Burgos, Alexander N

Subject: FW: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

From: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2026 1:06 PM
To: Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>; Rules, Oah <oah.rules@oah.nc.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Thanks Chris!

From: Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2026 1:05 PM
To: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Cc: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>; Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>; Rules, Oah <oah.rules@oah.nc.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Thank you, Will!

These changes look good to me – I have no further comments/requests.

I am attaching the final versions for all 41 rules. I will be recommending approval at next week's RRC meeting.

Let me know if you have any questions before then.

Regards,
Chris

Chris Miller
Rules Review Commission Counsel
North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings | Rules Division
1711 New Hope Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27609
(984) 236-1935

NOTICE: E-mail correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by authorized State officials.

Burgos, Alexander N

Subject: FW: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting
Attachments: 15A NCAC 10B .0212.docx; 15A NCAC 10D .0102.docx; 15A NCAC 10D .0103.docx; 15A NCAC 10D .0106.docx; 15A NCAC 10E .0201.docx; 15A NCAC 10E .0202.docx; 15A NCAC 10E .0203.docx; 15A NCAC 10H .0810.docx; Request for Changes - NCWRC - 11 2026 _CM Check.docx

From: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2026 1:22 PM
To: Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Chris,

Attached, please find responses to your request for changes and updated rule text.

Please let us know if you have additional questions or edits.

Best,

Will Casola

Will Casola, PhD
Policy Analyst
Office of Conservation Policy & Analysis
51 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606
Office: 919-707-0125

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: ALL RULES

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

Fiscal Note(s): Please confirm that the corresponding fiscal note and approval documentation are included in the rulemaking record and were timely posted.

Five fiscal notes were approved by OSBM for this set of rules and posted to the NCWRC website on 7/15/2026.

- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10C (Inland Fisheries) rules approved by OSBM on 4/30/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10B, 10D, 10H (Wildlife Management) rules approved by OSBM on 5/8/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10D, 10E (Shooting Ranges) rules approved by OSBM on 5/12/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10D (Land and Water Access) rules approved by OSBM on 5/26/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10I (Endangered Species) rules approved by OSBM on 5/29/2026

Maps: The Commissioners greatly appreciate maps for visually aid when reviewing rules. For any rules where you are amending, removing, or introducing new geographic boundaries (e.g., 15A NCAC 10C .0314 and 15A NCAC 10D .0211 and 15A NCAC 10D .0296), can you please provide me maps, if possible? I will upload them to the Agenda for the Commissioners use.

We now provide maps for the requested rules.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0119

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), line 4: What is a "qualified individual"? This is not defined. What qualifications are you referring to?

Qualified individual means someone collecting wildlife for a reason specified in (a) and whose application is approved after being evaluated with the criteria outlined in (c) and (g). We used this term to help better communicate that Wildlife Collection licenses are typically not granted to members of the general public, instead they are issued to individuals who are "qualified" via a specific scientific or educational purpose.

(b)(1), line 10: For consistency, delete the word "shall" and change "mean" to "means".

We updated line 10 as suggested.

(c)(3): If there are only two possible types of study, consider: "whether the proposed collection is permanent or catch-and-release;".

We updated the wording for clarity and believe it is important to allow the applicant to expand and elaborate on the type of study they are performing. Some studies require holding animals for extended periods of time and so while they may be technically catch and release, they could have a negative impact on local populations. We believe it is important to allow the applicant to describe their study rather than simplifying their response to a check box style answer.

(d)(1), line 27: You use the word "individuals" here when referring to animals, but you also use it on line 25 when describing the collectors. Consider revising the language on

line 27 to reduce any confusion. Could you not just delete the use of "individuals" on line 27? Or consider replacing it with "reptiles" and "amphibians", respectively.

We updated (d) to improve clarity and reduce confusion.

(d)(1): Is this limit based on collections/holdings at the same time? Within a given year? Be specific as to when this is measured.

We updated (d)(1) to improve clarity. The collection/holding limit is at any given time.

(e), lines 31 and 32: The use of "except" and "unless" here is confusing. What is your intent? Should there be an "or" placed before "unless"? Or should commas be placed around "except under an endangered species permit"?

We added commas as suggested.

(f), line 35: Add "by the Commission" after "authorized".

We updated line 35 as suggested.

(g), line 3: Could you provide a more direct link to the application page/portal?

We updated the link but cannot provide a direct link to the application because the system requires applicants to login with a unique username and password.

(g)(1): Add "address" after "email".

We updated (g)(1) as suggested.

(g)(1): What happens if the person does not have a driver's license? Can they not get a license?

Drivers license number is an optional field that applicants may choose to fill out when creating an account. We removed this from the rule since it is not a required field.

(g)(3)(B): What do you mean by "full" documentation? What needs to be included?

Research proposals are often presented as either abstracts or full proposals. We specify that full documentation is required because we require full proposals, not abstracts, as part of the application.

(g)(3)(B): Change "proposal(s)" to "proposals".

We updated (g)(3)(B) as suggested.

(i)(4)(C): 15A NCAC 10B .0110 has been repealed. Replace or remove the citation.

