

REQUEST FOR CHANGES PURSUANT TO G.S. 150B-21.10

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0295

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: January 16, 2026

PLEASE NOTE: *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:

Line 4, is "Three Days per Week" defined or referenced elsewhere? If so, please cite where it's defined for clarity.

Line 5, is "All Lawful Weapons Season for Deer With Visible Antlers" defined or referenced elsewhere? If so, please cite where it's defined for clarity.

Please retype the rule accordingly and resubmit it to our office at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609.

Travis C. Wiggs
Commission Counsel
Submitted to agency: January 4, 2026

1 15A NCAC 10D .0295 is adopted as published in 40:04 NCR 434 as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10D .0295 PAYNES BRANCH GAME LAND IN FORSYTH AND STOKES COUNTIES**

4 Paynes Branch Game Land is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

5 (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the first open day of the All Lawful Weapons Season for
6 Deer With Visible Antlers through the second Wednesday thereafter.

7 (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

8 (3) Horseback riding is prohibited.

9

10 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*

11 *Eff. February 1, 2026.*

REQUEST FOR CHANGES PURSUANT TO G.S. 150B-21.10

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10F .0307

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: January 16, 2026

PLEASE NOTE: 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

For all applicable rules, please provide a map when a rule involves specific geographical areas. A map of the area described in a rule may help the Commission determine if a proposed rule complies with 150B-21.9(2).

Line 15, add "as defined in G.S. 75A-2" after "vessel".

Line 21, add "as used in G.S. 75A-8" after "vessel liveries".

Please retype the rule accordingly and resubmit it to our office at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609.

Travis C. Wiggs
Commission Counsel
Submitted to agency: January 4, 2026

1 15A NCAC 10F .0307 is amended as published in 40:04 NCR 435 as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10F .0307 CATAWBA, IREDELL, LINCOLN, AND MECKLENBURG COUNTIES**

4 (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to Lake Norman in Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg counties:

5 (1) within 50 yards of the shoreline at Jetton Park in Mecklenburg County, from a point on the west
6 side of the park at 35.47082 N, 80.90427 W, south and around the point at 35.46703 N, 80.90360
7 W, then northeast to a point at 35.47262 N, 80.89727 W;

8 (2) Bluff Point Cove in Cornelius shore to shore, east of a line from a point 50 yards west of the south
9 shore of the cove mouth at 35.45327 N, 80.89520 W to a point 50 yards west of the north shore of
10 the cove mouth at 35.45487 N, 80.89440 W; and

11 (3) the cove immediately north of the inlet of Hager Creek in Iredell County, north of a line from a point
12 on the north shore at 35.55760 N, 80.94730 W southwest to a point on the island at the inlet of Hager
13 Creek at 35.55695 N, 80.94971 W, and east of a line from the same point on the island northwest to
14 a point on the north shore at 35.55754 N, 80.95029 W.

15 (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed within the regulated areas described
16 in Paragraph (a) of this Rule and as set forth in G.S. 75A-14.1.

17 ~~(c) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any
18 marked swimming area on the waters of Lake Norman.~~

19 ~~(d) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Lake Norman Marine Commission shall be the designated agency
20 for placement and maintenance of navigational aids and regulatory markers on the waters of Lake Norman.~~

21 ~~(d) Vessel Liveries. Vessel liveries operating on Lake Norman shall conduct the following activities with each vessel
22 renter prior to relinquishing control of the vessel:~~

23 (1) a pre-rental vessel inspection to ensure that safety equipment required by Rule .0201 of this
24 Subchapter is on board and accessible; and

25 (2) provide and review instruction on safe operation of the vessel rented including review of navigation
26 rules in G.S. 75A-6.1, operating restrictions in G.S. 75A-10, an electronic or waterproof
27 navigational map of Lake Norman, and the U.S. Coast Guard's U.S. Aids to Navigation System
28 pamphlet.

