



April 24, 2012

Dear Sportsmen:

The North Carolina General Assembly has formally established the North Carolina Sportsmen's Caucus. Its' mission is to serve the Tar Heel State's one million hunters and fishermen who spend \$1.7 billion annually and support 29,000 jobs.

On March 17, 2011, the Sportsmen's Caucus was declared a recognized caucus by the Speaker of the House, the Honorable Thom Tillis, and is registered with the State Ethics Commission. The Caucus serves as an identified group of allied legislators willing to protect the rights of hunters, anglers and conservationists when industry or other relevant legislation is introduced. Members of the Caucus can be counted on to be proactive in protecting the outdoor heritage important to so many North Carolinians.

The Caucus got off to a great start last year with an opening reception at the Museum of Science and a breakfast meeting the following morning. A total of four events were hosted by the Caucus during 2011, at which time discussions garnered significant feedback on issues of concern and their potential impact. Over twenty-five bills were reviewed during the 2011 session; thirteen were passed into law.

An increased interest in membership and support by sportsmen-related advocates and other engaged individuals has facilitated significant growth and development resulting in national recognition in the form of the 2011 Heritage Award presented by the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation at the 8th Annual Sportsman-Legislator Summit – an annual gathering of state Sportsmen's Caucus members. This yearly event is the most important gathering of the year for caucus members and partners to collaborate and develop the necessary strategies to advance the sportsmen's agenda in state capitals across the country.

At the end of the 2011 session, with guidance from the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, an Advisory Council was established and membership appointments were made by Caucus Chairs; appointments consist of individuals representing key industry, and sportsmen-based conservation organizations. . The Council's role is to provide the caucus with the ability to function through grassroots support and advocate caucus initiatives and events.

This year, under the guidance of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and with the continued assistance and support of industry-related groups and individuals, we plan to achieve even greater strides in protecting the interests and privileges of North Carolina's sportsmen and women.

Plans are already in motion to host several events during the 2012 short session that we are hopeful you will support and attend. For additional information regarding how you might support these efforts, please contact our Caucus Liaison, Wanda Kay, at wandak@ncleg.net or 919-733-3451.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Representative Tim Moffitt, Chair  
Representative Michael Wray, Co-Chair  
Arthur Williams, Advisory Council Chair

Senator Harry Brown, Chair  
Senator E. S. (Buck) Newton, Co-Chair  
Frank Grainger, Advisory Council Co-Chair