

1 15A NCAC 10H .1501 is adopted as published in 35:10 NCR 1057 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1501 Wildlife Control Agent License Eligibility and Requirements**

4 (a) The following definitions shall apply in this Section:

- 5 (1) "Wildlife control agent" or "WCA" means an individual that holds a current and valid wildlife  
6 control agent license issued by the Commission.  
7 (2) "Wildlife control agent license" or "WCA license" means a license issued by the Commission that  
8 authorizes an individual to engage in wildlife damage control or wildlife removal activities by means  
9 of a depredation permit.

10 (b) It shall be unlawful to engage in wildlife damage control or wildlife removal activities for compensation,  
11 including eviction or exclusion activities, without first obtaining a wildlife control agent (WCA) license from the  
12 Commission, except that licensed trappers taking wild animals during the applicable open trapping season for that  
13 species shall not be required to obtain a WCA license.

14 (c) Individuals meeting the following requirements shall qualify for a WCA license:

- 15 (1) completion of a Commission-approved, WCA training course, that reviews the following:  
16 (A) wildlife laws and rules, including methods of take, trapping, and depredation; and  
17 (B) safe, humane wildlife handling techniques.  
18 (2) a passing score of at least 80 percent on the WCA examination as specified in Paragraph (e) of this  
19 Rule.  
20 (3) no wildlife misdemeanor convictions, as specified in G.S. 113-294 or G.S. 14, Article 47, that  
21 resulted in a license suspension or revocation within the five years preceding completion of the  
22 WCA training course.

23 (d) Individuals may register for a Commission-approved training course at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca). Required  
24 information shall include the following:

- 25 (1) the applicant's name, mailing address, email address, residence address, telephone number, driver's  
26 license number, and date of birth; and  
27 (2) organizational affiliation, if applicable.

28 (e) Individuals scoring at least an 80 percent on the WCA examination provided by the Commission shall be deemed  
29 to have received a passing score and to have successfully demonstrated knowledge of wildlife laws and safe, humane  
30 wildlife handling techniques. Individuals failing to obtain a passing score on the WCA examination shall receive one  
31 opportunity to re-take the examination and receive a passing score without being required to retake the WCA training  
32 course.

33 (f) A WCA license shall not be transferable between individuals.

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35 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

36 *Eff. May 1, 2021.*

1 15A NCAC 10H .1502 is adopted as published in 35:10 NCR 1057 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1502 Depredation Permits Issued by Wildlife Control Agents**

4 (a) WCAs may issue depredation permits to landholders and may be listed as a second party on the permit to provide  
5 wildlife damage control or wildlife removal services. Depredation permits shall be issued and administered in  
6 accordance with the applicable provisions and requirements of 15A NCAC 10B .0106.

7 (b) WCAs shall not issue depredation permits for the following:

8 (1) any endangered, threatened, or special concern species listed in 15A NCAC 10I .0103 - .0105;

9 (2) coyotes in Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, or Washington counties;

10 (3) big game animals, including Black Bear, White-tail Deer, and Wild Turkey;

11 (4) elk; and

12 (5) bats.

13 (c) WCAs shall be authorized to issue depredation permits for the taking of wildlife not prohibited in Paragraph (b)  
14 of this Rule, provided there is evidence that the wildlife is or has been damaging or destroying property.

15 (d) Depredation permits shall not be issued for the taking of migratory birds unless a corresponding, valid U.S. Fish  
16 and Wildlife Service depredation permit, as required by 50 CFR 21.41, has been obtained, if required.

17 (e) WCAs shall not receive compensation for the issuance of depredation permits; however, nothing in this Section  
18 shall be construed to limit the ability of a WCA to receive compensation for investigations or wildlife damage control  
19 and removal services.

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21 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

22 *Eff. May 1, 2021.*

23

1 15A NCAC 10H .1503 is adopted with changes as published in 35:10 NCR 1057 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1503 Manner of Take**

4 (a) WCAs shall comply with applicable manner of taking and disposition of wildlife requirements specified in 15A  
5 NCAC 10B .0106.

6 (b) A WCA license number shall be equivalent to a trapper identification number for the purpose of meeting trap  
7 identification requirements specified in G.S. 113-291.6(b)(4) for all trap types used.

8 (c) WCAs shall only engage in bat eviction and exclusion activities from August 1 through April 30 of the next  
9 calendar year unless otherwise approved by the Commission, on a case-by-case basis, for reasons of public health and  
10 safety, species conservation, or animal health.

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12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

13 *Eff. May 1, 2021.*

1 15A NCAC 10H .1504 is adopted as published in 35:10 NCR 1058 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1504 Records and Reporting Requirements**

4 (a) WCAs shall maintain the following records:

5 (1) a copy of each depredation permit issued; and

6 (2) the species, number, and disposition of each animal taken, organized by county.

7 (b) WCAs shall submit the following information to the Commission each calendar quarter for each animal taken  
8 pursuant to a depredation permit:

9 (1) depredation permit number and date of issue of the permit that authorized take;

10 (2) WCA license number;

11 (3) county where permit issued;

12 (4) type of damage;

13 (5) species;

14 (6) number of animals estimated to be taken;

15 (7) number of animals taken;

16 (8) method of take; and

17 (9) disposition of animal.

18 (c) Records shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request or during the  
19 Commission's business hours.

20 (d) Records shall be retained by the WCA for 12 months following expiration of the WCA license.

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22 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

23 *Eff. May 1, 2021.*

1 15A NCAC 10H .1505 is adopted with changes as published in 35:10 NCR 1058 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1505 Wildlife Control Agent License Renewal and Revocation**

4 (a) A WCA may renew his or her WCA license by completing at least one Commission-approved continuing  
5 education course within the previous year. A list of Commission-approved continuing education courses may be  
6 found at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca).