29 Both parties shall sign and date documentation verifying adherence to these requirements on the date the rental
30 begins. The vessel livery shall maintain a copy of this documentation for a period of two years from the date of rental
31 which shall be made available to law enforcement officers upon request. The vessel renter shall have a copy of the
32 documentation on the vessel and available for law enforcement upon demand during the term of the rental.

33

34 History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;

35 Eff. February 1, 1976;

36 Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; October 1, 1992; May 1, 1989; March 25, 1978;

1 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December*
2 *6, 2016;*

3 *Amended Eff. October 1, 2019; October 1, 2018;*

4 *Temporary Amendment Eff. March 7, 2025. 2025:*

5 *Amended Eff. February 1, 2026.*

6

REQUEST FOR CHANGES PURSUANT TO G.S. 150B-21.10

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10F .0324

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: January 16, 2026

PLEASE NOTE: 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:

Page 3, line 19, add “as defined in G.S. 75A-2” after “vessel”.

Please retype the rule accordingly and resubmit it to our office at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Travis C. Wiggs
Commission Counsel
Submitted to agency: January 4, 2026

1 15A NCAC 10F .0324 is amended with changes as published in 40:05 NCR 462 as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10F .0324 DAVIDSON COUNTY**

4 ~~(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to those portions of High Rock Lake, Tuckertown Lake, and Badin Lake~~
5 ~~that lie within the boundaries of Davidson County.~~

6 ~~(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed:~~

7 (1) ~~within 50 yards of any marked public boat launching ramp, bridge, dock, marina, boat storage~~
8 ~~structure, boat service area or pier while on the waters of High Rock Lake, Tuckertown Lake, and~~
9 ~~Badin Lake in Davidson County;~~

10 (2) ~~High Rock Shores Drive Cove on High Rock Lake in Hi Roe Shores Subdivision in Silver Hill~~
11 ~~Township, shore to shore northeast of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.67720 N, 80.24526~~
12 ~~W to a point on the west shore at 35.67663 N, 80.24437 W;~~

13 (3) ~~Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake shore to shore, from a point 50 yards north of the docks at~~
14 ~~Camp Walter Johnson at 35.67130 N, 80.16592 W to a point 100 yards south of the docks at~~
15 ~~35.66993 N, 80.16582 W;~~

16 (4) ~~the cove in Oakwood Acres on Abbotts Creek Cove on High Rock Lake shore to shore, west of a~~
17 ~~line from a point on the south shore at 35.64704 N, 80.24787 W to a point on the north shore at~~
18 ~~35.64809 N, 80.24870 W; and~~

19 (5) ~~Beaverdam Creek Cove on Badin Lake, shore to shore north of a line from a point on the east shore~~
20 ~~at 35.50714 N, 80.09994 W to a point on the west shore at 35.50715 N, 80.10086 W.~~

21 ~~(c) Speed Limit in Mooring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed while within a~~
22 ~~marked mooring area on the waters of High Rock Lake, Tuckertown Lake, and Badin Lake in Davidson County.~~

23 ~~(d) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any~~
24 ~~marked public swimming area on the waters of High Rock Lake, Tuckertown Lake, and Badin Lake in Davidson~~
25 ~~County.~~

26 ~~(e) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Davidson County shall be the designated agency for~~
27 ~~placement of the markers implementing this Rule.~~

28 (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule applies to the following waters in Davidson County:

29 (1) High Rock Lake:

30 (A) the waters of the cove shore to shore in Abbotts Creek between North Shore Drive and
31 South Shore Drive, east of a point at 35.64752 N, 80.24875 W;

32 (B) the waters shore to shore from a point 50 yards north of the docks at Camp Walter Johnson
33 at 35.67130 N, 80.16592 W to a point 100 yards south of the docks at 35.66993 N,
34 80.16582 W, on Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake;

35 (C) the waters within 50 yards of the High Rock Boat Dock Marina pier north of Abbotts Creek
36 Cove on High Rock Lake in Lexington, at 35.64992 N, 80.24802 W;

