AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10F .0305

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, January 26, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

In (a)(5), please add a comma after "Slough".

In (a)(18), why is this not a substantial change? Was this post-publication change made in response to public comment?

In the History Note, is it necessary to cite G.S. 75A-3 as authority?

15A NCAC 10F .0305 is amended with changes as published in 38:07 NCAC 415 as follows:

15A NCAC 10F .0305 BRUNSWICK COUNTY

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the waters and portions of waters described as follows:
- (1) Lockwoods Lockwood Folly River in the Town of Varnamtown, from a point at 33.94966 N, 78.22587 W, 500 yards northwest of the boat ramp located at the end of S.R. 1123 otherwise known as Fisherman Road, to a point at 33.94498 N, 78.22206 W, 180 yards southeast of the boat ramp, and including the portion of the river otherwise known as Mill Creek where it meets Lockwoods Lockwood Folly River directly across from the boat ramp, to a point 100 feet northeast at 33.94687 N, 78.22235 W;
- (2) Calabash River in the Town of Calabash, from a point in the water at the end of Marina Drive at 33.88638 N, 78.56254 W to a point 650 yards southwest at the southern end of the deep-sea fishing docks at 33.88344 N, 78.56751 W;
 - (3) the Small Boat Harbor, Morningstar Marinas Southport, shore to shore beginning at its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91685 N, 78.02865 W;
 - (4) Shallotte River east of S.R. 1233, otherwise known as Village Point Road SW south of the Town of Shallotte, shore to shore from its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91477 N, 78.37103 W to point 500 feet north at 33.91613 N, 78.37126 W;
 - (5) Montgomery Slough otherwise known as Davis Creek, within 100 yards of the hotel and marina at the northern end of 57th Place West in the Town of Oak Island;
 - (6) the waters in the natural and concrete canals located on the south side of the Intracoastal Waterway, east of N.C. Highway 904 in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach;
 - (7) Town Creek east of S.R. 1609, otherwise known as Clearview Lane in Town Creek Township, shore to shore from a point at 34.16788 N, 78.07139 W, north and east around a bend in the creek to a point at 34.16910 N, 78.07030 W;
 - (8) Montgomery Slough, otherwise known as Davis Creek, shore to shore from its entrance at the Intracoastal Waterway west of SW Yacht Drive at a point at 33.92145 N, 78.19408 W, to the canal end at NE 40th Street in the Town of Oak Island;
 - (9) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Sunset Beach, Beach in the vicinity of the S.R. 1172 Sunset Beach Bridge and Sunset Beach Boating Access Area at 101 Sunset Boulevard, shore to shore from a point 150 yards east of the Sunset Boulevard Beach South bridge Bridge at 33.88173 N, 78.50995 W, to a point 50 yards west of the bridge at 33.88111 N, 78.51194 W; and
- (10) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach, Beach in the vicinity of the N.C. Highway 904 Odell Williamson Bridge and Ocean Isle Beach Boating Access Area at 67 Causeway Drive, shore to shore from a point 100 yards east of the N.C. Highway 904 Odell Williamson Bridge at 33.89578 N, 78.43870 W, to a point 100 yards west of the Bridge at 33.89567 N, 78.44092 W. 78.51194 W;

