintering woodcock and waterfowl during specific times of the year.

Prescribed burning opportunities are considerable on this tract. An extensive network of very well-maintained roads and trails, good access points, the presence of a major transmission powerline ROW, and the proximity to the river would allow very safe burning conditions and a minimal amount of significant fireline construction to eventually maintain the pine uplands.

**Additional Comments:** The tract offers ample public access via Riverside Road (SR 2108), Woodpecker Road (SR 2110), Buttercup Road (SR 2107), and NC Hwy 770.

Preliminary estimates of five-year stewardship expenditures include marking/maintaining ~14.5 miles of property boundary (\$2,900), installing 5 gates (\$5,000) and developing 1 small parking area (\$1000) for a total estimated cost of \$8,900.

No short-term revenue is projected from the tract. However, future timber management in extensive loblolly pine plantations will generate significant revenue, with first-thinnings, second-thinnings, and eventual final harvests. Currently, many of the loblolly pine stands are in need of first-thinning, as none are older than about 20 years of age.

**Program Potential:** ☒ Game Land (New) ☐ Wildlife Conservation Area  
☒ Fishing Access Area

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal: state match rates):**  
P/R funds (75% Federal, 25% State) Sportfish Restoration funds - (75% Federal, 25% State),  
State Wildlife Grants (65% Federal, 35% State)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):**

30 of 30
----------

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition ☐ Defer ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

# WORKSHEET

## Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Dan River)

Galloway Tract (Rockingham County)

Criterion	Score (1-5) 5=Excellent 1=Poor
1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.	5
2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.	5
3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.	5
4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.	5
5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts.	5
6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.	5
7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?	Yes
8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?	Yes
9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?	Yes
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>30</b>

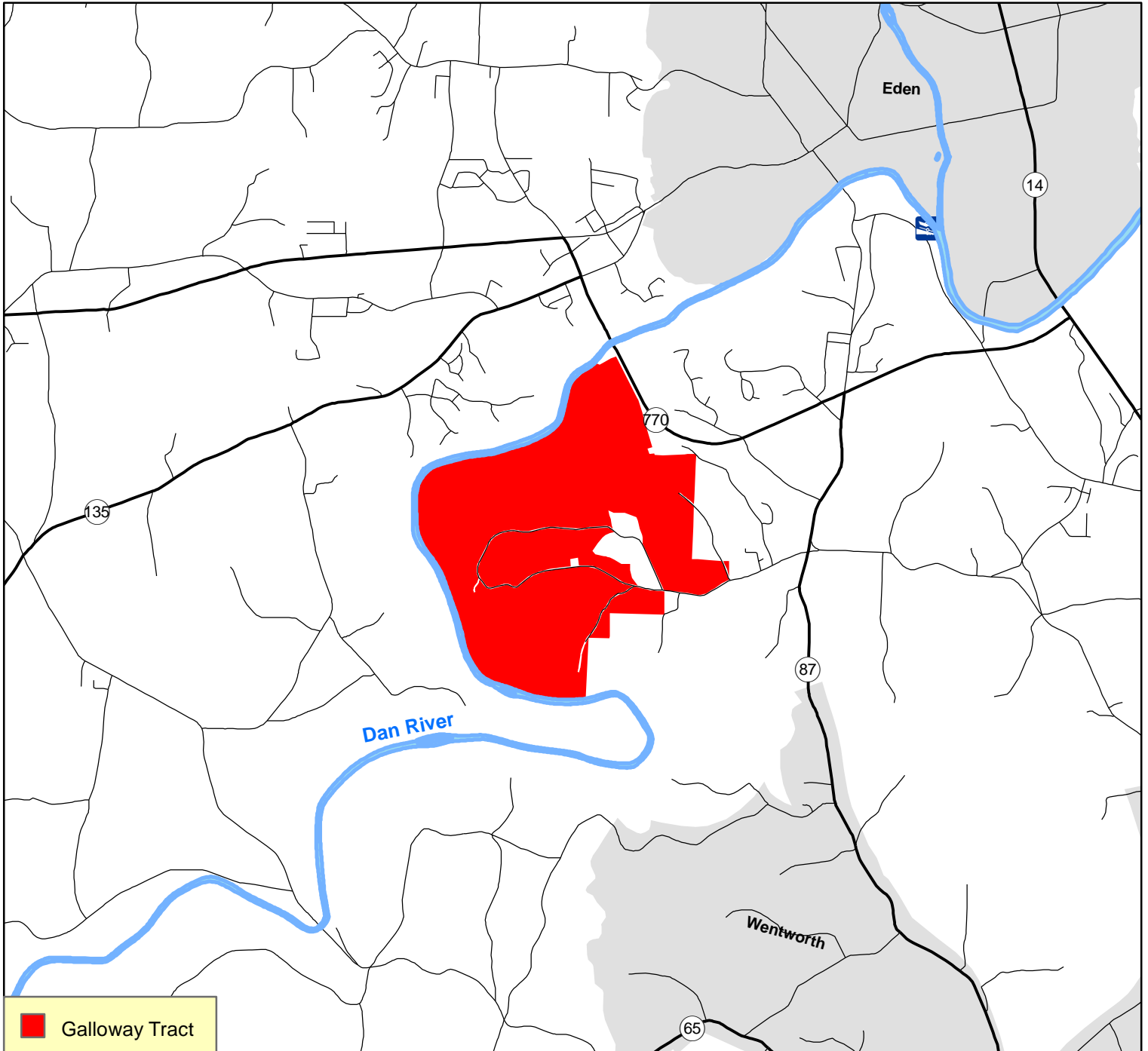
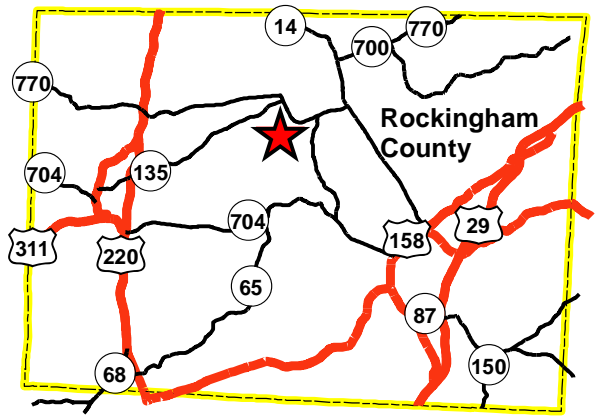
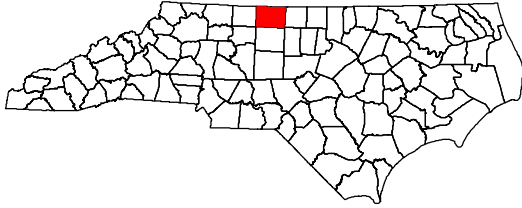
**Galloway Tract (Rockingham County) - Wildlife Action Plan Priority Species**

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LISTED	STATE LISTED
<b>MUSSELS</b>			
<i>Lasmigona subviridis</i>	Green Floater		E
<i>Villosa constricta</i>	Notched Rainbow		SC
<b>NONGAME FISH</b>			
<i>Carpionodes cyprinus</i>	Quillback		SR
<i>Cottus caeruleomentum</i>	Blue Ridge Sculpin		SC
<i>Etheostoma podostemone</i>	Riverweed Darter		SC
<i>Exoglossum maxillingua</i>	Cutlips Minnow		SC
<i>Etheostoma vitreum</i>	Glassy Darter		
<i>Hypentilium roanokense</i>	Roanoke Hogsucker		SR
<i>Moxostoma ariommum</i>	Bigeye Jumprock		T
<i>Moxostoma pappillosum</i>	V-lip Redhorse		
<i>Percina rex</i>	Roanoke Logperch	E	E
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>			
<i>Plethodon chorobryonis</i>	Atlantic Coast Slimy Salamander		
<i>Hemidactylum scutatum</i>	Four-toed Salamander		SC
<i>Ambystoma maculatum</i>	Spotted Salamander		
<i>Ambystoma opacum</i>	Marbled Salamander		
<i>Ambystoma talpoideum</i>	Mole Salamander		SC
<i>Hyla versicolor</i>	Gray treefrog		
<b>BIRDS</b>			
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Least Bittern		SC
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle		T
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Northern Harrier		
<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American Kestrel		
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl		SR
<i>Setophaga (Dendroica) discolor</i>	Prairie Warbler		
<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	Red-headed Woodpecker		
<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	Savannah Sparrow		
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's Hawk		
<i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i>	Whip-poor-will		
<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	Willow Flycatcher		
<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Wood Thrush		
<i>Icterus spurius</i>	Orchard Oriole		
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Loggerhead Shrike		SC
<i>Opornis formosus</i>	Kentucky Warbler		
<i>Picoides villosus</i>	Hairy Woodpecker		
<i>Sitta pusilla</i>	Brown-headed nuthatch		
<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	Field Sparrow		
<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Eastern Meadowlark		
<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	Eastern Kingbird		
<i>Setophaga (Wilsonia) citrina</i>	Hooded Warbler		

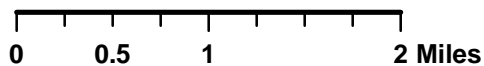
**Galloway Tract (Rockingham County) - Wildlife Action Plan Priority Species**

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LISTED	STATE LISTED
<b>MAMMALS</b>			
Synaptomys cooperi	Southern Bog Lemming		
Zapus hudsonius	Meadow Jumping Mouse		
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary Bat		
Myotis austroriparius	Southeastern bat		SC
<b>REPTILES</b>			
Cemophora coccinea	Scarlet Snake		
Tantilla coronata	Southeastern Crowned Snake		
Lampropeltis getula	Eastern Kingsnake		
Lampropeltis calligaster	Mole Kingsnake		
Terapene carolina	Eastern Box Turtle		
Pantherophis (Elaphe) guttata	Corn Snake		
Eumeces laticeps	Broadhead Skink		
Virginia valeriae valeriae	Eastern Smooth Earthsnake		

# Galloway Tract Rockingham County 1,768 Acres

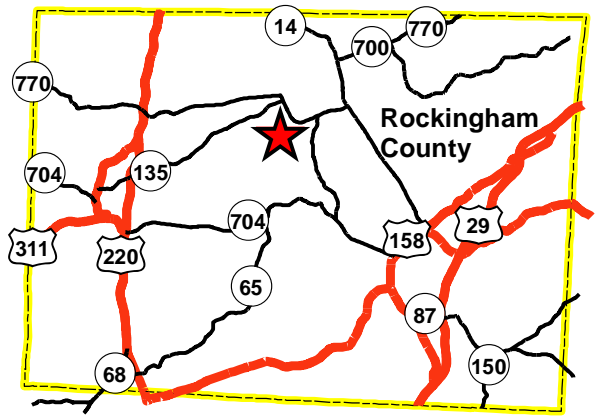
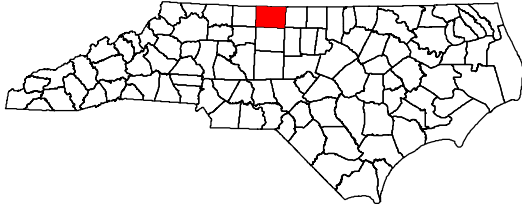


January 24, 2016





# Galloway Tract Rockingham County 1,768 Acres



January 24, 2016

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles



# EXHIBIT H-4

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### **-PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-**

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Doug Besler & Isaac Harrold

**Date First Presented to WRC:** February 11, 2016

**Tract Name:** Hill Farm (Dan River)

**Acreage:** 175 (minus ~20 acres to be sold to Jessup's Mill)

**PIN:** 5091-00-64-7436 and 5091-00-55-2243

**County:** Stokes

**Estimated Value:** NA – this tract has recently been acquired by the Piedmont Land Conservancy (PLC) using a CWMTF grant and PLC funds. They are interested in selling the parcel to the Commission for a reduced amount to recoup the PLC funds contributed to the purchase. PLC is asking \$50,000 for the parcel, although they are in the process of pursuing additional funding from the Duke Energy Water Resources Fund that could substantially reduce the amount they're requesting from the Commission.

**Property Owner or Representative:** Piedmont Land Conservancy  
c/o Kevin Redding, Executive Director  
1515 W. Cornwallis Dr. #205  
Greensboro, NC 27408

**Phone:** 336-691-0088

**Email:** [kredding@piedmontland.org](mailto:kredding@piedmontland.org)

**Property Address:** 1613 Collinstown Road, Westfield, NC 27053

**Status:** ☒ High Interest      ☐ Moderate Interest      ☐ Low Interest      ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☐ CWMTF

☒ OTHER (explain): NC Wildlife Resources Commission

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** This tract has the potential to further multiple Agency objectives. It contains just over 2 miles of frontage along the Dan River and is adjacent to the lower end of the Commission's Hatchery Supported Trout Waters. Given that all current trout water on the Dan River is on privately owned land, acquiring fishing access on public land is crucial for ensuring future trout fishing opportunities in the area.

Acquisition of this tract will help protect the federally-listed James Spiny mussel, several State Listed species such as Orange-fin Madtom (NC Endangered), and multiple Wildlife Action Plan species.



Additionally, the tract is adjacent to the Natural Heritage Program-designated Jessups Mill/Georges Mill Natural Heritage Area.

The tract also has the potential to be managed as a small, independent, Permit-Only Game Land and could support limited hunting for deer, turkey, and small game. Management of this property for hunting opportunities is a high priority given that there are currently no Game Lands in Stokes County or surrounding Cos., (except for the nearest Mitchell River Game Land in Alleghany and Surry Cos. about 30 miles away).

The property offers excellent potential for deer and turkey hunting, but its small size lends itself to only very tightly controlled hunts for these species under the Special Hunt Permit System. Small game hunting for rabbits, squirrels, raccoon, and others would be monitored by Point-of-Sale Permitting. Ruffed Grouse have been observed on this property by reliable sources, and although the habitat looks marginally appropriate, this is at the extreme edge of their range, making hunting opportunities for them opportunistic at best.

The property itself, is basically two main narrow ridges falling off to the river, with substantial topographic relief. Most of it is steep forested side-slopes, while the flatter areas have seen cultivation in the past, with ~28 acres currently maintained as hay or fallow fields. Vegetation is typical of more mountainous areas to the north and west, with white pine, mountain laurel, rhododendron, and associated northern hardwoods. Abandoned previously open land (farmed or pastured) and some past timbering has reverted to yellow poplar and Virginia pine. Intense management potential is not great with regard to forestry and prescribed fire. However, certain areas could be reclaimed of encroaching Virginia pine, and the opportunities exist for some small scale food plots and annual and perennial plantings. The areas occupied by mature forest are of relatively high-quality and would be left intact in perpetuity. (Approximately 65 acres of the property falls within the 300-foot Clean Water Buffer along the river.)

The major concern for this tract is legal public access via Oliver Rd. from the northeast. (This is currently being investigated.) From Oliver Rd., the interior of the property can be accessed by existing roads and paths, which terminate at the river where a potential PFA access point could be constructed. Access to the property from the southeast is currently uncertain, as a small corner of the property (possibly 20 acres) is under discussion to be divided and sold to the adjacent Jessup's Mill, for their future development purposes. (It is unknown if we could maintain public access through this parcel after it is sold.)

**Additional Comments:** Preliminary estimates of five-year stewardship expenditures include marking/maintaining ~3 miles of property boundary (\$600), installing 2 gates (\$2,000), improving/graveling ~1 mile of roads (\$25,000), and developing 2 or 3 small parking areas (\$3,000) for a total estimated cost of \$30,600. Direct revenue will not be generated from the property.

**Program Potential:** ☒ Game Land    ☒ Wildlife Conservation Area    ☒ Fishing Access Area  
☐ None

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

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):**

26 of 30
----------

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition    ☐ Defer    ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes    ☐ No

## WORKSHEET

### Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Dan River) Hill Farm (Stokes County)

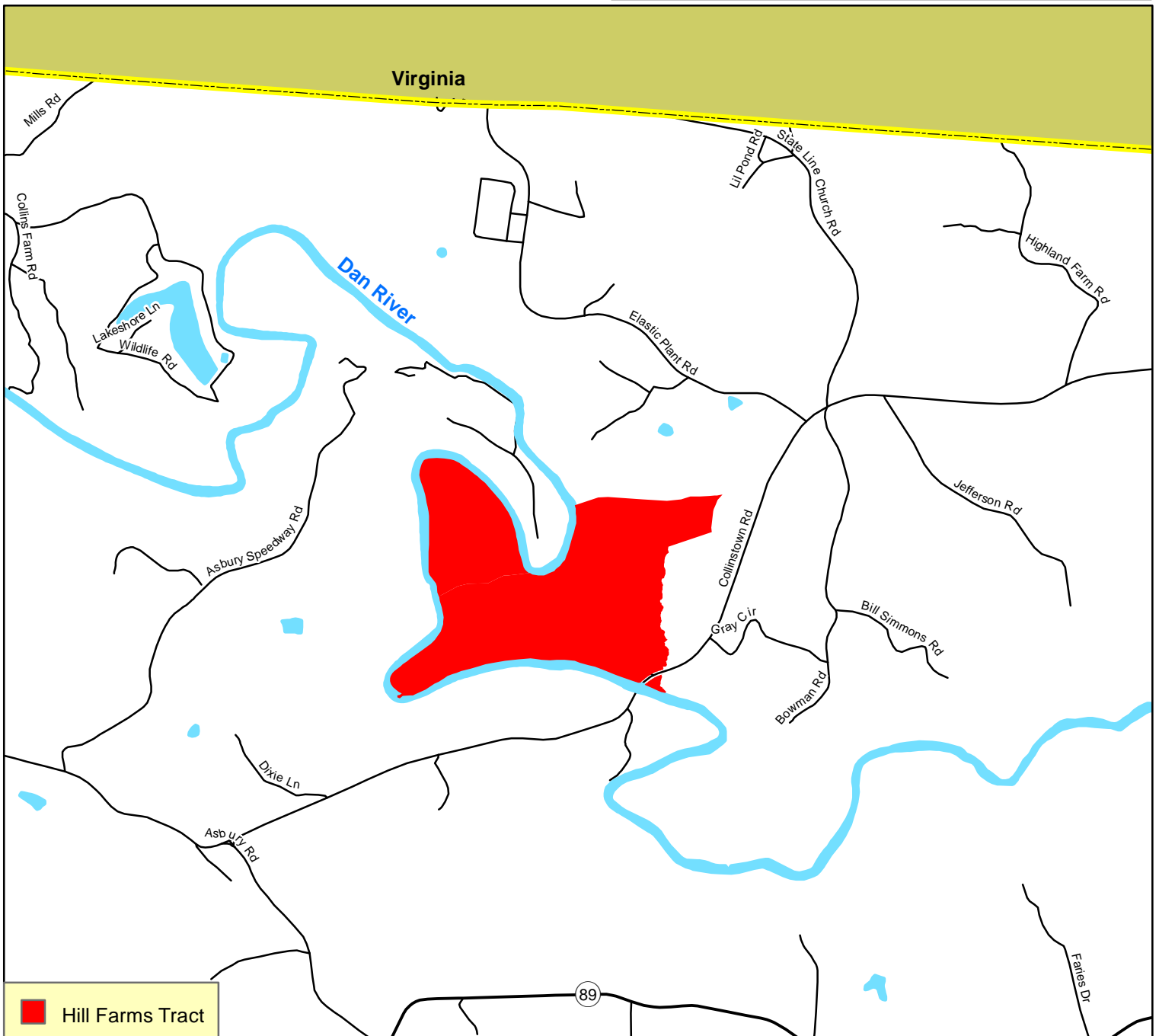
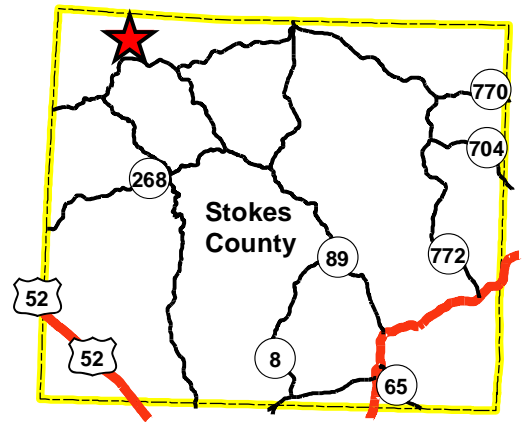
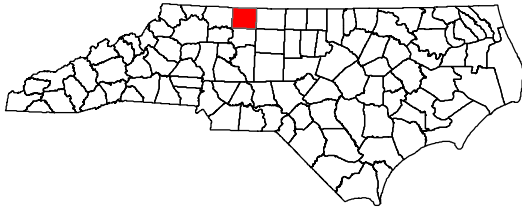
Criterion Score (1-5)  
5=Excellent 1=Poor

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.                                               | <u>4</u>   |
| 2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.                                                                                           | <u>5</u>   |
| 3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.                                                                                                                                                              | <u>3</u>   |
| 4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.                                       | <u>4</u>   |
| 5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts. | <u>5</u>   |
| 6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.                           | <u>5</u>   |
| 7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?                                                                                | <u>Yes</u> |
| 8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 minimum)?                                                                            | <u>Yes</u> |
| 9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?                                                                          | <u>Yes</u> |

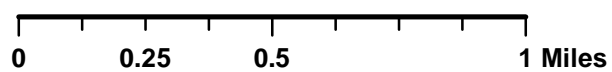
**TOTAL SCORE** 26 out of 30

Hill Farm Tract (Stokes County) - Priority Species			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LISTED	STATE LISTED
<b>MUSSELS</b>			
Elliptio fisheriana	Northern Lance		SR
Lasmigona subviridis	Green Floater		E
Pleurobema collina	James Spiny mussel	E	E
Villosa constricta	Notched Rainbow		SC
<b>NONGAME FISH</b>			
Carpodacus cyprinus	Quillback		SR
Cottus caeruleomentum	Blue Ridge Sculpin		SC
Etheostoma podostemone	Riverweed Darter		SC
Exoglossum maxillingua	Cutlips Minnow		SC
Etheostoma vitreum	Glassy Darter		
Hypentelium roanokense	Roanoke Hogsucker		SR
Moxostoma ariommum	Bigeye Jumprock		T
Moxostoma pappillosum	V-lip Redhorse		
Percina rex	Roanoke Loggerhead	E	E
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>			
Plethodon wehrlei	Wehrle's Salamander		T
Plethodon richmondi	Southern Ravine Salamander		
Hemidactylium scutatum	Four-toed Salamander		SC
Ambystoma maculatum	Spotted Salamander		
Eurycea longicauda	Longtail Salamander		SC
Ambystoma talpoideum	Mole Salamander		SC
<b>BIRDS</b>			
Ixobrychus exilis	Least Bittern		SC
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle		T
Circus cyaneus	Northern Harrier		
Falco sparverius	American Kestrel		
Tyto alba	Barn Owl		SR
Setophaga (Dendroica) discolor	Prairie Warbler		
Melanerpes erythrocephalus	Red-headed Woodpecker		
Passerculus sandwichensis	Savannah Sparrow		
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's Hawk		
Caprimulgus carolinensis	Whip-poor-will		
Empidonax traillii	Willow Flycatcher		
Hylocichla ustulata	Wood Thrush		
Icterus spurius	Orchard Oriole		
Lanius ludovicianus	Loggerhead Shrike		SC
Opornis formosus	Kentucky Warbler		
Picoides villosus	Hairy Woodpecker		
Sitta pusilla	Brown-headed nuthatch		
Spizella pusilla	Field Sparrow		
Sturnella magna	Eastern Meadowlark		
Tyrannus tyrannus	Eastern Kingbird		
Setophaga (Wilsonia) citrina	Hooded Warbler		
<b>MAMMALS</b>			
Synaptomys cooperi	Southern Bog Lemming		
Zapus hudsonius	Meadow Jumping Mouse		
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary Bat		
Corynorhinus rafinesquii	Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat		T
Myotis austroriparius	Southeastern bat		SC
<b>REPTILES</b>			
Heterodon platirhinos	Eastern Hognose Snake		
Lampropeltis triangulum	Eastern Milk Snake		
Lampropeltis getula	Eastern Kingsnake		
Lampropeltis calligaster	Mole Kingsnake		
Terapene carolina	Eastern Box Turtle		
Pantherophis (Elaphe) guttata	Corn Snake		
Eumeces laticeps	Broadhead Skink		

# Hill Farm Tract Stokes County 155 Acres

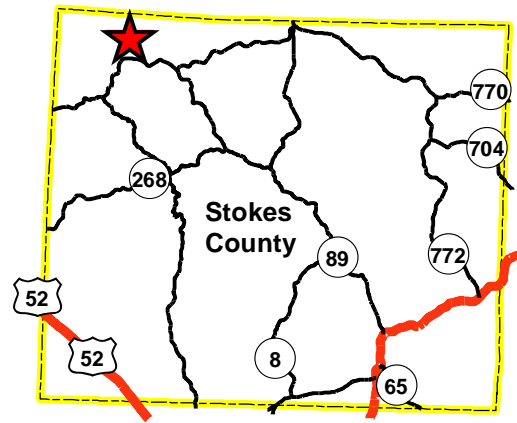
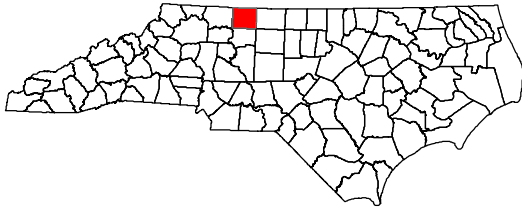


January 24, 2016





# Hill Farm Tract Stokes County 155 Acres



January 24, 2016

0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet



# EXHIBIT H-5

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Tommy Hughes

**Date First Presented to WRC:** February 11, 2016

**Tract Name:** Vinson Tract (Lock Landing Plantation)

**PIN:** 127800066542 and 127800182103

**Acreage:** 239.5

**County:** Bladen

**Estimated Value:** \$ 598,750

**Property Owner or Representative:** Albert Shaw

**Phone:** (C) 910-876-1361 [www.CPNetwork.com](http://www.CPNetwork.com)

**Address:** 2262 Burney Ford Road, Clarkton, NC 28433

**Status:** ☒ High Interest      ☐ Moderate Interest      ☐ Low Interest      ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☒ CWMTF

☒ OTHER (explain): NC Coastal Land Trust will contribute approximately \$250K of unspent NAWCA funds to assist with purchase of the property.