(D) the waters shore to shore in the cove at Skip Jack Harbor Marina and the Raven Point Boy Scout Camp dock, from a line at a point 50 yards south of the Raven Point Boy Scout Camp dock on the east shore of the cove at 35.63722 N, 80.27054 W, to a point on the west shore of the cove at 35.63788 N, 80.27212 W, northward ending 50 yards north of the Skipjack Harbor Marina dock at a line from a point on the east shore at 35.64070 N, 80.26864 W to a point on the west shore at 35.64064 N, 80.27050 W;

(E) the waters within 50 yards of the High Rock Marina and Campground and fuel dock in Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point on the southwest shore at 35.68274 N, 80.25228 W, around the peninsula to a point on the north shore at 35.68439 N, 80.25052 W;

(F) the waters 50 yards northeast and 50 yards southwest of the N.C. Highway 8 Bridge on Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point northeast of the bridge at 35.64564 N, 80.18493 W to a point southwest of the bridge at 35.64488 N, 80.18559 W;

(G) the waters 50 yards east and 50 yards west of the railroad trestle over Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point east of the trestle at 35.61161 N, 80.23434 W, to a point west of the trestle at 35.61151 N, 80.23535 W;

(H) the waters shore to shore 50 yards northeast and 50 yards southwest of the SR 1396 bridge, otherwise known as the Linwood-Southmont Road Bridge on Swearing Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point northeast of the bridge at 35.69185 N, 80.30139 W to a point southwest of the bridge at 35.69135 N, 80.30218 W.

(I) the waters within 50 yards northwest and 50 yards southeast of SR 2294 bridge otherwise known as the Holloway Church Road Bridge on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point east of the bridge at 35.67612 N, 80.25005 W, to a point west of the bridge at 35.67663 N, 80.25097 W;

(J) the waters within 50 yards northeast and 50 yards southwest of the N.C. Highway 8 bridge and railroad trestle on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point southeast of the railroad trestle at 35.64235 N, 80.25508 W, to a point northeast of the bridge at 35.64292 N, 80.25396 W;

(K) the waters 50 yards north and 50 yards south of the N.C. Highway 47 bridge on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point north of the bridge at 35.74835 N, 80.24164 W, to a point south of the bridge at 35.74759 N, 80.24163 W;

(L) the waters within 50 yards of the dock and ramp at the Southmont Boat Ramp on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake at Wildlife Recreation Area Access Road, at 35.64694 N, 80.25990 W;

(M) the waters within 50 yards of the dock and ramp at Buddle Creek Swim Area Boat Ramp on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, on Holloway Church Road, at 35.68212 N, 80.22924 W;

(N) the waters within 50 yards of the dock and ramp at the Pebble Beach Boat Ramp on Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake off N.C. Highway 8, south of the N.C. Highway 8 Bridge, at 35.64356 N, 80.18570 W;

(2) Badin Lake:

(A) the waters of Beaverdam Creek Cove on Badin Lake shore to shore, north of a point at 35.50710 N, 80.10036 W in New London; and

(B) the waters within 50 yards of the Circle Drive Boating Access Area on Badin Lake, at 724 Shoreline Drive, New London.

(3) Tuckertown Reservoir. The waters 50 yards east and 50 yards west of the railroad trestle at Ellis Creek on Tuckertown Reservoir, from a point east of the trestle at 35.52983 N, 80.18650 W, to a point west of the trestle at 35.52966 N, 80.18749 W; and

(4) Yadkin River:

(A) the waters 50 yards north and 50 yards south of the N.C. Highway 29/70 bridge, otherwise known as the Wil-Cox Bridge, and the railroad trestle near Yadkin River Park on the Yadkin River in Linwood, from a point north of the bridge at 35.72328 N, 80.391137 W, to a point south of the railroad trestle at 35.72263 N, 80.39137 W; and

(B) the waters within 50 yards of the York Hill Yadkin River (YRST) boat ramp on the Yadkin River at 35.72398 N, 80.39116 W, west of SR 1147 in Linwood.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while on the waters of the regulated areas designated in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) [Swimming Areas:] Swimming Areas. No vessel shall enter the waters of the following swimming areas:

(1) Buddle Creek Swimming Area [Area. No person operating a vessel shall permit it to enter the Swimming Area at the Buddle Creek Swim Area] at Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake in Lexington, east of the ropes from a point at 35.68124 N, 80.22895 W; and

(2) Pebble Beach Swimming Area [Area. No person operating a vessel shall permit it to enter the Swimming Area at the Pebble Beach Swim Area] at Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake in Denton, west of the ropes from a point at 35.64403 N, 80.18557 W to the shore at the N.C. Highway 8 bridge.