We removed the citation as suggested.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(k), line 29: How does the reporting requirement vary "depending on the species taken"? Your rule does not explain this. How would one know what is required based on the rule text?

Reporting specifics are listed on the permit when issued. Some species require more detailed reporting than others, for example, collecting endangered species may require the reporting of every item listed in (k), whereas a blanket permit for collecting a more common species may not require information such as the specific sex, size and location of each individual animal collected.

History Note, Authority: Consider adding G.S. 113-333(a).

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0203

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 1: Change "NCAC" to "NCR".

We corrected this typo.

(a)(1), line 5; and (f), line 32: What is the intended effect of this change? The language seemed to be clearer when it clarified that spikes are "protruding through the skin".

It was biologically incorrect. Antlers grow from the pedicle every year but only protrude from the skin during a deer's first year. After that, antlers/spikes grow from the pedicle annually, which remains attached to the deer's skull for its entire life, and are covered in velvet when precalcified. Removing this language will alleviate confusion and align the rule with the general understanding of what an antlered deer is – one with antlers or spikes regardless of the presence of velvet.

(a)(2)(B), line 12: Change "Paragraph" to "Part".

We updated (a)(2)(B) as suggested.

(b)(1), line 1: Change "Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (b)(2) of this Rule".

We updated (b)(1) as suggested.

(b)(2) and (c)(2): Add a colon after "Restrictions".

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (b)(2) and (c)(2) as suggested.

(b)(2)(C): What does this paragraph do? How is this any different from what you've already stated in (b)(1)?

This explicitly communicates to the regulated community that BOTH antlered and antlerless deer may be taken during the open archery season. This information is not specified in (b)(1).

(c)(1), line 16: Change "Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (c)(2) of this Rule".

We updated (c)(1) as suggested.

(c)(1), line 17: You include "archery equipment" here. Doesn't this contradict the archery season that you set forth above in (b)(1)? This is confusing.

The seasons are additive when it comes to which types of weapons are allowed and each season has an explicit beginning and end date, so they do not conflict. This is well understood among the hunting public.

- Archery season = archery equipment
- Blackpowder season = blackpowder firearms and archery equipment
- All lawful weapons = rifled and blackpowder firearms, shotguns, and archery equipment

(c)(2)(A), line 23: Revise to "Part (a)(2)(D) and (E)".

We updated (c)(2)(A) as suggested.

(d)(1), line 6: Change "Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (d)(3) of this Rule".

We updated (d)(1) as suggested.

(d)(2), line 16: Does the "Commission" share the same address as the "Executive Director"? You use different terms on lines 12 and 16, which could be confusing. Do the letters go to different people?

We updated (d)(2) so that Executive Director is used consistently. The letters go to the same people.

History Note, line 32: Add a period after "2027".

We updated the history note.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0205

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

History Note, Authority: Consider adding G.S. 113-291.1.

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0206

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(b): Add a comma after "aggregate".

We updated (b) as suggested.

History Note, line 16: This is missing the August 1, 2026, amendment. Please update.

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0212

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), line 4: Underline "(a)" here since you are deleting it on line 12.

We updated line 4 as suggested.

(a)(1-6): The first four items should end with a semi-colon. The fifth item should end with "; and". And the sixth item should end with a period.

We updated the list as suggested.

(a)(3): Session Laws 1963, Chapter 322, which is still retained by G.S. 113-133.1, states that "[r]ed foxes may not be hunted and taken by use of guns at any time in Haywood County." Please explain why your rule does not violate the law.

We are aware of this Session Law and explicitly state "unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly" in (a) for this situation. This is the only county in NC with a species-specific fox law. Fox laws are incredibly complex, and the rule serves to "fill the gap" among the many Session Laws and Statues governing the take of the species. The agency produces a county-by-county guide for our constituents that describes the litany of laws and rules that govern both fox trapping and fox hunting in each county.

(c): For my knowledge, does this mean that firearms, archery, and traps are allowed in these counties for the same season as noted for trapping in .0303? Or are you saying that only trapping is allowed under those timeframes?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Firearms, archery, and traps are allowed in these counties for the same season as noted for trapping in .0303. We agree this is a confusing way to set the season but it is explicitly described this way in G.S. 113-291.4B(a).

(c), line 20: Add a comma after "archery equipment".

We added a comma as suggested.

(c), line 21: Delete "10B". It is not needed.

We deleted "10B" as suggested.

(e), line 26: Add "a" before "local act".

We updated line 26 as suggested.

(f): Are there bag or season limits for the other areas not described in (f)? Your rule does not specify. Are they governed by local acts? If so, specify this.

There are no bag or season limits for areas described in (a) and (c) when hunting fox (trapping bag limits may be different and based on Local Law).

Thanks. On line 31, please change "in (a) and (c)" to "in Paragraphs (a) and (c) of this Rule".

We updated line 31 as suggested.

(f), line 29: Add "G.S." before "113-291.4B(c)".

We updated line 29 as suggested.

History Note, Authority: "G.S. 113-131.1" does not exist. Please correct this.