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** The property borders the northern boundary of Whitehall Plantation Game Land and consists of lowland natural regenerated hardwoods consisting of oaks, cypress and gum along the Cape Fear River. The upland sites support young naturally seeded loblolly pine that needs thinning and burning. These areas offer opportunities for restoring longleaf pine. Several large sloughs are contained on the property and provide excellent habitat for waterfowl and other wetland dependent species. The tract has approximately 3,928 feet of river frontage along the Cape Fear and supports approximately 90 acres of wetlands. The tract supports NCWRC Wildlife Action Plan priority habitats and species and will provide value habitat for waterfowl, reptiles and amphibians, neotropical migrants, whitetail deer, wild turkey, small game and furbearers.

Based upon data found in the NC Conservation Planning Tool, the Vinson Tract Biodiversity index averages a score of 3 out of 10 (1- low-10 high values). However, approximately 50% of the tract averages 7. The Biodiversity/Wildlife Habitat Index prioritizes aquatic and terrestrial habitat, landscape function and connectivity. Areas that support this level of species richness should be targeted for protection.

**Additional Comments:** Five-year estimated stewardship expenditures are estimated at approximately \$30,000 (\$6,000/yr.). No short-term revenues are anticipated.

#### 5- Year Estimated Stewardship Costs

Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit/Cost	Total
Maintain Access Road	1	mi	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Establish Gate	4	ea	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Maintain Gate	4	ea	\$ 100.00	\$ 400.00
Prescribe Burning -yr 1	40	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 1,200.00
Prescribe Burning -yr 2	40	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 1,200.00
Prescribe Burning -yr 3	40	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 1,200.00
Prescribe Burning-yr 4	40	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 1,200.00
Prescribe Burning-yr 5	40	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 1,200.00
Boundary Establishment- yr 1	2.9	mi	\$ 2500.00	\$ 7,250.00
Boundary Maintenance- yr 4	2.9	mi	\$ 2500.00	\$ 7,250.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 29,900.00</b>

#### 5-Year Anticipated Revenue

	Value	Total
None	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ -</b>

**Program Potential:** ☒ Game Land (Whitehall Plantation) ☐ Wildlife Conservation Area  
☒ Fishing Access Area ☐ None

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):** Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):** 30 of 30

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition ☐ Defer ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

# WORKSHEET

## Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Whitehall Plantation GL) Vinson Tract

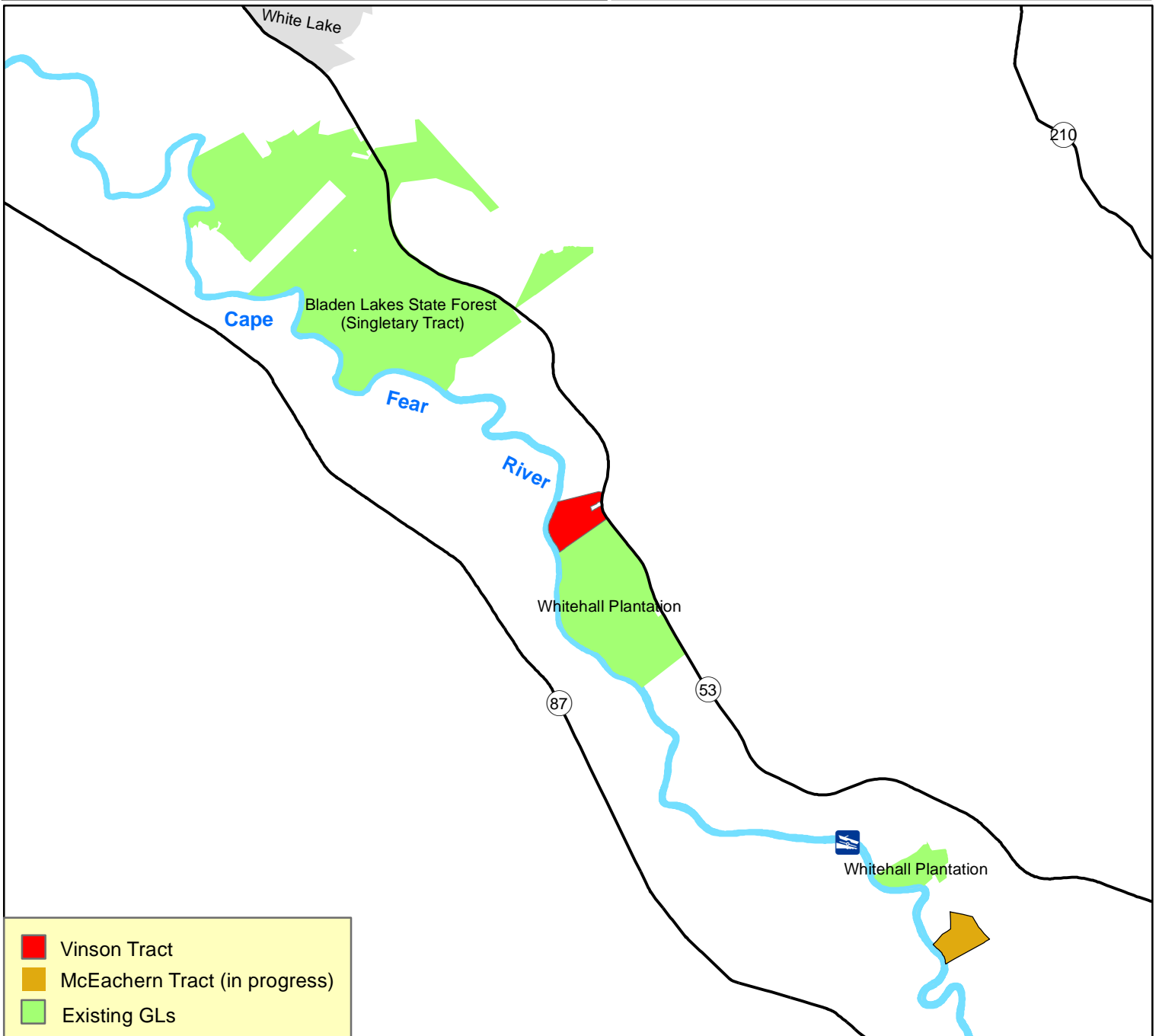
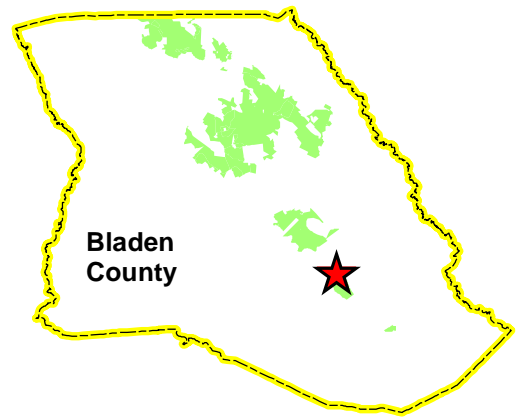
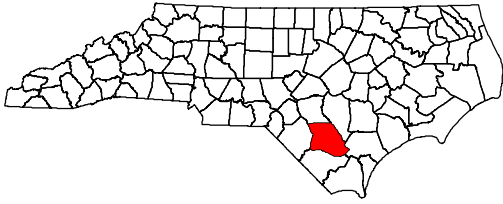
Criterion	Score (1-5) 5=Excellent 1=Poor
1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.	<u>5</u>
2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.	<u>5</u>
3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.	<u>5</u>
4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.	<u>5</u>
5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts.	<u>5</u>
6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.	<u>5</u>
7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?	<u>NA</u>
8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?	<u>NA</u>
9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?	<u>NA</u>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<u><u>30</u></u>



**Vinson Tract (Bladen County) - Priority Species**

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LISTED	STATE LISTED
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>			
<i>Plethodon glutinosus</i>	Slimy Salamander		
<i>Eurycea quadridigitata</i>	Dwarf Salamander		SC
<i>Hemidactylium scutatum</i>	Four-toed Salamander		SC
<i>Stereochilus marginatus</i>	Many-lined Salamander		
<i>Ambystoma mabeei</i>	Mabee's Salamander		SR
<i>Siren lacertina</i>	Greater Siren		
<i>Bufo quercicus</i>	Oak Toad		SR
<i>Hyla andersonii</i>	Pine Barrens Treefrog		SR
<i>Pseudacris brimleyi</i>	Brimley's Chorus Frog		
<i>Pseudacris ornata</i>	Ornate Chorus Frog		SR
<i>Rana capito</i>	Gopher Frog		T
<b>BIRDS</b>			
<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	Hooded Merganser		
<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Anhinga		
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Least Bittern		SC
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Little Blue Heron		SC
<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron		
<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	White Ibis		
<i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>	Mississippi Kite		
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle		T
<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American Kestrel		
<i>Rallus elegans</i>	King Rail		
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl		SR
<i>Picoides borealis</i>	Red-cockaded Woodpecker	LE	E
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Loggerhead Shrike		SC
<i>Limnolophus swainsonii</i>	Swainson's Warbler		
<i>Aimophila aestivalis</i>	Bachman's Sparrow		SC
<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Grasshopper Sparrow		
<i>Spiza americana</i>	Dickcissel		
<b>MAMMALS</b>			
<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat		T
<i>Lasiurus seminolus</i>	Seminole Bat		
<i>Myotis austroriparius</i>	Southeastern Myotis		SC
<i>Sciurus niger</i>	Eastern Fox Squirrel		SR-G
<b>REPTILES</b>			
<i>Clemmys guttata</i>	Spotted Turtle		
<i>Deirochelys reticularia</i>	Chicken Turtle		SR
<i>Kinosternon baurii</i>	Striped Mud Turtle		
<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	SAT	T
<i>Ophisaurus attenuatus</i>	Slender Glass Lizard		SR
<i>Ophisaurus mimicus</i>	Mimic Glass Lizard		SC
<i>Cemophora coccinea</i>	Scarlet Snake		
<i>Farancia erythrogramma</i>	Rainbow Snake		
<i>Heterodon simus</i>	Southern Hognose Snake		SC
<i>Lampropeltis triangulum elapsoides</i>	Scarlet Kingsnake		
<i>Masticophis flagellum</i>	Coachwhip		SR
<i>Regina rigida</i>	Glossy Crayfish Snake		SR
<i>Rhadinaea flavilata</i>	Pine Woods Snake		
<i>Seminatrix pygaea</i>	Black Swamp Snake		SR
<i>Virginia valeriae</i>	Smooth Earth Snake		
<i>Micrurus fulvius</i>	Eastern Coral Snake		E
<i>Crotalus adamanteus</i>	Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake		E
<i>Sistrurus miliarius</i>	Pygmy Rattlesnake		SC

**Vinson Tract  
Whitehall Plantation GL  
Bladen County  
239.5 Acres**



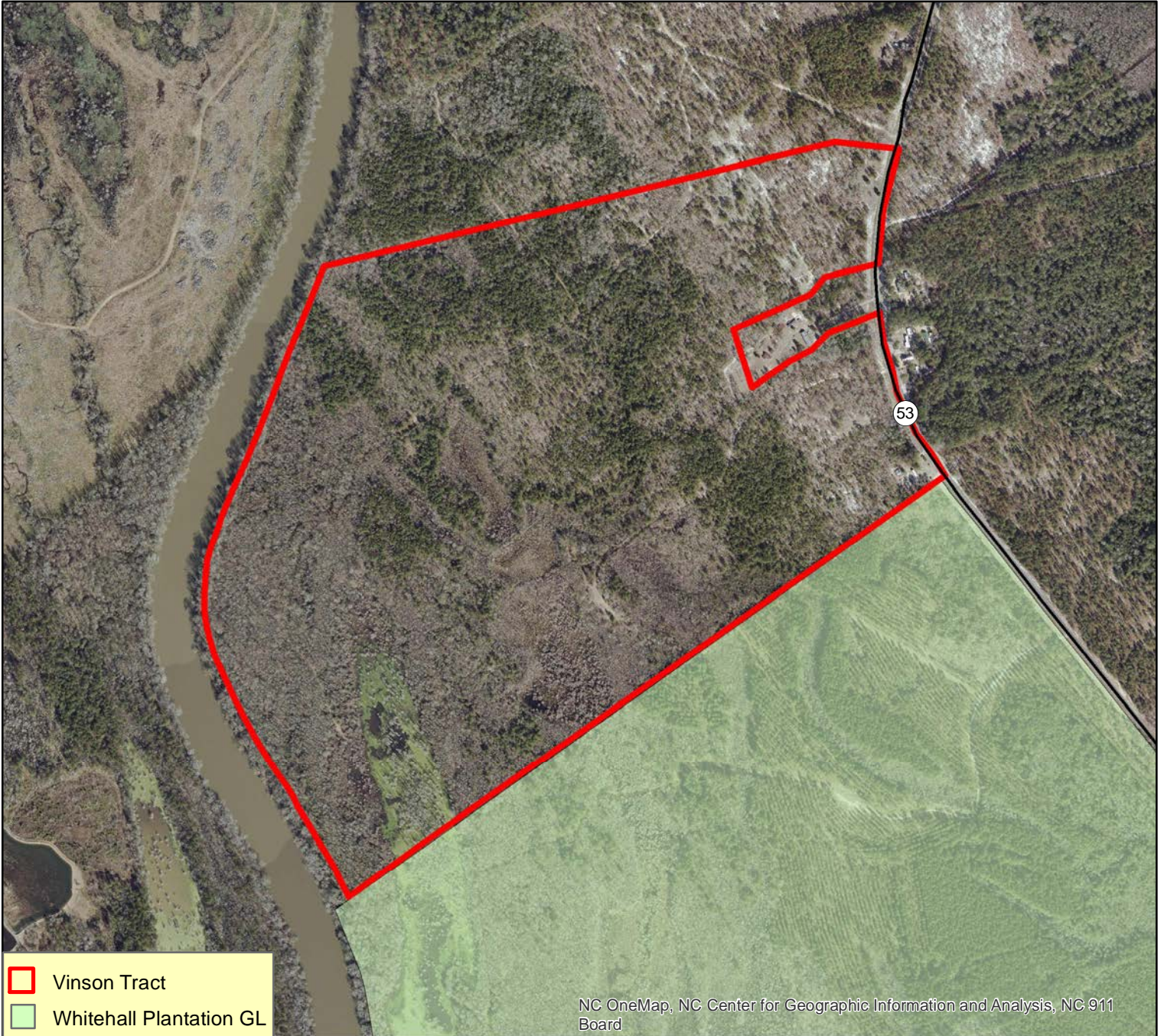
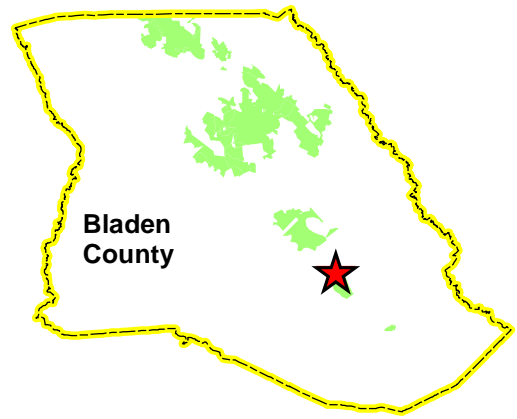
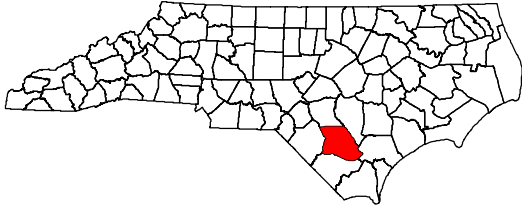
January 16, 2015



0 0.75 1.5 3 Miles





**Vinson Tract  
Whitehall Plantation GL  
Bladen County  
239.5 Acres**



-  Vinson Tract
-  Whitehall Plantation GL

NC OneMap, NC Center for Geographic Information and Analysis, NC 911 Board



January 16, 2015

0 250 500 1,000 Feet



# EXHIBIT H-6

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Tommy Hughes

**Date First Presented to WRC:** February 11, 2016

**Tract Name:** Ward Property (Potential Columbia Depot Site)

**Acreage:** Two tracts totaling 7.89 acres.

Tract A, 2.75 acres, Albert Benjamin Ward, Deed Book 236, Page 728 (MAPID: T074 18 001)

Tract B, 5.14 acres, Ann B. Ward, Deed Book 236, Page 728 (MAPID: T074 01 018)

**County:** Tyrrell

**Estimated Value:** \$ 575,000, includes buildings, land, and some equipment in building (vehicle lift, air compressor and hydraulic hose manufacturing machine)

**Property Owner or Representative:** Chuck Owens Realty Inc., c/o Chuck Owens

**Phone:** 252-796-3165 [chuckqowens1958@gmail.com](mailto:chuckqowens1958@gmail.com), [corealty@coreality.net](mailto:corealty@coreality.net), [www.corealty.net](http://www.corealty.net)

**Address:** 606 Martha Street, PO Box 66, Columbia, NC 27925

**Status:** ☒ High Interest ☐ Moderate Interest ☐ Low Interest ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☐ CWMTF

☒ OTHER (explain): Pittman Robertson Grant, WRC Endowment Funds

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** The Ward Tract A is located in the Town of Columbia Extraterritorial Jurisdiction off of SR1209 at 637 Road Street Extension, Columbia, N.C. (Tax ID#'s T074-18-001 & T074-01-018-LL, Deed book 236, page 728, Tract "A" in Plat Cabinet C, Slide 437).

Tract A is approximately 2.75 acres in size and is located on SR 1209 with 569 feet of state road frontage and supports a well-built and well maintained steel commercial building that is currently used as an automotive repair facility. The building contains approximately 5,000 square feet, of which 4,150 is garage space and 850 is office/storage. Specifically, the building has one main entrance office, one rear office, kitchen/breakroom, two bathrooms and significant overhead storage. The building was constructed in 2007 and is in very good condition. The structure exists within a federally-designated flood zone, but sits on an elevated pad that is 2.0



feet above floodplain elevation. Although the Columbia area was heavily impacted by high water during Hurricane Irene in August 2011, the building did not flood.

In addition, there is an adjacent property (Tract B) for sale which is located directly behind and adjacent to Tract A. Tract B contains 5.14 acres and includes a 50 x 50 foot steel commercial building with electrical service that is used for storage. This building was also built in 2007 and is constructed on an elevated pad at the same elevation as the building on Tract A. The Tract B building is also in very good condition. Tract B would offer additional dry storage for equipment and would provide a layout yard for storage of outside equipment, large vehicles and materials (gravel, stone, culvert pipe, etc.).

**Additional Comments:** If purchased, these two tracts provide an excellent opportunity to purchase buildings with outstanding floor plans and a site layout yard that is move-in ready and ideally suited for housing the Columbia Land Management Crew. Currently, the Columbia crew works in 10 foot x 10 foot office within a NCDOT maintenance facility, with little space to store equipment, materials and supplies. For comparison, the current cost to purchase land and construct new buildings typical of WRC depot facilities is estimated at \$750,000 - \$1,000,000.

**Program Potential:** ☐ Game Land ☐ Wildlife Conservation Area  
☐ Fishing Access Area ☒ Management Depot

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):** Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):**

N/A
-----

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition ☐ Defer ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

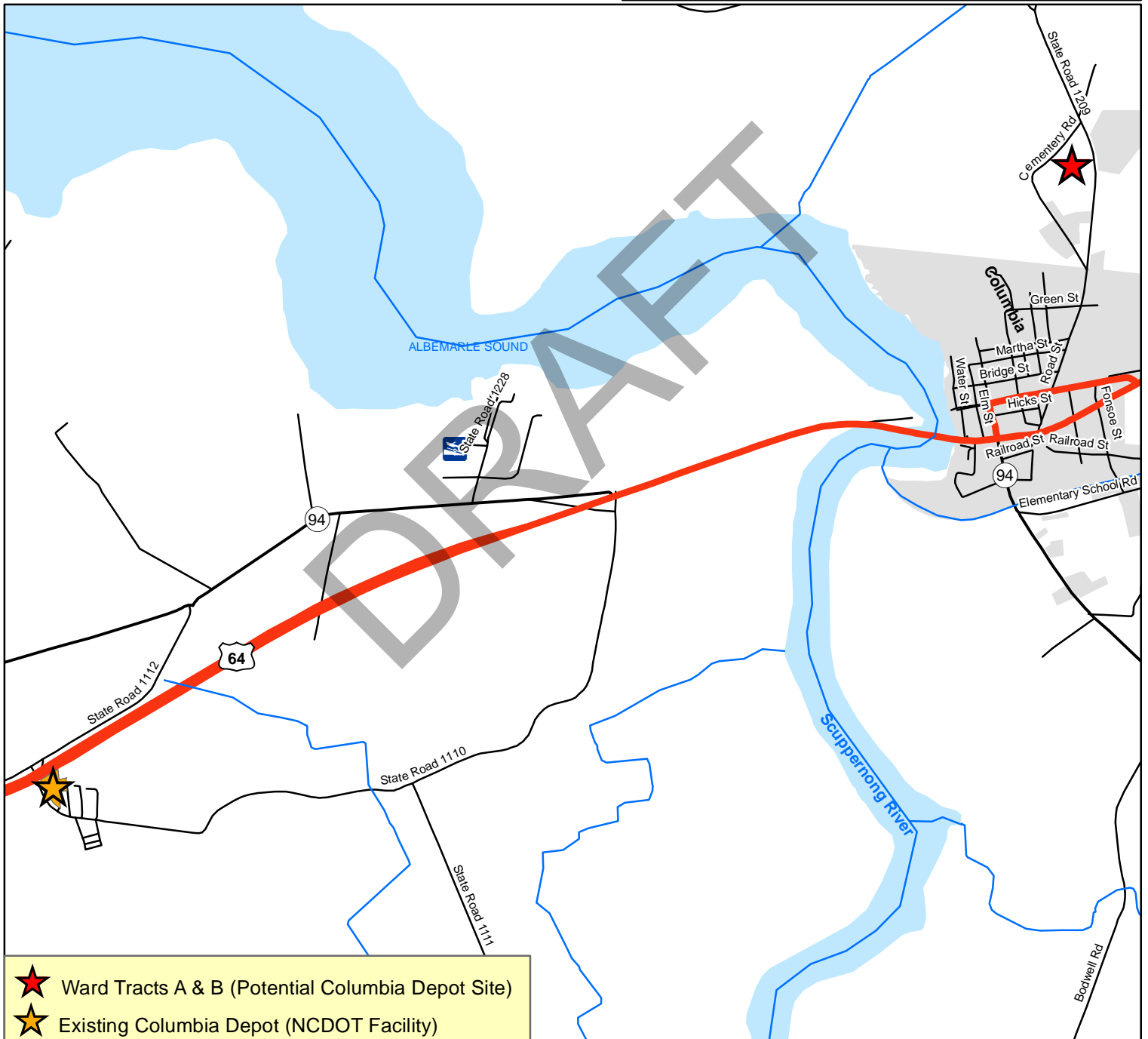
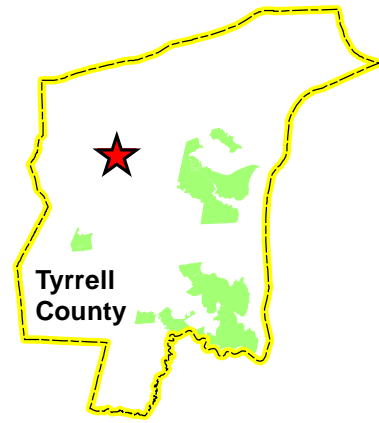
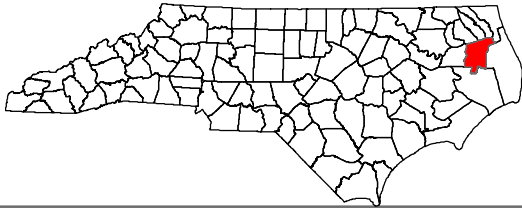
**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

**WORKSHEET**  
**Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands**

Tract Name (Focal Area) Ward Property-Tyrell (Potential Management Depot Site)

Criterion	Score (1-5) 5=Excellent 1=Poor
1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.	<u>NA</u>
2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.	<u>NA</u>
3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.	<u>NA</u>
4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.	<u>NA</u>
5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei (“anchors”) for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts.	<u>NA</u>
6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.	<u>NA</u>
7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?	<u>NA</u>
8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?	<u>NA</u>
9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?	<u>NA</u>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<u>NA</u>

# Ward Tracts (A and B) Potential Columbia Depot Site Tyrrell County 7.89 Acres



- ★ Ward Tracts A & B (Potential Columbia Depot Site)
- ★ Existing Columbia Depot (NCDOT Facility)



