



**AGENDA**  
**N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**June 18, 2026, 9:00 a.m.**  
**1751 Varsity Drive**  
**NCWRC Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**

**CALL TO ORDER** – *Chairman Mark Craig*

**This meeting is being streamed live for the public to attend and recorded as a public record. The recording of the meeting will be available at [www.ncwildlife.gov](http://www.ncwildlife.gov).**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – *Commissioner Tom Berry*

**INVOCATION** – *Commissioner Wes Seegars*

**ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT** – *Margo Minkler, Commission Liaison*

**MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY** – North Carolina General Statute §138A-15 mandates that the Commission Chair shall remind all Commissioners of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict under this Chapter, and that the chair also inquires as to whether there is any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the Commission at this time. It is the duty of each Commissioner who is aware of such personal conflict of interest or of an appearance of a conflict to notify the Chair of the same. *Chairman Craig*

**APPROVAL OF APRIL 16, 2026 MEETING MINUTES** – Take action on the April 16, 2026 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT A)**

**FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT** – Receive Financial Status Report on the Wildlife Resources Commission General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and the Endowment Fund. – *Jason Cottle, Chief Financial Officer (EXHIBIT B)*

**COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

**Rules Committee** – **April 23, 2026** – *Wes Seegars, Chair*

**Fisheries Committee** – **June 17, 2026** – *John Stone, Chair*

**Small Game Committee** – **June 17, 2026** – *Ray Clifton, Committee Member*

**Committee of the Whole** – **June 17, 2026** – *Mark Craig, Chair*

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT** – **Blazing the Trail: NC BearWise** – *Ashely Hobbs, Special Projects Biologist – BearWise*

## **RULEMAKING**

**Temporary Rulemaking Adoption – CWD Management Areas** – Review public comments and consider request to adopt temporary amendments to 10B .0203 & 10B .0502 – *Will Casola, Policy Analyst (EXHIBITS C-1, C-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Wildlife Management Rules** – Consider request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearings for amendments to Wildlife Management rules. Review and consider approval of fiscal note – *Will Casola (EXHIBITS D-1, D-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Inland Fisheries Rules** – Consider request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearings for amendments to Inland Fisheries rules. Review and consider approval of fiscal note – *Will Casola (EXHIBITS E-1, E-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Land and Water Access Rules** – Consider request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearings for amendments to Land and Water Access rules. Review and consider approval of fiscal note – *Will Casola (EXHIBITS F-1, F-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Wildlife Education Rules** – Consider request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearings for amendments to shooting range rules. Review and consider approval of fiscal note – *Will Casola (EXHIBITS G-1, G-2)*

**Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species Rules** – Consider request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearings for amendments to 15A NCAC 10I .0102. Review and consider approval of fiscal note – *Will Casola (EXHIBITS H-1, H-2)*

**Periodic Rules Review – Final Determinations** – Consider request to approve final determinations on all WRC rules and joint WRC/MFC rules – *Will Casola (EXHIBIT I)*

**COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN** – *Chairman Craig*

**COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – *Executive Director Briggs*

**ADJOURN**

**EXHIBIT A**



**MINUTES**  
**April 16, 2026**  
**N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Meeting**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**

Chairman Mark Craig called the April 16, 2026, N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Room at the agency's headquarters in Raleigh. Craig reminded everyone that the meeting is being audio streamed live and will be available at [www.ncwildlife.gov](http://www.ncwildlife.gov).

Commissioner Tommy Fonville led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Joe Budd gave the invocation.

**ROLL CALL**

*Margo Minkler, Commission Liaison*, called the roll. Hayden Rogers, Wes Seegars, Steve Windham, John Stone, J.C. Cole, Mike Alford, and Justin Boyd were absent.

**COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE**

Mark Craig	Tommy Fonville	Ray Clifton	Joe Budd
Landon Zimmer	Tom Berry	Monty Crump	Reid Smith
David Hoyle	Brad Stanback	John Alexander	
John Coley	Jim Ruffin	Tom Haislip	

**MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY**

Chairman Craig advised the Commission of the mandatory ethics inquiry as mandated in NCGS §138A-15. Vice Chairman Zimmer recused himself from discussion and action on **EXHIBITS H-1 through H-10**.

## **MINUTES**

On a motion by David Hoyle and second by John Coley, the Commission approved the Minutes of the following meetings:

**Approval of February 9, 2026, Meeting Minutes** – The Commission approved the February 9, 2026, Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT A)**

**Approval of February 19, 2026, Meeting Minutes** – The Commission approved the February 19, 2026, Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT B)**

**Approval of March 24, 2026, Meeting Minutes** – The Commission approved the March 24, 2026, Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT C)**

**EXHIBITS A, B, and C** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

*Jason Cottle, Chief Financial Officer*, presented a status report in **EXHIBIT D** on the Wildlife Resources Commission General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and the Endowment Fund.

**ENDOWMENT FUND EXPENDABLE INCOME ALLOCATION** – On a motion by Monty Crump and second by John Alexander, the Commission approved the Calendar Year 2025 Endowment Fund Investment Income Allocation presented in **EXHIBIT E** by *Jason Cottle*

**EXHIBITS D and E** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

## **COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

**Wildlife Turkey Committee – March 17, 2026** – *Joe Budd, Vice Chair* reported the Wild Turkey Committee held a virtual meeting on March 17, 2026. The committee received an update on the numerous collaborative meetings the staff attend throughout the year. Updates were shared on the recent 13<sup>th</sup> National Wild Turkey Symposium where 17% of the research findings presented were directly tied to North Carolina and research funded by the Commission. It was also noted that the Commission currently has projects underway or are collaborating on projects that address three current emerging issues in turkey management: genetics, disease, and predation management. Finally, staff discussed the NWTF Wild Turkey Technical Committee and its role in turkey management including working with all states to evaluate and improve various management and survey techniques. Having no further business, the committee was adjourned.

**Habitat Nongame & Endangered Species Committee – April 15, 2026** – *Brad Stanback, Chair* reported the Habitat and Nongame Endangered Species Committee met on April 15, 2026. Staff presented the Yellow Lampmussel Conservation Plan, and with no comments received during the

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30-day public comment period, the Committee endorsed the Plan. Staff also provided summaries of reports from the Freshwater Fish, Freshwater Mollusk, and Freshwater Crustacean subcommittees of the Scientific Council, including results from Status Assessment Tool evaluations, which led to proposed status changes for six aquatic species. The Committee approved the proposed changes and recommended that staff prepare rule text for the Commission's consideration in June 2026. Lastly, staff presented the 2026 nominations for the Nongame and Wildlife Advisory Committee membership, and the Committee endorsed the staff recommendations. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Finance, Audit, & Compliance Committee – April 15, 2026** – *Monty Crump, Chair* reported that the Finance, Audit, & Compliance Committee met on April 15, 2026. *Elizabeth Davis, Internal Audit Director*, requested approval for revisions to the FY26 Internal Audit Plan. The Committee voted to approve the revisions to the plan. An update was then provided on engagements, observations, as well as on administrative operations. Internal Audit disclosed the audit function will abstain for auditing the internal mileage rate due to involvement in the current rate calculation. Internal Audit will reassess independence and objectivity annually or until the rate is re-calculated by the Finance Office. *Jason Cottle, Chief Financial Officer*, presented a comparison between the current and prior fiscal years, highlighting the revenue and expenditure activity in both the general fund and capital improvement funds, offering commentary for any variances greater than one million dollars. An update was presented as to the current fund balance and asset allocation of the agency's Endowment Fund. Examples were provided of current year uses of expendable investment income, highlighting the impactful work done by the agency that may not have otherwise been possible without these dedicated funds. Lastly, the amount of expendable investment income earned in calendar year 2025 was presented and will be voted on during the business meeting. Commission Chairman Craig requested that an ongoing progress update on the Setzer Hatchery renovation project be revisited at all future Finance, Audit & Compliance Committee meetings. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Migratory Bird & Waterfowl Committee – April 15, 2026** – *John Coley, Chair* reported that the Migratory Birds and Waterfowl Committee met on April 15, 2026 to review the 2026/27 federal migratory game bird frameworks and staff recommendations for this year's hunting seasons. Also, staff presented the recommendation for peregrine falcon take for falconry. Staff shared updates on the mid-winter Tundra Swan surveys and the eastern mallard study the agency is participating in with other Atlantic flyway states. Finally, staff share some early findings from the Duck Hunter survey that was just finished including the fact that duck hunting in North Carolina generates an almost \$150 million in economic impact to the state. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Education & Communication Committee – April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026** – *Tom Haislip, Chair* reported that the Education and Communication Committee met on April 15, 2026. Staff presented an update on the WRC Managed Shooting Range Rule. The rule is currently in the Game Land Section of the Administrative Code. Staff have been working to update the rule to align with current operational procedures. The rule will be moved to its own section in the NCAC. It will be introduced during the virtual Rules Committee meeting on April 23, 2026. The Committee also

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received an update on the Commission's Youth Shooting Sports Program. Nine District Youth Hunter Education Skills Tournaments were held in March. The program saw an increase of 23 teams, with the largest growth in District 4, where eight new teams were added. The North Carolina National Archery in the Schools State Bulls-Eye Tournament was held in February with 50 schools and 1,037 archers. The State 3D archery tournament was hosted in Caldwell County in March, with 26 schools and 441 archers participating. The meeting continued with a presentation on the agency's Conservation Engagement Partnerships. These partnerships include EcoExplore with the NC Arboretum. The Commission's Wildlife Education and Land and Water Access divisions worked together to identify kiosks at various agency sites, and staff posted signs that engage families in wildlife and conservation learning while they collect digital badges. The meeting ended with a brief update on the barn owl camera project, which has engaged people online through a nesting pair. Two owlets have recently hatched, generating expanded interest from NC schools and sparking more conversations on the agency's social media. After the presentations the Committee meeting was adjourned.

**Land Acquisition and Property Committee – April 15, 2026** – *Tom Berry, Chair* reported that the Land Acquisition and Property Committee met on April 15, 2026. The Committee reviewed and approved one Phase I land acquisition proposal and nine Phase II land acquisition proposals. For the Jackson Tract in Bladen County, staff will confirm that there are no issues with an apparent inholding. Regarding the Bertie County Game Land easement request, the Committee recommended that WRC staff work with the State Property Office to extend a letter of intent to TED Renewables for the utilities request. Staff will also work with the State Property Office to investigate terms, conditions and values for a lease, perpetual easement, as well as a term limited easement. Staff will present findings at a later meeting. Following conclusion of regular business, one additional topic was considered. The Committee considered two counter-offer options for the Buffalo Creek Headwaters project in Watauga and Caldwell counties. After extensive discussion, the Committee made a recommendation for staff to contact the Forest Legacy Program and determine if the original Kirkland appraisal can be used and the property acquired with no cost to the State. If the Kirkland appraisal cannot be used, the Committee recommended proceeding with acquisition of the property utilizing \$12,589,000 from the Forest Legacy Program and \$910,500 from the Commission's Endowment Fund, for a total purchase price of \$13,500,000. This acquisition price is supported by a recent Yellow Book appraisal, and supporting Yellow Book appraisal review, that sets the property value at \$16,786,000. The Committee also moved to deny the landowner's request to retain a timber deed on the property. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Executive Committee – April 15, 2026** – *Mark Craig, Chair* reported that the Executive Committee met on April 15, 2026 and held a robust discussion on ideas to reduce angler confusion caused by North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) proclamations for certain species. The Committee agreed to explore the option of obtaining limited proclamation authority through the State Legislature and to continue discussions regarding rulemaking that would allow for the temporary applicability of a DMF proclamation while temporary rulemaking is considered. There being no further business, the committee adjourned.

**Committee of the Whole – April 15, 2026** – *Mark Craig, Chair* reported that the Committee of the Whole met on April 15, 2026 and began with review of proposed water safety rulemaking for Brunswick County. An update on the Setzer Fish Hatchery and spring trout stocking was presented. The Committee then reviewed temporary rulemaking for Inland Fisheries related to Sheepshead. Permanent rulemaking proposals concerning license fees were presented. The Committee also reviewed a petition for rulemaking regarding the Butner–Falls of Neuse Game Land. An update was provided on chronic wasting disease management followed by the introduction of temporary rulemaking notices of text for CWD management areas. There being no further business, the committee adjourned.

**AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – Genetic Applications for Conservation and Management** – *Dr. Heather Evans, Conservation Genetics Manager*, gave a presentation highlighting various genetic methodologies the agency uses for conservation, management, and enforcement. She discussed how genetic parentage-based tagging can be used to monitor stocking efforts and how population genetics provides information on the genetic health of our wildlife and fisheries populations. Dr. Evans further described how genetics can be used to estimate total population abundances and densities. After detailing the various uses of environmental DNA assays, she concluded by detailing how species identification and identity matching can be used to aid our law enforcement officers in poaching cases.

### **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

**2026-2027 Webless Migratory Birds, Resident Canada Geese, Extended Falconry, and Waterfowl Seasons** – On a motion by John Coley and a second by John Alexander, the Commission reviewed U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service frameworks (**EXHIBIT F-1**), received public comments (**EXHIBIT F-2**), and approved the 2026-2027 season dates and bag limits for webless migratory birds, resident Canada geese, extended falconry, and waterfowl (**EXHIBITS F-3 and F-4**) presented by *Brad Howard, Wildlife Management Division Chief*.

**EXHIBITS F-1, F-2, F-3 and F-4** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**2026 Migrant Peregrine Falconry** – On a motion by John Coley and a second by David Hoyle, the Commission approved staff recommendations to establish a season for taking up to 5 migrant peregrine falcons for use in falconry in 2026 presented in **EXHIBIT G** by *Brad Howard*

**EXHIBIT G** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

### **LAND ACQUISITIONS AND PROPERTY MATTERS**

**Phase II Land Acquisition** – With Vice Chairman Landon Zimmer recused, On a motion by Monty Crump and second by Brad Stanback, the Commission approved the acquisition of the following properties presented in **EXHIBITS H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6, H-7, H-8, H-9, and H-10** by *Ben Solomon, Land and Water Access Division Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager*

- Little Snowbird Tract – Cherokee and Graham Counties (**EXHIBIT H-1**)
- Franklin Bog – Henderson County (**EXHIBIT H-2**)
- Sparta Bog – Alleghany County (**EXHIBIT H-3**)
- Tallulah Bog – Graham County (**EXHIBIT H-4**)
- Jackson Tract – Bladen County (**EXHIBIT H-5**)
- Catherine Creek – Gates County (**EXHIBIT H-6**)
- Welch Tract – Chowan County (**EXHIBIT H-7**)
- Egypt Road – Brunswick County (**EXHIBIT H-8**)
- Odom Correctional Facility Re-allocation – Northampton County (**EXHIBIT H-9**)
- Buffalo Creek Headwaters – Watauga and Caldwell Counties (**EXHIBIT H-10**)

**EXHIBITS H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6, H-7, H-8, H-9 and H-10** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Other Property Matters** – On a motion by Tom Berry and a second by Brad Stanback, the Commission approved the Bertie County Game Land utility easement exhibit as modified, directing staff to work with the State Property Office on a letter of intent and to evaluate easement and lease options presented in **EXHIBIT I** by *Ben Solomon*

**EXHIBIT I** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

### **WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING**

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 10F .0305 Brunswick County** – On a motion by Tom Haislip and a second by John Alexander, the Commission reviewed public comments presented in **EXHIBIT J-1** and adopted amendments to 10F .0305 presented in **EXHIBIT J-2** by *Will Casola, Policy Analyst*

**EXHIBITS J-1 and J-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

### **RULEMAKING**

**Temporary Rulemaking Adoption – 10C .0425 Sheepshead** – On a motion by David Hoyle and a second by John Coley, the Commission reviewed public comments presented in **EXHIBIT K-1** and adopted temporary amendments to 10C .0425 presented in **EXHIBIT K-2** by *Corey Oakley, Inland Fisheries Division Chief*

**EXHIBITS K-1 and K-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – License Fees** – On a motion by Monty Crump and a second by David Hoyle, the Commission reviewed public comments presented in **EXHIBIT L-1** and adopted amendments to 10A .1601 and 10H .1801 presented in **EXHIBIT L-2** by *Will Casola*

**EXHIBITS L-1 and L-2** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Petition for Rulemaking – 10D .0211 Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land** – On a motion by John Alexander and a second by Landon Zimmer, the Commission reviewed petition in **EXHIBIT M-3** and approved request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearing for amendments to 10D .0211 presented in **EXHIBIT M-1** and approved fiscal note for proposed rules presented in **EXHIBIT M-2** by *Will Casola*

**EXHIBITS M-1, M-2 and M-3** are incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**Temporary Rulemaking Notice of Text – CWD Management Areas** – On a motion by Joe Budd and a second by David Hoyle, the Commission approved the request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearing for temporary amendments to 10B .0203 & 10B .0502 presented in **EXHIBIT N** by *Brad Howard*

**EXHIBIT N** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**CONSIDERATION OF NONGAME WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS** – On a motion by Brad Stanback and a second by Jim Ruffin, the Commission approved the appointment of members to the Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee presented in **EXHIBIT O** by *Kyle Briggs, Executive Director*

**EXHIBIT O** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**SPECIES CONSERVATION PLAN** – On a motion by Joe Budd and a second by John Coley, the Commission approved the final adoption of the Yellow Lampmussel Conservation Plan presented in **EXHIBIT P** by *Rachael Hoch, Inland Fisheries Division Assistant Chief*

**EXHIBIT P** is incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN** – Chairman Craig thanked committee chairs, committee members, and staff for the extensive work that ensures the board meetings run smoothly. He reminded Commissioners of their SEI and ethics education obligations and concluded by encouraging everyone to take a youth hunting during turkey season.

**COMMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – Executive Director Briggs began by noting several upcoming events, including the April 22 Kelly N. Davis Boating Access Area unveiling ceremony, the April 23 virtual Rules Committee meeting, the April 25 State Youth Hunter Education Skill Tournament, and the May 2 Governor’s Conservation Award event at which the agency will receive the Natural Resources Agency of the Year Award. In closing, he

thanked the Commissioners for their time and support, expressed appreciation to staff as they enter a busy season of field work and the start of boating season, and reminded everyone to stay safe.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the WRC meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.  
All exhibits are incorporated into the official record of this meeting by reference and are filed with the minutes.

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Mark Craig, Chairman

Date

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Kyle Briggs, Executive Director

Date

DRAFT

**NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**CAFR 52G - STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES and CHANGES in FUND BALANCES**

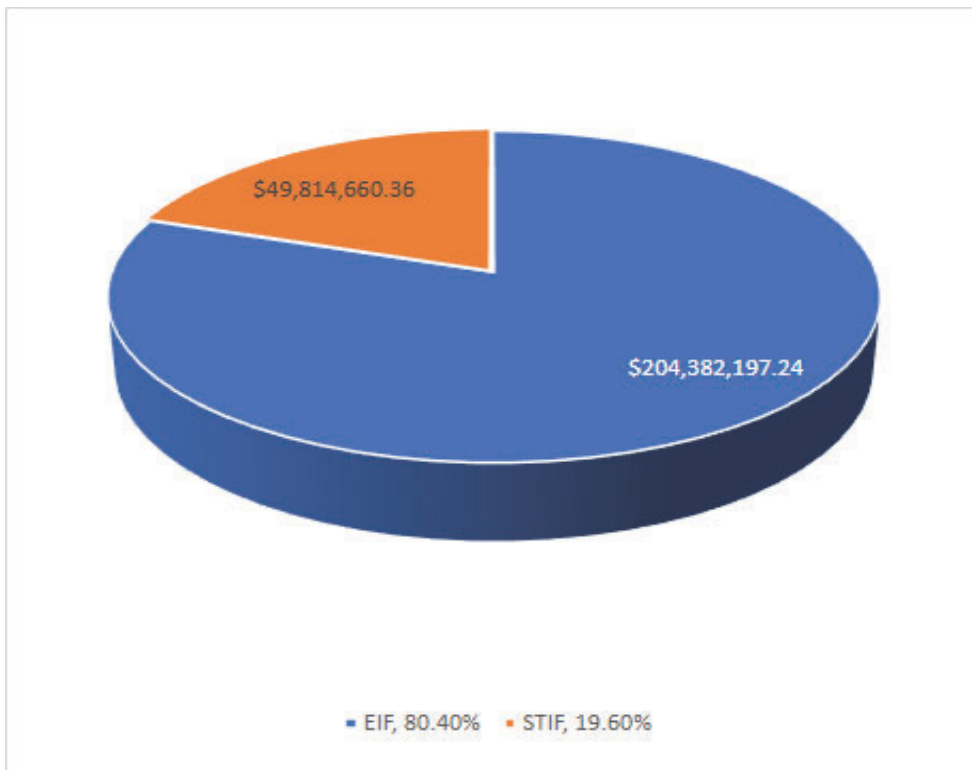
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**AS OF APR 30, 2026**

	FY 2026 General Fund	FY 2026 Capital Improvement Fund
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Federal funds	\$ 29,629,725.12	\$ 7,136,110.00
Local funds	\$ 2,756.92	\$ -
Investment earnings	\$ 369,611.26	\$ -
Sales and services	\$ 9,461,032.89	\$ -
Rental and lease of property	\$ 75,322.20	\$ -
Fees, licenses and fines	\$ 31,107,903.42	\$ -
Contributions, gifts and grants	\$ 3,788,373.04	\$ 3,261,664.72
Miscellaneous	\$ 21,030.63	\$ 550.34
Unclassified/invalid accounts	\$ -	\$ -
Other Financing Sources - Sale of capital assets	\$ 523,346.18	\$ -
Other Financing Sources - Insurance recoveries	\$ 10,264.74	\$ -
Other Financing Sources - Transfers in	\$ 48,590,888.79	\$ 12,194,991.03
Other Financing Sources - Appropriations	\$ 16,987,928.00	\$ -
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 140,568,183.19</b>	<b>\$ 22,593,316.09</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Personal services	\$ 37,141,926.67	\$ -
Employee benefits	\$ 18,524,841.89	\$ -
Contracted personal services	\$ 11,156,559.80	\$ 37,696.77
Supplies and materials	\$ 8,157,769.75	\$ -
Purchases for Resale	\$ 39,970.33	\$ -
Travel	\$ 629,683.96	\$ -
Communication	\$ 1,124,022.52	\$ -
Utilities	\$ 591,067.42	\$ -
Data processing services	\$ 405,145.77	\$ -
Other services	\$ 4,648,266.10	\$ 2,768,879.55
Principal Retirement	\$ 10,913.00	\$ -
Interest and Fees	\$ 3,559.94	\$ -
Claims and benefits	\$ 1,375,397.91	\$ -
Other fixed charges	\$ 187,501.02	\$ 264.70
Capital outlay	\$ 6,465,689.55	\$ 17,821,706.00
Grants, state aid and subsidies	\$ 1,908,618.00	\$ -
Insurance and bonding	\$ 194,052.00	\$ -
Other expenditures	\$ 4,347,875.51	\$ 34,350.95
Reimbursements	\$ (647,500.49)	\$ (58,611.00)
Unclassified/invalid accounts	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Other Financing (Uses) - Transfers out	\$ 42,805,878.73	\$ 26,135.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 139,071,739.38</b>	<b>\$ 20,630,421.97</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 1,496,443.81</b>	<b>\$ 1,962,894.12</b>
FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, 2025	\$ 21,113,142.01	\$ 4,474,732.56
<b>FUND BALANCE - APR 30, 2026</b>	<b>\$ 22,609,585.82</b>	<b>\$ 6,437,626.68</b>

# NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION ENDOWMENT PORTFOLIO

**Fund Balance\*: Apr 30, 2026: \$254,196,857.60**

## ASSET ALLOCATION



2026 April					
Status:	Principal	ANI Nonexpendable	ANI Expendable	Total	
Adult	\$ 99,279,268.20		\$ 94,896,233.60	\$ 194,175,501.80	
Magazine	\$ 1,573,477.50		\$ 1,513,510.06	\$ 3,086,987.56	
Contributions	\$ 956,164.33		\$ 4,177,682.22	\$ 5,133,846.55	
Diversity	\$ 1,493,575.86		\$ 238,479.72	\$ 1,732,055.58	
Infant	\$ 24,011,178.00	\$ 18,372,884.07		\$ 42,384,062.07	
Youth	\$ 3,271,374.00	\$ 1,784,568.65		\$ 5,055,942.65	
				\$ 251,568,396.21	
Total	\$ 130,585,037.89	\$ 20,157,452.72	\$ 100,825,905.60	\$ 251,568,396.21	
				\$ -	
			Total from detail area >>	\$ 251,568,396.21	
				\$ -	

Of the amount noted above as expendable income, the figures below represent WRC's known obligations for Endowment income over the next three years:

Setzer Hatchery Renovation	\$27,100,000.00
Other Capital Projects	\$ 7,088,726.00
Other Agency Priorities	\$ 4,619,709.00
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>\$ 3,253,007.00</u>

Remaining Available Expendable Income \$58,764,463.60

# EXHIBIT C-1

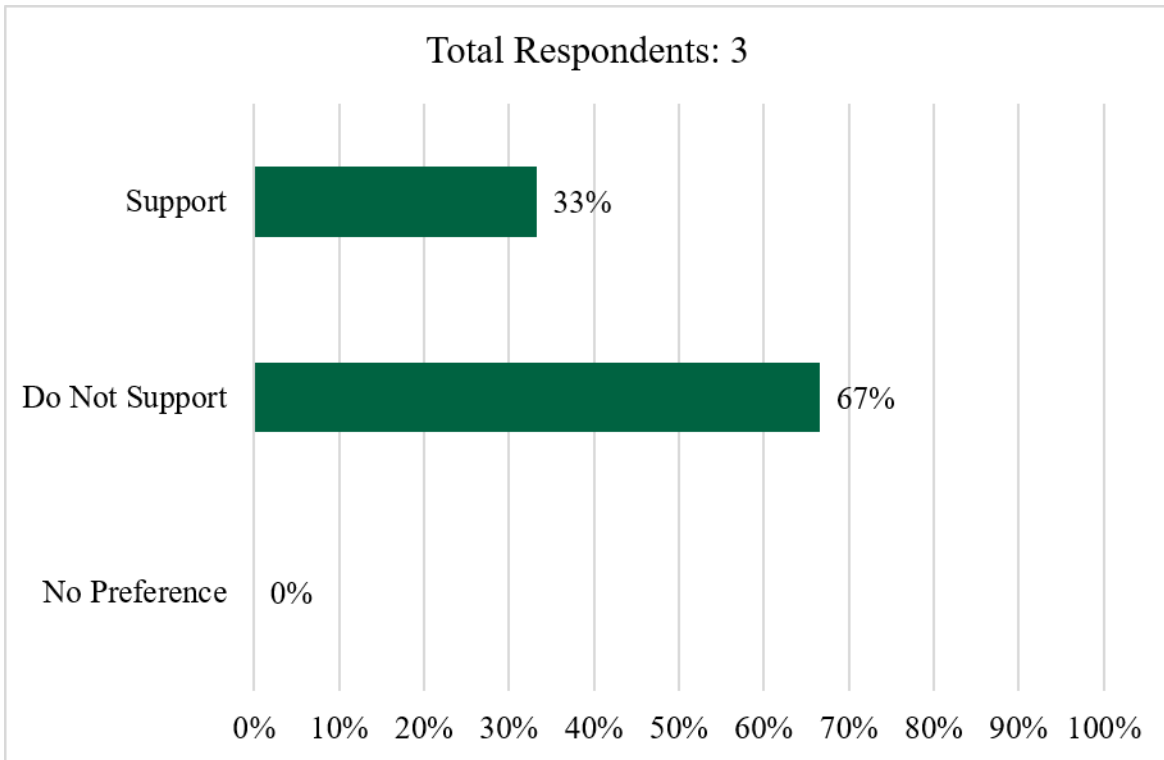
June 18, 2026



## Summary of Public Comments on CWD Management Areas

One virtual public hearing was held on May 7, 2026, with one attendee.

### *15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER 15A NCAC 10B .0502 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE MANAGEMENT AREAS*



District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NC - Not Specified	Out of State	Totals
Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Do Not Support	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3

# EXHIBIT C-2

June 18, 2026



## Temporary Amendments to CWD Management Areas Recommended by Agency Staff for Adoption

The amendments remove Sampson County from the white-tailed deer rule and add it to the CWD management areas rule. This is part of the agencies' ongoing efforts to manage the spread of CWD.

*15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER*

*15A NCAC 10B .0502 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE MANAGEMENT AREAS*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0203 is amended under temporary procedures as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER**

4 (a) Open All Lawful Weapons Seasons for hunting deer:

5 (1) Deer With Visible Antlers. Deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as distinguished  
6 from knobs or buttons covered by ~~skin or velvet~~, skin, may be taken during the following seasons,  
7 including on game lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

8 (A) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in Beaufort, Bladen, Brunswick,  
9 Carteret, Columbus, ~~Cumberland~~, Craven, Dare, Duplin, Harnett, Hoke, Hyde, Jones,  
10 Lenoir, Moore, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Richmond, Robeson, ~~Sampson~~,  
11 Scotland, Tyrrell, and Washington counties. It is unlawful to hunt or kill deer in Lake  
12 Waccamaw or within 50 yards of its shoreline in Columbus County.

13 (B) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in Bertie, Camden, Chowan,  
14 Currituck, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Johnston, Martin,  
15 Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Vance, Wake, Warren, Wayne, and  
16 Wilson counties.

17 (C) Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe,  
18 Catawba, Cleveland, Davie, ~~Forsyth~~, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Polk, Rutherford, ~~Stokes~~,  
19 ~~Surry, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yadkin~~ and Watauga counties.

20 (D) Saturday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell,  
21 Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell,  
22 Mitchell, Swain, Transylvania, and Yancey counties.

23 (E) Two Saturdays before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Alamance, Anson,  
24 Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville, Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg,  
25 Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union  
26 counties.

27 (F) Saturday on or nearest September 10 through January 1 in the parts of Camden, Gates, and  
28 Pasquotank counties known as the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge; in the parts  
29 of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington counties known as the Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife  
30 Refuge; in the part of Hyde county known as Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife  
31 Refuge; in the parts of Dare and Hyde counties known as Alligator River National Wildlife  
32 Refuge; in the parts of Anson and Richmond counties known as the Pee Dee National  
33 Wildlife Refuge; and in the part of Currituck County known as the Mackay Island National  
34 Wildlife Refuge.

35 (2) Antlered or Antlerless Deer. Except on Game Lands, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during  
36 the open seasons and in the counties and portions of counties listed in Parts (A) through ~~(G)~~ (E) of  
37 this Subparagraph.

1 (A) The open antlered or antlerless deer hunting dates established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
2 Service from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through January 1 in the parts of  
3 Camden, Gates, and Pasquotank counties known as the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife  
4 Refuge; in the parts of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington counties known as the Pocosin Lakes  
5 National Wildlife Refuge; in the parts of Anson and Richmond counties known as the Pee  
6 Dee National Wildlife Refuge; and in the parts of Currituck County known as the Currituck  
7 National Wildlife Refuge and the Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge.

8 (B) The open antlered or antlerless deer hunting dates established by the military commands at  
9 the military installations listed in this Paragraph, from Saturday on or nearest October 15  
10 through January 1 in the part of Brunswick County known as the Sunny Point Military  
11 Ocean Terminal, in the part of Craven County known and marked as Cherry Point Marine  
12 Base, in the part of Onslow County known and marked as the Camp Lejeune Marine Base,  
13 on Fort ~~Liberty~~ Bragg Military Reservation, and on Camp Mackall Military Reservation.

14 (C) The first open Saturday of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season described in Subparagraph  
15 (a)(1) of this Rule in Cherokee, Clay, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania  
16 counties.

17 (D) The first open day of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season described in Subparagraph  
18 (a)(1) of this Rule through the first Saturday thereafter in Buncombe, Henderson, ~~Madison~~,  
19 and McDowell counties, except in the areas described in Subparts ~~(a)(2)(G)(i)~~ (a)(2)(E)(i)  
20 and (ii) of this Rule.

21 ~~(E) The first open day of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph~~  
22 ~~(a)(1) of this Rule through the second Saturday thereafter in Avery, Burke, Caldwell,~~  
23 ~~Mitchell, and Yancey counties.~~

24 ~~(F) The first open day of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph~~  
25 ~~(a)(1) of this Rule through the fourth Saturday thereafter in Cleveland, Polk, and~~  
26 ~~Rutherford counties.~~

27 ~~(G)(E)~~ Open days of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph (a)(1)  
28 of this Rule in and east of ~~Ashe, Watauga, Wilkes, Alexander, Catawba, Lincoln, and~~  
29 ~~Gaston~~ Avery, Burke, Rutherford, and Polk counties and in Madison, Mitchell, and Yancey  
30 counties, and the following parts of counties:

31 (i) The part of Buncombe County east of N.C. 191, south of the French Broad and  
32 Swannanoa Rivers, west of U.S. 25, and north of N.C. 280; and

33 (ii) The part of Henderson County east of N.C. 191 and north and west of N.C. 280.

34 (b) Open Archery Seasons for hunting deer:

35 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph and the bag  
36 limits set out in Paragraph (f) of this Rule, deer may be taken with archery equipment from Saturday  
37 on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately preceding the first open day of the

1 Blackpowder Firearms Season described in Subparagraph (c)(1) of this Rule, including on game  
2 lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

3 (2) Restrictions

4 (A) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
5 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs may not be used for hunting deer during the Archery Season, except  
6 a single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance with  
7 G.S. 113-291.1(k).

8 (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for taking deer  
9 may be used during the Archery Season.

10 (C) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during Archery Season specified by Part ~~(b)(1)(A)~~  
11 (b)(1) of this Rule.

12 (c) Open Blackpowder Firearms Seasons for hunting deer:

13 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, deer may be  
14 taken only with blackpowder firearms and archery equipment from two Saturdays preceding the  
15 first day of the open season for Deer with Visible Antlers described in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (D),  
16 (E), and (F) of this Rule through the second Friday thereafter including on game lands unless  
17 otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

18 (2) Restrictions

19 (A) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during Blackpowder Firearms Season in a county  
20 or county part set forth in Part (a)(2)(D), ~~(E), (F), or (G)~~ (E) of this Rule that has one or  
21 more open days within the All Lawful Weapons Season to legally harvest antlerless deer.

22 (B) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during the second open Saturday of the  
23 Blackpowder Firearms Season thru the first Friday thereafter in any county or county part  
24 set forth in Part (a)(2)(C) of this Rule.

25 (C) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the second open Saturday of the Blackpowder  
26 Firearms Season in any county or county part not set forth in Subparagraph (a)(2) of this  
27 Rule.

28 (D) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
29 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the Blackpowder Firearms  
30 Season, except a single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in  
31 accordance with G.S. 113-291.1(k).

32 (3) As used in this Rule, "blackpowder firearms" means any firearm, including any firearm with a  
33 matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system, manufactured before 1899,  
34 that cannot use fixed ammunition; any replica of this type of firearm if the replica is not designed  
35 or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition; and any muzzle-  
36 loading rifle, muzzle-loading shotgun, or muzzle-loading or cylinder-loading handgun that is

1 designed to use blackpowder, blackpowder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through the  
2 muzzle, cylinder, or breech and that cannot use fixed ammunition.

3 (d) Open Urban Season for hunting deer:

4 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph and the bag  
5 limits set out in Paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of this Rule, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with archery  
6 equipment in participating cities in the State, as defined in G.S. 160A-1(2), from the second Saturday  
7 following January 1 through the sixth Sunday thereafter. Deer shall not be taken on game lands  
8 within a city boundary.

9 (2) Participation. Cities that intend to participate in the Urban Season shall send a letter to that effect  
10 no later than April 1 of the year prior to the start of the Urban Season to the Executive Director or  
11 his designee at 1722 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1700. Cities shall also submit a map  
12 of the city's boundaries within which the Urban Season shall apply.

13 (3) Restrictions:

14 (A) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
15 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the Urban Season except a  
16 single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance with  
17 G.S. 113-291.1(k).

18 (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for taking deer  
19 shall be used during the Urban Season.

20 (e) Open Youth Days for hunting deer. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with all lawful weapons by individuals  
21 under 16 years of age during the following days:

22 (1) The fourth Saturday in September and the Sunday immediately thereafter in all counties; and

23 (2) Thanksgiving Day and the Friday immediately thereafter in the counties listed in Part (a)(1)(D) of  
24 this Rule.

25 (f) Bag limits. The possession and season limit is six deer, two that may be deer with visible antlers and four that may  
26 be antlerless deer. Antlerless deer include males with knobs or buttons covered by skin ~~or velvet~~ as distinguished from  
27 antlers or spikes protruding through the skin. A hunter may obtain multiple Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report  
28 Cards from the Wildlife Resources Commission or any Wildlife Service Agent to allow the harvest of two additional  
29 antlerless deer per card for deer harvested during the season described in Paragraph (d) of this Rule within the  
30 boundaries of participating municipalities, except on State-owned game lands. Antlerless deer harvested and reported  
31 on the bonus antlerless harvest report card shall not count as part of the possession and season limit.

32 (g) Deer Management Assistance Program. The bag limits described in Paragraph (f) of this Rule do not apply to deer  
33 harvested in areas covered in the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) as described in G.S. 113-291.2(e)  
34 for those individuals using Commission-issued DMAP tags and reporting harvest as described on the DMAP license.  
35 Season bag limits shall be set by the number of DMAP tags issued and in the hunters' possession. All deer harvested  
36 under this program, regardless of the date of harvest, shall be tagged with DMAP tags and reported as instructed on  
37 the DMAP license. The hunter does not have to validate the Big Game Harvest Report Card provided with the hunting

1 license for deer tagged with the DMAP tags. Any deer harvested on lands enrolled in the DMAP and not tagged with  
2 DMAP tags may only be harvested during the regularly established deer seasons subject to the restrictions of those  
3 seasons, including bag limits, and reported using the big game harvest report card or the bonus antlerless harvest report  
4 card.

5 (h) Seasons for counties identified as Chronic Wasting Disease Management Areas shall be as specified in Rule .0502  
6 of this Subchapter.

7  
8  
9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.5;*  
10 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
11 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996, July 1, 1995; December 1, 1994; July 1,*  
12 *1994; July 1, 1993;*  
13 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
14 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
15 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*  
16 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (Approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
17 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
18 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
19 *2003);*  
20 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016;*  
21 *August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; July 10, 2010;*  
22 *June 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*  
23 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022;*  
24 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; June 1, 2025; August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023.*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0502 is amended under temporary procedures as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10B .0502 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AREAS DEFINED MANAGEMENT**  
4 **AREAS**

5 (a) The following counties are Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Management Areas:

6 (1) Cumberland;

7 (2) Forsyth;

8 (3) Sampson

9 ~~(3)~~(4) Stokes;

10 ~~(4)~~(5) Surry;

11 ~~(5)~~(6) Wilkes; and

12 ~~(6)~~(7) Yadkin.

13 (b) Prohibitions specified in Rule .0503 of this Subchapter apply to the counties identified in Paragraph (a) of this  
14 Rule.

15 (c) Open seasons for hunting deer are as follows:

16 (1) Special Early Season. Deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as distinguished  
17 from knobs or buttons covered by skin, may be taken on the fourth Saturday in August and the  
18 Sunday immediately following with a lawful weapon, including on game lands unless otherwise  
19 specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

20 (2) All Lawful Weapons.

21 (A) Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken in Forsyth, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, and Yadkin  
22 counties two Saturdays before Thanksgiving Day through January 1, including on game  
23 lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

24 (B) Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken in Cumberland and Sampson County the  
25 Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1, including on game lands unless  
26 otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

27 (3) Archery Seasons. Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment as authorized  
28 in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 on the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately  
29 preceding the first open day of the Blackpowder Firearms Season described in Subparagraph  
30 (c)(4) of this Rule.

31 (4) Blackpowder Firearms Seasons. Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment  
32 as authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, and blackpowder firearms as defined in 15A NCAC 10B  
33 .0203(c)(3), from two Saturdays preceding the first day of the All Lawful Weapons Season  
34 described in Subparagraph (c)(2) of this Rule through the second Friday thereafter, including on  
35 game lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

36 (d) Seasons, bag limits, and programs specified in paragraphs (d) through (g) of Rule 10B .0203 of this Subchapter  
37 shall apply in the counties identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

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*History Note:*

*Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-306;*

*Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2022;*

*Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2023;*

*Temporary Adoption Expired Eff. April 12, ~~2024.~~ 2024;*

*Eff. August 1, 2026.*

# EXHIBIT D-1

June 18, 2026



## **Proposed Amendments to Wildlife Management Rules for the 2027-2028 Annual Rulemaking Cycle Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearings**

### **W1. Wildlife Collectors – Possession Limit**

*15A NCAC 10B .0119 WILDLIFE COLLECTORS*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Specify that a person may not possess more than 4 individuals of any combination of native reptile species (which would limit them to 4 TOTAL native reptiles in their possession), without a license.