1	<u>(11)</u>	Lockwood Folly River at Rourk's Landing Subdivision, beginning at a point south of the subdivision	
2		at 33.95338 N, 78.22553 W, north and west around two sharp bends in the channel and ending north	
3		at a point at 33.95539 N, 78.22900 W;	
4	<u>(12)</u>	Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Holden Beach, N.C. Highway 130 Holden Beach Bridge and	
5		Holden Beach Boating Access Area at 99 S. Shore Drive, shore to shore between a point 250 feet	
6		west and a point 100 feet east of the Holden Beach Bridge;	
7	<u>(13)</u>	Intracoastal Waterway, within 50 yards of the Oak Island Boating Access Area at 4950 Fish Factory	
8		Road SE in Southport;	
9	<u>(14)</u>	within 50 yards of the Sunset Harbor Boating Access Area adjacent to the Intracoastal Waterway at	
10		356 Riverview Drive SE in Bolivia;	
11	<u>(15)</u>	within 20 yards of the shoreline and 50 yards east and 50 yards west of the Brick Landing Boating	
12		Access Area on the Intracoastal Waterway at 1921 Brick Landing Road SW in Shallotte;	
13	<u>(16)</u>	within 50 yards of Rices Creek Boating Access Area on Rice Creek at 797 Gordon Lewis Drive SE	
14		in Winnabow; [and]	
15	<u>(17)</u>	within 50 yards of the Pireway Boating Access Area on Waccamaw River at 9739 Pireway Road	
16		NW in [Ash.] Ash; and	
17	<u>(18)</u>	within 50 yards of the Dutchman Creek Boat Ramp on Dutchman Creek in Southport.	
18	(b) Speed Limit	t. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas described	
19	in Paragraph (a)	of this Rule.	
20	(c) Placement o	f Markers. The following agencies shall be are the designated agencies for the placement or placement	
21	and maintenance	e of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the	
22	United States A	rmy Corps of Engineers:	
23	(1)	the Board of Aldermen of Varnamtown for areas placement in the area indicated in Subparagraph	
24		(a)(1) of this Rule;	
25	(2)	the Board of Commissioners of Brunswick County for placement in areas indicated in	
26		Subparagraphs (a)(2) through (8) and (a)(11) of this Rule; and	
27	(3)	the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the <u>placement and maintenance of area areas</u>	
28		indicated in Subparagraph Subparagraphs (a)(9) (a)(9), (a)(10), and (a)(12) through [(17)] (18) of	
29		this Rule; and <u>Rule.</u>	
30	(4)	the Town of Ocean Isle Beach for the area indicated in Subparagraph (a)(10) of this Rule.	
31	(d) Notwithstan	ding Paragraphs (a) through (c) of this Rule, no person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake	
32	speed in the wat	ers of South Jinks Creek in the Town of Sunset Beach, beginning at a line north of the feeder channel,	
33	from a point on the west shore at 33.87617 N, 78.49297 W to a point on the east shore at 33.87664 N, 78.49164 W		
34	then southeast to	o a point on the south shore at 33.87325 N, 78.49033 W, and waters south and west of those lines	
35	including the feeder channel, four finger canals, and the bay area. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission		
36	is the designated	agency for placement and maintenance of markers for this regulated area.	
37			

1	History Note:	Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15.
2		Eff. February 1, 1976;
3		Amended Eff. April 1, 1997; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; January 1, 1989; January 1, 1987;
4		Temporary Amendment Eff. March 1, 1998;
5		Amended Eff. April 1, 2009; April 1, 1999;
6		Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December
7		6, 2016;
8		Amended Eff. May 1, 2021; July 1, 2018;
9		Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 2022;
10		Temporary Amendment Eff. August 15, 2023;
11		Amended Eff. February 1, 2024.
12		

4

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10F .0316

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, January 26, 2024

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

*In (c), was the language in 15*A NCAC 10F .0305, "subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corp of Engineers", intentionally left out of this Rule?

In 15A NCAC 10F .0305 (c)(1-3), you specified who was responsible for the placement of markers in the areas described in (a)(1) through (a)(18). Can the same be done in (c) of this Rule for the areas described in (a)(1) through (a)(3)?

In the History Note, is it necessary to cite G.S. 75A-3 as authority?

