

# AGENDA

# N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION December 6, 2018, 9:00 a.m. 1751 Varsity Drive NCWRC Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Raleigh, North Carolina

CALL TO ORDER - Chairman John Coley

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Commissioner Brian White

**INVOCATION** - Commissioner Garry Spence

# **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 shall 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 John Coley* 

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Take action on the October 3, 2018 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 – *Melissa Earp, Finance Office Chief* (**EXHIBIT B**)

**Wildlife Endowment Fund Interest Allocations Report** – Receive a status report on the allocations of Wildlife Endowment Fund interest – *Melissa Earp* (EXHIBIT C)

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance Committee Report** – Landon Zimmer, Chair **Boating Safety Committee Report** – Mike Johnson, Chair **Fisheries Committee Report** - Tommy Fonville, Chair **Land Use and Access/Education Committees Report** – Tom Berry and Joe Budd, Chairs **Big Game Committee Report** – John Litton Clark, Chair **Migratory Birds, Waterfowl Committee Report** – Richard Edwards, Chair **Committee of the Whole** – Chairman John Coley

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT** – **GAME LANDS 101** – Nick Shaver, Northern Mountain Conservation Technician Supervisor and CC King, Southern Piedmont Education Specialist

# LAND AND WATER ACCESS SECTION

Land and Water Access Section Update - Receive an update on the activities of the Land and Water Access Section – Brian McRae, Land and Water Access Section Chief

# Land Acquisitions and Property Matters

**Phase II Land Acquisition** – Consider final approval to proceed with acquisition of the following properties – *Jessie Birckhead, Land Acquisition and Grants Manager* (**EXHIBITS D-1, D-2, D-3**)

- Herrin Tract Ashe County (D-1)
- Salter's Creek Tract Carteret County (D-2)
- Duck Creek Wetlands Tract Craven County (D-3)

**Easement Request** – Consider a request from Judy Rubin for a Right of Way easement at Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County – *Jessie Birckhead* (EXHIBIT E)

## **INLAND FISHERIES DIVISION**

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

## WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

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

## WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING

**Rulemaking Application – 15A NCAC 10F .0320 – Onslow County** – Consider an application from Onslow County for approval to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register*, hold one public hearing, and open the public comment period for a proposed amendment to 10F .0320, for a no-wake zone in the Intracoastal Waterway at Hammocks Beach State Park in Swansboro – *Betsy Haywood, No Wake Zone Coordinator* (EXHIBIT F)

Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0307 - Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg Counties – Consider approval to publish Notice of Text, hold one public hearing, and open the public comment period for an amendment to 10F .0307, to correct the location of a no-wake zone on Lake Norman in Iredell County, in a small cove northeast of the island in the inlet of Hager Creek – *Betsy Haywood* (EXHIBIT G)

**COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN** – Chairman John Coley

**COMMENTS BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – Gordon Myers

ADJOURN

# EXHIBIT A December 6, 2018



# MINUTES October 3, 2018 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Meeting Raleigh, North Carolina

Chairman John Coley called the October 3, 2018 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Room at Wildlife Resources Commission headquarters in Raleigh. Coley reminded everyone that the meeting is being audio streamed live and will be available on the Commission's website. He requested that everyone silence cell phones. Commissioners Garry Spence, Tom Berry, Mike Johnson, and Nat Harris were absent.

Commissioner David Hoyle, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Landon Zimmer gave the invocation.

# WELCOME AND MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY

Chairman Coley welcomed guests present. Coley advised the Commission of the mandatory ethics inquiry as mandated in N.C. General Statute 138A-15(e). Commissioner Landon Zimmer recused himself from discussion and action on **Exhibit D – NCDOT Easement Request, Clay County.** 

# **COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE**

John Coley Brian White John Litton Clark Monty Crump Brad Stanback Ray Clifton Hayden Rogers Mark Craig Richard Edwards Wes Seegars David Hoyle, Jr. Joe Budd Tommy Fonville Landon Zimmer John Stone NC Wildlife Resources Commission Meeting October 3, 2018 Minutes

# **VISITORS**

Heather Clarkson – Defenders of Wildlife Will Robinson – The Nature Conservancy

# AUGUST 23, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Wes Seegars and second by Brian White, the Commission approved the August 23, 2018 Commission minutes as presented in **Exhibit A**, which is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

# **ADMINISTRATION**

Melissa Earp, Finance Office Chief, presented a status report in **Exhibit B** on the Wildlife Operating Fund and the Wildlife Endowment Fund. As of September 25, 2018, the Wildlife Operating Fund year to date revenues were \$20,470,245.27 and expenditures were \$16,303,628.33. The Endowment Fund balance as of August 31, 2018 was \$126,796,311.31. Expendable interest was \$27,019,217.05. **Exhibit B** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

# EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS RECOGNITION

Executive Director Gordon Myers presented the following employee service awards:

# **5 Year Service Awards**

Rachel Hoch, Conservation Aquaculture Coordinator, Inland Fisheries Division Daryl Southern, Master Officer, Law Enforcement Division

### **10 Year Service Awards**

Wesley Shattuck, Wildlife Telecommunicator, Law Enforcement Division Tracy Parsons, Southern Piedmont Wildlife Conservation Technician Supervisor, Land and Water Access Section

### **15 Year Service Award**

Sara Sherman, Facility Construction Engineer, Engineering Section

### 20 Year Service Awards

Christian Waters, Chief, Inland Fisheries Division Shannon Deaton, Chief, Habitat Conservation Division Kate Pipkin, Operations Manager, Inland Fisheries Division Melissa Earp, Chief, Finance Office

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Habitat, Nongame and Endangered Species (HNGES) Committee Report – Mark Craig, Committee Chair, reported that the HNGES Committee met on October 2, 2018. Aquatic Wildlife Diversity Supervisor Todd Ewing presented six augmentation plans and one research plan for mussel species. The HNGES Committee approved moving forward with the plans. Wildlife Diversity Program Coordinator Dr. Sara Schweitzer gave an overview of Species Conservation Plans to be released for public comment.

Fisheries Committee Report – Tommy Fonville, Committee Chair, reported that the Fisheries Committee met on October 2, 2018. Inland Fisheries Division Chief Christian Waters presented an update about the Catfish Management Plan for consideration at the December 2018 WRC meeting. Waters reported on joint hydrilla management efforts at Lake Norman. Working with the N.C. Division of Water Resources Aquatic Weed Control Program, the Lake Norman Marine Commission, and Duke Energy, 10,200 sterile grass carp were stocked in the spring. Staff continues to work with partners to provide technical assistance. At Harris Lake, the N.C. Division of Water Resources Aquatic Weed Control Program plans to stock 1,400 sterile grass carp as part of a multiyear stocking program. A public meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2018 in Sanford to inform the public of the planned hydrilla control efforts and habitat enhancement activities. Waters provided an update about Hurricane Florence's impacts to fisheries and fish kills that occurred throughout the Coastal Plain due to low dissolved oxygen levels. Waterbodies impacted include the Roanoke, Pungo, Neuse, Trent, Northeast Cape Fear, Cape Fear, and Waccamaw rivers. Many private ponds were also impacted, and staff will compile resources available to pond owners for repairing and restocking their ponds. Executive Director Myers provided a water delineation update. The meeting with the Department of Environmental Quality's Secretary Michael Regan and Commission and Marine Fisheries staff's data workshop have been postponed due to ongoing hurricane recovery activities. Commission staff and the subcommittee have been pursuing available data sets to compare species distribution with salinity levels. Christian Waters reported that experiments are continuing for introducing red drum into Hyco Lake to determine if there could be a viable fishery there. The Committee discussed visiting and touring hatchery facilities and staff was asked to present a list of options.

**Finance Committee Report** – Landon Zimmer, Committee Chair, reported that the Finance Committee met on October 2, 2018. Finance Office Chief Melissa Earp provided the committee with financial status reports. Endowment Fund allocations and recent movement among funds was discussed. Monthly transfers of \$1.5 million have occurred on the first of each month since July 2018. The return on the investment over the three-month period for the Bond Index Fund was 0.51 percent and over the same time period for the Equity Index Fund was 1.77 percent. Policy Analyst Carrie Ruhlman reported on proposed rulemaking to provide fee structure changes by applying the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

**Motion from Finance Committee to Initiate Rulemaking for Increased License Fees** – Landon Zimmer made a motion, which was seconded by Monty Crump and carried, for the Commission to proceed with the CPI-U increase option which provides the option for customers to round up to the nearest dollar for donation to the Nongame and Endangered Species Fund.

**Motion from Finance Committee for Annual Presentation of Potential License Fee Increases** – Landon Zimmer made a motion, which was seconded by Tommy Fonville and carried, for the Commission to have staff review and present potential license fee adjustments to the Finance Committee each October, by applying CPI-U, for purposes of considering fee increases.

**Motion from Finance Committee to Study Fuel Tax Revenues** – with Landon Zimmer recused, on a motion by Monty Crump that was seconded by Joe Budd and carried, the Commission voted to direct Executive Director Myers to work with staff to study the actual portion of gasoline sales that come from vessel operations. This study will assist the agency in delineating what portion of the gas tax revenue could be requested in future legislation.

**Boating Safety Committee Report** – Mark Craig, Committee Member, reported that the Boating Safety Committee met on October 2, 2018. No Wake Zone Coordinator Betsy Haywood reviewed an application from Stanly County for a no-wake zone on Lake Tillery. Law Enforcement Division Major Ben Meyer discussed the findings during the safety assessment of the area, indicating that there were no significant hazards to be mitigated by regulation in the area. The Committee recommended that the application be denied by the Commission. Haywood reviewed the request for final adoption of an extension of the no-wake zone on Pembroke Creek in Edenton and the Committee recommended approval by the Commission.

**Migratory Birds and Waterfowl Committee Report** – Richard Edwards, Committee Chair, reported that the Migratory Birds and Waterfowl Committee met on October 2, 2018. Jamie Rader, with Ducks Unlimited (DU), addressed the Committee about the partnership between the Commission and DU since 1969. Rader presented the Commission with a plaque in appreciation for more than one million dollars donated since 1969 in support of habitat improvement for migratory fowl nesting grounds in Canada. DU invited the Commissioners and some staff to visit the breeding grounds in Nova Scotia next year.

Land Use and Access Committee (LUAC) Report – Tommy Fonville, Committee Vice Chair, reported that the LUAC met on October 2, 2018. Land Acquisition and Grants Manager Jessie Birckhead reviewed a spreadsheet of current land acquisition projects. The Committee recommended approval of five Phase I land acquisition projects. Landon Zimmer asked that projected sea level rise be included in discussion of future Phase I projects. The Committee reviewed an easement request from NCDOT across Shooting Creek Public Fishing Access Area in Clay County and a request from the National Park Service to dispose of an easement across Old Perley Toll Road at Pisgah Game Land in Yancey County. The Committee requested that **Exhibit F**, disposition of the farm house at Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County, be removed from the agenda while further research on the house and property value is conducted.

**Big Game Committee Report** – John Litton Clark, Committee Chair, reported that the Big Game Committee met on October 2, 2018. The Committee reviewed the proposed permanent rule for cervid carcasses and carcass parts. The Committee reviewed and discussed the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies best practices for prevention, surveillance, and management of chronic wasting disease (CWD). Staff was asked to provide the Committee with research on danger of CWD contamination from use of deer urine as an attractant.

**Committee of the Whole (COW) Report** – Chairman Coley reported that the COW met on October 2, 2018. Lieutenant Sam Craft provided an update about the Commission's Law Enforcement Division hurricane response and more than 100 rescues that were conducted. Alicia Davis updated the COW about the first alligator population reduction hunt that was held in Hyde County. One alligator was harvested on the final day of the season. Brian McRae, Land and Water Access Section Chief, announced that an informal opinion survey was conducted about Sunday hunting on game lands. Staff was asked to conduct further studies before consideration by the Commission. Lena Gallitano of the N.C. Audubon Society gave a short presentation about impacts of Sunday hunting on game lands to bird watchers and other alternate game land users. The COW discussed proposed rules to take to statewide public hearings in January 2019. Executive Director Myers reviewed the proposed 2019 Commission's public meeting schedule.

# AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – AGENCY BOATING AND FISHING ACCESS PROGRAM

Sara Sherman, Facility Construction Engineer and Steve Bailey, Western Region CI Project Manager, gave an update about the activities of the Land and Water Access Section. There are 238 Boating Access Areas (BAAs) across the state, of which 89 percent are ADA accessible. There are 142 Public Fishing Areas (PFA) statewide. All BAAs are free to the public. The majority of PFAs are free to the public, but some partner-operated sites do have a small charge to pay for maintenance. Property for the popular BAAs and PFAs may be purchased through grant programs, partnerships, and local governments. The agency works with the N.C. Department of Transportation for properties to provide river access adjacent to road construction projects. Engineering Services leads the BAA projects and Inland Fisheries leads PFA projects. Six agency engineers oversee design, permitting, and construction administration. There are three in-house construction crews. On average the agency completes nine major projects per year. Sherman and Bailey mentioned the States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA) Annual Conference Awards given recently to the Commission. Past SOBA awards included Vandemere BAA (2017), Oyster Creek (2006), and Program Excellence (2012). At this year's SOBA Conference, the Commission received an Outstanding Project Award for Shell Rock Landing BAA and the Presidential Award in partnership with Duke Energy for a group of three projects in the Yadkin-Pee Dee Basin: Lilly's Bridge BAA, Stony Mountain BAA, and Pee Dee BAA.

# LAND AND WATER ACCESS SECTION

**Section Update** – Land and Water Access Section Chief Brian McRae recognized the Land and Water Access staff for re-opening multiple access areas after the hurricane. At Texas Plantation Game Land, staff will work with Jamie Rader of Ducks Unlimited to restore wetlands. Six wetland units are planned.

**Proposed Changes in 2019-2020 Game Land Rules for Presentation at Statewide Public Hearings** – On a motion by Tommy Fonville and second by Wes Seegars, the Commission approved proposed rules for game lands to be presented at statewide public hearings in January 2019 presented in **Exhibit C-1.** Chairman Coley excluded rule proposals 14 and 15 from the motion based on discussion during the previous day's Committee of the Whole meeting. **Exhibit C-1** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

### **Bear/Bear Sanctuaries**

 Clarify bear sanctuary rules in the NCAC and update the county locations of existing bear sanctuaries. Additionally, Bombing Range Bear Sanctuary and part of Green Swamp Bear Sanctuary will be renamed Dare Bear Sanctuary and Juniper Creek Bear Sanctuary, respectively.
 *15A NCAC 10B .0202 Bear 15A NCAC 10D .0106 Bear Sanctuaries*

#### **Use of Areas Regulated**

 Prohibit the use of gasoline powered motors on Ethridge Pond Public Fishing Area and Newbold Pond Public Fishing Area in Edgecombe County.
 15A NCAC 10E .0104 Use of Areas Regulated

#### **Game Lands**

- Establish a December archery season on South Mountains Game Land and Buffalo Cove Game Land for antlered deer.
   15A NCAC 10D.0103 Hunting on game lands
- 2) Establish the Conservative either-sex season on Buxton Woods Game Land. *15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands*
- Allow deer of either sex to be taken during the first open Saturday of the Deer with Visible Antlers Season at Cold Mountain Game Land.
   15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- 4) Add Hyde County to the list of counties comprising Dare Game Land. *15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands*
- 5) Change the designation of Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County from a Permit Only Area to a Three Days per Week Area with turkey and deer hunting by permit only. 15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- Designate the Little Macedonia Tract of Green Swamp Game Land as a permit-only area for all hunting and trapping. 15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- Allow the public to camp in designated camping areas during open hunting seasons on Johns River Game Land.
   15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- Allow camping within 100 yards of the Neuse River on the Turkey Quarter Creek Island Tract of Neuse River Game Lands. 15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- 9) Prohibit target shooting on the Perkins Game Land in Davie County. 15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- 10) Add Pender County to the list of counties comprising Whitehall Plantation Game Land. *15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands*
- Prohibit the pursuing or chasing of deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting on the Long Ridge Tract of Whitehall Plantation Game Land.
   15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

- 12) Prohibit target shooting on White Oak River Game Land. 15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands
- 13) Prohibit target shooting on Bertie County Game Land, Brinkleyville Game Land, Chowan Swamp Game Land, Embro Game Land, Lower Fishing Creek Game Land, Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land, Sandy Creek Game Land, Shocco Creek Game Land, Tar River Game Land, Tillery Game Land, and Voice of America Game Land.
  154 NGLC 10D 0102 Heating Creek Game Land.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on game lands

**Fiscal Note for Proposed 2019-2020 Game Land Rules -** On a motion by Tommy Fonville and second by Brad Stanback, the Commission approved the Fiscal Note for proposed amendments to the 2019-2020 game land rules, presented in **Exhibit C-2. Exhibit C-2** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## PROPERTY MATTERS

**NCDOT Easement Request – Shooting Creek Public Fishing Access, Clay County –** With Landon Zimmer recused, and on a motion by Tommy Fonville and second by David Hoyle, Jr., the Commission approved **Exhibit D**, a permanent utility easement request by the N.C. Department of Transportation at the Shooting Creek Public Fishing Access in Clay County. **Exhibit D** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Easement Disposition – Old Perley Toll Road, Pisgah Game Land, Yancey County** – On a motion by Tommy Fonville and second by Brad Stanback, the Commission approved working with the National Park Service to dispose of an easement on the Old Perley Toll Road on Pisgah Game Land in Yancey County, presented in **Exhibit E. Exhibit E** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Exhibit F Removed from Agenda** – Based upon discussion at the Committee of the Whole meeting on October 2, 2018, **Exhibit F**, disposition of a farm house at Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County, was removed from the agenda so that staff may conduct further research on the value of the house and property.

### **INLAND FISHERIES**

**Division Update** - Inland Fisheries Division Chief Christian Waters shared updates on fish production activities including Delayed Harvest Trout Waters stockings., muskellunge tagging and stocking, and stocking Lake sturgeon in the French Broad River. A Lake sturgeon stocked in 2015 as a 6-inch fingerling was recently caught by an angler in the French Broad River measuring 24 inches in length.

**Proposed Changes in 2019-2020 Inland Fishing Rules for Presentation at Statewide Public Hearings** – On a motion by David Hoyle, Jr. and second by Tommy Fonville, the Commission approved staff recommendations for proposed changes in 2019-2020 inland fishing rules to be presented at statewide public hearings in January 2019. Exhibit G-1 is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

#### Trout

- Designate Apalachia Reservoir in Cherokee County as Public Mountain Trout Waters and classify as Special Regulation Trout Waters and establish a 3-fish daily creel limit including only one trout greater than 14 inches. 15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters 15A NCAC 10C .0316 Trout
- Modify the upper boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters on Helton Creek in Ashe County removing approximately 1.0 mile from Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be from the S.R. 1372 bridge to the North Fork New River.
   15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 3) Modify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Big Laurel Creek in Madison County removing 4.7 miles from Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be from Puncheon Fork to the S.R. 1318 [Big Laurel Rd.] bridge downstream of Bearpen Branch. 15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- Modify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Meadow Fork Creek in Madison County removing 1.0 mile from Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be from Meadow Fork Campground to Spring Creek.
   15A NCAC 10C.0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 5) Modify the lower boundary of Delayed Harvest Trout Waters on East Fork French Broad River in Transylvania County removing 0.9 miles from Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be from East Fork Baptist Church to the downstream S.R. 1107 bridge. 15A NCAC 10C .0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- 6) Modify the lower boundary of the upper Delayed Harvest Trout Waters section on the Watauga River in Watauga County removing approximately 0.4 miles from Public Mountain Trout Waters. The designated reach will be from the S.R. 1114 bridge to the Valle Crucis Community Park lower boundary. 15A NCAC 10C.0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters
- Clarify the upper boundary of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters on Big Hungry River in Henderson County. The designated reach is from S.R. 1885 to the Green River. This proposal will not add or remove any Public Mountain Trout Waters.
   15A NCAC 10C.0205 Public Mountain Trout Waters

#### **Black Bass**

- Remove the closed harvest season of December 1 to March 31 for black bass at Sutton Lake. The minimum size limit is 14 inches, and the daily creel limit is five fish. 15A NCAC 10C .0305 Black Bass
- Clarify that the exception to the general statewide regulation for black bass establishing a 14-inch minimum size limit with no exception in the Albemarle Sound and its tributaries applies to all associated tributaries and canals of all tributary river systems.
   15A NCAC 10C.0305 Black Bass

### Crappie

- Remove the exception to the general statewide regulation for crappie in B. Everett Jordan Reservoir by reducing the minimum size limit from 10 inches to 8 inches. The creel limit would remain 20 fish per day. *15A NCAC 10C .0306 Crappie*
- Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for crappie in the North Carolina portion of John H. Kerr Reservoir by implementing a 9-inch minimum size limit and a 25-fish daily creel limit. 15A NCAC 10C .0306 Crappie

### American Shad and Hickory Shad

 Modify the general statewide regulation for American Shad and Hickory Shad to establish a daily creel limit of 10 fish in combination, including no more than 1 American Shad. This proposal will not affect river systems where harvest of more than one American Shad is specifically allowed (Tar River, Cape Fear River, Pee Dee River, and their tributaries) or in select Piedmont reservoirs where no American Shad may be possessed.

15A NCAC 10C .0313 Shad (American and Hickory)

#### **Striped Bass**

 Modify the exception to the general statewide regulation for Striped Bass and their hybrids in the portion of the Dan River downstream of the dam at Union Street in Danville, VA and in the North Carolina portion of John H. Kerr Reservoir by reducing the minimum size limit from 24 to 20 inches from October 1 to May 31. The daily creel limit would remain two in combination from October 1 to May 31. From June 1 to September 30, there is no minimum size limit and a 4-fish daily creel limit. *15A NCAC 10C .0314 Striped Bass*

#### Alewife and Blueback Herring

- Extend the upper boundary for the river herring (Alewife and Blueback Herring) harvest moratorium on the Neuse River upstream from Milburnie Dam, which has been removed, to Falls Lake Dam.
   15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes 15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait and Personal Consumption
- Remove the possession restriction for river herring (Alewife and Blueback Herring) in the Little Tennessee River Basin except for waters in and upstream of Lake Santeetlah and Cedar Cliff Lake.
   15A NCAC 10C .0211 Possession of Certain Fishes 15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait and Personal Consumption

### Catfish

 Establish an exception to the general statewide regulation for catfish in the Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam to the South Carolina state line and all tributaries by implementing a daily creel limit of five catfish in combination.
 15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes

### **Triploid Grass Carp**

 Prohibit the possession or take of Grass Carp on the North Carolina portion of John H. Kerr Reservoir and Lake Norman except for scientific study by permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission. 15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes

#### Nongame Fishes

1) Clarify that the restriction on altering the appearance of nongame fishes subject to a size and/or creel limit such that the fish cannot be identified, measured, or counted applies only to species and associated locations with specific size and/or creel limits.

15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes 15A NCAC 10C .0402 Taking Nongame Fishes for Bait and Personal Consumption

### Equipment

 Extend the upper boundary for the use of bow nets as a special device on the Neuse River upstream from Milburnie Dam, which has been removed, to Falls Lake Dam.
 15A NCAC 10C .0407 Permitted Special Devices and Open Seasons Limit the use of archery equipment on Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam to the South Carolina state line and all tributaries for the take of catfish only.
 15A NCAC 10C .0401 Manner of Taking Nongame Fishes

**Fiscal Note for Proposed 2019-2020 Inland Fishing Rules** – On a motion by Tommy Fonville and second by Landon Zimmer, the Commission approved the Fiscal Note for proposed changes to the 2019-2020 inland fishing rules, presented in **Exhibit G-2. Exhibit G-2** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

# WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

**Division Update** – Wildlife Management Division Chief Dr. David Cobb commended staff for staying up to date on state of the art CWD related matters, revising surveillance protocol, and initiating efforts to revise the Commission's Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Response Plan. Dr. Cobb announced that the CWD Response Plan and surveillance protocol documents will be sent to Commissioners.

