



AGENDA

N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

January 30, 2014, 9:00 a.m.

1751 Varsity Drive

NCWRC Conference Room, 5th Floor

Raleigh, North Carolina

CALL TO ORDER - *Chairman Jim Cogdell*

This meeting is being recorded as a public record and is audio streaming live at www.ncwildlife.org. As a courtesy to others please turn off all cell phones during the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – *Commissioner Wes Seegars*

INVOCATION - *Commissioner John Litton Clark*

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 Cogdell*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Take action on the November 7, 2013 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit and distributed to members (**EXHIBIT A**)

NOTICE OF COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS – Receive Notices of Appointment by Governor Pat McCrory of *Brian White, District 1* for a term ending June 30, 2019; *Joseph Budd, District 7* for a term ending June 30, 2019, and *Albert L. Sneed, Jr., District 9* for a term ending April 25, 2017 (**EXHIBITS B-1, B-2, B-3**)

ADMINISTRATION

Financial Status Report - Receive a financial status report on the Wildlife Operating Fund and Wildlife Endowment Fund - *Tommy Clark, Budget Officer* (**EXHIBIT C**)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Habitat, Nongame and Endangered Species Committee Report – *Mark Craig, Chair*
Land Use and Access Committee Report – *Tom Berry, Chair*
Big Game Committee Report – *David Hoyle, Jr., Chair*

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – PRESENT THE 2014 SHIKAR-SAFARI INTERNATIONAL OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD - Present the 2014 Shikar-Safari Club International Officer of the Year Award to Chad Arnold – *W. E. Boomer, Shikar-Safari Club International*

Break for photographs

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – EXPANDING COMMISSION EDUCATION GOALS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS - Receive a presentation about partnerships and wildlife conservation education initiatives – *Tanya Poole, Mountain Region Education Specialist*

INLAND FISHERIES

Fisheries, Wildlife Education and Outreach Update - Receive an update on activities of the Division of Inland Fisheries - *Bob Curry, Inland Fisheries Division Chief*

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

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

DIVISION OF ENGINEERING AND LANDS MANAGEMENT

Land Acquisitions and Property Matters

Phase I Land Acquisition - Consider initial approval to receive donation of the Browns Island Tract 1 property in Carteret County – *Isaac Harrold, Lands Program Manager (EXHIBIT D)*

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

- Sherrill Tract – Ashe County
- Birkhead Tract – Randolph County
- Harrison Tract – Martin County

Easement Request, Scotland County - Consider an easement request across a portion of Sandhills Game Land in Scotland County for the purpose of accessing private property – *Isaac Harrold (EXHIBIT F)*

COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN – *Jim Cogdell*

COMMENTS BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – *Gordon Myers*

ADJOURN

EXHIBIT A

January 30, 2014



MINUTES
November 7, 2013
N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission Meeting
Raleigh, North Carolina

The November 7, 2013 N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission meeting was called to order by *Commission Chairman* Jim Cogdell at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Room at Wildlife Resources Commission Headquarters in Raleigh. Cogdell 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. Commissioners Dell Murphy, John Coley, Michell Hicks, Dalton Ruffin, Tommy Fonville, and Ray White were absent.

Commissioner Garry Spence led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner David Hoyle, Jr. gave the invocation.

WELCOME AND MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY

Chairman Cogdell advised the Commission of the mandatory ethics inquiry as presented in the agenda. Chairman Cogdell welcomed the Commissioners and guests.

COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE

Jim Cogdell
Wes Seegars
Mark Craig
Ray Clifton

Richard Edwards
Tom Berry
Tim Spear
Garry Spence

Nat Harris
Joe Barker
John Litton Clark
David Hoyle, Jr.

VISITORS

Sam Lockridge III – Cleveland County
Jimmy Harrell – Cleveland Co. Chamber of Commerce
Jeff Richardson – Cleveland County
Johnny Hutchins – Cleveland County
Tom Ray – Veterinarian, NCDA&CS
Fred Harris – NC Wildlife Federation

Wib Owen
Tim Gestwicki - NCWF
Dick Hamilton - NCWF
Henri McClees- NC Sporting Dog Assoc.
Joe McClees – NC Sporting Dog Assoc.

MINUTES

On a motion by David Hoyle, Jr. and second by John Litton Clark, the Commission approved the August 29, 2013 Wildlife Resources Commission minutes, presented in **Exhibit A**. The Minutes are hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

Tommy Clark, *Budget Officer*, presented the financial status report on the Wildlife Operating Fund and the Wildlife Endowment Fund as of September 30, 2013 in **Exhibit B**. The Operating Fund balance was \$23,114,019.39. The Endowment Fund balance was \$100,613,770.08.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fisheries Committee Meeting Report – *Committee Chairman* Wes Seegars reported that the Fisheries Committee met at 9:00 a.m. on November 6, 2013. Chad Thomas, *Coastal Fisheries Supervisor*, updated the committee about the North Carolina River Herring Fisheries Management Plan, a review of proposed Coastal Recreational Fishing License (CRFL) projects under consideration, the status of American shad and hickory shad, and the striped bass stock assessment. Christian Waters, *Fisheries Management Coordinator*, summarized nineteen proposed changes in inland fishing rules for 2014-2015, to be presented at statewide public hearings in January 2014. The Fisheries Committee will recommend approval of the rules proposals later in the meeting. Kyle Briggs, *Fisheries Management Coordinator*, gave an update about renovations to fish hatcheries across the state.

Big Game Committee Meeting Report – *Committee Chairman* David Hoyle, Jr. reported that the Big Game Committee met at 11:00 am on November 6, 2013. Topics of discussion included a review of the policy concerning the use of fungicide-treated peanuts as bait. Treatment with fungicide renders the peanuts processed food products, and therefore the exception for striking bear dogs in the vicinity of these products is unlawful. The committee discussed a proposed youth deer season. Staff was tasked with providing more deer harvest data to be considered by the committee in January prior to recommending a regulation change. The committee discussed proposed bear hunting season regulation changes that address the Bear Management Plan objectives. Rules proposals for consideration at statewide public hearings in January will be recommended for approval by the full Commission later in the meeting. Chairman Cogdell thanked Big Game Committee Chair David Hoyle for his years of hard work and more than 30 meetings with stakeholders before bringing these rules proposals forward. Cogdell urged all Commissioners to attend as many District public hearings as possible in January to receive public comments before final consideration of the proposals.

Land Use and Access Committee Meeting Report – *Committee Chairman* Tom Berry reported that the Land Use and Access Committee met on November 6, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. The committee reviewed five Phase I potential property acquisitions presented by Isaac Harrold, *Lands Program Manager*. The committee will recommend approval of the Allen Tract, Swain County; Page Tract, Cleveland County; Reinberg Tract, Watauga County; and Zacharin Tract, Watauga County for further investigation and possible funding. The Wolf Laurel Tract in Yancey County is being offered as a donation. The committee will recommend that the Commission give final approval of that tract as a Phase II acquisition. The committee received information about two other Phase II properties, both in Bladen County – the McFadden Tract and Faircloth Tract. The committee will recommend approval of those Phase II properties later in the meeting. Staff has been asked to do a financial study on one select game land, to provide a better idea of stewardship expenses associated with game lands acquisition and management.

Committee of the Whole Meeting Report – *Chairman* Jim Cogdell reported that the Committee of the Whole met on November 6. Pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3), the Committee of the Whole went into closed session to receive legal advice from counsel. In open session the Committee of the Whole reviewed the rule proposals under consideration to take to public hearings. The committee reviewed several fiscal notes for rulemaking prior to consideration at today's meeting.

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – STATEWIDE CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

The Commission received an update about statewide surveillance efforts to monitor for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), a transmissible and fatal encephalopathy that affects cervids. Dr. Maria Palamar, *Wildlife Veterinarian*, provided some of the history of CWD in North America, first discovered in a captive mule deer and now found outside captive herds as well in several states and provinces, but not in North Carolina. Dr. Palamar explained the Sampling Protocol that is being used to evaluate 3000 samples of cervid brain tissue from every county in North Carolina. Preliminary results will be ready in the spring of 2014, with final results available by September of 2014. Dr. Palamar explained that the goal of the Statewide CWD Surveillance is to keep North Carolina free of the disease, and if found, to address containing the disease before it spreads.

PROPERTY MATTERS

Phase I Potential Land Acquisitions – Upon a motion by Tom Berry and second by Garry Spence the Commission approved the presentation by Isaac Harrold, *Lands Program Manager* for staff to work with the State Property Office and funding partners to develop acquisition plans for the following properties:

- Allen Tract – Swain County (**Exhibit C-1**)
- Page Tract – Cleveland County (**Exhibit C-2**)
- Reinberg Tract – Watauga County (**Exhibit C-4**)
- Zacharin Tract – Watauga County (**Exhibit C-5**)

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

Phase II Land Acquisitions – On a motion by Tom Berry and second by Nat Harris, the Commission gave final approval to proceed with acquisitions of the McFadden Tract (**Exhibit D-1**) and Faircloth Tract (**Exhibit D-2**), both in Bladen County. The Commission approved proceeding with final acquisition of the Wolf Laurel Tract in Yancey County (**Exhibit C-3**). That tract is being offered as a donation. **Exhibits D-1, D-2, and C-3** are hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

Onslow County Annexation Request Tabled – Upon the recommendation of the Land Use and Access Committee with a motion by Tom Berry and second by Garry Spence, the Commission tabled a request from the Town of Holly Ridge to voluntarily annex the Folkstone tract of Stones Creek Game Land (**Exhibit E**). Staff will report to the Commission with more information about the proposed annexation at a later meeting.