#### JUSTIFICATION

The proposed change improves clarity and reduces uncertainty regarding the number of reptiles allowed to be possessed without a Wildlife Collection License. Previously the Rule could either be interpreted as four reptiles in aggregate or four reptiles of any one species with an undefined number of reptiles in total. The change clarifies that only a total of four reptiles, regardless of species, may be possessed without a license.

### **W2. White-Tailed Deer – Urban Season**

*15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Modify the Urban Season for deer so municipalities do not have to annually opt into the season. Municipalities only need to enroll once and they will remain in the program until they contact the agency to opt out. Additionally, municipalities would not be required to submit a map.

JUSTIFICATION

Each year, municipalities must re-enroll to be included in the Urban Season. This process puts an administrative burden on participating municipalities and agency staff.

**W3. Raccoon – Bag Limit**

*15A NCAC 10B .0205 RACCOON AND OPOSSUM*

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Remove the daily bag limit for raccoon by means of hunting.

JUSTIFICATION

There is no biological reason for a daily bag limit on raccoons.

**W4. Squirrels – Season**

*15A NCAC 10B .0206 SQUIRRELS*

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Open the fall gray and red squirrel season on the Saturday on or nearest October 1st.

JUSTIFICATION

The proposed change adds approximately two weeks to the fall gray and red squirrel season fulfilling constituent requests for an earlier opening of fall Squirrel season. This change more closely aligns the NC season with surrounding states.

**W5. Red and Gray Foxes – Season and Bag Limit**

*15A NCAC 10B .0212 FOXES (GRAY AND RED)*

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Clarify that there are daily and season bag limits to the firearm fox season established by G.S. 113-291.4A.

Match fox seasons established in state law (i.e., former G.S. 113-111 as specified by G.S. 113-133.1).

Remove language from rule that creates an archery season on foxes east of I-77.

JUSTIFICATION

When the rule was readopted in 2022, the language was amended in a way that made the bag limit unclear. The origin of the archery season east of I-77 is unknown, but the Commission does

not have the authority to establish such a season. The proposed changes align the rule to the applicable statutes.

## **W6. Coyote & Feral Swine – Artificial Light**

*15A NCAC 10B .0219 COYOTE*

*15A NCAC 10B .0223 FERAL SWINE*

### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Prohibit shining of artificial light from a motorized conveyance from a public road or public road right of way in search of coyotes or feral swine while in possession of a weapon.

### JUSTIFICATION

This proposed change removes a loophole for night deer hunters claiming to hunt coyote or feral swine while shining a light from a vehicle on the highway into a field or woods while in possession of a weapon capable of killing a deer.

## **W7. Chronic Wasting Disease Management Areas – Sampson County**

*15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER*

*15A NCAC 10B .0502 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE MANAGEMENT AREAS*

### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Add Sampson County to the CWD Management Area Rule and remove it from the White-Tailed Deer Rule.

### JUSTIFICATION

Sampson County was a CWD surveillance area but now has confirmed positive cases of the disease. Moving the county into the CWD Management Area Rule advances the agency's efforts to slow the spread of the disease.

## **W8. Designated Bear Management Areas – Running Dogs**

*15A NCAC 10D .0106 DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS*

### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Change the dates of the restriction on dogs running unleashed on Designated Bear Management Areas. This change will ensure permitted bear hunters can legally hunt with dogs on these areas beginning on the season start date for the Mountain Bear Management Unit (i.e., Saturday on or immediately prior to October 9th; applies to game lands and private land).

## JUSTIFICATION

This proposed change corrects an error in the rule that prohibits the running of dogs off leash on Designated Bear Management Areas at the start of the hunting season in the Mountain Bear Management Unit. Current restrictions were applicable to the previous opening day but did not get adjusted when opening day was moved earlier.

## **W9. Taking Raptors – Species and Dates**

*15A NCAC 10H .0810 TAKING RAPTORS*

## EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Change the dates that nestling raptors may be taken from the wild from May 1 - June 30 to January 1 - July 31 and allow American Kestrels and Great Horned Owls nestlings to be taken.

## JUSTIFICATION

Different species of raptors used in falconry have varied nesting times and desired development stages prior to their removal from the wild. Because of this, the current rule, which allows take of raptors from the wild from May 1 – June 30 excludes take of some species. Modifying the dates will expand species available for falconry to include Great Horned Owls and American Kestrels.

1 15A NCAC 10B .0119 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0119 WILDLIFE COLLECTORS**

4 (a) ~~A Wildlife Collection Licenses License~~ License may be issued to ~~a qualified individuals~~ individual to take any species of  
5 wildlife resources for the following purposes:

- 6 (1) scientific collection;
- 7 (2) educational collection; or
- 8 (3) snapping turtle collection.

9 (b) The following definitions shall apply to this Rule:

- 10 (1) "Scientific Collection" shall mean collection for the purpose of conducting scientific research or  
11 survey.
- 12 (2) "Educational Collection" means collection for the purpose of providing instruction, training, or  
13 information to the public.
- 14 (3) "Snapping Turtle Collection" means collection of snapping turtles from the family Chelydridae for  
15 sale pursuant to 15A NCAC 10H .1301.
- 16 (4) "Personal Use" means collection and holding, using as bait, or personal consumption of reptiles or  
17 amphibians.

18 (c) The Commission shall consider the following qualifications when issuing a license:

- 19 (1) prior research or educational experience in the same or similar field;
- 20 (2) work with or for an educational institution;
- 21 (3) type of study requested of license (permanent or catch and release);
- 22 (4) current state and quantity of species requested;
- 23 (5) collection methodology proposed; and
- 24 (6) disposition of collection.

25 (d) Individuals collecting and holding reptiles or amphibians for personal use shall not be required to obtain a Wildlife  
26 Collection License so long as the following conditions are met:

- 27 (1) no more than 4 individuals of any combination of native reptile species or 24 individuals of any  
28 combination of amphibian species per person;
- 29 (2) collected reptiles and amphibians shall not be bought or sold; and
- 30 (3) no endangered, threatened, or special concern species shall be collected and retained.

31 (e) Endangered, threatened, and special concern species ~~may~~ shall not be taken or collected except under an  
32 endangered species permit unless there is an open season for the species. If an open season exists for the species, then  
33 the appropriate hunting, fishing, or trapping license serves as the authorization for take.

34 (f) ~~Wildlife Collection licenses may be issued to any individual,~~ Take under a Wildlife Collection License may be  
35 authorized so long as the take is not deemed harmful to the efficient conservation of the species to be collected or to  
36 other wildlife species that may be dependent thereon.

37 (g) Individuals ~~interested in obtaining a Wildlife Collection License~~ shall apply for a Wildlife Collection License by  
38 sending an application to 1701 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606 or by completing and submitting an application  
39 online at ncwildlife.gov, ~~www.newildlife.org~~. The application shall include:

- 40 (1) name, address, date of birth, email, and driver's license number; and
- 41 (2) species information.
- 42 (3) Additional information required for scientific and educational collection shall include:
  - 43 (A) organizational affiliation, if any; and
  - 44 (B) full documentation of research or educational proposal(s) and Institutional Animal Care  
45 and Use Committee approval, if applicable.

46 (h) Wildlife Collection Licenses shall be used in lieu of ~~any other~~ a hunting or trapping license required by law and  
47 shall authorize possession and transportation of ~~the~~ wildlife incidental to the authorized taking. It shall not authorize  
48 the taking, possession, or transportation of any species of wildlife in violation of the Endangered Species Act, the  
49 Migratory Bird Treaty Act, The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, or any other federal act to prohibit or restrict  
50 the possession and transportation of wildlife resources.

51 (i) Wildlife Collection Licenses for snapping turtle collection shall only be available to North Carolina residents. The  
52 following conditions shall apply:

- 53 (1) no more than 10 snapping turtles per person per day;
- 54 (2) no more than 100 snapping turtles per person per calendar year;
- 55 (3) turtles shall have a minimum curved carapace length of 13 inches; and
- 56 (4) no more than 15 trapping devices per license. Devices shall be:
  - 57 (A) labeled with a waterproof tag that shows the licensee's name, WRC Customer Number, or  
58 Wildlife Collection License number;
  - 59 (B) hoop traps or other trap style that allows for the unharmed release of any nontarget species  
60 or snapping turtles less than 13 inches; and
  - 61 (C) checked daily per 15A NCAC 10B .0110.

62 (j) Unless a more limited duration is designated on the license, Wildlife Collection Licenses shall be valid from  
63 January 1 through December 31 of the applicable year.

64 (k) Licensed individuals shall submit the following information to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 15  
65 days of license expiration depending on the species taken:

- 66 (1) the numbers of each species taken under the license and the use or disposition thereof;
- 67 (2) dates and location of the taking; and
- 68 (3) sex, size, weight, condition, or approximate age of each specimen taken as specified on the license.

69 (l) ~~A Wildlife Collections~~ Collection License shall not be transferable either by license holder or by site of a facility.

70

71 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272.4;*

72 *Eff. January 1, 1981;*

73 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2017; January 1, 2013; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; April 1, 2001; February*  
74 *1, 1994; November 1, 1990; September 1, 1989;*  
75 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0203 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER**

4 (a) Open All Lawful Weapons Seasons for hunting deer:

5 (1) Deer With Visible Antlers. Deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as distinguished  
6 from knobs or buttons covered by ~~skin or velvet~~, skin, may be taken during the following seasons,  
7 including on game lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

8 (A) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in Beaufort, Bladen, Brunswick,  
9 Carteret, Columbus, ~~Cumberland~~, Craven, Dare, Duplin, Harnett, Hoke, Hyde, Jones,  
10 Lenoir, Moore, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Richmond, Robeson, ~~Sampson~~,  
11 Scotland, Tyrrell, and Washington counties. It is unlawful to hunt or kill deer in Lake  
12 Waccamaw or within 50 yards of its shoreline in Columbus County.

13 (B) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in Bertie, Camden, Chowan,  
14 Currituck, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Johnston, Martin,  
15 Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Vance, Wake, Warren, Wayne, and  
16 Wilson counties.

17 (C) Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe,  
18 Catawba, Cleveland, Davie, ~~Forsyth~~, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Polk, Rutherford, ~~Stokes~~,  
19 ~~Surry, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yadkin~~ and Watauga counties.

20 (D) Saturday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell,  
21 Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell,  
22 Mitchell, Swain, Transylvania, and Yancey counties.

23 (E) Two Saturdays before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Alamance, Anson,  
24 Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville, Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg,  
25 Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union  
26 counties.

27 (F) Saturday on or nearest September 10 through January 1 in the parts of Camden, Gates, and  
28 Pasquotank counties known as the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge; in the parts  
29 of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington counties known as the Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife  
30 Refuge; in the part of Hyde county known as Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife  
31 Refuge; in the parts of Dare and Hyde counties known as Alligator River National Wildlife  
32 Refuge; in the parts of Anson and Richmond counties known as the Pee Dee National  
33 Wildlife Refuge; and in the part of Currituck County known as the Mackay Island National  
34 Wildlife Refuge.

35 (2) Antlered or Antlerless Deer. Except on Game Lands, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during  
36 the open seasons and in the counties and portions of counties listed in Parts (A) through ~~(G)~~ (E) of  
37 this Subparagraph.

- 38 (A) The open antlered or antlerless deer hunting dates established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
39 Service from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through January 1 in the parts of  
40 Camden, Gates, and Pasquotank counties known as the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife  
41 Refuge; in the parts of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington counties known as the Pocosin Lakes  
42 National Wildlife Refuge; in the parts of Anson and Richmond counties known as the Pee  
43 Dee National Wildlife Refuge; and in the parts of Currituck County known as the Currituck  
44 National Wildlife Refuge and the Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge.
- 45 (B) The open antlered or antlerless deer hunting dates established by the military commands at  
46 the military installations listed in this Paragraph, from Saturday on or nearest October 15  
47 through January 1 in the part of Brunswick County known as the Sunny Point Military  
48 Ocean Terminal, in the part of Craven County known and marked as Cherry Point Marine  
49 Base, in the part of Onslow County known and marked as the Camp Lejeune Marine Base,  
50 on Fort ~~Liberty~~ Bragg Military Reservation, and on Camp Mackall Military Reservation.
- 51 (C) The first open Saturday of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season described in Subparagraph  
52 (a)(1) of this Rule in Cherokee, Clay, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania  
53 counties.
- 54 (D) The first open day of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season described in Subparagraph  
55 (a)(1) of this Rule through the first Saturday thereafter in Buncombe, Henderson, ~~Madison~~,  
56 and McDowell counties, except in the areas described in Subparts ~~(a)(2)(G)(i)~~ (a)(2)(E)(i)  
57 and (ii) of this Rule.
- 58 ~~(E) — The first open day of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph~~  
59 ~~(a)(1) of this Rule through the second Saturday thereafter in Avery, Burke, Caldwell,~~  
60 ~~Mitchell, and Yancey counties.~~
- 61 ~~(F) — The first open day of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph~~  
62 ~~(a)(1) of this Rule through the fourth Saturday thereafter in Cleveland, Polk, and~~  
63 ~~Rutherford counties.~~
- 64 ~~(G)(E)~~ Open days of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph (a)(1)  
65 of this Rule in and east of ~~Ashe, Watauga, Wilkes, Alexander, Catawba, Lincoln, and~~  
66 ~~Gaston~~ Avery, Burke, Rutherford, and Polk counties and in Madison, Mitchell, and Yancey  
67 counties, and the following parts of counties:
- 68 (i) The part of Buncombe County east of N.C. 191, south of the French Broad and  
69 Swannanoa Rivers, west of U.S. 25, and north of N.C. 280; and
- 70 (ii) The part of Henderson County east of N.C. 191 and north and west of N.C. 280.
- 71 (b) Open Archery Seasons for hunting deer:
- 72 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph and the bag  
73 limits set out in Paragraph (f) of this Rule, deer may be taken with archery equipment from Saturday  
74 on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately preceding the first open day of the

75 Blackpowder Firearms Season described in Subparagraph (c)(1) of this Rule, including on game  
76 lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

77 (2) Restrictions

78 (A) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
79 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs may not be used for hunting deer during the Archery Season, except  
80 a single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance with  
81 G.S. 113-291.1(k).

82 (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for taking deer  
83 may be used during the Archery Season.

84 (C) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during Archery Season specified by Part ~~(b)(1)(A)~~  
85 (b)(1) of this Rule.

86 (c) Open Blackpowder Firearms Seasons for hunting deer:

87 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, deer may be  
88 taken only with blackpowder firearms and archery equipment from two Saturdays preceding the  
89 first day of the open season for Deer with Visible Antlers described in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (D),  
90 (E), and (F) of this Rule through the second Friday thereafter including on game lands unless  
91 otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

92 (2) Restrictions

93 (A) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during Blackpowder Firearms Season in a county  
94 or county part set forth in Part (a)(2)(D), ~~(E), (F), or (G)~~ (E) of this Rule that has one or  
95 more open days within the All Lawful Weapons Season to legally harvest antlerless deer.

96 (B) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during the second open Saturday of the  
97 Blackpowder Firearms Season thru the first Friday thereafter in any county or county part  
98 set forth in Part (a)(2)(C) of this Rule.

99 (C) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the second open Saturday of the Blackpowder  
100 Firearms Season in any county or county part not set forth in Subparagraph (a)(2) of this  
101 Rule.

102 (D) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
103 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the Blackpowder Firearms  
104 Season, except a single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in  
105 accordance with G.S. 113-291.1(k).

106 (3) As used in this Rule, "blackpowder firearms" means any firearm, including any firearm with a  
107 matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system, manufactured before 1899,  
108 that cannot use fixed ammunition; any replica of this type of firearm if the replica is not designed  
109 or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition; and any muzzle-  
110 loading rifle, muzzle-loading shotgun, or muzzle-loading or cylinder-loading handgun that is

111 designed to use blackpowder, blackpowder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through the  
112 muzzle, cylinder, or breech and that cannot use fixed ammunition.

113 (d) Open Urban Season for hunting deer:

114 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph and the bag  
115 limits set out in Paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of this Rule, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with archery  
116 equipment in participating cities in the State, as defined in G.S. 160A-1(2), from the second Saturday  
117 following January 1 through the sixth Sunday thereafter. Deer shall not be taken on game lands  
118 within a city boundary.

119 (2) Participation. Cities that intend to participate in the Urban Season shall send a letter to ~~that effect~~  
120 ~~no later than April 1 of the year prior to the start of the Urban Season to~~ the Executive Director or  
121 their ~~his~~ designee at 1722 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. ~~27699-1700.~~ 27699-1700, no later  
122 than April 1 of the year prior to initial participation. ~~Cities shall also submit a map of the city's~~  
123 ~~boundaries within which the Urban Season shall apply.~~ Cities may withdraw from participation in  
124 the Urban Season by sending written notice to the Commission.

125 (3) Restrictions:

126 (A) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
127 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the Urban Season except a  
128 single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance with  
129 G.S. 113-291.1(k).

130 (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for taking deer  
131 shall be used during the Urban Season.

132 (e) Open Youth Days for hunting deer. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with all lawful weapons by individuals  
133 under 16 years of age during the following days:

134 (1) The fourth Saturday in September and the Sunday immediately thereafter in all counties; and

135 (2) Thanksgiving Day and the Friday immediately thereafter in the counties listed in Part (a)(1)(D) of  
136 this Rule.

137 (f) Bag limits. The possession and season limit is six deer, two that may be deer with visible antlers and four that may  
138 be antlerless deer. Antlerless deer include males with knobs or buttons covered by skin ~~or velvet~~ as distinguished from  
139 antlers or spikes protruding through the skin. A hunter may obtain multiple Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report  
140 Cards from the Wildlife Resources Commission or any Wildlife Service Agent to allow the harvest of two additional  
141 antlerless deer per card for deer harvested during the season described in Paragraph (d) of this Rule within the  
142 boundaries of participating municipalities, except on State-owned game lands. Antlerless deer harvested and reported  
143 on the bonus antlerless harvest report card shall not count as part of the possession and season limit.

144 (g) Deer Management Assistance Program. The bag limits described in Paragraph (f) of this Rule do not apply to deer  
145 harvested in areas covered in the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) as described in G.S. 113-291.2(e)  
146 for those individuals using Commission-issued DMAP tags and reporting harvest as described on the DMAP license.  
147 Season bag limits shall be set by the number of DMAP tags issued and in the hunters' possession. All deer harvested

148 under this program, regardless of the date of harvest, shall be tagged with DMAP tags and reported as instructed on  
149 the DMAP license. The hunter does not have to validate the Big Game Harvest Report Card provided with the hunting  
150 license for deer tagged with the DMAP tags. Any deer harvested on lands enrolled in the DMAP and not tagged with  
151 DMAP tags may only be harvested during the regularly established deer seasons subject to the restrictions of those  
152 seasons, including bag limits, and reported using the big game harvest report card or the bonus antlerless harvest report  
153 card.

154 (h) Seasons for counties identified as Chronic Wasting Disease Management Areas shall be as specified in Rule .0502  
155 of this Subchapter.

156  
157

158 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.5;*  
159 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
160 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996, July 1, 1995; December 1, 1994; July 1,*  
161 *1994; July 1, 1993;*  
162 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
163 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
164 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*  
165 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (Approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
166 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
167 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
168 *2003);*  
169 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016;*  
170 *August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; July 10, 2010;*  
171 *June 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*  
172 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022;*  
173 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; June 1, 2025; August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023.*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0205 is proposed for amendment as follows:  
2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0205 RACCOON AND OPOSSUM**

4 (a) The open season for taking raccoon and opossum is from sunrise Monday on or nearest October 15 through the  
5 last day of February.

6 (b) Bag Limits:

7 (1) There is no bag limit for raccoon. ~~The daily bag limit for raccoon is three and there are no season~~  
8 ~~and no possession limits.~~

9 (2) There is no ~~restriction on bag limit~~ limits for opossum.

10 (c) Axes or saws shall not be carried when raccoon or opossum hunting.  
11

12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*

13 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

14 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1995; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985;*

15 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*

16 *Amended Eff. May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; July 1, 2000;*

17 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0206 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0206 SQUIRRELS**

4 (a) The open season for gray and red squirrels is the ~~Saturday~~ ~~Monday~~ on or ~~nearest~~ ~~closest~~ to October ~~1~~ ~~15~~ through

5 the last day of February. Gray squirrels may also be taken by hunting on the Monday following the closing of the open

6 season for wild turkey in 15A NCAC 10B .0209(a) through the second Monday thereafter.

7 (b) The daily bag limit for gray and red squirrels is eight in aggregate and there are no season or possession limits.

8 (c) The open season for fox squirrels is the Monday on or nearest October 15 through January 31.

9 (d) The daily bag limit for fox squirrels is one; the possession limit is two; and the season limit is 10.

10

11 *History Note Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*

12 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

13 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2022; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1,*

14 *2006; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985;*

15 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*

16 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0212 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10B .0212 FOXES (GRAY AND RED)**

4 (a) Unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly, foxes may be taken year-round using firearms  
5 and archery equipment in the following counties:

6 (1) Ashe

7 (2) Catawba

8 (3) Haywood

9 (4) Perquimans

10 (5) Wilkes

11 (6) Yadkin

12 ~~(a)(b) Foxes may be taken with weapons~~ The open season for taking foxes using firearms, archery equipment, and or  
13 traps is the first Saturday in January through the fourth Saturday in January in the following counties:

14 ~~(1)~~ Caswell;

15 ~~(2)(1)~~ Clay;

16 ~~(3)(2)~~ Graham;

17 ~~(4)(3)~~ Henderson;

18 ~~(5)(4)~~ Macon; and

19 ~~(6)(5)~~ Tyrell.

20 ~~(b)(c) The open season for taking foxes with firearms, archery equipment and traps in counties listed in G.S. 113-~~  
21 291.4B(c) are as specified in Rule 10B .0303(a) of this Subchapter.

22 ~~(c)(d) The open~~ season for pursuing or taking foxes with dogs on Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land is August 2  
23 through February 14.

24 ~~(e) (c) Foxes may be taken the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1~~ The open season for taking foxes  
25 using firearms archery equipment is the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in all areas of the State  
26 east of Interstate Highway 77, unless otherwise specified in local act of the General Assembly. 77 and in Mitchell  
27 County.

28 ~~(d) (f) For areas of open season~~ seasons detailed in Paragraphs (a) through (e) (b), (d), and (e) of this Rule, and areas  
29 detailed in G.S. 113-291.4A(a), excluding the counties listed in 113-291.4B(c), Rule, the daily bag limit is two; two  
30 and the season limit is 10.

31  
32 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-131.1; 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.4; 113-291.4A; 113-291.4B*

33 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

34 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1987; December 1, 1985;*

35 *Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1989;*

36 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; May 1, 1990;*

37 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*

38

*Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2000;*

39

*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0219 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10B .0219 COYOTE**

4 (a) When taking coyotes, the following shall apply:

- 5 (1) There is no closed season for taking coyotes.
- 6 (2) There is no bag limit.
- 7 (2) Coyotes may be taken on private lands anytime during the day or night.
- 8 (3) Coyotes may be taken on public lands without a permit from the hours of one-half hour before  
9 sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.
- 10 (4) Coyotes may be taken on public lands with a permit from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour  
11 before sunrise.
- 12 (5) Hunters may use electronic calls. ~~calls and artificial lights to take coyotes.~~
- 13 (6) Hunters may shine artificial lights to take coyotes, except from a motorized conveyance from a  
14 public road or public road right of way while in possession of a firearm or archery equipment, as  
15 defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116.

16 (b) In the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrell, and Washington, the following shall apply:

- 17 (1) Coyote hunting on public lands is prohibited, except that coyotes may be taken on State-owned  
18 game lands by the holder of a permit for a specific special hunt opportunity for coyotes authorized  
19 by G.S 113-264(d).
- 20 (2) Any special hunt for coyotes pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d) shall only allow hunting from the hours  
21 of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.
- 22 (3) Contests or competition coyote hunts on public lands are prohibited.
- 23 (4) If, within a calendar year, two or more red wolves are shot by one or more hunters with a valid  
24 special hunt permit for coyotes on State game lands within the five counties identified in this  
25 Paragraph, all special hunts for coyotes on State game lands within those five counties shall be  
26 suspended for one calendar year.
- 27 (5) Coyotes may be taken on private lands by permit only, and any take shall be reported within 24  
28 hours to the by phone at 919-707-0040 or online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).
- 29 (6) There is no closed season for taking coyotes on private lands. Coyotes may be taken on private lands  
30 from hours of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset only.
- 31 (7) Coyote hunting permits are in addition to hunting licenses. Individuals exempted from license  
32 requirements under the provisions specified in G.S. 113-276 shall acquire the coyote hunting permits  
33 to hunt coyotes in the counties specified in this Paragraph. Coyote hunting permits are valid for one  
34 calendar year and are subject to annual renewal. These permits are non-transferable. Permit holders  
35 shall submit their harvest reports in order to be eligible for permit renewal.

36  
37 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;*

38                   *Eff. July 1, 1993;*  
39                   *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 2011;*  
40                   *Amended Eff. January 1, 2012;*  
41                   *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2014 and shall remain in effect until amendments expire as*  
42                   *specified in G.S. 150B-21.1(d) or the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North*  
43                   *Carolina's court order number 2:13-CV-60-BOs signed on May 13, 2014 is rescinded, whichever*  
44                   *date is earlier. The court order is available at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org);*  
45                   *Amended Eff. July 26, 2013;*  
46                   *Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;*  
47                   *Amended Eff. July 1, 2016;*  
48                   *Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0223 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0223 FERAL SWINE**

4 (a) There is no closed season for taking feral swine on private lands anytime during the day or night.

5 (b) Feral swine may be taken on game lands from the hours of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after  
6 sunset during an open season for game animals or game birds using the legal manners of take allowed during those  
7 season, except that dogs may not be used to hunt feral swine on game lands that do not allow the use of dogs for  
8 hunting white-tailed deer or black bear. Where lawful, the hunting of feral swine with dogs is allowed during the  
9 applicable deer or bear season unless otherwise specified in the Rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

10 (c) Feral swine may be taken on game lands from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise by permit  
11 only. Individuals may apply for permits on or after July 1 online at [ncwildlife.gov](http://ncwildlife.gov), ~~[newildlife.org](http://newildlife.org)~~, by phone, or in  
12 person at a wildlife service agent location. The number of permits issued annually will be based on achieving  
13 population management objectives of the Commission. The Commission shall issue available feral swine permits to  
14 applicants selected at random by computer. Permits shall be non-transferrable. All applicable laws and rules regarding  
15 the taking of feral swine shall apply.

16 (d) There are no bag limits on feral swine.

17 (e) Hunters may use electronic calls to take feral swine. ~~artificial lights and electronic calls.~~

18 (f) Hunters may shine artificial lights to take feral swine, except from a motorized conveyance from a public road or  
19 public road right of way while in possession of a firearm or archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116.

20

21 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-291; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;*

22 *Temporary Adoption Eff. October 1, 2011;*

23 *Eff. February 1, 2012;*

24 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2012;*

25 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; March 21, 2013;*

26 *Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;*

27 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

1 15A NCAC 10B .0502 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10B .0502 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AREAS DEFINED MANAGEMENT**  
4 **AREAS**

5 (a) The following counties are Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Management Areas:

6 (1) Cumberland;

7 (2) Forsyth;

8 (3) Sampson

9 ~~(3)~~(4) Stokes;

10 ~~(4)~~(5) Surry;

11 ~~(5)~~(6) Wilkes; and

12 ~~(6)~~(7) Yadkin.

13 (b) Prohibitions specified in Rule .0503 of this Subchapter apply to the counties identified in Paragraph (a) of this  
14 Rule.

15 (c) Open seasons for hunting deer are as follows:

16 (1) Special Early Season. Deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as distinguished  
17 from knobs or buttons covered by skin, may be taken on the fourth Saturday in August and the  
18 Sunday immediately following with a lawful weapon, including on game lands unless otherwise  
19 specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

20 (2) All Lawful Weapons.

21 (A) Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken in Forsyth, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, and Yadkin  
22 counties two Saturdays before Thanksgiving Day through January 1, including on game  
23 lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

24 (B) Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken in Cumberland and Sampson County the  
25 Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1, including on game lands unless  
26 otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

27 (3) Archery Seasons. Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment as authorized  
28 in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 on the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately  
29 preceding the first open day of the Blackpowder Firearms Season described in Subparagraph  
30 (c)(4) of this Rule.

31 (4) Blackpowder Firearms Seasons. Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment  
32 as authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, and blackpowder firearms as defined in 15A NCAC 10B  
33 .0203(c)(3), from two Saturdays preceding the first day of the All Lawful Weapons Season  
34 described in Subparagraph (c)(2) of this Rule through the second Friday thereafter, including on  
35 game lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

36 (d) Seasons, bag limits, and programs specified in paragraphs (d) through (g) of Rule 10B .0203 of this Subchapter  
37 shall apply in the counties identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

38

39 *History Note:*

*Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-306;*

40

*Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2022;*

41

*Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2023;*

42

*Temporary Adoption Expired Eff. April 12, ~~2024.~~ 2024;*

43

*Eff. August 1, 2026.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0106 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10D .0106 DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS**

4 (a) Bear ~~hunting may be taken~~ on posted designated bear management areas specified in Paragraph (c) of this Rule  
5 ~~during the open season~~ shall be by permit only. Individuals may apply for permits on or after July 1 online at  
6 ~~ncwildlife.org,~~ ncwildlife.gov, by phone, or in person at a wildlife service agent location. The number of permits  
7 issued annually will be based on achieving population management objectives of the Commission. The Commission  
8 shall issue available bear management area permits to applicants selected at random by computer. Permits ~~are shall be~~  
9 non-transferrable. All applicable laws and rules regarding the taking of bear shall apply.

10 (b) The following shall be posted designated bear management areas:

- 11 Bachelor Bay designated bear management area – Bertie and Washington counties
- 12 Columbus County designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
- 13 Croatan designated bear management area – Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
- 14 Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
- 15 Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties
- 16 Fires Creek designated bear management area – Clay County
- 17 Flat Top designated bear management area – Mitchell and Yancey counties
- 18 Green Swamp designated bear management area – Brunswick County
- 19 Gull Rock designated bear management area – Hyde County
- 20 Harmon Den designated bear management area – Haywood County
- 21 Juniper Creek designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
- 22 Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties
- 23 North River designated bear management area – Camden and Currituck counties
- 24 Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County
- 25 Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania
- 26 Pungo River designated bear management area – Hyde County
- 27 Rich Mountain designated bear management area – Madison County
- 28 Sherwood designated bear management area – Haywood County
- 29 Suggs Mill Pond designated bear management area – Bladen and Cumberland counties
- 30 Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County
- 31 Thurmond Chatham designated bear management area – Allegheny and Wilkes counties
- 32 Wayah designated bear management area – Macon County

33 (c) It shall be lawful to take bear on the following designated management areas when authorized by permit issued  
34 by the Commission in accordance with G.S. 113-264(d):

- 35 Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
- 36 Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties
- 37 Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties

38 Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County  
39 Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania  
40 Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County

41 (d) Feral Swine shall not be taken with the use of dogs on designated bear management areas.

42 (e) Dogs shall not be trained or allowed to run unleashed ~~between March 1 and the Monday on or nearest October 15~~  
43 on designated bear management areas located in and west of the counties and parts of counties described in 15A  
44 NCAC 10B .0109 ~~15A NCAC 10B .0109~~, except from the Saturday on or immediately prior to October 9 through the  
45 last day of February.

46

47 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305;*

48 *Eff. August 1, 2019;*

49 *Amended Eff. March 15, 2023.*

1 15A NCAC 10H .0810 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10H .0810 TAKING RAPTORS**

4 (a) No raptor shall be taken from the wild in this State except by an individual holding a current falconry license as  
5 defined in Rule .0801 of this Section, or a falconry permit or license from the individual's state of residence if the  
6 individual is a non-resident of North Carolina. Falconers may only take species of raptors from the wild that are  
7 authorized under their level of permit or license. If a falconer captures an unauthorized species of raptor or other bird,  
8 he or she must release that bird immediately upon capture.

9 (b) All levels of licensees may take up to two raptors from the wild annually, subject to the conditions and restrictions  
10 set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(e)(2). Apprentices may keep ~~only~~ one bird at a time.

11 (c) Apprentices may take ~~any species of raptor~~ raptors from the wild except for those species specified in 50 CFR  
12 21.82(c)(2)(i)(E).

13 (d) ~~Any~~ A raptor native to this State may be taken from the wild subject to the restrictions on species and license level  
14 as follows:

15 (1) ~~Only persons~~ An individual holding General or Master level falconry licenses may take nestlings.  
16 Nestlings may ~~only~~ be taken from January 1 ~~May 1~~ through July 31. ~~June 30~~. No more than two  
17 nestlings may be taken by the same licensee. At least one nestling shall be left in the nest or aerie.

18 (2) First year (passage) birds may be taken from August 1 through the last day of February, except that  
19 marked raptors may be retrapped at any time.

20 ~~(3) American kestrels (Falco sparverius) and great horned owls (Bubo Virginianus) may only be taken~~  
21 ~~when over one year old. Only General and Master falconers may take this age class in accordance~~  
22 ~~with 50 CFR 21.82(e)(3)(i). The time period for taking is from August 1 through the last day of~~  
23 ~~February.~~

24 ~~(4)(3)~~ Only General and Master falconers may take a federally threatened species and the falconer shall  
25 follow the restrictions in 50 CFR 21.82(e)(3)(ix).

26 ~~(5)(4)~~ A falconer shall obtain a North Carolina endangered species permit before taking ~~any~~ raptors listed  
27 in 15A NCAC 10I .0103, 15A NCAC 10I .0104, or 15A NCAC 10I .0105. Furthermore, a falconer  
28 shall possess a special hunt permit to take a passage peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus tundrius).

29 (e) Traps shall be designed to prevent injury to the raptor. ~~All traps~~ Traps, except box-type ~~traps~~ traps, shall be  
30 attended and visible to the trapper ~~at all times~~ when in use. Box-type traps ~~must~~ shall be checked every 24 hours.  
31 Traps ~~must~~ shall be ~~of~~ one of the following types:

32 (1) Leg noose snare traps, the nooses of which shall be tied to prevent the noose from locking when  
33 under pressure. The trapper shall use a drag weight based on the species being trapped.

34 (2) Nets that collapse on and enclose around the raptor.

35 (3) Box-type traps with automatic closing entry doors or funnels.

36 (f) Licensees may recapture their own birds, banded birds, captive-bred birds or birds wearing falconry equipment.  
37 Disposition of these birds shall be in accordance with 50 CFR 21.82(e)(3)(iv)-(v). ~~their own birds or any birds wearing~~

38 ~~falconry equipment at any time. Disposition of banded birds, captive bred birds, and birds wearing falconry equipment~~  
39 ~~is as allowed in accordance with 50 CFR 21.82(e)(3)(iv) - (v).~~

40 (g) Licensees shall keep their license on their person when trapping raptors.

41 (h) Raptors injured due to falconry trapping ~~efforts~~ shall be treated humanely and in accordance with 50 50 CFR  
42 21.82(e)(5).

43

44 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29;*

45 *Eff. September 1, 1979;*

46 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; July 1, 1998;*

47 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December*  
48 *6, 2016;*

49 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.*

# EXHIBIT D-2

June 18, 2026



## Fiscal Note for 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Rule Proposals Wildlife Resources Commission – Wildlife Management

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10B .0119 WILDLIFE COLLECTORS  
15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER  
15A NCAC 10B .0205 RACCOON AND OPOSSUM  
15A NCAC 10B .0206 SQUIRRELS  
15A NCAC 10B .0212 FOXES (GRAY AND RED)  
15A NCAC 10B .0219 COYOTE  
15A NCAC 10B .0223 FERAL SWINE  
15A NCAC 10B .0502 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE  
MANAGEMENT AREAS  
15A NCAC 10D .0106 DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS  
15A NCAC 10H .0810 TAKING RAPTORS

**Agency Contact:** William Casola  
Policy Analyst  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission  
1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606  
(919) 707-0125  
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov

**Fiscal Impact:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: Yes  
Private Impact: Yes  
Substantial Economic Impact: No

**Authority:** G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-270.3; 113-272.4; 113-276.1; 113-291; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.3; 113-291.4; 113-291.4A; 113-291.5; 113-291.7; 113-292; 113-305; 113-306; 50 C.F.R. 21.29

## **BACKGROUND**

The wildlife resources of the State belong to the people of the State as a whole, including the enjoyment of these resources (G.S. 113-131(a)). The Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) is tasked with the conservation of wildlife resources of the State (G.S. 143-239). This responsibility includes managing as equitably as possible the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. 113-131.1(a)). The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. 113-134).

As part of its mission, the WRC conducts an annual review of its inland fishing, wildlife, and game land regulations to determine whether the rules need to be adjusted in order to accomplish the objectives of managing wildlife resources or Commission property through a biologically sustainable harvest consistent with sound conservation objectives; managing WRC-owned land for the conservation of wildlife resources, and the enjoyment of the public; and implementing legislative directives.

A summary of the proposed rule amendments is shown below along with accompanying rule text. The proposed changes will update hunting season dates and modify bag limits for a variety of species. These proposed changes are intended to help ensure future hunting opportunities and wildlife conservation while minimizing costs to the regulated community.

Note: *Italicized rule text* are previous rule changes adopted by the Commission and approved by the RRC with an effective date of 8/1/2026.

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS BY RULE**

### **15A NCAC 10B .0119 WILDLIFE COLLECTORS**

The proposed amendments specify that a person may not possess more than 4 individuals of any combination of native reptile species (which would limit them to 4 TOTAL native reptiles in their possession), without a license.

The current Rule may be misinterpreted by some to allow possession of four reptiles *per species*, which was never the intent. The Rule has always been applied as a limit of four native reptiles in total. The amendments remove this ambiguity. The proposed amendments improve clarity and reduce ambiguity regarding the number of reptiles allowed to be possessed without a Wildlife Collection License.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

##### *State Impact*

The proposed amendments may have a modest positive impact on state government by reducing instances in which individuals misinterpret the rule. By clarifying that the limit is four reptiles in total, the rule becomes more straightforward to understand and enforce. Although misinterpretations are uncommon, clearer language reduces the likelihood of inadvertent violations, allows law enforcement to resolve encounters more efficiently, and decreases the time spent explaining or defending the intended meaning of the rule.

##### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments have no anticipated local government impact.

##### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendments improve clarity and reduce ambiguity for the regulated community. While the rule has generally been understood to allow only four reptiles in total, the clearer language further decreases the likelihood of misinterpretation. As a result, the amendments are expected to yield only a small positive impact by reducing the chance of inadvertent violations, potential citations, and the associated burdens on individuals.

### **15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER**

The proposed amendments modify requirements for the Urban Season for deer so municipalities do not have to annually opt into the season. Municipalities will only have to enroll once and they will remain in the program indefinitely, unless they contact us to opt out. Additionally, municipalities would not be required to submit a map.

Currently each year municipalities must re-enroll to be included in the Urban Season. This process is cumbersome and puts an administrative burden on participating municipalities and agency staff without a commensurate benefit.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendments reduce the administrative burden on agency staff. Municipalities often forget to reenroll each year, or reenroll at the last minute, which causes issues with the information in the Regulations Digest and burdens staff. Staff often have to follow-up with individual municipalities, who then must quickly send the letter indicating their intent to participate. Some municipalities require this letter to be approved by their Mayor or City Council, adding additional steps and time to the process. Additionally, late submissions cause delays to the annual Regulations Digest update, which includes a list of participating municipalities.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments reduce the administrative burden on the 64 currently enrolled municipalities as well as any municipalities that enroll in the future. Additional hunting opportunities may increase the number of people visiting local businesses, which may result in an increase in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to the needs of this user group (e.g., food, gas, hunting supplies, etc). This anticipated benefit cannot be quantified.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendments make the process easier which may encourage more municipalities to participate in the program and increase hunting opportunities. This could be a benefit to individuals living in those municipalities by reducing nuisance deer impacts and providing additional opportunities for hunters. The Urban Season does not obligate private landowners to allow hunting on their property, nor does it eliminate the ethical requirement for obtaining permission from the landowner before hunting. Hunters are legally required to obtain written permission to hunt on posted property. No negative impacts are anticipated.