**Proposed Changes in 2019-2020 Wildlife Management Rules for Presentation at Statewide Public Hearings** – On a motion by John Clark and second by David Hoyle, Jr., the Commission approved **Exhibit H-1**, staff recommendation for proposed changes in 2019-2020 wildlife management rules to be presented at statewide public hearings in January 2019. Commissioners Monty Crump and Landon Zimmer noted their objections to sending the proposed fox squirrel rule to public hearings. **Exhibit H-1** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

# Trapping

Extend the regulated trapping season in and east of Hertford, Bertie, Martin, Pitt, Greene, Lenoir, Duplin, Pender, and New Hanover counties to begin on November 1, instead of December 1. Under this proposal the statewide trapping season would be November 1 through the last day in February.
 *15A NCAC 10B.0303*

### **Rabbits**

 Extend rabbit hunting season by opening it on the Monday on or nearest October 15, instead of the Saturday before Thanksgiving, and running through the last day in February. *15A NCAC 10B.0207*

### **Fox Squirrels**

 Open fox squirrel hunting in all 100 counties (versus 27 counties currently open) and extend the season to close on January 31, instead of December 31.
 15A NCAC 10B.0206

# **Cervid Carcass Importation**

 Implement as permanent rule, changes in the rule regulating importation of cervid carcass and carcass parts to prohibit such importation from any location outside of North Carolina, except as specified. *15A NCAC 10B.0214*

# **Archery Equipment**

 Modify the rule specifying allowed archery equipment to: a) define archery equipment, b) specify allowed uses for archery equipment utilizing an elastic string, c) add elk, alligators, and feral swine to broadhead and minimum pull requirements, and d) eliminate the prohibition of barbed arrowheads. *15A NCAC 10B.0116*

**Fiscal Note Review for Proposed 2019-2020 Wildlife Management Rules** – On a motion by John Clark and second by John Stone, the Commission approved the Fiscal Note for proposed changes to the 2019-2020 wildlife management rules, presented in **Exhibit H-2** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

# LAW ENFORCEMENT

**Proposed Changes in 2019-2020 Law Enforcement Rules for Presentation at Statewide Public Hearings** – On a motion by Monty Crump and second by David Hoyle, Jr., the Commission approved **Exhibit I**, presented by Law Enforcement Division Chief Colonel Jon Evans for proposed changes in the 2019-2020 law enforcement rules to be presented at statewide public hearings in January 2019. **Exhibit I** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## Warning Tickets

 Updates the list of offenses for which warning tickets are prohibited and removes the specific list of offenses for which warning tickets may be issued.
 15A NCAC 10A .1001

### **Summary Disposition**

 Allows the Executive Director to determine the disposition of seized fish or wildlife and details the factors to be considered when determining disposition.
 *15A NCAC 10A .1500*

# WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING

**Rulemaking Application – 15A NCAC 10F .0317 – Stanly County, Lake Tillery** - Based upon a recommendation against proceeding with rulemaking from the Boating Safety Committee on October 2, 2018, after review of an assessment matrix that did not find sufficient hazards to boater safety, Monty Crump made a motion that was seconded by Mark Craig and carried, to deny an application from Stanly County for an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0317, presented in **Exhibit J**, to establish a no-wake zone in a cove south of Talon Court on Lake Tillery. **Exhibit J** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Rulemaking Application – 15A NCAC 10F .0303 – Beaufort County** – On a motion by Ray Clifton and second by David Hoyle, Jr., the Commission approved an application from Beaufort County, presented in **Exhibit K**, to publish Notice of Text in the *NC Register* and hold a public hearing with open comment period, for an amendment to 15A NCAC 10F .0303 for a no-wake zone in the canals at the eastern end of the peninsula at Whichard Beach between Chocowinity Bay and the Pamlico River. **Exhibit K** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

### ADOPTION OF THE 2019 WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

On a motion by John Clark and second by Wes Seegars the Commission adopted the 2019 schedule of N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission meetings presented in **Exhibit L**. The schedule is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2019

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2019

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2019** 

### **COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

Chairman Coley thanked agency staff and Law Enforcement for their work on hurricane rescues, recovery, and ongoing repairs.

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

Executive Director Myers thanked Commissioners and staff for their stamina at all-day committee meetings on October 2, 2018. Myers introduced the new agency Assistant Attorney General Jessica Helms.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Coley at 10:45 a.m.

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

John Coley, Chairman

Date

#### **NC Wildlife Resources Commission** CAFR 52G - Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Fiscal Year 2018-19 (Through November 28, 2018)

CAFR 52G (Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances)
Governmental Funds
MDC: 17xgov Updated: 11/28/2018 01:05:05 AM
Report Format 07/10/2018

[17 NC Wildlife Resources] [All GASB Numbers] [GAAP Fund Type] [All Accounts] [All Budget Codes] [ARRA] [FY 2019] [November] YTD ACTUAL

	General	Capital Improvement	Permanent
EVENUES			
Federal funds	13,311,545.20	1,788,995.00	0.00
Local funds	2,827.61	0.00	0.00
Investment earnings	55,525.05	0.00	211,612.86
Sales and services	3,851,756.63	0.00	0.00
Rental and lease of property	5,903.40	0.00	0.00
Fees, licenses and fines	15,283,373.72	0.00	1,640,590.00
Contributions, gifts and grants	563,007.29	200,000.00	59,973.40
Miscellaneous	40,303.53	0.00	0.00
OTAL REVENUES	33,114,242.43	1,988,995.00	1,912,176.26
XPENDITURES			
Personal services	14,188,795.20	0.00	0.00
Employee benefits	5,827,646.21	0.00	0.00
Contracted personal services	3,721,990.48	79,263.13	0.00
. Supplies and materials	3,510,074.86	322,556.45	0.00
Travel	181,592.44	0.00	0.00
Communication	319,324.48	23,466.04	0.00
Utilities	276,377.83	0.00	0.00
Data processing services	439,329.20	0.00	0.00
Other services	1,572,375.70	697.16	0.00
. Claims and benefits	545,696.76	0.00	0.00
Debt service:			
Other fixed charges	136,290.68	100.00	0.00
Capital outlay	1,395,622.77	2,600,682.52	0.00
. Grants, state aid and subsidies	535,214.82	0.00	0.00
. Insurance and bonding	41,441.53	0.00	0.00
Other expenditures	597,776.02	6,525.00	0.00
. Unclassified/invalid accounts	47,970.77	0.00	0.00
. Reimbursements	-400,140.46	0.00	0.00

#### NC Wildlife Resources Commission CAFR 52G - Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Fiscal Year 2018-19 (Through November 28, 2018)

#### CAFR 52G (Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances) Governmental Funds MDC: 17xgov Updated: 11/28/2018 01:05:05 AM

Report Format 07/10/2018

[17 NC Wildlife Resources] [All GASB Numbers] [GAAP Fund Type] [All Accounts] [All Budget Codes] [ARRA] [FY 2019] [November] YTD ACTUAL

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	32,937,379.29	3,033,290.30	0.00
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	176,863.14	-1,044,295.30	1,912,176.26
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
. Sale of capital assets	136,286.37	0.00	0.00
. Transfers in	15,742,139.42	1,280,134.30	0.00
. Transfers out	-19,070,533.27	-337,614.90	-1,254,086.00
. Appropriations	5,395,104.37	0.00	0.00
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	2,202,996.89	942,519.40	-1,254,086.00
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	2,379,860.03	-101,775.90	658,090.26
FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, As previously stated	14,838,043.55	3,986,758.85	123,569,426.52
FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30	17,217,903.58	3,884,982.95	124,227,516.78

# EXHIBIT B

## NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND FUND BALANCES AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2018

BOND INDEX FUND (BIF)	\$104,073,927.83
EQUITY INDEX FUND (EIF)	13,647,058.50
SHORT TERM INVESTMENT FUND (STIF)	5,768,731.87
TOTAL WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCE AS OF 10/31/18	\$ 123,489,718.20

INTEREST INCOME WITHIN FUNDS	EXPENDABLE	NO	N-EXPENDABLE
ADULT LICENSE SALES	\$27,775,498.55		
INFANT LICENSE SALES			\$12,549,509.36
YOUTH LICENSE SALES			1,128,686.45
CONTRIBUTIONS	1,049,404.63		
WILDLIFE DIVERSITY	2,208.81		
MAGAZINE SALES	546,381.54		
	\$ 29,373,493.53	\$	13,678,195.81

# 2018-2019 Approved Endowment Fund Interest Allocations

		Amount	
Division	Name of Project	Requested	Notes
Finance	Land Acquisition and HQ Bond Payments	2,066,723.00	Land acquisition bond payments (11/1/18-6/1/19: 2017B \$73,572; 2014B \$456,075; 2014C \$197,892) and HQ bond payments (11/1 and 5/1: 2011B \$1,339,184) funding from WEF to free up timber revenue for salary increases.
Law Enforcement	Replace approximately 100 SOFT body armor vests for the officers whose body armor will be out of warranty in April 2019.	100,000.00	This will replace all body armor purchased by LED in 2014 . We have instituted a "mandatory wear policy". This results in current armor being worn every day and receiving much higher wear and tear than in the past. The WRC now requires officers to wear the body armor each day (except under reasonable exceptions) and the industry standard is currently five year replacement. All officers hired since 2010 have had their body armor replaced every five years, so we only need to purchase approximately 100 units. We purchase state contract body armor like all other state L.E. agencies.
Land and Water Access/Eng. Services	Vaughan & Dixon Acquisition (State Match)	58,236.50	State match to PR land acquisition grant. The primary benefit resulting from this acquisition is the purchase of a second access to the Mapleton Tract of Chowan Swamp Game Land. Currently, game land users have one access point on the northwestern portion of the tract. The proposed acquisition will provide a second access at the southwestern corner of the tract.
Land and Water Access/Eng.		50,250.50	Acquisition of this tract provides critical vehicular access to a tract at Johns River GL where no practical access exists.
Services Land and Water Access/Eng. Services	Corpening Estate Tract Acquisition (State Match) Burnsville Depot (State Match)	115,000.00	State match to PR grant for new Burnsville Depot. Current depot was built in 1980 and is aging rapidly. The current footprint and facility are limiting capacity and efficiency and will need extensive remodeling in the near future that will likely near the cost of building a new building. This amount allows the division to complete the advanced planning phase of the project.
Land and Water Access/Eng. Services Wildlife	Odom Shooting Range (State Match) AP canid study		State match to PR hunter education grant for range construction and 1/2 of the road construction. State match for study to provide data on canid ecology in Hyde, Dare and Tyrell
Management Wildlife			counties
Management Education Education	eMammal project Pechmann Center Pond repair Headquarters Audio/visual update	143,000.00	State match for the eMammal Project. Several of the ponds at the Pechmann Center have become unusable for the public and are drained. This allows completion of next phase of the repair work and ability for staff to refill the pond to provide additional programming. This would cover the state match of potential SFR funds. Upgrade the Auditorium, Commission Hearing Room, Groundhog Room with audio/visual equipment.
Education	Youth Hunter Education Skills Tournament Awards		These funds were approved by the Commissioners in 2015 to send the top 3 teams a the Junior and Senior YHEST teams (6 total) to the National Competition.

Total Approved Allocation 18-19

\$ 3,072,959.50

# Exhibit D-1

# December 06, 2018

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

# Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

# Tract Name: Herrin Tract

# WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): December 08, 2016

# Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):

Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant	\$200,000
Wildlife Restoration Funds	\$398,000
TOTAL COST	\$598,000

Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale? $\Box$ Yes $\Box$ No $\Box$ N/A	Acquisition	Plan	Includes	Bargain	Sale?  \Begin{pmatrix} Yes	⊠No	$\Box$ N/A
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# If Yes, Explain Details:

<b>Total Cost Based on Appraisal</b> ? ⊠Yes	□No	$\Box$ N/A
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If Yes, Describe in Table:

<b>Requested By</b>	Appraiser	<b>Effective Date</b>	Appraised Value
WRC	Michael D.	March 2017	\$598,000
	Smith		

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?** ⊠Yes □No □N/A

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

Federal Assistance Grant – 75% federal: 25% state

# Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$ 34,262.50
Total Projected Revenue	<b>\$</b> 0

# Exhibit D-1

# December 06, 2018

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

# Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET

# Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections: Herrin Tract

Estimated Stewardship Costs					
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost	
Contract Survey	17,210	Ft	\$1.25	\$21,512.50	
Install Gate	1	Ea.	\$750	\$ 750.00	
Annual Mowing	NA	NA	NA	\$ 2,000.00	
Construct public parking/camping area	1	Ea.	\$10,000	\$ 10,000.00	
TOTAL				\$ 34,262.50	

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
TOTAL				

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

#### -PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION-

### WRC Staff Contact: Kip Hollifield

Date First Presented to WRC: December 8, 2016

Game Land: Pond Mountain Game Land

Tract Name: Herrin Tracts

Acreage: 140.3 Parcel ID# 07102 017 (Tract 1) 34.4 Parcel ID# 07102 017 (Tract 2) 174.7 Total Acres

County: Ashe

Estimated Value: Tract 1, \$350,800 (tax value) <u>Tract 2, \$137,600 (tax value)</u> Total \$488,400

<b>Property Owner or Representative</b> :	Tony Herrin
Address:	288 Queens Cove Rd., Mooresville, NC 28117
Phone:	(704) 996-5757
Email:	<u>qualitymovinman@aol.com</u>

**Status**:  $\square$  High Interest  $\square$  Moderate Interest  $\square$  Low Interest  $\square$  No Interest

**Grant Potential**: 🖾 CWMTF

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

**Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief)**: The larger Herrin tract, representing approximately 140 acres, borders Pond Mountain Game Land at its southeastern end and would extend State ownership to Whenlin Ridge Road (S.R. 1359), providing approximately 0.4 mi. of road frontage. An additional public parking area as well as a designated camping area could be provided in this location.