Shooting Range, Cleveland County – On a motion by Tom Berry and second by Joe Barker, the Commission approved an agreement with Cleveland County to assist in the design and construction of a shooting range facility (**Exhibit F**). **Exhibit F** is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

Easement Request, Edgecombe County – On a motion by Joe Barker and second by Nat Harris, the Commission approved a request from Edgecombe-Martin EMC for a utility easement across a portion of Newbold Pond Public Fishing Area in Edgecombe County (**Exhibit G**). **Exhibit G** is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

LAND MANAGEMENT RULE PROPOSALS APPROVED FOR PUBLIC NOTICE AND PRESENTATION AT PUBLIC HEARINGS

Isaac Harrold, *Lands Program Manager*, presented **Exhibit H-1**, proposed changes in game land management for 2014-2015 recommended by agency staff for public notice and presentation at nine public hearings. Upon a motion by Mark Craig and second by Tim Spear, the Commission approved the following to be presented at state-wide public hearings in January 2014:

Applying to Game Lands Generally

- 1) Designate open hours and days for shooting ranges by posting signs at each shooting range. Currently, all shooting ranges are open Monday through Saturday, sunrise to sunset. Apply range restrictions to ranges that occur on game lands which are not state-owned.
15A NCAC 10D .0102 General regulations regarding use

Applying to Specific Game Lands

- 1) Make the Lick Creek tract of Alcoa Game Land in Davidson County an archery-only area for deer hunting.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- 2) Allow overnight primitive camping year-round in a designated camping area along the Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST) on the Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land in Durham County.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- 3) Designate Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County as a six-day-per-week game land (it is currently a three-day-per-week game land). Allow dog hunting for deer and bear on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays only, and as otherwise authorized by permit on the Bear Garden Tract.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- 4) Relax access restrictions on the Parker Farm Tract of Goose Creek Game Land in Beaufort and Pamlico counties by eliminating permit requirements after January 1, except for turkey. Currently, all hunting and vehicular access to the Parker Farm Tract requires a permit from September 1 through the end of February and from April 7 to May 14.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- 5) Allow hunting deer with dogs on Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays only.
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

Exhibit H-1 is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

Mark Craig made a motion to table a proposal for areas of Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County (**Exhibit H-1 applying to specific game lands**):

Designate the following areas of Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County as still hunting only for deer and bear: all areas of the main tract west of N.C. Hwy 242 and the section which lies between N.C. Hwy 242, S.R. 1509, S.R. 1510, and S.R. 1511.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

The motion to table was seconded by Tim Spear and carried.

INLAND FISHERIES

Inland Fisheries Update - The Commission received an update on the activities of the Inland Fisheries Division from Bob Curry, *Inland Fisheries Division Chief*. Curry announced that an Outstanding Sport Fish Restoration Award has been presented by the American Fisheries Society to the Fisheries research and surveys section. Attendance at the Mountain State Fair wildlife exhibit was 9500. Forty-four thousand people visited the wildlife exhibit at the N.C. State Fair in Raleigh. Curry thanked the N.C. Wildlife Federation and the Wake County Wildlife Club for their sponsorship of licenses that were awarded from activities on National Hunting and Fishing Day.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN FISHING REGULATION FOR 2014-2015 RECOMMENDED BY AGENCY STAFF FOR PUBLIC NOTICE AND PRESENTATION AT NINE PUBLIC HEARINGS

Bob Curry presented in **Exhibit I-1** the following proposed changes in inland fishing rules for 2014-2015 to take to state-wide public hearings in January 2014. Wes Seegars made a motion to approve the proposals. Garry Spence seconded. The motion carried.

Trout

- 1) Clarify that the entire reach of the North Fork Mills River in Henderson County from the Hendersonville watershed dam to the lower game land boundary is designated as Public Mountain Trout Waters and further classified as Delayed Harvest Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 2) Designate 0.5 mile of the West Fork Pigeon River in Haywood County below Lake Logan as Public Mountain Trout Waters and classify as Catch and Release/Artificial Lures Only Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
15A NCAC 10D .0104 Fishing on Game Lands
- 3) Reclassify 0.5 mile of Skitty Creek in Macon County from Hatchery Supported Trout Waters to Wild Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 4) Designate 1.0 mile of the Watauga River in Watauga County from the SR 1103 bridge to the confluence with Laurel Creek as Public Mountain Trout Waters and classify as Delayed Harvest Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

- 5) Remove the 1.8-mile section of Watauga River adjacent to NC 105 in Watauga County from Public Mountain Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 6) Modify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Big Hungry River in Henderson County, removing 8.0 miles of Public Mountain Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 7) Remove Clear Creek Reservoir located on South Mountain State Park in Burke County from Public Mountain Trout Waters.
15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

Game Fish

- 1) Establish a minimum size limit of 16 inches from June 1 through September 30 for striped bass and hybrid striped bass in Lake Norman. The daily creel limit will remain four striped bass or hybrid striped bass in combination.
15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass
- 2) Prohibit the taking of American and hickory shad with dip nets and bow nets.
15A NCAC 10C .0302 Manner of Taking Inland Game Fishes

Nongame Fish

- 1) Add John H. Kerr Reservoir to the list of reservoirs where possession of grass carp is prohibited except for those legally taken with archery equipment.
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes: Purchase and Sale
- 2) Clarify in the N.C. Administrative Code that the daily possession limit for freshwater mussels taken from impounded waters is 200 in aggregate and remove the daily creel limit for Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*).
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes: Purchase and Sale
- 3) Allow the take of white perch captured by anglers using a cast net to collect nongame fishes for bait or personal consumption in all impounded waters west of Interstate 95 and in Tar River Reservoir (Nash County).
15A NCAC 10C .0302 Manner of Taking Inland Game Fishes
15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait or Personal Consumption
- 4) Increase the minimum length limit for American eel from six inches to nine inches and decrease the daily creel limit from 50 to 25 eels.
15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes: Purchase and Sale
15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait or Personal Consumption
- 5) Reduce the minimum mesh size for eel pots from one inch by one-half inch to one-half inch by one-half inch.
15A NCAC 10C .0404 Special Device Fishing

- 6) Add spear guns, gigs, traps (up to three), and eel pots (up to two) 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

- 7) Prohibit the use of bow nets in inland fishing waters.

15A NCAC 10C .0407 Permitted Special Devices and Open Seasons

Other

- 1) Define in the N.C. Administrative Code “Public Access for Fishing Only” and clarify the activities allowed where angler access to inland fishing waters is provided through private property under an agreement with the landowner. These access locations will be clearly marked through signage indicating “Public Access for Fishing Only.”

15A NCAC 10C .0217 Public Access for Anglers Only

- 2) Modify the boundary for the North Carolina/Virginia reciprocal license agreement on the Dan River by moving the boundary upstream from the Brantly Steam Plant Dam to the Union Street Dam in Danville, Virginia and on the Staunton River by moving the boundary downstream from the Route 360 bridge crossing to the mouth of Difficult Creek.

15A NCAC 10C .0203 Reciprocal License Agreements

- 3) Provide anglers the option to label trotlines, set hooks, and jug hooks with their name and address or with their WRC customer number.

15A NCAC 10C .0206 Trotlines and Set-hooks

Exhibit I-1 is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Wildlife Management Update

Dr. David Cobb, *Wildlife Management Division Chief*, presented an update about the activities of the Division of Wildlife Management. Dr. Cobb directed Commissioners to CDs at their places. The CD contains documents of interest to the Commission, including the 2012-2013 Hunter Harvest Survey Report, report on black ducks, a report on diets of red wolves and coyotes in eastern North Carolina done in partnership with North Carolina State University, and the 2013 Black Bear Report. Cobb stated that staff continues to collect data under the CWD Surveillance Plan. Cobb reminded everyone that state-wide public hearings concerning rules proposals begin on January 7 and end on January 23, 2014.

