From Proposal to Regulation

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission’s Rulemaking Process
RULE-MAKING PROCESS

**Step 1:** The public, Commission staff, Commission committees, conservation partners and other stakeholders propose new or amended hunting, fishing, trapping, land management or other regulations.

**Step 2:** Commission staff consider proposals from conservation, enforcement and management perspectives.

**Step 3:** Proposals and staff analysis are presented to the Executive Director for his consideration.

**Step 4:** Proposals are reviewed by Commission committees. Full Commission votes on which proposals to be presented at public hearings.

**Step 5:** The public comments on proposals through an online comment form at ncwildlife.org, e-mails, letters and in person at statewide public hearings.
Step 6: The Commission considers comments submitted during the comment period and votes to reject proposals, adopt as presented or adopt in a modified form.

Step 7: Adopted rules are filed with the Rules Review Commission for approval.

Step 8: The Rules Review Commission approves or disapproves rules. Rules that receive 10 or more letters requesting legislative review are delayed pending legislative review.

Step 9: Approved rules are entered into the Administrative Code and written into the Regulations Digest.
Limits to the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Rulemaking Process
The General Assembly declares, through state statutes, which matters of fish, wildlife and land management the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission can regulate through its rules. Some aspects of wildlife and fish management, hunting, fishing and human/wildlife interaction are legislated directly. The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission appreciates the interest of North Carolina’s sportsmen in the state’s wildlife resources and respectfully considers all suggestions within its authority to change regulations.

About N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission
Since 1947, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has been dedicated to the conservation and sustainability of the state’s fish and wildlife resources through research, scientific management, wise use, and public input. The Commission is the state regulatory agency responsible for the enforcement of fishing, hunting, trapping and boating laws and provides programs and opportunities for wildlife-related educational, recreational and sporting activities. To learn more, visit www.ncwildlife.org.