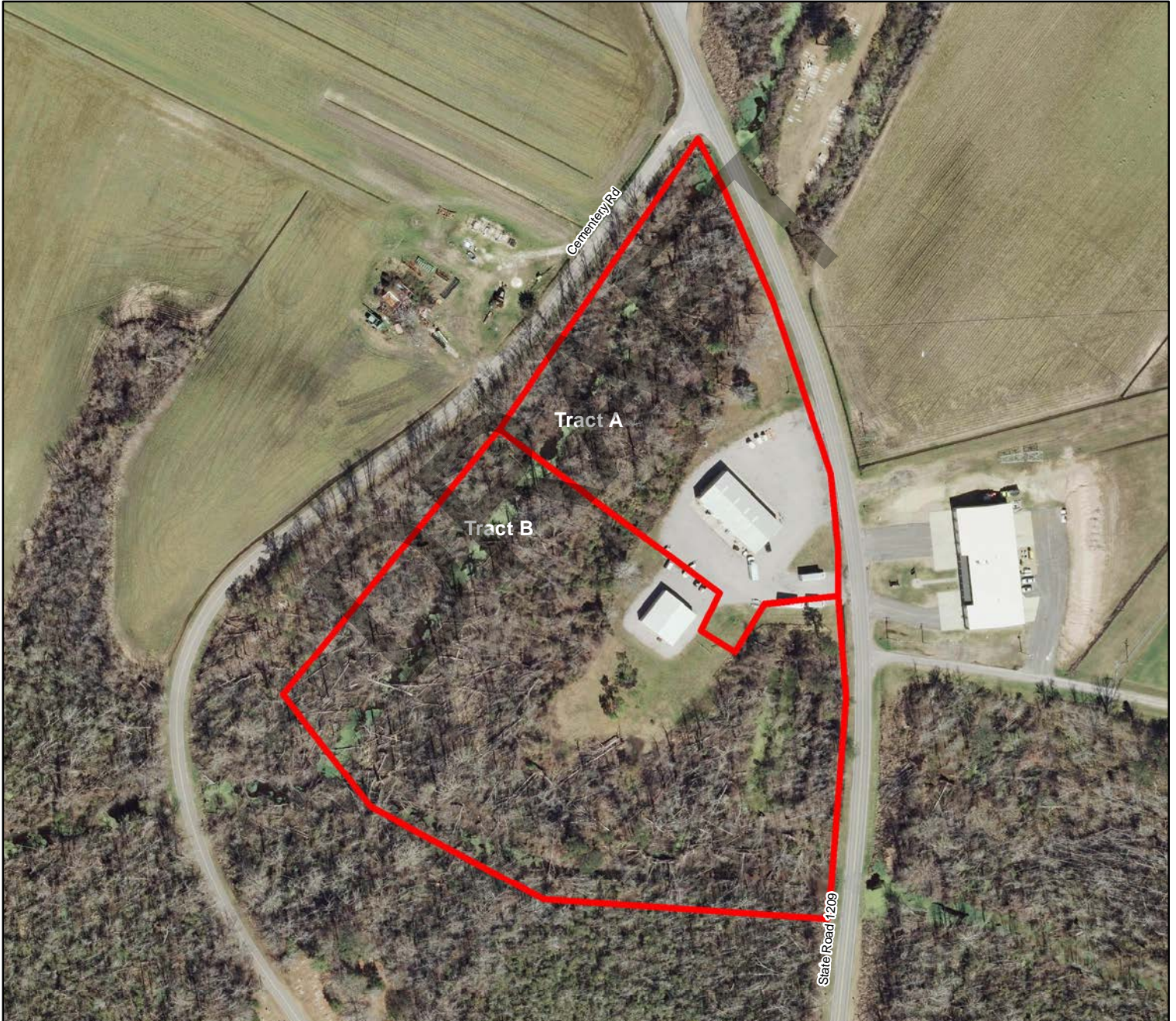
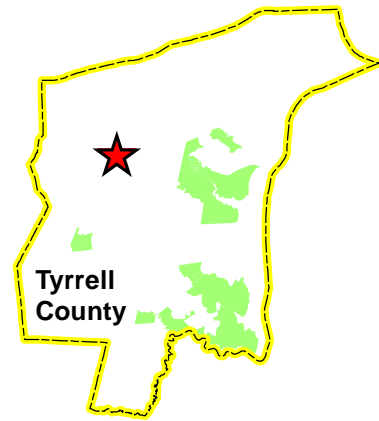
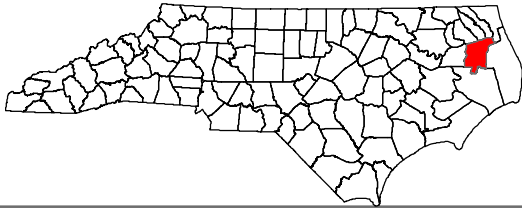
January 24, 2016


0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





**Ward Tracts (A and B)  
Potential Columbia Depot Site  
Tyrrell County  
7.89 Acres**



 Ward Tracts A & B (Potential Columbia Depot Site)

NC OneMap, NC Center for Geographic Information and Analysis, NC 911 Board



January 24, 2016

0 125 250 500 Feet







Front View of Building – Tract A



Office Area – Tract A





Small Separate Office – Tract A



Kitchen/Break Area – Tract A



Office Bathroom ADA Compliant – Tract A

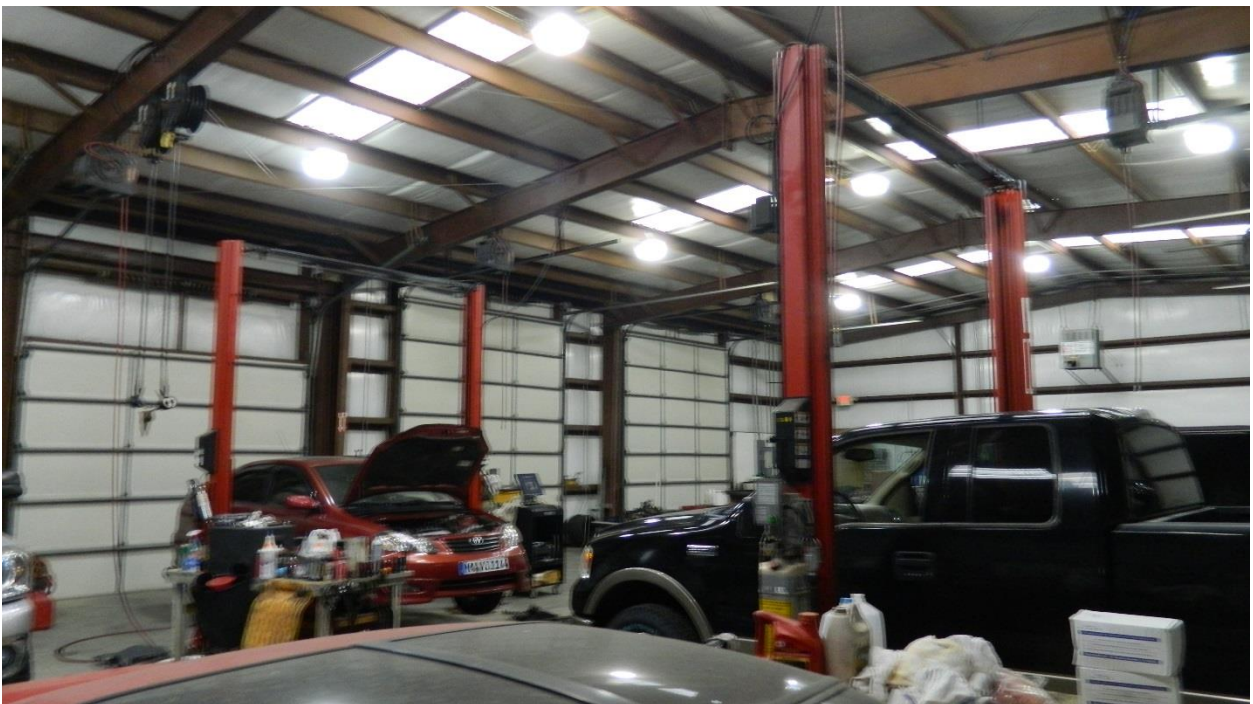




Shop – Tract A



10,000 Lb. Lift – Tract A





Air Compressor – Tract A



Overhead Air Reels – Tract A



Stairway to Overhead Storage – Tract A



Overhead Storage Area – Tract A





Bunk Area in Overhead Storage – Tract A



Rear View of Building – Tract A





Heat Pump that Cools/Heats Office – Tract A



Front View of 50x50 Building - Tract B





Layout Yard - Tract B



# EXHIBIT I-1

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS-

---

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** July 16, 2015

**Tract:** Faircloth Access Tract; Bladen County, 70 Acres

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project cost, each source, and amount of OBLIGATED funds):**

Pitman Robertson Land Acquisition Grant	\$ 46,500
Wildlife Resources Commission	\$ 16,300
Total Cost:	<u>\$ 62,800 (\$ 897/Acre)</u>

**Based on Appraisal:** ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

**If Yes, Name of Appraiser:**

Requested by:	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
WRC	McDonald Appraisal Services	9/4/15	\$ 62,000 (\$ 886/Acre)

**Date of Appraisal:** See above.

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office:** ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**If Yes, Explain Details:**

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

Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Five Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projection Evaluation (attach worksheet)**

**Five Year Estimate of Total Stewardship Expenditures:** \$:

**Five Year Estimate of Total Projected Revenue:** \$:

**Additional Comments:** NA

**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form**

**-PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-**

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Tommy Hughes

**Date First Presented to WRC:** August 30, 2012

**Tract Name:** Faircloth Access Tract

**Pin:** 038900774053

**Acreage:** 70.00

**County:** Bladen

**Estimated Value:** \$ 62,790.00 (Tax Value)

**Property Owner or Representative:** James Faircloth

**Phone:** (C) 910-876-0647

**Address:** 783 Live Oak Methodist Church Road, White Oak, NC 28399

**Status:** ☒ High Interest      ☐ Moderate Interest      ☐ Low Interest      ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☐ CWMTF

☒ OTHER (explain): Pittman Robertson Land Acquisition Grant, WRC  
Funds

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** Property shares approximate 1.3 miles of common boundary with Suggs Mill Pond Game Land on the northern, eastern, and southern edges. It consists of approximately 44 acres of upland soils appropriate for longleaf pine and 26 acres of pocosin habitat consisting of the peatland Atlantic white cedar forest community type.

The tract was burned over in a wildfire in 2011 and the 44 acres of upland pines were harvested for purposes of salvaging any merchantable timber. These acres were not reforested and are naturally vegetating back with turkey oaks, a few longleaf pines, and a sparse herb layer. The pocosin habitat was also burned during the wildfire and the larger, dominant Atlantic white cedars were killed. However, this community type thrives after infrequent fires and the cedars and shrub layer have responded with natural regeneration.

The tract supports NCWRC Wildlife Action Plan priority habitats and species and will provide valuable habitat for reptiles, amphibians, neotropical migrants, white-tailed deer, wild turkey, black bear, small game, and furbearers. See the attached spreadsheet with habitats and their priority wildlife species.

Based upon data found in the NC Conservation Planning Tool, the Faircloth Tract's biodiversity index has an estimated averaged score of 9 out of 10 (1- low-10 high values). Approximately 43 acres (61%) of the tract scored a maximum of 10 and the remaining 27 acres (39%) scored 8. The Biodiversity/Wildlife Habitat Index prioritizes aquatic and terrestrial habitat, landscape function, and connectivity.

**Additional Comments:** This tract will provide additional public and administrative access to portions of Suggs Mill Pond Game Land that are otherwise difficult to access because of the poor condition of an existing road in a wetland area. Current public access to Little Singletary Lake on Suggs Mill Pond Game Land requires lengthy and arduous foot travel down a road that is 0.7 miles in length. This tract would provide vehicular access to the lake that is currently not available and not economically feasible to provide. Public comment from waterfowl hunters, paddlers, and anglers for the past several years and during the planning process for the Suggs Mill Pond Game Land Management Plan requested better access to Little Singletary Lake. Acquisition of this tract would provide the WRC with the opportunity to meet this need and would also provide better administrative access to this portion of the existing game land.

**Program Potential:** ☒ Game Land ☐ Wildlife Conservation Area

☒ Fishing Access Area ☐ None

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):** Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):**

30 of 30

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition ☐ Defer ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

# WORKSHEET

## Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Suggs Mill Pond GL) Faircloth Access Tract (Bladen County)

Criterion	Score (1-5) 5=Excellent 1=Poor
1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.	<u>5</u>
2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.	<u>5</u>
3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.	<u>5</u>
4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.	<u>5</u>
5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts.	<u>5</u>
6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.	<u>5</u>
7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?	<u>Yes</u>
8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?	<u>NA</u>
9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?	<u>Yes</u>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<u><u>30</u></u>

## Faircloth Access Tract-Bladen County

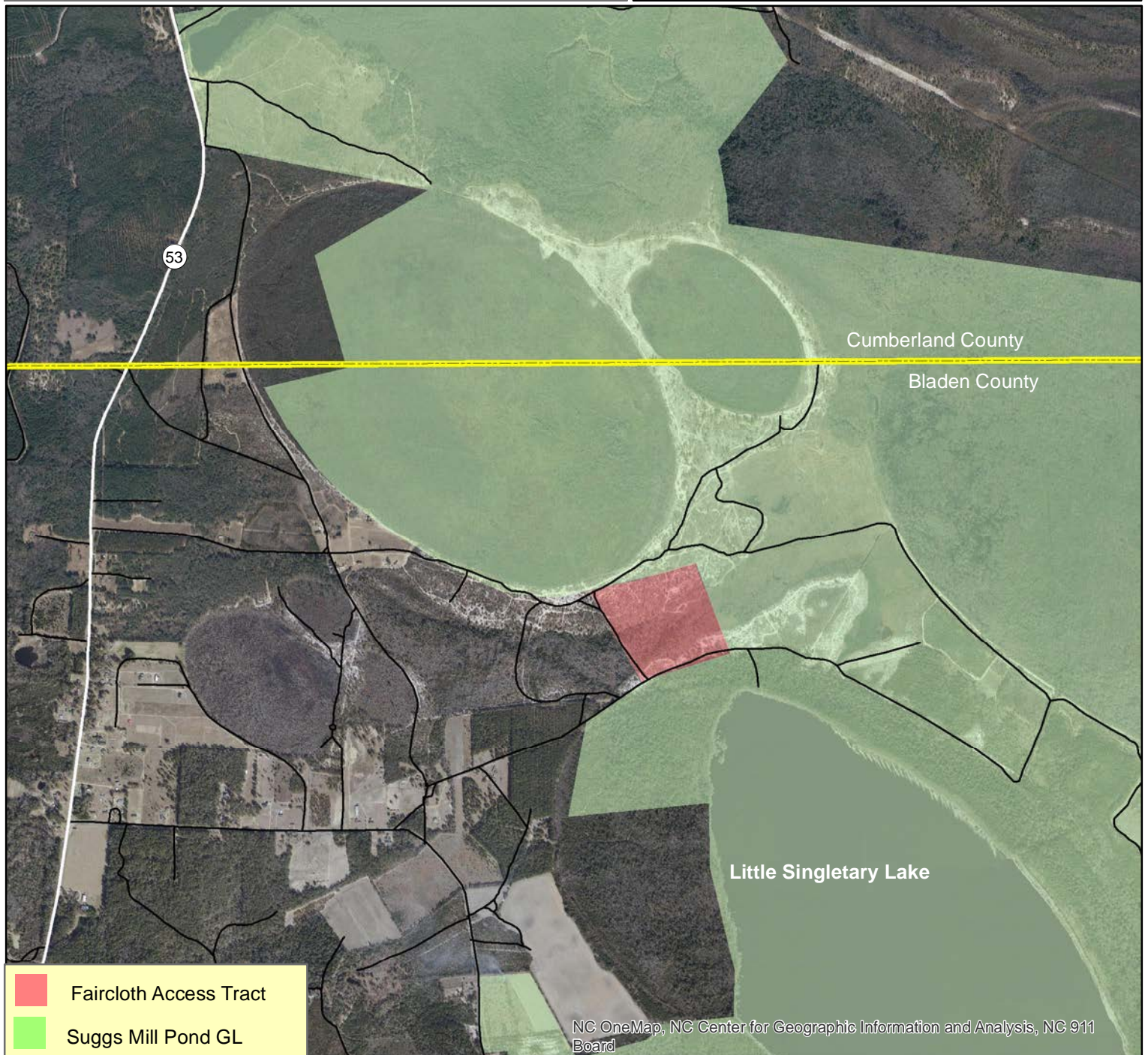
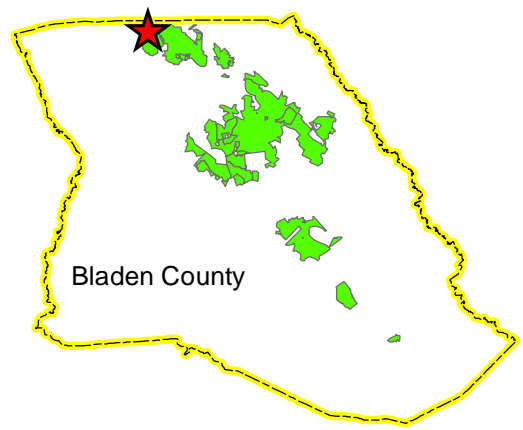
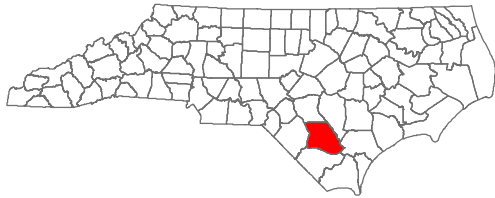
### 5- Year Estimated Stewardship Costs

Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit/Cost	Total
Upgrade Road – yr. 1	0.8	mi	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
Maintain Road– yr. 2 - 5	0.8	mi	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 8,000.00
Prescribed Burning – yr. 1 and 4	44	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 2,640.00
Boundary Establishment – yr. 1	0.38	mi	\$ 550.00	\$ 209.00
Boundary Removal – yr. 1	1.3	mi	\$ 100.00	\$ 130.00
Boundary Maintenance- yr. 4	0.38	mi	\$ 135.00	\$ 51.30
Longleaf Pine Reforestation and Groundcover Restoration (Planting of Trees and NWSG's) – yr. 1	44	ac	\$ 403.00	\$ 17,732.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 148,762.30</b>

Faircloth Access Tract - Wildlife Action Plan Priority Habitats & Species			
	HABITATS		
	Dry Longleaf Pine	Pocosin	State Status (Federal Status)
SPECIES	BIRDS		
	American Kestrel	X	
	Bachmans's Sparrow	X	SC
	Brown-headed Nuthatch	X	
	Chuck-will's-widow	X	
	Eastern Wood-pewee	X	
	Hooded Warbler	X	X
	Northern Bobwhite	X	
	Northern Flicker	X	SC
	Prairie Warbler	X	
	Red-headed Woodpecker	X	
	Whip-poor-will	X	
	MAMMALS		
	Cotton Mouse		X
	Eastern Fox Squirrel	X	SR
	Marsh Rabbit		X
	Star-nosed Mole		X
	AMPHIBIANS		
	Barking Tree Frog	X	
	Eastern Spadefoot	X	
	Eastern Tiger Salamander	X	T
	Many-lined Salamander		X
	Northern Slimy Salamander	X	
	Oak Toad	X	X
	Ornate Chorus Frog	X	SR
	Pine Barrens Tree Frog	X	
	Southern Dusky Salamander		X
	REPTILES		
	Corn Snake	X	
	Eastern Coachwhip	X	SR
	Eastern Hog-nosed Snake	X	
	Eastern Slender Glass Lizard	X	
	Mole Kingsnake	X	
	Northern Scarletsnake	X	
	Pigmy Rattlesnake	X	SC
	Scarlet Kingsnake	X	
	Southeastern Crowned Snake	X	
	Southern Hog-nosed Snake	X	SC
	Timber (Canebrake) Rattlesnake	X	SC



**Faircloth Access Tract  
Suggs Mill Pond GL  
Bladen County  
70 Acres**



June 14, 2015

0 0.5 1 Miles



# EXHIBIT I-2

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS-

---

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** January 29, 2015

**Tract:** Poplin Tract; Richmond County, 147 Acres

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project cost, each source, and amount of OBLIGATED funds):**

USFWS Section 6 Endangered Species Grant	\$ 139,576
NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund	\$ 95,424
Total Cost:	<u>\$ 235,000 (\$ 1,599/Acre)</u>

**Based on Appraisal:** ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

**If Yes, Name of Appraiser:**

Requested by:	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
WRC	McDonald Appraisal Services	4/30/15	\$ 235,000 (\$ 1,599/Acre)

**Date of Appraisal:** See above.

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office:** ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**If Yes, Explain Details:**

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

Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Five Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projection Evaluation (attach worksheet)**

<b>Five Year Estimate of Total Stewardship Expenditures:</b>	\$:	<input type="text" value="\$ 230"/>
<b>Five Year Estimate of Total Projected Revenue:</b>	\$:	<input type="text" value="\$ 40,000"/>

**Additional Comments:** NA

**WORKSHEET**  
**Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections**  
**(Five Years Post Acquisition)**

STEWARDSHIP					
Tract Name	Estimated Stewardship Expenditures				
	Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Poplin	Mark Boundary	1	mi.	\$135	\$ 135.00
	Remove Interior Boundary	0.7	mi.	\$135	\$ 95.00
	Total				\$ 230.00
Insert additional rows in table as needed					

REVENUE					
Tract Name	Estimated Revenue Projections				
	Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
Poplin	Pine Straw (annual)	50	ac.	160.00	\$ 40,000.00
	Total				\$ 40,000.00
Insert additional rows in table as needed					

**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form**

**-PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-**

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Brooke Massa/Kacy Cook

**Date First Presented to WRC:** January 29, 2015

**Tract Name:** Poplin Tract  
(PIN 842100064861)

**Acreage:** 147 acres

**County:** Richmond

**Estimated Value:** \$ 320,000 (staff estimate)

**Property Owner or Representative:** Ryan Poplin (owner)

**Address:** 1130 Marks Creek Church Rd., Hamlet, NC 28345

**Phone:** (910) 995-1649

**Status:** ☒ High Interest      ☐ Moderate Interest      ☐ Low Interest      ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☒ CWMTF

☒ OTHER (explain): USFW Section 6 Endangered Species Grant

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** The Poplin property is mostly a longleaf pine plantation that is currently being used for pine straw raking. The property also contains part of the Crawford Branch of Gum Swamp Creek, including an impoundment that flows into the Crawford Lake Natural Heritage Program Natural Area (NHPNA). The property connects game lands (Block C) with lands managed for conservation (i.e., a property under a Safe Harbor agreement). Acquisition will enhance the ability to manage existing game lands with prescribed fire. Tract totals 147 acres and shares approximately 8,755 feet of common boundary with Sandhills Game Lands. With management, this property can be restored to suitable habitat for red-cockaded woodpeckers (RCWs) and other priority longleaf pine associated species, such as pygmy rattlesnakes and Pine Barrens treefrogs. This parcel is within a priority area identified by the Sandhills Partnership for recovering the red cockaded woodpecker because it is part of a known corridor that RCWs use.

**Additional Comments:**

The tract borders existing game land and is easily accessed by existing game lands and a state maintained road (Marks Creek Church Road).

Preliminary estimates of five-year stewardship expenditures are limited to marking and maintaining 5,675 feet of property boundary @ \$135/mile. Total estimate of five-year expenditures is approx. \$300.

Tract currently contains approx. 50 acres of 20-30 year old longleaf pine plantation which generates \$8,000 - \$10,000 annually from the sale of pine straw. Pine straw will remain a potential source of revenue until such time as the plantation acreage is thinned and efforts to restore ground cover are initiated. No short-term revenue other than pine straw is projected from the tract. The balance of the tract is former loblolly pine which has been recently clearcut and reforested in longleaf, so potential short-term revenue from timber harvesting has already been captured by the current landowner.

**Program Potential:** ☒ Game Land (Sandhills GL)      ☐ Wildlife Conservation Area  
☐ Fishing Access Area      ☐ None

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):** Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):**

30 of 30
----------

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition      ☐ Defer      ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes      ☐ No

# WORKSHEET

## Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Sandhills GL) Poplin Tract (Richmond County)

Criterion Score (1-5)  
5=Excellent 1=Poor

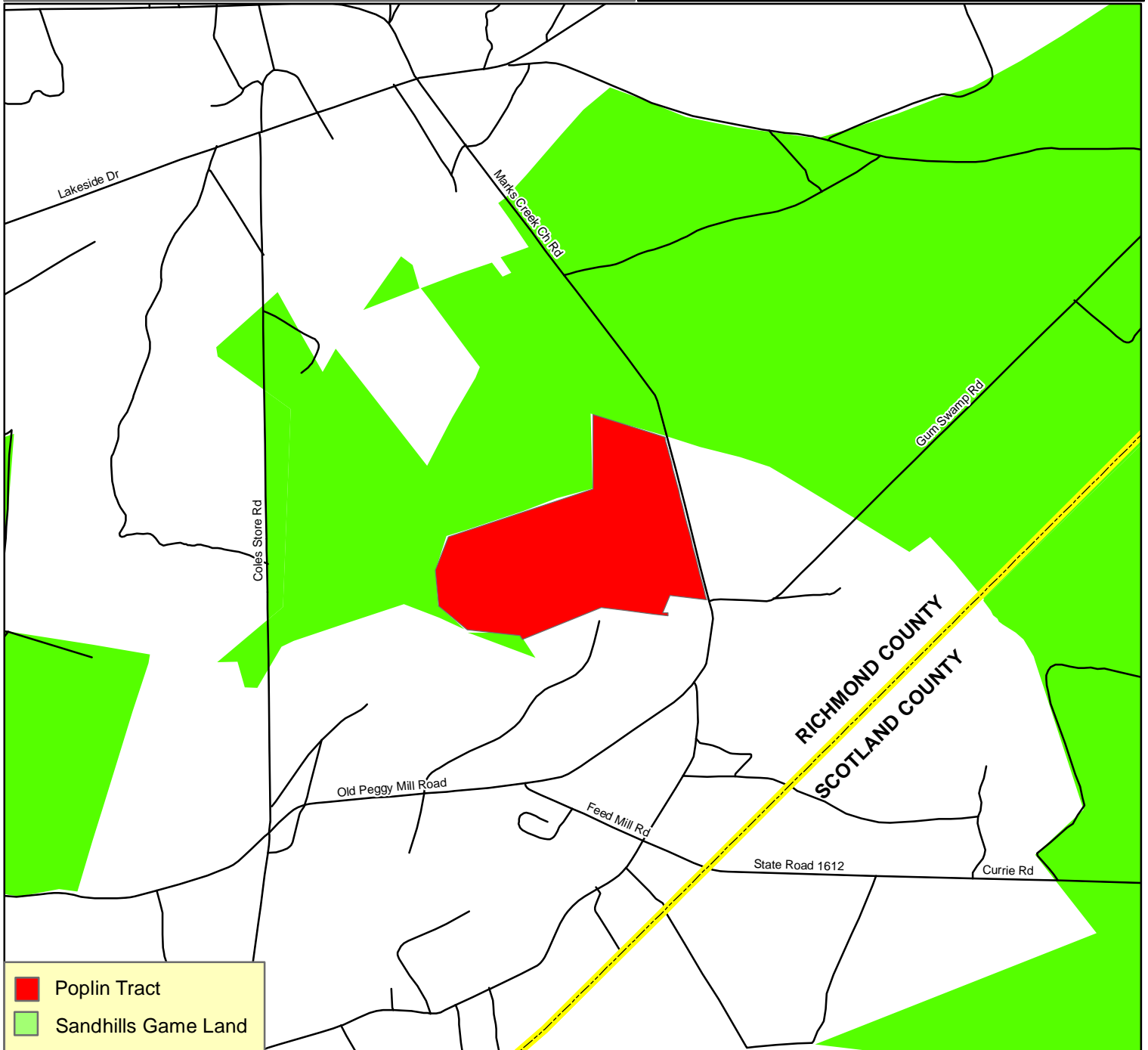
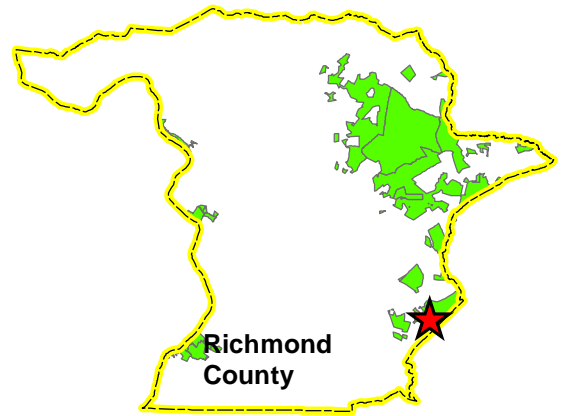
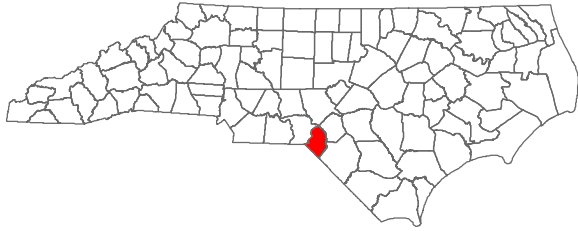
- |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.                                               | 5  |
| 2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.                                                                                           | 5  |
| 3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.                                                                                                                                                              | 5  |
| 4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.                                       | 5  |
| 5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts. | 5  |
| 6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.                           | 5  |
| 7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?                                                                                | NA |
| 8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?                                                                       | NA |
| 9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?                                                                          | NA |