Tract elevation ranges from approximately 3,200 - 4,000 ft. Appalachian oak and Appalachian cove forests are the most prevalent habitat types on the tract, with a small amount of open and old field habitat. The tract also contains approximately 1,700 feet of Little Horse Creek, and another 3,000 feet of unnamed tributary. These habitats will provide excellent opportunities to

manage for the following species of greatest conservation need: Northern pigmy salamander, Weller's salamander, Southern ravine salamander, Yonahlossee salamander, Veery, Eastern milksnake, Eastern box turtle, Appalachian cottontail, and ruffed grouse. A portion of the riparian area on the tract lies within an old pasture. Some of this area may be suitable for bog restoration and could potentially provide habitat for bog turtle. The tracts also contain many popular game animals such as white-tailed deer, black bear, wild turkey, cottontail rabbit, ruffed grouse, and raccoon.

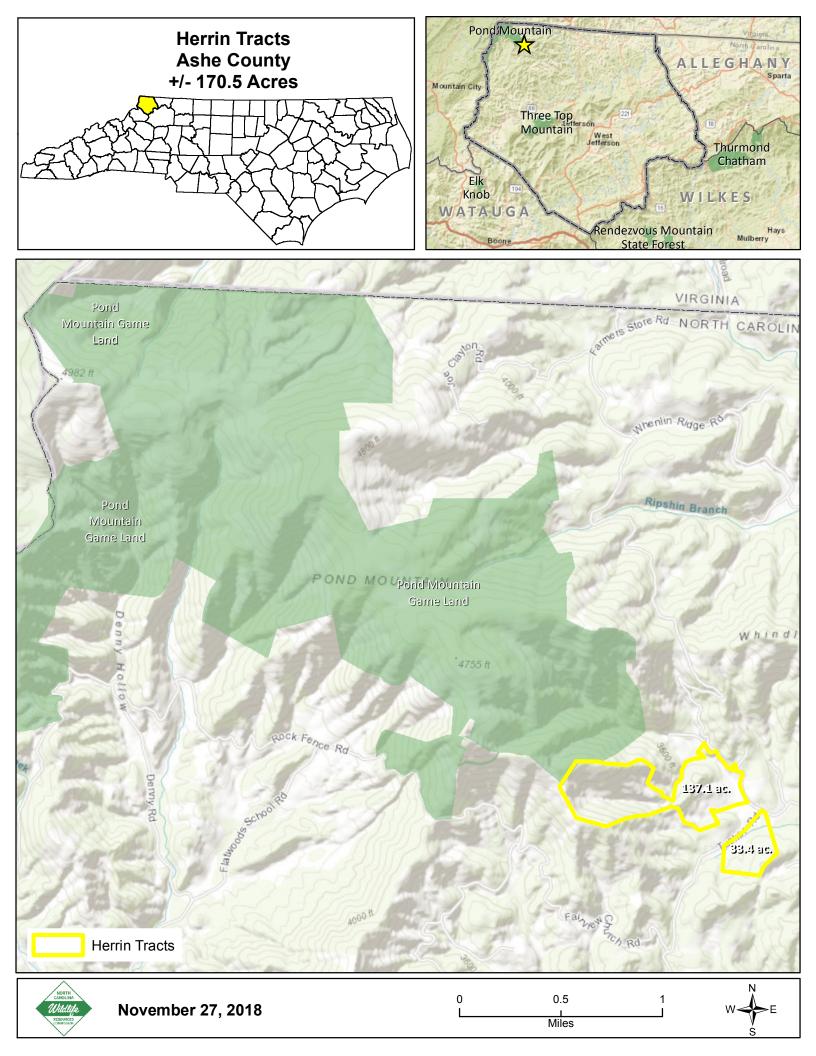
The property has high value for hunting and other dispersed recreational activities, forestry, and scientific and educational purposes. The location and current condition of this tract combine to create an ideal property for inclusion in the Game Lands Program.

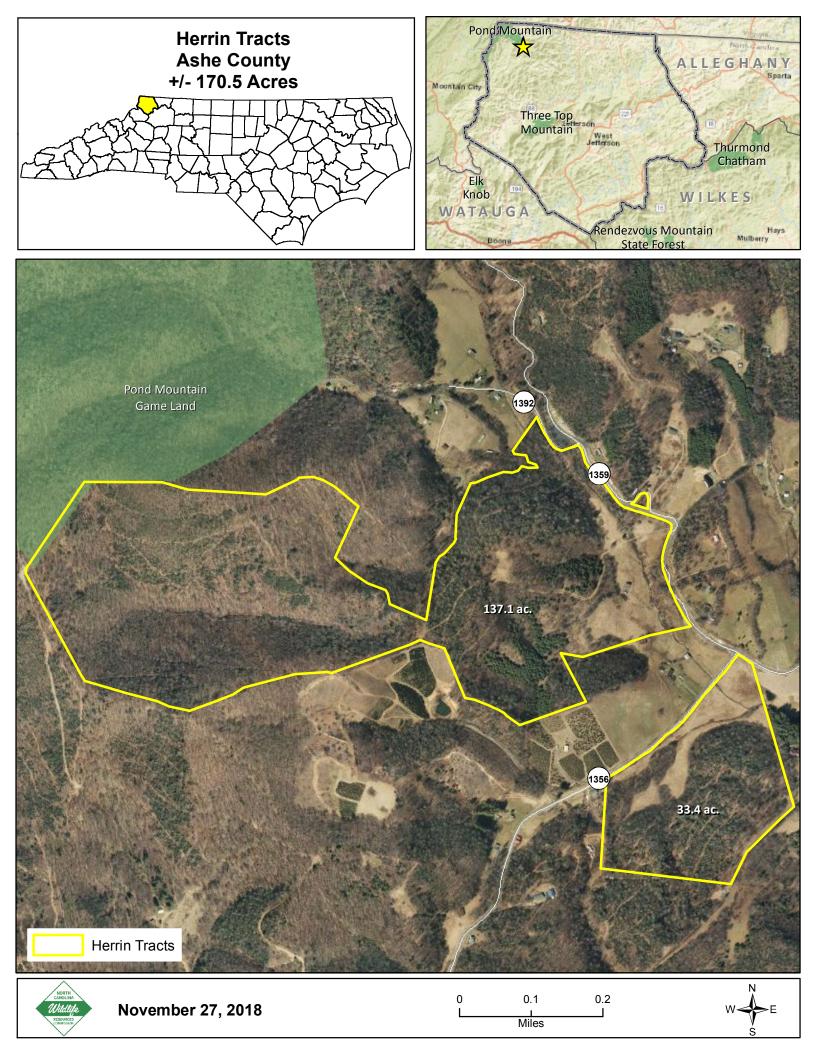
The smaller 34-acre Herrin tract is located just south of the larger tract and contains approximately 500 feet of frontage on Tucker Road (S.R. 1356). Habitats are similar to the larger tract, with Appalachian oak and Appalachian cove forests most prevalent. Elevation ranges from 3,400 to 3,600 feet. Approximately 1,400 feet of unnamed tributary to Little Horse Creek passed through the tract. Of primary importance is the presence of significant wetlands and bog habitat within the cleared portion of the property historically used for pasture and/or hay production. If acquired and protected, the potential for this tract to provide critical habitat for the federally threatened bog turtle is high.

Additional Comments: None

<b>Program Potential</b> :	ial: 🖾 Game Land (Pond Mtn.)		□ Wildlife Conservation Area	
	□ Fishing Access Are	ea 🗆 Boa	ating Access Area	
Pittman-Robertson Fe	of Stewardship Funds ederal Assistance Gran aluation Score (attacl	t (75% federal:	eral:state match rates): 25% state) 29 of 30	
Recommendation:	☑ Pursue Acquisition	□ Defer	Do not Pursue Acquisition	

Map Attached:  $\boxtimes$  Yes  $\square$  No





# Exhibit D-2

# December 06, 2018

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

# Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS

# Tract Name: Salters Creek Tract

# WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): 10/05/2017

# Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):

Land will be acquired by NCCLT and transferred to WRC in June 2019. WRC will contribute \$200,000 of grant funds at closing.

NAWCA	\$1,030,000
Military Funds	\$1,920,000
Private Funds	\$40,000
Duke Water Resources	\$100,000
Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant	\$1,170,000
NFWF Duke NC/VA Waters Funds	\$200,000 *These are the funds WRC is providing
TOTAL COST	\$4,460,000

Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?  — Yes	⊠No	$\Box N/A$
If Vog Eurolain Dataila		

If Yes, Explain Details:

Total	<b>Cost Based</b>	on Appraisal?	⊠Yes	□No	$\Box$ N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

<b>Requested By</b>	Appraiser	<b>Effective Date</b>	Appraised Value
NCCLT	Shackelford	November 2016	\$4,460,000

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?** □Yes □N/A

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

Federal Assistance Grant – 75% federal: 25% state

Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):

<b>Total Stewardship Expenditures</b>	\$ 652,030.00
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	\$ 0.00

# Exhibit D-2

# December 06, 2018

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

# **Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET**

# Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections: Salters Creek

Estimated Stewardship Costs				
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Establish Boundary	26.3	mi	\$2,500.00	\$65,750.00
Upgrade Access Road	3.8	mi	\$100,000.00	\$380,000.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 1	3.8	mi	\$2,500.00	\$9,500.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 2	3.8	mi	\$2,500.00	\$9,500.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 3	3.8	mi	\$2,500.00	\$9,500.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 4	3.8	mi	\$2,500.00	\$9,500.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 5	3.8	mi	\$2,500.00	\$9,500.00
Establish Gate	6	еа	\$1,000.00	\$6,000.00
Maintain Gate	6	ea	\$100.00	\$600.00
Prescribed Burning- yr 2	1727	ас	\$30.00	\$51,810.00
Prescribed Burning- yr 3	1727	ас	\$30.00	\$51,810.00
Prescribed Burning- yr 4	1727	ас	\$30.00	\$51,810.00
Maintain Boundary yr 1	5	mi	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00
Maintain Boundary yr 2	5	mi	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00
Maintain Boundary yr 3	5	mi	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00

Maintain Boundary	5	mi	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00
yr 4				
Maintain Boundary	5	mi	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00
yr 5				
TOTAL				\$ Total \$652,030.00

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
TOTAL				\$ Total \$ 0.00

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form – PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

WRC Staff Contact:	Richard Clark_Brent Wilson		
Date First Presented to Commission:	6/14/2017		
Tract Name:	Salter's Creek		
County:	Carteret		
Acreage:	5,495		
Tax Value:	\$2,796,774		
Property Owner/Representative:	Sailors of Sugg Harbor/NCCLT-Janice Allen		
Phone:	252-634-1927		
Email Address:	janice@coastallandtrust.org		
Address:	3301 Trent Road, Suite G New Bern, NC 28562		
X       Resource Protection         Resource Management         User Access         WRC Facility	Program Potential:         X       Game Land         Wildlife Conservation Area         Access Area         None         Type of Parcel:		
X Purchase Lease Easement Grant Potential:	X Tract Riparian Corridor		
X CWMTF	High		
Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)	X Moderate		
REPI	Low		
NAWCA	No		
Tax Value:	Stewardship Considerations:		
Year Assessed	PR Source:		
N PUV?	75/25 Match:		
Funding Considerations:	Recommendation:		
Donation	X Pursue		
Bargin Sale	Do Not Pursue		
X Partner Contribution	Defer		

#### Additional Comments:

NCCLT Transfer for \$100,000.00 Non-Federal funds. Owner's appraised value \$4,460,000

## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form – PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name: Salter's C County: Carteret

Salter's Creek (Sellers-Trustees of Sailors of Snug Harbor)

#### Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):

The Salter's Creek Tract consists of 5,495 acres in Carteret Co., between NC Hwy 12 and Long Bay approximately 2.5 miles NW of Atlantic, NC. It is adjacent to Cedar Island NWR and Piney Island Bombing Range (BT-11). This Tract hosts estuarine marsh, pocosin and longleaf pine ridges. 80% of site scored 10 while the remaining 20% scores 7 using the Biodiversity Wildlife Habitat Assessment. This land is within Natural Heritage's Exceptional Atlantic Natural Area and lies in a Sentinel Landscapes county, and is part of Audubon NC Cedar Island Marsh Important Bird Area (Tidal Marsh, Open Water). Species of Greatest Conservation Need potentially associated with this property include Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Wayne's black-throated green warbler, Carolina watersnake, Atlantic sturgeon, and the shortnose sturgeon. Primary access is provided by a single unimproved woods road approximately 3.5 miles in length. There are several spur roads/trails which could provide users access to most of the tract.

supressed. Pine woods have been thinned, however, longleaf pine and associated understory remain relatively intact.