1	15A NCAC 10F	.0316 is amended with changes as published in 38:07 NCAC 417 as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 10F	.0316 FORSYTH, ROCKINGHAM ROCKINGHAM, AND STOKES COUNTIES
4	(a) Regulated A	reas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Forsyth, Rockingham, and Stokes counties:
5	(1)	Belews Lake within 50 yards of a public boat launching ramp on the lake, and within 50 yards of a
6		bridge crossing on the lake;
7	(2)	Belews Lake at Humphrey's Ridge Marina and Grill at 473-499 Humphrey Ridge Drive in
8		Stokesdale, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 36.27962 N, 80.03507 W to a point on
9		the south shore at 36.27804 N, 80.03565 W; and
10	<u>(3)</u>	Belews Lake at Carolina Marina at 548 Shelton Road in Stokesdale, beginning at a line from a point
11		on the shore [where the southernmost fuel dock is located,] south of the fuel dock at 36.30303 N,
12		80.01403 W, to a point 50 yards west from the shore into the channel, then to the north northwest
13		50 yards west of the shore of the marina at 36.30394 N, 80.01522 W, then to a point on the north
14		shore of the cove at 36.30521 N, 80.01416 W, to include the waters east of the line at the mouth of
15		the cove, where the boat ramp, Dry Stack, and outdoor boat storage facilities are located.
16	(b) Speed Limit	. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas identified
17	in Paragraph (a)	of this Rule.
18	(c) Placement as	nd Maintenance of Markers. The Boards of Commissioners of Forsyth County, Rockingham County
19	and Stokes Coun	ty, or their designees County shall be the designated agencies for placement and maintenance of shall
20	place and mainta	ain markers implementing this Rule. Markers warning of a no wake speed zone shall be buoys or
21	floating signs.	
22		
23	History Note:	Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;
24		Eff. February 1, 1976;
25		Amended Eff. May 1, 1976;
26		Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December
27		6, 2016;
28		Amended Eff. <u>February 1, 2024</u> ; June 1, 2023; October 1, 2018.
29		

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10F .0338

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, January 26, 2024

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The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

In the History Note, is it necessary to cite G.S. 75A-3 as authority?

I	15A NCAC 10F	.0338 is	amended as published in 38:07 NCR 417 as follows:
2			
3	15A NCAC 10F	.0338	CALDWELL COUNTY
4	(a) Regulated A	reas. Thi	s Rule shall apply to the following waters in Caldwell County:
5	(1)	Catawb	a River;
6	(2)	Lake R	hodhiss; Rhodhiss:
7		<u>(A)</u>	within 50 yards of the marina facilities at Castle Bridge Marina, 6131 Castle Bridge Drive
8			in Granite Falls;
9		<u>(B)</u>	within 50 yards of the Castle Bridge Boating Access Area, 6131 Connelly Springs Road in
10			Granite Falls; and
11		<u>(C)</u>	within 50 yards of the Conley Creek Boating Access Area, 5475 Waterworks Road in
12			Granite Falls.
13	(3)	Little G	Gunpowder Lake; and
14	(4)	Lake H	ickory in the City of Hickory. Lake Hickory:
15		<u>(A)</u>	within 30 yards of the docks at the Lake Hickory Marina and Boat Rentals, on Limbaugh
16			Lane in the City of Hickory;
17		<u>(B)</u>	within 50 yards of the Gunpowder Boating Access Area, at 5450 Hurricane Hill Road in
18			Granite Falls; and
19		<u>(C)</u>	within 50 yards of the Lovelady Boating Access Area, at 5682 Rocky Mount Road in
20			Granite Falls.
21	(b) Speed Limit	Near Ra	mps. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed within 50 yards of any
22	public boat laun	ching ran	np while on the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
23	(b) Speed limit.	No perso	on shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any regulated area described
24	in Paragraph (a)	of this R	<u>ule.</u>
25	(c) Speed Limit	t in Moo	ring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while within a
26	marked mooring	g area on	the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
27	(d) Specific Sp	eed Zone	es. Lake Hickory within the boundaries of the City of Hickory. No person shall operate a
28	vessel at greater	than no	wake speed within 30 yards of the docks at the Lake Hickory Marina and Boat Rentals on
29	Limbaugh Lane.	.	
30	(e)(d)-Restricted	-Swimmi	ing Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to
31	enter any marke	d public s	swimming area on the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
32	(f)(e) Placement	of Mark	ers. The Board of Commissioners of Caldwell County and the City of Hickory shall be the
33	designated agen	cy for pla	scement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States
34	Army Corps of	Engineer	s. The following agencies shall place or place and maintain the markers implementing this
35	Rule, subject to	the appro	oval of the United States Coast Guard and United States Army Corps of Engineers:
36	<u>(1)</u>	the Bo	pard of Commissioners of Caldwell County shall place the markers implementing
37		Subpara	agraphs (a)(1) and (a)(3), and Part (a)(2)(A) of this Rule;

1	<u>(2)</u>	the City of Hickory shall place the markers implementing Part (a)(4) (A) of this Rule; and
2	<u>(3)</u>	the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall place and maintain the markers
3		implementing Parts (a)(2)(B), (C), and (a)(4)(B), (C) of this Rule.
4		
5	History Note:	Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;
6		Eff. August 23, 1981;
7		Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December
8		6, 2016;
9		Amended Eff. February 1, 2024; July 1, 2018.
10		

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10F .0380

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, January 26, 2024

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In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

In the History Note, is it necessary to cite G.S. 75A-3 as authority?