### **15A NCAC 10B .0205 RACCOON AND OPOSSUM**

The proposed amendments remove the daily bag limit for raccoon by means of hunting. Raccoon trapping does not have a daily bag limit and there is no biological reason for a daily bag limit on raccoons when hunting.

## Fiscal Impact

### *State Impact*

Expanding opportunities for raccoon hunting may increase participation and possibly recruit new or lapsed hunters. The Commission has no way to predict how many people might purchase hunting licenses or continue hunting because of the additional opportunities.

### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments have no anticipated local government impact. The proposed amendment lifting the daily bag limit for raccoon may increase hunter participation. More raccoon hunters may result in increased visitation to local businesses which is likely to result in increased revenue for those businesses. However, this anticipated benefit cannot be quantified.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendments increase harvest opportunity and fulfil a rule modification request by the regulated community.

## **15A NCAC 10B .0206 SQUIRRELS**

The proposed amendments adjust the opening date of the fall gray and red squirrel season two weeks earlier from the Monday on or nearest October 15<sup>th</sup> to the Saturday on or nearest October 1st.

The proposed amendments add approximately two weeks to the fall gray and red squirrel season fulfilling constituent requests for an earlier opening of fall Squirrel season. This change brings our season in closer alignment with surrounding states.

## Fiscal Impact

### *State Impact*

Expanding opportunities for squirrel hunting may increase participation and possibly recruit new or lapsed hunters. The Commission has no way to predict how many people might purchase hunting licenses or continue hunting because of the additional opportunities.

### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments are expected to increase hunter participation. More squirrel hunters may result in increased visitation to local businesses which is likely to result in increased revenues for those businesses. This anticipated benefit cannot be quantified.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendments increase hunting opportunities. Potential positive downstream impacts include increased participation in small game hunting, recruiting new or lapsed hunters, increased spending at local business, and increases in hunter satisfaction. The WRC does not have a mechanism to quantify the specific impacts of the proposed change on private entities.

### **15A NCAC 10B .0212 FOXES (GRAY AND RED)**

The proposed amendments clarify that the Commission's daily and season bag limits apply to the firearm fox season established by G.S. 113-291.4A; match fox seasons established in state law (i.e., former G.S. 113-111 as specified by G.S. 113-133.1); and remove language from rule that creates an archery season on foxes east of I-77.

When the rule was readopted in 2022, the language was amended in a way that made the bag limit unclear. The origin of the archery season east of I-77 is unknown, but the Commission does not have the statutory authority to establish such a season. The proposed changes align the rule to the applicable statutes.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendments will require some WRC staff time to communicate the changes to the regulated community, particularly the elimination of the archery fox season east of I-77 and the alignment of the fox seasons with statute. These outreach efforts represent a modest state impact. However, once implemented, the clarifying language is expected to provide minor efficiency gains for staff and law enforcement by reducing occasional questions and interpretation issues related to the firearm fox season. Overall, the state impacts are anticipated to be small, reflecting both the limited scope of communications needed and the incremental improvements in rule clarity. The proposed amendments are anticipated to have little to no impact on hunting license sales as few hunters exclusively hunt fox with archery equipment.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments have no anticipated local government impact as the elimination of the archery fox season east of I-77 is not expected to generate measurable changes in fox hunting activity or related economic effects at the local level. Using archery equipment to harvest foxes is an incredibly niche form of hunting, practiced by very few within the fox hunting community.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendments may result in minor impacts on fox hunters and trappers due to changes in seasons, bag limits, and weapons. We will communicate these changes to the

regulated community the next iteration of the Fox Season Guide (<https://ncwildlife.gov/foxseasons>).

## **15A NCAC 10B .0219 COYOTE & 15A NCAC 10B .0223 FERAL SWINE**

The proposed amendments prohibit the shining of artificial lights in search of coyotes or feral swine from any motorized conveyance while in possession of a weapon.

While G.S. 113-291.1(b)(1) explicitly prohibits taking an animal from within the passenger compartment of a vehicle, the proposed amendments remove a loophole for poachers claiming to hunt coyote or feral swine at night while shining a light from a vehicle on the highway into a field or woods while in possession of a weapon capable of killing a deer. The amendments may reduce instances of deer poaching. The proposed amendments do not impact the ability of disabled individuals to hunt from while occupying the passenger area of a vehicle.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendments are anticipated to help law enforcement enforce and prosecute instances of deer poaching. While current law allows officers to charge individuals who shine lights in areas frequented by deer while in possession of a firearm, prosecutions can be difficult when defendants claim they are legally searching for coyotes or feral swine to hunt. By prohibiting the use of artificial lights from within a motorized vehicle while in possession of a weapon, the rule targets a behavior typical of deer poachers but less common among lawful coyote or feral swine hunters. This distinction gives officers clearer evidence when encountering spotlighting from a vehicle.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments may increase the number of citations issued which will increase local court revenue. Currently, G.S. 7A-304 imposes a fee of \$181 for Criminal District Court. Additionally, per G.S. 115C-452, any clear proceeds from penalties and fines issued would go to local schools.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendments require those coyote or feral swine hunting at night to exit their vehicle before shining a light when in possession of a weapon. Spotlighting these species from within a vehicle is not a common practice, so the requirement to exit their vehicle before shining a light is expected to have minimal impact on lawful hunters. Negative impacts are not anticipated for lawful hunters, but a violation of this rule carries a fine of \$25 (class 3 misdemeanor for first offense) plus cost of court (\$181).

## **15A NCAC 10B .0502 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE MANAGEMENT AREAS**

Chronic wasting disease is managed through both rule and proclamation. When a cervid tests positive for CWD, the WRC is authorized to issue proclamations in accordance with G.S. 113-291.2(a2), to establish and modify Primary Surveillance Area(s) and Secondary Surveillance Area(s) and mandatory sampling requirements for cervids taken in those areas. These actions are augmented with CWD rules which are designed to reduce movement and transmission of the disease.

The proposed amendments add Sampson County to the CWD Management Area Rule (10B .0502) and remove it from the White-Railed Deer rule (10B .0203). Sampson County was a CWD surveillance area but now has confirmed positive cases of the disease. Moving the county into the CWD management rule advances the agency's efforts to slow the spread of the disease.

As a CWD management area, hunters in Sampson County will be able to participate in the Special Early Season (allowing antlered deer harvest on two days in August).

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendments have no direct state government impact; however, by slowing the spread of the disease the agency may eventually spend less on CWD testing. In the near term, it is unlikely that providing access to the Special Early Season will result in measurable reductions in sampling costs, given that testing levels are expected to remain high in CWD-positive areas. Given that testing currently costs approximately \$23 per sample,<sup>1</sup> and the State processes a large number of samples each year, any short-term savings would be relatively minimal. Measures to limit CWD transmission also helps preserve the quality and viability of deer hunting in North Carolina, which remains an important economic driver for many communities across the state.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments increase deer hunting opportunities, which may result in increased visitation to Sampson County. This may result in increased visitation to local businesses which is likely to result in increased revenues for those businesses. However, this anticipated benefit cannot be quantified.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendments will benefit hunters by providing additional deer hunting opportunities (i.e., by having access to the Special Early Season). However, this benefit may not

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<sup>1</sup> Between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026, the agency processed approximately 23,000 samples. Laboratory fees and shipping costs to process these samples totaled approximately \$542,000.

be fully realized if deer hunters choose not to participate because the county is CWD positive. If the increased opportunities do lead to greater hunting activity, there may be longer-term, indirect benefits as well. Slowing the spread of the disease can help reduce venison consumption concerns and preserve high quality hunting opportunities elsewhere in the state. Consumption concerns are a significant factor within the deer hunting community. In 2025 the Commission's Social Research Unit conducted a study on the Motivations and Social Norms of Chronic Wasting Disease Testing in North Carolina, which indicated about 50% of deer hunters would test their deer for CWD even if it wasn't required, with 65% of these hunters reporting one of the motivations being "to make sure I was not eating meat from a CWD infected deer." Additionally, this research indicated that 47% of all hunters reported they would wait for test results before consuming deer meat. The WRC does not have a mechanism to quantify the specific impacts of the proposed change on private entities.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0106 DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS**

The proposed amendments change the dates restricting dogs from running unleashed on Designated Bear Management Areas, changing the end date from the Monday on or nearest October 15 to the Saturday on or immediately prior to October 9. This change will ensure permitted bear hunters can legally hunt with dogs in these areas beginning on the season start date for the Mountain Bear Management Unit (i.e., Saturday on or immediately prior to October 9th; applies to game lands and private land).

The proposed amendments correct an oversight in the rule that prohibits the running of dogs off leash on Designated Bear Management Areas at the start of the hunting season in the Mountain Bear Management Unit. Current restrictions were applicable to the previous opening day but did not get adjusted when the Mountain Bear Management Unit season opening day was moved earlier.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

##### *State Impact*

The proposed amendments have no anticipated state government impact as the change is part of routine wildlife management duties and will not require more or less staff time or resources for implementation or enforcement.

##### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments have no anticipated local government impact.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendments improve clarity and correct the aforementioned oversight. Opening the area to hunting with dogs could reduce the quality of the hunt for still or stand hunters for a brief period. The latest bear hunter survey conducted by the agency's Social Research Unit suggests most bear hunters in the Mountain Bear Management Unit are still or stand hunting (58-88% depending on county).

## **15A NCAC 10H .0810 TAKING RAPTORS**

The proposed amendments change the dates that nestling raptors may be taken from the wild from May 1 - June 30 to January 1 - July 31 and allow American Kestrels and Great Horned Owls nestlings to be taken.

Different species of raptors used in falconry have varied nesting times and desired development stages prior to their removal from the wild. Because of this variation, the current rule, which allows take of raptors from the wild from May 1 – June 30 excludes take of some species. Modifying the dates will expand species available for falconry to include Great Horned Owls and American Kestrels.

The number of additional birds taken from the wild is expected to be negligible.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendments have no anticipated state government impact as the change is part of routine wildlife management duties and will not require more or less staff time or resources for implementation or enforcement. Any increase in license interest or sales, if it occurs, is expected to be minimal.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments have no anticipated local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

In FY2025 there were about 160 licensed falconers in NC. The changes may modestly increase interest among some falconers by expanding the seasonal window for taking nestlings and adding species options. However, any resulting increase in participation or demand is expected to be small, and the number of additional birds taken from the wild is anticipated to be negligible. We anticipate support from the regulated community.

1 15A NCAC 10B .0119 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10B .0119 WILDLIFE COLLECTORS**

4 (a) ~~A Wildlife Collection Licenses License~~ may be issued to ~~a qualified individuals~~ individual to take any species of  
5 wildlife resources for the following purposes:

- 6 (1) scientific collection;
- 7 (2) educational collection; or
- 8 (3) snapping turtle collection.

9 (b) The following definitions shall apply to this Rule:

- 10 (1) "Scientific Collection" shall mean collection for the purpose of conducting scientific research or  
11 survey.
- 12 (2) "Educational Collection" means collection for the purpose of providing instruction, training, or  
13 information to the public.
- 14 (3) "Snapping Turtle Collection" means collection of snapping turtles from the family Chelydridae for  
15 sale pursuant to 15A NCAC 10H .1301.
- 16 (4) "Personal Use" means collection and holding, using as bait, or personal consumption of reptiles or  
17 amphibians.

18 (c) The Commission shall consider the following qualifications when issuing a license:

- 19 (1) prior research or educational experience in the same or similar field;
- 20 (2) work with or for an educational institution;
- 21 (3) type of study requested of license (permanent or catch and release);
- 22 (4) current state and quantity of species requested;
- 23 (5) collection methodology proposed; and
- 24 (6) disposition of collection.

25 (d) Individuals collecting and holding reptiles or amphibians for personal use shall not be required to obtain a Wildlife  
26 Collection License so long as the following conditions are met:

- 27 (1) no more than 4 individuals of any combination of native reptile species or 24 individuals of any  
28 combination of amphibian species per person;
- 29 (2) collected reptiles and amphibians shall not be bought or sold; and
- 30 (3) no endangered, threatened, or special concern species shall be collected and retained.

31 (e) Endangered, threatened, and special concern species ~~may~~ shall not be taken or collected except under an  
32 endangered species permit unless there is an open season for the species. If an open season exists for the species, then  
33 the appropriate hunting, fishing, or trapping license serves as the authorization for take.

34 (f) ~~Wildlife Collection licenses may be issued to any individual,~~ Take under a Wildlife Collection License may be  
35 authorized so long as the take is not deemed harmful to the efficient conservation of the species to be collected or to  
36 other wildlife species that may be dependent thereon.

1 (g) Individuals ~~interested in obtaining a Wildlife Collection License~~ shall apply for a Wildlife Collection License by  
2 sending an application to 1701 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606 or by completing and submitting an application  
3 online at ncwildlife.gov, ~~www.newildlife.org~~. The application shall include:

- 4 (1) name, address, date of birth, email, and driver's license number; and
- 5 (2) species information.
- 6 (3) Additional information required for scientific and educational collection shall include:
  - 7 (A) organizational affiliation, if any; and
  - 8 (B) full documentation of research or educational proposal(s) and Institutional Animal Care  
9 and Use Committee approval, if applicable.

10 (h) Wildlife Collection Licenses shall be used in lieu of ~~any other~~ a hunting or trapping license required by law and  
11 shall authorize possession and transportation of ~~the~~ wildlife incidental to the authorized taking. It shall not authorize  
12 the taking, possession, or transportation of any species of wildlife in violation of the Endangered Species Act, the  
13 Migratory Bird Treaty Act, The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, or any other federal act to prohibit or restrict  
14 the possession and transportation of wildlife resources.

15 (i) Wildlife Collection Licenses for snapping turtle collection shall only be available to North Carolina residents. The  
16 following conditions shall apply:

- 17 (1) no more than 10 snapping turtles per person per day;
- 18 (2) no more than 100 snapping turtles per person per calendar year;
- 19 (3) turtles shall have a minimum curved carapace length of 13 inches; and
- 20 (4) no more than 15 trapping devices per license. Devices shall be:
  - 21 (A) labeled with a waterproof tag that shows the licensee's name, WRC Customer Number, or  
22 Wildlife Collection License number;
  - 23 (B) hoop traps or other trap style that allows for the unharmed release of any nontarget species  
24 or snapping turtles less than 13 inches; and
  - 25 (C) checked daily per 15A NCAC 10B .0110.

26 (j) Unless a more limited duration is designated on the license, Wildlife Collection Licenses shall be valid from  
27 January 1 through December 31 of the applicable year.

28 (k) Licensed individuals shall submit the following information to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 15  
29 days of license expiration depending on the species taken:

- 30 (1) the numbers of each species taken under the license and the use or disposition thereof;
- 31 (2) dates and location of the taking; and
- 32 (3) sex, size, weight, condition, or approximate age of each specimen taken as specified on the license.

33 (l) ~~A Wildlife Collections~~ Collection License shall not be transferable either by license holder or by site of a facility.

34  
35 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272.4;*

36 *Eff. January 1, 1981;*

1                    *Amended Eff. August 1, 2017; January 1, 2013; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; April 1, 2001; February*  
2                    *1, 1994; November 1, 1990; September 1, 1989;*  
3                    *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022.*

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1 **15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER**

2 (a) Open All Lawful Weapons Seasons for hunting deer:

3 (1) Deer With Visible Antlers. Deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as distinguished  
4 from knobs or buttons covered by ~~skin or velvet~~, skin, may be taken during the following seasons,  
5 including on game lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

6 (A) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in Beaufort, Bladen, Brunswick,  
7 Carteret, Columbus, ~~Cumberland~~, Craven, Dare, Duplin, Harnett, Hoke, Hyde, Jones,  
8 Lenoir, Moore, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Richmond, Robeson, ~~Sampson~~,  
9 Scotland, Tyrrell, and Washington counties. It is unlawful to hunt or kill deer in Lake  
10 Waccamaw or within 50 yards of its shoreline in Columbus County.

11 (B) Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1 in Bertie, Camden, Chowan,  
12 Currituck, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Johnston, Martin,  
13 Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Vance, Wake, Warren, Wayne, and  
14 Wilson counties.

15 (C) Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe,  
16 Catawba, Cleveland, Davie, ~~Forsyth~~, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Polk, Rutherford, ~~Stokes~~,  
17 ~~Surry, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yadkin~~ and Watauga counties.

18 (D) Saturday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell,  
19 Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell,  
20 Mitchell, Swain, Transylvania, and Yancey counties.

21 (E) Two Saturdays before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in Alamance, Anson,  
22 Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville, Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg,  
23 Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union  
24 counties.

25 (F) Saturday on or nearest September 10 through January 1 in the parts of Camden, Gates, and  
26 Pasquotank counties known as the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge; in the parts  
27 of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington counties known as the Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife  
28 Refuge; in the part of Hyde county known as Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife  
29 Refuge; in the parts of Dare and Hyde counties known as Alligator River National Wildlife  
30 Refuge; in the parts of Anson and Richmond counties known as the Pee Dee National  
31 Wildlife Refuge; and in the part of Currituck County known as the Mackay Island National  
32 Wildlife Refuge.

33 (2) Antlered or Antlerless Deer. Except on Game Lands, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during  
34 the open seasons and in the counties and portions of counties listed in Parts (A) through ~~(G)~~ (E) of  
35 this Subparagraph.

36 (A) The open antlered or antlerless deer hunting dates established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
37 Service from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through January 1 in the parts of

1 Camden, Gates, and Pasquotank counties known as the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife  
2 Refuge; in the parts of Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington counties known as the Pocosin Lakes  
3 National Wildlife Refuge; in the parts of Anson and Richmond counties known as the Pee  
4 Dee National Wildlife Refuge; and in the parts of Currituck County known as the Currituck  
5 National Wildlife Refuge and the Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge.

6 (B) The open antlered or antlerless deer hunting dates established by the military commands at  
7 the military installations listed in this Paragraph, from Saturday on or nearest October 15  
8 through January 1 in the part of Brunswick County known as the Sunny Point Military  
9 Ocean Terminal, in the part of Craven County known and marked as Cherry Point Marine  
10 Base, in the part of Onslow County known and marked as the Camp Lejeune Marine Base,  
11 on Fort ~~Liberty~~ Bragg Military Reservation, and on Camp Mackall Military Reservation.

12 (C) The first open Saturday of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season described in Subparagraph  
13 (a)(1) of this Rule in Cherokee, Clay, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania  
14 counties.

15 (D) The first open day of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season described in Subparagraph  
16 (a)(1) of this Rule through the first Saturday thereafter in Buncombe, Henderson, ~~Madison~~,  
17 and McDowell counties, except in the areas described in Subparts ~~(a)(2)(G)(i)~~ (a)(2)(E)(i)  
18 and (ii) of this Rule.

19 ~~(E) — The first open day of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph~~  
20 ~~(a)(1) of this Rule through the second Saturday thereafter in Avery, Burke, Caldwell,~~  
21 ~~Mitchell, and Yancey counties.~~

22 ~~(F) — The first open day of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph~~  
23 ~~(a)(1) of this Rule through the fourth Saturday thereafter in Cleveland, Polk, and~~  
24 ~~Rutherford counties.~~

25 ~~(G)(E)~~ Open days of the season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in Subparagraph (a)(1)  
26 of this Rule in and east of ~~Ashe, Watauga, Wilkes, Alexander, Catawba, Lincoln, and~~  
27 ~~Gaston~~ Avery, Burke, Rutherford, and Polk counties and in Madison, Mitchell, and Yancey  
28 counties, and the following parts of counties:

29 (i) The part of Buncombe County east of N.C. 191, south of the French Broad and  
30 Swannanoa Rivers, west of U.S. 25, and north of N.C. 280; and

31 (ii) The part of Henderson County east of N.C. 191 and north and west of N.C. 280.

32 (b) Open Archery Seasons for hunting deer:

33 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph and the bag  
34 limits set out in Paragraph (f) of this Rule, deer may be taken with archery equipment from Saturday  
35 on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately preceding the first open day of the  
36 Blackpowder Firearms Season described in Subparagraph (c)(1) of this Rule, including on game  
37 lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

1 (2) Restrictions

- 2 (A) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
3 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs may not be used for hunting deer during the Archery Season, except  
4 a single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance with  
5 G.S. 113-291.1(k).
- 6 (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for taking deer  
7 may be used during the Archery Season.
- 8 (C) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during Archery Season specified by Part ~~(b)(1)(A)~~  
9 (b)(1) of this Rule.

10 (c) Open Blackpowder Firearms Seasons for hunting deer:

- 11 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, deer may be  
12 taken only with blackpowder firearms and archery equipment from two Saturdays preceding the  
13 first day of the open season for Deer with Visible Antlers described in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (D),  
14 (E), and (F) of this Rule through the second Friday thereafter including on game lands unless  
15 otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

16 (2) Restrictions

- 17 (A) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during Blackpowder Firearms Season in a county  
18 or county part set forth in Part (a)(2)(D), ~~(E), (F), or (G)~~ (E) of this Rule that has one or  
19 more open days within the All Lawful Weapons Season to legally harvest antlerless deer.
- 20 (B) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken during the second open Saturday of the  
21 Blackpowder Firearms Season thru the first Friday thereafter in any county or county part  
22 set forth in Part (a)(2)(C) of this Rule.
- 23 (C) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the second open Saturday of the Blackpowder  
24 Firearms Season in any county or county part not set forth in Subparagraph (a)(2) of this  
25 Rule.
- 26 (D) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
27 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the Blackpowder Firearms  
28 Season, except a single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in  
29 accordance with G.S. 113-291.1(k).

- 30 (3) As used in this Rule, "blackpowder firearms" means any firearm, including any firearm with a  
31 matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system, manufactured before 1899,  
32 that cannot use fixed ammunition; any replica of this type of firearm if the replica is not designed  
33 or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition; and any muzzle-  
34 loading rifle, muzzle-loading shotgun, or muzzle-loading or cylinder-loading handgun that is  
35 designed to use blackpowder, blackpowder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through the  
36 muzzle, cylinder, or breech and that cannot use fixed ammunition.

37 (d) Open Urban Season for hunting deer:

1 (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph and the bag  
2 limits set out in Paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of this Rule, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with archery  
3 equipment in participating cities in the State, as defined in G.S. 160A-1(2), from the second Saturday  
4 following January 1 through the sixth Sunday thereafter. Deer shall not be taken on game lands  
5 within a city boundary.

6 (2) Participation. Cities that intend to participate in the Urban Season shall send a letter to ~~that effect~~  
7 ~~no later than April 1 of the year prior to the start of the Urban Season to~~ the Executive Director or  
8 their ~~his~~ designee at 1722 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. ~~27699-1700.~~ 27699-1700, no later  
9 than April 1 of the year prior to initial participation. ~~Cities shall also submit a map of the city's~~  
10 ~~boundaries within which the Urban Season shall apply.~~ Cities may withdraw from participation in  
11 the Urban Season by sending written notice to the Commission.

12 (3) Restrictions:

13 (A) In the areas of the State where the Commission regulates the use of dogs as provided in  
14 G.S. 113-291.5, dogs shall not be used for hunting deer during the Urban Season except a  
15 single dog on a leash may be used to retrieve a dead or wounded deer in accordance with  
16 G.S. 113-291.1(k).

17 (B) Only archery equipment of the types authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 for taking deer  
18 shall be used during the Urban Season.

19 (e) Open Youth Days for hunting deer. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with all lawful weapons by individuals  
20 under 16 years of age during the following days:

21 (1) The fourth Saturday in September and the Sunday immediately thereafter in all counties; and

22 (2) Thanksgiving Day and the Friday immediately thereafter in the counties listed in Part (a)(1)(D) of  
23 this Rule.

24 (f) Bag limits. The possession and season limit is six deer, two that may be deer with visible antlers and four that may  
25 be antlerless deer. Antlerless deer include males with knobs or buttons covered by skin ~~or velvet~~ as distinguished from  
26 antlers or spikes protruding through the skin. A hunter may obtain multiple Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report  
27 Cards from the Wildlife Resources Commission or any Wildlife Service Agent to allow the harvest of two additional  
28 antlerless deer per card for deer harvested during the season described in Paragraph (d) of this Rule within the  
29 boundaries of participating municipalities, except on State-owned game lands. Antlerless deer harvested and reported  
30 on the bonus antlerless harvest report card shall not count as part of the possession and season limit.

31 (g) Deer Management Assistance Program. The bag limits described in Paragraph (f) of this Rule do not apply to deer  
32 harvested in areas covered in the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) as described in G.S. 113-291.2(e)  
33 for those individuals using Commission-issued DMAP tags and reporting harvest as described on the DMAP license.  
34 Season bag limits shall be set by the number of DMAP tags issued and in the hunters' possession. All deer harvested  
35 under this program, regardless of the date of harvest, shall be tagged with DMAP tags and reported as instructed on  
36 the DMAP license. The hunter does not have to validate the Big Game Harvest Report Card provided with the hunting  
37 license for deer tagged with the DMAP tags. Any deer harvested on lands enrolled in the DMAP and not tagged with

1 DMAP tags may only be harvested during the regularly established deer seasons subject to the restrictions of those  
2 seasons, including bag limits, and reported using the big game harvest report card or the bonus antlerless harvest report  
3 card.

4 (h) Seasons for counties identified as Chronic Wasting Disease Management Areas shall be as specified in Rule .0502  
5 of this Subchapter.

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8 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.5;*  
9 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
10 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996, July 1, 1995; December 1, 1994; July 1,*  
11 *1994; July 1, 1993;*  
12 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
13 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
14 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*  
15 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (Approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
16 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
17 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
18 *2003);*  
19 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016;*  
20 *August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; July 10, 2010;*  
21 *June 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*  
22 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022;*  
23 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; June 1, 2025; August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023.*  
24  
25

1 15A NCAC 10B .0205 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10B .0205 RACCOON AND OPOSSUM**

4 (a) The open season for taking raccoon and opossum is from sunrise Monday on or nearest October 15 through the  
5 last day of February.

6 (b) Bag Limits:

7 (1) There is no bag limit for raccoon. ~~The daily bag limit for raccoon is three and there are no season~~  
8 ~~and no possession limits.~~

9 (2) There is no ~~restriction on bag limit~~ limits for opossum.

10 (c) Axes or saws shall not be carried when raccoon or opossum hunting.

11

12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*

13 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

14 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1995; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985;*

15 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*

16 *Amended Eff. May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; July 1, 2000;*

17 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10B .0206 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10B .0206 SQUIRRELS**

4 (a) The open season for gray and red squirrels is the ~~Saturday~~ ~~Monday~~ on or ~~nearest~~ ~~closest~~ to October ~~1~~ ~~15~~ through

5 the last day of February. Gray squirrels may also be taken by hunting on the Monday following the closing of the open

6 season for wild turkey in 15A NCAC 10B .0209(a) through the second Monday thereafter.

7 (b) The daily bag limit for gray and red squirrels is eight in aggregate and there are no season or possession limits.

8 (c) The open season for fox squirrels is the Monday on or nearest October 15 through January 31.

9 (d) The daily bag limit for fox squirrels is one; the possession limit is two; and the season limit is 10.

10

11 *History Note Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*

12 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

13 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2022; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1,*

14 *2006; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985;*

15 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*

16 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10B .0212 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10B .0212 FOXES (GRAY AND RED)**

4 (a) Unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly, foxes may be taken year-round using firearms  
5 and archery equipment in the following counties:

6 (1) Ashe

7 (2) Catawba

8 (3) Haywood

9 (4) Perquimans

10 (5) Wilkes

11 (6) Yadkin

12 ~~(a)(b) Foxes may be taken with weapons~~ The open season for taking foxes using firearms, archery equipment, and or  
13 traps is the first Saturday in January through the fourth Saturday in January in the following counties:

14 ~~(1)~~ Caswell;

15 ~~(2)(1)~~ Clay;

16 ~~(3)(2)~~ Graham;

17 ~~(4)(3)~~ Henderson;

18 ~~(5)(4)~~ Macon; and

19 ~~(6)(5)~~ Tyrell.

20 ~~(b)(c) The open season for taking foxes with firearms, archery equipment and traps in counties listed in G.S. 113-~~  
21 291.4B(c) are as specified in Rule 10B .0303(a) of this Subchapter.

22 ~~(c)(d) The open~~ season for pursuing or taking foxes with dogs on Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land is August 2  
23 through February 14.

24 ~~(e) (c) Foxes may be taken the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1~~ The open season for taking foxes  
25 using firearms archery equipment is the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 in all areas of the State  
26 east of Interstate Highway 77, unless otherwise specified in local act of the General Assembly. 77 and in Mitchell  
27 County.

28 ~~(d) (f) For areas of open season~~ seasons detailed in Paragraphs (a) through (e) (b), (d), and (e) of this Rule, and areas  
29 detailed in G.S. 113-291.4A(a), excluding the counties listed in 113-291.4B(c), Rule, the daily bag limit is two; two  
30 and the season limit is 10.

31  
32 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-131.1; 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.4; 113-291.4A; 113-291.4B*

33 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

34 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1987; December 1, 1985;*

35 *Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1989;*

36 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; May 1, 1990;*

37 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*

1 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2000;*  
2 *Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10B .0219 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10B .0219 COYOTE**

4 (a) When taking coyotes, the following shall apply:

- 5 (1) There is no closed season for taking coyotes.
- 6 (2) There is no bag limit.
- 7 (2) Coyotes may be taken on private lands anytime during the day or night.
- 8 (3) Coyotes may be taken on public lands without a permit from the hours of one-half hour before
- 9 sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.
- 10 (4) Coyotes may be taken on public lands with a permit from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour
- 11 before sunrise.
- 12 (5) Hunters may use electronic calls. ~~calls and artificial lights to take coyotes.~~
- 13 (6) Hunters may shine artificial lights to take coyotes, except from a motorized conveyance while in
- 14 possession of a firearm or archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116.

15 (b) In the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrell, and Washington, the following shall apply:

- 16 (1) Coyote hunting on public lands is prohibited, except that coyotes may be taken on State-owned
- 17 game lands by the holder of a permit for a specific special hunt opportunity for coyotes authorized
- 18 by G.S 113-264(d).
- 19 (2) Any special hunt for coyotes pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d) shall only allow hunting from the hours
- 20 of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.
- 21 (3) Contests or competition coyote hunts on public lands are prohibited.
- 22 (4) If, within a calendar year, two or more red wolves are shot by one or more hunters with a valid
- 23 special hunt permit for coyotes on State game lands within the five counties identified in this
- 24 Paragraph, all special hunts for coyotes on State game lands within those five counties shall be
- 25 suspended for one calendar year.
- 26 (5) Coyotes may be taken on private lands by permit only, and any take shall be reported within 24
- 27 hours to the by phone at 919-707-0040 or online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).
- 28 (6) There is no closed season for taking coyotes on private lands. Coyotes may be taken on private lands
- 29 from hours of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset only.
- 30 (7) Coyote hunting permits are in addition to hunting licenses. Individuals exempted from license
- 31 requirements under the provisions specified in G.S. 113-276 shall acquire the coyote hunting permits
- 32 to hunt coyotes in the counties specified in this Paragraph. Coyote hunting permits are valid for one
- 33 calendar year and are subject to annual renewal. These permits are non-transferable. Permit holders
- 34 shall submit their harvest reports in order to be eligible for permit renewal.

35  
36 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;*  
37 *Eff. July 1, 1993;*

1                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 2011;*  
2                    *Amended Eff. January 1, 2012;*  
3                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2014 and shall remain in effect until amendments expire as*  
4                    *specified in G.S. 150B-21.1(d) or the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North*  
5                    *Carolina's court order number 2:13-CV-60-BOs signed on May 13, 2014 is rescinded, whichever*  
6                    *date is earlier. The court order is available at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org);*  
7                    *Amended Eff. July 26, 2013;*  
8                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;*  
9                    *Amended Eff. July 1, 2016;*  
10                   *Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10B .0223 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10B .0223 FERAL SWINE**

4 (a) There is no closed season for taking feral swine on private lands anytime during the day or night.

5 (b) Feral swine may be taken on game lands from the hours of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after  
6 sunset during an open season for game animals or game birds using the legal manners of take allowed during those  
7 season, except that dogs may not be used to hunt feral swine on game lands that do not allow the use of dogs for  
8 hunting white-tailed deer or black bear. Where lawful, the hunting of feral swine with dogs is allowed during the  
9 applicable deer or bear season unless otherwise specified in the Rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

10 (c) Feral swine may be taken on game lands from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise by permit  
11 only. Individuals may apply for permits on or after July 1 online at [ncwildlife.gov](http://ncwildlife.gov), ~~[newildlife.org](http://newildlife.org)~~, by phone, or in  
12 person at a wildlife service agent location. The number of permits issued annually will be based on achieving  
13 population management objectives of the Commission. The Commission shall issue available feral swine permits to  
14 applicants selected at random by computer. Permits shall be non-transferrable. All applicable laws and rules regarding  
15 the taking of feral swine shall apply.

16 (d) There are no bag limits on feral swine.

17 (e) Hunters may use electronic calls to take feral swine. ~~artificial lights and electronic calls.~~

18 (f) Hunters may shine artificial lights to take feral swine, except from a motorized conveyance while in possession of  
19 a firearm or archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116.

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21 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-291; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;*

22 *Temporary Adoption Eff. October 1, 2011;*

23 *Eff. February 1, 2012;*

24 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2012;*

25 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; March 21, 2013;*

26 *Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;*

27 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

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1 15A NCAC 10B .0502 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10B .0502 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AREAS DEFINED MANAGEMENT**  
4 **AREAS**

5 (a) The following counties are Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Management Areas:

6 (1) Cumberland;

7 (2) Forsyth;

8 (3) Sampson

9 ~~(3)~~(4) Stokes;

10 ~~(4)~~(5) Surry;

11 ~~(5)~~(6) Wilkes; and

12 ~~(6)~~(7) Yadkin.

13 (b) Prohibitions specified in Rule .0503 of this Subchapter apply to the counties identified in Paragraph (a) of this  
14 Rule.

15 (c) Open seasons for hunting deer are as follows:

16 (1) Special Early Season. Deer with antlers or spikes protruding through the skin, as distinguished  
17 from knobs or buttons covered by skin, may be taken on the fourth Saturday in August and the  
18 Sunday immediately following with a lawful weapon, including on game lands unless otherwise  
19 specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

20 (2) All Lawful Weapons.

21 (A) Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken in Forsyth, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, and Yadkin  
22 counties two Saturdays before Thanksgiving Day through January 1, including on game  
23 lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

24 (B) Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken in Cumberland and Sampson County the  
25 Saturday on or nearest October 15 through January 1, including on game lands unless  
26 otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

27 (3) Archery Seasons. Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment as authorized  
28 in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 on the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately  
29 preceding the first open day of the Blackpowder Firearms Season described in Subparagraph  
30 (c)(4) of this Rule.

31 (4) Blackpowder Firearms Seasons. Antlered or Antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment  
32 as authorized in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, and blackpowder firearms as defined in 15A NCAC 10B  
33 .0203(c)(3), from two Saturdays preceding the first day of the All Lawful Weapons Season  
34 described in Subparagraph (c)(2) of this Rule through the second Friday thereafter, including on  
35 game lands unless otherwise specified in the rules of 15A NCAC 10D .0200.

36 (d) Seasons, bag limits, and programs specified in paragraphs (d) through (g) of Rule 10B .0203 of this Subchapter  
37 shall apply in the counties identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

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*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-306;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2022;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2023;  
Temporary Adoption Expired Eff. April 12, ~~2024.~~ 2024;  
Eff. August 1, 2026.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0106 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10D .0106 DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS**

4 (a) Bear ~~hunting may be taken~~ on posted designated bear management areas specified in Paragraph (c) of this Rule  
5 ~~during the open season shall be~~ by permit only. Individuals may apply for permits on or after July 1 online at  
6 ~~ncwildlife.org,~~ ncwildlife.gov, by phone, or in person at a wildlife service agent location. The number of permits  
7 issued annually will be based on achieving population management objectives of the Commission. The Commission  
8 shall issue available bear management area permits to applicants selected at random by computer. Permits ~~are shall be~~  
9 non-transferrable. All applicable laws and rules regarding the taking of bear shall apply.

10 (b) The following shall be posted designated bear management areas:

- 11 Bachelor Bay designated bear management area – Bertie and Washington counties
- 12 Columbus County designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
- 13 Croatan designated bear management area – Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
- 14 Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
- 15 Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties
- 16 Fires Creek designated bear management area – Clay County
- 17 Flat Top designated bear management area – Mitchell and Yancey counties
- 18 Green Swamp designated bear management area – Brunswick County
- 19 Gull Rock designated bear management area – Hyde County
- 20 Harmon Den designated bear management area – Haywood County
- 21 Juniper Creek designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
- 22 Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties
- 23 North River designated bear management area – Camden and Currituck counties
- 24 Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County
- 25 Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania
- 26 Pungo River designated bear management area – Hyde County
- 27 Rich Mountain designated bear management area – Madison County
- 28 Sherwood designated bear management area – Haywood County
- 29 Suggs Mill Pond designated bear management area – Bladen and Cumberland counties
- 30 Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County
- 31 Thurmond Chatham designated bear management area – Allegheny and Wilkes counties
- 32 Wayah designated bear management area – Macon County

33 (c) It shall be lawful to take bear on the following designated management areas when authorized by permit issued  
34 by the Commission in accordance with G.S. 113-264(d):

- 35 Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
- 36 Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties
- 37 Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties

1 Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County  
2 Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania  
3 Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County

4 (d) Feral Swine shall not be taken with the use of dogs on designated bear management areas.

5 (e) Dogs shall not be trained or allowed to run unleashed between March 1 and the Saturday on or immediately prior  
6 to October 9 ~~Monday on or nearest October 15~~ on designated bear management areas located in and west of the  
7 counties and parts of counties described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

8

9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305;*

10 *Eff. August 1, 2019;*

11 *Amended Eff. March 15, 2023.*

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1 15A NCAC 10H .0810 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .0810 TAKING RAPTORS**

4 (a) No raptor shall be taken from the wild in this State except by an individual holding a current falconry license as  
5 defined in Rule .0801 of this Section, or a falconry permit or license from the individual's state of residence if the  
6 individual is a non-resident of North Carolina. Falconers may only take species of raptors from the wild that are  
7 authorized under their level of permit or license. If a falconer captures an unauthorized species of raptor or other bird,  
8 he or she must release that bird immediately upon capture.

9 (b) All levels of licensees may take up to two raptors from the wild annually, subject to the conditions and restrictions  
10 set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(e)(2). Apprentices may keep ~~only~~ one bird at a time.

11 (c) Apprentices may take ~~any species of raptor~~ raptors from the wild except for those species specified in 50 CFR  
12 21.82(c)(2)(i)(E).

13 (d) ~~Any~~ A raptor native to this State may be taken from the wild subject to the restrictions on species and license level  
14 as follows:

15 (1) ~~Only persons~~ An individual holding General or Master level falconry licenses may take nestlings.  
16 Nestlings may ~~only~~ be taken from January 1 ~~May 1~~ through July 31. ~~June 30~~. No more than two  
17 nestlings may be taken by the same licensee. At least one nestling shall be left in the nest or aerie.

18 (2) First year (passage) birds may be taken from August 1 through the last day of February, except that  
19 marked raptors may be retrapped at any time.

20 ~~(3) American kestrels (Falco sparverius) and great horned owls (Bubo Virginianus) may only be taken~~  
21 ~~when over one year old. Only General and Master falconers may take this age class in accordance~~  
22 ~~with 50 CFR 21.82(e)(3)(i). The time period for taking is from August 1 through the last day of~~  
23 ~~February.~~

24 ~~(4)~~(3) Only General and Master falconers may take a federally threatened species and the falconer shall  
25 follow the restrictions in 50 CFR 21.82(e)(3)(ix).

26 ~~(5)~~(4) A falconer shall obtain a North Carolina endangered species permit before taking ~~any~~ raptors listed  
27 in 15A NCAC 10I .0103, 15A NCAC 10I .0104, or 15A NCAC 10I .0105. Furthermore, a falconer  
28 shall possess a special hunt permit to take a passage peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus tundrius).

