SECTION .1200 - CONTROLLED FOX HUNTING PRESERVES

15A NCAC 10H .1201 LICENSE TO OPERATE

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any individual, firm, association or corporation to operate a controlled fox hunting preserve without first obtaining from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission a license for this purpose.
- (b) A controlled fox hunting preserve license shall entitle the holder or holders and their guests, to hunt foxes and coyotes at any time within the fenced area. Controlled fox hunting preserve licenses shall not be transferable, either as to operator or as to site of operation
- (c) Applicants shall be prepared to show proof of ownership of the land contained in the proposed controlled fox hunting preserve or that they have this land under lease for the duration of the license period. Applications for controlled fox hunting preserve licenses shall be made on forms obtained from the Commission.
- (d) Upon receipt of an application accompanied by the statutory fee, the Commission shall issue a license, provided it is determined that the location and operation of such a hunting preserve is consistent with the wildlife conservation program and in the public interest; and further provided that all regulations herein regarding establishment of such areas have been complied with.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);

Eff. August 1, 1990; Amended Eff. June 1, 2004.

15A NCAC 10H .1202 ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION

- (a) Size of Preserve. Controlled fox hunting preserves operated for commercial purposes shall be an area of not less than 500 acres except that smaller areas containing terrain and topographical features which offer escape cover to the fox and coyote populations are allowed under specific approval by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- (b) Boundary of Preserve. A controlled fox hunting preserve must be enclosed with a dog-proof fence that is also designed to prevent the escape of foxes and coyotes released within the pen. This fencing must be maintained at all times.
- (c) Stocking Preserve With Game:
 - (1) In addition to purchasing live foxes and coyotes as provided in G.S. 113-273(g), operators of controlled fox hunting preserves may also purchase live foxes and coyotes from licensed controlled fox hunting preserves, licensed North Carolina fur propagators, or persons holding foxes legally under a North Carolina wildlife captivity license.
 - (2) Licensed controlled fox hunting preserve operators may hold legally obtained foxes and coyotes under rules that apply to a captivity license and may transport legally acquired foxes and coyotes from the place of purchase to the controlled fox hunting preserve.
 - (3) Foxes and coyotes may not be imported into North Carolina for release into controlled fox hunting preserves.
 - (4) The release of exotic wildlife into the controlled fox hunting preserves is specifically prohibited.
 - (5) The possession of exotic wildlife on controlled fox hunting preserves is specifically prohibited.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);

Eff. August 1, 1990;

Amended Eff. June 1, 2004.

15A NCAC 10H .1203 QUALITY OF FOXES AND COYOTES RELEASED

All foxes and coyotes purchased or raised for release on controlled fox hunting preserves shall be healthy and free from disease of any kind. An examination and inspection of the foxes and coyotes by the Wildlife Resources Commission may be conducted at any time. All dead foxes and coyotes, except those killed by dogs during a hunt, or diseased foxes and coyotes found within the pen shall be submitted to a North Carolina Department of Agriculture diagnostic lab for diagnosis. A copy of the diagnostic report shall be mailed to the Wildlife Resources Commission. Possession of unhealthy or diseased foxes and coyotes shall be grounds for revocation or denial of a controlled fox hunting preserve license. The Commission may quarantine any controlled fox hunting preserve where contagious diseases are located.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g); Eff. August 1, 1990; Amended Eff. June 1, 2004.

15A NCAC 10H .1204 RECORDS REQUIRED

An accurate record including bill of sale for all foxes and coyotes released into the controlled fox hunting preserve shall be maintained and available for inspection by officials of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission at all times.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);

Eff. August 1, 1990; Amended Eff. June 1, 2004.

15A NCAC 10H .1205 HUNTING LICENSE REQUIRED

Every person hunting on a controlled fox hunting preserve shall have in his possession a proper resident or nonresident hunting license or special controlled hunting preserve license for the current year as required by law. Nonresidents participating in a field trial properly approved in advance by a Wildlife Enforcement Officer are exempt from North Carolina licensing requirements providing they possess a valid hunting license from their state of residence.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);

Eff. August 1, 1990.

15A NCAC 10H .1206 CARE OF FOXES

- (a) A minimum of one dog-proof escape den for each 35 acres contained in the controlled fox hunting preserve must be provided and maintained.
- (b) Adequate food, clean water, and cover shall be provided to maintain a viable population of foxes within the controlled fox hunting preserve.
- (c) Since the intent of these rules is to promote a fair chase situation involving a resident population of foxes, the operator should make provisions to acclimate newly introduced foxes to the escape mechanisms located within the pen prior to pursuing the foxes with dogs.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);

Eff. August 1, 1990.

15A NCAC 10H .1207 REVOCATION OF LICENSE TO OPERATE

In accordance with provisions of G.S. 113-273(g) the Wildlife Resources Commission may revoke or suspend the license of any controlled fox hunting preserve operator upon violation of these rules. Where there is evidence of such a violation, the Executive Director or his designee shall give the operator 20 days notice in writing to show cause to the Executive Director or his designee why his license should not be suspended or revoked.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);

Eff. August 1, 1990.