1	15A NCAC 10F .0380 is adopted as published in 38:07 NCR 417 as follows:
2	
3	15A NCAC 10F .0380 TOWN OF RHODHISS
4	
5	(a) Regulated Area. This rule applies to the waters of Lake Hickory in the Town of Rhodhiss in Burke and Caldwel
6	counties, shore to shore, beginning west of a line 165 yards east of the S.R. 1611 Bridge from a point on the north
7	shore at 35.77322 N, 81.42891 W to a point on the south shore at 35.77179 N, 81.42910 W, westward ending at the
8	Rhodhiss Dam.
9	(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated area described
10	in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
11	(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Town of Rhodhiss shall place and maintain the markers
12	implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.
13	
14	History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;
15	Eff. February 1, 2024.
16	

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10K .0101

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, January 26, 2024

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In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

In (a), how does this section comply with the other ways to procure a hunting license in G.S. 113-270.1A (a)(1) and (2)?

In (b), is it necessary to say "at least?" Rules always set minimum requirements.

1	15A NCAC 10	K .0101 is readopted as published in 38:07 NCR 418 as follows:	
2			
3	15A NCAC 10	K .0101 COURSE REQUIREMENTS	
4	(a) The Comm	nission shall provide a hunter education Individuals who wish to procure a hunting license, as required	
5	by G.S. 113-2	70.1B, shall attend a Commission-approved basic hunter education course and obtain a certificate of	
6	competency.		
7	(b) Commissio	n-approved basic hunter education courses include either an instructor-led course with a minimum of	
8	six hours of in	struction or a Commission approved self-paced, independent study option course that instructs on at	
9	least the topic	es identified in Paragraph (b) of this Rule. G.S. 113-270.1A(b). Information on instructor led	
10	Commission-a	pproved courses and registration for the self paced study option can be found at newildlife.org. is at	
11	http://www.nev	wildlife.org/Hunting/BeforetheHunt/HunterEducationCourses.aspx. Both the instructor led and self-	
12	paced study of	otion courses_shall meet the standards adopted by the International Hunter Education Association,	
13	including all	subsequent amendments, found at http://ihea-usa.org/hunting and shooting/hunter-education/ihea-	
14	standards.		
15	(b) Of the inst	ruction required by Paragraph (a) of this Rule, 60 percent of the time shall be devoted to instruction	
16	related to the s	afe handling of firearms. The remaining course time shall include instruction on hunter responsibility	
17	(ethics), wildlife conservation, and wildlife management; and may include wildlife identification, game care, specialty		
18	hunting, survival and first aid, water safety, and special concerns (alcohol and drugs, turkey hunting, trapping, al		
19	terrain vehicles, and hunting dogs).		
20	(c) The hunter education course shall be administered by an instructor certified by the Wildlife Resources Commission		
21	$\frac{(d)(c)}{(d)}$ The following	owing requirements must be satisfied by the course participant in order to successfully complete a basic	
22	hunter education	on course and be entitled to the issuance of a Certificate of Competency:	
23	(1)	complete all of the six hours of instruction in the instructor-led course or all the material contained	
24		in the independent study course; and	
25	(2)	score a minimum of 70 percent on the final examination; and examination.	
26	(3)	review safe firearm handling skills, except current and former military personnel, current and former	
27		law enforcement officers, and National Rifle Association certified firearms instructors are exempt	
28		from this requirement. Exempt individuals must show current documentation of their exempt status.	
29			
30	History Note:	Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1A;	
31		Eff. October 1, 1991;	
32		Amended Eff. June 1, 2014, April 1, 2003; April 1, 1996;	
33		Readopted Eff. February 1, 2024.	
34			

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10K .0102

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, January 26, 2024

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In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

In (c), do you mean "may" or "shall?" If "may" is intended, under what circumstances will the Commission recognize a certificate of competency from another state or province? Under what circumstances will the Commission not recognize a certificate of competency from another state or province?