29 (e) Traps shall be designed to prevent injury to the raptor. ~~All traps~~ Traps, except box-type ~~traps~~ traps, shall be  
30 attended and visible to the trapper ~~at all times~~ when in use. Box-type traps ~~must~~ shall be checked every 24 hours.  
31 Traps ~~must~~ shall be ~~of~~ one of the following types:

32 (1) Leg noose snare traps, the nooses of which shall be tied to prevent the noose from locking when  
33 under pressure. The trapper shall use a drag weight based on the species being trapped.

34 (2) Nets that collapse on and enclose around the raptor.

35 (3) Box-type traps with automatic closing entry doors or funnels.

36 (f) Licensees may recapture their own birds, banded birds, captive-bred birds or birds wearing falconry equipment.  
37 Disposition of these birds shall be in accordance with 50 CFR 21.82(e)(3)(iv)-(v). ~~their own birds or any birds wearing~~

1 ~~falconry equipment at any time. Disposition of banded birds, captive bred birds, and birds wearing falconry equipment~~  
2 ~~is as allowed in accordance with 50 CFR 21.82(e)(3)(iv) - (v).~~

3 (g) Licensees shall keep their license on their person when trapping raptors.

4 (h) Raptors injured due to falconry trapping ~~efforts~~ shall be treated humanely and in accordance with 50 50 CFR  
5 21.82(e)(5).

6  
7 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29;*

8 *Eff. September 1, 1979;*

9 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; July 1, 1998;*

10 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December*  
11 *6, 2016;*

12 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.*

# EXHIBIT E-1

June 18, 2026



## **Proposed Amendments to Inland Fisheries Rules for the 2027-2028 Annual Rulemaking Cycle Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearings**

### **F1. Largemouth Bass – Lake Holt**

*15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Remove the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass less than or equal to 14 inches and create a creel limit of 5 fish per day for Largemouth Bass greater than 14 inches at Lake Holt.

#### JUSTIFICATION

Largemouth Bass are overpopulated at Lake Holt and the population has shown stunted growth rates. Harvest of smaller fish will allow for increased growth in the Largemouth Bass remaining in the lake.

### **F2. Largemouth Bass – Cane Creek Lake (Union Co.)**

*15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Remove the 16-inch minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass in Cane Creek Lake. The statewide size restriction will apply where there is no minimum size limit but only two bass may be less than 14 inches.

#### JUSTIFICATION

The minimum size limit in the creek has led to smaller sized Largemouth Bass and decreased catch rates of legal-size fish. The smaller fish need to be removed from the population to allow for increased growth in the fish remaining in the lake.

### **F3. Striped Bass & Hybrids – Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River**

*15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Establish a Striped Bass harvest season from April 1 to April 30 in the inland waters of the Tar-Pamlico River and its tributaries and the Neuse River and its tributaries. The daily creel limit for Striped Bass or Striped Bass hybrids will be one fish in aggregate and possession of Striped Bass or Striped Bass hybrids less than 18 inches or between 22 and 27 inches in length will be prohibited.

#### JUSTIFICATION

The NC Division of Marine Fisheries will be changing their regulations to provide consistency in coastal waters. This regulation change is part of the cooperative Striped Bass management between the two agencies.

\*NOTE: This proposed permanent rule mirrors and will replace the current temporary rule.

### **F4. Striped Bass & Hybrids – Lake Townsend**

*15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Increase the minimum size limit for Striped Bass or Striped Bass hybrids in Lake Townsend from 16 inches to 20 inches.

#### JUSTIFICATION

Striped Bass are no longer being stocked in Lake Townsend and management for the species has stopped because Striped Bass survival has been poor for many years even with stocking efforts. This lake will be managed with statewide size and creel limits.

### **F5. Bluefish – Creel Limit**

*15A NCAC 10C .0414 BLUEFISH*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Increase the daily creel limit for Bluefish from 3 fish to 5 fish.

#### JUSTIFICATION

The proposed change follows the recommendations outlined by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council for recreational Bluefish harvest. The [2025 management track assessment](#) for Bluefish concluded that overfishing was not occurring, and while the stock was not overfished, it has not yet fully rebuilt to the target reference point. Spawning stock biomass was

estimated to be about 89% of the biomass target. The stock is projected to be rebuilt in 2025. The Council adopted an updated commercial quota and recreational harvest limit that represent an increase of approximately 50% for the commercial quota and 40% for the recreational harvest limit. Recreational limits were modified with the recreational bag limit increasing from 3 fish to 5 fish.

## **F6. Sheepshead – Size and Creel Limit**

*15A NCAC 10C .0425 SHEEPSHEAD*

### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Reduce the daily creel limit for Sheepshead from 10 fish to 5 fish and increase the minimum size from 10 inches to 14 inches.

### JUSTIFICATION

The NC Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) issued a proclamation modifying Sheepshead size and creel limits for recreational and commercial harvest in joint and coastal fishing waters. The proposed change decreases the daily creel limit from 10 fish to 5 fish and increases the minimum size from 10 inches to 14 inches in Inland Fishing Waters and Joint Fishing Waters (hook-and-line) to be consistent with the DMF proclamation. The [DMF Sheepshead Management Issue Paper](#) states that due to increases in fishing pressure, particularly on juvenile fish, and a decline in older fish observed in recent years, DMF implemented management changes in March 2026 for Sheepshead.

1 15A NCAC 10C .0305 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS**

4 (a) The daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass is five fish, except as otherwise specified in this Rule. ~~in waters~~  
5 ~~identified in Paragraphs (d), (e), (f), (l), (m), (n), and (o) of this Rule.~~

6 (b) There is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but only two ~~of them~~ may be less than 14 inches except as  
7 otherwise specified in this Rule. ~~in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) through (o) of this Rule.~~

8 (c) There is no closed season, except in Jean Guite Creek and associated canals within the Town of Southern Shores  
9 in Dare County and in the ponds associated with Martin Marietta Park in Craven County, where Largemouth Bass  
10 shall not be taken or possessed. ~~in waters identified in Paragraph (n) of this Rule.~~

11 (d) ~~In Lake Cammack in Alamance County, and Lake Cammack in Alamance County, and Lake Holt in Granville~~  
12 ~~County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass is 10 fish and no more than two fish greater than 14 inches may be~~  
13 ~~possessed.~~ there is no daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, but only five Largemouth Bass greater than 14 inches  
14 may be possessed.

15 (e) In Lake Santeetlah in Graham County, there is no daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass  
16 less than 14 inches. The daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass greater than 14 inches is five fish  
17 in aggregate.

18 (f) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Alabama Bass, and  
19 Spotted Bass is 10 fish in aggregate. The minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 12 inches.

20 (g) The minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 14 inches in the following waters:

- 21 (1) Lake Raleigh in Wake County;
- 22 (2) Lake Sutton in New Hanover County;
- 23 (3) Pungo Lake in Washington and Hyde counties;
- 24 (4) New Lake in Hyde County; and
- 25 (5) Currituck, Roanoke, Croatan, Albemarle sounds, and their tributaries, including Roanoke River  
26 downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam, Chowan River, Meherrin River, Yeopim River, Pasquotank  
27 River, Perquimans River, Little River, Big Flatty Creek, North River, Northwest River,  
28 Scuppernong River, Alligator River, including the Alligator/Pungo Canal east of the N.C. Hwy  
29 264/45 bridge, and the other associated tributaries and canals in these river systems.

30 (h) ~~In Cane Creek Lake in Union County, and~~ Buckhorn Reservoir in Wilson and Nash counties, the minimum size  
31 limit for Largemouth Bass is 16 inches.

32 (i) In Lake Phelps in Tyrrell and Washington counties, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 14 inches, and  
33 no fish between 16 and 20 inches may be possessed.

34 (j) In Lake Hampton in Yadkin County, there is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass. No more than two  
35 Largemouth Bass less than 14 inches and no Largemouth Bass between 16 and 20 inches may be possessed.

36 (k) In Lake Thom-A-Lex in Davidson County, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 18 inches.

37 (l) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia), the daily  
38 creel limit for Largemouth ~~Bass, Bass and~~ Smallmouth ~~Bass, and Spotted~~ Bass is five fish in aggregate. There is no  
39 minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and one  
40 Largemouth ~~Bass, Bass or~~ Smallmouth ~~Bass, or Spotted~~ Bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

41 (m) In Lake Mattamuskeet and associated canals in Hyde County, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 16  
42 inches and one Largemouth Bass greater than 20 inches may be possessed.

43 ~~(n) In Jean Guite Creek and associated canals within the Town of Southern Shores in Dare County and in the ponds  
44 associated with Martin Marietta Park in Craven County, no Largemouth Bass may be possessed.~~

45 ~~(o) In Lake Cammack in Alamance County, there is no daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, and only five  
46 Largemouth Bass greater than 14 inches may be possessed.~~

47

48 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;*

49 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

50 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 10, 1990, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1990;*

51 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 22, 1990, for a period of 168 days to expire on November 1, 1990;*

52 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 1991, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1991;*

53 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; October 1, 1992;*

54 *Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1994 for a period of 180 days or until the permanent rule  
55 becomes effective, whichever is sooner;*

56 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995;*

57 *Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1998;*

58 *Amended Eff. April 1, 1999;*

59 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*

60 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*

61 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*

62 *Temporary Amendment Eff. March 8, 2002 [This rule replaces the rule proposed for permanent  
63 amendment effective July 1, 2002 and approved by RRC in May 2001];*

64 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC in April 2002);*

65 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*

66 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,  
67 2003);*

68 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; November 1, 2013; August 1, 2012;*

69 *March 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2008; May 1, 2008; May 1,  
70 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*

71 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*

72 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; August 1, 2024; March 15, 2023; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020.*

1 15A NCAC 10C .0314 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS**

4 (a) The daily creel limit for striped bass and its hybrids is four fish in e aggregate, except as otherwise specified in  
5 this Rule. in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) and (g) through (l) of this Rule.

6 (b) The minimum size limit for these fish is 20 inches, except as otherwise specified in this Rule. in waters identified  
7 in Paragraphs (d) through (l) of this Rule.

8 (c) There is no closed season, except as otherwise specified in this Rule. for waters identified in Paragraphs (i) through  
9 (l) of this Rule.

10 (d) In the Dan River upstream from its confluence with Bannister River to the dam at Union Street in Danville, VA  
11 and in John H. Kerr Reservoir, the daily creel limit on striped bass and its hybrids is two in aggregate and the minimum  
12 size limit is 20 inches. No fish greater than 26 inches may be possessed from October 1 through May 31. From June  
13 1 through September 30, the daily creel limit for striped bass and its hybrids is four in aggregate with no minimum  
14 size limit.

15 (e) In Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Reservoir, the minimum size limit for striped bass and its hybrids is 20 inches  
16 from October 1 through May 31. There is no minimum size limit for these fish from June 1 through September 30.

17 (f) In Farmer Lake, Hyco Lake, Moss Lake, Oak Hollow Lake, ~~Lake Townsend~~, and Salem Lake the minimum size  
18 limit for striped bass and its hybrids is 16 inches.

19 (g) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit is 15 in the aggregate. There is no minimum size limit, and  
20 two may be greater than 22 inches.

21 (h) In Lake Mattamuskeet, and in the Pee Dee River and its tributaries downstream from the Blewett Falls Dam to  
22 the South Carolina state line, the daily creel limit for striped bass and its hybrids is three fish in aggregate, and the  
23 minimum size limit is 18 inches.

24 (i) In the inland waters of the Tar-Pamlico River and its tributaries upstream of a line shore to shore beginning at a  
25 point at Gum Point 35.419448 N 76.758752 W running southwesterly to a point at Fork Point at 35.390755 N 76.77391  
26 W and the Neuse River and its tributaries upstream of a line shore to shore beginning at a point at Cooper Point  
27 35.035722 N 76.933275 W running southwesterly to a point at Fisher Landing Point 35.002583 N 76.97623 W, the  
28 following shall apply:

29 (1) the season for taking and possessing striped bass and striped bass hybrids is April 1 through April  
30 30.

31 (2) the daily creel limit for striped bass and striped bass hybrids is one fish in aggregate.

32 (3) it is unlawful to possess a striped bass or striped bass hybrid less than 18 inches or between 22 and  
33 27 inches in length.

34 In the inland waters tributary to the Tar-Pamlico River and Neuse River downstream of these lines, the season for  
35 taking and possessing striped bass and striped bass hybrids is closed. ~~closed year round.~~

36 ~~(j)~~ (j) In the inland fishing waters of the ~~Tar, Pungo, Neuse, Pungo~~ and Cape Fear rivers and their tributaries extending  
37 upstream to the first impoundment of the main course on the river or its tributaries, in other inland fishing waters east

38 of Interstate 95 not specified in Paragraphs (h), (j), and (k) of this Rule, and in the ponds associated with Martin  
39 Marietta Park in Craven County, the season for taking and possessing striped bass is closed year-round.

40 ~~(j)~~(k) In the inland and joint fishing waters of the Roanoke River Striped Bass Management Area, as established in  
41 15A NCAC 03R .0201 and identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0110 which includes the Roanoke, Cashie, Middle, and  
42 Eastmost rivers and their tributaries, the open season for taking and possessing striped bass and its hybrids is March  
43 1 through April 30 from the joint-coastal fishing waters boundary at Albemarle Sound upstream to Roanoke Rapids  
44 Lake Dam. During the open season, the daily creel limit for striped bass and its hybrids is one fish in aggregate, and  
45 the minimum size limit is 18 inches. No fish over 22 inches in length shall be possessed.

46 ~~(k)~~(l) In designated inland and joint fishing waters of Roanoke Sound, Croatan Sound, Albemarle Sound, Chowan  
47 River, Currituck Sound, Alligator River, Scuppernong River, and their tributaries, excluding the Roanoke River and  
48 Cashie River and their tributaries, the striped bass fishing season, size limits, and creel limits are the same as those  
49 established by rules or proclamations of the Marine Fisheries Commission in adjacent coastal fishing waters.

50 ~~(l)~~(m) In accordance with G.S. 113-292, the Executive Director may, by proclamation, suspend or extend the hook-  
51 and-line season for striped bass in the inland and joint waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries. It is unlawful to  
52 violate the provisions of a proclamation issued pursuant to this authority.

53

54 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*  
55 *Eff. November 1, 2013;*  
56 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2018; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
57 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
58 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020;*  
59 *Temporary Amendment Eff. November 30, 2021;*  
60 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2022;*  
61 *Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2022;*  
62 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023; March 15, 2023.*

1 15A NCAC 10C .0414 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10C .0414 BLUEFISH**

4 (a) The daily creel limit for bluefish is five, ~~three~~.

5 (b) There is no size limit.

6 (c) There is no closed season.

7 (d) Bluefish shall not be sold.

8

9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*

10 *Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;*

11 *Eff. March 15, 2023.*

1 15A NCAC 10C .0425 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10C .0425 SHEEPSHEAD**

4 (a) The daily creel limit for sheepshead is ~~40~~ 5 fish.

5 (b) The minimum size limit is ~~40~~ 14 inches.

6 (c) There is no closed season.

7 (d) Sheepshead shall not be sold.

8

9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*

10 *Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;*

11 *Eff. March 15, 2023.*

# EXHIBIT E-2

June 18, 2026



## Fiscal Note for 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Rule Proposals Wildlife Resources Commission - Inland Fisheries

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS  
15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS  
15A NCAC 10C .0414 BLUEFISH  
15A NCAC 10C .0425 SHEEPSHEAD

**Agency Contact:** William Casola  
Policy Analyst  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission  
1751 Varsity Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
(919) 707-0125  
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov

**Fiscal Impact:** State Government: No  
Local Government: Yes  
Private Impact: Yes  
Substantial Economic Impact: No

**Authority:** G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305

## **BACKGROUND**

The wildlife resources of the State belong to the people of the State as a whole, including the enjoyment of these resources (G.S. 113-131(a)). The Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) is tasked with the conservation of wildlife resources of the State (G.S. 143-239). This responsibility includes managing as equitably as possible the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. 113-131.1(a)). The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. 113-134).

As part of its mission, the WRC conducts an annual review of its inland fishing, wildlife, and game land regulations to determine whether the rules need to be adjusted in order to accomplish the objectives of managing wildlife resources or Commission property through a biologically sustainable harvest consistent with sound conservation objectives; managing WRC-owned land for the conservation of wildlife resources, and the enjoyment of the public; and implementing legislative directives.

A summary of the proposed rule amendments is shown below along with accompanying rule text. Many of the proposed amendments change what anglers may harvest in specific waters and where anglers may harvest certain species. Some of the proposed amendments seek to increase restrictions to protect the resources, while others increase angling opportunity or provide clarity to anglers. All the proposed changes are intended to ensure future angling opportunity, and despite the changes, no significant impact to angling participation is expected.

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS BY RULE AND SUBJECT**

### **15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS (Lake Holt)**

The proposed amendment removes the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass less than or equal to 14 inches and increases the creel limit from 2 fish per day to 5 fish per day for Largemouth Bass greater than 14 inches at Lake Holt.

Largemouth Bass are overpopulated at Lake Holt and the population has shown stunted growth rates. Harvest of smaller fish will allow for increased growth in the Largemouth Bass remaining in the lake.

In 2025 the Commission's Social Research Unit conducted a survey of Largemouth and other Black Bass (Smallmouth, Spotted, Alabama) anglers in NC. The population of Largemouth Bass anglers was estimated to be about 675,000 anglers, with the majority fishing in lakes and reservoirs (78%) and primarily practicing catch and release (88%). While size and creel amendments at Lake Holt and Cane Creek (page 4) directly impact the small percentage (12%) of Largemouth Bass anglers who regularly harvest fish, the amendments are anticipated to have positive cascading effects on the overall size and age structure of Largemouth Bass populations in these lakes, resulting in increased angler satisfaction. Currently, about 56% of Black Bass anglers in NC are either somewhat or very satisfied with their Black Bass fishing experience.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

##### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated state government impact as the change is part of routine fisheries management and will not require more or less staff time or resources for implementation and enforcement.

##### *Local Impact*

Local governments could experience modest positive indirect impacts if these targeted harvest adjustments improve the Largemouth Bass population at Lake Holt, potentially boosting angler spending on fishing trips, gear, bait, and local services in the surrounding community.

##### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment increases harvest opportunity by allowing unlimited harvest of smaller bass and increasing harvest of larger bass from 2 per day to 5 per day. Additionally, the amendment should increase angler satisfaction by building a population that supports larger, more desirable, Largemouth Bass in Lake Holt.

### **15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS (Cane Creek)**

The proposed amendment removes the 16-inch minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass in Cane Creek (Union County). The statewide size restriction will apply where there is no minimum size limit but only two bass may be less than 14 inches.

The minimum size limit in the creek has led to smaller sized Largemouth Bass and decreased catch rates of legal-size fish. The smaller fish need to be removed from the population to allow for increased growth in the fish remaining in the creek.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

##### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated state government impact as the change is part of routine fisheries management and will not require more or less staff time or resources for implementation and enforcement.

##### *Local Impact*

Additional angling opportunities may increase the number of people visiting local businesses, which may result in an increase in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to the needs of this user group (e.g., food, gas, fishing supplies, etc.). This anticipated benefit cannot be quantified.

##### *Private Impact*

The proposed change increases harvest opportunity by removing the minimum size limit. Additionally, the proposed change should increase angler satisfaction by building a population that supports larger, more desirable, Largemouth Bass.

### **15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS (Tar-Pamlico & Neuse Season)**

The proposed amendment will establish a Striped Bass harvest season from April 1 to April 30 in the inland waters of the Tar-Pamlico River and its tributaries and the Neuse River and its tributaries. The daily creel limit will be one fish in aggregate and possession of striped bass or striped bass hybrids less than 18 inches or between 22 and 27 inches in length will be unlawful. The NC Division of Marine Fisheries will be changing their regulations to provide regulatory consistency in coastal waters. This regulatory change is part of the cooperative Striped Bass management between the two agencies.

Hatchery grown Striped Bass have been stocked in the Tar and Neuse rivers for thirty years in an attempt to create a self-sustaining fishery. However, efforts to restore a self-sustaining striped bass

population have not been successful in these rivers and this is a put, grow, and take fishery. The proposed rule change provides additional opportunities on the hatchery supported Striped Bass populations in the Tar and Neuse rivers, while avoiding potential take of Roanoke River Striped Bass that occasionally migrate into these areas.

\*NOTE: This proposed amendment mirrors and will replace the current temporary rule.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated state government impact as the change is part of routine fisheries management and will not require more or less staff time or resources for implementation and enforcement. Although striped bass are a high-value species with a loyal angler base, any resulting shift in angling pressure is not expected to create a measurable change in fishing license sales or state revenues.

#### *Local Impact*

Additional angling opportunities may increase the number of people visiting local businesses, which may result in an increase in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to the needs of this user group (e.g., food, gas, fishing supplies, etc.). This anticipated benefit cannot be quantified.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment provides additional angling opportunities by allowing harvest of Striped Bass in an area that was previously closed to harvest. This may entice anglers to fish these waters more frequently, resulting in increased angler satisfaction, participation, and trip-related expenditures. The WRC does not have a mechanism to determine the specific fiscal impact of the proposed amendment on private individuals.

### **15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS (Lake Townsend)**

The proposed amendment increases the minimum size limit for Striped Bass and its hybrids in Lake Townsend from 16 inches to 20 inches.

Striped Bass are no longer being stocked in Lake Townsend and management for the species has ceased because striped bass survival has been poor for many years even with stocking efforts. This lake will be managed with statewide size and creel limits.

## Fiscal Impact

### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated state government impact as the change is part of routine fisheries management and will not require more or less staff time or resources for implementation and enforcement.

### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated local government impact as the change to the size limit is not expected to generate measurable changes in recreational fishing activity or related economic effects at the local level.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment decreases harvest opportunity by increasing the minimum size limit. However, this reduces regulatory complexity for anglers fishing this lake, as it will be managed with state-wide size and creel limits for Striped Bass.

## **15A NCAC 10C .0414 BLUEFISH**

The proposed amendment increases the daily creel limit from 3 fish to 5 fish.

The proposed amendment follows the recommendations outlined by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council for recreational bluefish harvest. The 2025 management track assessment for bluefish concluded that overfishing was not occurring, and while the stock was not overfished, it has not yet fully rebuilt to the target reference point. Spawning stock biomass was estimated to be about 89% of the biomass target. The stock is projected to be rebuilt in 2025. The Council and Bluefish Management Board adopted an updated commercial quota and recreational harvest limit that represent an increase of approximately 50% for the commercial quota and 40% for the recreational harvest limit. Recreational limits were modified with the recreational creel limit increasing from 3 fish to 5 fish.

## Fiscal Impact

### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated state government impact as the change is part of routine fisheries management and will not require more or less staff time or resources for implementation and enforcement.

### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated local government impact as it is not expected to generate measurable additional recreational fishing activity or related economic effects at the local level.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment increases harvest opportunity by increasing the daily creel limit. This may increase angler satisfaction.

## **15A NCAC 10C .0425 SHEEPSHEAD**

The proposed amendment reduces the daily creel limit from 10 fish to 5 fish and increases the minimum size from 10 inches to 14 inches.

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) issued a proclamation modifying sheepshead size and creel limits for recreational and commercial harvest in joint and coastal fishing waters. The proposed change decreases the daily creel limit from 10 fish to 5 fish and increases the minimum size from 10 inches to 14 inches in Inland Fishing Waters and Joint Fishing Waters (hook-and-line) to be consistent with the DMF proclamation. Reducing overall harvest pressure and increasing the minimum size should grow and protect the spawning stock.

DMF Sheepshead Management Issue Paper: Due to increases in fishing pressure, particularly on juvenile fish, and a decline in older fish observed in recent years, the Division implemented management changes in March 2026 for sheepshead.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated state government impact as the change is part of routine fisheries management and will not require more or less staff time or resources for implementation and enforcement.

#### *Local Impact*

Local governments could experience a modest indirect impact if more restrictive harvest limits reduce angler spending in local communities, including expenditures on fuel, bait, tackle, lodging, food, and related services.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment decreases harvest opportunity by increasing the daily size limit and daily creel limit. While the WRC does not have a mechanism to determine the specific fiscal

impact of the proposed amendment on private individuals, recreational fishing for sheepshead has grown in popularity in North Carolina in recent years, particularly in coastal and joint fishing waters. This species is increasingly targeted by anglers due to its accessibility, strong fight, and value as a food fish, contributing to fishing-related expenditures such as bait, gear, fuel, and charter services. As a result, the fishery likely supports a meaningful level of recreational activity, and more restrictive harvest limits may reduce short-term harvest rates and associated angler satisfaction. However, these measures are intended to support the long-term sustainability of the stock, which may help preserve the fishery and its associated economic activity over time.

1 15A NCAC 10C .0305 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS**

4 (a) The daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass is five fish, except as otherwise specified in this Rule. ~~in waters~~  
5 ~~identified in Paragraphs (d), (e), (f), (l), (m), (n), and (o) of this Rule.~~

6 (b) There is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but only two ~~of them~~ may be less than 14 inches except as  
7 otherwise specified in this Rule. ~~in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) through (o) of this Rule.~~

8 (c) There is no closed season, except in Jean Guite Creek and associated canals within the Town of Southern Shores  
9 in Dare County and in the ponds associated with Martin Marietta Park in Craven County, where Largemouth Bass  
10 shall not be taken or possessed. ~~in waters identified in Paragraph (n) of this Rule.~~

11 (d) ~~In Lake Cammack in Alamance County, and Lake Cammack in Alamance County, and Lake Holt in Granville~~  
12 ~~County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass is 10 fish and no more than two fish greater than 14 inches may be~~  
13 ~~possessed.~~ there is no daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, but only five Largemouth Bass greater than 14 inches  
14 may be possessed.

15 (e) In Lake Santeetlah in Graham County, there is no daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass  
16 less than 14 inches. The daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass greater than 14 inches is five fish  
17 in aggregate.

18 (f) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Alabama Bass, and  
19 Spotted Bass is 10 fish in aggregate. The minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 12 inches.

20 (g) The minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 14 inches in the following waters:

- 21 (1) Lake Raleigh in Wake County;
- 22 (2) Lake Sutton in New Hanover County;
- 23 (3) Pungo Lake in Washington and Hyde counties;
- 24 (4) New Lake in Hyde County; and
- 25 (5) Currituck, Roanoke, Croatan, Albemarle sounds, and their tributaries, including Roanoke River  
26 downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam, Chowan River, Meherrin River, Yeopim River, Pasquotank  
27 River, Perquimans River, Little River, Big Flatty Creek, North River, Northwest River,  
28 Scuppernong River, Alligator River, including the Alligator/Pungo Canal east of the N.C. Hwy  
29 264/45 bridge, and the other associated tributaries and canals in these river systems.

30 (h) ~~In Cane Creek Lake in Union County, and~~ Buckhorn Reservoir in Wilson and Nash counties, the minimum size  
31 limit for Largemouth Bass is 16 inches.

32 (i) In Lake Phelps in Tyrrell and Washington counties, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 14 inches, and  
33 no fish between 16 and 20 inches may be possessed.

34 (j) In Lake Hampton in Yadkin County, there is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass. No more than two  
35 Largemouth Bass less than 14 inches and no Largemouth Bass between 16 and 20 inches may be possessed.

36 (k) In Lake Thom-A-Lex in Davidson County, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 18 inches.

1 (l) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia), the daily  
2 creel limit for Largemouth ~~Bass, Bass and~~ Smallmouth ~~Bass, and Spotted~~ Bass is five fish in aggregate. There is no  
3 minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and one  
4 Largemouth ~~Bass, Bass or~~ Smallmouth ~~Bass, or Spotted~~ Bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

5 (m) In Lake Mattamuskeet and associated canals in Hyde County, the minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass is 16  
6 inches and one Largemouth Bass greater than 20 inches may be possessed.

7 ~~(n) In Jean Guite Creek and associated canals within the Town of Southern Shores in Dare County and in the ponds  
8 associated with Martin Marietta Park in Craven County, no Largemouth Bass may be possessed.~~

9 ~~(o) In Lake Cammack in Alamance County, there is no daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass, and only five  
10 Largemouth Bass greater than 14 inches may be possessed.~~

11  
12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;*

13 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

14 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 10, 1990, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1990;*

15 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 22, 1990, for a period of 168 days to expire on November 1, 1990;*

16 *Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 1991, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1991;*

17 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; October 1, 1992;*

18 *Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1994 for a period of 180 days or until the permanent rule  
19 becomes effective, whichever is sooner;*

20 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995;*

21 *Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1998;*

22 *Amended Eff. April 1, 1999;*

23 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*

24 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*

25 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*

26 *Temporary Amendment Eff. March 8, 2002 [This rule replaces the rule proposed for permanent  
27 amendment effective July 1, 2002 and approved by RRC in May 2001];*

28 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC in April 2002);*

29 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*

30 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,  
31 2003);*

32 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; November 1, 2013; August 1, 2012;  
33 March 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2008; May 1, 2008; May 1,  
34 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*

35 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*

36 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; August 1, 2024; March 15, 2023; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020.*

37

1 15A NCAC 10C .0314 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS**

4 (a) The daily creel limit for striped bass and its hybrids is four fish in aggregate, except as otherwise specified in  
5 this Rule. in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) and (g) through (l) of this Rule.

6 (b) The minimum size limit for these fish is 20 inches, except as otherwise specified in this Rule. in waters identified  
7 in Paragraphs (d) through (l) of this Rule.

8 (c) There is no closed season, except as otherwise specified in this Rule. for waters identified in Paragraphs (i) through  
9 (l) of this Rule.

10 (d) In the Dan River upstream from its confluence with Bannister River to the dam at Union Street in Danville, VA  
11 and in John H. Kerr Reservoir, the daily creel limit on striped bass and its hybrids is two in aggregate and the minimum  
12 size limit is 20 inches. No fish greater than 26 inches may be possessed from October 1 through May 31. From June  
13 1 through September 30, the daily creel limit for striped bass and its hybrids is four in aggregate with no minimum  
14 size limit.

15 (e) In Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Reservoir, the minimum size limit for striped bass and its hybrids is 20 inches  
16 from October 1 through May 31. There is no minimum size limit for these fish from June 1 through September 30.

17 (f) In Farmer Lake, Hyco Lake, Moss Lake, Oak Hollow Lake, ~~Lake Townsend~~, and Salem Lake the minimum size  
18 limit for striped bass and its hybrids is 16 inches.

19 (g) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit is 15 in the aggregate. There is no minimum size limit, and  
20 two may be greater than 22 inches.

21 (h) In Lake Mattamuskeet, and in the Pee Dee River and its tributaries downstream from the Blewett Falls Dam to  
22 the South Carolina state line, the daily creel limit for striped bass and its hybrids is three fish in aggregate, and the  
23 minimum size limit is 18 inches.

24 (i) In the inland waters of the Tar-Pamlico River and its tributaries upstream of a line shore to shore beginning at a  
25 point at Gum Point 35.419448 N 76.758752 W running southwesterly to a point at Fork Point at 35.390755 N 76.77391  
26 W and the Neuse River and its tributaries upstream of a line shore to shore beginning at a point at Cooper Point  
27 35.035722 N 76.933275 W running southwesterly to a point at Fisher Landing Point 35.002583 N 76.97623 W, the  
28 following shall apply:

29 (1) the season for taking and possessing striped bass and striped bass hybrids is April 1 through April  
30 30.

31 (2) the daily creel limit for striped bass and striped bass hybrids is one fish in aggregate.

32 (3) it is unlawful to possess a striped bass or striped bass hybrid less than 18 inches or between 22 and  
33 27 inches in length.

34 In the inland waters tributary to the Tar-Pamlico River and Neuse River downstream of these lines, the season for  
35 taking and possessing striped bass and striped bass hybrids is closed. ~~closed year round.~~

36 ~~(j)~~ (j) In the inland fishing waters of the ~~Tar, Pungo, Neuse, Pungo~~ and Cape Fear rivers and their tributaries extending  
37 upstream to the first impoundment of the main course on the river or its tributaries, in other inland fishing waters east

1 of Interstate 95 not specified in Paragraphs (h), (j), and (k) of this Rule, and in the ponds associated with Martin  
2 Marietta Park in Craven County, the season for taking and possessing striped bass is closed year-round.

3 ~~(j)~~(k) In the inland and joint fishing waters of the Roanoke River Striped Bass Management Area, as established in  
4 15A NCAC 03R .0201 and identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0110 which includes the Roanoke, Cashie, Middle, and  
5 Eastmost rivers and their tributaries, the open season for taking and possessing striped bass and its hybrids is March  
6 1 through April 30 from the joint-coastal fishing waters boundary at Albemarle Sound upstream to Roanoke Rapids  
7 Lake Dam. During the open season, the daily creel limit for striped bass and its hybrids is one fish in aggregate, and  
8 the minimum size limit is 18 inches. No fish over 22 inches in length shall be possessed.

9 ~~(k)~~(l) In designated inland and joint fishing waters of Roanoke Sound, Croatan Sound, Albemarle Sound, Chowan  
10 River, Currituck Sound, Alligator River, Scuppernong River, and their tributaries, excluding the Roanoke River and  
11 Cashie River and their tributaries, the striped bass fishing season, size limits, and creel limits are the same as those  
12 established by rules or proclamations of the Marine Fisheries Commission in adjacent coastal fishing waters.

13 ~~(l)~~(m) In accordance with G.S. 113-292, the Executive Director may, by proclamation, suspend or extend the hook-  
14 and-line season for striped bass in the inland and joint waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries. It is unlawful to  
15 violate the provisions of a proclamation issued pursuant to this authority.

16  
17 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*  
18 *Eff. November 1, 2013;*  
19 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2018; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
20 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
21 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020;*  
22 *Temporary Amendment Eff. November 30, 2021;*  
23 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2022;*  
24 *Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2022;*  
25 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023; March 15, 2023.*  
26

1 15A NCAC 10C .0414 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10C .0414 BLUEFISH**

4 (a) The daily creel limit for bluefish is five, ~~three~~.

5 (b) There is no size limit.

6 (c) There is no closed season.

7 (d) Bluefish shall not be sold.

8

9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*

10 *Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;*

11 *Eff. March 15, 2023.*

12

1 15A NCAC 10C .0425 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10C .0425 SHEEPSHEAD**

4 (a) The daily creel limit for sheepshead is ~~40~~ 5 fish.

5 (b) The minimum size limit is ~~40~~ 14 inches.

6 (c) There is no closed season.

7 (d) Sheepshead shall not be sold.

8

9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*

10 *Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;*

11 *Eff. March 15, 2023.*

12

# EXHIBIT F-1

June 18, 2026



## **Proposed Amendments to Land and Water Access Rules for the 2027-2028 Annual Rulemaking Cycle Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearings**

### **G1. General Regulations Regarding Hunting on Game Lands – Vegetation Protection**

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING HUNTING ON GAME LANDS*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Prohibit attaching nails, screws, bolts, or applying paint to vegetation on game lands.

#### JUSTIFICATION

Game land users are more frequently attaching items like stand location markers and business marketing signs to vegetation and game land kiosks. Most of these signs or markers are never retrieved, and those that are removed often leave behind the fasteners in trees. This prohibition would not apply to mounting hardware for game cameras, lag screw steps, or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the vegetation.

### **G2. General Regulations Regarding Hunting on Game Lands – Impairing Substances**

*15A NCAC 10D .0103 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING HUNTING ON GAME LANDS*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Change the statutory reference in 15A NCAC 10D .0103 (a) (1) from G.S. 20-4.01 (48b) to G.S. 20-4.01 (14a) so that hunting on game lands is prohibited while using or under any level of influence of an impairing substance.

## JUSTIFICATION

G.S. 20-4.01(48b) defines an impairing substance as “Under the Influence of an Impairing Substance. – The state of a person having his physical or mental faculties, or both, appreciably impaired by an impairing substance.” G.S. 20-4.01(14a) more inclusively defines an impairing substance as, " Impairing Substance. – Alcohol, controlled substance under Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, any other drug or psychoactive substance capable of impairing a person's physical or mental faculties, or any combination of these substances.” The updated reference does not require the individual to be appreciably impaired, they only must have consumed alcohol, controlled substance under Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, any other drug or psychoactive substance capable of impairing a person's physical or mental faculties, or any combination of these substances to be in violation. This prevents individuals from hunting on game lands after immediately consuming alcohol or other impairing substances. This proposed rule change could be considered a “zero-tolerance” policy as it does not distinguish between those who have consumed any amount of alcohol or impairing substance and those who are noticeably impaired. The intent of this change is to prevent game land users from actively consuming alcohol or drugs while hunting.

### **G3. Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land – New Light Beach**

*15A NCAC 10D .0211 BUTNER-FALLS OF NEUSE GAME LAND IN DURHAM, GRANVILLE, AND WAKE COUNTIES*

## EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Restrict use of New Light Beach on the Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Lands to hunting, fishing, and trapping.

## JUSTIFICATION

The New Light Beach portion of Buter-Falls of Neuse Game Land is frequently used by the public for large social gatherings that result in trash, litter, and habitat damage. These gatherings restrict the ability of hunters, anglers, and trappers to use the property.

### **G4. Johns River Game Land – Permit Only**

*15A NCAC 10D .0239 JOHNS RIVER GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY*

## EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Restrict non-hunting recreational use of Johns River Game Land during hunting season.

## JUSTIFICATION

Johns River Game Land is a permit-only, 6,480-acre property in Burke County. It is located just north of Morganton and experiences significant non-hunting recreational use. During hunting

season, these other uses have caused conflicts, safety concerns and wildlife disturbances during NCWRC permitted hunts, including disabled and youth hunts. Restricting use of the game land to permit hunting only during hunting season will improve the quality of the hunts.

### **G5. Nantahala Game Land – Antlerless Deer Season**

*15A NCAC 10D .0251 NANTAHALA GAME LAND IN CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, JACKSON, MACON, AND SWAIN COUNTIES*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Remove the antlerless deer season on Nantahala Game Land in Transylvania County and specify that Nantahala Game Land does not have an antlerless deer season.

#### JUSTIFICATION

Historically, Nantahala Game Land has not had an antlerless deer season; however, changes to the western deer seasons and lack of specificity in the Nantahala Game Land rule have unintentionally created a one-day antlerless season necessitating it be clarified that Nantahala Game Land does not have an antlerless deer season.

### **G6. Northwest River Marsh Game Land – Target Shooting**

*15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Prohibit target shooting on the Northwest River Marsh Game Land.

#### JUSTIFICATION

This proposal originated from constituent concerns about safety, littering, trash accumulation, and disturbance of wildlife due to the number of target shooters using this game land.

### **G7. Pisgah Game Land – Horseback Riding and Target Shooting**

*15A NCAC 10D .0260 PISGAH GAME LAND IN AVERY, BUNCOMBE, BURKE, CALDWELL, HAYWOOD, HENDERSON, MADISON, MCDOWELL, MITCHELL, TRANSYLVANIA, WATAUGA, AND YANCEY COUNTIES*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Prohibit horseback riding and target shooting on the Roaring Creek and Lutz tracts of the Pisgah Game Land.

## JUSTIFICATION

Currently there is little to no horseback riding on these tracts; however, neither tract has purpose-built trails or infrastructure for horseback riding. The soil on this game land is highly erodible, and horseback riding would result in habitat damage.

Target shooting has a negative impact on game lands, including but not limited to trash and spent shells being left behind, damage to trees and introduction of lead to the environment. The proposed changes to the game land rule will make regulations on all state-owned tracts of Pisgah Game Land consistent.

### **G8. Tillery Game Land – Quail and Woodcock**

*15A NCAC 10D .0284 TILLERY GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Make quail and woodcock hunting at Tillery Game Land by permit only.

#### JUSTIFICATION

As identified in the 2025 NC Wildlife Action Plan, Bobwhite Quail are a species of greatest conservation need and American Woodcock are a priority species with a knowledge gap. Habitat management work at Tillery has led to more early successional habitat, and a positive quail response. Staff have observed a significant increase in hunting pressure on this Seven Days per Week game land, leading to some concern for these species.

A point-of-sale (non-quota) permit will allow staff to collect useful information from hunters to assist in making data-driven management decisions on quail and woodcock hunting at the game land.

### **G9. White Oak River Game Land – Waterfowl Impoundment**

*15A NCAC 10D .0290 WHITE OAK RIVER GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Make all hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment at White Oak River Game Land permit only.