2014-2015 RULE PROPOSALS FOR HUNTING, TRAPPING AND OTHER REGULATED ACTIVITIES FOR CONSIDERATION AT STATE-WIDE PUBLIC HEARINGS

Upon a motion by Garry Spence and second by Nat Harris, the Commission voted to take to statewide public hearings proposed changes in hunting, trapping, and other regulated activities for 2014-2015, presented in **Exhibit J-1**:

Deer

- 1) Change the gun deer season in Polk County from opening on the Monday of Thanksgiving week and closing the *third* Saturday after Thanksgiving (the current season) to opening on the Monday of Thanksgiving week and closing the *fifth* Saturday after Thanksgiving (the same season as Cleveland and Rutherford counties).
15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)
- 2) Change the opening day of the Western Deer Archery Season from the *Monday* on or nearest to September 10 to the *Saturday* on or nearest to September 10.
15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)
- 3) Change the closing day of the first segment of the Western Deer Archery Season from a Saturday to a Sunday. Open and close the second segment of the Western Deer Archery Season on Sundays.
15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)
- 4) Change the name of the muzzle-loading firearms and bow and arrow deer season to the blackpowder firearms and bow and arrow deer season. Define a blackpowder firearm as “Any firearm — including any firearm with a matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system — manufactured in or before 1898; and 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 pistol, which is designed to use black powder, black powder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through the muzzle and which cannot use fixed ammunition.”
15A NCAC 10B .0203 Deer (White-tailed)

Bear

- 1) Open bear hunting seasons in the following counties in the Piedmont Bear Management Unit (PBMU) to run concurrent with the gun deer season in each of the following counties:
 - Eastern Gun Deer Season: Franklin, Hoke, Moore, Richmond, Scotland, and Wake;
 - Central Gun Deer Season: Alamance, Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville, Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union; and
 - Northwestern Gun Deer Season: Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, and Lincoln.*15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear*
- 2) Change the bear hunting seasons in the following Piedmont counties to run concurrent with the gun deer season in each of the following counties:
 - Eastern Gun Deer Season: Harnett, Johnston, Vance, and Warren; and
 - Northwestern Gun Deer Season: Alexander, Catawba, Iredell, Stokes, and Yadkin.*15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear*

- 3) Open a bear hunting season in Robeson County on the first Monday in December and close it on the third Saturday thereafter.
15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear
- 4) Prohibit the use of dogs to hunt bears or to strike bears from unprocessed food products in the following counties and parts of counties: Alamance south of Interstate 85, Alexander, Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Catawba, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Iredell, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange south of Interstate 85, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Stokes, Union, Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98, and Yadkin.
15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear
- 5) Allow bears to be taken with the use or aid of unprocessed foods, but not while actually consuming the unprocessed foods, on private lands from the *first open Monday of the bear hunting season to the following Saturday only* in these counties:
 - **Coastal Bear Management Unit: Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Columbus, Cumberland, Currituck, Craven, Dare, Duplin, Edgecombe, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Onslow, Robeson, Sampson, Tyrrell, Washington, Wayne, and Wilson; and**
 - Mountain Bear Management Unit: Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Clay, Cherokee, Cleveland, Jackson, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Yancey, Watauga, and Wilkes.

During *all open days* of the bear hunting seasons, hunters may strike bears using dogs at sites with unprocessed foods on private lands, except in these counties and parts of counties: Alamance south of Interstate 85, Alexander, Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Catawba, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Iredell, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange south of Interstate 85, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Stokes, Union, Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98, and Yadkin.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

- 6) Allow bears to be taken with the use or aid of unprocessed foods, but not while actually consuming the unprocessed foods, on private lands during *all open days of each bear hunting season* in these counties of the Piedmont Bear Management Unit (PBMU):
 - Eastern Gun Deer Season: Franklin, Harnett, Hoke, Johnston, Moore, Richmond, Scotland, Vance, Warren, and Wake;
 - Central Gun Deer Season: Alamance, Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville, Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union; and
 - Northwestern Gun Deer Season: Alexander, Catawba, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Stokes, and Yadkin.

15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear

Raccoons

- 1) Remove the restriction on hunting raccoons during daylight hours west of U.S. 1.
15A NCAC 10B .0111 Restrictions on Raccoon and Opossum Hunting

Manners of Take

- 1) Reduce the minimum draw weight for crossbows from 150 to 100 pounds.
15A NCAC 10B .0116 Permitted Archery Equipment
- 2) Amend the handgun rule to allow take of deer and bears with any type of handgun and ammunition, except that body armor-piercing projectiles would be prohibited.
15A NCAC 10B .0120 Taking Big Game with Handguns

Other

- 1) Allow the public to obtain a permit to sell mounted wild animals, except permits will not be issued to sell any part of a black bear, wild turkey [pursuant to G.S. 113-291.3(b)(4)], or migratory game birds.
15A NCAC 10B .0118 Sale of Wildlife
- 2) Remove the mandatory time requirements for the Hunter Education Course.
15A NCAC 10K .0101 Course Requirements

Exhibit J-1 is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

FISCAL NOTE – 2014-2015 RULE PROPOSALS FOR INLAND FISHERIES, WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Upon a motion by Wes Seegars and second by Nat Harris, the Commission approved the fiscal note for proposed rules pertaining to inland fisheries, wildlife management and land management, presented in **Exhibit K** by Erica Garner, *Rulemaking Coordinator*. **Exhibit K** is hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

BOATING SAFETY RULES AND FISCAL NOTES

Joe Barker made a motion to adopt technical changes, amendments, and fiscal notes pertaining to boating safety rules, presented in **Exhibits L, M, N-1, N-2, O-1, O-2, P-1, and P-2**. The motion was seconded by Wes Seegars and carried. **Exhibits L, M, N-1, N-2, O-1, O-2, P-1, and P-2** are hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

- **Hyde County – No Wake Zone Technical Corrections** – technical corrections to GPS coordinates for a no wake zone in Hyde County; also a technical change to correct a location name. The technical corrections do not require Notice of Text, public hearing or fiscal note. **(Exhibit L)**

- **Camden County – No Wake Zone Technical Correction** – technical correction to GPS coordinates for a no wake zone in Camden County. The technical correction does not require Notice of Text, public hearing, or fiscal note. **(Exhibit M)**
- **Northampton and Warren Counties** – amendment proposed by agency to provide accurate and updated descriptions and coordinates of locations of no wake zones in Northampton and Warren counties. District 3 public hearing will be held to receive comments on January 23, 2014 in Rocky Mount. **(Exhibit N-1)** Fiscal note associated with proposed amendments in Northampton and Warren counties. **(Exhibit N-2)**
- **Pamlico County** – amendment proposed by agency to remove from NCAC a no wake zone that lies in the Intracoastal Waterway in Pamlico County, and is not enforceable and not marked. Comments will be received at District 2 public hearing in New Bern on January 22, 2014. **(Exhibit O-1)** Fiscal note associated with removal of no wake zone from NCAC. **(Exhibit O-2)**
- **Pitt County** – Presented in **Exhibit P-1**, technical correction to clarify the description of a no wake zone in a portion of Tranters Creek in Pitt County, making it consistent with the description of the portion of Tranters Creek that lies in Beaufort County. Also a proposal by agency to remove a no wake zone on the Tar River near Seine Beach. The boating safety criteria no longer exist for the presence of the no wake zone there. Comments will be received at the District 2 public hearing in New Bern on January 22, 2014. Fiscal note associated with disposal of no wake markers if no wake zone on the Tar River is removed. **(Exhibit P-2)**

POACHER REWARD FUND AND FISCAL NOTE

On a motion by Joe Barker and second by Wes Seegars, the Commission approved three proposed rules to establish a Poacher Reward Fund to be presented at statewide public hearings, presented in **Exhibit Q-1**. The Commission approved the fiscal note associated with rulemaking for the Poacher Reward Fund. **(Exhibit Q-2)** **Exhibits Q-1 and Q-2** are hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

VESSEL REGISTRATION AMENDMENTS AND FISCAL NOTE

The Commission approved staff recommendation to present at a public hearing at WRC Headquarters in Raleigh proposed amendments to some vessel registration rules, presented in **Exhibit R-1**, to make them consistent with legislation passed in the 2013 Session of the General Assembly. The Commission approved the associated fiscal note for the vessel registration rules, presented in **Exhibit R-2**. The motion to approve was made by Garry Spence. The motion was seconded by John Litton Clark and carried. **Exhibits R-1 and R-2** are hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

TOTALLY DISABLED LICENSE ELIGIBILITY RULE AND FISCAL NOTE

On a motion by Garry Spence and second by Nat Harris, the Commission approved staff recommendation presented in **Exhibit S-1** by Lisa Hocutt, *Customer Services Section Manager*, to present at statewide public hearings a new proposed rule. The rule is necessary to comply with legislation passed in the 2013 Session of the General Assembly, which authorizes the Wildlife Resources Commission to establish rules defining documentation acceptable for determining eligibility of totally and permanently disabled residents for the purpose of obtaining a discounted lifetime license. The Commission approved the associated fiscal note as presented in **Exhibit S-2**. **Exhibits S-1 and S-2** are hereby incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE 2014 MEETING SCHEDULE OF THE WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

Chairman Jim Cogdell reminded the Commissioners of the attendance requirement, set by Executive Order, that Commissioners attend at least 75 percent of the meetings each year. Cogdell stated that it is the policy of this Commission that call-in attendance is not permissible for official business meetings. Upon a motion by Wes Seegars and second by John Litton Clark the Commission adopted the proposed 2014 meeting schedule, presented in **Exhibit T**:

January 30, 2014
February 27, 2014
May 22, 2014
July 10, 2014
August 28, 2014
October 30, 2014

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Jim Cogdell thanked agency staff for their preparations for the committee meetings on Wednesday and Commission meeting today. He stated that the next meeting of the WRC will be in Raleigh on Thursday, January 30, 2014 and urged everyone to attend.

COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Gordon Myers directed Commissioners to the Boating Law Enforcement Report. Myers stated that law enforcement summits are ongoing. A report will be provided to the Commission. Myers stated that he will be in contact with Commission members to schedule a Commissioner Orientation day in early December.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Jim Cogdell at 10:55 am.

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

Jim Cogdell, Chairman

Date

Gordon Myers, Executive Director

Date

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Pursuant to G.S. 143-47.7

EXHIBIT B-1

January 30, 2014

Notice is given that **Mr. Brian White**

is hereby appointed to the following public office:

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Citation to Law or Other Authority Authorizing the Appointment:

General Statute §143-241

Specific Statutory Qualification for the Public Office (if applicable):

1st Wildlife District Representative

Address of Appointee:

30 Ballast Point Drive, Manteo, NC 27954

County of Residence of the Appointee: **Dare**

Date Term of Appointment Began: **12/11/2013**

Date Term of Appointment Ends: **6/30/2019**

Name of Person the Appointee replaces, if applicable:

Mr. Ray White

Date of Appointment: **12/11/2013**

Signature:

s/ Pat McCrory

Office of Appointing Authority:

Office of the Governor, Boards and Commissions

Distribution:

Governor

Secretary of State

Senate President Pro Tempore

Speaker of the House

Department of Cultural Resources

Ethics Commission

Board Contact

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Pursuant to G.S. 143-47.7

EXHIBIT B-2

January 30, 2014

Notice is given that **Mr. Joseph Budd**

is hereby appointed to the following public office:

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Citation to Law or Other Authority Authorizing the Appointment:

General Statute §143-241

Specific Statutory Qualification for the Public Office (if applicable):

7th Wildlife District Representative

Address of Appointee:

815 Merry Acres Court, Winston Salem, NC 27106

County of Residence of the Appointee: **Forsyth**

Date Term of Appointment Began: **12/11/2013**

Date Term of Appointment Ends: **6/30/2019**

Name of Person the Appointee replaces, if applicable:

Date of Appointment: **12/11/2013**

Signature:

s/ Pat McCrory

Office of Appointing Authority:

Office of the Governor, Boards and Commissions

Distribution:

Governor

Secretary of State

Senate President Pro Tempore

Speaker of the House

Department of Cultural Resources

Ethics Commission

Board Contact

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Pursuant to G.S. 143-47.7

EXHIBIT B-3

January 30, 2014

Notice is given that **Mr. Al Sneed**

is hereby appointed to the following public office:

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Citation to Law or Other Authority Authorizing the Appointment:

General Statute §143-241

Specific Statutory Qualification for the Public Office (if applicable):

9th Wildlife District Representative

Address of Appointee:

11 North Market Street, Ashville, NC 28801

County of Residence of the Appointee: **Buncombe**

Date Term of Appointment Began: **12/11/2013**

Date Term of Appointment Ends: **4/25/2017**

Name of Person the Appointee replaces, if applicable:

Mr. Hayden A. Rogers

Date of Appointment: **12/11/2013**

Signature:

s/ Pat McCrory

Office of Appointing Authority:

Office of the Governor, Boards and Commissions

Distribution:

Governor

Secretary of State

Senate President Pro Tempore

Speaker of the House

Department of Cultural Resources

Ethics Commission

Board Contact

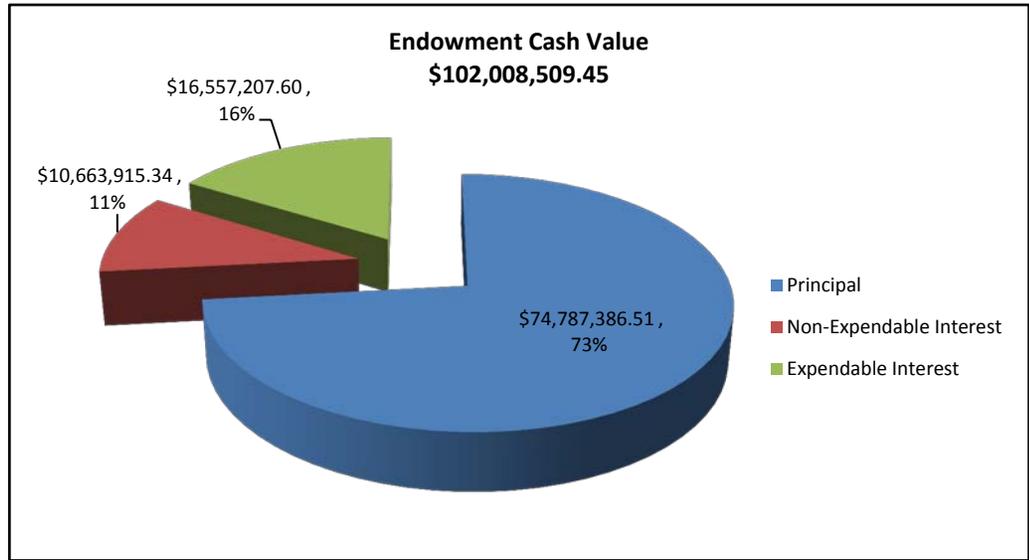
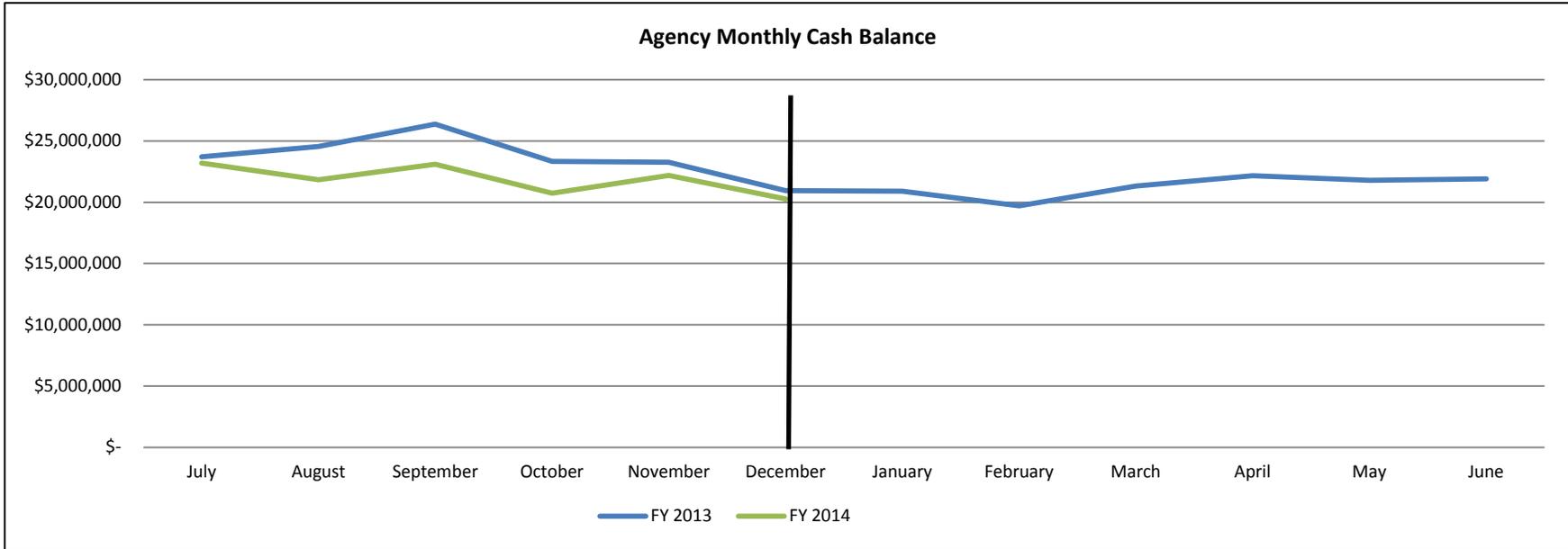
NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