In (c), are the standards of the International Hunter Education Association incorporated by reference elsewhere in your Rules? If not, please do so. Are the standards used in compliance with 113-270.1A (b)(4) and similar to the rules and regulations in North Carolina?

1	15A NCAC 10K .0102 is readopted as published in 38:07 NCR 418 as follows:
2	
3	15A NCAC 10K .0102 ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY
4	(a) Upon the conclusion successful completion of a basic hunter safety education course, the instructor shall complete
5	a card for each participant who successfully completed the course in accordance with 15A NCAC 10K Rule .0101 of
6	this Section, and forward the card record to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources a certificate of competency shall
7	be issued by the Commission. Commission for processing.
8	(b) After receiving the completed card referred to in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, the Commission shall issue a
9	Certificate of Competency to each participant who successfully completes the course. This certificate shall include:
10	(1) a certification number;
11	(2) the participant's name, address, and date of birth;
12	(3) the hunter safety course instructor's name; and
13	(4) course completion date.
14	(c)(b) The Commission shall maintain permanent files of all successful participants in hunter safety courses who were
15	issued a certificate of competency. Duplicate certificates may be obtained from the Commission. Commission free of
16	charge upon request.
17	(c) The Commission may recognize a certificate of competency from another state or province so long as the hunter
18	education course met or exceeded the standards of the International Hunter Education Association, including
19	subsequent amendments and editions, found at ihea-usa.org/resources/#Standards.
20	
21	History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1A;
22	Eff. September 1, 1991;
23	Amended Eff. April 1, 2003; May 1, 1995;
24	Readopted Eff. February 1, 2024.

25

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10K .0103

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, January 26, 2024

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In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

In (b)(2), "Basic Hunter Education Course" does not need to be capitalized. Those words were not capitalized in 15A NCAC 10K .0102 (a).

1	ISA NCAC IUI	C.0103 is readopted as published in 38:07 NCR 419 as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 10	K .0103 INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION
4	(a) Hunter Edu	cation Instructors shall be certified by the Commission prior to delivering basic hunter education
5	courses.	
6	(b) To be eligib	le for Hunter Safety Education Instructor Certification an individual must: shall:
7	(1)	Be be at least 21 years of age upon at the time of application;
8	(2)	Be a graduate of possess a certificate of competency from a Commission-approved Basic Hunter
9		Education Safety Course approved by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Course. Approved
10		courses must satisfy the requirements set out in 15A NCAC 10K .0101 or be certified by a state or
11		province that meets and or exceeds the requirements set out in 15A NCAC 10K .0101;
12	(3)	Complete complete and submit to the Commission, the North Carolina Hunter Safety Education
13		Instructors Application; application, available at newildlife.org, with the following information:
14		(A) name, address, email, phone number; and
15		(B) date of birth.
16	(4)	Complete complete the 12 hour Commission-led Hunter Safety Education Instructors Course, and
17		course and score 75 80 percent or higher on the written examination. Teachers certified by the North
18		Carolina Department of Public Instruction and persons who have been certified as hunter safety
19		instructors by another state may take an abbreviated course that is less than 12 hours;
20	(5)	Submit submit to a background investigation including a records check which reveals no with none
21		of the following disqualifying convictions identified: convictions. Disqualifying convictions are
22		listed as follows:
23		(a)(A) a felony; or felony;
24		(b)(B) a crime or unlawful act defined as a "Class 1" misdemeanor within the five year five-year
25		period prior to the date of application; or
26		(e)(C) any conviction of the game and fish law which would require a mandatory suspension and
27		or revocation of a license as indicated in G.S. 113-276.3 within the three year three-year
28		period prior to the date of application.
29		
30	History Note:	Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1A;
31		Eff. May 1, 1996;
32		Amended Eff. April 1, 2003.
33		Readopted Eff. February 1, 2024.

34