#### JUSTIFICATION

Confusion exists about the need for permits at the posted impoundment during the early teal season. By removing some of the rule language and adding a permit requirement for the impoundment during this season, confusion should be reduced. This change will make language consistent on the Huggins and Morton tracts of this game land.

## **G10. Big Swamp Game Land – Establishment**

*15A NCAC 10D .0296 BIG SWAMP GAME LAND IN ROBESON COUNTY*

### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Establish the Big Swamp tract as a game land.

### JUSTIFICATION

The Big Swamp tract is a new 2,519-acre acquisition that is ready to be designated as a game land. This will be a Three Days per Week area with no deer or bear hunting with dogs allowed.

## **G11. Bear Hunting on Game Lands – Sunday Take**

*15A NCAC 10D .0202 ANGOLA BAY GAME LAND IN DUPLIN AND PENDER COUNTIES*

*15A NCAC 10D .0210 BULLARD AND BRANCH HUNTING PRESERVE GAME LANDS IN ROBESON COUNTY*

*15A NCAC 10D .0213 CAPE FEAR RIVER WETLANDS GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY*

*15A NCAC 10D .0214 CARTERET COUNTY GAME LAND IN CARTERET COUNTY*

*15A NCAC 10D .0221 CROATAN GAME LAND IN CARTERET, CRAVEN, AND JONES COUNTIES*

*15A NCAC 10D .0222 CURRITUCK BANKS GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY*

*15A NCAC 10D .0229 GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND PAMLICO COUNTIES*

*15A NCAC 10D .0241 JUNIPER CREEK GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES*

*15A NCAC 10D .0246 LIGHT GROUND POCOSIN GAME LAND IN PAMLICO COUNTY*

*15A NCAC 10D .0254 NEW LAKE GAME LAND IN HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES*

*15A NCAC 10D .0256 NORTH RIVER GAME LAND IN CAMDEN AND CURRITUCK COUNTIES*

*15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY*

*15A NCAC 10D .0270 SAMPSON GAME LAND IN SAMPSON COUNTY*

*15A NCAC 10D .0279 SUGGS SUTTON LAKE GAME LAND IN NEW HANOVER AND BRUNSWICK COUNTIES*

### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Change “Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday” to “Bear shall not be taken on Sunday” in 14 game land rules.

### JUSTIFICATION

The current rule language makes enforcement of restrictions on Sunday bear hunting only possible once a hunter has harvested a bear. “Take” is statutorily defined as “All operations

during, immediately preparatory, and immediately subsequent to an attempt, whether successful or not, to capture, kill, pursue, hunt, or otherwise harm or reduce to possession any fisheries resource or wildlife resource”. Using “take” will allow for more proactive enforcement in situations where someone is bear hunting but has not yet harvested an animal.

1 15A NCAC 10D .0103 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10D .0103 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING HUNTING ON GAME LANDS**

4 (a) The following shall be prohibited on game lands:

- 5 (1) hunting on a designated game land while under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined  
6 by G.S. 20-4.01(14a); 20-4.01(48b);
- 7 (2) failing to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the use of the  
8 Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands;
- 9 (3) parking a vehicle on game lands in a manner that blocks traffic or gates, or prevents vehicles from  
10 using a roadway; and
- 11 (4) affixing nails, screws, bolts, or applying paint to vegetation. This prohibition does not apply to  
12 mounting hardware for game cameras, lag screw steps, or portable stands that are removed after use  
13 with no metal remaining in or attached to the vegetation.
- 14 (5) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform whose construction violates Subparagraph (4) of this  
15 Rule.
- 16 ~~(4) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts, or to a tree on a game~~  
17 ~~land to hunt. This prohibition does not apply to lag screw steps or portable stands that are removed~~  
18 ~~after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.~~

19 (b) Unless allowed by permit, hunting on game lands shall be during the open season for game animals and game  
20 birds.

21 (c) Individual game lands or parts of game lands may be closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by this  
22 Subchapter.

23 (d) Persons shall hunt with weapons lawful for the open game animal or game bird seasons.

24 (e) On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

- 25 (1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- 26 (2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- 27 (3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;
- 28 (4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. daily; and
- 29 (5) not operate a vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

30 (f) On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

- 31 (1) hunting with a firearm between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.;
- 32 (2) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;
- 33 (3) hunting with a firearm within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-  
34 54.1(b), or an accessory structure thereof; and
- 35 (4) hunting migratory game birds.

36 (g) On designated Youth Waterfowl Days, the following shall apply:

- 37 (1) hunting on managed waterfowl impoundments shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset;

- 38           (2)     Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule; and
- 39           (3)     youth may hunt on a game land and on an impoundment without a special hunt permit, including
- 40                     permit-only areas, except where prohibited in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- 41 (h) On designated Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the
- 42 Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for
- 43 training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas from
- 44 one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall apply.
- 45 (i) On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and
- 46 waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment
- 47 outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone."
- 48 (j) Definitions:
- 49           (1)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be
- 50                     taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day,
- 51                     Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.
- 52           (2)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which
- 53                     game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,
- 54                     Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, Veterans Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and New
- 55                     Year's Days, except for game lands in this Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays,
- 56                     Thursday, and Fridays. Hunting is not allowed on Christmas Day, Veterans Day, and New Year's
- 57                     Day when these holidays fall on Sunday. Falconry may also be practiced on Sundays. These "open
- 58                     days" also apply to antlerless deer hunting seasons listed for each game land. Raccoon and opossum
- 59                     hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight
- 60                     on Saturdays.
- 61           (3)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game
- 62                     may be taken on the open days of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday
- 63                     during the open seasons. Falconry may be practiced on Sundays.
- 64           (4)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which
- 65                     game may be taken during the open season on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays,
- 66                     Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
- 67           (5)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game
- 68                     may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays,
- 69                     Sundays, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 70                     Day. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. on
- 71                     Fridays, and 7:00 a.m. on Mondays.
- 72           (6)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Permit" means a written authorization from the Commission
- 73                     required for take or other activities listed on the permit during open seasons, if applicable, in a
- 74                     specified area and subject to annual limitations imposed by the Commission to meet wildlife, hunter,

75 or land management objectives, unless otherwise specified. Individuals may apply for available  
76 permits online at ncwildlife.org, by phone, or in person at a wildlife service agent location. The  
77 Commission shall issue permits to applicants selected at random by computer in accordance with  
78 G.S. 113-264. Permits shall be non-transferrable. The laws and rules regarding the species or activity  
79 shall apply.

80 (7) For the purposes of this Subchapter, "Either-Sex" means antlered or antlerless.

81 (k) Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or parts of counties where taking deer with  
82 dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

83 (l) On permit hunts, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed  
84 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of  
85 hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and  
86 are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperator agent or  
87 by phone.

88 (m) The following game lands and refuges are closed to hunting except to individuals who have obtained a valid and  
89 current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:

90 (1) Bertie, Halifax, and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;

91 (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;

92 (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;

93 (4) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);

94 (5) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and

95 (6) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

96 (n) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the  
97 Commission. Written permission may be granted when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge shall not compromise the  
98 primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid need  
99 or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes issues of  
100 access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.

101 (o) The Commission may designate special hunts for participants of the disabled sportsman program by permit. The  
102 Commission may schedule these permit hunts during the closed season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be  
103 identified on the permit. If the hunt has a limited weapon choice, the allowed weapons shall be stated on the permit.

104 (p) As used in the rules of this Subchapter, horseback riding includes all equine species.

105 (q) When waterfowl hunting is authorized on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on Sundays, the  
106 open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

107

108 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;

109 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

110 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;*

111 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; September*

112 *1, 1994; July 1, 1994;*  
113 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;*  
114 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
115 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*  
116 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
117 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
118 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);*  
119 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
120 *January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May*  
121 *1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August 1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October*  
122 *1, 2004;*  
123 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;*  
124 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2020; August 1, 2019;*  
125 *Temporary Amendment Eff. September 25, 2020;*  
126 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2021;*  
127 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2022; October 1, 2022; August 23, 2022;*  
128 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;*  
129 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0202 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0202 ANGOLA BAY GAME LAND IN DUPLIN AND PENDER COUNTIES**

4 Angola Bay Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

8 (3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

9

10 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

11 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0210 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0210 BULLARD AND BRANCH HUNTING PRESERVE GAME LANDS IN ROBESON**  
4 **COUNTY**

5 Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Four Days per Week Area, in which the following  
6 applies:

7 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
8 Season.

9 (2) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

10

11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

12 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0211 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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**15A NCAC 10D .0211 BUTNER-FALLS OF NEUSE GAME LAND IN DURHAM, GRANVILLE, AND WAKE COUNTIES**

Butner-Falls of Neuse ~~game land~~ Game Land is a Six Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the first open day of the All Lawful Weapons Season for Deer With Visible Antlers through the second Friday thereafter.
- (2) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
  - (a) the opening and closing days of the waterfowl seasons;
  - (b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
  - (c) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

On the posted waterfowl impoundments a special permit is required for all waterfowl hunting after November 1.
- (3) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (4) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (5) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- (6) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on ~~that~~ the portion west of NC 50 and south of Falls Lake.
- (7) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the seasons for game birds and game animals. On designated bicycle riding areas, the use of bicycles is allowed from May ~~15~~ 16 through August 31, and on Sundays only from September 1 through May ~~14~~ 15.
- (8) Camping is ~~restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.~~ allowed on areas posted for camping as specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter.
- (9) Camping is allowed year-round in the designated Mountains-to-Sea Trail Camping Area and shall not exceed a maximum stay of two consecutive nights. Campfires are prohibited in this camping area.
- (10) Entry on the New Light Beach Tract (Wake County) for purposes other than hunting, fishing, and trapping is prohibited.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. November 1, 2022; Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; August 1, 2023.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0213 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0213 CAPE FEAR RIVER WETLANDS GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY**

4 Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on ~~that portion known as~~ the Roan Island Tract.

8 (3) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion ~~of the game land that is~~ west of the  
9 Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck Road, and south of NC  
10 210 to the Black River.

11 (4) Target shooting is prohibited.

12 (5) Bear shall not be ~~taken harvested~~ on Sunday.

13

14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

15 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0214 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0214 CARTERET COUNTY GAME LAND IN CARTERET COUNTY**

4 Carteret County Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 7 (2) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 8 (3) Bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract is by permit only.
- 9 (4) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

10

11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
12 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0221 is proposed for amendment as follows:  
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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0221 CROATAN GAME LAND IN CARTERET, CRAVEN, AND JONES COUNTIES**

4 Croatan ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.
- 7 (2) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:  
8 (a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
9 (b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
10 (c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 11 (3) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of all waterfowl seasons,  
12 waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish Lake Waterfowl  
13 Impoundment is by permit only.
- 14 (4) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted areas. During  
15 the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- 16 (5) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

17

18 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

19 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0222 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0222 CURRITUCK BANKS GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY**

4 Currituck Banks ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by permit only  
6 from November 1 through the end of all waterfowl seasons.

7 (2) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the guides do  
8 not use a firearm.

9 (3) The boundary of the game land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

10 (4) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day of their  
11 hunt.

12 (5) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to  
13 a tree.

14 (6) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers season.

15 (7) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

16

17 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

18 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0229 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0229 GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND PAMLICO COUNTIES**

4 Goose Creek ~~game land~~ Game Land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.
- 7 (2) Except as provided in 15A NCAC 10D .0103(e), waterfowl in posted waterfowl impoundments  
8 shall be taken only on the following days:
- 9 (a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 10 (b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 11 (c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 12 (3) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October, through the end of all waterfowl  
13 seasons, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl impoundments: Pamlico  
14 Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith Creek, and Hobucken.
- 15 (4) On Spring Lake, Pamlico Point, and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments, all activities,  
16 except waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the trapping  
17 season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period November 1 through  
18 March 15.
- 19 (5) Camping is ~~restricted to September 1 through the last day of February, and March 31 through May~~  
20 ~~14 in areas both designated and~~ allowed on areas posted ~~as for~~ camping ~~areas as specified in Rule~~  
21 .0102 of this Subchapter.
- 22 (6) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1 through  
23 January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting opportunity permit.
- 24 (7) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is prohibited on  
25 the Beaufort County portion north of N.C. 33, except for that portion east of Smith Creek and south  
26 of Campbell Creek.
- 27 (8) Bear shall not be ~~taken harvested~~ on Sunday.
- 28 (9) Hunting for deer, bear, and turkey on the Bates-Bay Tract is by permit only.

29  
30 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
31 *Temporary Adoption Eff. December 1, 2022;*  
32 *Eff. March 15, 2023;*  
33 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; August 1, 2025.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0239 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0239 JOHNS RIVER GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY**

4 Johns River ~~game land~~ Game Land is hunting by permit only. The following shall apply:

5 (1) During permitted deer hunts, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken by permit holders.

6 (2) The construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.

7 (3) Camping is ~~restricted to August 31 through the last day of February and March 31 through May~~  
8 ~~14.~~ allowed on areas posted for camping as specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter.

9 (4) Target shooting is prohibited.

10 (5) During the open days of the seasons for game birds and game animals, entry is restricted to permit  
11 holders. ~~the use of bicycles is restricted to hunters engaged in the act of hunting.~~

12

13 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

14 *Eff. October 1, 2022;*

15 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; August 1, 2025; August 1, 2023.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0241 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0241 JUNIPER CREEK GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES**

4 (a) Juniper Creek ~~game land~~ Game Land is a Seven Days per Week Area. The following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

6 (2) Camping is ~~restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May~~  
7 ~~14 in allowed on~~ areas ~~both designated and~~ posted ~~as for~~ camping ~~areas.~~ as specified in Rule .0102  
8 of this Subchapter.

9 (3) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

10

11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

12 *Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;*

13 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0246 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0246 LIGHT GROUND POCOSIN GAME LAND IN PAMLICO COUNTY**

4 Light Ground Pocosin ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

8

9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

10 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0251 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0251 NANTAHALA GAME LAND IN CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, JACKSON,**  
4 **MACON, AND SWAIN COUNTIES ~~SWAIN, AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES~~**

5 ~~(a)~~ Nantahala Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies: ~~Area.~~

6 ~~(b)(1)~~ Antlerless deer shall not be taken during the All Lawful Weapons Season. ~~In this game land Deer~~  
7 ~~of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season~~  
8 ~~in that portion located in Transylvania County.~~

9 ~~(c)(2)~~ Dogs may be used to hunt feral swine during the open bear season established in 15A NCAC 10B  
10 .0202 and from January 1 through January 31.

11

12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

13 *Eff. October 1, 2022;*

14 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0254 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0254 NEW LAKE GAME LAND IN HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES**

4 New Lake Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

8

9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

10 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0256 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0256 NORTH RIVER GAME LAND IN CAMDEN AND CURRITUCK COUNTIES**

4 North River Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
6 Antlers Season.

7 (2) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

8 (3) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only. ~~permit~~.

9 (4) All activities on the North River Game Land Waterfowl Impoundments except waterfowl hunting  
10 and trapping during the trapping season are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone from  
11 November 1 through March 15.

12 (5) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

13

14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

15 *Eff. October 1, 2022;*

16 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0257 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY**

4 Northwest River Marsh Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

8 (3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

9 (4) Target shooting is prohibited.

10

11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

12 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0260 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0260 PISGAH GAME LAND IN AVERY, BUNCOMBE, BURKE, CALDWELL,**  
4 **HAYWOOD, HENDERSON, MADISON, MCDOWELL, MITCHELL,**  
5 **TRANSYLVANIA, WATAUGA, AND YANCEY COUNTIES**

6 Pisgah Game Land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

7 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
8 Season.

9 (2) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke  
10 County), Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties), Lutz Tract (Caldwell  
11 County), and Roaring Creek Tract (Avery County). ~~(and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell,~~  
12 ~~and Mitchell counties).~~

13 (3) The use of bicycles shall be restricted to designated trails on the Linville River Tract (Burke  
14 County). Persons engaged in the act of hunting on the Linville River Tract during any open day of  
15 an applicable season for game birds or game animals shall be exempt from this restriction.

16 (4) Alcohol and fires are prohibited on the Lutz Tract (Caldwell County).

17 (5) Target shooting is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke County),  
18 Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties), Lutz Tract (Caldwell County),  
19 and Roaring Creek Tract (Avery County). ~~(and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and~~  
20 ~~Mitchell counties).~~

21 (6) Entry on the Lutz Tract (Caldwell County) for purposes other than hunting, fishing, trapping, and  
22 posted use of trails and parking areas is prohibited.

23

24 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

25 *Eff. October 1, 2022;*

26 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 7, 2025;*

27 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2026.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0270 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0270 SAMPSON GAME LAND IN SAMPSON COUNTY**

4 Sampson ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Four Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

8 (3) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

9

10 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

11 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0279 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0279 SUGGS SUTTON LAKE GAME LAND IN NEW HANOVER AND BRUNSWICK**  
4 **COUNTIES**

5 Suggs Sutton Lake Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

6 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
7 Season through the first Friday thereafter.

8 (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

9 (3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

10

11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

12 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0284 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0284 TILLERY GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY**

4 Tillery Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season through the second Friday thereafter.

7 (2) Horseback riding is prohibited.

8 (3) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

9 (4) ~~Wild turkey Quail, wild turkey, and woodcock~~ hunting is by permit only.

10 (5) Target Shooting is prohibited.

11

12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

13 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0290 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0290 WHITE OAK RIVER GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY**

4 White Oak River ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

8 ~~(2) Except as provided in Item (3) of this Rule, waterfowl in posted waterfowl impoundments shall be~~  
9 ~~taken only on the following days:~~

10 ~~(a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;~~

11 ~~(b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and~~

12 ~~(c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.~~

13 ~~(3) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all waterfowl~~  
14 ~~seasons, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.~~

15 (4)(3) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:

16 (a) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting Opportunity  
17 Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d);

18 (b) hunting is by permit only; and

19 (c) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

20 ~~(5)(4)~~ Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

21 ~~(6)(5)~~ Target ~~Shooting~~ shooting is prohibited.

22

23 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

24 *Eff. November 1, 2022.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0296 is proposed for adoption as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0296 BIG SWAMP GAME LAND IN ROBESON COUNTY**

4 Big Swamp Game Land is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) The use of dogs for hunting deer or bear is prohibited.

6 (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

7

8 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

# EXHIBIT F-2

June 18, 2026



## Fiscal Note for 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Rule Proposals Wildlife Resources Commission – Land and Water Access

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10D .0103 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING HUNTING ON GAME LANDS  
15A NCAC 10D .0202 ANGOLA BAY GAME LAND IN DUPLIN AND PENDER COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0210 BULLARD AND BRANCH HUNTING PRESERVE GAME LANDS IN ROBESON COUNTY  
15A NCAC 10D .0211 BUTNER-FALLS OF NEUSE GAME LAND IN DURHAM, GRANVILLE, AND WAKE COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0213 CAPE FEAR RIVER WETLANDS GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY  
15A NCAC 10D .0214 CARTERET COUNTY GAME LAND IN CARTERET COUNTY  
15A NCAC 10D .0221 CROATAN GAME LAND IN CARTERET, CRAVEN, AND JONES COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0222 CURRITUCK BANKS GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY  
15A NCAC 10D .0229 GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND PAMLICO COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0239 JOHNS RIVER GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY  
15A NCAC 10D .0241 JUNIPER CREEK GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0246 LIGHT GROUND POCOSIN GAME LAND IN PAMLICO COUNTY  
15A NCAC 10D .0251 NANTAHALA GAME LAND IN CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, JACKSON, MACON, AND SWAIN COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0254 NEW LAKE GAME LAND IN HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0256 NORTH RIVER GAME LAND IN CAMDEN AND CURRITUCK COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY  
15A NCAC 10D .0260 PISGAH GAME LAND IN AVERY, BUNCOMBE, BURKE, CALDWELL, HAYWOOD, HENDERSON, MADISON, MCDOWELL, MITCHELL, TRANSYLVANIA, WATAUGA, AND YANCEY COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0270 SAMPSON GAME LAND IN SAMPSON COUNTY

15A NCAC 10D .0279 SUGGS SUTTON LAKE GAME LAND IN NEW HANOVER  
AND BRUNSWICK COUNTIES  
15A NCAC 10D .0284 TILLERY GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY  
15A NCAC 10D .0290 WHITE OAK RIVER GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY  
15A NCAC 10D .0296 BIG SWAMP GAME LAND IN ROBESON COUNTY

**Agency Contact:** William Casola  
Policy Analyst  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission  
1751 Varsity Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
(919) 707-0125  
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov

**Fiscal Impact:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: Yes  
Private Impact: Yes  
Substantial Economic Impact: No

**Authority:** G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305

## **BACKGROUND**

The wildlife resources of the State belong to the people of the State as a whole, including the enjoyment of these resources (G.S. 113-131(a)). The Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) is tasked with the conservation of wildlife resources of the State (G.S. 143-239). This responsibility includes managing as equitably as possible the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. 113-131.1(a)). The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. 113-134).

As part of its mission, the WRC conducts an annual review of its inland fishing, wildlife, and game land regulations to determine whether the rules need to be adjusted in order to accomplish the objectives of managing wildlife resources or Commission property through a biologically sustainable harvest consistent with sound conservation objectives; managing WRC-owned land for the conservation of wildlife resources, and the enjoyment of the public; and implementing legislative directives.

The proposed rule changes will modify the use of game lands, some will increase outdoor recreation opportunities, while others are expected to restrict such opportunities. A summary of the proposed rule amendments is shown below along with accompanying rule text.

Note: Italicized rule text are previous rule changes adopted by the Commission and approved by the RRC with an effective date of 8/1/2026.

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS BY RULE AND SUBJECT**

### **15A NCAC 10D .0103 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING HUNTING ON GAME LANDS (Vegetation Protection)**

The proposed amendment prohibits affixing nails, screws, bolts, or applying paint to vegetation on game lands.

Game land users are increasingly attaching items like stand location markers and business marketing signs to vegetation and game lands kiosks. Most of these signs or markers are never retrieved - those that are often leave behind fasteners in the vegetation. This prohibition would not apply to mounting hardware for game cameras, lag screw steps, or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the vegetation.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

##### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment may result in staff spending less time removing signs and litter. The WRC does not have a mechanism to quantify the specific impacts of the proposed change on total staff time.

##### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated local government impact.

##### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment is anticipated to have little to no impact on most game land users. Those who use signs or other permanently affixed items to mark paths to tree stands will have to use other temporary means, such as flagging tape or GPS. This change may increase the quality and satisfaction of the experience for other users by decreasing confusion and litter caused by random signage. The WRC does not have a mechanism to quantify the specific impacts of the proposed change on private entities.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0103 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING HUNTING ON GAME LANDS (Impairing Substances)**

The proposed amendment would change the statutory reference in 15A NCAC 10D .0103(a)(1) from G.S. 20-4.01 (48b) to G.S. 20-4.01 (14a). The rule will continue to prohibit hunting on game lands “while under the influence of an impairing substance,” but referencing the broader definition of “impairing substance” provides greater flexibility in how “under the influence” is interpreted for enforcement purposes.

G.S. 20-4.01(48b) defines “under the Influence of an Impairing Substance” as a state in which a person’s physical or mental faculties are appreciably impaired. G.S. 20-4.01(14a) defines an “impairing substance” more broadly to include alcohol, controlled substances, and other drugs or psychoactive substances capable of impairing a person's physical or mental faculties. By referencing the substance rather than the impairment standard, the amended rule is no longer tied to demonstrating “appreciable impairment.” This change was requested by law enforcement to support more effective application of the rule in the field.

Officers have reported recurring situations in which they observe individuals consuming alcohol or other impairing substances before hunting on WRC managed game lands, but the current standard can make prosecution difficult because it requires proof of appreciable impairment. The proposed amendment is not expected to increase how often charges are brought; rather, it is intended to improve prosecutorial outcomes in the types of cases that are already being identified and pursued.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment is anticipated to help law enforcement successfully prosecute instances of hunting under the influence of an impairing substance. Enforcement activities will continue as part of regular duties, and the change is not expected to increase the frequency of charges. While there may be minor increases in time associated with case preparation or court proceedings in some instances, these impacts are expected to be minimal. Over time, improved clarity in enforcement may contribute to fewer safety incidents involving impaired hunting. The WRC does not have a mechanism to quantify these effects.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendment is not expected to materially increase the number of citations issued but may improve case outcomes for charges in the future. To the extent that successful prosecutions increase, there could be a corresponding, but minimal, increase in local court revenues. Currently, G.S. 7A-304 imposes a fee of \$181 per case for Criminal District Court. Additionally, per G.S. 115C-452, any clear proceeds from penalties and fines issued would go to local schools. Any fiscal effect is expected to be negligible and cannot be quantified.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment is anticipated to impact very few game land users; however, it should create an overall safer environment for all game land users. By clarifying the statutory reference, the rule reduces ambiguity in how “under the influence” is applied, which may deter some individuals from consuming alcohol or other impairing substances prior to hunting. The amendments are not expected to increase the number of individuals charged but may increase the

likelihood that violations result in successful prosecution. Upon successful prosecution, individuals may be subject to penalties including a criminal conviction, court costs and fines. In a typical year, very few citations are issued statewide for hunting under the influence of an impairing substance, representing a very small share of licensed game land users. This suggests the proposed amendment would apply to be a limited number of individuals.

**15A NCAC 10D .0202 ANGOLA BAY GAME LAND IN DUPLIN AND PENDER COUNTIES**

**15A NCAC 10D .0210 BULLARD AND BRANCH HUNTING PRESERVE GAME LANDS IN ROBESON COUNTY**

**15A NCAC 10D .0213 CAPE FEAR RIVER WETLANDS GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY**

**15A NCAC 10D .0214 CARTERET COUNTY GAME LAND IN CARTERET COUNTY**

**15A NCAC 10D .0221 CROATAN GAME LAND IN CARTERET, CRAVEN, AND JONES COUNTIES**

**15A NCAC 10D .0222 CURRITUCK BANKS GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY**

**15A NCAC 10D .0229 GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND PAMLICO COUNTIES**

**15A NCAC 10D .0241 JUNIPER CREEK GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES**

**15A NCAC 10D .0246 LIGHT GROUND POCOSIN GAME LAND IN PAMLICO COUNTY**

**15A NCAC 10D .0254 NEW LAKE GAME LAND IN HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES**

**15A NCAC 10D .0256 NORTH RIVER GAME LAND IN CAMDEN AND CURRITUCK COUNTIES**

**15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY**

**15A NCAC 10D .0270 SAMPSON GAME LAND IN SAMPSON COUNTY**

**15A NCAC 10D .0279 SUGGS SUTTON LAKE GAME LAND IN NEW HANOVER AND BRUNSWICK COUNTIES**

The proposed amendment changes the language “Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday” to “Bear shall not be taken on Sunday” in 14 game land rules.

The current rule language makes enforcement of restrictions on Sunday bear hunting only possible once a hunter has harvested a bear. “Take” is statutorily defined as “All operations during, immediately preparatory, and immediately subsequent to an attempt, whether successful or not, to capture, kill, pursue, hunt, or otherwise harm or reduce to possession any fisheries resource or wildlife resource”. Using “take” will allow for more proactive enforcement in situations where someone is bear hunting but has not yet harvested an animal.

## Fiscal Impact

### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment is anticipated to help law enforcement enforce and prosecute instances of bear poaching on Sundays. By allowing officers to take action prior to a harvest, the amendment is expected to result in a slight increase in citations and associated enforcement activity. This may lead to a slight increase in workload for law enforcement, including time spent in court. The WRC does not have a mechanism to quantify these impacts.

### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments may increase the number of citations issued which will increase local court revenue. Currently, G.S. 7A-304 imposes a fee of \$181 per case for Criminal District Court. Additionally, per G.S. 115C-452, any clear proceeds from penalties and fines issued would go to local schools. The extent of any increase in case volume and associated revenues cannot be quantified.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated impact on lawful bear hunters or other game land users. However, individuals who engage in prohibited bear hunting activity on Sundays may be more likely to be cited, including in situations where a bear has not yet been harvested. As a result, a small subset of individuals may face increased likelihood of enforcement and associated penalties, including fines, court costs, and potential impacts on hunting privileges.

## **15A NCAC 10D .0211 BUTNER-FALLS OF NEUSE GAME LAND IN DURHAM, GRANVILLE, AND WAKE COUNTIES**

The proposed amendment restricts use of New Light Beach on the Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Lands to hunting, fishing, and trapping.

The New Light Beach portion of Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land is frequently used by the public for large social gatherings that result in trash, litter, and habitat degradation. These gatherings restrict the ability of hunters, anglers, and trappers to use the property. The proposed amendment may result in positive impacts to habitat and wildlife due to decreased disturbances.

## Fiscal Impact

### *State Impact*

The agency anticipates a one-time cost of approximately \$375 to post this portion of the game land (1.25 miles x \$300/mile).

Wildlife law enforcement will enforce the amendment as part of their regular duties; however, there may be a slight increase in workload for law enforcement immediately after rule adoption as the public adjusts to the rule change. Additionally, the proposed amendment may result in staff spending less time removing trash and litter. The WRC does not have a mechanism to quantify the specific impacts of the proposed change.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment will restrict a currently lawful use of the New Light Beach area by individuals who use the site for social gatherings. As a result, these users will need to relocate those activities to other areas where such use is allowed, which may result in minor inconvenience or changes in use patterns. Following adoption, individuals who continue to use the area for unauthorized purposes may be subject to enforcement actions (fines, court costs, etc). At the same time, the amendment is expected to have a positive impact on individuals who use the area for hunting, fishing and trapping by minimizing user conflicts and potentially improving user experience. The WRC does not have a mechanism to quantify the specific impacts of the proposed change on private entities.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0239 JOHNS RIVER GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY**

The proposed amendment prohibits non-hunting recreational use of Johns River Game Land during open hunting seasons.

Johns River Game Land is a permit-only, 6,480-acre property in Burke County. It is located just north of Morganton and experiences significant non-hunting recreational use. During hunting season, these other uses have caused conflicts, safety concerns, and wildlife disturbances. Hunting seasons on Johns River Game Land span multiple months each year, including the fall deer season, waterfowl season, small-game seasons (such as squirrel and rabbit), and the spring wild turkey season. Because these seasons collectively cover a substantial portion of the year, non-hunting recreational users would experience restrictions during much of the fall and portions of winter and spring. Additionally, non-hunting users will have access to the game land on Sundays throughout the year.

#### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

Separating hunting and non-hunting uses during active hunting seasons may reduce the number of user-conflict complaints and related law-enforcement interventions, which could modestly

lower the operational workload associated with managing safety concerns and public inquiries. John's River Game Land has 21 parking areas, some of which have information kiosks. We will update kiosk signage, so the public knows which days are open to non-hunters. The agency anticipates a one-time cost of approximately \$400 to update kiosk signage on the game land (20 signs x \$20/sign).

#### *Local Impact*

Reducing recreation opportunities for non-hunters during the hunting season may decrease the number of people visiting local businesses, which may result in a decrease in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to the needs of this user group (e.g., food, gas, etc.). This anticipated impact cannot be quantified. However, the restriction may also increase satisfaction among hunters which could lead to an uptick in hunter use of the area during the hunting season. Any increase in hunter visits may partially or fully offset the reduction in visits by non-hunters, although the net effect on local economic activity is uncertain due to the lack of available data on relative participation levels and spending patterns for each group.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment is expected to negatively impact visitors who use the property for recreational purposes other than hunting (e.g., biking, running) during the hunting season. It is expected that these visitors will switch to recreating on this particular game land on Sundays only, when non-hunting use is still allowed, or seek alternative recreation areas. While nearby public lands exist within the region, the extent to which they provide comparable experiences varies based on user preference, distance, and trail characteristics. The degree to which displaced non-hunter recreational users can fully replace their current experience is uncertain. At the same time, the reduction in recreational use is expected to have a positive impact on individual permit holders by minimizing user conflicts and potentially improving their hunting experience.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0251 NANTAHALA GAME LAND IN CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, JACKSON, MACON, AND SWAIN COUNTIES**

The proposed amendment removes the antlerless deer season on Nantahala Game Land.

Historically, Nantahala Game Land has not had an antlerless deer season; however, changes to the western deer seasons approximately 2 years ago and lack of specificity in the Nantahala Game Land rule have inadvertently created a one-day antlerless season necessitating that we specify in rule that Nantahala Game Land does not have an antlerless deer season.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated state government impact and will not require more or less staff time or resources for implementation and enforcement.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendment has no anticipated local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment will eliminate antlerless deer hunting on Nantahala Game Land. However, historically the game land did not have an antlerless deer season thus this change is not anticipated to have an impact on the regulated community.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY (Target Shooting)**

The proposed amendment will prohibit target shooting on the Northwest River Marsh Game Land.

This proposal originated from constituent concerns about safety, littering, trash accumulation, and disturbance of wildlife due to the number of target shooters using this game land. The proposed amendment may result in positive impacts to wildlife due to reduced habitat degradation, trash, and lead accumulation, and fewer disturbances.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment is expected to have no State impact and will not require additional staff time or resources for implementation and enforcement. Staff will enforce the amendment as part of their regular duties.

#### *Local Impact*

Reducing target shooting opportunities may decrease the number of people visiting local businesses, which may result in a decrease in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to the needs of this user group (e.g., food, gas, etc.). The WRC does not have data on the number of target shooters using this site, and no data are available to quantify the level of use or associated local economic impact. Because the area is not a managed shooting range, any effect on nearby businesses is expected to be minimal.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment is expected to negatively impact visitors who use this game land for target shooting. Those wishing to target shoot will either have to pay for use of a private range, or travel approximately 85 miles east of the game land to the WRC owned Odom Shooting Range which is free to the public. However, the reduction in target shooting is expected to have a positive impact on individuals who use the area for hunting, fishing and trapping by minimizing user conflicts, reducing wildlife disturbances, and potentially improving user experience. The WRC does not have a mechanism to quantify the specific impacts of the proposed change on private entities.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0260 PISGAH GAME LAND IN AVERY, BUNCOMBE, BURKE, CALDWELL, HAYWOOD, HENDERSON, MADISON, MCDOWELL, MITCHELL, TRANSYLVANIA, WATAUGA, AND YANCEY COUNTIES**

The proposed amendment prohibits horseback riding and target shooting on the Roaring Creek and Lutz tracts of Pisgah Game Land.

Currently there is little to no horseback riding on these tracts; however, neither tract has suitable purpose-built trails or infrastructure for horseback riding. The soil on this game land is highly erodible and horseback riding would result in habitat degradation. Additionally, target shooting has a negative impact on game lands, including but not limited to trash and spent shells being left behind, damage to trees, disturbances to wildlife, and introduction of lead to the environment.

The proposed amendment will make the regulations on all state-owned tracts of Pisgah Game Land consistent.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment is expected to have no State impact and will not require additional staff time or resources for implementation and enforcement. Staff will enforce the amendment as part of their regular duties.

#### *Local Impact*

Reducing horseback riding and target shooting opportunities may decrease the number of people visiting local businesses, which may result in a decrease in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to the needs of this user group (e.g., food, gas, etc.). The WRC does not have data on the number of target shooters using this site, and no data are available to quantify the level of use or associated local economic impact. Because the area is not a managed shooting range and little to no horseback riding is occurring, any effect on nearby businesses is expected to be minimal.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendment is anticipated to negatively impact the few visitors who use these tracts for target shooting and horseback riding. It is expected that these visitors will switch to recreating on other nearby public lands that allow such activities. For example, the US Forest Service has dedicated horseback riding facilities nearby in the Big Ivy area and around Brevard (Wolf Ford Horse Camp and Wash Creek Horse Camp). Target shooters may alternatively use the WRC owned shooting range at nearby Cold Mountain Game Land or the WRC/McDowell County partnership range in Marion. The reduction in these uses is expected to have a positive impact on individuals who use the area for hunting, fishing and trapping by minimizing user conflicts and potentially improving user experience.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0284 TILLERY GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY**

The proposed amendment will make quail and woodcock hunting at Tillery Game Land by permit only.

As identified in the [2025 NC Wildlife Action Plan](#), Bobwhite Quail are a species of greatest conservation need and American Woodcock are a priority species with a knowledge gap. Habitat management work at Tillery has led to more early successional habitat, and a positive quail response. Staff have observed a significant increase in hunting pressure on this 7 days a week game land, leading to some concern for these species.

A point of sale permit (no restriction on the number issued) will allow staff to collect useful information from hunters to assist in making data-driven management decisions on quail and woodcock hunting at the game land.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment will generate revenue through point of sale permits. Permits cost \$8 plus a transaction fee (transaction fees vary from \$0 to \$4 depending on the sales channel). The agency cannot predict how many permits will be sold. A major motivation behind this proposed amendment is to develop a better understanding of how many hunters are hunting these species at this game land.

Permit processing is part of routine operations conducted by the Land and Water Access Division and will not require additional staff resources.

### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendment is anticipated to have minimal impact on local government. Requiring permits may lower hunter participation or interest, which may result in decreased visitation and revenue to the surrounding counties. Given that the permit fee is small, it is unlikely to deter a significant number of users. As such, any resulting reduction in participation and impacts on spending in local communities is expected to be minimal.

### *Private Impact*

Requiring a permit allows the WRC to better understand hunters, estimate hunting pressure, and determine the need for changes to species management. The number of permits would not be limited but requiring them means hunters incur a cost of \$8 to \$12 dollars. Along with the minor inconvenience of purchasing a permit, these may be a deterrent to quail or woodcock hunting on Tillery Game Land. Those who fail to acquire a permit prior to hunting quail or woodcock may face penalties including fines (\$25; class 3 misdemeanor for first offense), and court costs (\$181).

## **15A NCAC 10D .0290 WHITE OAK RIVER GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY**

The proposed amendment makes all hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment at White Oak River Game Land permit only.

Confusion exists because the posted impoundment requires a permit for nearly all waterfowl hunting dates except the four days of the early teal season, leaving some hunters uncertain about when a permit is required. By making the requirement consistent across the full season, the amendment eliminates this source of confusion. This change will make language consistent on the Huggins and Morton tracts of this game land.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The proposed amendment will generate revenue through point of sale permits. Permits cost \$8 plus a transaction fee (transaction fees vary from \$0 to \$4 depending on the sales channel). The agency cannot predict how many permits will be sold, but since the new fee applies to the small number of teal hunters who use this impoundment during those four early season days, any increase in revenue will likely be small.

Permit processing is part of routine operations conducted by the Land and Water Access Division and will not require additional staff resources.

### *Local Impact*

Requiring a permit may reduce hunting opportunities for waterfowl hunters and may subsequently decrease the number of people visiting local businesses. This may result in a decrease in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to the needs of this user group (e.g., food, gas, etc.). This anticipated impact cannot be quantified.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed change is expected to alleviate confusion among waterfowl hunters; however, it will also decrease hunting opportunities by introducing a permit system where only permitted hunters will be allowed on an impoundment previously open to anyone. The number of permits would not be limited but requiring them means hunters incur a cost of \$8 to \$12 dollars. Along with the minor inconvenience of purchasing a permit, these may be a deterrent to waterfowl hunting on White Oak River Game Land. Additionally, this change may increase the quality and satisfaction of the hunts available. Those who fail to acquire a permit prior to hunting on the waterfowl impoundment may face penalties including fines (\$25; class 3 misdemeanor for first offense), and court costs (\$181).

## **15A NCAC 10D .0296 BIG SWAMP GAME LAND IN ROBESON COUNTY**

The proposed rule establishes the Big Swamp tract of land as a game land.

The Big Swamp tract is a new 2,519-acre acquisition that is ready to be designated as a game land. This will be a Three days per week area with no deer or bear hunting with dogs allowed. The property includes over 2,000 acres of wetlands and nearly 20 miles of streams that support diverse wildlife including a multitude of game species and numerous bird species such as warblers, gnatcatchers, flycatchers, wood storks, and many more.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The agency anticipates a one-time cost of approximately \$45,000 to establish the new game land. The agency will hire a contractor to mark the 18-mile boundary of the game land for a cost of approximately \$40,000 (~\$0.30/linear foot plus signage and paint costs), plus ~\$5,000 for one new parking area and gate. Because District 4 law enforcement already covers nearby areas, staff do not anticipate a meaningful shift in officer workload or the need to reassign personnel.

