



## *Small Game Committee Summary*

**August 26, 2015**

*Small Game Committee Chair* Garry Spence called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m.

### **Attendees**

#### **Committee Members**

Garry Spence, Chair  
Joe Budd  
Tommy Fonville

David Hoyle, Jr.  
Brian White

#### **Commissioners**

Joe Barker  
Mark Craig  
Jim Cogdell  
Wes Seegars

Tim Spear  
John Litton Clark  
Tom Berry

#### **Staff**

Gordon Myers  
Wes Barger  
Andrew Helton  
Jodie Owen  
Thomas Harvey  
Maria Palomar  
Kyle Briggs  
Christian Waters  
Kerry Linehan  
Bob Curry  
Doug Besler  
Margaret Martin  
Colleen Olfenbittel  
Jon Evans

Mallory Martin  
Betsy Haywood  
Mark Rich  
Carolina Medina  
Kris Smith  
David Cobb  
Tommy Hughes  
Mark Hamlett  
Susan Bunn  
Isaac Harrold  
Ashton Godwin  
Erik Christofferson  
David Sawyer

#### **Visitors**

Henri McClees – NC Sporting Dog Assn.  
Joe McClees – NC Sporting Dog Assn.  
Wilson Laney – USFWS  
Bobby Eaton

Ned Jones – NC Trout Unlimited  
Fred Harris – NCWF  
Lane Sauls – Ecological Engineering  
Drew Eaton

### ***Di-Lane Plantation Field Trip Update***

The Committee received an update about the recent field trip to Di-Lane Plantation, an 8100-acre plantation in Waynesboro, Georgia, owned by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Agency staff members and Commissioner Garry Spence attended the field trip. 5400 acres of the plantation have been developed as year-round suitable habitat for quail and other small game.

Habitat management for early successional grass and shrubs, supplemental feeding with 250 feeders, and predator management are techniques that have resulted in successes in population increase and control of predators affecting quail coveys. In 2014 there were 247 coveys.

Implications for North Carolina quail management were discussed. Much money has been invested on early successional habitats through the CURE Program. There is not a game land designated solely as a quail restoration area. Policy development with input from constituents, dedicated perpetual funding, equipment and staff, and a suitable parcel of land are important for success in North Carolina.

Chairman Garry Spence stated that he would like to see public forums on small game, similar to deer forums that were held state-wide.

**ACTION:** Director Myers asked David Cobb to send a copy of this presentation to every Commissioner.

### ***Controlled Fox Hunting Preserves Discussion***

David Cobb presented a short overview of agency regulatory changes in controlled fox hunting preserves that will be needed to improve facilities, reporting, and condition of animals. Director Myers stated that the agency is statutorily required to create regulations to minimize the risk and spread of wildlife diseases. Myers suggested inviting a representative from Virginia to the October committee meeting to discuss that state's program for controlled fox hunting preserves. North Carolina has more than one hundred thirty facilities.

Chairman Spence thanked Bobby and Drew Eaton for coming to Raleigh and attending the Small Game Committee out of their interest in the sport and heritage of quail hunting.

### ***Adjourn***

Chairman Spence adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.