This should be 113-133.1 – it has been updated accordingly

History Note, Authority: Add a semi-colon after "113-291.4B".

The history note has been updated as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0219

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a)(4), (a)(5), (b)(2), and (b)(6): To improve wording, consider changing time frames to "between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset". (revise accordingly).

We updated all four lines as suggested.

(a)(7), line 13: Do you mean "when taking coyotes" rather than "to take coyotes"?

"To take" is a statutorily defined term, see NCGS 113-130(7). We prefer to maintain this wording based on feedback from our Law Enforcement Division. We have discussed similar wording with RRC Counsel in the past and settled on "to take" in our rules to match the term as defined in 113-130.

(a)(7), lines 13-14: Change "from a public road" to "on a public road".

We updated line 14 as suggested.

(a)(7), line 15: Delete the comma after "equipment".

We updated line 15 as suggested.

(b)(4): When does the suspension start? Is it for the next calendar year? From the date that the second red wolf is shot? Something else?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

The suspension starts immediately. After we're notified that the threshold has been crossed, we would reach out individually to permit holders to notify them that the hunt has been suspended.

(b)(5), line 28: I believe you are missing a word in between "the" and "by". Who must the hunter report to? The Commission?

This has been updated to specify the Commission.

(b)(5), line 28: Can you provide a more direct link to the online reporting portal?

We updated the link but cannot provide a direct link to the application because the system requires applicants to login with a unique username and password.

(b)(7), line 31: For clarity, add "hunting" before "license".

We updated line 31 as suggested.

(b)(7): This last sentence/requirement is very vague. Can you explain how/when this reporting happens?

Reporting typically occurs online; however, sometimes we ask hunters to send biological samples in (e.g., hair sample). The reporting requirements are listed on the permit when issued.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0223

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a): Consider rewriting this as, "There is no closed season for taking feral swine on private lands, and feral swine may be taken on private lands at any time of day."

We updated (a) as suggested.

(b), lines 5-6: To improve wording, consider changing time frames to "between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset". Same suggestion also applies to Paragraph (c).

We updated (b) and (c) as suggested.

(b), line 7: Change "season" to "seasons".

We updated line 7 as suggested.

(c), line 11: Add "each year" after "July 1".

We updated line 11 as suggested.

(c), line 11: Can you provide a more direct link to the permit application portal?

We updated the link but cannot provide a direct link to the application because the system requires applicants to login with a unique username and password.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(c), line 11: Add a telephone number to clarify how to apply by phone.

We added a telephone number.

(c), lines 14-15: You state, "All applicable laws and rules regarding the taking of feral swine shall apply." What laws are you referring to? And isn't this the rule that applies to taking feral swine? The meaning of this sentence is not clear.

Other statutes and rules outside WRC authority exist that regulate feral swine, especially in relation to agriculture. For example, NCDACS rules in 02 NCAC 52C and NCGS 113-291.12 and 106-798(b).

(f), line 18: Do you mean "when taking coyotes" rather than "to take coyotes"?

"To take" is a statutorily defined term, see NCGS 113-130(7). We prefer to maintain this wording based on feedback from our Law Enforcement Division. We have discussed similar wording with RRC Counsel in the past and settled on "to take" in our rules to match the term as defined in 113-130.

(f), lines 18-19: Change "from a public road" to "on a public road".

We updated (f) as suggested.

(a)(7), line 19: Delete the comma after "equipment".

We updated line 19 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0502

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 1: Change "NCAC" to "NCR".

We corrected this typo.

(c), line 15: Should this state, "Open seasons for hunting deer in CWD Management Areas …"? There needs to be some limitation here. Otherwise, it would conflict with your deer season rule.

We updated line 15 as suggested.

(c)(1), line 16: What is the intended effect of this change? The language seemed to be clearer when it clarified that spikes are "protruding through the skin".

It was biologically incorrect. Antlers grow from the pedicle every year but only protrude from the skin during a deer's first year. After that, antlers/spikes grow from the pedicle annually, which remains attached to the deer's skull for its entire life, and are covered in velvet when precalcified. Removing this language will alleviate confusion and align the rule with the general understanding of what an antlered deer is – one with antlers or spikes regardless of the presence of velvet. This language has also been corrected in 15A NCAC 10B .0203.

(c)(4): It's slightly confusing that you also cover additional time for archery hunting in a section titled "Blackpowder Firearms Seasons". It would probably just make more sense to add this time into (c)(3). Consider revising (although not absolutely necessary).

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

This format mimics that seasons in the rest of the state as outline in 15A NCAC 10B .0203. We prefer to maintain consistency and keep the text as written.

(d), line 36: Capitalize "Paragraphs".

We updated line 36 as suggested.

(d), line 36: Delete "10B". It is not needed.

We updated line 36 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0305

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 1: Change the page number in the citation to 202 rather than 203.

We updated the page number.

(b), line 6: For clarity, I suggest changing "only two" to "no more than two".

We updated line 6 as suggested.

(b): Two per day? Two per season? Something else? You should specify.