#### *Local Impact*

Creating a new game land may increase the number of people visiting local businesses, which may result in an increase in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to the needs of the recreational user groups (e.g., food, gas, camping supplies, etc.). Increased spending at business

may result in additional tax revenue for State and local governments<sup>1</sup>. The Big Swamp Game Land is relatively small, so the total amount of tax-based revenue generated due to its establishment is likely to be small, especially relative to larger game lands. The Commission is unable to give an exact estimate as tax-based revenue varies depending on the activities allowed on the game land, its proximity to local amenities, and its size.

This game land may increase nearby home values, increasing property tax revenue, although the amount is highly uncertain<sup>2</sup>.

### *Private Impact*

This new game land will provide additional opportunities for hunting and outdoor recreation. Game land users will have increased opportunities for wildlife-based recreation, and 2,519 acres of undeveloped land will be conserved with public access. There is currently very little public land in Robeson County and wildlife and outdoor recreationists from surrounding municipalities can take advantage of this public land for hunting, hiking, and wildlife watching. There are relatively few residential homes immediately adjacent to the property therefore noise impacts on nearby residents are anticipated to be minimal. The proposed rule will prohibit target shooting and hunting with dogs. Given the game land's relatively small size and hydrology, allowing target shooting could damage wetland ecosystems, raise safety concerns, and lead to excessive litter. The three-day per week designation will provide balance between the expected hunting pressure and game species management.

Game lands provide significant economic contributions to local economies through the market impact of visitors participating in outdoor recreational activities. In 2018, North Carolina game lands received over 2.2 million visits. An evaluation conducted by NC State University researchers estimates that these visits generated over \$180 million in game land related expenditures (gross), contributing a net added value of \$140 million to the state's economic activity<sup>2</sup>.

Adding an additional game land will bolster state revenue and recreational visits. The value of game land access to recreators can be assumed to be at least as much as they spend per trip, although there are additional use and non-use benefits that are not captured in trip expenditures. This same study found that non-licensed activity users (e.g., hikers, bikers) spent an average of \$119.83 per trip while hunters and anglers spent on average \$84.19 per trip<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Casola, W.R., Peterson, M.N., Sills, E.O., Pacifici, K., Moorman, C.E., 2022. Economic contributions of wildlife management areas in North Carolina. *Forest Policy and Economics*. 140, 102747 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.forpol.2022.102747>.

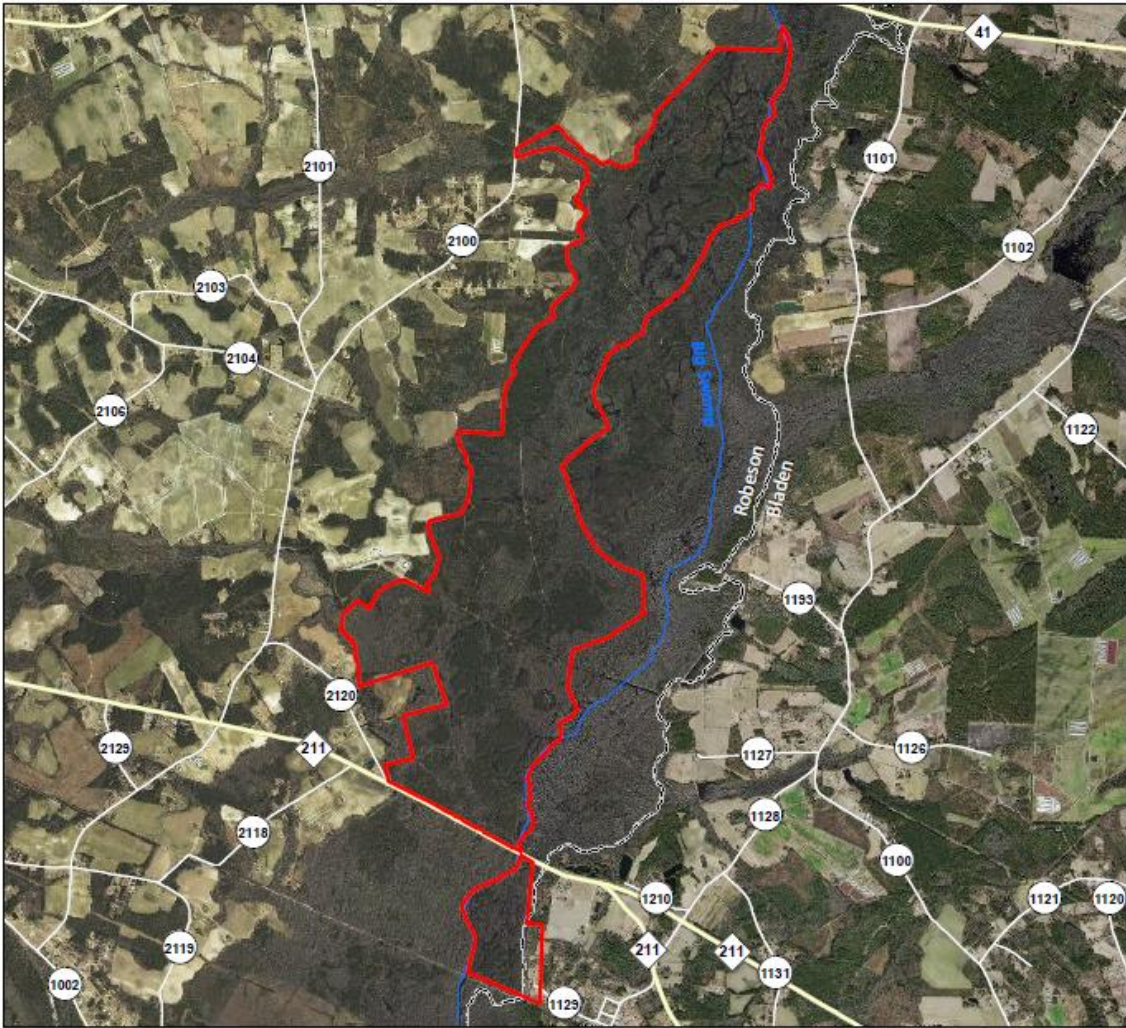
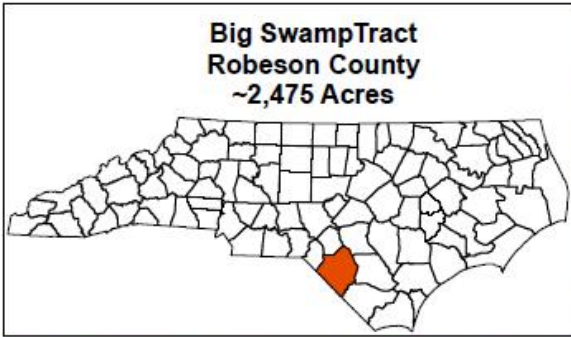
<sup>2</sup> Casola, William R., Peterson, M.N., Wu, Y., Sills, E.O., Pease, B.S., Pacifici, K., 2021b. Measuring the value of public hunting land using a hedonic approach. *Human Dimensions of Wildlife*. 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10871209.2021.1953196>.

The concept of willingness to pay (WTP) can provide a more comprehensive estimate of how much users value game lands, including those aesthetic, environmental, and inter-generational benefits that cannot be measured directly in the market through expenditures or home values. However, WTP values come with a greater degree of uncertainty; the estimates are sensitive to the research methods used to elicit the values including the design and delivery of the contingent valuation exercise. An associated study assessed users' willingness to pay (one time) to conserve 20% of North Carolina's game lands. Values varied by user type. Non-licensed users valued the proposed conservation at \$130 compared to licensed users at \$120. Dual users that pursue both licensed and non-licensed activities valued game lands most highly at \$160. More detailed studies would be needed to determine willingness to pay on an annual or per-acre basis, and to determine these values for both users and non-users<sup>3</sup>.

This game land may increase home values in the area as well. Studies in NC have demonstrated that proximity to game lands provide moderate positive value to nearby properties in some locations, even within rural settings and when controlling for access to other sources of public land. This is especially true for areas where there are no other nearby high-value natural amenities such as beaches and national parks<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> Casola, W.R., Peterson, M.N., Sills, E.O., Pacifici, K., Moorman, C.E., 2023. Conservation motivations and willingness to pay for wildlife management areas among recreational user groups. *Land Use Policy*. 132, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2023.106801>



1 15A NCAC 10D .0103 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10D .0103 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING HUNTING ON GAME LANDS**

4 (a) The following shall be prohibited on game lands:

- 5 (1) hunting on a designated game land while under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined  
6 by G.S. 20-4.01(14a); ~~20-4.01(48b)~~;
- 7 (2) failing to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the use of the  
8 Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands;
- 9 (3) parking a vehicle on game lands in a manner that blocks traffic or gates, or prevents vehicles from  
10 using a roadway; and
- 11 (4) affixing nails, screws, bolts, or applying paint to vegetation. This prohibition does not apply to  
12 mounting hardware for game cameras, lag screw steps, or portable stands that are removed after use  
13 with no metal remaining in or attached to the vegetation.
- 14 (5) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform whose construction violates Subparagraph (4) of this  
15 Rule.
- 16 ~~(4) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts, or to a tree on a game~~  
17 ~~land to hunt. This prohibition does not apply to lag screw steps or portable stands that are removed~~  
18 ~~after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.~~

19 (b) Unless allowed by permit, hunting on game lands shall be during the open season for game animals and game  
20 birds.

21 (c) Individual game lands or parts of game lands may be closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by this  
22 Subchapter.

23 (d) Persons shall hunt with weapons lawful for the open game animal or game bird seasons.

24 (e) On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

- 25 (1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- 26 (2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- 27 (3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;
- 28 (4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. daily; and
- 29 (5) not operate a vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

30 (f) On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

- 31 (1) hunting with a firearm between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.;
- 32 (2) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;
- 33 (3) hunting with a firearm within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-  
34 54.1(b), or an accessory structure thereof; and
- 35 (4) hunting migratory game birds.

36 (g) On designated Youth Waterfowl Days, the following shall apply:

- 37 (1) hunting on managed waterfowl impoundments shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset;

- 38           (2)     Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule; and
- 39           (3)     youth may hunt on a game land and on an impoundment without a special hunt permit, including
- 40                     permit-only areas, except where prohibited in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- 41 (h) On designated Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the
- 42 Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for
- 43 training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas from
- 44 one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall apply.
- 45 (i) On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and
- 46 waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment
- 47 outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone."
- 48 (j) Definitions:
- 49           (1)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be
- 50                     taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day,
- 51                     Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.
- 52           (2)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which
- 53                     game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,
- 54                     Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, Veterans Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and New
- 55                     Year's Days, except for game lands in this Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays,
- 56                     Thursday, and Fridays. Hunting is not allowed on Christmas Day, Veterans Day, and New Year's
- 57                     Day when these holidays fall on Sunday. Falconry may also be practiced on Sundays. These "open
- 58                     days" also apply to antlerless deer hunting seasons listed for each game land. Raccoon and opossum
- 59                     hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight
- 60                     on Saturdays.
- 61           (3)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game
- 62                     may be taken on the open days of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday
- 63                     during the open seasons. Falconry may be practiced on Sundays.
- 64           (4)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which
- 65                     game may be taken during the open season on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays,
- 66                     Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
- 67           (5)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game
- 68                     may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays,
- 69                     Sundays, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 70                     Day. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. on
- 71                     Fridays, and 7:00 a.m. on Mondays.
- 72           (6)     For purposes of this Subchapter, "Permit" means a written authorization from the Commission
- 73                     required for take or other activities listed on the permit during open seasons, if applicable, in a
- 74                     specified area and subject to annual limitations imposed by the Commission to meet wildlife, hunter,

75 or land management objectives, unless otherwise specified. Individuals may apply for available  
76 permits online at ncwildlife.org, by phone, or in person at a wildlife service agent location. The  
77 Commission shall issue permits to applicants selected at random by computer in accordance with  
78 G.S. 113-264. Permits shall be non-transferrable. The laws and rules regarding the species or activity  
79 shall apply.

80 (7) For the purposes of this Subchapter, "Either-Sex" means antlered or antlerless.

81 (k) Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or parts of counties where taking deer with  
82 dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

83 (l) On permit hunts, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed  
84 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of  
85 hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and  
86 are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperator agent or  
87 by phone.

88 (m) The following game lands and refuges are closed to hunting except to individuals who have obtained a valid and  
89 current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:

90 (1) Bertie, Halifax, and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;

91 (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;

92 (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;

93 (4) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);

94 (5) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and

95 (6) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

96 (n) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the  
97 Commission. Written permission may be granted when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge shall not compromise the  
98 primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid need  
99 or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes issues of  
100 access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.

101 (o) The Commission may designate special hunts for participants of the disabled sportsman program by permit. The  
102 Commission may schedule these permit hunts during the closed season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be  
103 identified on the permit. If the hunt has a limited weapon choice, the allowed weapons shall be stated on the permit.

104 (p) As used in the rules of this Subchapter, horseback riding includes all equine species.

105 (q) When waterfowl hunting is authorized on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on Sundays, the  
106 open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

107

108 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

109 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

110 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;*

111 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; September*

112 *1, 1994; July 1, 1994;*  
113 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;*  
114 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
115 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*  
116 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
117 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
118 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);*  
119 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
120 *January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May*  
121 *1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August 1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October*  
122 *1, 2004;*  
123 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;*  
124 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2020; August 1, 2019;*  
125 *Temporary Amendment Eff. September 25, 2020;*  
126 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2021;*  
127 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2022; October 1, 2022; August 23, 2022;*  
128 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;*  
129 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*  
130

1 15A NCAC 10D .0202 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0202 ANGOLA BAY GAME LAND IN DUPLIN AND PENDER COUNTIES**

4 Angola Bay Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

8 (3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

9

10 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

11 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

12

13

1 15A NCAC 10D .0210 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0210 BULLARD AND BRANCH HUNTING PRESERVE GAME LANDS IN ROBESON**  
4 **COUNTY**

5 Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Four Days per Week Area, in which the following  
6 applies:

7 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
8 Season.

9 (2) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

10

11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

12 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

13

14

1 15A NCAC 10D .0211 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10D .0211 BUTNER-FALLS OF NEUSE GAME LAND IN DURHAM, GRANVILLE, AND**  
4 **WAKE COUNTIES**

5 Butner-Falls of Neuse ~~game land~~ Game Land is a Six Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 6 (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the first open day of the All Lawful Weapons Season for  
7 Deer With Visible Antlers through the second Friday thereafter.
- 8 (2) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:  
9 (a) the opening and closing days of the waterfowl seasons;  
10 (b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
11 (c) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.  
12 On the posted waterfowl impoundments a special permit is required for all waterfowl  
13 hunting after November 1.
- 14 (3) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 15 (4) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 16 (5) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- 17 (6) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on ~~that~~ the portion west of NC 50 and south of Falls  
18 Lake.
- 19 (7) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not apply to  
20 hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the seasons for game birds and game  
21 animals. On designated bicycle riding areas, the use of bicycles is allowed from May ~~15~~ 16 through  
22 August 31, and on Sundays only from September 1 through May ~~14~~ 15.
- 23 (8) Camping is ~~restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May~~  
24 ~~14~~ allowed on areas posted for camping as specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter.
- 25 (9) Camping is allowed year-round in the designated Mountains-to-Sea Trail Camping Area and shall  
26 not exceed a maximum stay of two consecutive nights. Campfires are prohibited in this camping  
27 area.
- 28 (10) Entry on the New Light Beach Tract (Wake County) for purposes other than hunting, fishing, and  
29 trapping is prohibited.

30  
31 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
32 *Eff. November 1, 2022;*  
33 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; August 1, 2023.*  
34  
35

1 15A NCAC 10D .0213 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0213 CAPE FEAR RIVER WETLANDS GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY**

4 Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on ~~that portion known as~~ the Roan Island Tract.

8 (3) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion ~~of the game land that is~~ west of the  
9 Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck Road, and south of NC  
10 210 to the Black River.

11 (4) Target shooting is prohibited.

12 (5) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

13

14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

15 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

16

17

1 15A NCAC 10D .0214 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0214 CARTERET COUNTY GAME LAND IN CARTERET COUNTY**

4 Carteret County Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 7 (2) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 8 (3) Bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract is by permit only.
- 9 (4) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

10

11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
12 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

13

14

1 15A NCAC 10D .0221 is proposed for amendment as follows:  
2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0221 CROATAN GAME LAND IN CARTERET, CRAVEN, AND JONES COUNTIES**

4 Croatan ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.
- 7 (2) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:  
8 (a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
9 (b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
10 (c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 11 (3) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of all waterfowl seasons,  
12 waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish Lake Waterfowl  
13 Impoundment is by permit only.
- 14 (4) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted areas. During  
15 the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- 16 (5) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

17  
18 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
19 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*  
20  
21

1 15A NCAC 10D .0222 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0222 CURRITUCK BANKS GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY**

4 Currituck Banks ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by permit only  
6 from November 1 through the end of all waterfowl seasons.

7 (2) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the guides do  
8 not use a firearm.

9 (3) The boundary of the game land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

10 (4) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day of their  
11 hunt.

12 (5) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to  
13 a tree.

14 (6) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers season.

15 (7) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

16

17 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

18 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

19

20

1 15A NCAC 10D .0229 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10D .0229 GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND PAMLICO COUNTIES**

4 Goose Creek ~~game land~~ Game Land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.
- 7 (2) Except as provided in 15A NCAC 10D .0103(e), waterfowl in posted waterfowl impoundments  
8 shall be taken only on the following days:
- 9 (a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 10 (b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 11 (c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 12 (3) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October, through the end of all waterfowl  
13 seasons, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl impoundments: Pamlico  
14 Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith Creek, and Hobucken.
- 15 (4) On Spring Lake, Pamlico Point, and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments, all activities,  
16 except waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the trapping  
17 season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period November 1 through  
18 March 15.
- 19 (5) Camping is ~~restricted to September 1 through the last day of February, and March 31 through May~~  
20 ~~14 in areas both designated and~~ allowed on areas posted ~~as for~~ camping ~~areas as specified in Rule~~  
21 .0102 of this Subchapter.
- 22 (6) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1 through  
23 January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting opportunity permit.
- 24 (7) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is prohibited on  
25 the Beaufort County portion north of N.C. 33, except for that portion east of Smith Creek and south  
26 of Campbell Creek.
- 27 (8) Bear shall not be ~~taken harvested~~ on Sunday.
- 28 (9) Hunting for deer, bear, and turkey on the Bates-Bay Tract is by permit only.

29  
30 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
31 *Temporary Adoption Eff. December 1, 2022;*  
32 *Eff. March 15, 2023;*  
33 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; August 1, 2025.*  
34  
35

1 15A NCAC 10D .0239 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0239 JOHNS RIVER GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY**

4 Johns River ~~game land~~ Game Land is hunting by permit only. The following shall apply:

5 (1) During permitted deer hunts, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken by permit holders.

6 (2) The construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.

7 (3) Camping is ~~restricted to August 31 through the last day of February and March 31 through May~~  
8 ~~14.~~ allowed on areas posted for camping as specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter.

9 (4) Target shooting is prohibited.

10 (5) During the open days of the seasons for game birds and game animals, entry is restricted to permit  
11 holders. ~~the use of bicycles is restricted to hunters engaged in the act of hunting.~~

12

13 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

14 *Eff. October 1, 2022;*

15 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; August 1, 2025; August 1, 2023.*

16

1 15A NCAC 10D .0241 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0241 JUNIPER CREEK GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES**

4 (a) Juniper Creek ~~game land~~ Game Land is a Seven Days per Week Area. The following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

6 (2) Camping is ~~restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May~~  
7 ~~14 in allowed on~~ areas ~~both designated and~~ posted ~~as for~~ camping ~~areas~~. as specified in Rule .0102  
8 of this Subchapter.

9 (3) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ harvested on Sunday.

10

11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

12 *Eff. October 1, ~~2022~~. 2022;*

13 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2026.*

14

15

1 15A NCAC 10D .0246 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0246 LIGHT GROUND POCOSIN GAME LAND IN PAMLICO COUNTY**

4 Light Ground Poccosin ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

8

9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

10 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10D .0251 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0251 NANTAHALA GAME LAND IN CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, JACKSON,**  
4 **MACON, AND SWAIN COUNTIES ~~SWAIN, AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES~~**

5 ~~(a)~~ Nantahala Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies: ~~Area.~~

6 ~~(b)~~(1) Antlerless deer shall not be taken during the All Lawful Weapons Season. ~~In this game land Deer~~  
7 ~~of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season~~  
8 ~~in that portion located in Transylvania County.~~

9 ~~(c)~~(2) Dogs may be used to hunt feral swine during the open bear season established in 15A NCAC 10B  
10 .0202 and from January 1 through January 31.

11

12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

13 *Eff. October 1, 2022;*

14 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

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1 15A NCAC 10D .0254 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0254 NEW LAKE GAME LAND IN HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES**

4 New Lake Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

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9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

10 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10D .0256 is proposed for amendment as follows:  
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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0256 NORTH RIVER GAME LAND IN CAMDEN AND CURRITUCK COUNTIES**

4 North River Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 5 (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
6 Antlers Season.  
7 (2) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.  
8 (3) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only. ~~permit~~.  
9 (4) All activities on the North River Game Land Waterfowl Impoundments except waterfowl hunting  
10 and trapping during the trapping season are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone from  
11 November 1 through March 15.  
12 (5) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

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14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
15 *Eff. October 1, 2022;*  
16 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

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1 15A NCAC 10D .0257 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY**

4 Northwest River Marsh Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.
- 7 (2) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.
- 8 (3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.
- 9 (4) Target shooting is prohibited.

10

11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

12 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10D .0260 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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**15A NCAC 10D .0260 PISGAH GAME LAND IN AVERY, BUNCOMBE, BURKE, CALDWELL,  
HAYWOOD, HENDERSON, MADISON, MCDOWELL, MITCHELL,  
TRANSYLVANIA, WATAUGA, AND YANCEY COUNTIES**

Pisgah Game Land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (2) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke County), Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties), Lutz Tract (Caldwell County), and Roaring Creek Tract (Avery County). ~~(and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).~~
- (3) The use of bicycles shall be restricted to designated trails on the Linville River Tract (Burke County). Persons engaged in the act of hunting on the Linville River Tract during any open day of an applicable season for game birds or game animals shall be exempt from this restriction.
- (4) Alcohol and fires are prohibited on the Lutz Tract (Caldwell County).
- (5) Target shooting is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke County), Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties), Lutz Tract (Caldwell County), and Roaring Creek Tract (Avery County). ~~(and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).~~
- (6) Entry on the Lutz Tract (Caldwell County) for purposes other than hunting, fishing, trapping, and posted use of trails and parking areas is prohibited.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 7, 2025;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2026.*

1 15A NCAC 10D .0270 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0270 SAMPSON GAME LAND IN SAMPSON COUNTY**

4 Sampson ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Four Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

8 (3) Bear shall not be ~~taken~~ ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

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10 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

11 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10D .0279 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0279 SUGGS SUTTON LAKE GAME LAND IN NEW HANOVER AND BRUNSWICK**  
4 **COUNTIES**

5 Suggs Sutton Lake Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

6 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
7 Season through the first Friday thereafter.

8 (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

9 (3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sunday.

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11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

12 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

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1 **15A NCAC 10D .0284 TILLERY GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY**

2 Tillery Game Land ~~game-land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- 3 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
4 Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 5 (2) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 6 (3) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 7 (4) ~~Wild turkey Quail, wild turkey, and woodcock~~ hunting is by permit only.
- 8 (5) Target Shooting is prohibited.

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10 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
11 *Eff. October 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10D .0290 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0290 WHITE OAK RIVER GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY**

4 White Oak River ~~Game Land~~ ~~game land~~ is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
6 Season.

7 (2) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

8 ~~(2) Except as provided in Item (3) of this Rule, waterfowl in posted waterfowl impoundments shall be~~  
9 ~~taken only on the following days:~~

10 ~~(a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;~~

11 ~~(b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and~~

12 ~~(c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.~~

13 ~~(3) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all waterfowl~~  
14 ~~seasons, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.~~

15 (4)(3) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:

16 (a) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting Opportunity  
17 Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d);

18 (b) hunting is by permit only; and

19 (c) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

20 ~~(5)(4)~~ Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

21 ~~(6)(5)~~ Target ~~Shooting~~ shooting is prohibited.

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23 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

24 *Eff. November 1, 2022.*

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1 15A NCAC 10D .0296 is proposed for adoption as follows:  
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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0296 BIG SWAMP GAME LAND IN ROBESON COUNTY**

4 Big Swamp Game Land is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) The use of dogs for hunting deer or bear is prohibited.

6 (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

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8 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

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# EXHIBIT G-1

June 18, 2026



## **Proposed Amendments to Wildlife Education Rules for the 2027-2028 Annual Rulemaking Cycle Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearings**

### **E1. Shooting Ranges – Definitions and Restrictions**

*15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE*

*15A NCAC 10E .0201 DEFINITIONS*

*15A NCAC 10E .0202 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS*

*15A NCAC 10E .0203 RANGE REQUIREMENTS*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Remove the shooting range rules from the Game Lands portion of the NCAC and codify specific rules for agency owned and managed shooting ranges. The proposed rule will include general restrictions for all visitors, specific regulations for firearm handling, archery equipment standards, trap and skeet range rules, ammunition standards, target requirements, and provisions for staff to maintain a safe environment.

#### JUSTIFICATION

Current shooting range rules exist in the Game Lands section of the NCAC. These rules are outdated and do not address many of the issues staff are facing at the facilities, including unruly patrons and unsafe firearms handling. Codifying new rules for shooting ranges will improve range safety for both staff and the public and improve the ability of law enforcement to handle patrons who fail to comply with agency safety standards.

1 15A NCAC 10D .0102 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE**

4 (a) For purposes of this Subchapter, the following definitions apply:

- 5 (1) "Permanent Hunting Blind" means a structure that is used for hunter concealment, constructed from  
6 manmade or natural materials, and that is not disassembled and removed at the end of the day's hunt.  
7 (2) "Target shooting" means the discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or  
8 self-defense.  
9 (3) "Youth" means individuals under 16 years of age.

10 (b) Trespass. Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the  
11 landowner. The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified the following areas on game lands that have additional  
12 restrictions on entry or usage:

- 13 (1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to archery  
14 equipment and falconry. During the open deer seasons for these areas, antlered and antlerless deer  
15 may be taken.  
16 (2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person  
17 shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on a  
18 game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.  
19 (3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use  
20 of centerfire rifles is prohibited.  
21 (4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to use by the public,  
22 and entry on these areas is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources  
23 Commission. The Commission may authorize entry when the primary purpose for the Restricted  
24 Zone shall not be compromised and the persons requesting entry demonstrate a valid need, or official  
25 business of the Commission is being conducted by a contractor or agent of the Commission. Valid  
26 needs may include access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to  
27 conduct activities in the public interest.  
28 (5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are  
29 closed to use by the public, and entry is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife  
30 Resources Commission. An area of a game land shall be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone  
31 when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public.  
32 (6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge  
33 of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.  
34 (7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting  
35 Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S.  
36 113-264(d).

37 (8) Day Use Only Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" the use by the  
38 public shall be prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

39 (9) Sensitive Habitat Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Sensitive Habitat Zones" are closed to  
40 use by the public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry is prohibited without written  
41 approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission by calling 919-707-0150 and requesting a  
42 permit.

43 The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing  
44 the following zones: archery, restricted firearms, restricted deer hunting, day use only, or sensitive habitat. After the  
45 input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final determination.

46 (c) Littering. No person shall deposit litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse on any game land except in receptacles  
47 provided for disposal of refuse at designated camping and target-shooting areas. No garbage dumps or sanitary  
48 landfills shall be established on a game land by a person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality, except as  
49 permitted by the landowner.

50 (d) Use of weapons. No person shall discharge:

51 (1) a weapon within 150 yards of a game land building or designated game land camping area, except  
52 where posted otherwise;

53 (2) a weapon within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to game lands, except on Butner-  
54 Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and

55 (3) a firearm within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan  
56 Game Lands.

57 No person shall hunt with or have in possession a shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on a posted  
58 waterfowl impoundment on a game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer  
59 hunting. Individuals carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-415.11, even  
60 if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan, Kerr Scott,  
61 and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other  
62 weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is  
63 incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document may be accessed at  
64 [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov) at no cost. On Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hyco, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee  
65 River Game Land north of U.S. 74; and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of  
66 U.S. 158 and east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days  
67 for game birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:

68 (1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length  
69 and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;

70 (2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;

71 (3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or

72 (4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

73 (e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

- 74 (1) Except as provided in Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph, a person entering a game land to hunt,  
75 trap, run dogs, or train dogs using wildlife shall have in his or her possession a valid North Carolina  
76 hunting or trapping license.
- 77 (2) For Commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114, in  
78 a field trial using wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license, except non-residents may  
79 substitute hunting licenses from their state(s) of residence.
- 80 (3) For other field trials using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall  
81 possess a North Carolina hunting license.
- 82 (4) Exceptions:
- 83 (A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his parent or legal  
84 guardian;
- 85 (B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103 (j)(1) of this Section, the game lands license is  
86 required for hunting doves; other activities are subject to the control of the landowners.
- 87 (f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. An individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial  
88 area shall file an application with the Commission to use the area with the facility use fee computed at the rate of three  
89 hundred dollars (\$300.00) for each scheduled day of the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from  
90 12:00 noon of the day preceding the first scheduled day of the trial to 10:00 a.m. of the day following the last scheduled  
91 day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for all intermediate days on which trials are not run but the building  
92 or facilities are used or occupied. A fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day shall be charged to sporting,  
93 educational, or scouting groups for scheduled events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or  
94 other entity shall enter or use the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area or the Laurinburg Fox  
95 Trial facility without written approval from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission, and no entry  
96 or use of a facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The Sandhills Field Trial facilities  
97 shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources Commission. No more than  
98 20 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during a calendar month, and no  
99 more than five days may be scheduled during a calendar week. A field trial requiring more than five days may be  
100 scheduled during one week with reduction of the maximum number of days allowable during some other week so that  
101 the monthly maximum of 20 days is not exceeded. Before October 1 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial  
102 Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities between the Wednesday on or nearest October  
103 18 and the second Friday before Thanksgiving and between the first Monday following Thanksgiving and March 31  
104 shall submit its proposed schedule of use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for consideration and approval. The  
105 use of the Sandhills Field Trial facilities by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills  
106 Game Lands dogs may be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1.  
107 Dogs may not be trained or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on game lands located west  
108 of I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be  
109 trained or permitted to run unleashed from March 15 through June 15 on game lands located east of I-95, except when  
110 participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Additionally, on game lands located

111 west of I-95 where special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs  
112 may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts.  
113 A field trial shall be authorized when the field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the game land or  
114 field trial facilities, and the applying organization demonstrates their experience and expertise in conducting genuine  
115 field trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be granted  
116 when they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do not  
117 conflict with the mission of the agency.

118 (g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0300, trapping of furbearing animals,  
119 armadillos, coyotes, and groundhogs is permitted on game lands during the open trapping seasons for those areas,  
120 established by rule. Foxes may be trapped on game lands from October 1 through the end of February in a county with  
121 an open fox trapping season that falls between October 1 and the end of February. Foxes may not be taken by trapping  
122 on game lands in counties with a closed fox trapping season or during a fox trapping season that occurs outside the  
123 dates of October 1 through the end of February. Additionally, fox trapping is allowed on game lands in Clay, Graham,  
124 Henderson, Macon, and Tyrrell counties with a daily bag limit of two and a season bag limit of 10 from the first to the  
125 fourth Saturday in January. Trapping is prohibited:

- 126 (1) on the J Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of Sandhills Game Land;
- 127 (2) in posted "safety zones" located on a game land;
- 128 (3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south,  
129 US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;
- 130 (4) on the DuPont State Forest Game Lands; and
- 131 (5) from April 1 through September 31.

132 At a trap, trappers may use a single bait site of grain, fruit, or other foods when trapping if the food is not a processed  
133 food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), is less than 3 cubic inches and is covered to prevent it from being seen  
134 from above. Feathers, including those with attached skin or entire bird wings, hair with or without skin or hide, and  
135 bones that include no attached meat, organs, or viscera do not need to be covered.

136 (h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on a game land except on roads constructed,  
137 maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and on trails posted for vehicular travel, unless the person:

- 138 (1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land;  
139 or
- 140 (2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (l) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program  
141 Permit as described in Paragraph (l) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph  
142 (k).

143 (i) Camping.

- 144 (1) No person shall camp on a game land except on an area posted by the landowner for camping.
- 145 (2) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources  
146 Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at a  
147 designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period, unless otherwise specified in rules of

148 this Subchapter. After 14 consecutive days of camping, personal belongings shall be removed from  
149 the game land.

150 (3) A hunting, fishing, trapping or Game Lands License is required for individuals age 16 or older to  
151 camp on game lands in areas posted for camping except when camping within 100 yards of the  
152 Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land, within 100  
153 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the game land west of NC-43, and in posted areas along  
154 the Mountains-to-Sea Trail on Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land.

155 (j) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds,  
156 domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or  
157 feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild fish  
158 from one stream to another on game lands without written authorization. Written authorization shall be given when  
159 release of animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native wildlife in  
160 the area and is in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

161 (k) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use  
162 on game lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (l) of this  
163 Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from this restriction but shall  
164 comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans with  
165 Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 126) may use wheelchairs or other all-terrain wheelchairs on areas where foot travel is  
166 allowed. Off road vehicles including ATVs, UTVs, and ebikes are not permitted.

167 (l) Disabled Access Program. Disabled individuals who meet the requirements of G.S. 113-296 may obtain a Disabled  
168 Access Permit and Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification online at [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org). The Disabled Access Permit allows  
169 individuals to operate electric wheel chairs, all-terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-  
170 maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads  
171 otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands  
172 whose owners have agreed to that use. Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated  
173 online, at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths, or  
174 trails planted for wildlife food or cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each qualified  
175 disabled person, may accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is constantly in  
176 visual or verbal contact with the disabled person. The companion may participate in lawful activities while assisting  
177 a disabled person, provided license requirements are met. A vehicle used by a qualified disabled person for access to  
178 game lands under this provision shall have the Disabled Access Permit available for inspection by wildlife  
179 enforcement officers upon request. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their companions  
180 may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit hunting days on  
181 a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land. It is unlawful for  
182 anyone other than disabled persons holding a Disabled Access Permit, during waterfowl season, to hunt within 100  
183 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the Wildlife Resources Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind.

184 The Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification allows individuals to apply for available Disabled sportsman permit  
185 hunting opportunities as prescribed in G.S. 113-296.

186 (m) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on game lands, including land or water.  
187 For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque  
188 covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while  
189 in a public place.

190 ~~(n) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting  
191 ranges for purposes other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for  
192 other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. Other uses, including camping, building fires, operating  
193 concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, unless  
194 written authorization is obtained from the Commission. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit  
195 debris or refuse on the grounds of the range. This includes items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the  
196 range, by the shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot items made of glass on the  
197 grounds of the range. No person may leave a vehicle or other obstruction in a location or position that it will prevent,  
198 impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave a vehicle or other  
199 object parked in a place on the shooting range other than the place or zone that is designated and posted or marked as  
200 an authorized parking zone. No person shall handle firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting range in a careless or  
201 reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other permanent fixture or structure  
202 while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore  
203 projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller may be allowed to travel from the  
204 range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to a person. Persons using a shooting range shall obey posted range safety  
205 rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public safety hazard shall leave the shooting range  
206 if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission employees. No person shall handle firearms on  
207 a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic  
208 beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours of operation shall be designated on signs and at  
209 least one sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting range. No person, when using a shooting range, shall do  
210 an act that is prohibited or neglect to do an act that is required by signs or markings placed on the area under authority  
211 of this Rule for regulating the use of the area.~~

212 ~~(o)(n)~~ Limited-access Roads. During the months of June, July, and August, roads posted as "Limited-access Roads"  
213 are open to motorized vehicles from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. These roads shall be posted with the opening and closing  
214 times.

215 ~~(p)(o)~~ No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of a bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other  
216 part thereof, or possess a bird or animal that has been so mutilated.

217 ~~(q)(p)~~ Baiting. Except as provided in Paragraph (g) of this Rule, no person shall place, or cause to be placed on a  
218 game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without written authorization from an agent of the Commission. Written  
219 authorization may be provided for Commission authorized projects or Commission contractors to meet specific

220 objectives. Except as authorized by rule, no person shall take or attempt to take wild birds or wild animals attracted to  
221 these foods.

222 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-270.3; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-305; 113-306;*  
223 *143-318.10;*  
224 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
225 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; April 1, 1992;*  
226 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 1993;*  
227 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;*  
228 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
229 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
230 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 31, 2001;*  
231 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002;*  
232 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004; (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
233 *2003);*  
234 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; June 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May*  
235 *1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; November 1, 2005;*  
236 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2014;*  
237 *Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; August 1, 2022; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2017;*  
238 *August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
239 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;*  
240 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2025; November 1, 2023.*

1 The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission requests the renaming of subchapter 15A NCAC 10E as follows:

2  
3 **SUBCHAPTER 10E – ~~PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS~~ COMMISSION FACILITIES**  
4 **AND INFRASTRUCTURE**  
5

6 The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission requests the addition of a section title for subchapter 15A NCAC  
7 10E as follows:

8 **SECTION .0100 – PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS**  
9

10 15A NCAC 10E .0201 is proposed for adoption as follows:

11  
12 **SECTION .0200 – SHOOTING RANGES**  
13

14 **15A NCAC 10E .0201 DEFINITIONS**

15 (a) The following definitions shall apply to the Rules in the Section:

- 16 (1) “Downrange” is the area located forward of the firing line extending in the direction where firearms  
17 or archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, may be safely aimed and discharged.  
18 (2) “Firing Line” is the designated area on the shooting range where individuals are authorized to fire  
19 firearms and archery equipment under supervision of the Range Safety Officer.  
20 (3) “Range is cold” means that live firing is prohibited and firearms and archery equipment shall not be  
21 loaded, handled, or fired.  
22 (4) “Range is hot” means that live firing is authorized.  
23 (5) “Range Safety Officer” or “RSO” is a designated Commission employee or volunteer responsible  
24 for ensuring that activities conducted on the shooting range safe and compliant with established  
25 rules and procedures.  
26 (6) “Range Pass” is a card issued to an individual who has provided identification and attended a range  
27 safety briefing. A range pass is valid one year from issuance.  
28 (7) “Shooting range” or “range” means the area designed for use of firearms or archery equipment.  
29 (8) “Shooting range facility” or “range facility” means the shooting range and associated operational  
30 areas, including indoor and outdoor shooting ranges, backstops, berms, parking areas, offices,  
31 restrooms, and ingress and egress roadways.  
32 (9) “Sky drawing” is the action of pointing archery equipment into the air and drawing the string, rather  
33 than aiming the equipment downrange.  
34

35 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;

1 15A NCAC 10E .0202 is proposed for adoption as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10E .0202 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

4 (a) Shooting range facilities owned and managed by the Commission are for trap shooting, skeet shooting, five-stand  
5 shooting, rifle shooting, pistol shooting, practice archery, and 3D archery. Non-specified use of range facilities is  
6 prohibited unless approved, in writing, by the Commission.

7 (b) Individuals using shooting range facilities shall:

8 (1) adhere to posted signs and verbal Range Safety Officer (RSO) instruction;

9 (2) wear eye protection; and

10 (3) wear ear protection on the firearm firing line.

11 (c) General Restrictions. The following shall be prohibited at shooting range facilities:

12 (1) open-toed shoes;

13 (2) individuals under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-4.01(14a);

14 (3) alcohol or alcoholic beverages;

15 (4) smoking, vaping, or use of tobacco or nicotine products, except in designated smoking areas;

16 (5) eating or drinking while on the firing line;

17 (6) harassment or intimidating behavior toward staff or other guests;

18 (7) parking vehicles outside of designated parking areas; and

19 (8) animals other than service dogs.

20 (d) Prior to entering the shooting range, individuals participating in shooting sports shall complete the following steps  
21 to receive a Range Pass:

22 (1) sign-in with the RSO;

23 (2) attend a safety briefing; and

24 (3) complete a range waiver by providing the following information:

25 (A) first and last name;

26 (B) age and age certification;

27 (C) ethnicity;

28 (D) gender;

29 (E) zip code;

30 (F) email address;

31 (G) shooting range facility location;

32 (H) range selection;

33 (I) NCWRC license status;

34 (J) attestation of the Risk, Release, and Indemnity Agreement; and

35 (K) electronic signature.