EXHIBIT C

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

January 30, 2014

	December 2012			December 2013		
Cash Balance July 1		\$ 22,177,706.67		\$ 21,922,571.86		
Appropriations	2012-2013 Authorized Budget	Actual	% of Budget	2013-2014 Authorized Budget	Actual	% of Budget
Appropriations	\$ 18,476,588.00	\$ 8,584,358.00	46.46%	\$ 12,588,531.00	\$ 6,350,233.00	50.44%
Total	\$ 18,476,588.00	\$ 8,584,358.00	46.46%	\$ 12,588,531.00	\$ 6,350,233.00	50.44%
Receipts						
License Receipts		\$ 10,452,589.65		\$ 18,696,335.00	\$ 11,145,045.20	
Vessel Receipts		2,259,195.00		10,010,315.00	2,932,800.00	
Federal Funds		10,935,356.74		17,831,634.00	12,326,606.92	
Magazine Subscriptions		249,183.08		345,552.00	283,489.86	
Professional Services		2,248,372.52		4,472,054.00	3,227,515.86	
Agency Reimbursements		401,746.03		4,375,891.00	442,972.77	
Other Receipts		904,428.32		713,714.00	829,292.13	
Total	\$	\$ 27,450,871.34		\$ 56,445,495.00	\$ 31,187,722.74	55.25%
Expenditures						
1100 Administration	\$ 8,582,202.00	\$ 4,184,671.09		\$ 12,062,422.00	\$ 4,694,461.29	
1120 Enforcement	20,451,477.00	10,363,527.40		20,233,048.00	10,358,968.77	
1130 Education	4,042,022.00	1,659,630.16		3,980,997.00	1,668,003.60	
1140 Inland Fisheries	11,823,086.00	6,321,070.68		9,637,991.00	4,166,799.92	
1150 Management	10,897,103.00	7,157,273.56		9,012,014.00	4,944,260.29	
1160 Engineering Services	12,633,273.00	3,995,869.06		14,789,864.00	10,587,128.79	
2170 W/Life Fund Receipts	3,998,906.00	3,577,426.35		3,188,083.00	2,776,039.17	
Total	\$ 72,428,069.00	\$ 37,259,468.30	45.45%	\$ 72,904,419.00	\$ 39,195,661.83	53.76%
Cash Balance December 31		\$ 20,953,467.71		\$ 20,264,865.77		



Endowment Fund November, 2013

Revenues	\$ 297,404.40
Return on Investment	\$ 422,124.40
Transfer to Operations	\$ -
Book Value	\$ 102,008,509.45
Market Value	\$ 104,452,149.90

EXHIBIT D

January 30, 2014

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

-PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-

WRC Staff Contact: David H. Allen

Date First Presented to WRC: January 30, 2014

Tract Name: Brown's Island Tract 1

Acreage: 183

Note: WRC currently owns Tracts 4, 5, 6 & 7 (158 acres). The NC Coastal Land Trust holds title to Tract 1 (183 acres) and Tract 2 (84 acres). Tract 1 is offered as a donation at this time and NC Coastal Land Trust is interested in donating Tract 2 to WRC at a later date. Seventy-one percent of the island (425 of 600 total acres) is currently under conservation ownership.

County: Carteret

Estimated Value: NA – offered as a donation by NC Coastal Land Trust

Property Owner or Representative: NC Coastal Land Trust c/o Janice Allen

Phone: (252) 634-1927 Office; (252) 670-0789 Mobile

Address: 3301 Trent Rd., Suite E, New Bern, NC 28562

Status: High Interest Moderate Interest Low Interest No Interest

Grant Potential: NHTF CWMTF OTHER (explain): NA – offered as a donation

Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief): Brown's Island contains salt marshes, pocosin, maritime live oak and longleaf pine forest that benefit a variety of wildlife. The island hosts one of the relatively few stands of Coastal Fringe Sandhill natural communities left in the state and it occurs in a relatively undisturbed condition. The North Carolina Natural Heritage Program considers the island to be a state significant natural heritage area. It contains potential habitat for colonial nesting waterbirds and shorebirds. It also has good habitat for waterfowl, marsh birds and landbirds. The island also has some feral goats, cows, pigs and possibly horses.

Additional Comments: Access is by boat only.

Program Potential: Game Land Wildlife Conservation Area Fishing Access Area

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

State Wildlife Grant Program (50% federal: 50% state)

Relative Priority Evaluation Score (attach worksheet):

25 of 25

Recommendation: Pursue Acquisition Defer Do not Pursue Acquisition

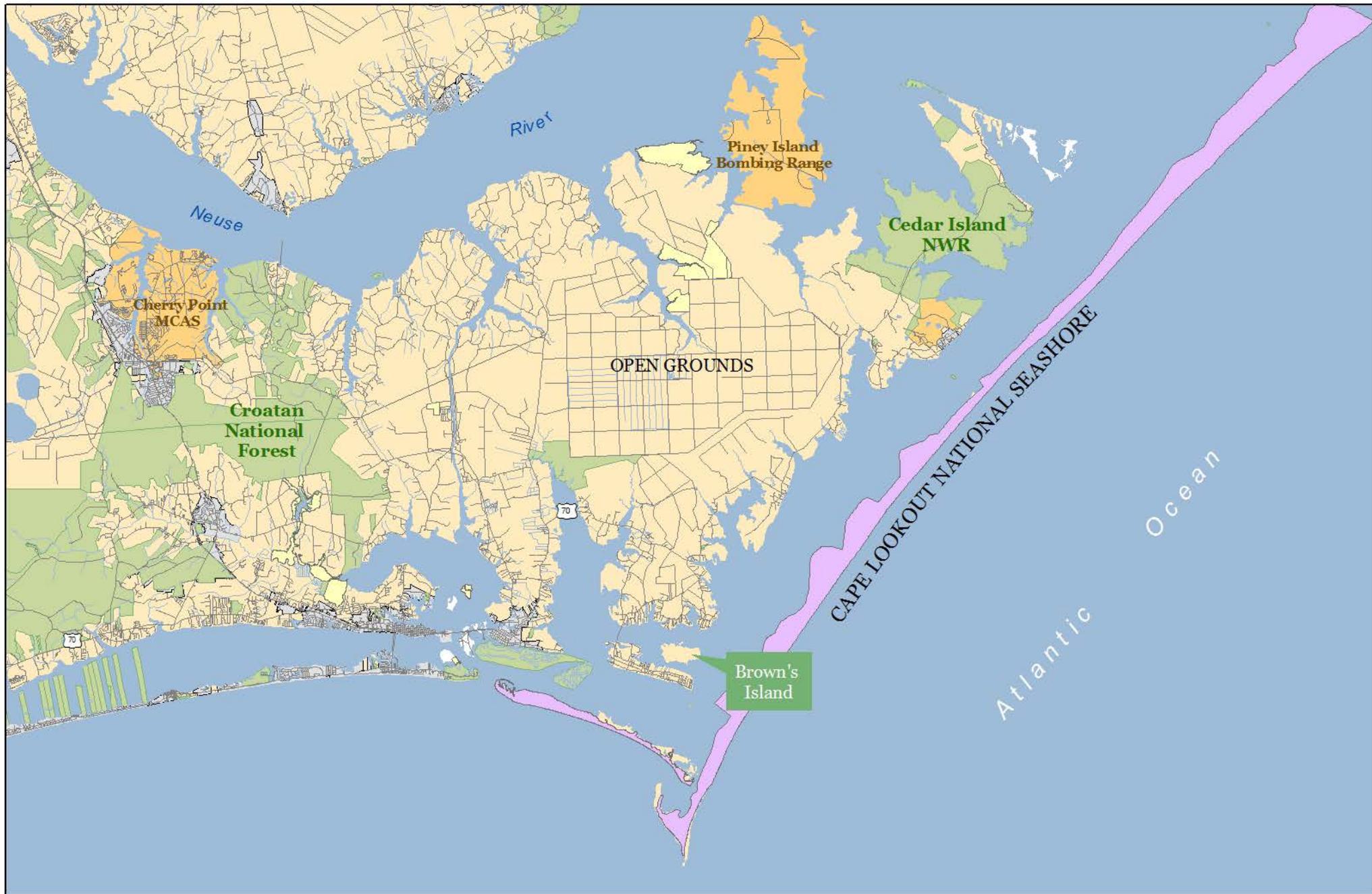
Map Attached: Yes No

WORKSHEET

Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Focal Area) Brown's Island Tract 1 – Carteret 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>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>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>NA</u>
TOTAL SCORE	<u>25</u>



General Location of Brown's Island Carteret County, NC

State Plane North Carolina, NAD 1983
 Map produced: November 2009
 This map is for informational purposes and was not prepared for, and is not suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.



Brown's Island Carteret County

aerial 2010

Sound

Core



Owners by Tract Number

- #1- NC Coastal Land Trust
- #2- NC Coastal Land Trust
- #3-Julian Brown
- #4-NC WRC
- #5-NC WRC
- #6-NC WRC
- #7-NC WRC
- #8-Jonas Kaszas
- #9-Jo Anne Valentine Brooks
- #10-Benjamin and Joanne Brooks



EXHIBIT E-1

January 30, 2014

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

-PHASE II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS-

WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): March 14, 2013

Tract: Sherrill Tract; Ashe County, 205 Acres

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

Clean Water Management Trust Fund (WRC) \$ 861,000
Total Cost: \$ 861,000 (\$ 4,200/Acre)

Based on Appraisal: Yes No NA

If Yes, Name of Appraiser:

Requested by:	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
WRC	Tim Carter	06/15/2013	\$ 779,000 (3,800/Acre)
WRC	Shaun McNeil	10/02/2013	\$ 943,000 (4,600/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:	\$:	18,680
Five Year Estimate of Total Projected Revenue:	\$:	0

Additional Comments: NA

SHERRILL TRACT 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
Sherrill Tract	Boundary Survey/Establishment	6,344	ft.	\$ 1.25	\$ 7,930.00
	Construct Public Parking Area	1	ea.	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000.00
	Install Gate	1	ea.	\$ 750	\$ 750.00
Total					\$ 18,680.00

REVENUE					
Estimated Revenue Projections					
Tract Name	Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
Sherrill Tract	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$ -
Total					\$ -

**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: First presented to WRC 2/11/2009 but unable to acquire at that time due to a backlog of available tracts and funding limitations. The tract was again offered to WRC in December 2012.