We updated the text to specify the limit is two per day.

(d), line 11: You can delete the comma after "Alamance County". It is not needed.

We deleted the comma.

(d), line 13: For clarity of the limit, I would suggest changing "only five" to "no more than five".

We updated line 13 as suggested.

(d), line 14: Here you state a prohibition on "possession" of certain fish, but on (c), line 10, you prohibit both "taking" and "possession". What is the difference? Is this intentional? Is (c) saying that you can't even fish for them in those locations?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Correct. This is intentional as anglers are prohibited from targeting bass in the waters described in (c) even if just for catch-and-release.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(l) and (m): Here, using "only one" may be clearer for setting the limit.

We updated (l) and (m) with "only" as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0314

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(b), line 6: For consistency with your other rules, I would delete "for these fish".

We updated line 6 as suggested.

(d): The wording of this paragraph is awkward. It seems like the first sentence only applies from October 1 to May 31 based on the limits set forth in the third sentence. If that's the case, you should state that in the rule. Consider combining with the second sentence.

We updated (d) to improve clarity.

(f), line 17: Add a comma after "Salem Lake".

We updated line 17 as suggested.

(g), lines 19-20: I would revise to say, "no more than two".

We updated line 20 as suggested.

(h), line 21: You can delete the comma after "Lake Mattamuskeet". It is not needed.

We updated line 21 as suggested.

(i): Should there be a comma in the coordinates? So for example, the first one would read as: 35.419448 N, 76.758752 W.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated the coordinates with a comma as suggested.

(i), lines 25, 26, and 27: Should "at" be inserted between "Point" and the coordinates?

We updated lines 25, 26, and 27 as suggested.

(i)(3): For consistency with your other rules, I suggest: "no striped bass or striped bass hybrid less than 18 inches or between 22 and 27 inches in length may be possessed."

We updated (i)(3) as suggested.

(i), line 34: Add "the" before "Neuse River".

We updated line 34 as suggested.

(i), lines 34-35: Wouldn't it be more direct to say, "There is no open season in the inland waters tributary to the Tar-Pamlico River and the Neuse River downstream of these lines." Or does it need to be worded this way?

It is deliberately worded this way to maintain consistency with WRC and DMF striped bass management proclamations (see NCGS 113-292). There technically is a season; however, it is currently closed.

(j), line 1: Does the cross-reference to paragraphs (h), (j), and (k) need to be updated based on your rule revisions? Please check and confirm.

We updated the cross-references as appropriate.

(j): Here, you only state "striped bass". Is this intentional? Or should this also include hybrids?

We updated (j) to also include hybrids.

(m), line 14: Change "is" to "shall be".

We updated (m) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0414

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

History Note, Authority: Why are G.S. 113-304 and 113-305 relevant to this rule?

All rules regarding fish species that occur within the jurisdiction of both the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and other state or federal agencies (e.g., the NC Marine Fisheries Commission, the NC Division of Marine Fisheries, the National Marine Fisheries Service) include these statutes in their history note. The WRC sets agreements with these other agencies as outlined in the statues to manage and regulate these fisheries.

History Note, line 11: Change the period at the end of this line to a semi-colon.

We updated line 11 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0425

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

History Note, Authority: Why are G.S. 113-304 and 113-305 relevant to this rule?

All rules regarding fish species that occur within the jurisdiction of both the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and other state or federal agencies (e.g., the NC Marine Fisheries Commission, the NC Division of Marine Fisheries, the National Marine Fisheries Service) include these statutes in their history note. The WRC sets agreements with these other agencies as outlined in the statues to manage and regulate these fisheries.

History Note, line 11: Change the period at the end of this line to a semi-colon.

We updated line 11 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0102

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

Line 1: Change "NCAC" to "NCR" in the Register citation.

We corrected this typo.

(b)(9), lines 4-6: This sentence needs to be broken up or clarified. I'd recommend putting a period after "Commission" and then stating: "Permits may be requested by calling 919-707-0150."

We updated (b)(9) as suggested.

(d), line 29: Can you provide a more direct link to the reg that you reference?

We updated the link directly to the CFR reg referenced.

(e)(1): Change "Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (e)(4) of this Rule".

We updated (e)(1) as suggested.

(e)(2): Change "state(s)" to "states".

We updated (e)(2) as suggested.

(e)(4)(A): Change "his" to "his or her".

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (e)(4)(A) as suggested.

(e)(4)(B): Delete the space before "(j)(1)".

We updated (e)(4)(B) as suggested.

(f), lines 7-8: You state, "… and the applying organization demonstrates their experience and expertise in conducting genuine field trial activities." How does one do this? Do they have to submit specific documents or information to you? Do they have to take a test or answer questions? Your rule is not clear.

This is an informal process because it is a small and consistent group of organizations that apply for field trials on game lands. Each year the agency holds a meeting with these organizations and works together to schedule trials based on the availability of the facility and the availability and preference of each organization.