Tract Name

August 8, 2017 Date Staff Completing Form

Salter Creek

Richard Clark, Cindy Simpson, Sarah Schweitzer, Brent Wilson

1. TERRESTRIAL SPECIES

of highest conservation priority in VA.

conservation priority in SC and VA.

Comments

Species	0.926
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	2
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	3
Game Species	3

Habitat	0.556
Size	2
Quality	1
Diversity	2
Rare/Important	2
Connectivity	2
Buffer	1

Public Access	0.556
Hunting/Viewing	1
Fishing	2
Boating	2

Wildlife Uses	0.667
Hunting	2
Viewing	2
Fishing	2
Boating	2
Education	2

Other Values	0.556
Timber Harvest	2
Local Economy	1
Quality of Life	2

Feasibility & Logistics	0.333
Existing Infrastructure	0
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	1
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	0
Proximity to Users	1

Restoration/Mitigation Potential	0.750
Species Restoration	2
Habitat Restoration	2
Access Improvement	2
Threat Mitigation	3

Number	
Number	2
Severity	2
Imminence	1
Manageability	2
Management Cost	1

**Overall Score** 

3.809

Со	mm	nent	s
т			

Tract contains RCW habitat which needs to be maintained through application of prescribed fire; burning mitigates any threat from disease and pest insects.

#### Comments 3. THREATS RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL

According to the NC Forest Service, there is a moderate to high risk of damage from insects and diseases. This can be mitigated through land management actions such as use of prescribed fire to maintain RCW habitat.

Comments

Comments Tract is high compatible with adjoining/existing land uses. Maintaining the tract as conservation land fits with the objectives of Sentinental Landscapes (DoD); provides a land use buffer for Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point; and extends protection buffers because of proximity to Cedar Island National Wildlife Refuge.

In additional to fisheries and wildlife habitats, the tract provides numerous ecosystem

d which divides tract in half. Access road would require significant upgrades. Tract is adjacent to Salters Creek BAA.

Opportunites exist for deer, bear, wild turkey and small game hunting. This particular tract would not be conducive to dog deer or bear hunting.

Wayne's Black-throated Green Warbler (considered by USFWS as Federal Species of Concern); also identified as SGCN of highest conservation priority in SC and VA.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker (federal and state listed as Endangered); also identified as SGCN

Atlantic Sturgeon (federal and state listed as Endangered); also identified as SGCN of highest

Shortnose Sturgeon (federal and state listed as Endangered); also identified as SGCN of

Large tract. Severely fire suppressed. 3 primary hab types, directly adjacent to existing

services: water quality protections, wetlands, and open space.

SGCN known to occur on the tract or in adjacent waters:

2. AQUATIC SPECIES (includes waters at property boundary)

Carolina Watersnake (state listed as Special Concern)

56	Comments
	Access is provided by a road

protected lands.

Comments

Comments

#### Instructions for filling out Phase I Worksheet

#### General

- 1. Fill in the gray cells in Cover Sheet and Page 2. The rest of these instructions pertain to the Worksheet.
- 2. The worksheet is for assessing opportunistic land acquisitions. Responses should reflect current conditions.
- 3. The worksheet is protected so that you can only edit certain cells. These are shaded gray.
- 4. The gray cells in the worksheet will change color after you have entered text or a numeric value.
- 5. Ratings for each metric must be an integer from 0 to 3. If you enter anything else, you will get a warning.

6. Except for the Threats category, 0 represents an undesirable condition (i.e., tract is not suitable for acquisition) and 3 represents a preferred condition (i.e., the tract is valuable and worth pursuing). For subjective metrics, start with a mindset that the parcel provides average/moderate conditions (i.e., rating of 2). Don't automatically give a rating of 3 without justification.

#### Species

- 1. If necessary, get assistance from staff in other Divisions/Programs or other sources (GIS, NHP, LCC models, etc.).
- 2. The scores are meant to be based on best professional judgment, not an exact count of species.
- 3. Rating: 3 = High species count; 2 = Moderate species count; 1 = Low species count; 0 = Very low species count.
- 4. Overall biodiversity means all species of each group.
- 5. SGCN species are those listed in the 2015 NC Wildlife Action Plan.
- 6. Game species are those managed for sport or take. For game species, also consider population size.

#### Habitat

- 1. Quality refers to habitat condition. Diversity refers to the variety of habitat types.
- 2. Rare/Important refers to critical habitat for listed or SCGN species. Consider quantity and quality.
- 3. Connectivity means the parcel provides a corridor to other conservation lands or connectivity in river systems.

4. Buffer means the parcel provides additional conservation land around a critical habitat type or allows managers to appropriately use tools such as prescribed fire without impacting adjoining land.

5. For all metrics except Size: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

6. Size: 3 = >3,000 acres; 2 = 1,000 - 3,000 acres; 1 = 100 - 1,000 acres; 0 = <100 acres

#### **Public Access**

- 1. The parcel provides public access to fish/wildlife resources on that parcel or to adjoining land or water.
- 2. Rating: 3 = Excellent existing access or provides critical access; 2 = Average; 1 = Poor; 0 = None

#### Wildlife Uses

- 1. Recreational or educational use of resources.
- 2. Rating: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

#### **Other Values**

- 1. Timber Harvest is not the value of timber, but the potential to produce, manage and harvest timber.
- 2. Local Economy is the ability of the parcel to act as an economic driver by attracting substantial public use (e.g., unique wildlife viewing, hunting, etc.).
- 3. Quality of Life is the indirect/secondary benefit to the local community by providing green space or walking/hiking opportunities.
- 4. Rating: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

#### **Feasibility & Logistics**

- 1. Existing Infrastructure includes road system, buildings, etc. Consider quantity and quality. If a liablity and has to be removed/repaired, score 0 or 1.
- 2. Compatibility of Multiple Uses is the ability of the parcel to provide hunting, viewing, fishing, etc. at the same time.
- 3. Compatibility with Adjoining Land should consider things like public safety, noise, prescribed burns, etc. Consider both the impact of wildlife users and management on adjoining land and adjoining landowners on the parcel.
- 4. Inholding/Corridor Does the parcel fill in a hole in existing WRC ownership or does it provide a wildlife corridor?
- 5. Proximity to Users refers to location of parcel to targeted user groups (e.g., new game land near population center).
- 6. Rating: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

#### **Restoration/Mitigation Potential**

1. Restoration Potential is the ability to improve species, habitat or access through natural processes or management actions.

Potential: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

2. Threat Mitigation is the degree to which the threat can be avoided, minimized or delayed by acquiring the parcel.

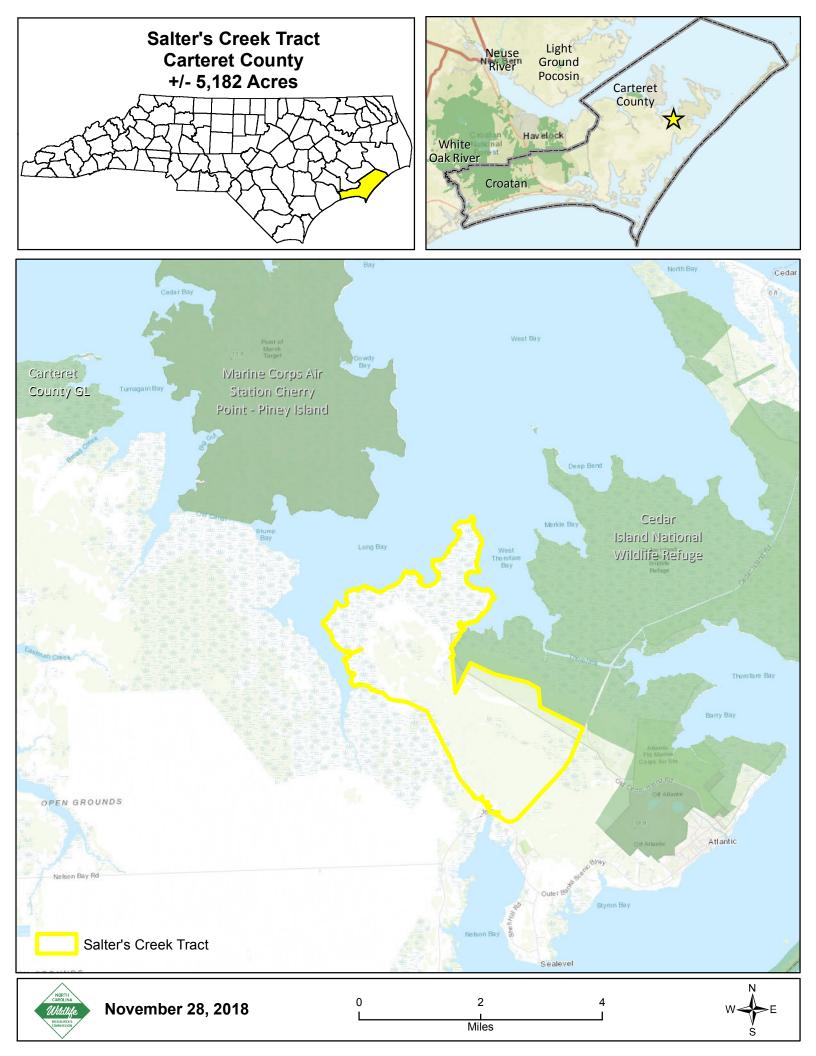
Mitigation: 3 = Avoids Threats; 2 = Minimizes Threats; 1 = Delays Threats; 0 = None

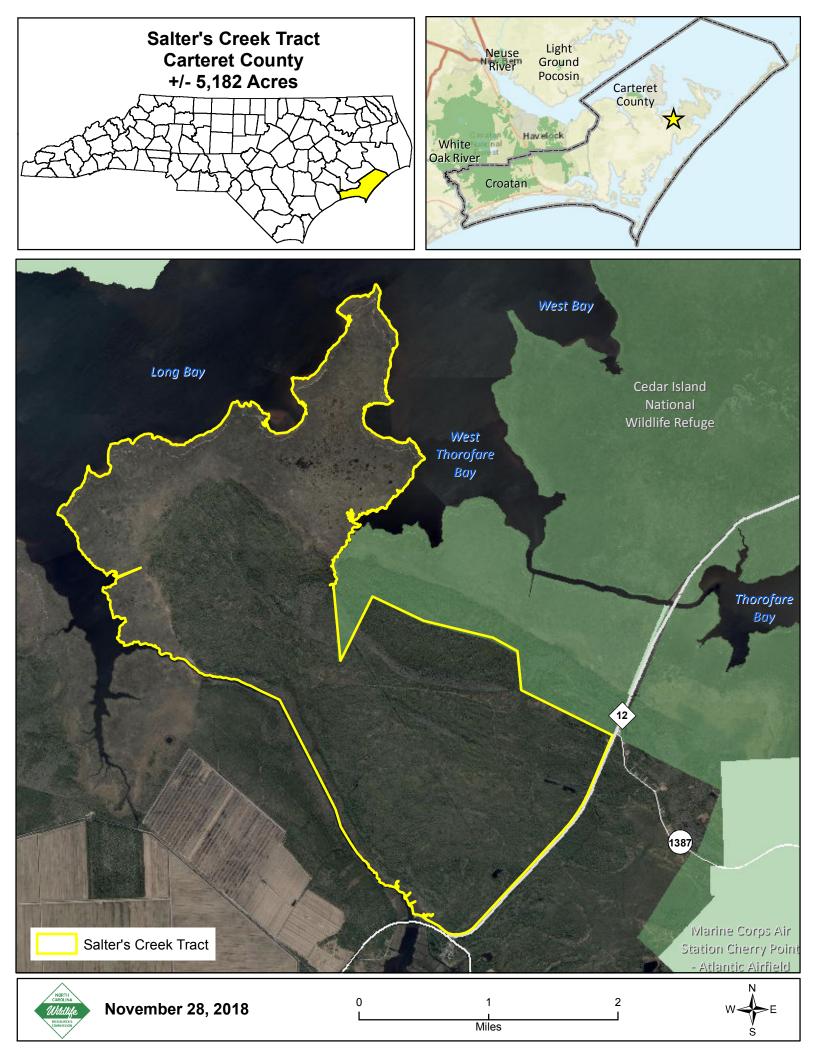
#### Threats

- 1. Threats reduce the value of a parcel, so the overall Threat score will be subtracted from the total score of the other metrics.
- 2. Number of Threats: 3 = Many; 2 = Some; 1 = Few; 0 = None
- 3. Severity of Threats: 3 = Critical; 2 = High; 1 = Moderate; 0 = Low
- 4. Imminence (time or distance) of Threats: 3 = Extant; 2 = Very Near; 1 = Moderately Near; 0 = Distant
- 5. Manageability of Threats: 3 = Unmanageable; 2 = Low; 1 = Moderate; 0 = High
- 6. Management Cost to Control Threats: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = Minimal