Tract Name: Sherrill Tract

Acreage: 205 acres

County: Ashe

Estimated Value: estimated value is \$500,000 - \$700,000 (not based on appraisal – landowner willing to negotiate)

Property Owner or Representative: Anderson Sherrill (estate trust from late brother)

Phone: 704-873-4945 (home)
704-402-6630 (cell)

Address:

3209 Deauville PL
Statesville, NC 28625

Status: High Interest Moderate Interest Low Interest No Interest

Grant Potential: NHTF CWMTF

OTHER (explain): possible private donations via The Nature Conservancy

Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):

Acquisition of this property is significant as part of the total management project being carried out by governmental agencies and NGOs in the Three Top Mountain area. WRC ownership of the tract will help ensure ecosystem integrity of the area by increasing connectivity of lands in conservation ownership such as Three Top Mtn. and Pond Mtn. Game Lands, Mount Jefferson and New River State Parks, and various private holdings that are in conservation ownership or have conservation easements that are located in the vicinity. WRC ownership will reduce land fragmentation as well.

Management objectives will include restoring or maintaining the oak forest and cove forest priority wildlife habitats that are located on the tract. WRC ownership may provide opportunities to create some early successional habitat as well, which is also a priority wildlife habitat. Public recreational opportunities will include hunting, hiking, bird watching, photography, and general nature study. Educational opportunities may exist as priority wildlife habitats are managed for or maintained. The

entire tract is forested with Appalachian oak, Appalachian cove, and dry-mesic oak forests predominant. Common wildlife species found on the tract include wild turkey, black bear, white-tailed deer, gray squirrel, ruffed grouse as well as various songbirds, salamanders, and small mammals. The tract is part of the nationally significant Three Top Mountain Natural Heritage Area.

Additional Comments:

Acquisition of the Sherrill tract would solidify WRC ownership of Three Top Mtn. GL at its eastern end. Saddle Gap Rd. (SR 1194) would provide direct access to the tract and indirectly provide access to a portion of Three Top Mtn. GL that currently has no reasonable public access. Acquisition of the Sherrill tract would in effect provide access to approximately 500 acres of Three Top Mtn. GL that currently has no public access. There is room for a small parking area adjacent to an existing gravel road that runs across the tract which provides access to an adjacent property/house. The access road and potential parking area lie within the outer portion of a 300 foot stream buffer. If CWMTF funds are used for purchase of the stream buffer area, the establishment of a parking area would be subject to CWMTF approval.

There are approximately 2,163 feet of streams on the Sherrill tract, with a corresponding 63 acres of stream buffer.

Program Potential: Game Land - Three Top Mountain Game Land Addition

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):

Recommendation: Pursue Acquisition Defer Do not Pursue Acquisition

Map Attached: Yes No

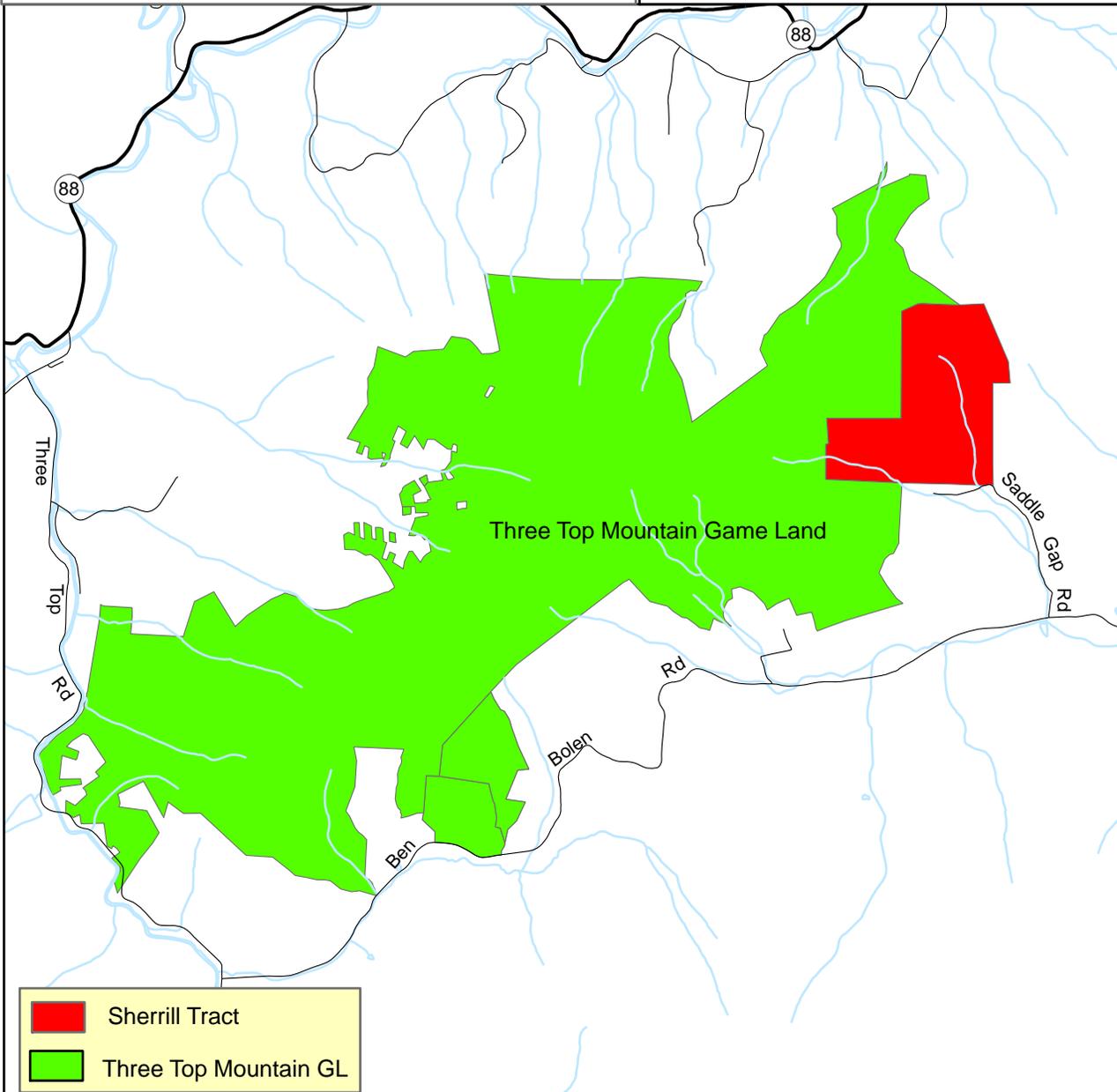
WORKSHEET

Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Three Top Mountain GL) Sherrill Tract – Ashe 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>4</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>
TOTAL SCORE	<u>27</u>

Sherrill Tract Three Top Mountain GL Ashe County 205 Acres



February 22, 2013

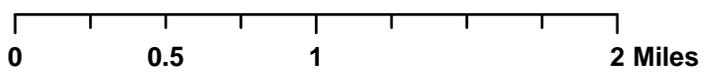


EXHIBIT E-2

January 30, 2014

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

-PHASE II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS-

WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): May 17, 2013

Tract: Birkhead Tract; Randolph County, 288 Acres

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

Clean Water Management Trust Fund (WRC)	\$ 192,000
NC Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation	\$ <u>20,000</u>
Total Cost:	\$ 212,000 (\$736/Acre)

The Birkhead Tract was originally purchased by the Land Trust for Central NC at \$1.3 mil using \$900,000 from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and \$400,000 in private funds.