**TOTAL SCORE** 30

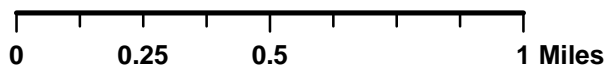
Poplin Tract (Richmond County) - Priority Species			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LISTED	STATE LISTED
AMPHIBIANS			
Plethodon glutinosus	Slimy Salamander		
Eurycea quadridigitata	Dwarf Salamander		SC
Hemidactylium scutatum	Four-toed Salamander		SC
Stereochilus marginatus	Many-lined Salamander		
Ambystoma mabeei	Mabee's Salamander		SR
Ambystoma tigrinum	Tiger Salamander		T
Siren lacertina	Greater Siren		
Bufo quercicus	Oak Toad		SR
Hyla andersonii	Pine Barrens Treefrog		SR
Pseudacris brimleyi	Brimley's Chorus Frog		
Pseudacris ornata	Ornate Chorus Frog		SR
Rana capito	Gopher Frog		T
BIRDS			
Lophodytes cucullatus	Hooded Merganser		
Ixobrychus exilis	Least Bittern		SC
Nyctanassa violacea	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron		
Accipiter striatus	Sharp-shinned Hawk		SR
Falco sparverius	American Kestrel		
Rallus elegans	King Rail		
Tyto alba	Barn Owl		SR
Picoides borealis	Red-cockaded Woodpecker	LE	E
Lanius ludovicianus	Loggerhead Shrike		SC
Limnithlypis swainsonii	Swainson's Warbler		
Aimophila aestivalis	Bachman's Sparrow		SC
Ammodramus savannarum	Grasshopper Sparrow		
Spiza americana	Dickcissel		
MAMMALS			
Corynorhinus rafinesquii	Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat		T
Lasiurus seminolus	Seminole Bat		
Myotis austroriparius	Southeastern Myotis		SC
Sciurus niger	Eastern Fox Squirrel		SR-G
Zapus hudsonius	Meadow Jumping Mouse		
REPTILES			
Clemmys guttata	Spotted Turtle		
Deirochelys reticularia	Chicken Turtle		SR
Apalone spinifera aspera	Gulf Coast Spiny Softshell		
Alligator mississippiensis	American Alligator	SAT	T
Ophisaurus attenuatus	Slender Glass Lizard		SR
Cemophora coccinea	Scarlet Snake		
Farancia erythrogramma	Rainbow Snake		
Heterodon simus	Southern Hognose Snake		SC
Lampropeltis triangulum elapsoides	Scarlet Kingsnake		
Masticophis flagellum	Coachwhip		SR
Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus	Northern Pine Snake		SC
Virginia valeriae	Smooth Earth Snake		
Micrurus fulvius	Eastern Coral Snake		E
Sistrurus miliarius	Pygmy Rattlesnake		SC



# Poplin Tract (147 Acres) Sandhills Game Land Richmond County

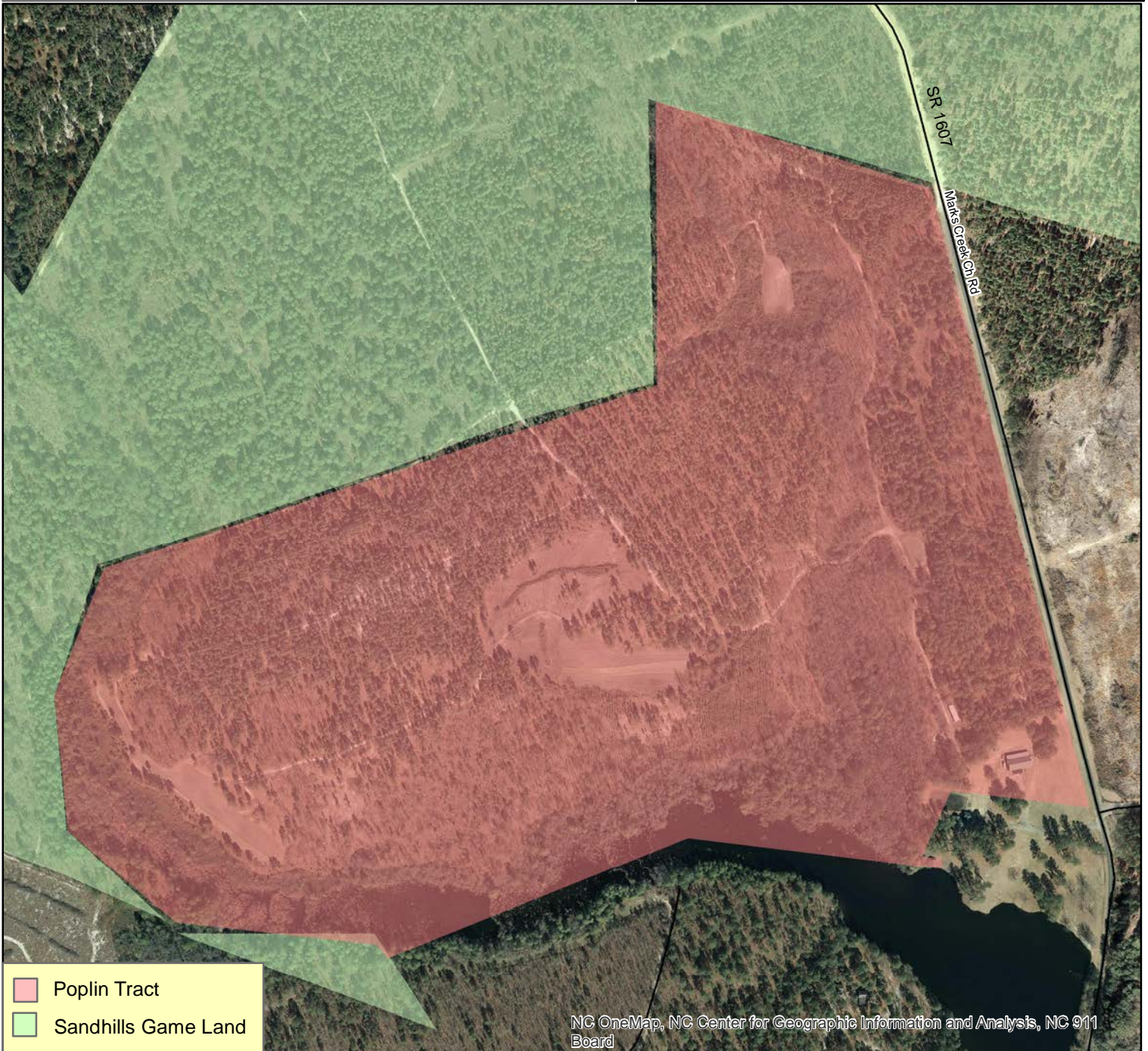
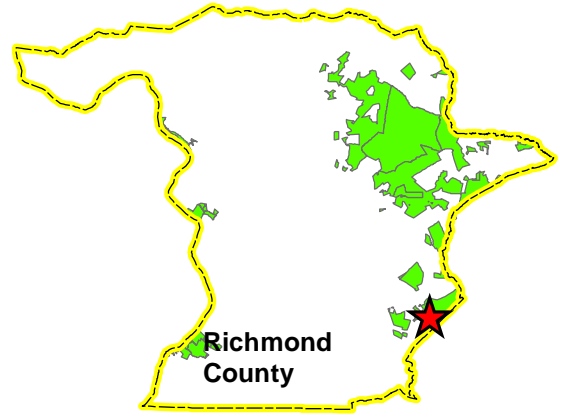
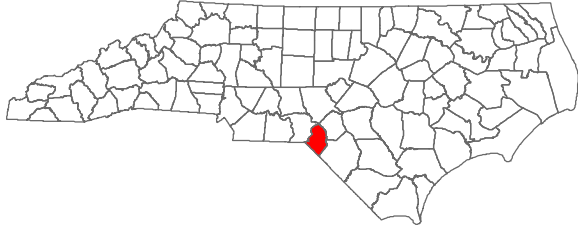


January 10, 2015





# Poplin Tract (147 Acres) Sandhills Game Land Richmond County



January 10, 2015

0 250 500 1,000 Feet



# EXHIBIT I-3

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS-

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** January 29, 2015

**Tract:** Catherine Gibson Tract; Scotland County, 379 Acres

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project cost, each source, and amount of OBLIGATED funds):**

US Army	\$ 153,000
USFWS Section 6 Endangered Species Grant	\$ 135,000
NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund	\$ 131,500
The Nature Conservancy	\$ 16,500
Total Cost:	<u>\$ 436,000 (\$ 1,150/Acre)</u>

**Based on Appraisal:** ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

**If Yes, Name of Appraiser:**

Requested by:	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
WRC	McDonald Appraisal Services	6/5/15	\$ 436,000 (\$ 1,150/Acre)

**Date of Appraisal:** See above.

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office:** ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**If Yes, Explain Details:**

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

Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Five Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projection Evaluation (attach worksheet)**

Five Year Estimate of Total Stewardship Expenditures:	\$:	\$ 4,256
Five Year Estimate of Total Projected Revenue:	\$:	NA

**Additional Comments:** NA

**WORKSHEET**  
**Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections**  
**(Five Years Post Acquisition)**

STEWARDSHIP					
Tract Name	Estimated Stewardship Expenditures				
	Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Gibson	Mark Boundary	1.9	mi.	\$135	\$ 256.50
	Prescribe Burn (Yr. 1)	200.0	ac.	\$10	\$ 2,000.00
	Prescribe Burn (Yr. 3)	200.0	ac.	\$10	\$ 2,000.00
	<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 4,256.50</b>
<i>Insert additional rows in table as needed</i>					

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

**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form**

**-PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-**

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Kacey Cook, Brooke Massa, Chris Jordan

**Date First Presented to WRC:** January 29, 2015

**Tract Name:** Catherine Gibson Tract  
(PIN 020328 01016; 020326 01017)

**Acreage:** 379 acres

**County:** Scotland

**Estimated Value:** \$ 860,000 (staff estimate).

Mrs. Gibson has indicated an interest in selling this land for conservation at a bargain sale price of \$430,000 (not including transaction costs).

**Property Owner or Representative:** Catherine Gibson (owner)

**Phone:** TBD

**Address:** 19936 Apple Ridge Place, Montgomery Village, MD 20886

**Status:** ☒ High Interest      ☐ Moderate Interest      ☐ Low Interest      ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☒ CWMTF

☒ OTHER (explain): USFW Section 6 Endangered Species Grant, Army Compatible Use Buffers Program (anticipated contribution of \$172,000)

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** This property contains longleaf pine trees between ~3-20 years old. Several stands were recently clearcut and the older timber is in a dense stand mixed with other pine species in need of thinning and burning. There is a large creek with associated hardwood forest on the western boundary of the property. The riparian zone is under a conservation easement. The property links to Block B of Sandhills Game Land via the Sassafras Timber properties being pursued for acquisition. Game species include wild turkey, northern bobwhite, fox squirrel, and white-tail deer. Rare species documented near the tract include red-cockaded woodpecker, southern hognose snake, Bachman's sparrow, pine snake, and star nose mole, among many others.

The tract is part of a larger initiative to buffer and connect important blocks of Sandhills Game Land. Restoring habitat connectivity between blocks B and C of Sandhills Game Land has been identified as one of the top land acquisition priorities in the draft Sandhills Game Land Management Plan, the NC Sandhills Conservation Partnership's Conservation Plan, and the Sandhills Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Recovery Plan. The US Army conducts many training activities on Block B and has an interest in buffering and expanding existing training lands. Creating a connective corridor from Block B to C will open up additional training opportunities on land contiguous with Camp Mackall.

**Additional Comments:**

Tract has outstanding public access via Timmons, Cliff Gibson and Hoffman Roads (state-maintained).

Preliminary estimates of five-year stewardship expenditures are limited to initial marking and maintaining 10,000 feet of property boundary @ \$135/mile and prescribed burning 200 acres @ \$10/acre. Total estimate of five-year expenditures is \$2,510.

No short-term revenue is projected from the tract.

**Program Potential:** ☒ Game Land (Sandhills GL) ☐ Wildlife Conservation Area  
☐ Fishing Access Area ☐ None

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):** Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):**

29 of 30
----------

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition ☐ Defer ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

# WORKSHEET

## Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Sandhills GL) Catherine Gibson Tract (Scotland County)

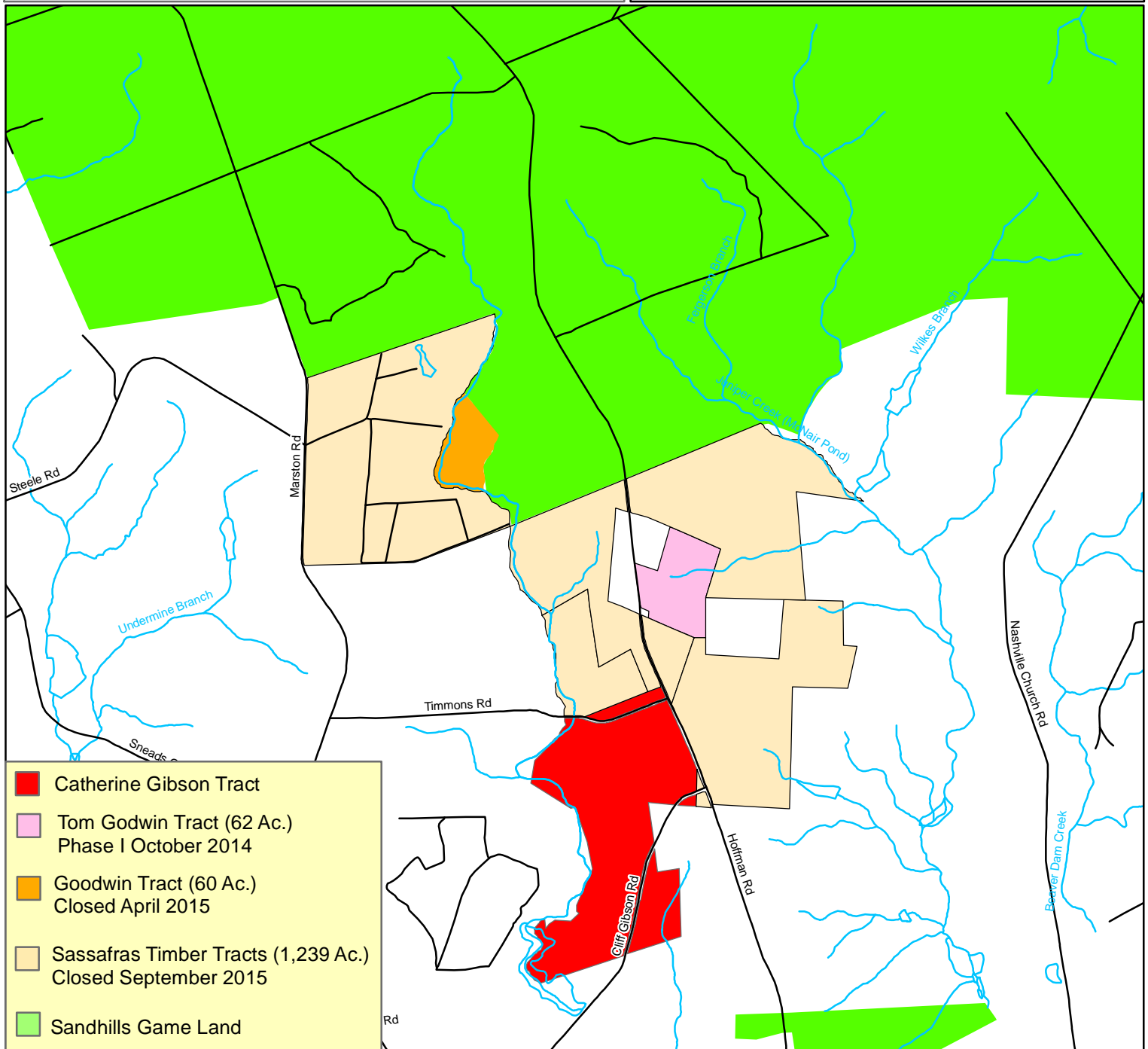
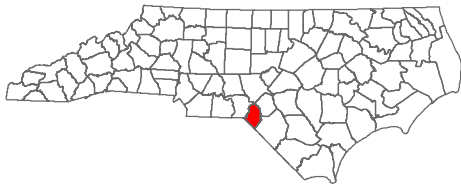
Criterion	Score (1-5) 5=Excellent 1=Poor
1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.	<u>5</u>
2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.	<u>4</u>
3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.	<u>5</u>
4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.	<u>5</u>
5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts.	<u>5</u>
6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.	<u>5</u>
7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?	<u>NA</u>
8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?	<u>NA</u>
9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?	<u>NA</u>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<u>29</u>



Catherine Gibson Tract (Scotland County) - Priority Species			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LISTED	STATE LISTED
AMPHIBIANS			
Plethodon glutinosus	Slimy Salamander		
Eurycea quadridigitata	Dwarf Salamander		SC
Hemidactylium scutatum	Four-toed Salamander		SC
Stereochilus marginatus	Many-lined Salamander		
Ambystoma mabeei	Mabee's Salamander		SR
Ambystoma tigrinum	Tiger Salamander		T
Siren lacertina	Greater Siren		
Bufo quercicus	Oak Toad		SR
Hyla andersonii	Pine Barrens Treefrog		SR
Pseudacris brimleyi	Brimley's Chorus Frog		
Pseudacris ornata	Ornate Chorus Frog		SR
Rana capito	Gopher Frog		T
Rana heckscheri	River Frog		SC
BIRDS			
Lophodytes cucullatus	Hooded Merganser		
Ixobrychus exilis	Least Bittern		SC
Nyctanassa violacea	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron		
Falco sparverius	American Kestrel		
Tyto alba	Barn Owl		SR
Picoides borealis	Red-cockaded Woodpecker	LE	E
Lanius ludovicianus	Loggerhead Shrike		SC
Limnithlypis swainsonii	Swainson's Warbler		
Aimophila aestivalis	Bachman's Sparrow		SC
Ammodramus savannarum	Grasshopper Sparrow		
Spiza americana	Dickcissel		
MAMMALS			
Corynorhinus rafinesquii	Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat		T
Lasiurus seminolus	Seminole Bat		
Sciurus niger	Eastern Fox Squirrel		SR-G
Zapus hudsonius	Meadow Jumping Mouse		
REPTILES			
Clemmys guttata	Spotted Turtle		
Deirochelys reticularia	Chicken Turtle		SR
Apalone spinifera aspera	Gulf Coast Spiny Softshell		
Alligator mississippiensis	American Alligator	SAT	T
Ophisaurus attenuatus	Slender Glass Lizard		SR
Cemophora coccinea	Scarlet Snake		
Farancia erythrogramma	Rainbow Snake		
Heterodon simus	Southern Hognose Snake		SC
Lampropeltis triangulum elapsoides	Scarlet Kingsnake		
Masticophis flagellum	Coachwhip		SR
Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus	Northern Pine Snake		SC
Regina rigida	Glossy Crayfish Snake		SR
Virginia valeriae	Smooth Earth Snake		
Micrurus fulvius	Eastern Coral Snake		E
Sistrurus miliarius	Pygmy Rattlesnake		SC



# Catherine Gibson Tract Sandhills Game Land Scotland County 379 Acres



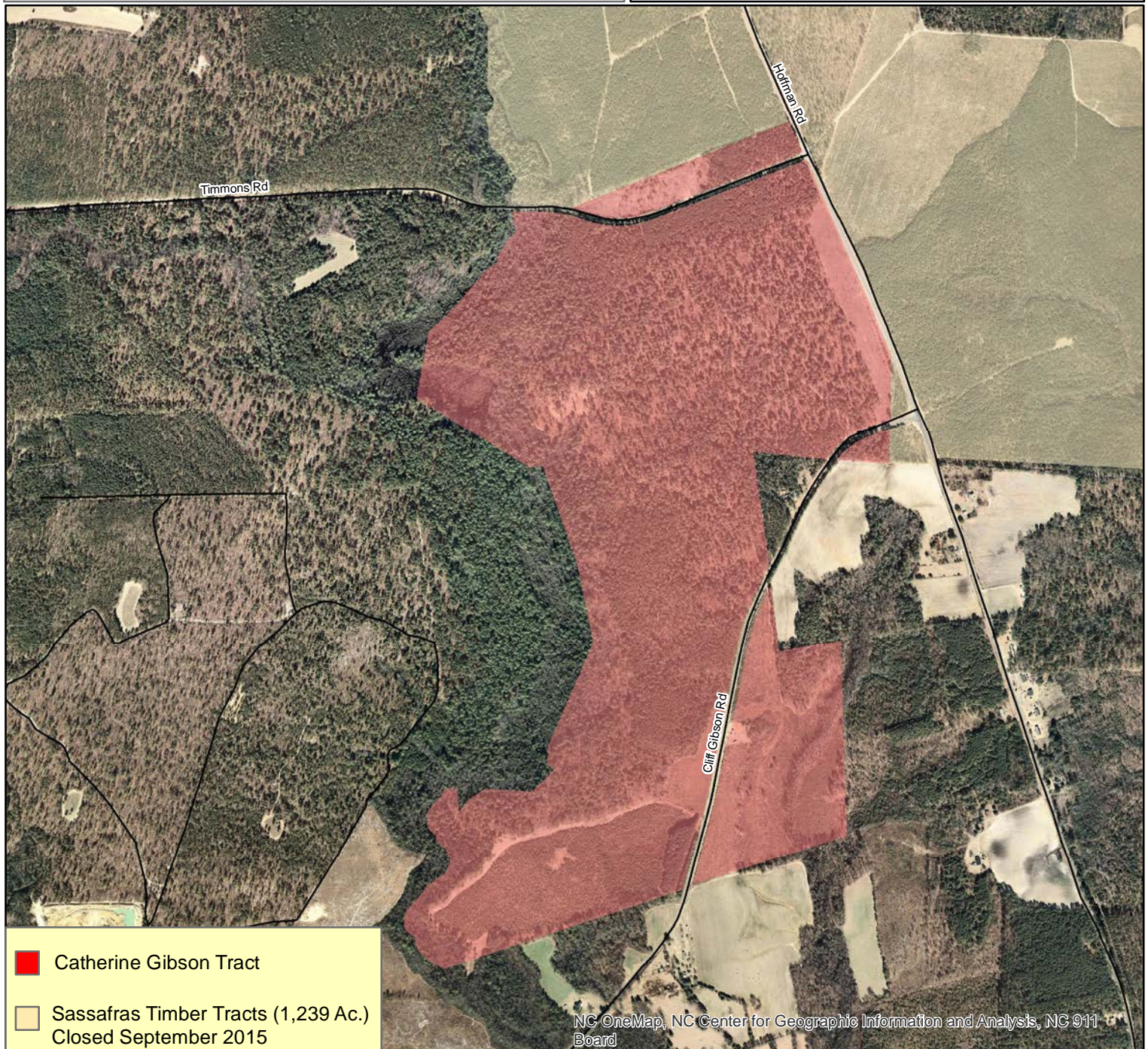
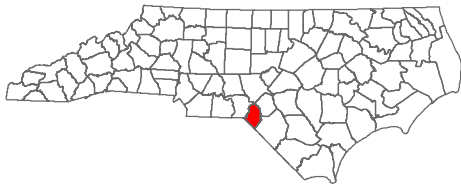
January 9, 2015

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





# Catherine Gibson Tract Sandhills Game Land Scotland County 379 Acres



January 9, 2015

0 250 500 1,000 Yards



# EXHIBIT I-4

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS-

---

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** February 11, 2016

**Tract:** Stainback Tract; Onslow County, 606 Acres

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project cost, each source, and amount of OBLIGATED funds):**

Accept donation of the property from The Nature Conservancy

**Based on Appraisal:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NA

**If Yes, Name of Appraiser:**

**Date of Appraisal:** NA

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NA

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**If Yes, Explain Details:**

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

Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Five Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projection Evaluation (attach worksheet)**

<b>Five Year Estimate of Total Stewardship Expenditures:</b>	\$:	\$173,800
<b>Five Year Estimate of Total Projected Revenue:</b>	\$:	\$0

**Additional Comments:** NA



**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form**

**-PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-**

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Tommy Hughes

**Date First Presented to WRC:** February 11, 2016

**Tract Name:** Stainback Tract

**PIN:** 424700880898 and 424700675408

**Acreage:** 606

**County:** Onslow

**Estimated Value:** NA – The Nature Conservancy proposes to purchase the tract and transfer to NCWRC as a donation. Tax value currently listed at \$1,175,110.

**Property Owner or Representative:** The Nature Conservancy c/o Hervey McIver

**Phone:** (Office) 919-794-4396  
(C) 910-876-1361 [hmciver@TNC.ORG](mailto:hmciver@TNC.ORG)

**Address:** 334 Blackwell St., Ste. 300, Durham, NC 27701

**Status:** ☒ High Interest      ☐ Moderate Interest      ☐ Low Interest      ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☐ CWMTF    ☒ OTHER (explain): Donation

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) plans to purchase this property with a North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund grant and matching funds from various other sources. If successful, the tract will be donated to WRC and managed as an addition to Stones Creek Game Land.

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** The tract supports thinned loblolly stands that are approximately 15-17 years of age, agricultural fields and a thinned longleaf pine/wiregrass community. The property lies adjacent to the Folkstone tract, which is part of Stones Creek Game Land. TNC is planning to submit a CWMTF Grant and work with the Navy to attempt to secure encroachment dollars to match their grant application.

The tract supports NCWRC Wildlife Action Plan priority habitats and species and will provide value habitat for reptiles, amphibians, whitetail deer, wild turkey, small game and furbearers.

Based upon data found in the NC Conservation Planning Tool, the Stainback Tract Biodiversity index averages a score of 4 out of 10 (1- low-10 high values). However, approximately 62% of the tract averages >6, with 42% of the area being assess a score of >7. The Biodiversity/Wildlife Habitat Index prioritizes aquatic and terrestrial habitat, landscape function and connectivity. Areas that support this level of species richness should be targeted for protection.