(d) Placement of Markers.

(1) the Board of Commissioners of Davidson County shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(A) through (E), (a)(2)(A), and (a)(4)(A) and (B) of this Rule;

(2) Cube Hydro Carolinas shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(L) through (N); and Subparagraph (c)(1) and (2) of this Rule; and

(3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(F) through (K), (a)(2)(B); and (a)(3) of this Rule.

History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;

Eff. July 1, 1976;

1 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; May 1, 2004; December 1, 1995; December 1, 1991; August 1,*
2 *1991; September 1, 1982;*

3 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December*
4 *6, 2016;*

5 *Amended Eff. February 1, 2026; October 1, 2018.*

REQUEST FOR CHANGES PURSUANT TO G.S. 150B-21.10

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10F .0338

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: January 15, 2026

PLEASE NOTE: 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:

Page 1, line 31, add “as defined in G.S. 75A-2” after “vessel”.

Line 32, is a “marked mooring area” defined? If so, cite the definition for clarity.

Please retype the rule accordingly and resubmit it to our office at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Travis C. Wiggs
Commission Counsel
Submitted to agency: January 4, 2026

1 15A NCAC 10F .0338 is amended as published in 40:05 NCR 464 as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10F .0338 CALDWELL COUNTY**

4 (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule ~~shall apply~~ applies to the following waters in Caldwell County:

5 (1) ~~Catawba River;~~

6 (2)(1) Lake Rhodhiss:

7 (A) within 50 yards of the marina facilities at Castle Bridge Marina, 6131 Castle Bridge Drive
8 in Granite Falls;

9 (B) within 50 yards of the Castle Bridge Boating Access Area, 6131 Connelly Springs Road in
10 Granite Falls; and

11 (C) within 50 yards of the Conley Creek Boating Access Area, 5475 Waterworks Road in
12 Granite Falls ~~Falls; and~~

13 (3) ~~Little Gunpowder Lake; and~~

14 (4)(2) Lake Hickory:

15 (A) ~~within 30 yards of the docks at the Lake Hickory Marina and Boat Rentals, on Limbaugh~~
16 ~~Lane in the City of Hickory;~~

17 (A) the waters shore to shore beginning 50 yards southwest of the U.S. Highway 321 Bridge,
18 from a line at a point on the east shore of Lake Hickory at 35.75636 N, 81.37646 W to a
19 point on the west shore at 35.75820 N, 81.37843 W, northeast past River Walk on the east
20 shore and Lake Hickory Pub and Marina on the west shore, ending at a line from a point
21 on the east shore at 35.76041 N, 81.37425 W to a point on the west shore at 35.76054 N,
22 81.37713 W in the City of Hickory;

23 (B) within 50 yards of the Gunpowder Boating Access Area, at 5450 Hurricane Hill Road in
24 Granite Falls; ~~and~~

25 (C) within 50 yards of the Lovelady Boating Access Area, at 5682 Rocky Mount Road in
26 Granite Falls. ~~Falls; and~~

27 (D) the waters of Gunpowder Creek shore to shore, within 50 yards northeast and 50 yards
28 southwest of the Adam W. Klutz Bridge on Grace Chapel Road in Granite Falls.