The Sandhills Field Trial facility described in Paragraph (f) is the only one the Commission owns. We anticipate working with our game land supervisors to remove this paragraph from 10D .0102, update and reformat it accordingly, and incorporate it into the Sandhills Game Land rule 10D .0271 during the readoption phase of the Periodic Rules Review.

(g)(5): Do these dates apply to all game lands? If so, you should explicitly state that.

Yes this applies to all game lands. We now specify as such.

Would you be willing to add the word "all" before "game lands"? Or do you think it's clearer as is?

We believe it is clear as written. The style guide recommends avoiding "all" and the text throughout Section .0100 uses this phrasing for rules that apply to all game lands.

(g), line 26: Add a comma after "inches".

We updated line 26 as suggested.

(i)(4), line 8: Add a comma after "trapping".

We updated line 8 as suggested.

(k), line 23: This should be a cite to the definition. I believe this is 42 U.S.C. 12101. Please update.

We updated line 23 as suggested.

(l), line 27: For consistency, use "wheelchairs".

We updated line 27 as suggested.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(l), line 31: Can you provide a more direct link to the site that specifies these locations?

We updated the link as suggested.

(p), lines 1-2: Is this sentence missing something? Should this clarify, "to be placed for the purpose of baiting"?

The intent of this Rule is to prohibit all the types of foods listed from being placed on game lands no matter the reason, except for trapping. After consulting with our Law Enforcement Division, the Commission requests maintaining the current wording to avoid creating loopholes where individuals place these foods on game lands but claim to not be baiting. For example, someone spreading grain (e.g., birdseed) to attract game animals but claim they're "planting" the grain.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0103

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(a)(5), line 14: Add "(a)" before "(4)".

We updated line 14 as suggested.

(b), line 19: Add "otherwise" between "Unless" and "allowed".

We updated line 19 as suggested.

(e)(4): Why is the word "daily" needed here but not in other places?

We need "daily" so that hunters explicitly know that the decoys need to be removed everyday rather than just at the end of the season. This was specifically added to address a problem we've had in the past.

(f): Where does this apply? To all game lands? Please specify.

We specify that the prohibition applies to all game lands.

(g)(2): For parallel structure within the list, consider revising to: "Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall be followed; and".

We updated (g)(2) as suggested.

(j): Why is "Game Land" capitalized here? It is not capitalized elsewhere throughout your rules.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (j), removing the capitalization for consistency with the rest of the rule.

(j)(3): This provision says "may be taken on the open days of" while others say "may be taken during the open season on …". Why does this language differ? Is there a difference in meaning?

We updated (j)(3) for consistency with the other definitions.

You can now delete "during the open seasons" on line 26 at the end of the sentence. It is redundant given the revisions.

We updated line 26 as suggested.

(j)(4): For consistency, say "may be taken during the open season and hunting is limited to …".

We updated (j)(4) for consistency with the other definitions.

After re-reading this, you can revert back to the original rule language. Stating "and hunting is limited to" doesn't make sense given that there is no day limit here. Hunting is allowed seven days per week. My apologies.

We reverted to the original rule language as suggested.

(j)(6), line 1: Delete ", unless otherwise specified". It is not needed and confusing.

We updated (j)(6) as suggested.

(j)(6), line 2: Can you provide a more direct link to the permit application portal?

We updated the link as suggested.

Thanks. And similar to revisions in other rules, can you add the phone number after "by phone"? That would improve clarity.

We added a phone number as suggested.

(l), line 10: You mention an "application" here. What information are you requiring applicants to submit? Do you spell this out somewhere in your rules? Can you add a cross-reference, if so?

The applications are submitted through our online permit system. There is no additional information required besides selecting a location and a date range to apply for. The application is linked to their online account which includes all the information submitted when they purchased their hunting license.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Thanks. Since this is mandatory information, would you be willing to add it into the rule? For example, the second sentence could be revised as, "Completed applications shall include location and date range of the hunt and shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of hunt."

We updated the text as recommended. We use the terms "hunt area" and "hunt dates" as these are the names of the fields on the application.

(l), line 10: What does "next preceding" mean? This is not clear.

The phrase "September next preceding" means the September immediately before the hunt dates.

(l), line 12: Hyphenate "nontransferable" for consistency.

We updated line 12 as suggested.

(l), line 12: What does it mean to "validate" a kill?

This concept is well understood among hunters. To validate a kill is to "tag" a harvested animal. It proves the animal has been legally claimed right where it fell, allowing the hunter to legally possess and transport it. The Commission no longer issues paper tags to hunters, instead, hunters now validate the harvest with either our mobile app or by printing tags themselves and punching them in the field. Validation is separate from reporting. Validation is done before the harvested animal is moved, reporting can be done later.

(o): You should capitalize the Program name, like you have in other rules.

We updated (o) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0106

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(a), line 4-5: Does the deletion mean that these permit hunts can now be allowed at anytime of the year, regardless of any specified season?

No, the permit explicitly lists the dates when it is valid. Permits are only issued during the open season. Because permits are only issued during the open season, it seemed duplicative to list it in the rule.

(a), line 6: Can you provide a more direct link to the permit application?

We updated the link as suggested.