#### Scoring

- 1. Scoring for each section is normalized (range 0 1).
- 2. The overall score is calculated by adding individual section scores and subtracting the Threat score.
- 3. The overall score will not calculate unless there is at least one ranking filled in for each section, even if a zero.
- 4. The overall score ranges from 7 (all values high and no threats) to -1 (all values zero and high threats).





# Exhibit D-3

# December 06, 2018

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

# **Phase II: FINAL ACQUISITION DETAILS**

# Tract Name: Duck Creek Wetlands

# WRC Action/Approval to Pursue (Date): 4/26/2018

# Acquisition Plan (specify total project costs AND sources of funding):

Land will be acquired by NCCLT and transferred to WRC in June 2019. WRC will contribute \$200,000 of grant funds at closing.

<u>s providing</u>

Acquisition Plan Includes Bargain Sale?  $\Box$  Yes  $\boxtimes$  No  $\Box$  N/A If Yes, Explain Details:

**Total Cost Based on Appraisal**?  $\boxtimes$  Yes  $\square$  No  $\square$  N/A

If Yes, Describe in Table:

<b>Requested By</b>	Appraiser	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Appraised Value</b>
NCCLT	Earl Jones	January 2018	\$859,000

**Appraisal Handled by State Property Office?** □Yes □N/A

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

# Five-Year Stewardship Costs & Revenue Projections (worksheet attached):

Total Stewardship Expenditures	\$ 187,550.00	
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	\$ 0.00	

# Exhibit D-3

# December 06, 2018

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form

# **Phase II: COSTS AND REVENUE WORKSHEET**

# Estimated Five Year Stewardship Costs and Revenue Projections: Duck Creek Wetlands

Estimated Stewardship Costs				
Activity	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Establish Boundary	6	mi	\$2,500.00	\$15,000.00
Upgrade Access Road	1.5	mi	\$100,000.00	\$150,000.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 1	1.5	mi	\$2 <i>,</i> 500.00	\$3,750.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 2	1.5	mi	\$2,500.00	\$3,750.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 3	1.5	mi	\$2,500.00	\$3,750.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 4	1.5	mi	\$2,500.00	\$3,750.00
Maintain Access Road-yr 5	1.5	mi	\$2,500.00	\$3,750.00
Establish Gate	1	ea	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Maintain Gate	2	ea	\$100.00	\$200.00
Prescribed Burning- yr 2	100	ас	\$30.00	\$3,000.00
Prescribed Burning- yr 3	35	ас	\$30.00	\$1,050.00
Prescribed Burning- yr 4	35	ас	\$30.00	\$1,050.00
Maintain Boundary yr 1	1	mi	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Maintain Boundary yr 2	1	mi	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Maintain Boundary yr 3	1	mi	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00

1	mi	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
1	mi	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
			\$ Total \$187,550.00
	1		

Estimated Revenue Projections				
Source	Quantity	Unit	Unit Revenue	Total Revenue
TOTAL				\$ Total \$0

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form – PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

WRC Staff Contact:	Richard Clark/Brent Wilson	
Date First Presented to Commission:	2/8/2018	
Tract Name:	Duck Creek Wetlands	
County:	Craven	
Acreage:	715	
Tax Value:	\$450,740	
Property Owner/Representative:	Contact Janice Allan C/O NCCLT	
Phone:	252-634-1927	
Email Address:	janice@coastallandtrust.org	
Address:	3301 Trent Road, Suite G New Bern, NC 28562	
	· · · ·	
Primary Purpose:	Program Potential:	
X Resource Protection	X Game Land	
X Resource Management	Wildlife Conservation Area	
User Access	Access Area	
WRC Facility	None	
Where denity	None	
Type of Acquisition:	Type of Parcel:	
X Purchase	X Tract	
Lease	Riparian Corridor	
Easement		
Lasement		
Grant Potential:	Owner Interest:	
	X High	
Federal Aid (PR, WB, etc.)	Moderate	
X WRC (State funds)	Low	
Other (overwrite this cell)	No	
Tax Value:	Stewardship Considerations:	
2017 Year Assessed	PR Source:	
PUV?	75/25 Match:	
FOV:	73/23 Watch.	
Funding Considerations:	Recommendation:	
Donation	X Pursue	
Bargin Sale	Do Not Pursue	
X Partner Contribution	Defer	
Additional Comments:		

# North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Land Acquisition Investigation Form – PHASE I: INITIAL INVESTIGATION –

Tract Name: County: Duck Creek Wetlands Craven

## Resources Assessment and Biological Benefits (brief):

Duck Creek Wetlands tract lies between the Neuse River to the south and the Duck Creek tract of Neuse River GL to the north. Tract contains several habitat types including, LL pine ridge, high pocosin/pond pine forest, freshwater marsh, and estuarine fringe loblolly pine forest. This tract is part of the Duck Creek/Upper Broad Creek Natural Area, and is listed as a highly significant natural area. Game animals including white-tailed deer, black bear, wild turkey, bob-white quail, use this area. Non-game animals include neo-tropical migrants, amphibians and reptiles, including American alligator, and raptors, including bald eagle. A Biodiversity/Wildlife Habitat Index evaluation of this tract, provided a score of 8 out of 10 (1 -low and 10-high value). This index prioritizes aquatic and terrestrial habitat, lanscape function, and connectivity. Tract will be acquired by NCCLT who would ask WRC for \$100,000.00 at closing.

Tract Name

Date Fel Staff Completing Form Ric

Duck Creek Wetlands
February 8, 2018

**Richard Clark** 

0.889

2

2

3

3

3

3

Species	0.741
	Terrestrial
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	2
	Wetland
Overall Biodiversity	3
SGCN Species	2
Game Species	3
	Aquatic
Overall Biodiversity	2
SGCN Species	1
Game Species	2

Habitat

Quality

Buffer

Diversity

Rare/Important Connectivity

Size

### Comments

This tract scores 8 of 10 using Wildlife/Biodiversity Habitat Assessment. Will provide hunting opportunities for deer, turkey, quail, small game and waterfowl. Acquisition would protect water quality and provide a favorable environment for numerous species.

## Comments

Habitats are severly fire supressed. Burn units could easily be added to existing ones on Neusr River GL

Public Access	0.556
Hunting/Viewing	3
Fishing	1
Boating	1

Wildlife Uses	0.733
Hunting	3
Viewing	3
Fishing	1
Boating	1
Education	3

## Comments

Comments

Comments

Comments

Tract is directly adjacent to existing Neuse River GL.

Currently limited opportunity exists for timber harvest.

Existing roads are dirt-packed leading to a 480 acre outparcel.

Tract will allow for additional hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing for local citizens. Furthermore, this tract provides educational opportunities for students in the area.

Other Values	0.667
Timber Harvest	2
Local Economy	2
Quality of Life	2

Feasibility & Logistics	0.733
Existing Infrastructure	1
Compatibility of Multiple Uses on Tract	3
Compatibility with Adjoining Land	3
Inholding/Corridor	1
Proximity to Users	3

Restoration/Mitigation Potential	0.917
Species Restoration	3
Habitat Restoration	3
Access Improvement	2
Threat Mitigation	3

Threats	0.733
Number	2
Severity	2
Imminence	1
Manageability	3
Management Cost	3

**Overall Score** 

### Comments

Would provide opportunity for upland habitat improvement as well as protection of pond pine pocosins and Neuse River shoreline from development.

## Comments

4.502

Largest threats include loss to development, wildfire, and sea-level rise. The implementation of prescribed fire operations, will reduce loss risk from wildfire.

### Instructions for filling out Phase I Worksheet

#### General

- 1. Fill in the gray cells in Cover Sheet and Page 2. The rest of these instructions pertain to the Worksheet.
- 2. The worksheet is for assessing opportunistic land acquisitions. Responses should reflect current conditions.
- 3. The worksheet is protected so that you can only edit certain cells. These are shaded gray.
- 4. The gray cells in the worksheet will change color after you have entered text or a numeric value.
- 5. Ratings for each metric must be an integer from 0 to 3. If you enter anything else, you will get a warning.
- 6. Except for the Threats category, 0 represents an undesirable condition (i.e., tract is not suitable for acquisition) and 3 represents a preferred condition (i.e., the tract is

valuable and worth pursuing). For subjective metrics, start with a mindset that the parcel provides average/moderate conditions (i.e., rating of 2). Don't automatically give a rating of 3 without justification.

### Species

1. If necessary, get assistance from staff in other Divisions/Programs or other sources (GIS, NHP, LCC models, etc.).

2. The scores are meant to be based on best professional judgment, not an exact count of species.

- 3. Rating: 3 = High species count; 2 = Moderate species count; 1 = Low species count; 0 = Very low species count.
- 4. Overall biodiversity means all species of each group.
- 5. SGCN species are those listed in the 2015 NC Wildlife Action Plan.
- 6. Game species are those managed for sport or take. For game species, also consider population size.

### Habitat

- 1. Quality refers to habitat condition. Diversity refers to the variety of habitat types.
- 2. Rare/Important refers to critical habitat for listed or SCGN species. Consider quantity and quality.
- 3. Connectivity means the parcel provides a corridor to other conservation lands or connectivity in river systems.

4. Buffer means the parcel provides additional conservation land around a critical habitat type or allows managers to appropriately use tools such as prescribed fire without impacting adjoining land.

5. For all metrics except Size: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

6. Size: 3 = >3,000 acres; 2 = 1,000 - 3,000 acres; 1 = 100 - 1,000 acres; 0 = <100 acres

### **Public Access**

- 1. The parcel provides public access to fish/wildlife resources on that parcel or to adjoining land or water.
- 2. Rating: 3 = Excellent existing access or provides critical access; 2 = Average; 1 = Poor; 0 = None

#### Wildlife Uses

- 1. Recreational or educational use of resources.
- 2. Rating: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

#### **Other Values**

- 1. Timber Harvest is not the value of timber, but the potential to produce, manage and harvest timber.
- 2. Local Economy is the ability of the parcel to act as an economic driver by attracting substantial public use (e.g., unique wildlife viewing, hunting, etc.).
- 3. Quality of Life is the indirect/secondary benefit to the local community by providing green space or walking/hiking opportunities.
- 4. Rating: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

## Feasibility & Logistics

1. Existing Infrastructure includes road system, buildings, etc. Consider quantity and quality. If a liablity and has to be removed/repaired, score 0 or 1.

2. Compatibility of Multiple Uses is the ability of the parcel to provide hunting, viewing, fishing, etc. at the same time.

3. Compatibility with Adjoining Land should consider things like public safety, noise, prescribed burns, etc. Consider both the impact of wildlife users and management on adjoining land and adjoining landowners on the parcel.