29 (b) Speed limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any regulated area described
30 in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

31 (c) Speed Limit in Mooring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while within a
32 marked mooring area on the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

33 (d) ~~Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any~~
34 ~~marked public swimming area on the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.~~

35 (e)(d) Placement of Markers. ~~The following agencies shall place or place and maintain the markers implementing this~~
36 ~~Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and United States Army Corps of Engineers:~~

(1) the Board of Commissioners of Caldwell County shall place the markers implementing Subparagraphs (a)(1) and (a)(3), and Part (a)(2)(A) of this Rule;

(2) the City of Hickory shall place the markers implementing Part (a)(4)(A) of this Rule; and

(3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall place and maintain the markers implementing Parts (a)(2)(B), (C), and (a)(4)(B), (C) of this Rule.

(1) the Board of Commissioners of Caldwell County shall be the designated agency implementing Subparagraph (a)(1)(A) of this Rule;

(2) the City of Hickory shall be the designated agency implementing Part (a)(2)(A) of this Rule; and

(3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(B) and (C) and (a)(2)(B) through (D) of this Rule.

History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;

Eff. August 23, 1981;

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

Amended Eff. February 1, 2026; February 1, 2024; July 1, 2018.

REQUEST FOR CHANGES PURSUANT TO G.S. 150B-21.10

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10G .0402

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: January 16, 2026

PLEASE NOTE: 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), consider rephrasing to say, "Wildlife Service Agents are official license and vessel agents of the Commission who are authorized, pursuant to individual Wildlife Service Agent Agreements, to issue hunting, fishing, and other licenses, permits, applications, vessel registrations, and other items authorized by the Commission."

G.S. 113-270.1 should be listed as authority for this Rule in the History Note.

On line 6, "and the Rules of this Section" is unnecessary since the only applicable Rule in the Section is being repealed (.0403).

In (c), lines 20-21, what is your agency's authority for "unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee to maintain adequate service to the public in a geographical area?

In (c)(3), line 34, is there a definition for "financial crimes", or a list of offenses, that your agency intends to enforce?

Page 2, line 4, add a comma after "printer".

Please retype the rule accordingly and resubmit it to our office at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Travis C. Wiggs

Commission Counsel

Submitted to agency: January 4, 2026

1 15A NCAC 10G .0402 is readopted as published in 40:04 NCR 436 as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10G .0402 APPOINTMENT OF WILDLIFE SERVICE AGENTS**

4 (a) Wildlife Service Agents are official license and vessel agents of the Commission who are authorized to issue
5 hunting, fishing and other licenses, permits, applications, vessel registrations, and items pursuant to G.S. 113-270.1,
6 the Wildlife Service Agent Agreement and the Rules of this Section.

7 (b) Any An individual authorized to act on behalf of a business operating from a fixed location in North Carolina may
8 apply to the Commission for appointment as a Wildlife Service Agent by completing an application provided by the
9 Commission. Agent by completing the Wildlife Service Agent application available at ncwildlife.gov. Information
10 required from the applicant shall include:

11 (1) business name, physical address, email, county, phone number, agent type, description of services,
12 and operational dates and hours; and
13 (2) business owner name, address, date of birth, driver's license number, and length of business
14 ownership.

15 (b) Application. Applications for Wildlife Service Agent appointment shall contain the business name, address,
16 county agent contact information, bank account information, business hours, and any other information requested by
17 the Commission that is reasonably necessary to determine the fitness of the applicant to serve as a Wildlife Service
18 Agent.

19 (d)(c) Qualifications and Requirements. Applicants Business owners shall meet the following requirements to
20 qualifications in order to be appointed qualify as a Wildlife Service Agent. Agent unless otherwise approved by the
21 Executive Director or his or her designee to maintain adequate service to the public in a geographic area:

22 (1) Businesses shall operate from a fixed location in North Carolina and shall sell a minimum of one
23 thousand dollars (\$1,000) in transaction sales annually. This minimum requirement may be waived
24 by the Executive Director if he finds the applicant's services necessary to maintain adequate agent
25 services to the public in that geographic area.

26 (2)(1) An applicant shall have a minimum of one year's experience in operating the business for which the
27 application is made or other equivalent business experience or training. experience; In these cases
28 where other equivalent business experience or training is accepted in lieu of the minimum one year's
29 experience, the applicant shall submit financial statements of the business so that the solvency of
30 the business can be judged.

