



*Land Use and Access Committee Meeting Summary
March 4, 2015 1:00 pm
NCWRC, 5th Floor Commission Room*

Meeting Attendees

• **Committee Members:**

Tom Berry, Chair
John Coley, Vice Chair
Garry Spence

Joe Barker
Tommy Fonville

• **Commissioners:**

Neal Hanks
Jim Cogdell

Mark Craig
Brian White

• **Staff:**

Isaac Harrold
Gordon Myers
Mallory Martin
Steve Chase
Donnie Barefoot
George Norris

Betsy Haywood
Jodie Owen
Shannon Deaton
Jeremy Harrill
Timothy Hardy
Erik Christofferson

• **Guests:**

Ned Jones – NC Trout Unlimited

Bill Holman – The Conservation Fund

Tom Berry, *Land Use and Access Chairman*, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

PHASE I LAND ACQUISITIONS DISCUSSION

Isaac Harrold, *Lands Program Manager*, presented an overview of four Phase I properties for consideration by the committee. The LUAC will recommend approval by the entire Commission for staff to work with State Property and funding partners to develop acquisition plans for:

- Deviney 2014 Tract – Rutherford County
- DOT River Bend Tract – Caswell County
- Graves Addition Tract – Caswell County
- Shelton Tract – Buncombe County

EASEMENT REQUEST – ROWAN COUNTY

The committee received an update about an easement request by a private landowner across the Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County for purposes of providing access to private property.

WRC SHOOTING RANGE PROGRAM

Erik Christofferson, *Engineering and Lands Management Division Chief*, gave an update on shooting ranges across the state. While two years ago there was one shooting range at Cold Mountain, now there are four operational ranges with nine more in project development.

LINVILLE SHOOTING RANGE

Christofferson updated the committee on the proposed Linville Tract Shooting Range. Public comments have been received at public meetings and by mail with a great deal of reaction to the proposed site, including from the Foothills Conservancy and the seller of the property. Christofferson stated that the agency has conducted sound testing which is negative for significant impacts. The agency has checked with original funding sources for the Linville Tract and there is no restriction based on their funding requirements. Christofferson continues to gather data and will present the proposal to the entire Commission at the May 21 meeting.

STEWARDSHIP COSTS

Due to time constraints the discussion of estimated versus actual stewardship expenditures for land acquisition projects was postponed.

Chairman Tom Berry remarked that several tracts for elk in the mountains are being considered for purchase by conservation partners.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Tom Berry adjourned the committee meeting at 2:15 pm.