



AGENDA
N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION
October 1, 2026, 9:00 a.m.
1751 Varsity Drive
NCWRC Conference Room, 5th 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – *Commissioner Reid Smith*

INVOCATION – *Commissioner John Alexander*

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*

NOTICE OF COMMISSION APPOINTMENT – Receive notice from House Speaker Destin Hall of the appointment of Zachary C. Benfield for term ending June 30, 2027 – *Margo Minkler (EXHIBIT A)*

RECEIVE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION REVIEW OF 2026 STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST FOR PROSPECTIVE COMMISSIONER ZACHARY C. BENFIELD – Pursuant to NCGS §138A-15(c), any actual or potential conflict of interest by a public servant sitting on a board and cited by the Ethics Commission under NCGS 138A-24(e) is required to be read into the minutes of the applicable board. Read into the Minutes relevant portions of the evaluations by the N.C. Ethics Commission of the 2026 Statement of Economic Interest for Zachary C. Benfield, House Speaker Destin Hall Appointee – *Margo Minkler*

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW COMMISSIONER – Administer the Oath of Office to House Speaker Appointee Zachary C. Benfield – *Honorable Judge J. Carlton Cole, Superior Court of North Carolina*

APPROVAL OF JULY 30, 2026 MEETING MINUTES – Take action on the July 30, 2026 Wildlife Resources Commission meeting minutes as written in the exhibit. **(EXHIBIT B)**

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 C)**

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

Ad hoc Game Land Use Committee – July 30, 2026 – *Monty Crump, Vice Chair*

Ad hoc Game Land Use Committee – September 29, 2026 – *Monty Crump, Vice Chair*

Boating Safety Committee – September 30, 2026 – *J. C. Cole, Chair*

Finance, Audit & Compliance Committee – September 30, 2026 – *Monty Crump, Chair*

Migratory Birds & Waterfowl Committee – September 30, 2026 – *John Coley, Chair*

Fisheries Committee – September 30, 2026 – *Monty Crump, Vice Chair*

Land Acquisitions & Property Committee – September 30, 2026 – *Tom Berry, Chair*

Habitat Nongame & Endangered Species Committee – September 30, 2026 – *Brad Stanback, Chair*

Committee of the Whole – September 30, 2026 – *Mark Craig, Chair*

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – NCWRC Special Response Team – *Captain Shawn Martin & Lieutenant Michael King, Law Enforcement Division*

LAND ACQUISITIONS AND PROPERTY MATTERS

Phase II Land Acquisition – Consider final approval to proceed with acquisition of the following property – *Ben Solomon, Land and Water Access Division Assistant Chief and Land Acquisition Manager*

- Rhodes Pond Depot Relocation – Harnett County **(EXHIBIT D-1)**
- Honeycutt Tract – Ashe County **(EXHIBIT D-2)**

Other Property Matters – Consider approval of the following other property matter - *Ben Solomon*

- Snows Cut BAA Lease Renewal – New Hanover County **(EXHIBIT E)**

WATER SAFETY RULEMAKING

Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text 15A NCAC 10F .0333 Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties (Lake Wylie) – Consider request to publish Notice of Text with an open comment period and public hearing for proposed amendments to 15A NCAC 10F .0333. Review and consider approval of fiscal note. – *Will Casola, Policy Analyst* **(EXHIBITS F-1, F-2)**

Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text 15A NCAC 10F .0347 Craven County – Consider request to publish Notice of Text with an open comment period and public hearing for proposed amendments to 15A NCAC 10F .0347 – *Will Casola* **(EXHIBIT G)**

Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text 15A NCAC 10F .0351 New Bern – Consider request to publish Notice of Text with an open comment period and public hearing for the proposed repeal of 15A NCAC 10F .0351 – *Will Casola* **(EXHIBIT H)**

Permanent Rulemaking Notice of Text 15A NCAC 10F .0344 Town of River Bend – Consider

request to publish Notice of Text with an open comment period and public hearing for the proposed repeal of 15A NCAC 10F .0344 – *Will Casola* (**EXHIBIT I**)

Temporary Rulemaking Adoption – 10F .0303 Beaufort County – Review public comments and consider request to adopt temporary amendments to 10F .0303 – *Will Casola* (**EXHIBITS J-1, J-2**)

RULEMAKING

Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Inland Fisheries Rules – Review public comments and consider request to adopt amendments to Inland Fisheries rules – *Will Casola* (**EXHIBITS K-1, K-2**)

Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Wildlife Management Rules – Review public comments and consider request to adopt amendments to Wildlife Management rules – *Will Casola* (**EXHIBITS L-1, L-2**)

Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Land and Water Access Rules – Review public comments and consider request to adopt amendments to Land and Water Access rules – *Will Casola* (**EXHIBITS M-1, M-2**)

Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Wildlife Education Rules – Review public comments and consider request to adopt amendments to shooting range rules – *Will Casola* (**EXHIBITS N-1, N-2**)

Permanent Rulemaking Adoption – 2027-2028 Annual Cycle Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species Rules – Review public comments and consider request to adopt amendments to 15A NCAC 10I .0102 – *Will Casola* (**EXHIBITS O-1, O-2**)

Emergency Adoption and Temporary Rulemaking Notice of Text – 10A .1503 Negligently Feeding or Attracting Bears – Consider request to adopt an emergency rule and notice proposed temporary rule text with an open comment period and public hearing to prohibit negligently feeding or attracting bears in Buncombe County. – *Will Casola* (**EXHIBIT P**)

Temporary Rulemaking Notice of Text – 10D .0249 Mayo Lake Game Land in Person County – Consider request to notice proposed rule text with an open comment period and public hearing for temporary amendments to 10D .0249 – *Will Casola* (**EXHIBIT Q**)

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN – *Chairman Craig*

COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – *Executive Director Briggs*

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