Thanks. Can you add the phone number here too? Trying to be consistent with the revisions requested to other rules.

We added a phone number as suggested.

(a), line 9: Which "laws and rules" are you referencing? Can you be more specific? The rule language is not very helpful.

There are too many to list as many individual game lands have specific rules for bear hunting, there is the bear specific hunting rule in 15A NCAC 10B, and there are many statutes that govern different aspects of bear hunting (e.g., manner of take, baiting). The intent of this sentence is to remind the regulated community of their responsibility to not only follow the rules outlined in 10D .0106 but also the other laws that apply to the species.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(b) and (c): Is there a reason why these lists aren't broken out into subitems?

Many of the Commission's rules have never had numbered lists. See also 10A .1502 and 10C .0205.

(b) and (c): Several of the areas overlap (e.g., Daniel Boone and Dare). How does this work? Do you need two separate permits to hunt in these areas? Or you can use either one? Your rule is not clear.

The designated bear management areas (DBMA) themselves do not overlap. For example, Dare DBMA and Gull Rock DBMA are both in Dare County, however, they do not occupy the same part of Dare County. The specific boundaries of the DBMAs often coincide with game land boundaries and/or are contained within game land boundaries. Maps are on our website and made available to permittees, and the boundaries are posted.

(c), lines 33-34: Do you mean that (c) only covers permits for "scheduled managed hunts"? Please clarify in your rule. Do you not need any "bear management area permit" for bear management areas named in (b)? This is confusing, especially given how you've worded (a).

Paragraph (b) is simply a list of all the DMBAs in NC. Paragraph (c) is a list of the DBMAs where we currently issue bear hunting permits. DBMA listed in (b), but not (c), are not open to bear hunting.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0202

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0210

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(2): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (2) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0211

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(c), lines 12-13: Is this last sentence only applicable to "Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays"? Or does this apply to all of (2)? The way you've formatted this is confusing. If it applies to all of (2), it should fall in line with the spacing for line 8.

This applies to all of (2). We fixed the formatting.

(7), line 19: Are these areas posted? If so, consider adding the word "posted" here for consistency.

Currently this only applies to the Mountain to Sea Trail which is marked both on our maps and on the ground. We prefer not to put "posted" in the rule because the Commission is not responsible for marking the trail and we cannot guarantee the condition or consistency of the markings.

*(8): You say, "on areas posted for camping as specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter." That rule does not specify camping areas. Do you mean, "on areas posted for camping **and shall comply with the requirements** specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter."?*

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting. As stated, Rule .0102 of this Subchapter specifies all the camping requirements and geographic bounds ("on an area posted by the landowner for camping").

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(10): Change "(Wake County)" to "in Wake County".

We updated (10) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0213

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(5): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(5): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (5) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0214

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(4): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(4): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (4) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0221

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(5): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(5): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (5) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0222

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(1), line 5: Should this say "used for hunting" rather than "hunted", since you are referring to the blinds?

To hunt a blind or a stand means to hunt from that position. This is a commonly used term when referring to blinds, stands, and other hunting positions.

(2), line 7: "Licensed" by whom?

The Commission licenses hunting guides under NCGS 113-270.4. Hunting and fishing guide license.

(5): Does this need to be updated based on the revisions made to 10D .0103? They are no longer consistent.

We deleted (5) as 10D .0103 covers all game lands.

(7): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(7): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (7) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0229

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): What do you mean by, "Except as provided in 15A NCAC 10D .0103(e), …"? That rule provision does not mention anything about specific hunting days. Do you mean, "Subject to the requirements provided in 15A NCAC 10D .0103(e), …"? Consider different language for improved clarity.

We updated (2) as suggested.

(5), lines 20-21: Consider: "… in accordance with Rule .0102(i) of this Subchapter."

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting.

(8): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(8): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (8) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0239

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3), line 8: Consider: "… in accordance with Rule .0102(i) of this Subchapter."

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0241

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

Line 4: Remove "(a)". It is not needed since there are no other paragraphs in the rule.

We updated line 4 as suggested.

(2), lines 7-8: Consider: "… in accordance with Rule .0102(i) of this Subchapter."

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0246

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(2): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (2) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0251

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0254

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

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We corrected this typo.

(2): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(2): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (2) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0256

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(5): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(5): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (5) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0257

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0260

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2) and (5): Does the word "Tract" need to be added after "Black Bear" and "Linville River"? The wording is a little bit awkward.

We added "tract" as suggested.

(3): How are these trails "designated"? Are they posted? Consider specifying.

Trails are marked and noted on information kiosks at the property. We prefer not to put "posted" in the rule because the Commission is not responsible for marking the trails and we cannot guarantee the condition or consistency of the markings.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0270

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

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(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0279

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

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Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0284

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

> *Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*
>
> We corrected this typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0290

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3), line 15: Either delete "Tract" after "Huggins" or change "Morton Tracts" to "Morton Tract".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0296 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10E .0201 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

*RULE FORMATTING: Please use the formatting instructions for a **Permanent Adoption with changes from publication** – see https://www.oah.nc.gov/documents/rules/permanent-adoption-changes-publication/download?attachment. Changes should just be shown with underlining and strikethrough only.*

We updated the formatting as suggested.

