

Big Game Committee
N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission



Meeting Summary

November 9, 2011, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Centennial Campus, Raleigh

Attendees:

John Clark (Chair)	Gordon Myers
Dell Murphy (via telephone)	Mallory Martin
Wes Seegars	David Cobb
Steve Windham	Perry Sumner
Durwood Laughinghouse	Isaac Harrold
Mark Craig	Jerry Williams
John Coley	J. R. Stone
Thomas Berry	Raymond Bell
Dalton Ruffin	Mark Beason
Hayden Rogers	Greg Culpepper
David Hoyle	Joe McClees
Mitch St. Clair	Carolyn Rickard

- 10:00 a.m. The Big Game Committee (BGC) convened with introductory comments by Committee Chairman John Litton Clark
- 10:05 a.m. **Review Proposed Regulation Changes Related to Big Game.** DWM staff identified and reviewed 17 regulation change proposals for 2012-13 pertinent to the Big Game Committee. Most discussion centered around H10, H22, H23, and H24 and recent changes to the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) regarding requirements for fiscal analysis. These four proposals related to cervids and all proposed changes to associated NCAC rules were referred to the WRC Committee of the Whole for additional considerations relative to those changes in the APA.
- 10:30 a.m. **Discuss Rule Adoption Options to Allow Hunting of Feral Swine and Coyotes at Night.** WRC staff, commissioners, and other stakeholders in attendance discussed the

need to establish rules to allow the hunting of feral swine and coyotes at night using a light. Recommendations in reports submitted to the BGC in January 2011 were briefly reviewed. Members of the BGC agreed to proceed with regular rule-making to establish seasons to allow hunting feral swine and coyotes at night with lights. The committee further agreed that these seasons should only include feral swine and coyotes and no other species. The BGC directed staff to bring proposed rule text to the January 2012 meeting, with a goal of having permanent rules in place in time to be included in the 2012-13 *Regulations Digest*.

11:30 a.m.

Discuss Elk Management in NC. DWM staff and commissioners discussed the need to establish short- and long-term goals for elk in North Carolina. After a brief discussion, especially regarding the current status of elk in N.C., the BGC agreed to address the issue in conjunction with the Habitat, Nongame & Endangered Species Committee (HNGES) at a joint meeting in January 2012.

Adjourn. Commissioner Clark adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: January 11, 2012 – NCWRC Building, 1751 Varsity Dr., Raleigh – joint meeting with the HNGES Committee