**Additional Comments:** Five-year estimated stewardship expenditures are estimated at approximately \$173,800 (\$34,760/yr.). No short-term revenues are anticipated.

#### 5- Year Estimated Stewardship Costs

Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit/Cost	Total
Upgrade Access Road	1	mi	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Establish Gate	3	ea	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Maintain Gate	3	ea	\$ 100.00	\$ 300.00
Prescribe Burning -yr 1	180	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 5,400.00
Prescribe Burning -yr 2	180	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 5,400.00
Prescribe Burning -yr 3	180	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 5,400.00
Prescribe Burning-yr 4	180	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 5,400.00
Prescribe Burning-yr 5	180	ac	\$ 30.00	\$ 5,400.00
Boundary Establishment- yr 1	5.8	mi	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 14,500.00
Boundary Maintenance- yr 4	5.8	mi	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 14,500.00
Reforest Longleaf Pine and NWSG	33	ac	\$ 450.00	\$ 14,850.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 173,800.00</b>

#### 5-Year Anticipated Revenue

	Value	Total
None	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ -</b>

**Program Potential:** ☒ Game Land (Stones Creek) ☐ Wildlife Conservation Area  
☐ Fishing Access Area ☐ None

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):** Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):** 30 of 30

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition ☐ Defer ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

# WORKSHEET

## Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

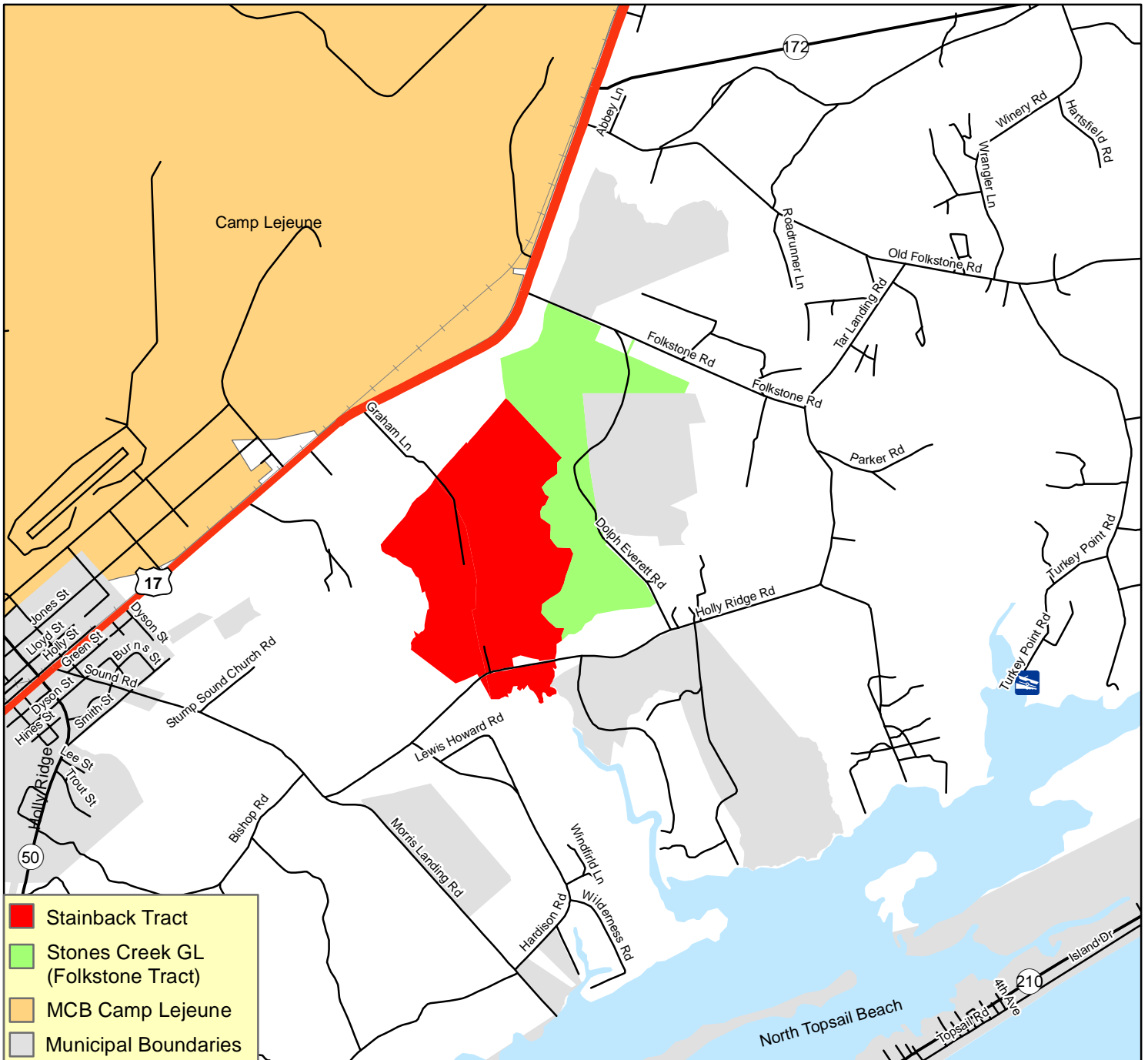
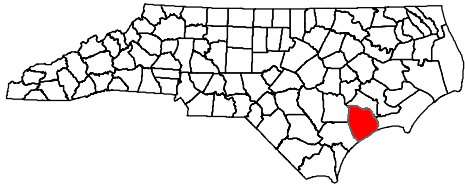
Tract Name (Stones Creek GL) Stainback Tract

Criterion	Score (1-5) 5=Excellent 1=Poor
1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.	<u>5</u>
2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.	<u>5</u>
3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.	<u>5</u>
4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.	<u>5</u>
5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts.	<u>5</u>
6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.	<u>5</u>
7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?	<u>NA</u>
8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?	<u>NA</u>
9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?	<u>NA</u>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<u>30</u>

Stainback Tract (Onslow County) - Priority Species			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LISTED	STATE LISTED
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>			
<i>Plethodon glutinosus</i>	Slimy Salamander		
<i>Eurycea quadridigitata</i>	Dwarf Salamander		SC
<i>Stereochilus marginatus</i>	Many-lined Salamander		
<i>Ambystoma mabeei</i>	Mabee's Salamander		SR
<i>Siren lacertina</i>	Greater Siren		
<i>Bufo quercicus</i>	Oak Toad		SR
<i>Hyla andersonii</i>	Pine Barrens Treefrog		SR
<i>Pseudacris brimleyi</i>	Brimley's Chorus Frog		
<i>Pseudacris ornata</i>	Ornate Chorus Frog		SR
<i>Rana capito</i>	Gopher Frog		T
<b>BIRDS</b>			
<i>Anas discors</i>	Blue-winged Teal		
<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	Hooded Merganser		
<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Anhinga		
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Least Bittern		SC
<i>Egretta thula</i>	Snowy Egret		SC
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Little Blue Heron		SC
<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Tricolored Heron		SC
<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron		
<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	White Ibis		
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy Ibis		SC
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle		T
<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American Kestrel		
<i>Rallus elegans</i>	King Rail		
<i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>	Wilson's Plover		SC
<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	LE, LT	T
<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	American Oystercatcher		SC
<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	Black-necked Stilt		SR
<i>Sterna nilotica</i>	Gull-billed Tern		T
<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	Sandwich Tern		
<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Common Tern		SC
<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	Forster's Tern		
<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Least Tern		SC
<i>Rynchops niger</i>	Black Skimmer		SC
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl		SR
<i>Picoides borealis</i>	Red-cockaded Woodpecker	LE	E
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Loggerhead Shrike		SC
<i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>	Swainson's Warbler		
<i>Aimophila aestivalis</i>	Bachman's Sparrow		SC
<i>Ammodramus caudacutus</i>	Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow		
<b>MAMMALS</b>			
<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat		T
<i>Lasiurus seminolus</i>	Seminole Bat		
<i>Myotis austroriparius</i>	Southeastern Myotis		SC
<i>Sciurus niger</i>	Eastern Fox Squirrel		SR-G
<b>REPTILES</b>			
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead	LT	T
<i>Clemmys guttata</i>	Spotted Turtle		
<i>Deirochelys reticularia</i>	Chicken Turtle		SR
<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	Diamondback Terrapin		SC
<i>Kinosternon baurii</i>	Striped Mud Turtle		
<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	SAT	T
<i>Ophisaurus attenuatus</i>	Slender Glass Lizard		SR
<i>Ophisaurus mimicus</i>	Mimic Glass Lizard		SC
<i>Cemophora coccinea</i>	Scarlet Snake		
<i>Farancia erytrogramma</i>	Rainbow Snake		
<i>Heterodon simus</i>	Southern Hognose Snake		SC
<i>Lampropeltis triangulum elapsoides</i>	Scarlet Kingsnake		
<i>Masticophis flagellum</i>	Coachwhip		SR
<i>Regina rigida</i>	Glossy Crayfish Snake		SR
<i>Rhadinaea flavilata</i>	Pine Woods Snake		
<i>Seminatrix pygaea</i>	Black Swamp Snake		SR
<i>Virginia valeriae</i>	Smooth Earth Snake		
<i>Micrurus fulvius</i>	Eastern Coral Snake		E
<i>Crotalus adamanteus</i>	Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake		E
<i>Sistrurus miliarius</i>	Pygmy Rattlesnake		SC



# **Stainback Tract** **Stones Creek GL** **Onslow Co** **606 Acres**

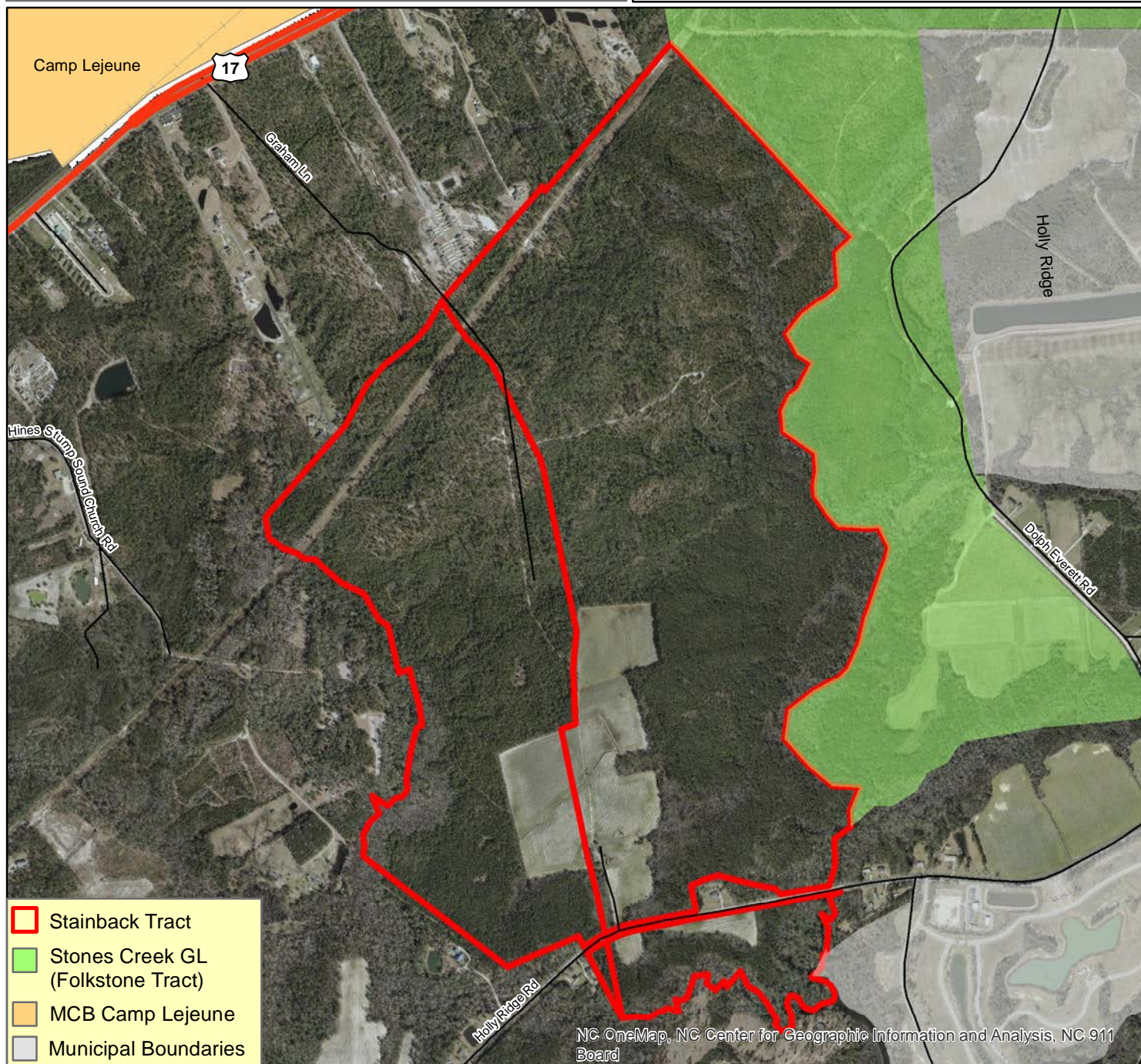


January 17, 2016

0 0.5 1 Miles



# Stainback Tract Stones Creek GL Onslow Co 606 Acres



January 17, 2016

0 500 1,000 Yards



# EXHIBIT I-5

February 11, 2016

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

### -PHASE II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS-

---

**WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date):** May 21, 2015

**Tract:** Morrison Tract; Wilkes County, 19 Acres

**Acquisition Plan (specify total project cost, each source, and amount of OBLIGATED funds):**

Pitman Robertson Land Acquisition Grant	\$ 36,750
Wildlife Resources Commission	\$ 20,250
Total Cost:	<u>\$ 57,000 (\$3,000/Acre)</u>

**Based on Appraisal:** ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

**If Yes, Name of Appraiser:**

Requested by:	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
WRC	Miller & Associates	7/28/15	\$ 49,000 (\$ 2,579/Acre)

**Date of Appraisal:** See above.

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office:** ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

**Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**If Yes, Explain Details:**

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

Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Five Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projection Evaluation (attach worksheet)**

**Five Year Estimate of Total Stewardship Expenditures:** \$: 

\$ 6,639
----------

**Five Year Estimate of Total Projected Revenue:** \$: 

NA
----

**Additional Comments:** NA

**WORKSHEET**  
**Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections**  
**(Five Years Post Acquisition)**

STEWARDSHIP					
	Estimated Stewardship Expenditures				
Tract Name	Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Morrison	Survey & Mark Boundary Lines	5,107	ft.	\$1.30	\$ 6,639.10
	<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 6,639.10</b>
<i>Insert additional rows in table as needed</i>					

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



**North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
Land Acquisition Investigation Form**

**-PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-**

---

**WRC Staff Contact:** Gordon Warburton/Kip Hollifield

**Date First Presented to WRC:** May 21, 2015

**Tract Name:** Morrison Tract (PIN 1200413)

**Acreage:** +/- 19 acres

**County:** Wilkes

**Estimated Value:** \$57,000

**Property Owner or Representative:** Robert Morrison  
c/o Chris Smith  
[csmith@progressiveforestry.com](mailto:csmith@progressiveforestry.com)  
Vice President of Operations  
Dougherty & Dougherty Forestry Services, Inc  
Progressive Realty Services, LLC

**Phone:** ( 919) 435-0365 (office/fax)  
(919) 495-2187 (mobile)

**Address:** PO Box 807  
Wake Forest, NC 27588

**Status:** ☒ High Interest      ☐ Moderate Interest      ☐ Low Interest      ☐ No Interest

**Grant Potential:** ☐ CWMTF

☒ OTHER (explain): Pittman Robertson Land Acquisition Grant, WRC Funds

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):** This property lays immediately adjacent to Thurmond Chatham GL. Acquisition is significant as part of the total management project being carried out at Thurmond Chatham Game Land. Acquisition of the Morrison tract is particularly significant since it would provide clear public access to the Joshua Creek entrance of Thurmond Chatham GL. Access at this location is currently via a short gravel access road that connects to Old NC 18 (S.R. 1729). The State does not hold a deeded ROW easement across this access road and current access is by prescriptive easement only. Acquisition would rectify this situation and allow direct access to the game land from both Old NC 18 and NC 18 at this location.

Primary habitats are Appalachian oak and low mountain pine forests. Common game species include bear, deer, turkey and squirrel. Priority species likely to occur on the tract are identified in the attached table.

Management objectives will include protecting water quality, maintaining/restoring priority wildlife habitats, and providing improved public access and opportunity for hunting and other outdoor recreational activities.

**Additional Comments:** Preliminary estimates of five-year stewardship expenditures include surveying and marking 5,107 feet of property boundary @ \$1.30/foot. Total estimate of five-year expenditures is \$6,640.

**Program Potential:**    ☒ Game Land (Thurmond Chatham)    ☐ Wildlife Conservation Area  
                                 ☐ Fishing Access Area                                   ☐ None

**Potential Source(s) of Stewardship Funds (indicate federal:state match rates):** Pittman-Robertson Federal Assistance Grant (75% federal: 25% state)

**Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):**

28
----

**Recommendation:** ☒ Pursue Acquisition            ☐ Defer            ☐ Do not Pursue Acquisition

**Map Attached:** ☒ Yes            ☐ No

Morrison Tract (Wilkes County) - Priority Species			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LISTED	STATE LISTED
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>			
Plethodon glutinosus	Slimy Salamander		
Plethodon richmondi	Ravine Salamander		
Hemidactylium scutatum	Four-toed Salamander		SC
<b>BIRDS</b>			
Accipiter striatus	Sharp-shinned Hawk		SR
Coccyzus erythrophthalmus	Black-billed Cuckoo		SR
Sphyrapicus varius	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		
Certhia americana	Brown Creeper		SC
Vermivora chrysoptera	Golden-winged Warbler		SC
Dendroica cerulea	Cerulean Warbler		SC
<b>MAMMALS</b>			
Sorex hoyi	Pygmy Shrew		
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary Bat		
Myotis septentrionalis	Northern Myotis		
Myotis leibii	Eastern Small-footed Myotis		SC
Mustela nivalis	Least Weasel		SR
Spilogale putorius	Eastern Spotted Skunk		
<b>REPTILES</b>			
Virginia valeriae	Smooth Earth Snake		



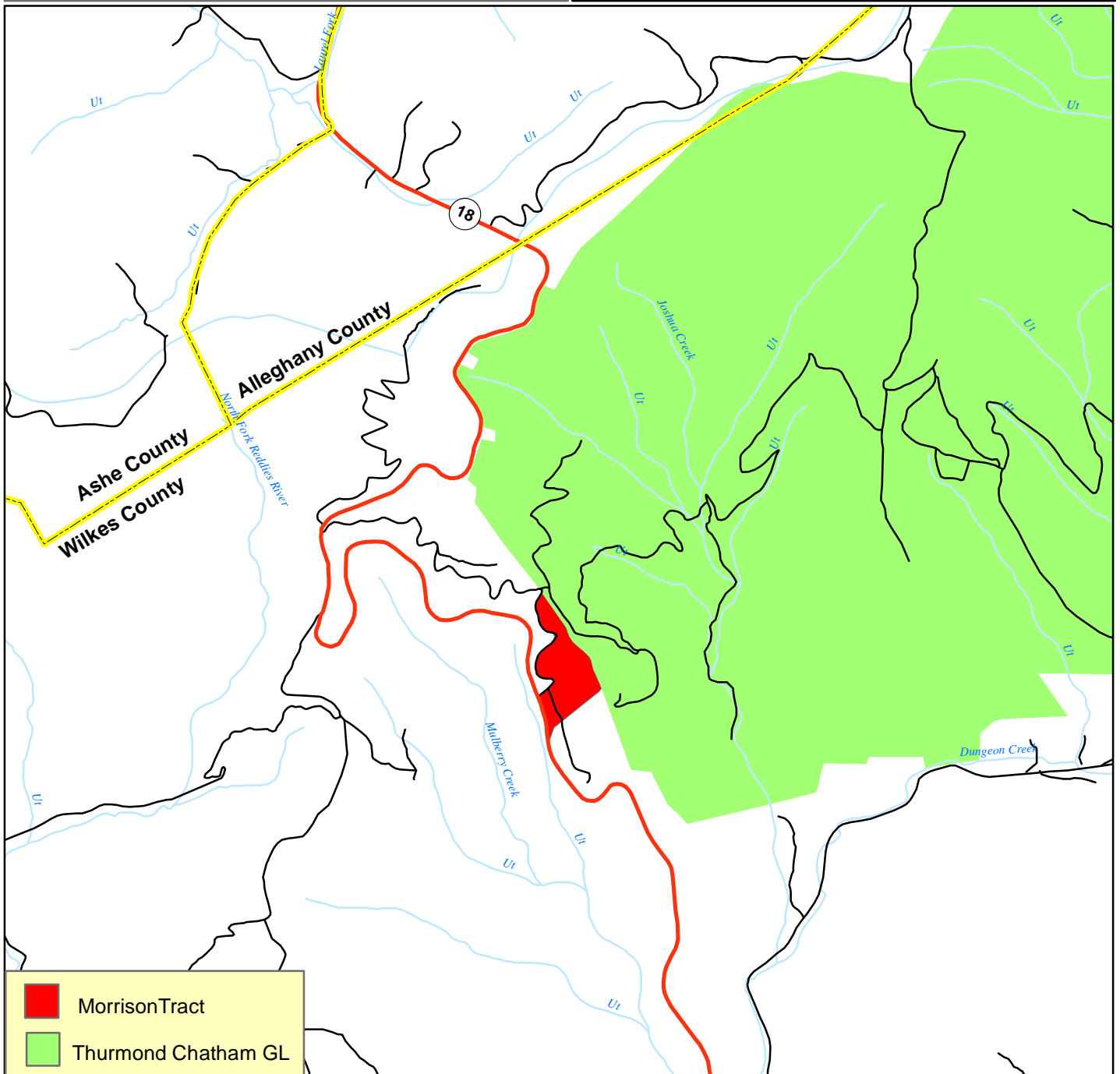
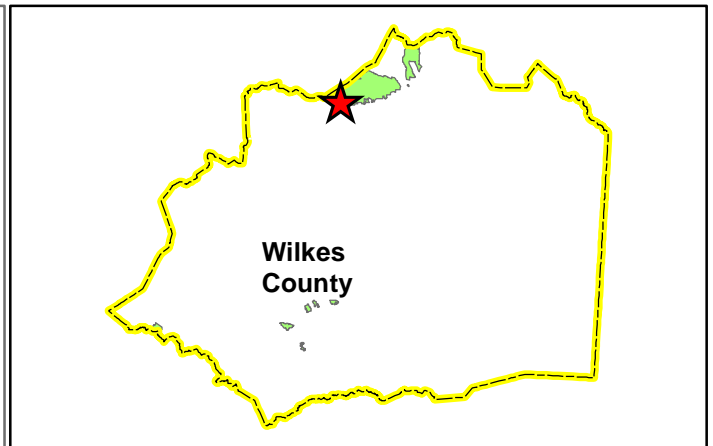
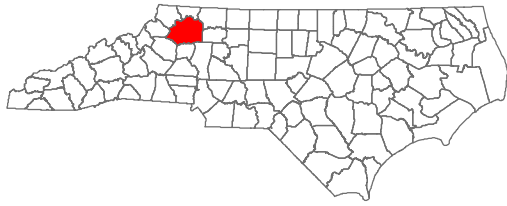
# WORKSHEET

## Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Thurmond Chatham GL) Morrison Tract (Wilkes County)

Criterion	Score (1-5) 5=Excellent 1=Poor
1. Augments existing protected lands by addressing an inholding or adjacent tract, provides key access, buffers or connects existing WRC-managed lands.	<u>5</u>
2. Represents good hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other resource-based recreational opportunities.	<u>4</u>
3. No conflicting surrounding land uses.	<u>5</u>
4. Serves as a wildlife corridor between areas already protected for conservation purposes and provides connectivity to priority Wildlife Action Plan habitats.	<u>5</u>
5. Augments land conservation efforts on a landscape scale by providing nuclei ("anchors") for regional conservation efforts, corridors, key linkages between conservation areas, or keystone tracts.	<u>5</u>
6. Fills a need identified by the Wildlife Action Plan, such as critical, rare or unique habitats; natural heritage elements; or significant aquatic/terrestrial resources.	<u>4</u>
7. Is this an area in which we would like to establish a new game land, wildlife conservation area, or fishing access?	<u>NA</u>
8. Is it large enough to be a new game land, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion (goal 3,000-5,000 acre minimum)?	<u>NA</u>
9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?	<u>NA</u>
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<u><u>28</u></u>

**Morrison Tract  
Thurmond Chatham GL  
Wilkes County  
19 Acres**

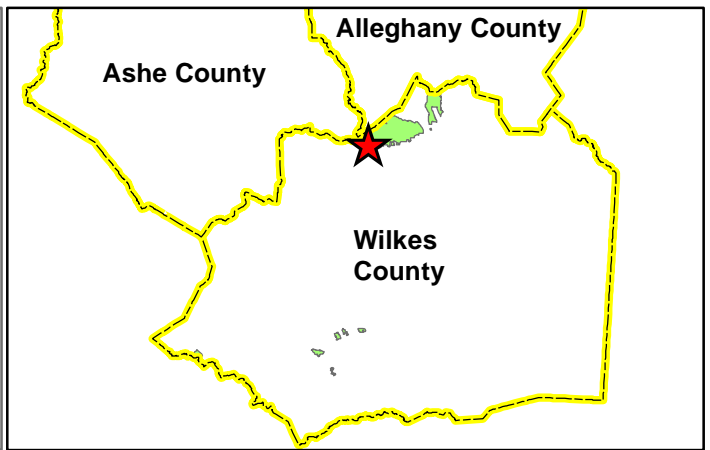
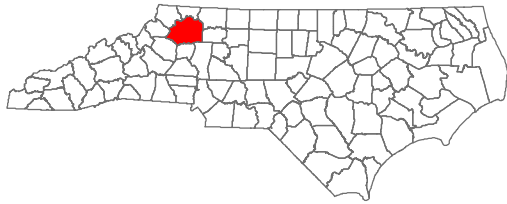


April 12, 2015

0 0.5 1 Miles



**Morrison Tract**  
**Thurmond Chatham GL**  
**Wilkes County**  
**19 Acres**



January 26, 2016

0 500 1,000 Feet







# EXHIBIT J

February 11, 2016

## Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Game Land Regulations for 2016-2017 as of February 8, 2016