Line 4: "FACILITIES" is misspelled.

We corrected the typo.

Line 15: You can delete "(a)" since there is no paragraph (b) in your rule.

We deleted (a) as suggested.

(a), line 15: Change "the Section" to "this Section".

We changed "the" to "this" as suggested.

(a)(2), line 18: You use "fire" here but "aim and discharge" in (a)(1). Do these have different meanings? If not, use the same term for consistency throughout this rule.

We updated (2) so that "aim and discharge" is used consistently throughout the rule.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(a)(6), line 26: "Issued" by whom?

We updated (6) to specify that the card is issued by the Commission.

(a)(6), line 27: Add "for" before "one year from issuance".

We added "for" as suggested.

(a)(7): Do you mean "designated" rather than "designed"?

We corrected the typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10E .0202 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

*RULE FORMATTING: Please use the formatting instructions for a **Permanent Adoption with changes from publication** – see https://www.oah.nc.gov/documents/rules/permanent-adoption-changes-publication/download?attachment. Changes should just be shown with underlining and strikethrough only.*

We updated the formatting as suggested.

(a), line 5: What do you mean by "non-specified use"? Just any use other than those listed in the first sentence?

Correct. Shooting range facilities are only to be used as specified in (a) unless the Commission approves otherwise. We updated line 5 to improve clarity.

(b)(3): Delete "firearm" for consistency.

Firearm is deliberately listed because ear protection is only required when shooting firearms, not when shooting archery equipment.

(d)(3)(B): What is "age certification"? Do you only accept certain documentation? If so, you may want to specify here.

Age certification is a check box on our form that requires adult participants to attest to the fact that they are 18 years of age or older.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(e)(2): What do you mean by "one-on-one adult supervision"? Can you define or explain this? What is the adult required to do?

The difference between (e)(1) and (e)(2) is the ratio of adults to youth when on the firing line. Multiple youth between the ages of 13 and 17 can be supervised by a single adult, whereas youth 12 and younger must each have their own adult supervisor (i.e., one-on-one). See NCGS 14-316(a).

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10E .0203 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

*RULE FORMATTING: Please use the formatting instructions for a **Permanent Adoption with changes from publication** – see https://www.oah.nc.gov/documents/rules/permanent-adoption-changes-publication/download?attachment. Changes should just be shown with underlining and strikethrough only.*

We updated the formatting as suggested.

(a)(6): For my understanding, what is an "automatic simulated firearm"? Is this defined somewhere?

Automatic simulated firearms are created when a device (e.g., bump stock, forced reset trigger, machinegun conversion device) is attached to a semi-automatic firearm to make the firearm shoot more than one round with the single function of the trigger. Generally, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives treats automatic simulated firearms as automatic firearms; however, we felt listing both in rule would make it clear to the regulated community that neither type of firearm is allowed.

(c)(2): Change "1300" to "1,300".

We updated the number as suggested.

(d)(1): What do you mean by "correct ammunition"?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

All firearms are designed to be used with a specific size and/or type of ammunition. The ammunition requirements are generally stamped on the firearm itself. Failure to use the correct ammunition can cause an explosion of the barrel of the firearm.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10H .0810

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), lines 4-6: How does this not conflict with rule .0802(a), where you require non-state residents to have both a state license AND an NC falconry license?

We updated (a) to read AND. We confirmed with our Wildlife Management Division, our Law Enforcement Division, and the NC Falconer's Guild that currently in practice we require both an NC falconry license and a falconry license from the individuals state of residence, as outlined in 10H .0802(a).

(b): Does "annually" mean per calendar year, or one year from the issuance of permit/license?

50 CFR 21.82(e)(2) is explicit, only two birds may be taken each year.

Understood – but your rule states "annually". "Annually" could mean each calendar year or it could mean any consecutive 12-month period. You should consider clarifying this.

We updated (b) to specify each calendar year.

(d)(4), line 28: "Special hunt permit" issued by the WRC?

Correct, this is a permit issued by the WRC.

(e), line 30: If this aligns with your intent, I recommend changing this to "at least once every 24 hours".

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated line 30 as suggested.

(e)(1): Do you have specific limits on "drag weight" based on species? How would the trapper know what is and is not allowed?

There are established best practices for drag weights set by the profession and differ based on species, the bird's flying weight, and body condition.

Are you able to add reference to the professional standards or best practices? If not, why? Based on the rule language, you seem to be making them binding.

There are too many variables involved to list in rule. Body condition could be different based on location, time of year, and species targeted. Targeting first year birds may require a different equipment setup compared to older birds.

Falconry is a small community and largely self-regulates. Best practices are passed down between master falconer and apprentice falconer through strict apprenticeships that take two years to complete.

This line in the rule serves more as a reminder to the regulated community of the importance of proper drag weights, rather than a hard and fast standard that our law enforcement would be checking for.