31 (3)(2) Applicants shall provide a bank account for the purpose of transferring net proceeds from all
32 Wildlife Service Agent transactions to the Commission's account in the State Treasury every week
33 via an electronic transfer of funds. Commission; and

34 (3) no criminal convictions for financial crimes within the five years prior to application.

35 (d) The qualifications as provided by Paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Rule shall be met prior to appointment. Failure
36 to comply with the qualifications and requirements as provided by Paragraph (c) of this Rule, throughout the term of

1 ~~the appointment, may result in termination of the agent appointment. All agents are subject to monitoring of their~~
2 ~~performance by the Customer Support Section of the Commission.~~

3 (d) Upon approval of the application by the Commission, Wildlife Service Agents shall:

- 4 (1) have a computer, printer and internet access at their business location;
- 5 (2) provide a voided check or withdrawal slip for the bank account to be used to transfer funds to the
6 Commission;
- 7 (3) complete online training provided by the Commission or a contracted third-party vendor; and
- 8 (4) sign and submit the Wildlife Service Agent Agreement.

9 (e) Wildlife Service Agent Agreements and appointments are non-transferable and valid only for the owner and
10 business named on the executed agreement.

11

12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;*

13 *Eff. April 1, 1997;*

14 *Amended Eff. September 1, 2011; May 1, 2007; July 1, 1998. 1998;*

15 *Readopted Eff. February 1, 2026.*

REQUEST FOR CHANGES PURSUANT TO G.S. 150B-21.10

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10G .0406

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: January 16, 2026

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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:

Line 7, add "a" before "Wildlife". Also, delete "of provisions" since it's unnecessary.

Lines 9-17, beginning with "and may include" through the end of line 17, is any of this language necessary? It seems redundant since all of this appears to be included in the what was cited in (b).

Line 19, delete "of" after "written".

Line 22, add "from the date of receiving written notice from the Commission."

Please retype the rule accordingly and resubmit it to our office at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Travis C. Wiggs
Commission Counsel
Submitted to agency: January 4, 2026

1 15A NCAC 10G .0406 is adopted as published in 40:04 NCR 439 as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 10G .0406 APPOINTMENT TERMINATION**

4

5 (a) The Commission may audit Wildlife Service Agent transactions. Agents shall comply with Commission requests

6 for records and information within 10 business days of the request.

7 (b) The Commission may suspend or terminate Wildlife Service Agent appointment for violation of provisions of G.S.

8 113-270.1, the rules of this Section, or the Wildlife Service Agent Agreement. The determination of whether to

9 suspend or revoke appointment shall be based on the severity and frequency of the violation, and may include failure

10 to:

11 (1) operate as a public convenience as specified in the Agreement;

12 (2) provide correct information about wildlife transactions to customers as documented by customer

13 complaints or agency inspections;

14 (3) submit or return required documentation for transactions;

15 (4) comply with the terms and conditions specified in Rule .0405 of this Section;

16 (5) deposit sufficient funds to cover electronic transfers; and

17 (6) meet the five thousand dollar (\$5,000) annual Agent transaction requirement.

18 (c) Upon termination of appointment, a Wildlife Service Agent shall return consigned equipment and supplies to the

19 Commission and settle the agent financial account within 10 business days of receipt of written of termination notice

20 from the Commission.

21 (d) Individuals denied appointment or whose appointment is terminated shall not reapply for appointment for two

22 years.

23

24 *History Note:* *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;*

25 *Eff. February 1, 2026.*

26

REQUEST FOR CHANGES PURSUANT TO G.S. 150B-21.10

AGENCY: Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10H .1104

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: January 16, 2026

PLEASE NOTE: 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:

Line 24, is “pelter cage” defined elsewhere? Or does the description and dimension requirements in this Rule provide the definition?