Proposal	Proposed Text	Position Count	Comment Types
G1	Move the opening date for hunting deer with all lawful weapons on Lake Mattamuskeet and Alligator River National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) from the Saturday on or nearest October 15 to the Saturday on or nearest September 10.	131 :Agree 17 :Disagree	17 :Online 131 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G2	Prohibit all public use from sunset to sunrise on those portions of game land posted as "Day Use Only Zones".	131 :Agree 24 :Disagree	19 :Online 135 :Comment Card 1 :Letter/Email
G3	Modify existing game land rules regarding the possession of firearms on US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) project lands and waters to comply with current applicable federal regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13.	119 :Agree 25 :Disagree	17 :Online 127 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G4	Allow youth to hunt in managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before sunrise until sunset on the two youth waterfowl days following the end of the regular waterfowl seasons.	146 :Agree 15 :Disagree	23 :Online 138 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G5	Prohibit the use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes during the period of March 15 through July 15 on Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County.	135 :Agree 17 :Disagree	15 :Online 137 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G6	Expand the opportunity for horseback riding on R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land by allowing horses on gated roads and trails that are posted for equestrian use.	114 :Agree 44 :Disagree	23 :Online 135 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G7	Remove text from the North Carolina Administrative Code which establishes Catawba Game Land in Catawba County.	127 :Agree 9 :Disagree	12 :Online 124 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G8	Allow horseback riding on Chowan Swamp Game Land anytime from May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays only from September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails that are specifically posted for equestrian use.	118 :Agree 28 :Disagree	17 :Online 129 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G9	Remove posted Archery Zones from the permit requirement for hunting turkeys on Harris Game Land.	133 :Agree 10 :Disagree	15 :Online 128 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G10	Designate Holly Shelter Game Land as a 6 day per week game land and restrict dog hunting for deer and bear to Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, except as otherwise authorized by permit on the Bear Garden Tract of Holly Shelter Game Land.	131 :Agree 29 :Disagree	22 :Online 138 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Proposed Text</b>	<b>Position Count</b>	<b>Comment Types</b>
G11	Allow geocaching on Holly Shelter and Stones Creek Game Lands during closed seasons and on closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey and waterfowl.	127 :Agree 17 :Disagree	15 :Online 129 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G12	Expand opportunity for raccoon and opossum hunting on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Area, which is currently limited to open days from the second Monday before Thanksgiving through the Saturday following Thanksgiving, to include all open days from sunrise Monday on or nearest October 15 through the last day of February.	139 :Agree 10 :Disagree	15 :Online 134 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
G13	Establish Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County as a Permit Only game land.	137 :Agree 12 :Disagree	21 :Online 128 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email
O	Propose a Regulation (Game Lands)		25 :Online 19 :Comment Card 1 :Letter/Email
O	Propose a Regulation (General)		0 :Online 0 :Comment Card 0 :Letter/Email

**Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Game Land Regulations for 2016-2017  
by District  
as of February 8, 2016**

[illegible]

**Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Game Land Regulations for 2016-2017  
by District  
as of February 8, 2016**

[illegible]



Summary of Public Comments on Proposed Changes to Game Land Regulations for 2016-2017  
by District  
as of February 8, 2016

Proposal	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	District 9	Out of State	District 0
O (Game Lands)	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 12 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 7 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 5 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 2 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 5 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 4 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 10 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other
	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 4 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 8 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 1 : Letter/Email 6 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 4 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 2 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 4 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 1 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 4 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 5 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 5 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online
O (General)	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other	<b><u>Position Count:</u></b> 0 : Other
	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online	<b><u>Comment Types:</u></b> 0 : Comment Card 0 : Letter/Email 0 : Online

Letters and Petitions Received During the Public Comment Period for the  
2016-2017 Regulatory Cycle  
Land and Water Access Section

In addition to the individual comments tallied, the Commission received the following letter representing an organization\*:

- 1) Supports expanding the opportunity for horseback riding on R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land by allowing horses on gated roads and trails that are posted for equestrian use (G6).  
North Carolina Horse Council, signed by Sue Gray, Executive Director
- 2) Supports allowing horseback riding on Chowan Swamp Game Land anytime from May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays only from September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails that are specifically posted for equestrian use (G8).  
North Carolina Horse Council, signed by Sue Gray, Executive Director

\* Hard copy available upon request.

# EXHIBIT K

February 11, 2016



## PROPOSED CHANGES IN GAME LAND REGULATIONS FOR 2016-2017 AND RULE TEXT FOR COMMISSION ACTION

- G1) Move the opening date for hunting deer with all lawful weapons on Lake Mattamuskeet and Alligator River National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) from the Saturday on or nearest October 15 to the Saturday on or nearest September 10  
*15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer ((page 3)*
- G2) Prohibit all public use from sunset to sunrise on those portions of game land posted as “Day Use Only Zones”.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0102 General regulations regarding use (page 7)*
- G3) Modify existing game land rules regarding the possession of firearms on US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) project lands and waters to comply with current applicable federal regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0102 General regulations regarding use (page 8)*
- G4) Allow youth to hunt in managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before sunrise until sunset on the two youth waterfowl days following the end of the regular waterfowl seasons.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (page, 12)*
- G5) Prohibit the use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes during the period of March 15 through July 15 on Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (page 13)*
- G6) Expand the opportunity for horseback riding on R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land by allowing horses on gated roads and trails that are posted for equestrian use.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (page15)*
- G7) Remove text from the North Carolina Administrative Code which establishes Catawba Game Land in Catawba County.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (page 15)*

- G8) Allow horseback riding on Chowan Swamp Game Land anytime from May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays only from September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails that are specifically posted for equestrian use.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (page 15)*
- G9) Remove posted Archery Zones from the permit requirement for hunting turkeys on Harris Game Land.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (page 17)*
- G10 Designate Holly Shelter Game Land as a 6 day per week game land and restrict dog hunting for deer and bear to Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days, except as otherwise authorized by permit on the Bear Garden Tract of Holly Shelter Game Land.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (page 18)*
- G11 Allow geocaching on Holly Shelter and Stones Creek Game Lands during closed seasons and on closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey and waterfowl.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (pages 18 and 24)*
- G12 Expand opportunity for raccoon and opossum hunting on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Area, which is currently limited to open days from the second Monday before Thanksgiving through the Saturday following Thanksgiving, to include all open days from sunrise Monday on or nearest October 15 through the last day of February.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (page 22)*
- G13 Establish Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County as a Permit Only game land.  
*15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands (page 24)*

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

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

- (1) Deer With Visible Antlers. Deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as distinguished from knobs or buttons covered by skin or velvet, may be taken during the following seasons:

(A) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in all of Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Columbus\*, Cumberland, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Duplin, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Hertford, Hoke, Hyde, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Richmond\*\*, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland\*\*, Tyrrell, Vance, Wake, Warren, Washington, Wayne, and Wilson counties.

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

\*\*Refer to 15A NCAC 10D .0103(h) for seasons on Nicholson Creek, Rockfish Creek, and Sandhills Game Lands.

(B) Saturday before Thanksgiving through January 1 in all of Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Catawba, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Stokes, Surry, Watauga, Wilkes\*, and Yadkin counties.

\*Refer to 15A NCAC 10D .0103(h) for seasons on Buffalo Cove game land.

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

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

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

(F) Monday of Thanksgiving week through January 1 in all of Cleveland, Polk, and Rutherford counties, except for South Mountain Game Land.

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

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

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

(C) Youth either-sex deer hunts. First Saturday in October for youth either-sex deer hunting by permit only on a portion of Belews Creek Steam Station in Stokes County designated by agents of the Commission; the third Saturday in October for youth either-sex deer

- 1 hunting by permit only on Mountain Island State Forest in Lincoln and Gaston counties;  
2 and the second Saturday in November for youth either-sex deer hunting by permit only on  
3 apportion of Warrior Creek located on W. Kerr Scott Reservoir, Wilkes County designated  
4 by agents of the Commission. A youth is defined as a person under 16 years of age.
- 5 (D) The last open day of the Deer with Visible Antlers season described in Subparagraph (a)(1)  
6 of this Rule in all of Buncombe\*, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania  
7 counties.\*\*
- 8 \*Except for that part east of NC 191, south of the French Broad and Swannanoa Rivers,  
9 west of US 25, and north of NC 280
- 10 \*\*Refer to 15A NCAC 10D .0103 for either-sex deer seasons on game lands that differ  
11 from the days identified in this Subparagraph
- 12 (E) The last six open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers season described in Subparagraph  
13 (a)(1) of this Rule in all of Avery, Burke, Caldwell, McDowell, Mitchell, and Yancey  
14 counties.
- 15 (F) The first six open days and the last seven open days of the Deer with Visible Antlers season  
16 described in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule in all of Cleveland, Polk, and Rutherford  
17 counties.
- 18 (G) All the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers season described in Subparagraph (a)(1)  
19 of this Rule in and east of Ashe, Watauga, Wilkes, Alexander, Catawba, Lincoln, and  
20 Gaston counties and in the following parts of counties:  
21 Buncombe: That part east of NC 191, south of the French Broad and Swannanoa Rivers,  
22 west of US 25, and north of NC 280; and  
23 Henderson. That part east of NC 191 and north and west of NC 280.
- 24 (H) The fourth Saturday in September, subject to the following restriction: only persons under  
25 the age of 16 years may hunt.
- 26 (b) Open Seasons (Bow and Arrow) for hunting deer:
- 27 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph and the bag  
28 limits set out in Paragraph (e) of this Rule, deer of either sex may be taken with bow and arrow  
29 during the following seasons:
- 30 (A) Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the third Friday thereafter in the counties and parts  
31 of counties having the open season for Deer With Visible Antlers specified by Part (A) of  
32 Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule, except on Nicholson Creek, Rockfish Creek, and  
33 Sandhills Game Lands.
- 34 (B) Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the third Friday before Thanksgiving in the  
35 counties and parts of counties having the open seasons for Deer with Visible Antlers  
36 specified by Part (B) of Subparagraph (b)(1) of this Rule except for that portion of Buffalo  
37 Cove Game Land in Wilkes County.
- 38 (C) Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the Sunday prior to the opening of the blackpowder  
39 firearms and bow and arrow season identified in Part (c)(1)(C) of this Rule; and the Sunday  
40 immediately following the closing of blackpowder firearms and bow and arrow season  
41 identified in Part (c)(1)(C) of this Rule to the Sunday before Thanksgiving in the counties  
42 and parts of counties having the open seasons for Deer With Visible Antlers specified by  
43 Part (C) of Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule and in Cleveland, Polk, and Rutherford  
44 counties.
- 45 (D) Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving in the  
46 counties and parts of counties having the open season for Deer With Visible Antlers  
47 specified by Part (D) of Subparagraph (b)(1) of this Rule, and on Nicholson Creek,  
48 Rockfish Creek, and Sandhills Game Lands.
- 49 (2) Restrictions
- 50 (A) Dogs may not be used for hunting deer during the bow and arrow season, except a single  
51 dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a wounded deer in accordance with G.S. 113-  
52 291.1(k).
- 53 (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for taking deer  
54 may be used during the bow and arrow deer hunting season.
- 55 (c) Open Seasons (Blackpowder Firearms and Bow and Arrow) for hunting deer:



- (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, deer may be taken only with blackpowder firearms and bow and arrow during the following seasons:
- (A) The Saturday on or nearest October 1 to the Friday of the second week thereafter in the counties and parts of counties having the open seasons for Deer With Visible Antlers specified by Part (A) of Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule, except on Nicholson Creek, Rockfish Creek, and Sandhills Game Lands.
- (B) The third Saturday preceding Thanksgiving until the Friday of the second week thereafter in the counties\* and parts of counties having the open seasons for Deer With Visible Antlers specified by Part (B) of Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule.  
\*Refer to 15A NCAC 10D .0103(h) for seasons on Buffalo Cove game land.
- (C) Monday on or nearest October 1 to the Saturday of the second week thereafter in Cleveland, Polk, and Rutherford counties and in the counties and parts of counties having the open seasons for Deer With Visible Antlers specified by Part C of Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule.
- (D) The fourth Saturday preceding Thanksgiving until the Friday of the second week thereafter in the counties and parts of counties having the open season for Deer With Visible Antlers specified by Part (D) of Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule, and on Nicholson Creek, Rockfish Creek, and Sandhills Game Lands.
- (2) Restrictions
- (A) Deer of either sex may be taken during blackpowder firearms and bow and arrow season in and east of the following counties: Polk, Rutherford, McDowell, Burke, Caldwell, Watauga, and Ashe. Deer of either sex may be taken on the last day of this season only in all other counties.
- (B) Dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the blackpowder firearms and bow and arrow seasons, except a single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a wounded deer in accordance with G.S. 113-291.1(k).
- (3) As used in this Paragraph, blackpowder firearms means "Any firearm - including any firearm with a matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system - manufactured in or before 1898; any replica of this type of firearm if such replica is not designed or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition; and any muzzle-loading rifle, muzzle-loading shotgun, or muzzle-loading handgun that is designed to use blackpowder, blackpowder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through the muzzle and that cannot use fixed ammunition."
- (d) Open Season (Urban Season) for hunting deer:
- (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph and the bag limits set out in Paragraph (e) of this Rule, deer of either sex may be taken with bow and arrow in participating cities in the State, as defined in G.S. 160A-1(2), from the second Saturday following January 1 to the fifth Saturday thereafter. Deer shall not be taken on any game land or part thereof that occurs within a city boundary.
- (2) Participation. Cities that intend to participate in the urban season must send a letter to that effect no later than April 1 of the year prior to the start of the urban season to the Executive Director or his designee at 1722 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1722. Cities must also submit a map of the city's boundaries within which the urban season shall apply.
- (3) Restrictions:
- (A) Dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the urban season, except a single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a wounded deer in accordance with G.S. 113-291.1(k).
- (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for taking deer shall be used during the urban season.
- (e) Bag limits. In and east of Vance, Franklin, Wake, Harnett, Moore, and Richmond counties, the possession limit is six deer, up to four of which may be deer with visible antlers. In all other counties of the state the possession limit is six deer, up to two of which may be deer with visible antlers. The season limit in all counties of the State, is six deer. In addition to the bag limits described above, a hunter may obtain multiple bonus antlerless deer harvest report cards from the Wildlife Resources Commission or any Wildlife Service Agent to allow the harvest of two additional antlerless deer per card on lands others than lands enrolled in the Commission's game land program during any open deer season in all counties and parts of counties of the State identified in Part (G) of Subparagraph (a)(2) of this Rule. Antlerless deer harvested and reported on the bonus antlerless harvest report card shall not count as part of the possession and season limit. Hunters may also use the bonus antlerless harvest report cards for deer harvested during

1 the season described in Paragraph (d) of this Rule within the boundaries of participating municipalities, except on  
2 State-owned game lands. Antlerless deer include males with knobs or buttons covered by skin or velvet as  
3 distinguished from spikes protruding through the skin. The bag limits described above do not apply to deer harvested  
4 in areas covered in the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) as described in G.S. 113-291.2(e) for those  
5 individuals using Commission-issued DMAP tags and reporting harvest as described on the DMAP license. Season  
6 bag limits shall be set by the number of DMAP tags issued and in the hunters' possession. All deer harvested under  
7 this program, regardless of the date of harvest, shall be tagged with these DMAP tags and reported as instructed on  
8 the DMAP license. The hunter does not have to validate the Big Game Harvest Report Card provided with the hunting  
9 license for deer tagged with the DMAP tags. Any deer harvested on lands enrolled in the DMAP and not tagged with  
10 DMAP tags may only be harvested during the regularly established deer seasons subject to all the restrictions of those  
11 seasons, including bag limits, and reported using the big game harvest report card or the bonus antlerless harvest report  
12 card.

13  
14 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;  
15 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
16 Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996, July 1, 1995; December 1, 1994; July 1,  
17 1994; July 1, 1993;  
18 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;  
19 Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;  
20 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;  
21 Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (Approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);  
22 Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;  
23 Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,  
24 2003);  
25 Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012;  
26 August 1, 2011; July 10, 2010; June 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005.  
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**SUBCHAPTER 10D - GAME LANDS REGULATIONS**

**SECTION .0100 - GAME LANDS REGULATIONS**

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

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

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

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

- (1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to bow and arrow hunting and falconry only. On these areas, deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of any applicable deer season.
- (2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on any game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.
- (3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- (4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to all use by the general public, and entry upon such an area for any purpose is prohibited without first having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission. Entry shall be authorized only when such entry will not compromise the primary purpose for establishing the Restricted Zone and the person or persons requesting entry can demonstrate a valid need or such person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.
- (5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are closed to all use by the general public, and entry upon such an area for any purpose is prohibited without first having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission. An area of a game land shall be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public due to topographical features or activities occurring on the area.
- (6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.
- (7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S. 113-264(d).
- (8) Day Use Only Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" are closed to all use by the general public from sunset to sunrise.

The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing an archery, a restricted firearms, a restricted zone, ~~or a restricted deer hunting zone~~, or a day use only zone. After the input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final determination.

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

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

- (1) any weapon within 150 yards of any game land building or designated game land camping area, except where posted otherwise;
- (2) any weapon within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to game lands, except on Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and

(3) any firearm within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan Game Lands.

No person shall hunt with or have in possession any shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on any posted waterfowl impoundment on any game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer hunting. Every individual carrying a concealed handgun must adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-415.11, even if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan, Kerr Scott and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13. ~~On Buckhorn, Butner-Falls of Neuse, Chatham, Harris, Hyco, Jordan, Kerr Scott, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton LakeLake, and Vance game lands and Pee Dee River Game Land north of U.S. 74, and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of U.S. 158 and east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days for game birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:~~

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

(e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

- (1) Requirement. Except as provided in Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph, any person entering upon any game land for the purpose of hunting, trapping, running dogs or training dogs using wildlife shall have in his or her possession a game lands license in addition to the appropriate hunting or trapping license, or a license that conveys the game land use privilege
- (2) For commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants (as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114) in a field trial using wildlife shall possess a game lands license in addition to the appropriate North Carolina hunting license, or a license that conveys the game land use privilege, except non-residents may substitute hunting licenses from their state(s) of residence.
- (3) For any other field trial using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall possess a game lands license in addition to the appropriate North Carolina hunting license, or a license that conveys the game land use privilege
- (4) Exceptions:
  - (A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his parent or legal guardian;
  - (B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103(e)(1) of this Section, the game lands license is required only for hunting doves; all other activities are subject to the control of the landowners.

(f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. Any individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial area or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility shall file with the Commission an application to use the area and facility accompanied by the facility use fee computed at the rate of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for each scheduled day of the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from 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 day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for all intermediate days on which for any reason trials are not run but the building or facilities are used or occupied. A fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per day shall be charged to sporting, educational, or scouting groups for scheduled events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or any other entity shall enter or use in any manner any of the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility without first having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission, and no such entry or use of any such facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The Sandhills Field Trial facilities shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources Commission. No more than 16 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during any calendar month, and no more than four days may be scheduled during any calendar week; provided, that a field trial requiring more than four days may be scheduled during one week upon reduction of the maximum number of days allowable during some other week so that the monthly maximum of 16 days is not exceeded. Before October 1 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities between October 22 and November 18 and between December 3 and March 31 shall submit its proposed schedule of such use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for its consideration and approval. The use of the Sandhills Field Trial facilities at any time by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills Game Lands dogs may be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1. Dogs may not be

1 trained or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on any game land located west of I-95 except  
2 when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be trained or  
3 permitted to run unleashed from March 15 through June 15 on any game land located east of I-95 except when  
4 participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Additionally, on game lands located  
5 west of I-95 where special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs  
6 may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts.  
7 A field trial shall be authorized when such field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the Game Land  
8 or field trial facilities and the applying organization can demonstrate their experience and expertise in conducting  
9 genuine field trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be  
10 granted when they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do  
11 not conflict with the mission of the agency.

12 (g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0110, .0302 and .0303, trapping of furbearing  
13 animals is permitted on game lands during the applicable open seasons, except that trapping is prohibited:

- 14 (1) on the field trial course of the Sandhills Game Land;
- 15 (2) in posted "safety zones" located on any game land;
- 16 (3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south,  
17 US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;
- 18 (4) on the John's River Waterfowl Refuge in Burke County; and
- 19 (5) on the ~~DuPont~~ DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

20 On those areas of state-owned land known collectively as the Roanoke River Wetlands controlled trapping is allowed  
21 under a permit system.

22 (h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on any game land except on those roads constructed,  
23 maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel, unless such person:

- 24 (1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land;  
25 or
- 26 (2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (j) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program  
27 Permit as described in Paragraph (m) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph  
28 (m).

29 (i) Camping. No person shall camp on any game land except on an area designated by the landowner for camping.

30 (j) Swimming. Swimming is prohibited in the lakes located on the Sandhills Game Land.

31 (k) Disabled Sportsman Program. In order to qualify for permit hunts for disabled sportsmen offered by the  
32 Commission and use of designated blinds during those hunts, an individual shall possess a Disabled Veteran  
33 Sportsman license, a Totally Disabled Sportsman license or a disabled sportsman hunt certification issued by the  
34 Commission. In order to qualify for the certification, the applicant shall provide medical certification of one or more  
35 of the following disabilities:

- 36 (1) missing 50 percent or more of one or more limbs, whether by amputation or natural causes;
- 37 (2) paralysis of one or more limbs;
- 38 (3) dysfunction of one or more limbs rendering the person unable to perform the task of grasping and  
39 lifting with the hands and arms or unable to walk without mechanical assistance, other than a cane;
- 40 (4) disease or injury or defect confining the person to a wheelchair, walker, or crutches; or
- 41 (5) deafness.

42 On game lands where the privileges described in Paragraph (m) of this Rule apply, participants in the program may  
43 operate electric wheel chairs, all terrain vehicles or other passenger vehicles:

- 44 (1) on ungated or open-gated roads normally closed to vehicular traffic; and
- 45 (2) on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular  
46 travel.

47 Each program participant may be accompanied by one companion provided such companion has in his possession the  
48 companion card issued by the Commission. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their  
49 companions may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit  
50 hunting days on a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land.

51 (l) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds,  
52 domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or  
53 feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without prior written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild  
54 fish from one stream to another on game lands without prior written authorization. Written authorization shall be  
55 given when release of such animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to

1 native wildlife in the area and such releases are in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife  
2 Resources Commission.

3 (m) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use  
4 on Game Lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (j) of this  
5 Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from the previous sentence but  
6 must comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans  
7 with Disabilities Act, may use wheelchairs or other mobility devices designed for indoor pedestrian use on any area  
8 where foot travel is allowed.

9 (n) Disabled Access Program. Permits issued under this program shall be based upon medical evidence submitted by  
10 the person verifying that a handicap exists that limits physical mobility to the extent that normal utilization of the  
11 game lands is not possible without vehicular assistance. Persons meeting this requirement may operate electric wheel  
12 chairs, all terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel  
13 and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on  
14 game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands whose owners have agreed to such use.  
15 Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated in the game land rules and map book.  
16 This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths, or trails planted to wildlife food or  
17 cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each qualified disabled person, may  
18 accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is at all times in visual or verbal contact  
19 with the disabled person. The companion may participate in all lawful activities while assisting a disabled person,  
20 provided license requirements are met. Any vehicle used by a qualified disabled person for access to game lands  
21 under this provision shall display the vehicular access permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission in the  
22 passenger area of the vehicle where it can easily be seen by Commission staff outside the vehicle. It is unlawful for  
23 anyone other than disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (j) of this Rule and those holding a Disabled Access Permit  
24 to hunt, during waterfowl season, within 100 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the Wildlife Resources  
25 Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind.

26 (o) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on any Game Land, including land or water.  
27 For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque  
28 covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while  
29 in a public place.

30 (p) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated  
31 shooting ranges for any purpose other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting  
32 skills or for other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. All other uses, including camping, building fires,  
33 operating concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited,  
34 except that activities that have been approved by the Commission and for which a permit has been issued may be  
35 conducted, provided that the permit authorizing such activity is available for inspection by wildlife enforcement  
36 officers at the time the activity is taking place. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit any debris or  
37 refuse on the grounds of the range. This includes any items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the  
38 range, by the shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot any items made of glass on  
39 the grounds of the range. No person may leave any vehicle or other obstruction in such a location or position that it  
40 will prevent, impede or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave parked  
41 any vehicle or other object at any place on the shooting range other than such a place or zone as is designated as an  
42 authorized parking zone and posted or marked as such. No person shall handle any firearms or bow and arrow on a  
43 shooting range in a careless or reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or  
44 other permanent fixture or structure while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that  
45 would cause any rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or  
46 smaller may be allowed to travel from the range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to any person(s). Persons using  
47 a shooting range must obey posted range safety rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a  
48 public safety hazard must leave the shooting range if directed to by law enforcement officers or Commission  
49 employees. No person shall handle any firearms on a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing  
50 substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and  
51 hours of operation shall be designated on signs and at least one of such signs will be posted at the entrance to each  
52 shooting range. No person, when using any shooting range, shall do any act which is prohibited or neglect to do any  
53 act which is required by signs or markings placed on such area under authority of this Rule for the purpose of regulating  
54 the use of the area.

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

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-270.3; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-305; 113-306; 143-318.10;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; April 1, 1992;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 1993;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. August 31, 2001;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2002;*  
*Amended Eff. June 1, 2004; (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);*  
*Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; June 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; November 1, 2005;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2014;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014.*



**15A NCAC 10B .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS**

(a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any designated game land shall be under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug, or fail to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the use of the Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands listed in this Rule.

(b) Traffic Requirements. No person shall park a vehicle on game lands in such a manner as to block traffic or gates, or otherwise prevent vehicles from using any roadway.

(c) Tree Stands. It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree on any game land designated herein. This prohibition does not apply to lag-screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.

(d) Time and Manner of Taking. Hunting is allowed on game lands only during the open season for game animals and game birds, unless hunting is allowed by permit. Individual game lands or parts thereof may be closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by this Chapter. Persons shall hunt only with weapons lawful for the open game animal or game bird seasons. On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

- (1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- (2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates;
- (3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;
- (4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. each day; and
- (5) not operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

On designated youth waterfowl days occurring after the end of the regular waterfowl seasons only, youths may hunt on managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions 1, 3 and 5 in the preceding numbered list still apply. On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone." No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that has been so mutilated. No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written authorization of the Commission or its agent. A decision to grant or deny authorization shall be made based on the best management practices for the wildlife species in question. No person shall take or attempt to take any game birds or game animals attracted to such foods.

(e) Definitions:

- (1) For purposes of this Section, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.
- (2) For purposes of this Section, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Falconry may also be practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to either-sex deer hunting seasons listed under each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.
- (3) For purposes of this Section, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any game may be taken during the open seasons.