36 (e) Age Restrictions.

37 (1) Individuals under 18 years of age shall be accompanied by an adult when on the firing line.

1           (2)     Individuals 12 years of age and younger shall have one-on-one adult supervision when on the firing  
2                   line.

3     (f) Violation of a provision of this Section or RSO instruction shall be grounds for removal from the range facility.

4

5     History Note:     Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;

1 15A NCAC 10E .0203 is proposed for adoption as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10E .0203 RANGE REQUIREMENTS**

4 **(a) Firearms.**

- 5 (1) Firearms shall not be carried into the range facility office.
- 6 (2) Firearms shall be cased during transport to and from the firing line.
- 7 (3) Firearms shall remain unloaded until on the firing line and the range is hot.
- 8 (4) Concealed carry of firearms is prohibited.
- 9 (5) Firearms shall not be loaded, handled, or fired when the range is cold.
- 10 (6) Fully automatic and automatic simulated firearms are prohibited.
- 11 (7) Firearms shall not be pointed at a person.
- 12 (8) Firearms shall be pointed downrange at all times.

13 **(b) Archery Equipment.**

- 14 (1) Arrows shall remain unnoocked until individuals are on the firing line and the range is hot.
- 15 (2) Broadhead tips are prohibited.
- 16 (3) Sky drawing is prohibited.
- 17 (4) Firearms are prohibited on the practice archery and 3D archery range.
- 18 (5) Individuals using the 3D archery range shall wear a blaze orange vest.

19 **(c) Trap and Skeet.**

- 20 (1) Shot other than size 7.5, 8, or 9 is prohibited.
- 21 (2) Muzzle velocity greater than 1300 feet per second is prohibited.
- 22 (3) The firearm's action shall be open and the firearm shall be unloaded when moving between stations.

23 **(d) Ammunition.**

- 24 (1) Individuals shall use the correct ammunition for their firearms.
- 25 (2) Individuals shall collect their spent cartridges, paper targets, trash, litter, and personal items before  
26 leaving the shooting range.
- 27 (3) The following types of ammunition are prohibited:
  - 28 (A) tracer;
  - 29 (B) incendiary;
  - 30 (C) armor-piercing;
  - 31 (D) steel core; and
  - 32 (E) other types deemed unsafe by the RSO.

33 **(e) Targets.**

- 34 (1) Individuals shall supply their own paper targets.
- 35 (2) Target stands provided by the Commission shall be used.
- 36 (3) Steel targets are prohibited, unless provided by the Commission.
- 37 (4) Glass targets are prohibited.

1           (5)     Intentionally shooting into target stands, posts, or other permanent structures is prohibited.

2           (6)     Shooting a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off the  
3                     range is prohibited.

4

5     History Note:     Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;

# EXHIBIT G-2

June 18, 2026



## Fiscal Note for 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Rule Proposals Wildlife Resources Commission – Wildlife Education

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE  
15A NCAC 10M .0101 SHOOTING RANGES

**Agency Contact:** William Casola  
Policy Analyst  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission  
1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606  
(919) 707-0125  
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov

**Fiscal Impact:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: No  
Private Impact: Minimal  
Substantial Economic Impact: No

**Authority:** G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-270.3; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-305; 113-306; 143-318.10

## **BACKGROUND**

The wildlife resources of the State belong to the people of the State as a whole, including the enjoyment of these resources (G.S. 113-131(a)). The Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) is tasked with the conservation of wildlife resources of the State (G.S. 143-239). This responsibility includes managing as equitably as possible the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. 113-131.1(a)). The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. 113-134).

As part of its mission, the WRC conducts an annual review of its inland fishing, wildlife, and game land regulations to determine whether the rules need to be adjusted in order to accomplish the objectives of managing wildlife resources or Commission property through a biologically sustainable harvest consistent with sound conservation objectives; managing WRC-owned land for the conservation of wildlife resources, and the enjoyment of the public; and implementing legislative directives.

A summary of the proposed rule amendments is shown below along with accompanying rule text. The proposed changes update rules for shooting ranges and are intended to help ensure safe and consistent regulation of these facilities. Figure 1 provides a statewide map of the ten WRC shooting range locations. The six ranges with green boxes (Cold Mountain, Caswell, Flintlock Lentz, Wake, and Odom) fall under the scope of this regulatory update because they are either owned or managed by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

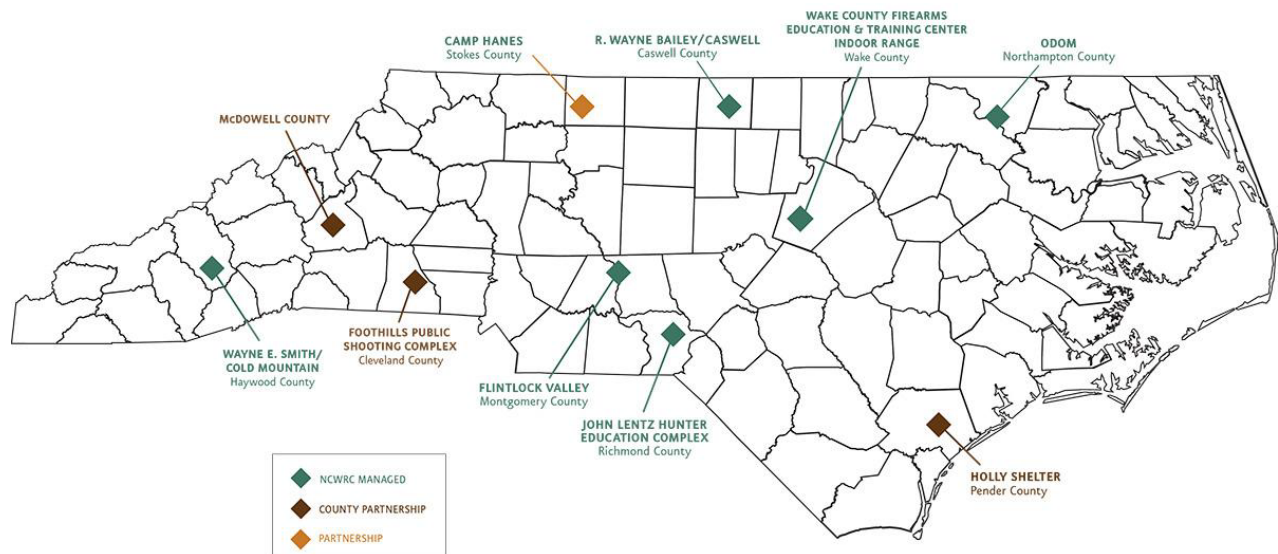


Figure 1. Map of WRC shooting range locations.

**15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE**  
**15A NCAC 10M .0101 SHOOTING RANGES**

The proposed amendments remove the shooting range rules from the Game Lands portion of the NCAC (15A NCAC 10D .0102) and codify specific rules for agency owned and managed shooting ranges in a new subchapter (10M). The proposed rule includes definitions, general restrictions for all visitors, specific regulations for firearm handling, archery equipment standards, trap and skeet range rules, ammunition standards, target requirements, and provisions for staff to maintain a safe environment.

The standards and restrictions established by the proposed rule reflect longstanding standards established by the Wildlife Education Division for the safe operation of shooting range facilities. Many of these standards and restrictions are outlined in the range waiver and discussed in the mandatory safety briefing; however, they were not previously established in rule, making enforcement difficult.

Additionally, the current shooting range rules are outdated when compared to the current standards and do not address many of the issues staff are facing at the facilities, including unruly patrons and unsafe firearms handling. Codifying new rules for shooting ranges will improve range safety for both staff and the public and improve the ability of law enforcement to handle patrons who fail to comply with agency safety standards.

Table 1 summarizes the major areas where the proposed rule provides greater specificity, structure, and enforceability compared to the broader requirements in the current rule. Note that although the new rule includes more detailed and prescriptive requirements, many of these provisions reflect longstanding safety practices already implemented through range waivers and mandatory safety briefings. Codifying these requirements in rule primarily enhances clarity and enforceability rather than creating new obligations for users in practice.

Table 1: Comparison of current and proposed shooting range provisions

	<b>Current 10D .0102</b>	<b>New 10M .0101</b>
<b>Purpose &amp; Scope</b>	Minimal guidance; general prohibitions; applies as part of overall game-land use.	Comprehensive framework for all WRC-owned/managed shooting range facilities, including indoor/outdoor ranges and operational areas.
<b>Definitions</b>	No definitions specific to shooting ranges.	Nine new defined terms.

	<b>Current 10D .0102</b>	<b>New 10M .0101</b>
<b>Safety Gear</b>	No explicit PPE requirements.	Mandatory eye protection, ear protection, and closed-toe shoes.
<b>Conduct</b>	General prohibition on careless/reckless handling, leaving debris, and consuming alcohol.	Detailed conduct rules: no harassment, no eating/drinking on firing line, no smoking/vaping except designated areas, no alcohol, no intoxication.
<b>Range Access Procedures</b>	No process described.	Requires sign-in with RSO, safety briefing, and completion of detailed waiver to obtain a Range Pass valid for one year.
<b>Firearm Handling</b>	Prohibits reckless handling, shooting off-range, or handling while impaired.	Adds extensive rules: firearms must be cased during transport, cannot be carried into office, must remain unloaded until range is hot, concealed carry prohibited, fully automatic/simulated automatic firearms banned, muzzle direction rules clarified.
<b>Archery</b>	Only generally addressed as “safe use of bow and arrow.”	Detailed requirements: arrows unnocked until hot range; broadheads prohibited; sky drawing prohibited; blaze orange required on 3D range; firearms prohibited on archery ranges.
<b>Trap &amp; Skeet</b>	Not addressed.	Sets shot size limits (7.5, 8, 9), muzzle velocity limit (1300 fps), and requires open/unloaded action when changing stations.
<b>Ammunition</b>	Only prohibits shooting glass and leaving debris; no ammunition specifications.	Explicitly prohibits tracer, incendiary, armor-piercing, steel core, and any ammo deemed unsafe by RSO; requires shooters to pick up spent cartridges/litter.
<b>Targets</b>	Prohibits glass targets and shooting into structures; general debris rules.	Adds: must use paper targets; must use WRC-provided stands; steel targets prohibited unless provided; prohibits shooting into posts/structures; reiterates off-range projectile restrictions.

	<b>Current 10D .0102</b>	<b>New 10M .0101</b>
<b>Age Restrictions</b>	No specific age requirements.	Under 18 must have adult present; under 12 require one-on-one supervision.
<b>Enforcement</b>	Violators must leave if directed, but standards are general and harder to enforce.	Any violation of rules or RSO instructions is explicit grounds for removal.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

The proposed rule codifies the standards and policies already used by shooting range staff. The proposed rule is anticipated to make enforcement of these policies easier and specify in rule cause for removal of uncompliant patrons from the shooting range facility.

Range signage and staff training currently reflect the established standards and are congruent with the proposed rule. No new signage or training will be required to implement the proposed rule.

*Local Impact*

The proposed amendments have no anticipated local government impact.

*Private Impact*

The impact on private individuals who use the shooting ranges is minimal and generally positive. The proposed rule primarily formalizes existing expectations already communicated via waivers and safety briefings. Users who already comply with range policies will experience no new burdens. For new users, costs for required safety gear are minimal because these items are commonly already owned by shooting sports participants, and WRC maintains loaner vests and protective equipment for those who need them. The proposed age-based requirements are consistent with federal and state firearm laws, and the one-on-one supervision for children under 12 helps ensure safe firearm handling due to the weight of firearms and the importance of maintaining proper muzzle direction. There is no cost to obtain the required Range Pass. Increased clarity reduces ambiguity regarding acceptable conduct, age requirements, ammunition restrictions, and safety protocols. As such, public safety will be enhanced through having clearer, more enforceable standards.

Summary

The proposed rule modernizes and expands the existing shooting range requirements by clarifying expectations, specifying safety and operational standards, and strengthening

enforceability across WRC facilities. This should result in improved consistency and safety without creating new fiscal impacts or imposing significant additional obligations beyond those inherent in the current broad requirements.

1 15A NCAC 10D .0102 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE**

4 (a) For purposes of this Subchapter, the following definitions apply:

- 5 (1) "Permanent Hunting Blind" means a structure that is used for hunter concealment, constructed from  
6 manmade or natural materials, and that is not disassembled and removed at the end of the day's hunt.  
7 (2) "Target shooting" means the discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or  
8 self-defense.  
9 (3) "Youth" means individuals under 16 years of age.

10 (b) Trespass. Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the  
11 landowner. The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified the following areas on game lands that have additional  
12 restrictions on entry or usage:

- 13 (1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to archery  
14 equipment and falconry. During the open deer seasons for these areas, antlered and antlerless deer  
15 may be taken.  
16 (2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person  
17 shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on a  
18 game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.  
19 (3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use  
20 of centerfire rifles is prohibited.  
21 (4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to use by the public,  
22 and entry on these areas is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources  
23 Commission. The Commission may authorize entry when the primary purpose for the Restricted  
24 Zone shall not be compromised and the persons requesting entry demonstrate a valid need, or official  
25 business of the Commission is being conducted by a contractor or agent of the Commission. Valid  
26 needs may include access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to  
27 conduct activities in the public interest.  
28 (5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are  
29 closed to use by the public, and entry is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife  
30 Resources Commission. An area of a game land shall be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone  
31 when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public.  
32 (6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge  
33 of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.  
34 (7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting  
35 Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S.  
36 113-264(d).

1 (8) Day Use Only Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" the use by the  
2 public shall be prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

3 (9) Sensitive Habitat Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Sensitive Habitat Zones" are closed to  
4 use by the public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry is prohibited without written  
5 approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission by calling 919-707-0150 and requesting a  
6 permit.

7 The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing  
8 the following zones: archery, restricted firearms, restricted deer hunting, day use only, or sensitive habitat. After the  
9 input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final determination.

10 (c) Littering. No person shall deposit litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse on any game land except in receptacles  
11 provided for disposal of refuse at designated camping and target-shooting areas. No garbage dumps or sanitary  
12 landfills shall be established on a game land by a person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality, except as  
13 permitted by the landowner.

14 (d) Use of weapons. No person shall discharge:

15 (1) a weapon within 150 yards of a game land building or designated game land camping area, except  
16 where posted otherwise;

17 (2) a weapon within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to game lands, except on Butner-  
18 Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and

19 (3) a firearm within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan  
20 Game Lands.

21 No person shall hunt with or have in possession a shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on a posted  
22 waterfowl impoundment on a game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer  
23 hunting. Individuals carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-415.11, even  
24 if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan, Kerr Scott,  
25 and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other  
26 weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is  
27 incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document may be accessed at  
28 [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov) at no cost. On Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hycos, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee  
29 River Game Land north of U.S. 74; and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of  
30 U.S. 158 and east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days  
31 for game birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:

32 (1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length  
33 and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;

34 (2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;

35 (3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or

36 (4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

37 (e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

1 (1) Except as provided in Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph, a person entering a game land to hunt,  
2 trap, run dogs, or train dogs using wildlife shall have in his or her possession a valid North Carolina  
3 hunting or trapping license.

4 (2) For Commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114, in  
5 a field trial using wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license, except non-residents may  
6 substitute hunting licenses from their state(s) of residence.

7 (3) For other field trials using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall  
8 possess a North Carolina hunting license.

9 (4) Exceptions:

10 (A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his parent or legal  
11 guardian;

12 (B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103 (j)(1) of this Section, the game lands license is  
13 required for hunting doves; other activities are subject to the control of the landowners.

14 (f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. An individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial  
15 area shall file an application with the Commission to use the area with the facility use fee computed at the rate of three  
16 hundred dollars (\$300.00) for each scheduled day of the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from  
17 12:00 noon of the day preceding the first scheduled day of the trial to 10:00 a.m. of the day following the last scheduled  
18 day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for all intermediate days on which trials are not run but the building  
19 or facilities are used or occupied. A fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day shall be charged to sporting,  
20 educational, or scouting groups for scheduled events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or  
21 other entity shall enter or use the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area or the Laurinburg Fox  
22 Trial facility without written approval from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission, and no entry  
23 or use of a facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The Sandhills Field Trial facilities  
24 shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources Commission. No more than  
25 20 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during a calendar month, and no  
26 more than five days may be scheduled during a calendar week. A field trial requiring more than five days may be  
27 scheduled during one week with reduction of the maximum number of days allowable during some other week so that  
28 the monthly maximum of 20 days is not exceeded. Before October 1 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial  
29 Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities between the Wednesday on or nearest October  
30 18 and the second Friday before Thanksgiving and between the first Monday following Thanksgiving and March 31  
31 shall submit its proposed schedule of use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for consideration and approval. The  
32 use of the Sandhills Field Trial facilities by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills  
33 Game Lands dogs may be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1.  
34 Dogs may not be trained or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on game lands located west  
35 of I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be  
36 trained or permitted to run unleashed from March 15 through June 15 on game lands located east of I-95, except when  
37 participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Additionally, on game lands located

1 west of I-95 where special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs  
2 may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts.  
3 A field trial shall be authorized when the field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the game land or  
4 field trial facilities, and the applying organization demonstrates their experience and expertise in conducting genuine  
5 field trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be granted  
6 when they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do not  
7 conflict with the mission of the agency.

8 (g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0300, trapping of furbearing animals,  
9 armadillos, coyotes, and groundhogs is permitted on game lands during the open trapping seasons for those areas,  
10 established by rule. Foxes may be trapped on game lands from October 1 through the end of February in a county with  
11 an open fox trapping season that falls between October 1 and the end of February. Foxes may not be taken by trapping  
12 on game lands in counties with a closed fox trapping season or during a fox trapping season that occurs outside the  
13 dates of October 1 through the end of February. Additionally, fox trapping is allowed on game lands in Clay, Graham,  
14 Henderson, Macon, and Tyrrell counties with a daily bag limit of two and a season bag limit of 10 from the first to the  
15 fourth Saturday in January. Trapping is prohibited:

- 16 (1) on the J Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of Sandhills Game Land;
- 17 (2) in posted "safety zones" located on a game land;
- 18 (3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south,  
19 US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;
- 20 (4) on the DuPont State Forest Game Lands; and
- 21 (5) from April 1 through September 31.

22 At a trap, trappers may use a single bait site of grain, fruit, or other foods when trapping if the food is not a processed  
23 food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), is less than 3 cubic inches and is covered to prevent it from being seen  
24 from above. Feathers, including those with attached skin or entire bird wings, hair with or without skin or hide, and  
25 bones that include no attached meat, organs, or viscera do not need to be covered.

26 (h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on a game land except on roads constructed,  
27 maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and on trails posted for vehicular travel, unless the person:

- 28 (1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land;  
29 or
- 30 (2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (l) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program  
31 Permit as described in Paragraph (l) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph  
32 (k).

33 (i) Camping.

- 34 (1) No person shall camp on a game land except on an area posted by the landowner for camping.
- 35 (2) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources  
36 Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at a  
37 designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period, unless otherwise specified in rules of

1 this Subchapter. After 14 consecutive days of camping, personal belongings shall be removed from  
2 the game land.

- 3 (3) A hunting, fishing, trapping or Game Lands License is required for individuals age 16 or older to  
4 camp on game lands in areas posted for camping except when camping within 100 yards of the  
5 Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land, within 100  
6 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the game land west of NC-43, and in posted areas along  
7 the Mountains-to-Sea Trail on Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land.

8 (j) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds,  
9 domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or  
10 feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild fish  
11 from one stream to another on game lands without written authorization. Written authorization shall be given when  
12 release of animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native wildlife in  
13 the area and is in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

14 (k) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use  
15 on game lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (l) of this  
16 Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from this restriction but shall  
17 comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans with  
18 Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 126) may use wheelchairs or other all-terrain wheelchairs on areas where foot travel is  
19 allowed. Off road vehicles including ATVs, UTVs, and ebikes are not permitted.

20 (l) Disabled Access Program. Disabled individuals who meet the requirements of G.S. 113-296 may obtain a Disabled  
21 Access Permit and Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification online at [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org). The Disabled Access Permit allows  
22 individuals to operate electric wheel chairs, all-terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-  
23 maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads  
24 otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands  
25 whose owners have agreed to that use. Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated  
26 online, at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths, or  
27 trails planted for wildlife food or cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each qualified  
28 disabled person, may accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is constantly in  
29 visual or verbal contact with the disabled person. The companion may participate in lawful activities while assisting  
30 a disabled person, provided license requirements are met. A vehicle used by a qualified disabled person for access to  
31 game lands under this provision shall have the Disabled Access Permit available for inspection by wildlife  
32 enforcement officers upon request. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their companions  
33 may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit hunting days on  
34 a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land. It is unlawful for  
35 anyone other than disabled persons holding a Disabled Access Permit, during waterfowl season, to hunt within 100  
36 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the Wildlife Resources Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind.

1 The Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification allows individuals to apply for available Disabled sportsman permit  
2 hunting opportunities as prescribed in G.S. 113-296.

3 (m) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on game lands, including land or water.  
4 For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque  
5 covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while  
6 in a public place.

7 ~~(n) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting  
8 ranges for purposes other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for  
9 other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. Other uses, including camping, building fires, operating  
10 concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, unless  
11 written authorization is obtained from the Commission. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit  
12 debris or refuse on the grounds of the range. This includes items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the  
13 range, by the shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot items made of glass on the  
14 grounds of the range. No person may leave a vehicle or other obstruction in a location or position that it will prevent,  
15 impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave a vehicle or other  
16 object parked in a place on the shooting range other than the place or zone that is designated and posted or marked as  
17 an authorized parking zone. No person shall handle firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting range in a careless or  
18 reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other permanent fixture or structure  
19 while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore  
20 projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller may be allowed to travel from the  
21 range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to a person. Persons using a shooting range shall obey posted range safety  
22 rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public safety hazard shall leave the shooting range  
23 if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission employees. No person shall handle firearms on  
24 a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic  
25 beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours of operation shall be designated on signs and at  
26 least one sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting range. No person, when using a shooting range, shall do  
27 an act that is prohibited or neglect to do an act that is required by signs or markings placed on the area under authority  
28 of this Rule for regulating the use of the area.~~

29 ~~(o)(n)~~ Limited-access Roads. During the months of June, July, and August, roads posted as "Limited-access Roads"  
30 are open to motorized vehicles from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. These roads shall be posted with the opening and closing  
31 times.

32 ~~(p)(o)~~ No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of a bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other  
33 part thereof, or possess a bird or animal that has been so mutilated.

34 ~~(q)(p)~~ Baiting. Except as provided in Paragraph (g) of this Rule, no person shall place, or cause to be placed on a  
35 game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without written authorization from an agent of the Commission. Written  
36 authorization may be provided for Commission authorized projects or Commission contractors to meet specific

1 objectives. Except as authorized by rule, no person shall take or attempt to take wild birds or wild animals attracted to  
2 these foods.

3 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-270.3; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-305; 113-306;*  
4 *143-318.10;*  
5 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
6 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; April 1, 1992;*  
7 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 1993;*  
8 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;*  
9 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
10 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
11 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 31, 2001;*  
12 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002;*  
13 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004; (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
14 *2003);*  
15 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; June 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May*  
16 *1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; November 1, 2005;*  
17 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2014;*  
18 *Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; August 1, 2022; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2017;*  
19 *August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
20 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;*  
21 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2025; November 1, 2023.*  
22

1 15A NCAC 10M .0101 is proposed for adoption as follows:  
2

3 **15A NCAC 10M .0101 SHOOTING RANGES**

4 (a) The following definitions shall apply to the Rules in the Section:

- 5 (1) “Downrange” is the area located forward of the firing line extending in the direction where firearms  
6 or archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, may be safely aimed and discharged.  
7 (2) “Firing Line” is the designated area on the shooting range where individuals are authorized to fire  
8 firearms and archery equipment under supervision of the Range Safety Officer.  
9 (3) “Range is cold” means that live firing is prohibited and firearms and archery equipment shall not be  
10 loaded, handled, or fired.  
11 (4) “Range is hot” means that live firing is authorized.  
12 (5) “Range Safety Officer” or “RSO” is a designated Commission employee or volunteer responsible  
13 for ensuring that activities conducted on the shooting range safe and compliant with established  
14 rules and procedures.  
15 (6) “Range Pass” is a card issued to an individual who has provided identification and attended a range  
16 safety briefing. A range pass is valid one year from issuance.  
17 (7) “Shooting range” or “range” means the area designed for use of firearms or archery equipment.  
18 (8) “Shooting range facility” or “range facility” means the shooting range and associated operational  
19 areas, including indoor and outdoor shooting ranges, backstops, berms, parking areas, offices,  
20 restrooms, and ingress and egress roadways.  
21 (9) “Sky drawing” is the action of pointing archery equipment into the air and drawing the string, rather  
22 than aiming the equipment downrange.

23 (b) Shooting range facilities owned and managed by the Commission are for trap shooting, skeet shooting, five-stand  
24 shooting, rifle shooting, pistol shooting, practice archery, and 3D archery. Non-specified use of range facilities is  
25 prohibited unless approved, in writing, by the Commission.

26 (c) Individuals using shooting range facilities shall:

- 27 (1) adhere to posted signs and verbal Range Safety Officer (RSO) instruction;  
28 (2) wear eye protection; and  
29 (3) wear ear protection on the firearm firing line.

30 (d) General Restrictions. The following shall be prohibited at shooting range facilities:

- 31 (1) open-toed shoes;  
32 (2) individuals under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-4.01(14a);  
33 (3) alcohol or alcoholic beverages;  
34 (4) smoking, vaping, or use of tobacco or nicotine products, except in designated smoking areas;  
35 (5) eating or drinking while on the firing line;  
36 (6) harassment or intimidating behavior toward staff or other guests;  
37 (7) parking vehicles outside of designated parking areas; and

1           (8)     animals other than service dogs.

2     (e) Prior to entering the shooting range, individuals participating in shooting sports shall complete the following steps  
3     to receive a Range Pass:

4           (1)     sign-in with the RSO;

5           (2)     attend a safety briefing; and

6           (3)     complete a range waiver by providing the following information:

7                   (A)     first and last name;

8                   (B)     age and age certification;

9                   (C)     ethnicity;

10                  (D)     gender;

11                  (E)     zip code;

12                  (F)     email address;

13                  (G)     shooting range facility location;

14                  (H)     range selection;

15                  (I)     NCWRC license status;

16                  (J)     attestation of the Risk, Release, and Indemnity Agreement; and

17                  (K)     electronic signature.

18     (f) Firearms.

19           (1)     Firearms shall not be carried into the range office.

20           (2)     Firearms shall be cased during transport to and from the firing line.

21           (3)     Firearms shall remain unloaded until on the firing line and the range is hot.

22           (4)     Concealed carry of firearms is prohibited.

23           (5)     Firearms shall not be loaded, handled, or fired when the range is cold.

24           (6)     Fully automatic and automatic simulated firearms are prohibited.

25           (7)     Firearms shall not be pointed at a person.

26           (8)     Firearms shall be pointed downrange at all times.

27     (g) Archery Equipment.

28           (1)     Arrows shall remain unnocked until individuals are on the firing line and the range is hot.

29           (2)     Broadhead tips are prohibited.

30           (3)     Sky drawing is prohibited.

31           (4)     Firearms are prohibited on the practice archery and 3D archery range.

32           (5)     Individuals using the 3D archery range shall wear a blaze orange vest.

33     (h) Trap and Skeet.

34           (1)     Shot other than size 7.5, 8, or 9 is prohibited.

35           (2)     Muzzle velocity greater than 1300 feet per second is prohibited.

36           (3)     The firearm's action shall be open and the firearm shall be unloaded when moving between stations.

37     (i) Ammunition.

- 1           (1)     Individuals shall use the correct ammunition for their firearms.
- 2           (2)     Individuals shall collect their spent cartridges, paper targets, trash, litter, and personal items before
- 3                     leaving the shooting range.
- 4           (3)     The following types of ammunition are prohibited:
- 5                     (A)     tracer;
- 6                     (B)     incendiary;
- 7                     (C)     armor-piercing;
- 8                     (D)     steel core; and
- 9                     (E)     other types deemed unsafe by the RSO.

10 (j) Targets.

- 11           (1)     Individuals shall supply their own paper targets.
- 12           (2)     Target stands provided by the Commission shall be used.
- 13           (3)     Steel targets are prohibited, unless provided by the Commission.
- 14           (4)     Glass targets are prohibited.
- 15           (5)     Intentionally shooting into target stands, posts, or other permanent structures is prohibited.
- 16           (6)     Shooting a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off the
- 17                     range is prohibited.

18 (k) Age Restrictions.

- 19           (1)     Individuals under 18 years of age shall be accompanied by an adult when on the firing line.
- 20           (2)     Individuals 12 years of age and younger shall have one-on-one adult supervision when on the firing
- 21                     line.

22 (l) Violation of a provision of this Rule or RSO instruction shall be grounds for removal from the range facility.

23  
24  
25  
26  
27

# EXHIBIT H-1

June 18, 2026



## **Proposed Amendments to Endangered, Threatened, & Special Concern Species Rules for the 2027-2028 Annual Rulemaking Cycle Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearings**

### **ESA1. Endangered, Threatened & Special Concern Species– Species Parts and Transfer**

*15A NCAC 101 .0102 PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES*

#### EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE

Specify that Endangered Species Permits are required for species parts (e.g., tail clip, bodily fluids, etc.) and specify that additional permits or authorizations are required for transfer of animals or their parts.

#### JUSTIFICATION

The agency issues Endangered Species Permits for research that sometimes only requires a part of an animal. Current rule language could be interpreted to allow the unrestricted transfer of species parts to and among individuals without appropriate permits. The proposed change closes this loophole and allows for additional oversight and control of these species and their parts and prevents transfer and movement to individuals that are not permitted.

1 15A NCAC 10I .0102 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10I .0102 PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN**  
4 **SPECIES**

5 (a) There is no open season for taking the species listed in Rules .0103, .0104, or .0105 of this Section, except for the  
6 American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) as set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0224.

7 (b) Except as provided in Paragraphs (d) and (h) of this Rule, there is no purchase, sale, or take of the species listed  
8 in Rules .0103, .0104, or .0105 of this Section.

9 (c) Take of federally listed endangered and threatened fish and wildlife species requires a federal permit, as specified  
10 in 50 C.F.R Chapter 1, Subchapter B, hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and  
11 additions, and a state endangered species permit, as specified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule. 50 C.F.R. is available free  
12 of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).

13 (d) The Executive Director or his or her designee may issue endangered species permits to take, possess, sell,  
14 propagate, transport, import, export, transfer, barter, trade, or stock federally and state listed endangered, threatened,  
15 or special concern ~~species~~ species or their parts to:

- 16 (1) an individual or institution conducting a scientific investigation for the perpetuation, restoration, or  
17 management of a species;
- 18 (2) a public or private educator or exhibitor who demonstrates that he or she has lawfully obtained the  
19 specimens in his or her possession, possesses the equipment and expertise to care for the specimens,  
20 and abides by applicable caging requirements for the species set forth in 15A NCAC 10H .1404;
- 21 (3) a person who lawfully possessed the species for 90 days immediately prior to the date that the  
22 species was listed and who abides by applicable caging requirements for the species set forth in 15A  
23 NCAC 10H .1404;
- 24 (4) a person with demonstrable depredation from a Special Concern Species, or American alligator  
25 (*Alligator mississippiensis*);
- 26 (5) a licensed falconer who meets the requirements of the rules in 15A NCAC 10H .0800;
- 27 (6) a retail or wholesale establishment whose primary function is providing scientific supplies, provided  
28 that:
- 29 (A) the specimens were lawfully obtained from captive populations or wild populations outside  
30 of North Carolina;
- 31 (B) the specimens are possessed in indoor facilities; and
- 32 (C) safeguards are provided during transportation to prevent accidental escape of the  
33 specimens.
- 34 (7) state and federal government agencies, corporate research entities, and research institutions within  
35 North Carolina provided that:
- 36 (A) the specimens are possessed in indoor facilities;

37 (B) safeguards are provided during transportation to prevent accidental escape of the  
38 specimens; and

39 (C) the agency's or institution's Animal Care and Use Committee has approved the research  
40 protocol for the species.

41 (e) Additional permits or authorizations from the Commission shall be required for importation, exportation,  
42 propagation, transfer, transportation, stocking, and release of endangered, threatened, or special concern species or  
43 their parts. ~~species.~~

44 (f) An individual may apply for an endangered species permit online at [www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com](http://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com) by  
45 providing the following information:

- 46 (1) name, address, phone number, and email of the applicant;
- 47 (2) applicant's affiliation, if applicable;
- 48 (3) species name and quantity;
- 49 (4) proposed activities;
- 50 (5) map with specific location of activities identified, if applicable;
- 51 (6) the source of the specimens and documentation of lawful acquisition;
- 52 (7) caging or confinement plans for specimens, if applicable;
- 53 (8) qualifications and explanation of experience for anyone working with the species;
- 54 (9) research proposal, if applicable;
- 55 (10) proof that federal permits have been applied for or obtained, if applicable;
- 56 (11) plans for care of specimens and copy of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee permit, if  
57 applicable; and
- 58 (12) plans for final disposition of specimens.

59 (g) Endangered species permits shall not be transferrable by license holder or by site.

60 (h) The species listed in Rules .0103, .0104, and .0105 of this Section may be taken or possessed without a permit  
61 when:

- 62 (1) an individual takes the species in defense of his or her own life or the lives of others, as described  
63 in 15A NCAC 10B .0106.
- 64 (2) an individual has obtained a permit to take an American alligator in accordance with 15A NCAC  
65 10B .0224.
- 66 (3) an individual possesses meat or other parts of American alligators that have been lawfully taken,  
67 possessed, or bought in a state where there is an open season for harvesting alligators and the  
68 products are marketed in packages or containers that are labeled to indicate the state in which the  
69 animals were taken and the identity, address, and lawful authority of the processor or distributor.
- 70 (4) an individual is taking or harassing a red wolf (*Canis rufus*) pursuant to the conditions in 50 C.F.R.  
71 17.84(c), hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions,  
72 available free of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).

73 (5) an individual who meets the requirements of G.S. 113-261, who, when acting in the course of his or  
74 her official duties, takes, possesses, or transports endangered, threatened, or special concern species  
75 if the action is necessary to:

- 76 (A) aid a sick, injured, diseased, or orphaned specimen;
- 77 (B) dispose of a dead specimen;
- 78 (C) salvage a dead specimen that may be useful for scientific study; or
- 79 (D) remove specimens that constitute a demonstrable but nonimmediate threat to human safety  
80 and release the specimen unharmed, in a habitat that is suitable for survival.

81 (i) Take, possession, sale, propagation, transportation, importation, exportation, transfer, barter, trade, or stocking of  
82 endangered, threatened, or special concern species under Paragraphs (d) and (h) of this Rule is subject to federal  
83 reporting requirements, and reporting requirements of the endangered species permit.

84  
85 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.3; 113-292; 113-333; 113-337;*  
86 *Eff. June 11, 1977;*  
87 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; May 1, 2009; April 1, 2003; April 1, 2001; April*  
88 *1, 1997; February 1, 1994; September 1, 1989; March 1, 1981; March 17, 1978.*  
89 *Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;*  
90 *Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; July 1, 2016;*  
91 *Readopted Eff. October 1, 2024.*  
92 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2025; November 1, 2023.*

# EXHIBIT H-2

June 18, 2026



## **Wildlife Resources Commission Fiscal Note for Proposed Rule Amendments to Endangered/Threatened/Special Concern Species**

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10I .0102 PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES

**Agency Contact:** William Casola  
Policy Analyst  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission  
1751 Varsity Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
(919) 707-0125  
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov

**Fiscal Impact:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: No  
Private Impact: Yes  
Substantial Economic Impact: No

**Authority:** G.S. 113-134; 113-333

## **BACKGROUND**

The wildlife resources of North Carolina belong to the public (G.S. 113-131(a)) and the Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) is the agency tasked with the conservation of these resources (G.S. 143-239). This responsibility includes managing, as equitably as possible, the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. 113-131.1(a)). The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. 113-134).

As part of its mission, WRC adopts rules for the protection of endangered, threatened, and special concern species and rules containing an endangered species list, a threatened species list and a list of special concern species, as required by G.S. 113-333. Lists are amended from time to time, in response to public proposals or as the Commission deems necessary. The WRC conducts investigations of its wild animals, as defined in G.S. 113-331, to determine whether the state listings need to be adjusted to accomplish the objectives of managing wildlife resources through sound conservation. The WRC also adopts and implements conservation programs for endangered, threatened and special concern species to limit, regulate, or prevent the taking, collection, or sale of protected species (G.S. 113-333). The management goal with any state listing is to ensure the stability of a species for long term viability. The permitting process ensures that species are protected, while allowing for reasonable, desirable, and permissible take and possession of these species.

The process for updating the state listing is a multi-year, transparent process defined by science-based decision making. Per G.S. 113-335, the Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee (NWAC) is the panel of experts from scientific disciplines who review scientific evidence and submit their state-listing recommendations to the Commission. The Commission is required by G.S. 113-334 to consider the recommendations while examining relevant data and factual information. The proposed changes to the state listings are based on actual data and the status of each species population as proposed by the North Carolina Species Assessment Tool and detailed in the Wildlife Action Plan (<https://www.ncwildlife.gov/state-wildlife-action-plan>).

## Proposed Amendments

Proposed amendments to 15A NCAC 10I .0102 specify that Endangered Species Permits are required for species parts (e.g., tail clip, bodily fluids, etc.) and specify that additional permits or authorizations are required for transfer of animals or their parts.

The agency issues Endangered Species Permits for research that sometimes only requires a part of an animal, for example a tail clip or fish scale. Current Rule language could be interpreted to allow unrestricted movement of species parts between individuals. The proposed change closes this loophole and allows for additional oversight and control of these animals and prevents transfer and movement to entities who are not permitted.

## Fiscal Impact

### *State Impact*

The proposed amendments to 10I .0102 are expected to have minimal economic impact on the state. Under the current rule, any individual who wishes to collect a nongame species for research purposes is required to obtain a collection license. Collection of a listed species also requires an endangered species permit. The agency's Regulated Activities and Permits Section currently processes and issues Endangered Species (ES) Permits with assistance from biologists. Approximately 100 ES Permits are issued annually<sup>1</sup>. The proposed amendments have the potential to add a minor administrative burden on the agency in the form of additional permit paperwork and review. Because transfers of listed species or their parts have not been explicitly permitted before, the agency cannot precisely estimate how many additional ES permit applications may result from these amendments. However, based on staff experience, the WRC believes that misinterpretation of the existing rule is infrequent and that very few entities have been transferring listed species parts without appropriate authorization. Accordingly, the agency anticipates between zero and fewer than 10 additional permit applications per year. At a permit fee of \$13 (effective July 2026), this would generate between \$0 and \$130 in additional annual revenue. Permit application review and long-term tracking of these permit holders will be performed as part of the regular duties of agency staff.

Requiring permits for the movement of animal parts helps the WRC track and control the use, possession, and distribution of species or their parts, enhancing protection for endangered, threatened, and special concern species.

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<sup>1</sup> The WRC issued 110 ES Permits in FY2025 and has issued or received 83 ES Permits/ES Permit Applications for FY2026 as on April 28, 2026.

### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendments have no anticipated local government impact.

### *Private Impact*

The proposed amendments to 10I .0102 are expected to have minimal private impacts. Per G.S. 113-337(a)(1), it is unlawful to take any animal on the protected species list. Because all the proposed species are nongame, the changes are not anticipated to impact hunting, fishing or trapping.

Any qualified private entity who wishes to collect a species on the protected animal list is required to obtain an endangered species permit. There is a \$12 fee (increasing to \$13 in July 2026) for the endangered species permit, but the project scope must be submitted and approved by agency staff and requires that the applicant supply the following information: project description, dates for the project, list of expertise and names of any individuals who will be assisting in collection. Depending on the species, restrictions are often placed on the project to minimize stress to a listed species. Additionally, entities operating under endangered species permits are required to submit their project data annually if they wish to renew their collection permit(s). These data are valuable to the agency and assist in minimizing additional stresses on the species.