Based on Appraisal: Yes No NA

If Yes, Name of Appraiser:

Requested by:	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
LTCNC	Timothy Ragan	06/06/2006	\$ 1,305,000 (4,531/Acre)
LTCNC	Scott Robinson	06/07/2007	\$ 1,305,000 (4,531/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:	\$:	8,405
Five Year Estimate of Total Projected Revenue:	\$:	0

Additional Comments: NA

BIRKHEAD TRACT 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
Birkhead Tract	Boundary Development (Paint/Sign)	4.5	mi.	\$ 150	\$ 675.00
	Entrance Kiosk	1	ea.	\$ 500	\$ 500.00
	Install Gate	1	ea.	\$ 750	\$ 750.00
	Install Fire Breaks	2.2	mi.	\$ 200	\$ 440.00
	Prescribe Burn	9	ac.	\$ 60	\$ 540.00
	Herbicide	2	ac.	\$ 250	\$ 500.00
	Construct Public Parking Area	1	ea.	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000.00
Total					\$ 8,405.00

REVENUE					
Estimated Revenue Projections					
Tract Name	Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
Birkhead Tract	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$ -
Total					\$ -

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

-PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-

WRC Staff Contact: Kacy Cook
Land Conservation Biologist
Phone: (910) 638-4887
Email: kacy.cook@ncwildlife.org

Date First Presented to WRC: May 17, 2013

Tract Name: Birkhead

Acreage: 288

County: Randolph

Estimated Value: The Land Trust for Central NC (LTCNC) previously purchased the tract for \$1.3 mil with funding from the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund (\$900K) and a private donation (\$400K). The charitable benefit of the private contribution was secured in 2009. The donor is aware and supportive of the proposed sell to WRC. LTCNC has indicated they wish to sell the tract to WRC for \$200,000.

Property Owner or Representative: Land Trust for Central NC (LTCNC) (Crystal Cockman or Jason Walser)

Phone: 336-633-0143
Address: PO Box 4284, Salisbury, NC 28145

Status: High Interest Moderate Interest Low Interest No Interest

Grant Potential: NHTF CWMTF
 OTHER (explain): National Wild Turkey Federation

Preliminary Assessment of Potential 5-Year Stewardship Expenditures: Anticipated stewardship expenditures over the first five years post-acquisition include marking and maintaining property boundaries, upgrading existing interior road, placement of culverts to improve stream crossings, construction of a public parking area, maintenance of a 1-mile linear wildlife opening, and initiating a prescribed burning regime. Total 5-year costs are not anticipated to exceed \$180,000.

Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief): This tract is adjacent to the eastern side of the Uwharrie National Forest Birkhead Wilderness. It is dominated by contiguous oak-hickory forest and provides hunting opportunities for deer, turkey, and squirrel. The headwater streams on the tract flow into streams that contain Significant Aquatic Natural Heritage Areas and the Carolina Creekshell (E, FSC) and the Eastern Creekshell (State Rare) mussel. The tract contains four-toed salamanders, spotted salamanders and marbled salamanders and has a number of floodplain pools along the streams. The eastern oak hickory forest on the tract is a Significant Natural Heritage Area of "Moderate" Significance. Other priority species documented on the tract are the hooded warbler and red-headed woodpecker. A reclaimed dirt road has been planted to native warm season grasses.

Additional Comments: The tract has frontage on High Pines Church Rd. SR-1143 and there is an unnamed dirt road that runs from High Pines Church Road half-way through the tract. This tract would provide the only public access to the eastern side of the Birkhead Wilderness area portion of Uwharrie National Forest (UNF) Game Lands. The tract also provides habitat connectivity to UNF Game Lands to the east. Purchase of this tract would allow public access, hunting and habitat management which LTCNC have expressed they cannot provide.

Hunting opportunities on the tract include deer, turkey, and small game.

Program Potential: Game Land - Uwharrie Game Land Addition

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):

Recommendation: Pursue Acquisition Defer Do not Pursue Acquisition

Map Attached: Yes No

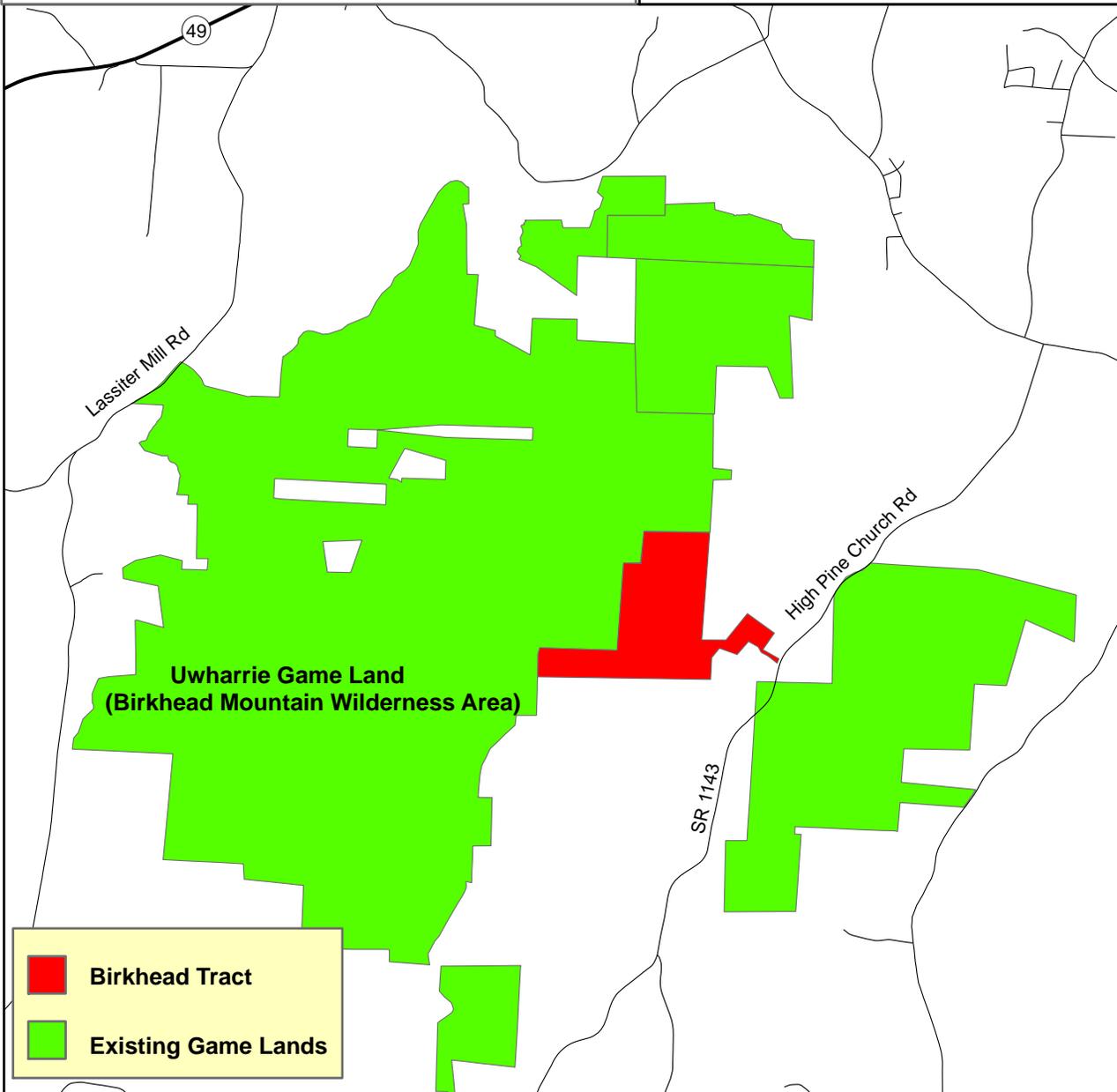
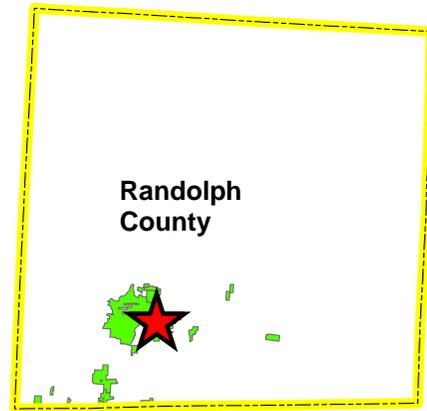
WORKSHEET

Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Uwharie GL) Birkhead 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>
TOTAL SCORE	<u> 30 </u>

Birkhead Tract Randolph County 288 Acres



April 21, 2013

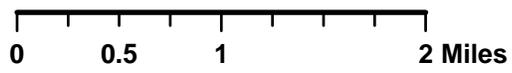


EXHIBIT E-3

January 30, 2014

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

-PHASE II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS-

WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): March 14, 2013

Tract: Harrison Tract; Martin County, 259.40 Acres

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

Clean Water Management Trust Fund (WRC)	\$ 300,000
WRC Funds	\$ 25,000
Total Cost:	\$ 325,000 (\$ 1,253/Acre)

Based on Appraisal: Yes No NA

If Yes, Name of Appraiser:

Requested by:	Appraiser	Effective Date	Appraised Value
WRC	Michael Moody	05/08/2013	\$ 325,000 (1,253/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:	\$:	36,890
Five Year Estimate of Total Projected Revenue:	\$:	4,375

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
Harrison Tract	Remove Boundary	2.0	mi.	\$135.00	\$ 270.00
	Establish New Boundary	0.9	mi.	\$150.00	\$ 135.00
	Maintain Boundary	0.9	mi.	\$135.00	\$ 121.50
	Grade and Gravel Existing Access Road	0.6	mi.	\$60,606.00	\$ 36,363.00
Total					\$ 36,889.50