(f) Hunting with Dogs on Game Lands. Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or parts of counties where taking deer with dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

(g) Bear Sanctuaries. On Three Days per Week Areas and Six Days per Week Areas, bears shall not be taken on lands designated and posted as bear sanctuaries except when authorized by permit only elsewhere in this Chapter. Feral Swine shall not be taken with the use of dogs on bear sanctuaries. Dogs shall not be trained or allowed to run unleashed between March 1 and the Monday on or nearest October 15 on bear sanctuaries in and west of the counties and parts of counties described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

(h) The listed seasons and restrictions apply in the following game lands:

- (1) Alcoa Game Land in Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, and Stanly counties
  - (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season in that portion in Montgomery county and deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season in those portions in Davie, Davidson, Rowan and Stanly counties.
  - (C) On the Lick Creek Tract, deer and bear hunting is archery only.

- (2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County  
(A) Six Day per Week Area  
(B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.  
(C) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.
- (3) Angola Bay Game Land in Duplin and Pender counties  
(A) Six Days per Week Area  
(B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.  
(C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (4) Bachelor Bay Game Land in Bertie, Martin, and Washington counties  
(A) Six Days per Week Area  
(B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (5) Bertie County Game Land in Bertie County  
(A) Six Days per Week Area  
(B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (6) Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County  
(A) Three Days per Week Area  
(B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.  
(C) Except for muzzle-loaders, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.  
(D) On the Singletary Lake Tract the use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited.  
(E) Wild turkey hunting on the Singletary Lake Tract is by permit only.  
(F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.  
(G) The use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes is prohibited March 15 through July 15.
- (7) Brinkleyville Game Land in Halifax County  
(A) Six Days per Week Area  
(B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.  
(C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (8) Brunswick County Game Land in Brunswick County  
(A) Hunting is by permit only.  
(B) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- (9) Buckhorn Game Land in Orange County  
(A) Hunting is by permit only.  
(B) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (10) Buckridge Game Land in Tyrrell County.  
(A) Three Days per Week Area  
(B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.  
(C) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season and the first three hunting days of the second week of the December Bear Season. If any of these days falls on a Tuesday, Friday or Saturday, bear hunting is allowed on those days.  
(D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (11) Buffalo Cove Game Land in Caldwell and Wilkes Counties  
(A) Six Days per Week Area  
(B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the Monday before Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer may be taken with bow and arrow on open days beginning the Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving and during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season. Deer may be taken with muzzle-loading firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest October

- 1 through the Saturday of the second week thereafter, and during the Deer With Visible Antlers season.
- (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- (12) Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Lands in Robeson County
- (A) Three Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (13) Butner - Falls of Neuse Game Land in Durham, Granville and Wake counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
- (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- (iii) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- On the posted waterfowl impoundments a special permit is required for all waterfowl hunting after November 1.
- (D) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- (G) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on that portion west of NC 50 and south of Falls Lake.
- (H) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable seasons for game birds and game animals.
- (I) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- (J) Camping is allowed at any time in the designated Mountains-to-Sea Trail Camping Area and shall not exceed a maximum stay of two consecutive nights. Campfires are prohibited in this camping area.
- (14) Buxton Woods Game Land in Dare County:
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (15) Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land in Pender County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on that portion known as the Roan Island Tract.
- (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion of the game land that is west of the Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck Road, and south of NC 210 to the Black River.
- (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (16) Carteret County Game Land in Carteret County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- (17) R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land in Caswell County
- (A) Three Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

- (C) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays during the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons. Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular ~~traffic~~ traffic and on those gated roads and trails that are posted specifically for equestrian use. People age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Lands license.
- (D) The area encompassed by the following roads is permit-only for all quail and woodcock hunting and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on NC 62 to the intersection of SR 1746, west on SR 1746 to the intersection of SR 1156, south on SR 1156 to the intersection of SR 1783, east on SR 1783 to the intersection of NC 62, north on NC 62 to the intersection of SR 1736, east on SR 1736 to the intersection of SR 1730, east on SR 1730 to NC 86, north on NC 86 to NC 62.
- (E) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit only after November 1.
- (F) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- (G) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.
- ~~(18)~~ ~~Catawba Game Land in Catawba County~~
- ~~(A)~~ ~~Three Days per Week Area~~
- ~~(B)~~ ~~Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.~~
- ~~(C)~~ ~~Deer may be taken with bow and arrow only from the tract known as Molly's Backbone.~~
- ~~(19)~~ ~~(18)~~ Chatham Game Land in Chatham County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (D) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August; and on Sundays during the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.
- (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- ~~(20)~~ ~~(19)~~ Cherokee Game Land in Ashe County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(21)~~ ~~(20)~~ Chowan Game Land in Chowan County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(22)~~ ~~(21)~~ Chowan Swamp Game Land in Bertie, Gates and Hertford counties.
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Bear hunting is restricted to the first three hunting days during the November bear season and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December bear season except that portion of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is east of Highway 158/13, south of Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of Catherine Creek and the Chowan River where the bear season is the same as the season dates for the Gates County bear season.
- (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (E) Horseback riding is allowed anytime May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails posted specifically for equestrian use.
- ~~(23)~~ ~~(22)~~ Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

- (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(24)~~(23) Columbus County Game Land in Columbus County.
- (A) Three Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(25)~~(24) Croatan Game Land in Carteret, Craven and Jones counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
- (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of the waterfowl season, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish Lake Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.
- (E) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted areas. During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- ~~(26)~~(25) Currituck Banks Game Land in Currituck County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by permit only from November 1 through the end of the waterfowl season.
- (C) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the guides do not use a firearm.
- (D) The boundary of the game land shall extend 5 yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.
- (E) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day of their hunt.
- (F) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.
- (G) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers season.
- ~~(27)~~(26) Dare Game Land in Dare County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) No hunting is allowed on posted parts of bombing range.
- (D) The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.
- ~~(28)~~(27) Dover Bay Game Land in Craven County
- ~~(29)~~(28) ~~DuPont~~ DuPont State Forest Game Lands in Henderson and Transylvania counties
- (A) Hunting is by Permit only.
- (B) The training and use of dogs for hunting is prohibited except by special hunt permit holders during scheduled permit hunts.
- ~~(30)~~(29) Elk Knob Game Land in Watauga County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(31)~~(30) Embro Game Land in Halifax and Warren counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- ~~(32)~~(31) Goose Creek Game Land in Beaufort and Pamlico counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

- (C) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
  - (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
  - (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October and through the end of the waterfowl season, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl impoundments: Pamlico Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith Creek, and Hobucken.
- (E) On Pamlico Point and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments all activities, except waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the trapping season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period November 1 through March 15.
- (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1 through January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting opportunity permit.
- ~~(33)~~(32) Green River Game Land in Henderson, and Polk counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- ~~(34)~~(33) Green Swamp Game Land in Brunswick County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(35)~~(34) Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
    - (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons; and
    - (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
    - (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl season.
  - (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
  - (E) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season, except for that portion designated as bear sanctuary.
- ~~(36)~~(35) Harris Game Land in Chatham, Harnett, and Wake counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
    - (i) Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
    - (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
    - (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
  - (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds shall be prohibited.
  - (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery Zone.
  - (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
  - (G) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- ~~(37)~~(36) Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County
- (A) ~~Three~~ Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

- (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on the following days:
- (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
  - (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
  - (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (E) On that portion north of the Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, deer hunting and bear hunting are permit only.
- (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is ~~prohibited~~ prohibited:
- (i) all open days on that portion of the game land that is south of Baby Branch extending west to Stag Park Road, west of Shaw Road, north of Meeks Road extending west to Stag Park Road and east of Stag Park Road; and
  - (ii) on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days, and except for the area north of Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, where the use of dogs for deer and bear hunting is by permit only.
- (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from September 1 to the last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting opportunity permits, unless otherwise authorized by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- (H) Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit may operate an All Terrain Vehicle on and within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access.
- (I) Target shooting is prohibited, except on the Holly Shelter Shooting Range.
- (J) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey and waterfowl.
- ~~(38)~~ (37) Hyco Game land in Person County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- ~~(39)~~ (38) J. Morgan Futch Game Land in Tyrrell County, Permit Only Area.
- ~~(40)~~ (39) Johns River Game Land in Burke County
- (A) Hunting is by permit only.
  - (B) During permitted deer hunts, deer of either sex may be taken by permit holders.
  - (C) Entry on posted waterfowl impoundments is prohibited October 1 through March 31, except by lawful waterfowl hunting permit holders and only on those days written on the permits.
  - (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
- ~~(41)~~ (40) Jordan Game Land in Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Wake counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on:
    - (i) Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
    - (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
    - (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
  - (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail and other areas posted for equestrian use. Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is permitted on posted portions of the American Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for use. On all other trails posted for equestrian use, horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons. People age 16 or older who ride horseback on trails occurring entirely within the game land boundaries must possess a Game Lands license.
  - (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
  - (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery Zone.



- (G) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable seasons for game birds and game animals.
- ~~(42)~~(41) Juniper Creek Game Land in Brunswick and Columbus counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- ~~(43)~~(42) Kerr Scott Game Land in Wilkes County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- (C) Use of muzzleloaders, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.
- (D) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.
- (E) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers season.
- (F) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- (G) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey is prohibited.
- ~~(44)~~(43) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.
- (E) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- ~~(45)~~(44) Lee Game Land in Lee County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- ~~(46)~~(45) Light Ground Pocosin Game Land in Pamlico County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer with Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(47)~~(46) Linwood Game Land in Davidson County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken on all of the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(48)~~(47) Lower Fishing Creek Game Land in Edgecombe and Halifax counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- ~~(49)~~(48) Mayo Game Land in Person County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
- (i) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays applicable waterfowl seasons;
- (ii) Christmas and New Year's Days; and
- (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- ~~(50)~~(49) Mitchell River Game Land in Surry County
- (A) Three Days per Week Area

- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last six days of the applicable Deer with Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- ~~(51)~~(50) Nantahala Game Land in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season in that portion located in Transylvania County.
- ~~(52)~~(51) Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain counties.
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- (C) On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit only.
- ~~(53)~~(52) Neuse River Game Land in Craven County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(54)~~(53) New Lake Game Land in Hyde and Tyrrell counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(55)~~(54) Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- (A) Three Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with bow and arrow on open hunting days from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving.
- (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with muzzle-loading firearms on open hunting days beginning the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter.
- (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second Saturday before Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving.
- (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (H) On Lake Upchurch, the following activities are prohibited:
- (i) Operating any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine; and
- (ii) Swimming.
- (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- ~~(56)~~(55) North River Game Land in Camden and Currituck counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.
- (D) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only.
- ~~(57)~~(56) Northwest River Marsh Game Land in Currituck County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.
- ~~(58)~~(57) Pee Dee River Game Land in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

- (C) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties North of US-74.
- (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (E) Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and only during the following times:
- (i) during June, July, and August; and
  - (ii) on Sundays during the other months or parts of months when deer and turkey seasons are closed.
- ~~(59)~~(58) Perkins Game Land in Davie County
- (A) Three Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.
- ~~(60)~~(59) Pisgah Game Land in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).
- ~~(61)~~(60) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last six open days of the applicable Deer with Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through August 31 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through May 15.
  - (D) Deer and bear hunting is by permit only.
- ~~(62)~~(61) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(63)~~(62) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties
- (A) Hunting is by permit only.
  - (B) Swimming is prohibited on the area.
- ~~(64)~~(63) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties
- (A) Hunting is by Permit only.
  - (B) Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission business or by permit holders.
  - (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided, however, that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the game land.
- ~~(65)~~(64) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.
- ~~(66)~~(65) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County
- (A) Three Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- ~~(67)~~(66) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- (A) Three Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with bow and arrow on open hunting days from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving.
  - (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with muzzle-loading firearms on open hunting days beginning the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter.

- 1 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second
- 2 Saturday before Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving.
- 3 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 4 Antlers Season.
- 5 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 6 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 7 (H) Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
- 8 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 9 ~~(68)~~(67) Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County: Hunting is by permit only.
- 10 ~~(69)~~(68) Sampson Game Land in Sampson County
- 11 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 12 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 13 Antlers Season.
- 14 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15 ~~(70)~~(69) Sandhills Game Land in Hoke, Moore, Richmond and Scotland counties
- 16 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 17 (B) Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from October 22
- 18 through March 31 except as follows:
- 19 (i) deer may be taken with archery equipment on all the open days of the bow-and-
- 20 arrow season through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving; with legal
- 21 muzzleloading firearms and archery equipment all the open days of the
- 22 muzzleloader season through the second Saturday before Thanksgiving; and with
- 23 all legal weapons from the second Monday before Thanksgiving through the
- 24 Saturday following Thanksgiving;
- 25 (ii) dove may be taken all open days from the opening day of the dove season through
- 26 the third Saturday thereafter;
- 27 (iii) ~~opossum, raccoon, and~~ squirrel (gray and fox) may be taken all the open days
- 28 from second Monday before Thanksgiving through the Saturday following
- 29 Thanksgiving;
- 30 (iv) rabbit may be taken all open days from the second Saturday preceding
- 31 Thanksgiving through the Saturday following Thanksgiving;
- 32 (v) waterfowl may be taken on open days during any waterfowl season; and
- 33 (vi) wild animals and wild birds may be taken as part of a Disabled Sportsmen
- 34 Program Permit Hunt.
- 35 (vii) raccoon and opossum may be taken on open days from sunrise Monday on or
- 36 nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- 37 (C) The Deer With Visible Antlers season is the open hunting days from the second Saturday
- 38 before Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving except on the J. Robert
- 39 Gordon Field Trial Grounds.
- 40 (D) The bow-and-arrow season is all open days from the Saturday on or nearest to Sept. 10 to
- 41 the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving and, except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial
- 42 Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving through January 1. Deer may be taken with
- 43 archery equipment on all open hunting days during the bow and arrow season, the Deer
- 44 with Visible antlers season, and the muzzleloader season as stated in this Subparagraph.
- 45 (E) Muzzleloader season is all the open days from the fourth Saturday ~~preceding~~ preceding
- 46 Thanksgiving through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter and, except on the J.
- 47 Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving through January
- 48 1. Deer may be taken with muzzle-loading firearms on all open hunting days during the
- 49 muzzleloader season and the Deer With Visible Antlers season.
- 50 (F) Either-sex deer hunting during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season is by permit only.
- 51 (G) In addition to the regular hunting days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and closing
- 52 days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 53 (H) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 54 (I) The following areas are permit-only for all quail and woodcock hunting and dog training
- 55 on birds:
- 56 (i) In Richmond County: that part east of US 1;

- (ii) In Scotland County: that part west of SR 1328 and north of Gardner Farm Lane and that part east of SR 1328 and north of Scotland Lake Lane.
- (J) Horseback riding on field trial grounds from October 22 through March 31 is prohibited unless riding in authorized field trials.
- (K) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- (L) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex.
- ~~(71)~~(70) Sandy Creek Game Land in Nash and Franklin Counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- ~~(72)~~(71) Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe and Madison counties.
- (A) Three Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer with Visible Antlers season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- (D) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as allowed in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(e).
- (E) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of dove season.
- ~~(73)~~(72) Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County- hunting is by permit only.
- ~~(74)~~(73) Shocco Creek Game Land in Franklin, Halifax, Nash and Warren counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- ~~(75)~~(74) South Mountains Game Land in Burke, Cleveland, McDowell and Rutherford counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the Monday before Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer may be taken with bow and arrow on open days beginning the Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving and during the Deer With Visible Antlers season. Deer may be taken with muzzle-loading firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest October 1 through the Saturday of the second week thereafter, and during the Deer With Visible Antlers season.
- (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- (E) That part of South Mountains Game Land in Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford counties is closed to all grouse, quail and woodcock hunting and all bird dog training.
- ~~(76)~~(75) Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County
- (A) Six-Day per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- (D) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.
- (E) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments may be taken only on the following days:
- (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (F) Target shooting is prohibited.

- (G) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey and waterfowl.
- ~~(77)~~(76) Suggs Mill Pond Game Land in Bladen and Cumberland counties
- (A) Hunting and trapping is by Permit only.
- (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (C) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:
- (i) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and
- (ii) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.
- ~~(78)~~(77) Sutton Lake Game Land in New Hanover and Brunswick counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- ~~(79)~~(78) Tar River Game Land in Edgecombe County – hunting is by permit only.
- ~~(79)~~ Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting is by permit only.
- (80) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (81) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Alleghany and Wilkes counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Lands license.
- (D) The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground is 14 days within any 30 day period from May 1 through August 31. After 14 consecutive days of camping all personal belongings must be removed from the game land.
- (82) Tillery game Land in Halifax County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last six open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (83) Toxaway Game Land in Jackson and Transylvania counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the last open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- (84) Uwharrie Game Land in Davidson, Montgomery, and Randolph counties
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first six open days and the last open six days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (C) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may be taken only on the following days:
- (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- (iii) Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (85) Vance Game Land in Vance County
- (A) Six Days per Week Area
- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

- (C) The use of dogs, centerfire rifles and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the Nutbush Peninsula tract.
- (86) Van Swamp Game Land in Beaufort and Washington counties
  - (A) Six Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.
- (87) White Oak River Game Land in Onslow County
  - (A) Three Days per Week Area
  - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
  - (C) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
    - (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
    - (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
    - (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
  - (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October and through the end of the waterfowl season, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.
  - (E) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:
    - (i) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting Opportunity Permit;
    - (ii) hunting is by permit only; and
    - (iii) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
  - (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (88) Whitehall Plantation Game Land in Bladen County
  - (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
  - (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (i) On permitted type hunts, deer of either sex may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed applications must be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill must validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperator agent or by phone.
- (j) The following game lands and refuges are closed to all hunting except to those individuals who have obtained a valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:
  - (1) Bertie, Halifax and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;
  - (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;
  - (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;
  - (4) Burke County—John's River Waterfowl Refuge;
  - (5) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);
  - (6) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and
  - (7) Henderson and Transylvania counties—~~DuPont~~ DuPont State Forest Game Lands.
- (k) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the Commission. Written permission will be granted only when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge will not compromise the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.
- (l) Feral swine may be taken by licensed hunters during the open season for any game animal using any legal manner of take allowed during those seasons. Dogs may not be used to hunt feral swine except on game lands that allow the use of dogs for hunting deer or bear and during the applicable deer or bear season.
- (m) Youth Waterfowl Day. On the day declared by the Commission to be Youth Waterfowl Day, youths may hunt on any game land and on any impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except where prohibited in Paragraph (h) of this Rule.



1 (n) Permit Hunt Opportunities for Disabled Sportsmen. The Commission may designate special hunts for participants  
2 of the disabled sportsman program by permit. The Commission may schedule these permit hunts during the closed  
3 season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be identified on each permit. If the hunt has a limited weapon choice,  
4 the allowed weapons shall be stated on each permit.

5 (o) As used in this Rule, horseback riding includes all equine species.

6 (p) When waterfowl hunting is specifically permitted in this Rule on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days  
7 fall on Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

8  
9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
10 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
11 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;*  
12 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; September*  
13 *1, 1994; July 1, 1994;*  
14 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;*  
15 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
16 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*  
17 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
18 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
19 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);*  
20 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012;*  
21 *August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August*  
22 *1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October 1, 2004.*

# EXHIBIT L

February 11, 2016



## **Permanent rule-making for a No-vessel Entry Swimming Area on Lake Glenville, Jackson County**

The proposed permanent adoption of 15A NCAC 10F .0377 would establish a no-vessel entry swimming area at the Pines Recreation Area Swim Beach on Lake Glenville, Jackson County.

### **Proposed Location of No-vessel Entry Swimming Area**

The public swimming area known as the Pines Recreation Swim Area on Lake Glenville, marked with four no-boats buoys set at the following locations: 35.197889N, 83.160944W; 35.197583N, 83.160639W; 35.197417N, 83.160306W; and 35.197417N, 83.159833W.

### **Summary of Public Comments**

One public hearing was held in Clyde, N.C. No comments were received.

Staff recommends the Commission adopt 15A NCAC 10F .0377 as written:

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0377 JACKSON COUNTY**

(a) This Rule applies to the public swimming area known as the Pines Recreation Swim Area on Lake Glenville. The public swimming area shall be marked with four no-boats buoys set at the following locations: 35.197889N, 83.160944W; 35.197583N, 83.160639W; 35.197417N, 83.160306W; and 35.197417N, 83.159833W.

(b) No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the marked public swimming area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Jackson County or Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC are designated as suitable entities for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule.

History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 2016



# EXHIBIT M

February 11, 2016



## Permanent rule-making for a No-wake Zone in Cedar Point, Carteret County

The proposed permanent amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0330 would establish a no-wake zone at Palmetto Drive canal, a tributary to the White Oak River in Cedar Point, Carteret County.

### Proposed Location of No-wake Zone

The waters of Palmetto Drive canal, a tributary to the White Oak River, beginning at a point on the western shore at 34.67903N, 77.10142W to a point on the eastern shore at 34.67899, 77.10098 and extending the entire length of the canal.

### Summary of Public Comments

One public hearing was held in New Bern, N.C. No comments were received. Two comments were received via e-mail:

*"If any new restrictions are not enforced on Palmetto Creek any better than existing conditions through the ICW in and near Cedar Point, then this is much ado about nothing. Any legislation introduced and passed will only be feel good legislation and a real waste of legislative or commission efforts without enforcement."*

*"This is something that is way past due. If you have never tried to launch or load a boat at the wildlife ramp, fighting tide and wind is bad enough, never mind speeding boats or boats not quite on plan causing a very large wake. There has been plenty of boats damage here, a miracle someone had not gotten killed. I support the no wake zone here."*

Staff recommends the Commission adopt the following amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0330:

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

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

- (1) the waters of Money Island Slough beginning at the east end of Money Island near the Anchorage Marina Basin and ending at the west end of Money Island where Brooks Avenue deadends at the slough;
- (2) the waters of Taylor Creek located within the territorial limits of the Town of Beaufort;
- (3) the waters of Pelletier Creek beginning at the entrance to Pelletier Creek at the Intracoastal Waterway and ending at U.S. Highway 70;
- (4) the waters of Bogue Sound Harbor Channel in Morehead City between Sugar Loaf Island and the seawall on the south side of Evans, Shepard and Shackelford Streets and bounded on the east by the State Ports Authority and on the west by the eastern right-of-way margin of South 13th Street extended;

- (5) the waters of Gallant's Channel from the US 70 crossing over the Grayden Paul bridge to Taylor's Creek;
- (6) the waters of Cedar Island Bay and Harbor 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 south of Old Causeway Road;
- (8) the waters of the Newport River beginning at the north side of the Beaufort Drawbridge and ending at marker #6;
- (9) the waters of Spooners Creek within the territorial limits of the Town of Morehead City as delineated by appropriate markers;
- (10) the waters of Taylor's Creek from the eastern end of the current no wake zone eastward to Channel Marker #1A;
- (11) the waters of the Newport River at Bogue Sound including all waters surrounding the Port of Morehead City to Brandt Island as delineated by appropriate markers;
- (12) the waters of Morgans Creek as delineated by appropriate markers;
- (13) the waters of Cannonsgate Marina and the Cannonsgate Marina Channel, beginning at its intersection with Bogue Sound at 34.70163 N, 76.98157 W as delineated by appropriate markers; and
- (14) the waters of the Newport River within 200 yards of the Newport River Beach Access Boat Ramp, beginning at the shore north of the U.S. 70 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.
- (15) the waters of Palmetto Drive canal, a tributary to the White Oak River, beginning at a point on the western shore at 34.67903N, 77.10142W to a point on the eastern shore at 34.67899, 77.10098 and extending the entire length of the canal.

(b) Speed Limit. It is unlawful to operate a motorboat or 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 and Maintenance of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Carteret County, with respect to the regulated areas designated in Subparagraphs (1), (3), (5), (6), (7), (8), (10), (12) and (13) of Paragraph (a) of this Rule, and the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Beaufort, with respect to the regulated area designated in Subparagraph (2) of Paragraph (a) of this Rule, and the Board of Commissioners of Morehead City, with respect to Subparagraph (4), (9), and (14) of Paragraph (a) of this Rule, and the North Carolina State Ports Authority, with respect to the regulated area designated in Subparagraph (11) of Paragraph (a) of this Rule are designated as suitable agencies for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*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.*







# EXHIBIT N-1

February 11, 2016



## PROPOSED PERMANENT RULEMAKING AMENDMENT TO 10F .0366(a)(1) – MACON COUNTY NO WAKE ZONE EXTENSION AT LAKES END COVE ON NANTAHALA LAKE

The Wildlife Resources Commission has received a formal application from the Macon County Board of Commissioners requesting extension of a no wake zone currently within 50 yards of the Lakes End Cove dock on Nantahala Lake, to create a no wake zone within the entire Lakes End Cove, shore to shore.

The Macon County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on November 10, 2015 and submitted a Resolution (attached) requesting that the WRC undertake rulemaking to enlarge the no wake zone within Lakes End Cove. Local County leaders and leaders of the Nantahala Township have determined that Lakes End Cove is the best area for designated public swimming on the lake. They conferred with Wildlife Enforcement and agree that a larger no wake zone is necessary to mitigate hazards to swimmers caused by motorboat traffic around that dock and public access area.

Staff recommends that the Commission approve publishing the Notice of Text for adoption of an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0366(a)(1) in the *NC Register*, with an open comment period of at least 60 days and one local public hearing per the Administrative Procedure Act. Upon the close of the open comment period, the WRC would then consider adoption of the no wake zone.

### 15A NCAC 10F. 0366      MACON COUNTY

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule applies to the following waters of Nantahala Lake:

(1) That area within 50 yards of the Lakes End Boat Dock ~~Lakes End Cove shore to shore, beginning at a line from a point on the northwest shore at 35.19602 N, 83.64184 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.19544 N, 83.64053 W.~~

(2) That area within 100 yards from the end of the Mountain Shadows Community Dock ~~Dock.~~

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

(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Macon County is designated a suitable agency for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule.