7 (b) WCAs that do not renew their license for two consecutive calendar years shall be ineligible for renewal and  
8 shall be required to repeat the requirements specified in 15A NCAC 10H .1501, prior to obtaining a new WCA  
9 license.

10 (c) The Executive Director or his or her designee may warn, cite, or revoke a WCA's license, if the WCA violates  
11 any provision of G.S. 14, Article 47; G.S. 113, Subchapter IV; any rules promulgated by the Commission; conditions  
12 of the WCA license; or standards taught in a Commission-approved WCA training course. The determination whether  
13 to warn, cite, or revoke a WCA's wildlife control agent license shall be based upon the seriousness of the violation.

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15 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274

16 *Eff. May 1, 2021.*

1 15A NCAC 10H .1506 is adopted as published in 35:10 NCR 1058 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1506 Alligator Control Agent Certification Eligibility and Requirements**

4 (a) The following definitions shall apply in this Section:

5 (1) "Alligator control agent" or "ACA" means a licensed Wildlife Control Agent that holds a current  
6 and valid alligator control agent certification issued by the Commission.

7 (2) "Alligator control agent certification" or "ACA certification" means a certification issued by the  
8 Commission that authorizes a Wildlife Control Agent to engage in alligator damage control or  
9 alligator removal activities by means of a Commission-issued depredation permit.

10 (b) It shall be unlawful to engage in alligator damage control or alligator removal activities for compensation without  
11 first obtaining an alligator control agent (ACA) certification from the Commission.

12 (c) Only individuals with a valid WCA license shall be eligible for ACA certification.

13 (d) WCAs meeting the following requirements shall qualify for ACA certification:

14 (1) completion of a Commission-approved ACA training course that reviews the following:

15 (A) alligator rules;

16 (B) procedures for alligator data collection activities; and

17 (C) safe, humane alligator capture, handling, and transporting techniques.

18 (2) a passing score on the ACA written examination as specified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

19 (3) demonstration to the Commission of necessary equipment to safely and humanely capture and  
20 relocate alligators, including ropes, cables, snares, poles, passive integrated transponder (PIT) tag  
21 reader, and an alligator transport device.

22 (e) WCAs may register for a Commission-approved ACA training course at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca)

23 (f) WCAs scoring at least an 80 percent on the ACA examination provided by the Commission shall be deemed to  
24 have received a passing score. WCAs failing to obtain a passing score on the examination shall receive one opportunity  
25 to re-take the examination and receive a passing score without being required to retake the ACA training course.

26 (g) An ACA certification shall not be transferable between individuals.

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28 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

29 *Eff. May 1, 2021.*

1 15A NCAC 10H .1507 is adopted with changes as published in 35:10 NCR 1058-1059 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1507 Additional Permit Requirements for Alligator Control Agents**

4 (a) ACAs shall obtain an endangered species permit from the Commission each calendar year prior to conducting any  
5 alligator handling and relocation activities.

6 (b) ACAs shall only handle alligators after a separate depredation permit for each alligator has been issued by the  
7 Executive Director or his or her designee.

8 (c) In emergency situations, where an alligator must be moved without delay due to a current or imminent threat to  
9 human safety, the safety of the alligator, or disruption of traffic, ACAs shall obtain an authorization code from a  
10 representative of the Commission prior to conducting any alligator handling and relocation activities. Authorization  
11 codes may be obtained from Commission District Biologists or by contacting the Commission’s communications  
12 center at 1-800-662-7137 to be directed to an appropriate Commission representative.

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14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

15 *Eff. May 1, 2021.*

1 15A NCAC 10H .1508 is adopted as published in 35:10 NCR 1059 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1508 Alligator Control Agent Records and Reporting Requirements**

4 (a) ACAs shall maintain alligator datasheets for each alligator handled or relocated, which shall include the following  
5 information:

- 6 (1) dates and times of capture and release;
- 7 (2) the GPS locations of the capture and release sites;
- 8 (3) PIT tag number inserted or found upon scanning;
- 9 (4) scute numbers removed;
- 10 (5) total length and snout-to-vent length measurements;
- 11 (6) gender as determined by cloacal examination;
- 12 (7) general observations on physical condition including any injuries observed; and
- 13 (8) the Commission-issued depredation permit number or authorization code.

14 (b) ACAs shall follow the reporting requirements on the endangered species permit.

15 (c) Records shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request or during the  
16 Commission's business hours.

17 (d) Records shall be retained by the ACA for 12 months following expiration of the ACA certification.

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19 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

20 *Eff. May 1, 2021.*

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1 15A NCAC 10H .1509 is adopted as published in 35:10 NCR 1059 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1509 Alligator Control Agent Certification Renewal and Revocation**

4 (a) An ACA may renew his or her alligator control agent certification by certifying proof of attending at least one  
5 Commission-approved alligator-specific continuing education course within the previous year. A list of Commission-  
6 approved renewal courses may be found at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

7 (b) ACAs shall maintain a valid WCA license at all times.

8 (c) The Executive Director or his or her designee may warn, cite, suspend, or revoke an ACA's certification, if the  
9 ACA violates any provision of G.S. 14, Article 47, or G.S. 113, Subchapter IV, or any rules promulgated by the  
10 Commission; conditions of the certification; or standards taught in a Commission-approved ACA training course. The  
11 determination whether to warn, cite, suspend, or revoke an ACA's certification shall be based upon the seriousness of  
12 the violation.

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14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274*

15 *Eff. May 1, 2021.*