

N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION July 13, 2023, 9:00 a.m. 1751 Varsity Drive

NCWRC Conference Room, 5th Floor Raleigh, North Carolina

CALL TO ORDER - Chairman Monty Crump

This electronic meeting is being streamed live for the public to attend and recorded as a public record. The recording of the meeting will be available at www.ncwildlife.org.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Commissioner Tom Berry

INVOCATION –Commissioner Landon Zimmer

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT – Margo Minkler, Commission Liaison

MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY – North Carolina General Statute §138A-15 mandates that the Commission Chair shall remind all Commissioners of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict under this Chapter, and that the chair also inquires as to whether there is any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the Commission at this time. It is the duty of each Commissioner who is aware of such personal conflict of interest or of an appearance of a conflict to notify the Chair of the same. *Chairman Crump*

APPROVAL OF APRIL 20, 2023 MEETING MINUTES – Take action on the April 20, 2023 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT A)**

APPROVAL OF JUNE 6, 2023 MEETING MINUTES – Take action on the June 6, 2023 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT B)**

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

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

Executive Committee Report – July 12, 2023 – Monty Crump, Chair Habitat, Nongame & Endangered Species Committee – July 12, 2023 – Kelly Davis Fisheries Committee Report – July 12, 2023 – John Stone, Chair Land Acquisitions & Property Committee Report – July 12, 2023 – Tom Berry, Chair Small Game & Wild Turkey Committee Report – July 12, 2023 – *Jim Ruffin, Chair* Big Game Committee Report – July 12, 2023 – *David Hoyle, Chair* Committee of the Whole Report – July 12, 2023 – *Monty Crump, Chair*

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – WISe, Partnerships, and other Notable Engineering Projects– *Michael Leggett, Facility Construction Engineer*

LAND ACQUISITION AND PROPERTY MATTERS

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

- Kelly Cove Tract Macon County (**D-1**)
- Griffin Tract Buncombe County (**D-2**)
- Richardson Tract Ashe County (**D-3**)
- Spencer Bay Tracts Hyde County (**D-4**)
- Paynes Branch Tract Forsyth County (**D-5**)

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

- Request for Easement Request to grant a conservation easement on the North Bend Boating Access Area in Burke County (E-1)
- Request for Easement NC DOT requests to purchase a permanent right of way easement, drainage easement, utility easement and temporary construction easement for a bridge project in Henderson County (E-2)

RULEMAKING

Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 10B .0113 Big Game Harvest Reports – Review public comments and consider request to adopt proposed changes to Big Game Harvest reporting –*Melva Bonner, Regulatory Analyst* (**EXHIBITS F-1, F-2**)

Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 10F .0100 Motorboat Registration – Review public comments and consider request to adopt proposed changes to 10F .0102, .0104, and .0109 to update vessel data collection and certificate of number requirements to comply with USCG regulations – *Melva Bonner* **(EXHIBITS G-1, G-2)**

Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – CWD Rules – Consider request to publish Notice of Text with an open comment period and a public hearing for proposed rules 10B .0501 and .0503. Review and consider approval of fiscal note. – *Brad Howard, Wildlife Management Division Chief* (EXHIBITS H-1, H-2)

WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING

Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0310 Dare County – Review public comments and consider final adoption of amendments to establish a no-wake zone in the waters of Motts Creek

at the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center and Marina and Oregon Inlet U.S. Coast Guard Station at Cape Hatteras National Seashore; and to add names and addresses of the boating access areas in Dare County – Betsy Haywood, Water Safety Rules Coordinator (EXHIBITS I-1, I-2)

Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0374 Cube Hydro Carolinas – Review public comments and consider final adoption of amendments to change the name of Cube Yadkin Generation to Cube Hydro Carolinas; to establish safety zones and restricted areas on the Yadkin River in Rowan, Davidson, Stanly and Montgomery counties at High Rock Hydroelectric Station, Tuckertown Hydroelectric Station, Narrows Hydroelectric Station, and Falls Hydroelectric Station; to prohibit swimming at restricted areas; and to prohibit discharge of a firearm in restricted areas – *Betsy Haywood* (EXHIBITS J-1, J-2)

Temporary Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 10F .0305 Brunswick County – Review public comments and consider final adoption of a temporary amendment to establish a no-wake zone in South Jinks Creek at the Town of Sunset Beach, beginning at a line north of the feeder channel and including waters south and west for the duration of a dredging project in the navigation channels – *Betsy Haywood* (EXHIBITS K-1, K-2)

Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0333 Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties – Consider application from the Lake Wylie Marine Commission to publish Notice of Text in the North Carolina Register, with open comment period and one public hearing, to establish a restricted area with swim beach at the South Point Access Area on Lake Wylie, located at 199 Boat Launch Road in Belmont in Gaston County, north of a rope in a cove east of the access area; and to codify in the North Carolina Administrative Code the address of the no-wake zone within 50 yards of the South Point Access Area boat ramps – Betsy Haywood (EXHIBIT L)

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

CONSERVATION PLANS – Consider staff recommendations for final adoption of two Species Conservation Plans – Dr. Sara Schweitzer, Wildlife Diversity Program Coordinator (EXHIBITS M-1, M-2)

- Bog Turtle (M-1)
- Southern Hognose Snake (M-2)

INLAND FISHERIES DIVISION

Town of Black Mountain – Mountain Heritage Trout City Request – Consider designating the Town of Black Mountain as a Mountain Heritage Trout City and recognizing the Public Mountain Trout Waters within Black Mountain as Mountain Heritage Trout Waters (**EXHIBIT N**) – *Christian Waters, Inland Fisheries Division Chief*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS - Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute § 143-243, at the first scheduled meeting of the Commission after July 1 of each odd-numbered year, the Wildlife Resources Commission shall select from among its membership a chairman and a vice chairman who shall serve for terms of two years or until their successors are elected and qualified.

- Vote for Vice Chairman
- Vote for Chairman

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

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