REVENUE					
Estimated Revenue Projections					
Tract Name	Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
Harrison Tract	Agricultural Lease	25.0	ac.	35.00/ac./yr.	\$ 4,375
	Total				

**Farm lease rate based on current lease.*

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

-PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-

WRC Staff Contact: Dale J. Davis/Tommy K. Hughes

Date First Presented to WRC: 3/14/2013

Tract Name: Harrison Heirs Tract

Acreage: 259.40

County: Martin

Estimated Value: \$ 350,000 asking price

Property Owner or Representative: Eddie Vanderford, Owner-Vanderford Real Estate

Phone: (W) 252-714-5016; (C) 252-714-5016

Address: P.O. Box 910, Robersonville, N.C. 27871

Status: High Interest Moderate Interest Low Interest No Interest

Grant Potential: NHTF CWMTF

OTHER (explain):

Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief): Property is an inholding located adjacent to the Conoho Farms Tract of Lower Roanoke River Game Land in Martin County. The tract has been in the Harrison family for many years. The tract is approximately 40 acres of agricultural fields, 40 acres of thinned pines approximately 20 yrs. old, and the remaining 179 acres is comprised of bottomland hardwoods with most of this are being clearcut in the past 3 years. There are a few acres of drains and streamside management zones that are left intact of bottomland hardwood trees such as Gum and Cypress. The property contains a high population of deer and wild turkey and the cutover bottomland provides an excellent wintering and feeding area for migratory waterfowl. Neo-tropical migrant songbirds are also abundant on this tract. This tract is of high importance to NCWRC due to being an inholding and would provide greater connectivity to our current holdings. The Conoho Farms tract is included in our Permit Hunts Program and offers excellent hunting opportunities to sportsmen. NCWRC Wildlife Action Plan Priority habitats and species are present on this property and adjacent property. According to

Natural Heritage database data, this area and surrounding areas either provides or has potential to provide Colonial Wading Bird Colonies for Egrets and Herons. There are 3 vascular plants (Crowfoot Sedge, Catchfly Cutgrass, and Smooth Hedge-Nettle) that contain a Global and State rank in this area. The Southeastern Myotis is found in this area, which has a status of “Federal Species of Concern”. This area also provides habitat for the Cerulean Warbler, which also is a “Federal Species of Concern”.

Based upon data found in the NC Conservation Planning Tool, the CPT Biodiversity index averaged a score of 8 out of 10 (10 is highest possible score). The Natural Heritage Biodiversity Wetlands score also averages 8 out of a possible 10. 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:

Program Potential: Game Land-Lower Roanoke River Game Land Addition

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):

Recommendation: Pursue Acquisition Defer Do not Pursue Acquisition

Map Attached: Yes No

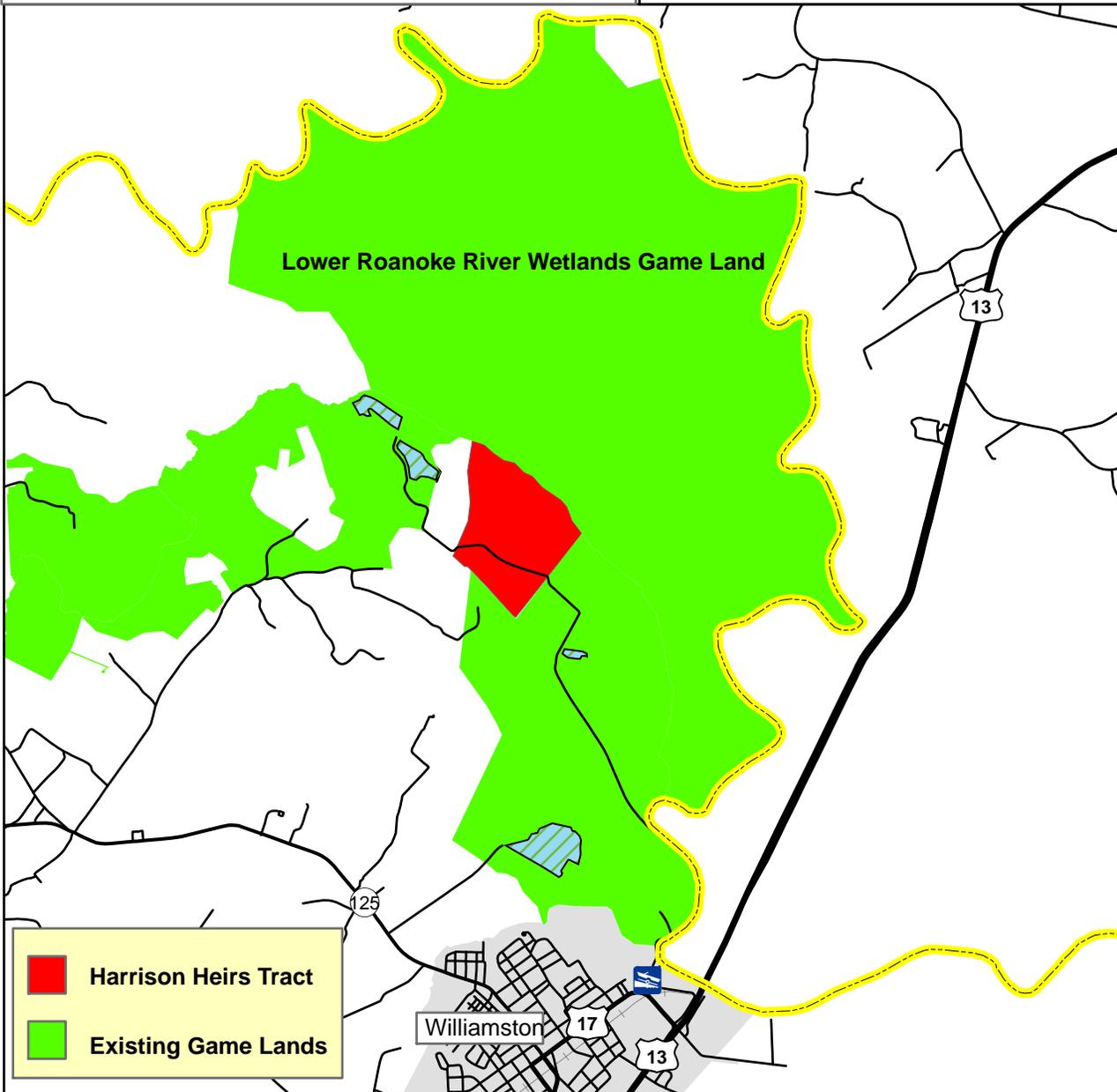
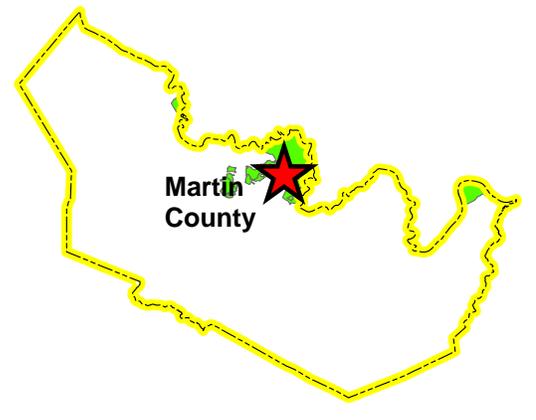
WORKSHEET

Relative Priority Evaluation for Conservation Lands

Tract Name (Lower Roanoke River GL) Harrison Heirs Tract - Martin 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>N/A</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>N/A</u>
9. Is area adequate for fishing access development with suitable parking, and if not, are there possibilities for expansion?	<u>N/A</u>
TOTAL SCORE	<u>30</u>

Harrison Heirs Tract Martin County 259 Acres



February 27, 2013

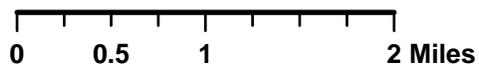


EXHIBIT F

January 30, 2014



⊠ North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission ⊠

January 17, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Erik Christofferson, Chief
Division of Engineering and Lands Management

FROM: Isaac Harrold, Program Manager
Lands Management Section

SUBJECT: Ms. Janice Robertson Access Easement Request
Sandhills Game Land – Scotland County

Ms. Janice Robertson owns a 57 acre property adjacent to Sandhills Game Land in Scotland County which currently has no deeded access. The current access is an existing game land road that turns east from SR 1413 (Horseshoe Road) and continues through game land for a distance of approximately 150 feet to the Robertson boundary.

To facilitate selling the property, a legal easement approximating the footprint of the existing game land road has been requested. A 15 foot X 150 foot easement totals approximately 0.05 acres. Based on the limited scope and impact, staff has identified no cause to object. I concur and recommend seeking WRC approval to request assistance from the State Property Office to determine fair market value and negotiate sale of the easement.

Division of Engineering and Lands Management
Mailing Address: 1720 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1720
Physical Address: 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27606
Phone: 919-707-0150 Fax: 919-707-0162

EASEMENT REQUEST SANDHILLS GAME LAND (SCOTLAND COUNTY)