Please retype the rule accordingly and resubmit it to our office at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Travis C. Wiggs
Commission Counsel
Submitted to agency: January 4, 2026

1 15A NCAC 10H .1104 is amended as published in 40:05 NCR 466 as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 10H .1104 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CAGING AND CARE**

4 **(a) General Cage Requirements.**

5 (1) Cages shall be constructed of non-toxic, corrosion-resistant materials sufficient to retain animals
6 without tethers or chains;

7 (2) Cages shall contain a den area large enough for all the animals in that cage to turn around and lie
8 down;

9 (3) Cages shall be housed in an area that provides protection from direct sunlight, precipitation, wind,
10 and other weather conditions;

11 (4) Cages shall minimize heat build-up and provide sufficient light to maintain the animal's circadian
12 rhythms;

13 (5) Cages shall be ventilated to sufficiently provide fresh air circulation;

14 (6) Cages shall be securely anchored and elevated two feet above ground or floor level to facilitate
15 cleaning;

16 (7) Cages shall be arranged in rows to allow for visual and physical inspection and to allow space for
17 cleaning; and

18 (8) Cages shall be surrounded by a four foot perimeter fence with a one foot below ground dig barrier
19 designed to prevent ingress and egress by domestic and wild animals. The fence shall have a top
20 electrified wire three feet above the ground and a bottom electrified wire one foot above the ground.
21 The fence shall be free from structures or vegetation.

22 (b)(a) Breeder cages shall be used to hold a A pair of animals held for breeding and to hold the or a female and her
23 litter from the time the litter is born until weaning. weaning shall be held in a breeder cage.

24 (c)(b) Pelter cages shall only be used to hold A single animals. animal or two mink may be held in a pelter cage.

25 **(d) Mink.**

26 (1) cages shall have a height of 12 inches.

27 (2) breeder cages shall be 4,300 cubic inches.

28 (3) pelter cages shall be 2,500 cubic inches for one mink, and 3,800 cubic inches for two mink.

29 (4) shall be acquired from a fur bearer propagation license holder, a captivity license holder, or a licensed
30 non-resident producer of ranch-raised breeding stock that is free from Aleutian Disease, and shall
31 be tested and vaccinated for Aleutian Disease.

32 **(e) Fox.**

33 (1) cages shall have a height of 24 inches.

34 (2) breeder cages shall be 13 cubic feet.

35 (3) pelter cages shall be 16 cubic feet.

36 (f)(e) The minimum dimensions of cages in The following cage dimension requirements in depth (d), width (w), and
37 height (h), measured in feet feet, shall be as follows depending on the species of animals being held: apply:

SPECIES	BREEDER CAGE (d x w x h)	PELTER CAGE (d x w x h)
Beaver	3 x 6 x 2.5	3 x 4 x 2.5
Bobcat	3 x 6 x 2.5	3 x 4 x 2.5
Fox	5.0 x 3.0 x 3.0	2.5 x 3.0 x 3.0
Mink	2.0 x 0.8 x 1.0	2.0 x 0.5 x 1.0
Nutria	3 x 3 x 2.0	3 x 2 x 2.0
Opossum	3 x 3 x 2.0	3 x 2 x 2.0
Otter	3 x 5 x 1.5	3 x 3 x 1.5
Raccoon	3 x 4 x 2.0	3 x 2 x 2.0
Skunk	3 x 3 x 1.5	3 x 2 x 1.5
Weasel	2 x 2 x 1.5	1 x 2 x 1.5

~~(d)~~ Each license holder shall comply with the following general cage requirements:

- ~~(1) cages shall be constructed of non toxic, corrosion resistant materials sufficient to retain animals without tethers or chains;~~
- ~~(2) cages shall have a den area large enough for all the animals in that cage to turn around and lie down;~~
- ~~(3) cages shall be housed in an area that provides protection from direct sunlight, precipitation, wind, and other weather conditions;~~
- ~~(4) cages shall be designed to minimize heat build up and provide sufficient light to maintain the animal's circadian rhythms;~~
- ~~(5) caging shall be ventilated;~~
- ~~(6) cages shall be solidly based at least two feet above ground or floor level to facilitate cleaning;~~
- ~~(7) cages shall be arranged in rows to allow visual and physical inspection of all areas and all species and to allow space for operations and cleaning; and~~
- ~~(8) a perimeter fence shall be maintained around the housing area and shall include a dig barrier designed to prevent escape and access by domestic and wild animals.~~

~~(g)(e)~~ Each license holder shall comply with the following general care requirements: General Sanitation and Food Requirements.