- 4. Inholding/Corridor Does the parcel fill in a hole in existing WRC ownership or does it provide a wildlife corridor?
- 5. Proximity to Users refers to location of parcel to targeted user groups (e.g., new game land near population center).
- 6. Rating: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

### **Restoration/Mitigation Potential**

1. Restoration Potential is the ability to improve species, habitat or access through natural processes or management actions.

Potential: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = None

2. Threat Mitigation is the degree to which the threat can be avoided, minimized or delayed by acquiring the parcel.

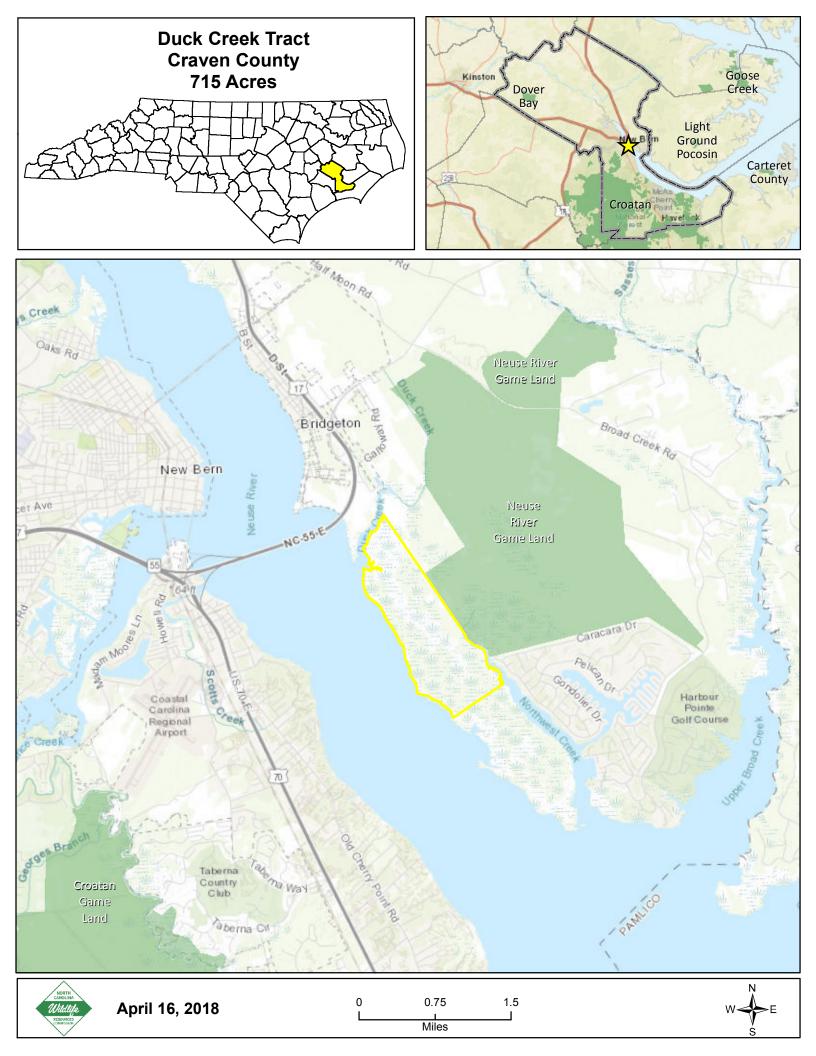
Mitigation: 3 = Avoids Threats; 2 = Minimizes Threats; 1 = Delays Threats; 0 = None

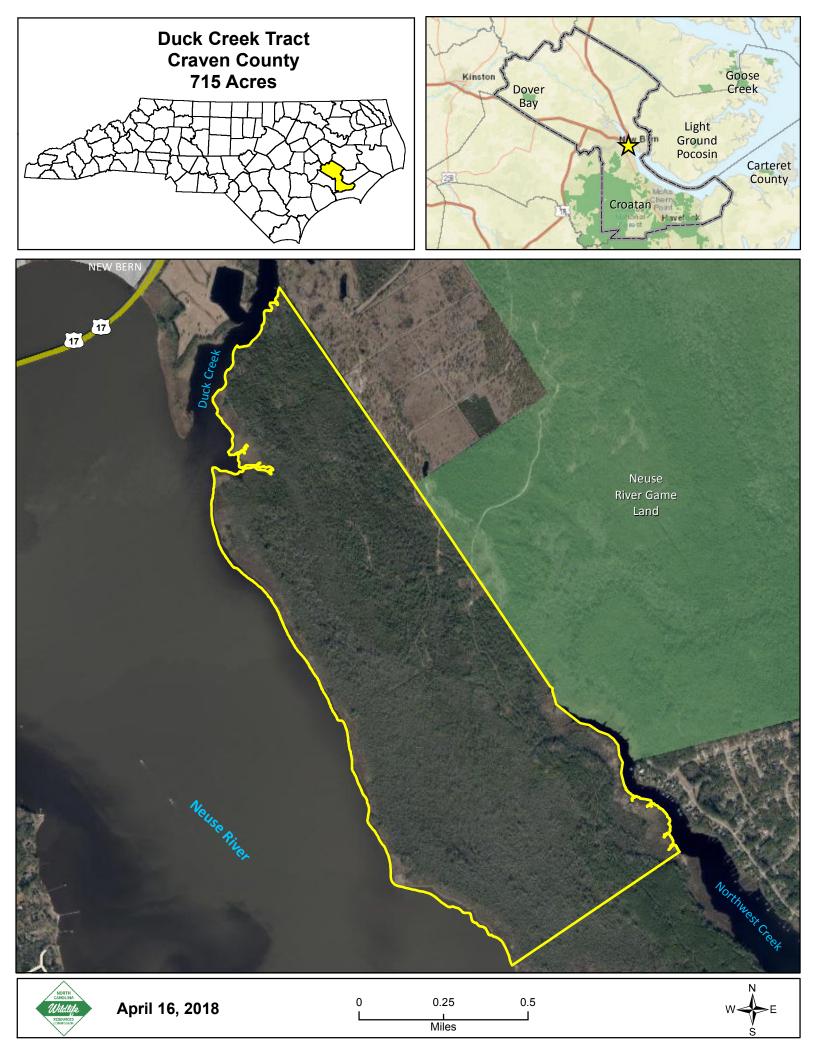
### Threats

- 1. Threats reduce the value of a parcel, so the overall Threat score will be subtracted from the total score of the other metrics.
- 2. Number of Threats: 3 = Many; 2 = Some; 1 = Few; 0 = None
- 3. Severity of Threats: 3 = Critical; 2 = High; 1 = Moderate; 0 = Low
- 4. Imminence (time or distance) of Threats: 3 = Extant; 2 = Very Near; 1 = Moderately Near; 0 = Distant
- 5. Manageability of Threats: 3 = Unmanageable; 2 = Low; 1 = Moderate; 0 = High
- 6. Management Cost to Control Threats: 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = Minimal

### Scoring

- 1. Scoring for each section is normalized (range 0 1).
- 2. The overall score is calculated by adding individual section scores and subtracting the Threat score.
- 3. The overall score will not calculate unless there is at least one ranking filled in for each section, even if a zero.
- 4. The overall score ranges from 7 (all values high and no threats) to -1 (all values zero and high threats).





# EXHIBIT E December 6, 2018



# ○ North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission ○

December 6, 2018

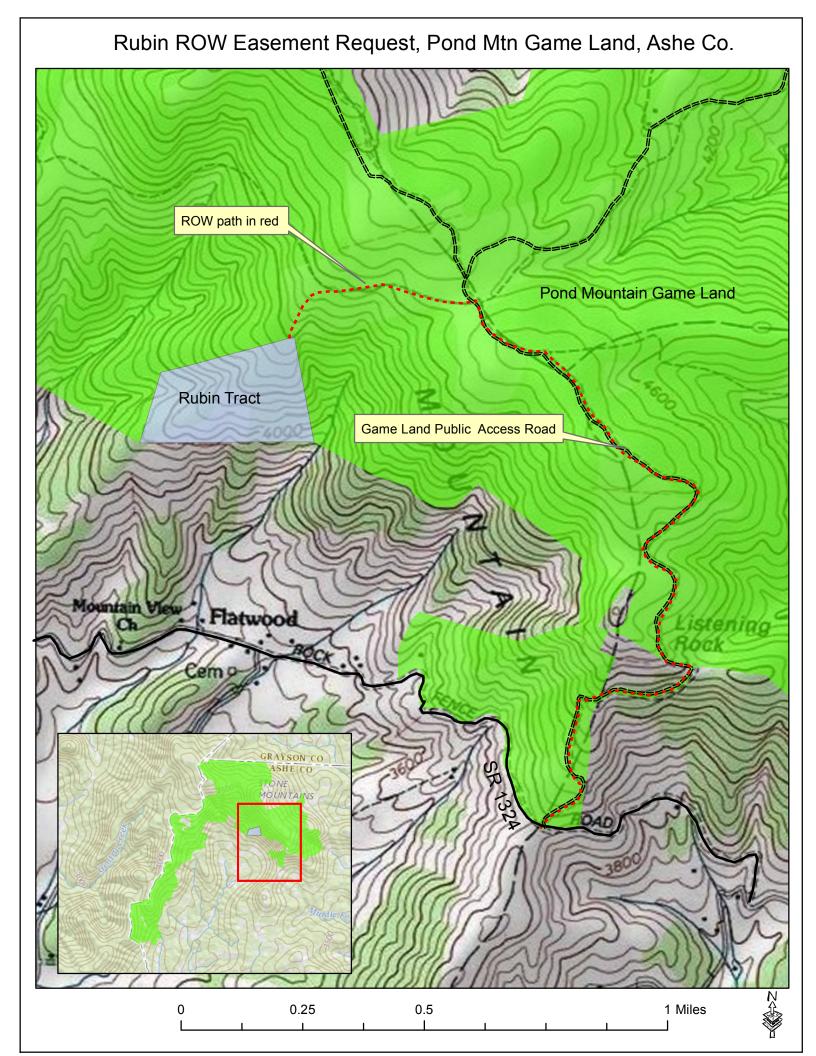
## MEMORANDUM

- TO: Brian McRae, Section Chief Land and Water Access
- FROM: Jessie Birckhead, Land Acquisition and Grants Manager Land and Water Access
- SUBJECT: Right of Way Easement Request Pond Mountain Game Land, Ashe County

On August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 the Wildlife Resources Commission received a request from Judy Rubin for a Right of Way easement at Pond Mountain Game Land to access a piece of land she owns adjacent to the game land. The request would allow for year-round use of a public access road that is currently gated and closed seasonally. This access road is steep and burdensome to maintain, so seasonally closing is critical to keeping this section of road in good working order. This easement would also include the use of an unimproved trail that is not open for public access. There is other access to Ms. Rubin's property via implied easements with adjoining private properties and the tract itself is vacant with no structures.

Staff have determined that providing this easement would not be advantageous to the agency and would increase the management burden for this access road.

Land and Water Access 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



# EXHIBIT F December 6, 2018



# WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING 15A NCAC 10F .0320 ONSLOW COUNTY

Pursuant to NCGS 75A-15(b), the Onslow County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing and submitted a formal application and Resolution, requesting a nowake zone in a portion of the Intracoastal Waterway at Hammocks Beach State Park in Swansboro. Enforcement submitted an assessment Matrix, attached, noting hazards to boater safety caused by obstructed sight lines, heavy seasonal boat traffic, a kayak launch area, and the State Park boat ramp that is used by State Park employees and by the public.

Prior to submission of the application, agency staff consulted with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District and received concurrence to allow a nowake zone in this part of the Intracoastal Waterway. The proposed no-wake zone will extend approximately 520 yards in the area between the passenger ferry dock and the public boat ramp and maintenance area as shown on the map.

Private citizens will be responsible for initial purchase and placement of markers if the rule is codified, at no expense to the State. A fiscal note is not required.

Staff recommends approval to submit a Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with one public hearing and an open comment period. After the comment period closes the Commission will consider adoption of the Rule.

