

Habitat, Nongame and Endangered Species Committee



Meeting Summary

**March 6, 2012 10:00 am – 11:00 am.
Centennial Campus, Raleigh**

Meeting Attendees:

Durwood Laughinghouse – Chair
Mark Craig-Vice-Chair
Berkley Skinner
Dalton Ruffin
Hayden Rogers
John Coley
Tom Berry
Mitch St. Clair
Joe Barker
Ray White
Steve Windham
Dave Hoyle, Jr.
Fred Harris
Christian Waters
Harold Dorsett
Tommy Kimball
Tom Ray

Gordon Myers
Mallory Martin
Cecilia Edgar
Chris Dillon
Betsy Foard
Norman Young
David Cobb
Perry Sumner
Kate Pipkin
Jeff Marcus
Cindy Carr
Shannon Deaton
Todd Ewing
Bob Curry
Curt Schmidt
Karen Beck

General Committee Update

North Carolina State Listed Species

- Staff reminded Commissioners of handouts given at the HNGES Committee's August 2011 meeting where they received a copy of the 2008 state listed species publication which is also on the agency's website.
- Staff described the state species review process, the five year review cycle and the role of the Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee (NWAC) and the five Scientific Councils (Councils). Committee members were provided a copy of the March 2011 resolution from NWAC endorsing recommendations from the Council reports and a document summarizing 67 proposed changes.

- Staff distributed a brief reference package to the Committee that noted a subset of state listing changes where staff had significant comments regarding the Council recommendations. During the Committee meeting this subset of species was reviewed with some general discussion.
- In order for the state listing process to remain close to a 5 year review cycle, Commissioners should receive staff's recommended list of proposed state listing changes at the next business meeting in May 2012. **Staff recommended that the HNGES Committee meet again in April to discuss specific changes in more detail.**
- Committee Chair Laughinghouse agreed and looked to staff to recommend the appropriate date.

USFWS Cooperative projects

- Committee members received a brief presentation on augmentation efforts of Cape Fear Shiner and a copy of a letter from USFWS requesting a cooperative project with WRC.
- The goal of this cooperative project is to establish enough stable populations to delist the Cape Fear Shiner. A secondary goal is to determine the success criteria of augmentation as a means for restoring listed fish species.
- Staff asked the Committee members for support to further develop the project scope for this cooperative project. **Committee members approved a motion to allow staff to flesh out project details and report back at a future HNGES Committee meeting.**

Wildlife Diversity Program Updates

- Teaming with Wildlife Fly-in:

Committee members were briefed on staff visits with members of the NC Congressional delegation and their staffs in Washington DC regarding critical funding for State Wildlife Grants, Farm Bill and WSFR programs. All members were provided a copy of the Fly-in handout which highlighted Wildlife Action Plan projects by Congressional district.

- 2012 Thomas L. Quay Wildlife Diversity Award:

Committee members were provided a full packet of nominations and a ballot to vote for their top three nominees.

- Terrestrial Wildlife Habitat Assessment/Guidelines:

Committee members were reminded of a report that was presented to them at their committee meeting in August 2011 by Division of Wildlife Management Chief, Dr. David Cobb. Each current Committee member was provided a copy of this report. Due to time constraints, this presentation was postponed to a future HNGES Committee meeting.

Committee adjourned at 11am.