- ~~(1) water: clean drinking water shall be provided. Clean drinking water shall be provided daily. All pools, tanks, water areas, and water containers provided for swimming, wading, or drinking shall be clean. Enclosures shall provide drainage for surface water and runoff;~~
- ~~(2) sanitation: water disposal and waste disposal Water and waste shall be disposed of in accordance with all applicable local, State, and federal laws;~~

(3) food: food shall be of a type and quantity that is appropriate for the particular species and shall be provided in an unspoiled and uncontaminated condition. condition; Food shall be stored to prevent vermin infestation and spoilage;

(4) waste: fecal Fecal and food waste shall be removed daily from inside, under, and around enclosures and disposed of in a manner that prevents seepage into groundwater, noxious odors, edors or pests;

(5) ectoparasites: a program for the control of ectoparasites and vermin shall be established and maintained. Effective measures shall be implemented to control ectoparasites, insects, and vermin. These measures shall be documented and provided, upon request, by a representative of the Commission. Methods to control insects shall be employed and only EPA-approved insecticides shall may be used. Biological pest control methods may be used; used where appropriate.

(6) Acquired or purchased animals shall be quarantined for 30 days. The quarantine area shall have dedicated coveralls, boots, gloves, and footbath; and

(7) Carcasses shall be disposed of in an incinerator, landfill, or buried 3 feet below ground and 300 feet from a waterbody. Carcasses shall be temporarily stored in a sealed container prior to final disposal.

ense holders who are authorized to propagate furbearing animals that are rabies species, as defined in 10H

(19) and red foxes, shall:

(1) certify 12 hours of rabies or rabies species-specific training, or a combination thereof, for their initial application;

(2) certify up-to-date rabies pre-exposure prophylaxis in accordance with current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.CDC.gov for themselves and staff members who may contact rabies species;

(3) provide the name and contact information of a North Carolina licensed veterinarian with whom the licensee has consulted and who agrees to provide necessary medical treatment to the rabies species;

(4) certify notification to the appropriate animal control authority and local health department prior to making application to the Commission, to inform them of their anticipated activities and location, and to coordinate future rabies testing activities;

(5) post the following information at the license holder's facility and be provided, upon request, by an authorized representative of the Commission:

(A) proof of immunization or titer checks for individuals who have contact with rabies species;

(B) contact information for the veterinarian who agrees to provide medical treatment to the rabies species;

(C) contact information for the local animal control authority and local health department; and

(D) a written protocol for euthanasia and rabies testing.

(6) consider rabies species to be potentially infected with the rabies virus. If a human or domestic animal has been scratched, bitten, or exposed to saliva, the fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord, or brain or spinal cord material from a rabies species, the license holder shall contact the local health department immediately to report the incident. License holders shall abide by requests from public

health department personnel, animal control, and Commission personnel regarding disposition of the animal. Rabies species that have scratched or bitten a human or domestic animal or die in captivity shall not be released or disposed of until the local health department investigates the situation to determine if testing is necessary. Positive rabies test results shall be reported to the Commission within five business days of receipt from the health department.

(i) Biosecurity Standards. Prior to entering the perimeter fence, all individuals shall:

- (1) wear coveralls and boots;
- (2) wash their hands with a disinfecting soap or use a waterless hand disinfectant; and
- (3) use a footbath of phenolic, chlorhexidine, or quaternary ammonium disinfectants.

Except for license holders, all individuals shall sign an entrance log prior to entering the perimeter fence.

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

Eff. April 1, 1986;

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

Amended Eff. February 1, 2026; November 1, 2019.