## 15A NCAC 10F .0320 ONSLOW COUNTY

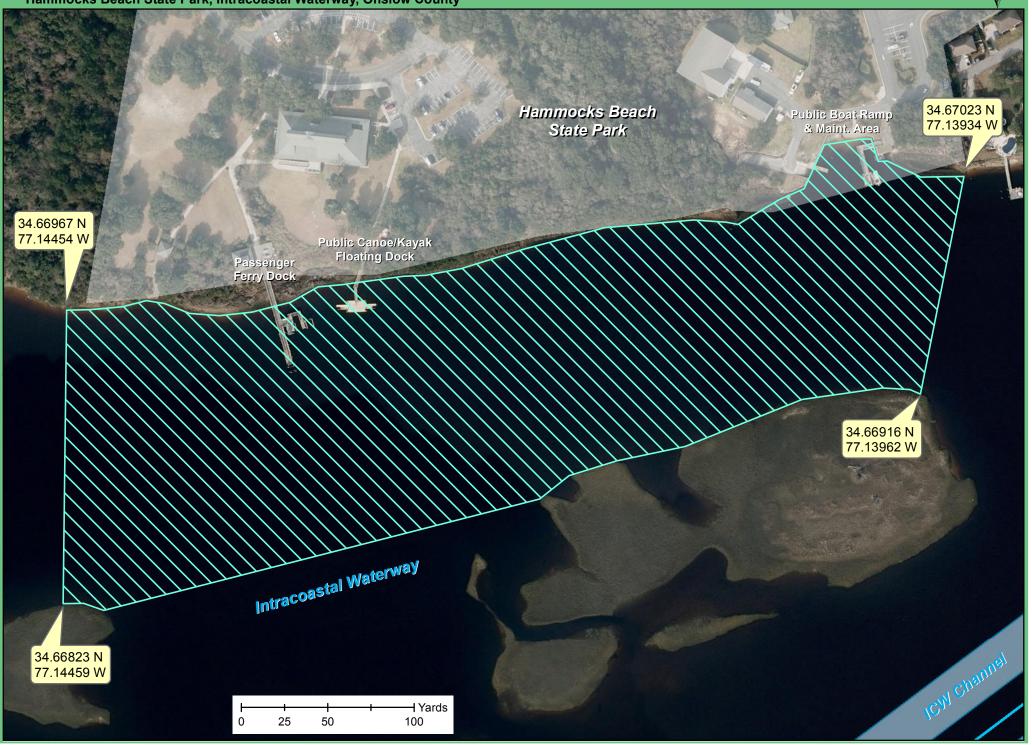
- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Onslow County:
  - the canals in Old Settlers Beach subdivision in the Town of Surf City, east of the Onslow-Pender County line, and the waters of the approach canal from the Intracoastal Waterway between markers 53 and 57, extending south-southwest to the Onslow-Pender County line;
  - (2) New River in the City of Jacksonville shore to shore, north from a line at a point on the east shore at 34.74356 N, 77.43775 W to a point on the west shore at 34.74358 N, 77.43924 W; and south from a line at a point on the east shore at 34.74695 N, 77.43719 W, to a point on the west shore at 34.74562 N, 77.44114 W; and the waters shore to shore north of the SR 1402 bridge otherwise known as the Old Bridge Street bridge and south of the U.S. Highway 17 Business bridge; and within 50 yards of the shoreline at the Marina Café and Marina, from the U.S. Highway 17 Business bridge otherwise known as Marine Boulevard bridge; and within 50 yards of the shoreline at the Marina Café and Marina, from the West shore at 34.75461 N, 77.43819 W; and
  - (3) Queens Creek near the boating access area at the north end of SR 1688, otherwise known as Sussex Lane in Hubert, shore to shore west of a line from a point on the south shore at 34.69881 N, 77.18884 W to a point on the north shore at 34.69949 N, 77.18880 W and south-southeast of a line from a point on the west shore at 34.70103 N, 77.19287 W to a point on the east shore at 34.70101 N, 77.19216 W: 77.19216 W; and
  - (4) Intracoastal Waterway at Hammocks Beach State Park in Swansboro, from a line at a point on the north shore west of the passenger ferry dock at 34.66967 N, 77.14454 W, south to a point on an unnamed island at 34.66823 N, 77.14459 W, eastward 520 yards to a line from a point on the north shore east of the public boat ramp and maintenance area at 34.67023 N, 77.13934 W, south to a point on an unnamed island at 34.66916 N, 77.13962 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a motorboat at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Onslow County shall be the designated agency for placement 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. May 1, 1976; Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; June 1, 1989; October 1, 1984; May 1, 1982; Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018.

## 15A NCAC 10F .0320 (a) (5) - No Wake Zone - Proposed Hammocks Beach State Park, Intracoastal Waterway, Onslow County



## RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NO WAKE ZONE FOR THE WATERS OF QUEENS CREEK, WITHIN THE SWANSBORO TOWNSHIP, ONSLOW COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, representatives of Hammocks Beach State Park are requesting the County's assistance in creating a North Carolina Wildlife Reosurces Commission "No Wake Zone" for the section of Queens Creek adjacent to the Hammocks Beach State Park; and

WHEREAS, the County seeks to establish a No Wake Zone for Queens Creek for the purpose of mitigating hazards to water safety; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is the agency responsible for establishing the official No Wake Zones; and

WHEREAS, the County advertised a formal public hearing in the Jacksonville Daily News on November 7, 2018 and November 14, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing on the proposed establishment of a No Wake Zone at its regularly scheduled meeting held on November 19, 2018.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onslow County Board of Commissioners hereby requests that a No Wake Zone be established for the waters of Queens Creek, within the Swansboro Township, located along the section of Queens Creek adjacent to the Hammocks Beach State Park; and

Adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018.

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board Bright, Chairm

# **NO-WAKE ZONING MATRIX**

## **SECTION 1:**

Name of organization/entity: \_\_Onslow County / possibly NC State Parks

Primary contact information: \_Jessica Rhue – Onslow Co. <u>Jessica rhue@onslowcountync.gov</u> and Tim Simpson (Friends of Hammocks Beach and Bear Island <u>ladyswantours@gmail.com</u>

Exact location of requested no-wake zone:

Body of water: \_mouth of Queens Creek at Bogue Sound

Location: \_\_\_Swansboro, NC at Hammocks Beach State Park

Popular name of area, if any: \_Hammocks Beach water access area and ferry dock

Width of No-Wake Zone: Narrowest Point:\_100\_yards\_\_\_ Widest Point:\_116\_yards\_\_\_

Brief Description of area (example: bridge overpass, obstructed views, Intracoastal Waterway; etc) **State Park has passenger ferry dock landing, public canoe and kayak floating dock, public boat ramp and maintenance dock, obstructed views coming from Queens Creek and from Bogue Sound** 

## Attach map of designated no-wake zone

Ensure proposed no-wake zone map/and or location is agreed upon by point of contact

Attach detailed reason given from point of contact for the request

Friends of Hammocks Beach and Bear Island are concerned about safety of people entering and exiting passenger ferry, boats that use the public boat ramp, as well as kayaks that use the kayak trails with motorized vessels speeding through the area. From both directions vessels travel around curves with obstructed vision.

Is the proposed no-wake zone located within an area that is regulated by the U.S Army Corps of Engineers or the Division of Coastal Management (CAMA) i.e.; Intracoastal Waterway?

YES  $\boxtimes$  outside the Federal channel but is CAMA county

NO 🗌

(When dealing with the point of contact, please advise that placement of markers in these waters is subject to prior approval of above agency in waters where applicable. NCWRC has no authority to supersede these rules.)

# **SECTION 2:**

PUBLIC SAFETY HAZARD

What public safety hazard exists? \_Launching and retrieving boats, and kayaks, slow moving kayaks crossing the channel.\_\_\_\_\_

Is this a public swimming or recreational area?

NO 🗌

YES  $\boxtimes$  would the establishment of a swimming area or placement of regulatory buoys be more appropriate? YES  $\square$  NO  $\boxtimes$ 

# **SECTION 3:**

# NAVIGATIONAL HAZARDS

Identify any and all potential hazards associated with the proposed no-wake zone (check all that apply)

OBSTRUCTIONS [] (Identify)

NARROW CHANNEL (give approximate width) \_\_\_\_approximately 116 yards at high tide\_\_\_\_\_

SHALLOW WATER (give average depth)

OBSTRUCTED VISION (for approximately how great a distance)

# STRUCTURES (Check all applicable)

DAM

SPILLWAY

☐ FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURE

TRESTLE

POWER LINE

☐ FUELING DOCK

LOCK

JETTY

SUBMERGED STRUCTURE

SANDBAR

SHOAL

PRIVATE DOCKS

RESTURANT DOCKS	BRIDGE
🛛 ACCESS AREA/BOAT LAUNCH	D PIER

OTHER (list and describe) \_Passengers loading and unloading from ferry and heavy seasonal use area.

# **SECTION 4:**

If approved, will the no-wake zone extend into a designated channel?

NO 🕅

YES (if yes, identify on map)

What is the total distance boaters will travel at a no-wake speed \_\_\_\_approximately 433 yards\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated time to travel for boaters through the proposed no-wake zone at no-wake speed \_\_3-5 minutes\_\_\_\_

# **SECTION 5:**

List any other known incidents, safety concerns or problems that have occurred?

\_\_\_\_\_

Rate traffic density in this area from light to heavy **LIGHT** <u>12345678910</u> **HEAVY** 

Is traffic density specific to weekend/and or holidays? \_traffic is heavy during summer months and weekends and holidays

Does traffic density or ability to maneuver a vessel due to traffic cause safety issues? YES  $\boxtimes$  NO  $\square$ 

Rate the likelihood of an incident occurring in this area compared to other similar areas on this<br/>same body of waterVERY UNLIKELY1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 MORE LIKELY

# **SECTION 6:**

OFFICER ANALYSIS: Are water safety hazards sufficient to warrant regulation?

YES: 🔀

NO:

Findings: \_Hammocks Beach State Park is a heavily used area during the summer months, and on weekends and holidays. The State Park has ferries that load and unload passengers, there is a heavily used kayak launch area, and the State Park boat ramp which is utilized by the public and State Park employees. Vessels operating in the channel, currently operate at high rates of speed and cause considerable wake making all activities listed above a safety concern for the public.

Officer:\_\_Barbara E Smith #553\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_06/05/2018\_\_\_\_\_

# EXHIBIT G December 6, 2018



# WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING - 15A NCAC 10F .0307 CATAWBA, IREDELL, LINCOLN, AND MECKLENBURG COUNTIES

As part of the 2016 Periodic Review of Rules, the Commission amended 15 NCAC 10F.0307 – Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg counties, for Lake Norman, and revised text for clarity and consistency, corrected place names, and added coordinates to more clearly describe locations. In adding coordinates to better define the location of a no-wake zone at a cove in Hager Creek in Iredell County, the small cove was misidentified.

Staff recommends approval to submit a Notice of Text in the *NC Register* with one public hearing and an open comment period, to correct the coordinates of the small cove north of the inlet of Hager Creek in Iredell County, in 10F .0307(a)(3).

After the comment period closes the Commission will consider adoption of the amended Rule.

## 15A NCAC 10F .0307 CATAWBA, IREDELL, LINCOLN, AND MECKLENBURG COUNTIES

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to Lake Norman in Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg counties:

- within 50 yards of the shoreline at Jetton Park in Mecklenburg County, from a point on the west side of the park at 35.47082 N, 80.90427 W, south and around the point at 35.46703 N, 80.90360 W, then northeast to a point at 35.47262 N, 80.89727 W;
- (2) Bluff Point Cove in Cornelius shore to shore, east of a line from a point 50 yards west of the south shore of the cove mouth at 35.45327 N, 80.89520 W to a point 50 yards west of the north shore of the cove mouth at 35.45487 N, 80.89440 W; and
- (3) the cove immediately north of the inlet of Hager Creek-cove in Iredell County, east of a line at the cove mouth from a point on the south shore at 35.55117 N, 80.95250 W to a point on the north shore of the cove mouth at 35.56162 N, 80.95230 W. north of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.55760 N, 80.94730 W southwest to a point on the island at the inlet of Hager Creek at 35.55695 N, 80.94971 W, and east of a line from the same point on the island northwest to a point on the north shore at 35.55754 N, 80.95029 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule and as set forth in G.S. 75A 14.1. G.S. 75A – 14.1, which is specific to the waters of Lake Norman.

(c) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any marked swimming area on the waters of Lake Norman.

(d) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Lake Norman Marine Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of navigational aids and regulatory markers on the waters of Lake Norman.

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

Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; October 1, 1992; May 1, 1989; March 25, 1978; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

# 15A NCAC 10F .0307 (a) (3) - No Wake Zone - Notice of Text Cove, Hager Creek, Lake Norman - Iredell County



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