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





Lat: 35.19602 N  
Long: 83.64184 W

Lat: 35.19564 N  
Long: 83.6411 W

Lat: 35.19544 N  
Long: 83.64053 W

Lake Nantahala / Lee Branch  
(Lakes End Cove)

Wayah Rd. / SR-1310

**Proposed NWZ Points**



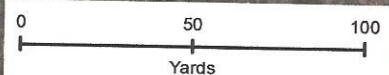
**Proposed / Extended NWZ**



**Existing NWZ**



15A NCAC 10F .0366 (a) (1)





STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF MACON

**RESOLUTION OF MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING  
THAT THE NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION  
UNDERTAKE RULEMAKING FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A NEW "NO  
WAKE ZONE" IN THE LAKES END COVE AREA OF THE NANTAHALA LAKE FOR  
THE PURPOSE OF MITIGATING HAZARDS TO WATER SAFETY**

THAT WHEREAS, there is presently existing a "no wake zone" located in the Lakes End Cove Area of the Nantahala Lake located in Macon County, North Carolina, as established by Local Rule for Macon County in 15A NCAC 10F. 0366 ; and

WHEREAS, since the establishment of such "no wake zone", referenced above, community leaders within Macon County and the Nantahala Township of Macon County have been searching for an area on Nantahala Lake which can be used by citizens, residents and visitors to swim in the Nantahala Lake as there are very few access points along the boundaries of such lake which provide public access and parking for the same; and

WHEREAS, since the establishment of such "no wake zone, referenced above, community leaders within Macon County and the Nantahala Township of Macon County have evaluated multiple possible locations for an area on Nantahala Lake which can be used by citizens, residents and visitors to swim in the Nantahala Lake and have determined that the Lakes End Cove Area of the Nantahala Lake located in Macon County, North Carolina, would be an appropriate area of the Nantahala Lake to allow citizens, residents and visitors to swim in the Nantahala Lake; and

WHEREAS, Macon County is of the opinion that the presently existing "no wake zone" referenced hereinabove does not provide a sufficiently large "no wake zone" so as to afford sufficient protection of boaters and swimmers who will be jointly using this area of the lake for boating and swimming and that a larger "no wake zone" in the Lakes End Cove Area of Nantahala Lake is needed for the purpose of mitigating hazards to water safety in that area of the Nantahala Lake as set forth in the application, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference;

WHEREAS, Macon County does desire by this Resolution to respectfully request that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission undertake rulemaking for the purpose of establishing a new "no wake zone" in the Lakes End Cove Area of Nantahala Lake in Macon County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Macon County has duly advertised a Notice of Public Hearing to be held on November 10, 2015, at 6:00 o'clock, p.m., in The Franklin Press on Friday, October 23, 2015, and

Friday, October 30, 2015, in connection with this matter as required by the provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75A-15; and

WHEREAS, Macon County has in fact held a Public Hearing in connection with such request on November 10, 2015, at 6:00 o'clock p.m., in the Commissioners' Board Room in the Macon County Courthouse located at 5 West Main Street, Franklin, NC 28734, pursuant to the provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75A-15 to:

- A. Discuss and approve the making of a formal application and recommendation by Macon County, North Carolina, to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for it to adopt a local rule or rules establishing a new "no wake zone" and/or speed restrictions applicable within the Lakes End Cove area of Nantahala Lake located in Macon County, North Carolina;
- B. If necessary to repeal the existing local rule concerning the no wake zone in that same area;
- C. Request special rules and regulations for the waters described above;
- D. Request full implementation of the U.S. Aids to Navigation System in all waters within Macon County, North Carolina; and
- E. Make application to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the regulations being proposed as referenced above.

WHEREAS, during such Public Hearing, various comments from the Public were duly received and noted by the Macon County Board of Commissioners regarding the proposals set forth hereinabove.

NOW THEREFORE, upon motion of Commissioner Beale,  
seconded by Commissioner Shields, and duly approved, be it hereby  
resolved that:

1. Macon County has determined that the presently existing "no wake zone" referenced hereinabove does not provide a sufficiently large "no wake zone" so as to afford sufficient protection of boaters and swimmers who will be jointly using the Lakes End Cove Area of the Nantahala Lake in Macon County, North Carolina, for boating and swimming and that a larger "no wake zone" in that area is needed for the purpose of mitigating hazards to water safety in that area of the Nantahala Lake as set forth in the application, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference;
2. That the Macon County Commissioners do hereby specifically and formally:
  - A. Approve the making of a formal application and recommendation by Macon County,



North Carolina, to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for it to adopt a local rule or rules establishing a new "no wake zone" and/or speed restrictions applicable within the Lakes End Cove area of Nantahala Lake located in Macon County, North Carolina in accordance with the and in the form of the Application, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference;

- B. Request of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission to repeal the presently existing local rule concerning the presently existing no wake zone in that same area, if necessary, upon adoption of the new "no wake zone" which is being requested;
  - C. Request special rules and regulations for the waters described above;
  - D. Request full implementation of the U.S. Aids to Navigation System in all waters within Macon County, North Carolina;
  - E. Make application to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the regulations being proposed as referenced above; and
  - F. Request that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission take action on such proposals.
3. Macon County does hereby authorize the submission of the cover letter dated November 10, 2015, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, unto the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission in connection with such application;
4. Macon County does hereby respectfully and formally request that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission undertake Rule Making for the purpose of establishing a new "no wake zone" in the Lakes End Cove Area of Nantahala Lake in Macon County, North Carolina, and for the purpose of mitigating hazards to water safety in that area of the Nantahala Lake as set forth in the application, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference;
5. Macon County does hereby respectfully and formally request that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission make a finding that the presently existing "no wake zone" referenced hereinabove does not provide a sufficiently large "no wake zone" so as to afford sufficient protection of boaters and swimmers who will be jointly using this area of the lake for boating and swimming and that a larger "no wake zone" in that area is needed for the purpose of mitigating hazards to water safety in that area of the Nantahala Lake as set forth in the application, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference;
6. That Kevin Corbin, Chairman of the Macon County Commissioners is authorized to sign such application and cover letter on behalf of Macon County, North Carolina.

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission  
Attention: Kate Pipkin, No Wake Zone Coordinator  
November 10, 2015  
Page Two

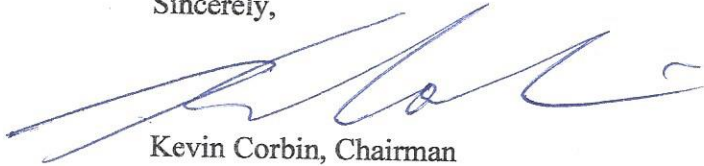
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I am also enclosing the following:

- A. A certified copy of the Resolution adopted and passed by the Macon County Commissioners this date in connection with this matter;
- B. Two copies of the map showing the area to be marked

Macon County respectfully requests that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission take action on its proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Corbin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

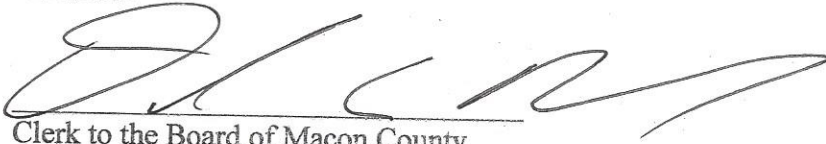
Kevin Corbin, Chairman  
Macon County Commissioners

Read and approved by the vote of the members of the Macon County Board of Commissioners, and adopted, in this Regular Meeting of the Macon County Board of County Commissioners this the 10th day of November, 2015.



Kevin Corbin, Chairman, Macon County Board of  
Commissioners  
Macon County, North Carolina

ATTEST:



Clerk to the Board of Macon County  
Commissioners  
Macon County, North Carolina

( County Seal )



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**CERTIFICATE OF THE CLERK TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR  
MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

I, Derek Roland, as the Clerk to the Board of Macon County Commissioners, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Macon County Commissioners at the November 10, 2015, Regular Meeting of the Macon County Commissioners and that the same is a part of the Minutes of the Macon County Board of Commissioners from such Regular Meeting.

This the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.



Derek Roland, Clerk to the Board of the  
Macon County Commissioners  
Macon County, North Carolina

# EXHIBIT N-2

February 11, 2016



## Fiscal Note Review of Proposed Wildlife Resources Commission No-Wake Zone Rule Amendment 10F .0366 (a)(1)

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Impact: State Government -  
minimal  
Local Government: No  
Substantial Impact: No

Authority: G.S. 75A-3: 75A-15

The proposed permanent amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0366 (a)(1) (see Appendix 1) would enlarge the no wake zone currently within 50 yards of the Lakes End Boat Dock in Lakes End Cove on Nantahala Lake, to create a no wake zone within the entire cove, shore to shore from a line near the mouth of the cove (see Appendix 2).

The Macon County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on November 10, 2015 and submitted a resolution to the WRC, requesting an amendment to 15A 10F .0366(a)(1) to extend the no wake zone surrounding the Lakes End Cove dock to an area within the entire cove, for purposes of providing a safe swimming area for residents and visitors. County leaders and leaders of the Nantahala Township have conferred with Wildlife Enforcement officers who agree that a larger no wake zone is necessary to mitigate hazards to swimmers caused by motorboat traffic around the dock.

WRC will mark the no-wake zone and maintain the signage. The one-time cost to the agency for providing two markers will be no more than \$2000.00. Any annual maintenance costs are likely to be minimal and in the form of staff time.

**State Impact Analysis:** The Commission will install signs at a cost of no more than \$2,000.

**Local Impact Analysis:** None

**Substantial Economic Impact:** There will be no substantial economic impact to the public.



## APPENDIX 1

### 15A NCAC 10F. 0366      MACON COUNTY

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule applies to the following waters of Nantahala Lake:

(1) ~~That area within 50 yards of the Lakes End Boat Dock~~ Lakes End Cove shore to shore, beginning at a line from a point on the northwest shore at 35.19602 N, 83.64184 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.19544 N, 83.64053 W.

(2) That area within 100 yards from the end of the Mountain Shadows Community ~~Dock~~ Dock.

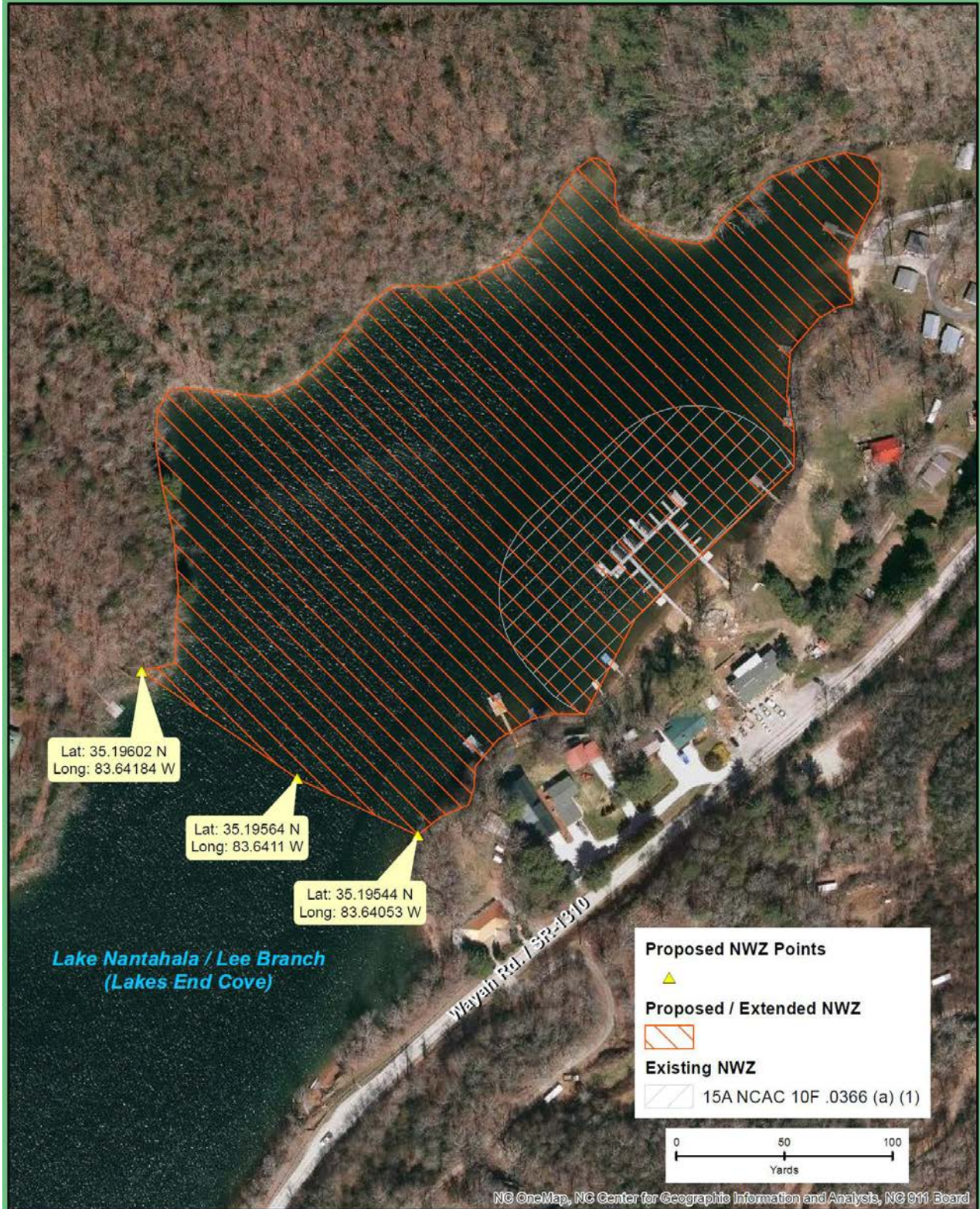
(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the waters of the regulated area specified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Macon County is designated a suitable agency for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:*      *Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*  
                         *Eff. June 1, 1994;*  
                         *Amended Eff. June 1, 2005.*

## APPENDIX 2

15A NCAC 10F .0366 (a) (1) - No Wake Zone Change Proposal  
Lake Nantahala (Lakes End Cove), Macon County



# EXHIBIT O

February 11, 2016

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

### ON THE CO-MANAGEMENT OF CERTAIN PROGRAMS

between the

NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

and

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

ON MATTAMUSKEET NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

#### **I. Purpose:**

This MOU is intended to enhance management of and communication concerning Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS), by defining co-management responsibilities and enriching the existing partnership between the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The current condition of Lake Mattamuskeet and the health of the associated fish and wildlife populations are in question at this time and of great interest to both agencies and the public. Increased collaboration between agencies provides priority attention and support to address the ecological issues and challenges to improve the health of the lake and manage wildlife populations. A Memorandum of Collaboration between agencies dated December 2014 provides a structure (three-tiered team approach) for actions that this MOU further defines.

#### **II. Background:**

NCWRC and USFWS have a history of working together on many programs and projects with positive outcomes for fish and wildlife resources. Through collaborative efforts, resources from each agency can be leveraged more effectively to implement landscape scale management for sustaining wildlife populations and providing appropriate and compatible outdoor recreational and educational opportunities on refuges.

We recognize that even with great commonality among our conservation missions, there are differences in legal obligations, policies, funding sources, and expectations. We acknowledge one another's strengths and appreciate each other's differences.



The NCWRC is charged with stewardship of the State trust wildlife resources of North Carolina which belong to the people of the State as a whole in accordance with the following:

*... to manage, restore, develop, cultivate, conserve, protect, and regulate the wildlife resources of the State of North Carolina, and to administer the laws relating to game, game and freshwater fishes, and other wildlife resources enacted by the General Assembly to the end that there may be provided a sound, constructive, comprehensive, continuing, and economical game, game fish, and wildlife program ...* (North Carolina § 143-239, 1947)

The mission of the NCWRC is:

*... to conserve North Carolina's wildlife resources and their habitats and provide programs and opportunities that allow hunters, anglers, boaters and other outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy wildlife-associated recreation.*

The purpose of Mattamuskeet NWR is to protect and conserve migratory birds and other wildlife resources through the protection of wetlands, in accordance with the following:

*... as a refuge and breeding ground for birds and wild animals, and (2) that such portion as the Secretary of Agriculture [Interior] may deem proper be reserved for use as a shooting area, to be operated under a cooperative agreement or lease .... With regard to the waters ... the Secretary of Agriculture [Interior] ... may enter into a cooperative agreement or lease ... said waters may be used for fishing purposes ...* (Executive Order 6924, dated Dec. 18, 1934)

*... for use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds.* 16 U.S.C. § 715d (Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929)

*... for the development, advancement, management, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife resources ...* 16 U.S.C. § 742f(a)(4) *... for the benefit of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, in performing its activities and services. Such acceptance may be subject to the terms of any restrictive or affirmative covenant, or condition of servitude ...* 16 U.S.C. § 742f(b)(1) (Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956)

Though Congress is clear in its direction through the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 that the NWRs mission is subservient to an individual purpose of a national wildlife refuge, it is important to consider the NWRs mission and the mission of the USFWS overall in setting the appropriate context for this partnership:

The mission of the NWRS is:

*... to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.*

The mission of the USFWS is:

*... to work with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.*

### **III. Authority**

This MOU is entered into under the authorities vested to both agencies.

Specifically to the USFWS under the authority of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929, Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Refuge Recreation Act of 1962, National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, and ultimately the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. Though laws direct that final decision making authority rests with the USFWS for refuge management, we are pleased that the Act of 1997 also directs that the USFWS is to:

*... ensure effective coordination, interaction, and cooperation with owners of land adjoining refuges and the fish and wildlife agency of the States in which the units of the System are located;*

*... ensure timely and effective cooperation and collaboration with Federal agencies and State fish and wildlife agencies during the course of acquiring and managing refuges;*

*... nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting the authority, jurisdiction, or responsibility of the several States to manage, control, or regulate fish and resident wildlife under State law or regulations in any area within the System. Regulations permitting hunting or fishing of fish and resident wildlife within the System shall be, to the extent practicable, consistent with State fish and wildlife laws, regulations, and management plans.*

Specifically to the NCWRC under the authority of North Carolina § 143-239 (1947) which enables the NCWRC to enter into cooperative agreements:

*...the Commission is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into cooperative agreements pertaining to the management and development of the wildlife resources with federal, State, and other agencies, or governmental subdivisions.*

It is understood and agreed that each party operates under its own legal authorities, policies and administration, and each party's obligations under this MOU are thereby limited.

#### **IV. Coordination:**

The USFWS and NCWRC collectively have several complementary responsibilities and will seek opportunities to collaborate on the management of Mattamuskeet NWR, nearby state lands, and other partner lands in the landscape surrounding Mattamuskeet in eastern North Carolina. It is therefore advantageous for these agencies to join together in this MOU to enhance cooperation to achieve common goals and objectives.

#### **V. Scope of Effort:**

For a period as hereinafter set forth, the USFWS and NCWRC shall collaborate on the management of Lake Mattamuskeet NWR and obtain input from relevant stakeholders as needed for the performance of work as set forth below. More detailed information will be updated no less than annually in an annual work plan.

##### Responsibilities of NCWRC:

- A. Participate per the 2014 Collaboration Memorandum between USFWS and NCWRC to support management of Mattamuskeet NWR.
- B. Support research, habitat restoration, and public use enhancement projects.
- C. To provide public hunting and fishing opportunities on behalf of the Service, consistent with refuge purpose and NWRS overall management responsibilities and mandates, to include the following: hunt permit process and producing annual hunting and fishing brochures; conduct hunting and fishing outreach, especially to promote hunter recruitment and retention; manage public access and check stations, maintain docks, boat ramps, and fishing piers on Lake Mattamuskeet; and fisheries management. This program management, including proposed seasonal bag and creel limits; time and location of access, including off highway vehicle use on designated roads and trails, will be consistent with the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Refuge Hunting and Fishing Plans, the latter to be approved by both agencies. The Refuge Hunting and Fishing Plans will enable Mattamuskeet NWR to comply with required Compatibility Determinations, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, and Code of Federal Regulations governing public use programs.



- D. Participate in the development of refuge management plans for the restoration of fish and wildlife and habitats and public use.
- E. Support development and maintenance of public use facilities especially for fishing activities and development of Mattamuskeet Lodge.
- F. Collaborate in the development and sharing of public announcements on hunting and fishing opportunities on the refuge and nearby state lands, and other partner lands in the landscape surrounding Mattamuskeet NWR.
- G. Conduct fisheries surveys to inform management decisions regarding enhancement of refuge fisheries populations.
- H. Provide support, when possible, in the form of staff technical assistance, use of state owned equipment and facilities (subject to the limitations set forth below) and/or available funding to achieve the objectives of this MOU.

Responsibilities of the USFWS:

- A. Participate per the 2014 Collaboration Memorandum between USFWS and NCWRC to support management of Mattamuskeet NWR.
- B. Support research, habitat restoration, and public use enhancement projects.
- C. Ensure NCWRC management of public hunting and fishing programs are consistent with refuge purpose, hunt and fishing plans, and NWRS overall management responsibilities and mandates.
- D. Ensure the NCWRC has full and free access to Mattamuskeet NWR lands for the purposes set forth in this MOU, and the USFWS shall take steps necessary to provide for such access by the NCWRC. Coordination beforehand will occur on areas not open to the public to ensure safety, help protect sanctuary areas, avoid duplication of work, avoid compromising law enforcement efforts, etc.
- E. Include NCWRC in the development of management plans for the restoration of fish, wildlife, and their habitats and improved public use opportunities associated with Lake Mattamuskeet.
- F. Support development and maintenance of public use facilities for fishing activities and restoration of Mattamuskeet Lodge.

G. Collaborate in the development and sharing of public announcements on hunting and fishing opportunities on the refuge and other public lands.

H. Support fisheries surveys and appropriate management recommendations to enhance refuge fisheries populations.

I. Provide support, when possible, in the form of staff technical assistance, use of USFWS-owned equipment and facilities (subject to the limitations set forth below) and/or available funding for projects to achieve the objectives of this MOU.

Responsibilities of both parties:

A. The NCWRC and USFWS agree to coordinate on all matters of mutual interest involving the management of Mattamuskeet NWR with input from relevant stakeholders as needed, including future iterations of the Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

B. Consistent with the structure (three-tiered team approach) for actions outlined in the Memorandum of Collaboration, co-management activities (e.g., public hunting and fishing opportunities, research goals, etc.) will be evaluated by working groups commissioned by the Steering Committee. In the event that consensus cannot be attained on recommendations, an issue brief will be prepared and referred to the next tier until consensus is attained.

C. Consistent with a Communication Plan, use a variety of communication venues to provide one voice (NCWRC/USFWS) message(s) to the public regarding the status of Lake Mattamuskeet and the activities of the Collaboration Team.

D. Conduct research and monitoring projects to inform management actions to enhance lake water quality and quantity to meet the refuge purpose and NWRs' mission while providing compatible public uses such as fishing, hunting, wildlife observation, etc.

E. Collaborate on the necessary analyses (biological and legal) of the current and any alternate water management of Lake Mattamuskeet to improve lake conditions for submerged aquatic vegetation, fish and wildlife populations and address drainage issues for adjacent lands to Lake Mattamuskeet.

F. Develop an annual work plan that will direct work including research, survey and monitoring, management planning, public use activities, invasive species control and other activities as needed.

G. It shall be the responsibility of each party to interpret its own authorities and policies, and make decisions regarding actions taken under this MOU as required under law and policies applicable to each.

H. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as obligating the USFWS or NCWRC in the expenditure of funds, future payment of money, or in the use of equipment or facilities unless specifically identified within this document.

#### **VI. Period of Performance:**

The period of performance of the MOU is from the effective date of signature by both parties for five (5) years. This MOU will be reviewed annually to ensure its purpose is being met. If, at the end of the performance period, and both parties are in agreement, the MOU can be extended for additional periods.

#### **VII. Modification of Agreement:**

This MOU constitutes the full, complete, and entire agreement between the parties hereto. No modification or amendment of this MOU shall be binding on either party unless such modification or amendment shall be in writing executed in duplicate by both parties hereto, attached to this MOU, and incorporated by reference made a part of this MOU.

#### **VIII. Termination of Agreement:**

This MOU may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice of such termination to the other party. If either party fails to fulfill its obligations under this MOU in a timely and proper manner, the other party shall have the right to terminate this MOU by giving written notice of the deficiency. In the event a dispute arises which the project managers cannot resolve between themselves, the parties shall have the option to submit to nonbinding mediation. This MOU has no third-party beneficiaries (intended or incidental), who may enforce obligations of either party should the MOU be terminated.

## **IX. Funding Considerations:**

It is hereby understood and agreed by the parties hereto that neither USFWS nor NCWRC shall be bound to make any expenditures under the terms of this MOU, except as funds are available by the appropriation of the Congress of the United States or the State of North Carolina respectively. Any tasks or projects that arise in the future that require an exchange of funding will be handled in a separate funding agreement.

## **X. Other Terms and Conditions:**

No member or delegate to Congress, or resident commissioner, shall be admitted to any share or part of this MOU, or to any benefit that may arise therefrom.

The NCWRC and the USFWS, their employees, subcontractors or assigns, shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations relating to the performance of this MOU.

It is agreed by the parties hereto that, in the performance of this MOU, employees or agents of the NCWRC are not to be considered employees of the USFWS, and USFWS are not to be considered employees of the NCWRC.

The participation of the USFWS and NCWRC in activities conducted pursuant to this MOU is not intended to place either party or its representatives in a position of incurring tort liability arising from an action of the other party. Each party is responsible for any injury or property damage to third parties caused by negligence of its own employees acting within the scope of their employment/official duty subject to such limitation as may be prescribed by applicable laws. Specifically, tort liability arising from negligent or wrongful acts or omissions of USFWS employees acting within the scope of employment shall be governed by the Federal Tort Claims Act (28 USC 2671 -2689). Likewise, tort liability arising from negligent or wrongful acts or omissions of NCWRC employees while acting within the scope of official duty shall be governed by the provisions of state law.

Employee injury or death arising from activities conducted in fulfillment of this memorandum and within the scope of employment and/or official duty of the respective party shall be exclusively considered as a workers' compensation matter substantiated by the employer/employee relationship. USFWS employees are afforded workers' compensation coverage via provisions of the Federal Employee's Compensation Act (5 USC 8101). NCWRC employees are afforded coverage via provisions of state law.

During the performance of this MOU, the parties hereto agree to abide by the terms of Executive Order 11246 on nondiscrimination and will not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

**XI. Project Officers:**

Per the December 2014 Memorandum of Collaboration between USFWS and NCWRC, this partnership represented by this MOU will be led by a two-person Executive Committee of Co-Chairs consisting of the Regional Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System and NCWRC Director or Chief Deputy Director, NC. This partnership will be managed by a four-person Steering Committee consisting of the Refuge Supervisor, Area III ("South Atlantic"), Chief of Wildlife Management for NCWRC, Project Leader/Refuge Manager for Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, and Chief of Inland Fisheries for NCWRC. The Steering Committee will commission working groups as needed to help implement the MOU. Once commissioned and charged, working groups will conduct their work independently of the Steering or Executive committees, unless requested by the group, reporting on their progress and recommendations periodically.

**XII. Approvals:**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this MOU to be executed by an authorized official on the date and year set forth below their signature.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_