The agency issued 110 endangered species permits in FY 2025. Though the agency is unable to predict the exact number of permittees impacted by these changes, impacted entities may incur a minimal cost of \$12 (increasing to \$13 in July 2026) if they did not previously possess a permit. Additionally, the proposed amendments result in a minor increase in administrative burden for individuals holding and/or transferring parts of endangered species; however, this is expected to impact relatively few permit holders. The new language closes a loophole and eliminates ambiguity about when authorization is required. This reduces the risk of unauthorized handling, supporting compliance and reducing the likelihood of unlawful possession or misuse.

1 15A NCAC 10I .0102 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **15A NCAC 10I .0102 PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN**  
4 **SPECIES**

5 (a) There is no open season for taking the species listed in Rules .0103, .0104, or .0105 of this Section, except for the  
6 American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) as set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0224.

7 (b) Except as provided in Paragraphs (d) and (h) of this Rule, there is no purchase, sale, or take of the species listed  
8 in Rules .0103, .0104, or .0105 of this Section.

9 (c) Take of federally listed endangered and threatened fish and wildlife species requires a federal permit, as specified  
10 in 50 C.F.R Chapter 1, Subchapter B, hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and  
11 additions, and a state endangered species permit, as specified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule. 50 C.F.R. is available free  
12 of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).

13 (d) The Executive Director or his or her designee may issue endangered species permits to take, possess, sell,  
14 propagate, transport, import, export, transfer, barter, trade, or stock federally and state listed endangered, threatened,  
15 or special concern ~~species~~ species or their parts to:

- 16 (1) an individual or institution conducting a scientific investigation for the perpetuation, restoration, or  
17 management of a species;
- 18 (2) a public or private educator or exhibitor who demonstrates that he or she has lawfully obtained the  
19 specimens in his or her possession, possesses the equipment and expertise to care for the specimens,  
20 and abides by applicable caging requirements for the species set forth in 15A NCAC 10H .1404;
- 21 (3) a person who lawfully possessed the species for 90 days immediately prior to the date that the  
22 species was listed and who abides by applicable caging requirements for the species set forth in 15A  
23 NCAC 10H .1404;
- 24 (4) a person with demonstrable depredation from a Special Concern Species, or American alligator  
25 (*Alligator mississippiensis*);
- 26 (5) a licensed falconer who meets the requirements of the rules in 15A NCAC 10H .0800;
- 27 (6) a retail or wholesale establishment whose primary function is providing scientific supplies, provided  
28 that:
- 29 (A) the specimens were lawfully obtained from captive populations or wild populations outside  
30 of North Carolina;
- 31 (B) the specimens are possessed in indoor facilities; and
- 32 (C) safeguards are provided during transportation to prevent accidental escape of the  
33 specimens.
- 34 (7) state and federal government agencies, corporate research entities, and research institutions within  
35 North Carolina provided that:
- 36 (A) the specimens are possessed in indoor facilities;

1 (B) safeguards are provided during transportation to prevent accidental escape of the  
2 specimens; and

3 (C) the agency's or institution's Animal Care and Use Committee has approved the research  
4 protocol for the species.

5 (e) Additional permits or authorizations from the Commission shall be required for importation, exportation,  
6 propagation, transfer, transportation, stocking, and release of endangered, threatened, or special concern species or  
7 their parts. ~~species.~~

8 (f) An individual may apply for an endangered species permit online at [www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com](http://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com) by  
9 providing the following information:

- 10 (1) name, address, phone number, and email of the applicant;
- 11 (2) applicant's affiliation, if applicable;
- 12 (3) species name and quantity;
- 13 (4) proposed activities;
- 14 (5) map with specific location of activities identified, if applicable;
- 15 (6) the source of the specimens and documentation of lawful acquisition;
- 16 (7) caging or confinement plans for specimens, if applicable;
- 17 (8) qualifications and explanation of experience for anyone working with the species;
- 18 (9) research proposal, if applicable;
- 19 (10) proof that federal permits have been applied for or obtained, if applicable;
- 20 (11) plans for care of specimens and copy of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee permit, if  
21 applicable; and
- 22 (12) plans for final disposition of specimens.

23 (g) Endangered species permits shall not be transferrable by license holder or by site.

24 (h) The species listed in Rules .0103, .0104, and .0105 of this Section may be taken or possessed without a permit  
25 when:

- 26 (1) an individual takes the species in defense of his or her own life or the lives of others, as described  
27 in 15A NCAC 10B .0106.
- 28 (2) an individual has obtained a permit to take an American alligator in accordance with 15A NCAC  
29 10B .0224.
- 30 (3) an individual possesses meat or other parts of American alligators that have been lawfully taken,  
31 possessed, or bought in a state where there is an open season for harvesting alligators and the  
32 products are marketed in packages or containers that are labeled to indicate the state in which the  
33 animals were taken and the identity, address, and lawful authority of the processor or distributor.
- 34 (4) an individual is taking or harassing a red wolf (*Canis rufus*) pursuant to the conditions in 50 C.F.R.  
35 17.84(c), hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions,  
36 available free of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).

1 (5) an individual who meets the requirements of G.S. 113-261, who, when acting in the course of his or  
2 her official duties, takes, possesses, or transports endangered, threatened, or special concern species  
3 if the action is necessary to:

4 (A) aid a sick, injured, diseased, or orphaned specimen;

5 (B) dispose of a dead specimen;

6 (C) salvage a dead specimen that may be useful for scientific study; or

7 (D) remove specimens that constitute a demonstrable but nonimmediate threat to human safety  
8 and release the specimen unharmed, in a habitat that is suitable for survival.

9 (i) Take, possession, sale, propagation, transportation, importation, exportation, transfer, barter, trade, or stocking of  
10 endangered, threatened, or special concern species under Paragraphs (d) and (h) of this Rule is subject to federal  
11 reporting requirements, and reporting requirements of the endangered species permit.

12  
13 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.3; 113-292; 113-333; 113-337;*

14 *Eff. June 11, 1977;*

15 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; May 1, 2009; April 1, 2003; April 1, 2001; April*  
16 *1, 1997; February 1, 1994; September 1, 1989; March 1, 1981; March 17, 1978.*

17 *Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;*

18 *Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; July 1, 2016;*

19 *Readopted Eff. October 1, 2024.*

20

# EXHIBIT I

June 18, 2026



## **Periodic Rules Review – Final Determinations Recommended by Agency Staff for Approval**

The reports include all agency rules, including joint rules adopted with the Marine Fisheries Commission (15A NCAC 10 .0100 & 15A NCAC 03Q .0100). No comments were received during the open comment period. All rules were found to be necessary and relevant federal regulation citations have been provided.

Agency: Wildlife Resources Commission

*15A NCAC 10A WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION*

*15A NCAC 10B HUNTING AND TRAPPING*

*15A NCAC 10C INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS .0200-.0600*

*15A NCAC 10D GAME LAND REGULATIONS*

*15A NCAC 10E PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS*

*15A NCAC 10F MOTORBOATS AND WATER SAFETY*

*15A NCAC 10G DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF HUNTING: FISHING: AND TRAPPING LICENSE*

*15A NCAC 10H REGULATED ACTIVITIES*

*15A NCAC 10I ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES*

*15A NCAC 10J WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREA REGULATIONS*

*15A NCAC 10K HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE*

Agency: Wildlife Resources Commission & Marine Fisheries Commission

*15A NCAC 10C INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS .0100*

*15A NCAC 03Q JURISDICTION OF AGENCIES: CLASSIFICATION OF WATERS .0100*

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10A, WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND WATER SAFETY**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 10A WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION	SECTION .0400 – PETITIONS FOR RULE	15A NCAC 10A .0401	FORM AND CONTENTS OF PETITION	Readopted Eff. November 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .0402	ACTION ON PETITION	Readopted Eff. November 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .0500 DECLARATORY RULINGS	15A NCAC 10A .0501	WHEN ISSUED	Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .0502	WHEN NOT ISSUED	Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .0503	PROCEDURE	Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1000 WARNING TICKETS	15A NCAC 10A .1001	WARNING TICKETS	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1100 - WAIVER	15 NCAC 10A .1102	EMERGENCY CLOSURES AND WAIVERS	Eff. August 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1200 - EMERGENCY POWERS	15A NCAC 10A .1201	EMERGENCY POWERS	Readopted Eff. November 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1300 – WILDLIFE POACHER REWARD FUND	15A NCAC 10A .1302	OFFENSES AND REWARD AMOUNTS	Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .1303	ELIGIBILITY	Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1400 – INTERSTATE WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT (WVC)	15A NCAC 10A .1401	GENERAL PROVISIONS	Eff. August 1, 2017	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .1402	WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT MANUAL	Eff. August 1, 2017	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .1403	WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT CONDITIONS FOR NON-RESIDENTS	Eff. August 1, 2017	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .1404	WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT CONDITIONS FOR RESIDENTS	Eff. August 1, 2017	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .1405	RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF SUSPENSIONS	Eff. August 1, 2017	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .1406	APPEALS	Eff. August 1, 2017	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1500 - EVIDENCE	15A NCAC 10A .1501	SUMMARY DISPOSITION	Eff. August 1, 2019	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10A .1502	REPLACEMENT COSTS OF WILDLIFE	Eff. December 22, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1600 - WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION FEES	15A NCAC 10A .1601	LICENSE FEES	Amended Eff. May 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10B, HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 10B - HUNTING AND TRAPPING	SECTION .0100 - GENERAL REGULATIONS	15A NCAC 10B .0101	IMPORTATION OF WILD ANIMALS, BIRDS, AND NATIVE REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS	Amended Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0102	IMPORTATION OF GRAY FOXES	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0105	MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 20	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0106	WILDLIFE TAKEN FOR DEPREDATIONS	Amended Eff. November 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0107	BLACK BEAR	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0109	CHASING DEER BY DOGS IN CERTAIN COUNTIES	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0113	BIG GAME HARVEST REPORTING	Amended Eff. September 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0115	SHINING LIGHTS IN DEER AREAS	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0116	PERMITTED ARCHERY EQUIPMENT	Amended Eff. August 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0118	SALE OF WILDLIFE	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0119	WILDLIFE COLLECTORS	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0120	TAKING OF WILDLIFE WITH HANDGUNS	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0121	WILD BIRD EXCEPTIONS	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 10.13	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0122	PROHIBITED HUNTING ON STATE FISH HATCHERIES	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0123	LIMITATIONS ON CERTAIN EXOTIC SPECIES	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0124	IMPORTATION OF ANIMAL PARTS	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0125	RELEASE OF MUTE SWANS	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0126	STATE HUNTING LICENSE EXEMPTIONS	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0127	POSSESSION OF WILDLIFE KILLED ACCIDENTALLY OR FOUND DEAD	Amended Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		SECTION .0200 - HUNTING		15A NCAC 10B .0201	PROHIBITED TAKING AND MANNER OF TAKE	Readopted Eff. June 17, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0202	BEAR			Amended Eff. March 24, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0203	WHITE-TAILED DEER			Amended Eff. June 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0205	RACCOON AND OPOSSUM			Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0206	SQUIRRELS			Amended Eff. August 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0207	RABBITS			Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0208	QUAIL			Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0209	WILD TURKEY			Amended Eff. August 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0210	RUFFED GROUSE			Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0211	RING-NECKED PHEASANT			Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0212	FOXES (GRAY AND RED)			Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0213	GROUNDHOG			Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0214	BOBCAT			Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0215	CROWS			Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 20	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0216	FALCONRY			Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10B .0219	COYOTE	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10B .0220	NUTRIA	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10B, HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10B .0221	STRIPED SKUNK	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0222	ARMADILLO	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0223	FERAL SWINE	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0224	AMERICAN ALLIGATOR	Amended Eff. August 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0225	ELK	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0226	BULLFROGS	Eff. August 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0227	WILD QUAIL MANAGEMENT AREAS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .0300 - TRAPPING</b>	15A NCAC 10B .0301	DEFINITIONS	Amended Eff. March 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0302	PROHIBITED TAKING	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0303	OPEN SEASONS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0304	BAG LIMITS	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0305	TRAPS	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0306	ATTENDANCE AND TAGGING OF TRAPS	Amended Eff. March 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .0400 - TAGGING FURS</b>	15A NCAC 10B .0401	DEFINITIONS	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0402	TAGGING FURS	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0403	APPLICATION FOR TAGS	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0404	TAGGING	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0405	FUR DEALERS	Amended Eff. March 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0406	MISUSE OF TAGS	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0409	SALE OF LIVE FOXES AND COYOTES TO CONTROLLED FOX HUNTING PRESERVES	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .0500 - CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE MANAGEMENT</b>	15A NCAC 10B .0501	DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	Amended Eff. January 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0502	CWD SURVEILLANCE AREAS DEFINED	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10B .0503	SURVEILLANCE AREA	Amended Eff. January 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10C - Section .0100, INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission and Marine Fisheries Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 10C - INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS	SECTION .0100 - JURISDICTION OF AGENCIES: CLASSIFICATION OF WATERS	15A NCAC 10C .0101	SCOPE AND PURPOSE	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0102	INLAND FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0103	COASTAL FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0104	JOINT FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0105	POSTING DIVIDING LINES	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0106	APPLICABILITY OF RULES: JOINT FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0107	SPECIAL REGULATIONS: JOINT FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0108	SPECIFIC CLASSIFICATION OF WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0109	PROTECTION OF SEA TURTLES	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0110	MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ESTUARINE STRIPED BASS IN JOINT FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0111	IMPLEMENTATION OF ESTUARINE STRIPED BASS MANAGEMENT PLANS: RECREATIONAL FISHING	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 03Q - Section .0100, JURISDICTION OF AGENCIES: CLASSIFICATION OF WATERS**

Agency - Marine Fisheries Commission - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 03Q - JURISDICTION OF AGENCIES: CLASSIFICATION OF WATERS	SECTION .0100 - GENERAL REGULATIONS: JOINT	15A NCAC 03Q .0101	SCOPE AND PURPOSE	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 03Q .0102	INLAND FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 03Q .0103	COASTAL FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 03Q .0104	JOINT FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 03Q .0105	POSTING DIVIDING LINES	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 03Q .0106	APPLICABILITY OF RULES: JOINT FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 03Q .0107	SPECIAL REGULATIONS: JOINT FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 03Q .0108	MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ESTUARINE STRIPED BASS IN JOINT FISHING WATERS	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 03Q .0109	IMPLEMENTATION OF ESTUARINE STRIPED BASS MANAGEMENT PLANS: RECREATIONAL FISHING	Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10C - Sections .2000 -.0600, INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps			
SUBCHAPTER 10C - INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS	SECTION .0200 - GENERAL REGULATIONS	15A NCAC 10C .0201	IDENTIFICATION	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0203	RECIPROCAL LICENSE AGREEMENTS	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0205	PUBLIC MOUNTAIN TROUT WATERS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0206	TROT LINES, JUG HOOKS AND SET HOOKS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0208	SPAWNING AREAS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0209	TRANSPORTATION OF LIVE FISH	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0211	POSSESSION OF CERTAIN FISHES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0212	FISH HATCHERIES	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0213	SNAGGING FISH	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0214	FISH COLLECTORS	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0216	STATE INLAND FISHING LICENSE EXEMPTIONS	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0217	PUBLIC ACCESS FOR ANGLERS ONLY	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0218	HARVEST REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	Temporary Adoption Eff. July 5, 2024	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
		SECTION .0300 - GAME FISH IN INLAND FISHING WATERS		15A NCAC 10C .0301	INLAND GAME FISHES DESIGNATED	Amended Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
				15A NCAC 10C .0302	MANNER OF TAKING INLAND GAME FISHES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
				15A NCAC 10C .0304	TAKING AND POSSESSION OF INLAND GAME FISHES	Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
				15A NCAC 10C .0305	LARGEMOUTH BASS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
				15A NCAC 10C .0306	CRAPPIE	Amended Eff. August 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10C .0307	FLOUNDER			Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0308	KOKANEE SALMON			Amended Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0309	MUSKELLUNGE			Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0310	PICKEREL			Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0311	ROANOKE AND ROCK BASS			Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0312	SAUGER			Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0313	AMERICAN SHAD AND HICKORY SHAD			Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0314	STRIPED BASS			Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0315	SUNFISH			Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0316	MOUNTAIN TROUT			Amended Eff. June 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0317	WALLEYE			Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0318	WHITE BASS			Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0319	WHITE PERCH			Amended Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10C .0320	YELLOW PERCH	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One				
15A NCAC 10C .0321	SMALLMOUTH BASS	Amended Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One				
15A NCAC 10C .0322	ALABAMA BASS AND SPOTTED BASS	Amended Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One				
15A NCAC 10C .0323	REDEYE BASS	Amended Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One				
15A NCAC 10C .0324	BULLHEADS	Amended Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One				
15A NCAC 10C .0325	SEA TROUT	Amended Eff. January 1, 2026	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One				
15A NCAC 10C .0326	RED DRUM	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One				
SECTION .0400 - NONGAME FISH IN INLAND FISHING WATERS		15A NCAC 10C .0401	MANNER OF TAKING NONGAME FISHES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0402	TAKING NONGAME FISHES BY SPECIAL DEVICE FOR BAIT OR PERSONAL CONSUMPTION	Amended Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			
		15A NCAC 10C .0404	SPECIAL DEVICES	Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
		15A NCAC 10C .0405	POSSESSION OF LICENSES	Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
		15A NCAC 10C .0406	TRAWLS AND DREDGES	Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One			

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10C - Sections .2000 -.0600, INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10C .0407	PERMITTED SPECIAL DEVICES AND OPEN SEASONS	Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0409	TAKING AND POSSESSION OF NONGAME FISHES	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0410	AMERICAN EEL	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0411	ATLANTIC CROAKER	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0412	BLACK DRUM	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0413	BLUE CRAB	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0414	BLUEFISH	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0415	BOWFIN	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0416	BLUE CATFISH, CHANNEL CATFISH, AND FLATHEAD CATFISH	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0417	COBIA	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0418	FRESHWATER MUSSELS	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0419	GRASS CARP	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0420	KING MACKEREL	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0421	MARGINED MADTOM AND TADPOLE MADTOM	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0422	STRIPED MULLET AND WHITE MULLET	Amended Eff. December 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0423	ALEWIFE AND BLUEBACK HERRING	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0424	SHARKS	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0425	SHEEPSHEAD	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0426	SPANISH MACKEREL	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0427	SPOT	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0428	TARPON	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0429	WEAKFISH (GRAY TROUT)	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0430	OTHER FISHES	Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .0500 – PRIMARY NURSERY AREAS</b>	15A NCAC 10C .0502	PRIMARY NURSERY AREAS DEFINED	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0503	DESCRIPTIVE BOUNDARIES	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .0600 - ANADROMOUS FISH SPAWNING AREAS</b>	15A NCAC 10C .0602	ANADROMOUS FISH SPAWNING AREAS DEFINED	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10C .0603	DESCRIPTIVE BOUNDARIES	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10D, GAME LANDS REGULATIONS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 10D GAME LANDS REGULATIONS	SECTION .0100 - GAME LANDS REGULATIONS	15A NCAC 10D .0102	GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0103	GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING HUNTING ON GAME LANDS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0104	FISHING ON GAME LANDS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0105	POSSESSION AND REMOVAL OF ANIMALS, PLANTS AND MATERIALS	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 17	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0106	DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS	Amended Eff. March 15, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		SECTION .0200 - USE OF GAME LANDS	15A NCAC 10D .0201	ALLIGATOR RIVER GAME LAND IN TYRELL COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0202		ANGOLA BAY GAME LAND IN DUPLIN AND PENDER COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0203		BACHELOR BAY GAME LAND IN BERTIE AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0204		BERTIE COUNTY GAME LAND IN BERTIE COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0205		BLADEN LAKES STATE FOREST GAME LAND IN BLADEN COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0206		BRINKLEYVILLE GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0207		BUCKHORN GAME LAND IN ORANGE COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0208		BUCKRIDGE GAME LAND IN TYRELL COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0209		BUFFALO COVE GAME LAND IN CALDWELL AND WILKES COUNTIES	Amended Eff. October 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0210		BULLARD AND BRANCH HUNTING PRESERVE GAME LANDS IN ROBESON COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0211		BUTNER-FALLS OF NEUSE GAME LAND IN DURHAM, GRANVILLE, AND WAKE COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0212		BUXTON WOODS GAME LAND IN DARE COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	15A NCAC 10D .0213	CAPE FEAR RIVER WETLANDS GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
15A NCAC 10D .0214	CARTERET COUNTY GAME LAND IN CARTERET COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10D .0215	R. WAYNE BAILEY-CASWELL GAME LAND IN CASWELL COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10D .0216	CHATHAM GAME LAND IN CHATHAM COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
15A NCAC 10D .0218	CHOWAN SWAMP GAME LAND IN BERTIE, GATES, AND HERTFORD COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10D, GAME LANDS REGULATIONS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10D .0219	COLD MOUNTAIN GAME LAND IN HAYWOOD COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0220	COLUMBUS COUNTY GAME LAND IN COLUMBUS COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0221	CROATAN GAME LAND IN CARTERET, CRAVEN, AND JONES COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0222	CURRITUCK BANKS GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0223	DAN RIVER GAME LAND IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0224	DARE GAME LAND IN DARE AND HYDE COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0225	DOVER BAY GAME LAND IN CRAVEN COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0226	DUPONT STATE FOREST GAME LANDS IN HENDERSON AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0227	ELK KNOB GAME LAND IN WATAUGA COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0228	EMBRO GAME LAND IN HALIFAX AND WARREN COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0229	GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND PAMLICO COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0230	GREEN RIVER GAME LAND IN HENDERSON AND POLK COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0231	GREEN SWAMP GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0232	GULL ROCK GAME LAND IN HYDE COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0233	HARRIS GAME LAND IN CHATHAM, HARNETT, AND WAKE COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0234	HEADWATERS STATE FOREST GAME LAND IN TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0235	HILL FARM GAME LAND IN STOKES COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0236	HOLLY SHELTER GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0237	HYCO GAME LAND IN PERSON COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0238	J. MORGAN FUTCH GAME LAND IN TYRRELL COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0239	JOHNS RIVER GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0240	JORDAN GAME LAND IN CHATHAM, DURHAM, ORANGE, AND WAKE COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10D, GAME LANDS REGULATIONS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10D .0241	JUNIPER CREEK GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0242	KERR SCOTT GAME LAND IN WILKES COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0243	KINGS CREEK GAME LAND IN CALDWELL AND WILKES COUNTIES	Amended Eff. October 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0244	LANTERN ACRES GAME LAND IN TYRRELL AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0245	LEE GAME LAND IN LEE COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0246	LIGHT GROUND POCOSIN GAME LAND IN PAMLICO COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0247	LINWOOD GAME LAND IN DAVIDSON COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0248	LOWER FISHING CREEK GAME LAND IN EDGEcombe AND HALIFAX COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0249	MAYO GAME LAND IN PERSON COUNTY	Amended Eff. January 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0250	MITCHELL RIVER GAME LAND IN SURRY COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0251	NANTAHALA GAME LAND IN CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, JACKSON, MACON, SWAIN, AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0252	NEEDMORE GAME LAND IN MACON AND SWAIN COUNTIES.	Amended Eff. February 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0253	NEUSE RIVER GAME LAND IN CRAVEN COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0254	NEW LAKE GAME LAND IN HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0255	NICHOLSON CREEK GAME LAND IN HOKE COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0256	NORTH RIVER GAME LAND IN CAMDEN AND CURRITUCK COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0257	NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0258	PEE DEE RIVER GAME LAND IN ANSON, MONTGOMERY, RICHMOND, AND STANLY COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0259	PERKINS GAME LAND IN DAVIE COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10D, GAME LANDS REGULATIONS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10D .0260	PISGAH GAME LAND IN AVERY, BUNCOMBE, BURKE, CALDWELL, HAYWOOD, HENDERSON, MADISON, MCDOWELL, MITCHELL, TRANSYLVANIA, WATAUGA, AND YANCEY COUNTIES	Amended Eff. January 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0261	POND MOUNTAIN GAME LAND IN ASHE COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0262	PUNGO RIVER GAME LAND IN HYDE COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0263	LITTLE FORK STATE FOREST GAME LAND IN WILKES COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0264	RHODES POND GAME LAND IN CUMBERLAND AND HARNETT COUNTIES	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0265	ROANOKE RIVER WETLANDS IN BERTIE, HALIFAX, MARTIN, AND NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0266	ROANOKE ISLAND MARSHES GAME LAND IN DARE COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0268	ROCKFISH CREEK GAME LAND IN HOKE COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0269	ROCKY RUN GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0270	SAMPSON GAME LAND IN SAMPSON COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0271	SANDHILLS GAME LAND IN HOKE, MOORE, RICHMOND, AND SCOTLAND COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0272	SANDY CREEK GAME LAND IN NASH AND FRANKLIN COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0273	SANDY MUSH GAME LAND IN BUNCOMBE AND MADISON COUNTIES	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0274	SECOND CREEK GAME LAND IN ROWAN COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0275	SHOCCO CREEK GAME LAND IN FRANKLIN, HALIFAX, NASH, AND WARREN COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0276	SOUTH MOUNTAINS GAME LAND IN BURKE, CLEVELAND, MCDOWELL, AND RUTHERFORD COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0277	STONES CREEK GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0278	SUGGS MILL POND GAME LAND IN BLADEN AND CUMBERLAND COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10D, GAME LANDS REGULATIONS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10D .0279	SUGGS SUTTON LAKE GAME LAND IN NEW HANOVER AND BRUNSWICK COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0280	TAR RIVER GAME LAND IN EDGEcombe COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0281	TEXAS PLANTATION GAME LAND IN TYRRELL COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0282	THREE TOP MOUNTAIN GAME LAND IN ASHE COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0283	THURMOND CHATHAM GAME LAND IN ALLEGHANY AND WILKES COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0284	TILLERY GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0285	TOXAWAY GAME LAND IN JACKSON AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0286	UWHARRIE GAME LAND IN DAVIDSON, MONTGOMERY, AND RANDOLPH COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0287	VANCE GAME LAND IN VANCE COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0288	VAN SWAMP GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0289	VOICE OF AMERICA GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0290	WHITE OAK RIVER GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY	Eff. November 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0291	WHITEHALL PLANTATION GAME LAND IN BLADEN AND PENDER COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0292	WILLIAM H. SILVER GAME LAND IN HAYWOOD COUNTY	Eff. October 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0293	YADKIN RIVER GAME LAND IN DAVIDSON, DAVIE, MONTGOMERY, ROWAN, AND STANLY COUNTIES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10D .0294	NORTH BEND GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY	Amended Eff. August 1, 2026	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10E, PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 10E - PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS		15A NCAC 10E .0101	DEFINITION	Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10E .0104	USE OF PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS	Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10F, MOTORBOATS AND WATER SAFETY**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps	
SUBCHAPTER 10F MOTORBOATS AND WATER SAFETY	SECTION .0100 MOTORBOAT REGISTRATION	15A NCAC 10F .0102	APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF VESSEL NUMBER	Amended Eff. September 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	46 USC 123, 33 CFR 174	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0103	TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP	Amended Eff. November 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	46 USC 123, 33 CFR 174	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0104	CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER	Amended Eff. September 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	46 USC 123, 33 CFR 174	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0105	NUMBERING PATTERN	Amended Eff. November 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	46 USC 123, 33 CFR 174	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0106	DISPLAY OF VESSEL NUMBERS	Amended Eff. November 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	46 USC 123, 33 CFR 174	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0107	VALIDATION DECAL	Amended Eff. November 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	46 USC 123, 33 CFR 174	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0109	TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER	Amended Eff. September 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	46 USC 123, 33 CFR 174	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0110	ABANDONED VESSELS	Amended Eff. November 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 174	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		SECTION .0200 SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND ACCIDENT REPORTS	15A NCAC 10F .0201	SAFETY EQUIPMENT	Amended Eff. March 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	46 CFR 25, 33 CFR 175	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
				15A NCAC 10F .0202	ACCIDENT REPORTS	Amended Eff. November 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	46 USC 6102, 33 CFR 174	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One
SECTION .0300 LOCAL WATER SAFETY REGULATIONS	15A NCAC 10F .0301	GENERAL PROVISIONS	Amended Eff. February 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One		
		15A NCAC 10F .0302	ATLANTIC BEACH	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0303	BEAUFORT COUNTY	Amended Eff. May 1, 2019	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0304	BLADEN COUNTY	Amended Eff. April 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0305	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	Amended Eff. February 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0306	CAROLINA BEACH	Amended Eff. May 1, 2020	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0307	CATAWBA, IREDELL, LINCOLN, AND MECKLENBURG COUNTIES	Temporary Amendment Eff. March 7, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0308	CLAY COUNTY	Amended Eff. June 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0309	COLUMBUS COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0310	DARE COUNTY	Amended Eff. June 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10F .0311	GRANVILLE, VANCE AND WARREN COUNTIES	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10F, MOTORBOATS AND WATER SAFETY**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10F .0313	HYDE COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0314	NEW HANDOVER COUNTY	Amended Eff. March 24, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0315	POLK COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0316	FORSYTH, ROCKINGHAM AND STOKES COUNTIES	Amended Eff. February 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0317	STANLY COUNTY	Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0319	WASHINGTON COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0320	ONslow COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2019	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0321	PENDER COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0322	UNION COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0323	BURKE COUNTY	Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0324	DAVIDSON COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0325	CHOWAN COUNTY	Amended Eff. November 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0326	PAMLICO COUNTY	Amended Eff. February 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0327	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	Amended Eff. February 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0328	MARTIN COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0329	ROWAN COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2021	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0330	CARTERET COUNTY	Amended Eff. February 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0331	WAKE COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0332	ALEXANDER COUNTY	Amended Eff. February 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0333	MECKLENBURG AND GASTON COUNTIES	Amended Eff. February 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0334	GUILFORD COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0335	SWAIN COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10F, MOTORBOATS AND WATER SAFETY**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10F .0336	NORTHAMPTON AND WARREN COUNTIES	Amended Eff. February 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0337	FRANKLIN COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0338	CALDWELL COUNTY	Amended Eff. February 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0339	MCDOWELL COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2019	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0340	CURRITUCK COUNTY	Amended Eff. May 1, 2020	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0341	TOWN OF LAKE LURE	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0342	CATAWBA COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0343	CHATHAM COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0344	TOWN OF RIVER BEND	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0345	CHATHAM AND WAKE COUNTIES	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0346	ARROWHEAD BEACH SUBDIVISION	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0347	CRAVEN COUNTY	Amended Eff. June 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0348	PERSON COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0349	JOHN H. MOSS LAKE	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0350	DURHAM AND WAKE COUNTIES	Amended Eff. July 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0351	NEW BERN	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0352	CAMDEN COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0353	MOUNTAIN ISLAND LAKE - MECKLENBURG, GASTON AND LINCOLN COUNTIES	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0354	PITT COUNTY	Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0355	PERQUIMANS COUNTY	Amended Eff. June 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0356	PASQUOTANK COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0357	NASH COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10F, MOTORBOATS AND WATER SAFETY**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10F .0358	JONES COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0359	CHEROKEE COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0360	GRAHAM COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0361	WILKES COUNTY	Amended Eff. February 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0362	HARNETT COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0363	CASWELL AND PERSON COUNTIES	Amended Eff. June 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0364	GREENSBORO	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0365	TYRRELL COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0366	MACON COUNTY	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0367	HOKE COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0368	TOWN OF NAGS HEAD	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0369	TOWN OF SWANSBORO	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0370	CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT – ROCKY MOUNT MILLPOND DAM SAFETY ZONE	Amended Eff. October 1, 2019	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0371	BELEWS LAKE IN STOKES COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0372	HERTFORD COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0373	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0374	CUBE HYDRO CAROLINAS SAFETY ZONES AND RESTRICTED ZONES AREAS	Amended Eff. September 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0375	DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION HYDROELECTRIC STATION SAFETY ZONES	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0376	TOWN OF EMERALD ISLE	Amended Eff. October 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0377	JACKSON COUNTY	Eff. May 1, 2016	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0378	HALIFAX COUNTY	Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10F .0379	CITY OF ROXBORO	Eff. June 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10F, MOTORBOATS AND WATER SAFETY**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

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Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)] Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10F .0380	TOWN OF RHODHISS	Eff. February 1, 2024	Necessary		33 CFR 62	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10G, DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF HUNTING: FISHING: AND TRAPPING LICENSE**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

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SUBCHAPTER 10G - DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF HUNTING: FISHING: AND TRAPPING LICENSE	SECTION .0400 - WILDLIFE SERVICE AGENTS	15A NCAC 10G .0401	Purpose of wildlife service agents	Amended Eff. May 1, 2007	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10G .0402	APPOINTMENT OF WILDLIFE SERVICE AGENTS	Amended Eff. September 1, 2011	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10G .0403	WILDLIFE SERVICE AGENT AGREEMENT	Amended Eff. September 1, 2011	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		15A NCAC 10G .0405	WILDLIFE SERVICE AGENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS	Amended Eff. September 1, 2011	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One	
		SECTION .0500 - LICENSEE REQUIREMENTS	15A NCAC 10G .0501	LICENSEE REQUIREMENTS	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		SECTION .0600 - LICENSE ELIGIBILITY	15A NCAC 10G .0601	TOTALLY DISABLED LICENSE ELIGIBILITY	Amended Eff. October 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10H, REGULATED ACTIVITIES**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

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Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 10H – REGULATED ACTIVITIES	SECTION .0100 CONTROLLED HUNTING PRESERVES FOR DOMESTICALLY RAISED GAME BIRDS	15A NCAC 10H .0101	GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0102	ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0103	LABELING OF HARVESTED BIRDS	Amended Eff. April 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0104	QUALITY OF BIRDS RELEASED	Amended Eff. April 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0105	RECORDS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0106	HUNTING LICENSE REQUIRED	Amended Eff. April 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0107	REVOCAION OF LICENSE TO OPERATE	Amended Eff. April 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0108	FEEDING OF STOCKED BIRDS	Amended Eff. April 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0109	QUAIL CALL PEN TRAPS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		SECTION .0800 - FALCONRY		15A NCAC 10H .0801	DEFINITIONS	Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One
15A NCAC 10H .0802	PERMIT AND LICENSE REQUIREMENTS			Amended Eff. February 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10H .0803	APPLICATION FOR LICENSE			Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10H .0804	EXAMINATION			Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10H .0805	DURATION OF LICENSE			Amended Eff. February 1, 2018	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10H .0806	ACQUISITION, SALE AND STATUS CHANGE			Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10H .0807	LEVELS OF LICENSES			Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10H .0808	FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT			Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10H .0809	BANDING AND MARKING			Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
15A NCAC 10H .0810	TAKING RAPTORS			Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0811	OTHER RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS	Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0814	RELEASE OF RAPTORS AND MOVING RAPTORS TO ANOTHER LICENSE OR PERMIT	Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0815	OTHER USES AND ALLOWED ACTIVITIES	Amended Eff. June 1, 2022	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.82	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .0900 – GAME BIRD PROPAGATORS	15A NCAC 10H .0901	GAME BIRD PROPAGATION LICENSE	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0903	ACQUISITION OF GAME BIRDS OR GAME BIRD EGGS	Readopted Eff. November 1, 2019	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10H, REGULATED ACTIVITIES**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10H .0904	DISPOSITION OF GAME BIRDS OR GAME BIRD EGGS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0905	TRANSPORTATION	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0906	RECORDS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .0907	QUAIL CALL PEN TRAPS	Amended Eff. November 1, 2019	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .1000 TAXIDERMY</b>	15A NCAC 10H .1002	DUTY OF A TAXIDERMIST	Amended Eff. February 1, 2018	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1003	RECORDS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	Amended Eff. February 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.63	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1004	PURCHASE AND SALE OF WILDLIFE	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2018	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1005	TAXIDERMY PRESERVATION FACILITY	Amended Eff. February 1, 2018	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .1100 FURBEARER PROPAGATION</b>	15A NCAC 10H .1101	FURBEARER PROPAGATION LICENSE	Amended Eff. November 1, 2019	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1104	MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CAGING AND CARE	Amended Eff. November 1, 2019	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1106	HUMANE TREATMENT	Readopted Eff. November 1, 2019	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1107	RECORDS AND INSPECTIONS	Amended Eff. November 1, 2019	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .1200 CONTROLLED FOX HUNTING PRESERVES</b>	15A NCAC 10H .1201	DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1202	ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1203	QUALITY OF FOXES AND COYOTES RELEASED	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1204	RECORDS REQUIRED	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1205	HUNTING LICENSE REQUIRED	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1206	MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CARE OF FOXES AND COYOTES	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1207	LICENSE REVOCATION AND ENFORCEMENT	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .1300 – REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS</b>	15A NCAC 10H .1301	SALE OF NATIVE TURTLES	Amended Eff. August 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1302	POSSESSION OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .1400 – WILDLIFE CAPTIVITY AND REHABILITATION</b>	15A NCAC 10H .1401	DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CAPTIVITY LICENSES	Eff. January 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1402	CAPTIVITY LICENSE FOR REHABILITATION	Amended Eff. May 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1403	CAPTIVITY LICENSE FOR HOLDING	Eff. January 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1404	MINIMUM STANDARDS CAPTIVITY LICENSE FOR HOLDING	Eff. January 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1405	CAPTIVITY LICENSE REVOCATION AND ENFORCEMENT	Eff. January 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1406	FORMS FOR CAPTIVITY LICENSES	Eff. January 1, 2020	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	<b>SECTION .1500 – WILDLIFE AND ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENTS</b>	15A NCAC 10H .1501	WILDLIFE CONTROL AGENT LICENSE ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS	Eff. May 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10H, REGULATED ACTIVITIES**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
		15A NCAC 10H .1502	DEPREDAION PERMITS ISSUED BY WILDLIFE CONTROL AGENTS	Amended Eff. February 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 21.100	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1503	MANNER OF TAKE	Eff. May 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1504	RECORDS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	Eff. May 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1505	WILDLIFE CONTROL AGENT LICENSE RENEWAL AND REVOCATION	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1506	ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENT CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1507	ADDITIONAL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENTS	Eff. May 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1508	ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENT RECORDS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	Eff. May 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1509	ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENT CERTIFICATION RENEWAL AND REVOCATION	Eff. May 1, 2021	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1510	WILDLIFE CONTROL TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS	Amended Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1600 - CONTROLLED RABBIT HUNTING PRESERVES	15A NCAC 10H .1601	CONTROLLED RABBIT HUNTING PRESERVES	Eff. February 1, 2022	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1700 - FIELD TRAILS AND DOG TRAINING	15A NCAC 10H .1701	FIELD TRAILS	Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1702	DOG TRAINING	Eff. August 1, 2024	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
	SECTION .1800 - COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY PERMITTING	15A NCAC 10H .1801	GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND FEES	Eff. January 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1802	COMMERCIAL USE PERMITS	Eff. January 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10H .1803	EVENT PERMITS	Eff. January 1, 2025	Necessary	No		No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10I - ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 10I - ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES	SECTION .0100 - ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES	15A NCAC 10I .0102	PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES	Readopted Eff. October 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	PL 93-205 Endangered Species Act of 1973 Section 4 (8) (c) (2) (b)	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10I .0103	ENDANGERED SPECIES LISTED	Amended Eff. October 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	PL 93-205 Endangered Species Act of 1973 Section 4 (8) (c) (2) (b)	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10I .0104	THREATENED SPECIES LISTED	Amended Eff October 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	PL 93-205 Endangered Species Act of 1973 Section 4 (8) (c) (2) (b)	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10I .0105	SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES LISTED	Amended Eff October 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	PL 93-205 Endangered Species Act of 1973 Section 4 (8) (c) (2) (b)	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10J, WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREA REGULATIONS**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 10J - WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREA REGULATIONS		15A NCAC 10J .0101	DESIGNATION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10J .0102	GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE OF CONSERVATION AREAS	Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10J .0103	HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS	Amended Eff. February 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10J .0104	FISHING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2025	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One

**G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 15A NCAC 10K, HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE**

Agency - Wildlife Resources Commission

Comment Period - March 2 - May 1, 2026

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Required to Implement or Conform to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(d1)]	Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
SUBCHAPTER 10K – HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE		15A NCAC 10K .0101	COURSE REQUIREMENTS	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80.50	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10K .0102	ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80.50	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One
		15A NCAC 10K .0103	INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2024	Necessary	Yes If yes, include the citation to the federal law	50 CFR 80.50	No	Necessary	Select One	Select One	Select One