(f), line 37: Doesn't 21.82(e)(3)(iii) also apply?

Correct, we updated line 37 to include 21.82(e)(3)(iii).

History Note, Authority: Add 50 C.F.R. 21.82.

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10I .0102

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(b): Consider rephrasing to state, "No person shall purchase, sell, or take …".

We corrected paragraph (b) using your suggested wording.

(d): How does the Executive Director exercise this discretion? If a person fits within (1)-(7), do they automatically get a permit? Or are there additional considerations or criteria?

Permits are only issued to people who fit within one of the explicitly listed categories in (d). When deciding to issue the permit, the information submitted by the applicant in compliance with Paragraph (f) is considered.

(d)(4): The comma here is not needed.

We removed the comma as suggested.

(d)(7)(C): What is "the agency's or institution's Animal Care and Use Committee"? Are all federal and state agencies required to have one of these?

Research institutions that use certain animals for federally funded laboratory research must have an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). These committees stem from federal animal welfare regulations in the Animal Welfare Act and U.S. Public Health Service policy. Permittees are required to submit IACUC approval from their institution when applying for an endangered species permit.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(e): Can you explain to me how this is different than (d)? Also, what "additional permits" are you referring to? How would a regulated person know what they need based on the text of your rule? This additional requirement is not clear and provides no standard.

An endangered species permit may be issued for any of the activities listed in (d). Alone, that permit does not allow any of the activities listed in (e) unless explicitly listed on the permit. Paragraph (e) lists all the other permits that may be applicable to the activities in (d) now and in the future. By specifically stating them in a separate paragraph, it is clearer that the endangered species permit does not necessarily cover all activities in perpetuity. See NCGS 113-274.

(f): Can you provide a more direct link to the portal for endangered species permits?

We cannot provide a more direct link because the system requires permittees to login with a unique username and password.

(f)(1): Add "address" after "email".

We added address as suggested.

(h), line 24: For clarity, add "endangered species" before "permit".

We added endangered species as suggested.

(h)(1): Add "(d)" to the rule citation.

We updated the citation as suggested.

(i): Are you able to specify the reporting requirements in your rule? What are the federal requirements? And where are your permit reporting requirements? How would a regulated person know what is required based on the text of your rule?

We cannot specify these in rule as they are different depending on the species and the activities. Federal regulations give the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service some flexibility in determining what reporting requirements are deemed necessary for determining whether the permittee is complying with the terms and conditions of their permit. See 50 CFR 17.22(b)(3). Permit reporting requirements will be on the permit.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

15A NCAC 10B .0212 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 200 as follows:

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

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

(1) [~~Ashe~~] Ashe;

(2) [~~Catawba~~] Catawba;

(3) [~~Haywood~~] Haywood;

(4) [~~Perquimans~~] Perquimans;

(5) [~~Wilkes~~] Wilkes; and

(6) [~~Yadkin~~] Yadkin.

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

~~(1) Caswell;~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~(d)~~ (f) For ~~areas of open season~~ seasons detailed in Paragraphs ~~(a) through (c)~~ (b), (d), and (e) of this Rule, and areas detailed in G.S. 113-291.4A(a), excluding the counties listed in G.S. 113-291.4B(c), ~~Rule,~~ the daily bag limit is ~~two;~~ two and the season limit is ~~10.~~ 10, unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly. There are no bag or season limits for areas described in Paragraphs (a) and (c) of this Rule, unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly.

History Note: *Authority G.S.* [~~*113-131.1;*~~] *113-133.1; 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.4; 113-291.4A;* [~~*113-294.4B*~~] *113-291.4B;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1987; December 1, 1985;

Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1989;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; May 1, 1990;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2000;
Readopted Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0102 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 214 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE

(a) For purposes of this Subchapter, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Permanent Hunting Blind" means a structure that is used for hunter concealment, constructed from manmade or natural materials, and that is not disassembled and removed at the end of the day's hunt.

(2) "Target shooting" means the discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or self-defense.

(3) "Youth" means individuals under 16 years of age.

(b) Trespass. Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the landowner. The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified the following areas on game lands that have additional restrictions on entry or usage:

(1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to archery equipment and falconry. During the open deer seasons for these areas, antlered and antlerless deer may be taken.

(2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on a game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.

(3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

(4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to use by the public, and entry on these areas is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission. The Commission may authorize entry when the primary purpose for the Restricted Zone shall not be compromised and the persons requesting entry demonstrate a valid need, or official business of the Commission is being conducted by a contractor or agent of the Commission. Valid needs may include access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.

(5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are closed to use by the public, and entry is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission. An area of a game land shall be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public.

(6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.

(7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S. 113-264(d).

(8) Day Use Only Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" the use by the public shall be prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

(9) Sensitive Habitat Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Sensitive Habitat Zones" are closed to use by the public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~Commission~~ Permits may be requested by calling 919-707-0150. ~~919-707-0150 and requesting a permit.~~

The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing the following zones: archery, restricted firearms, restricted deer hunting, day use only, or sensitive habitat. After the input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final determination.

(c) Littering. No person shall deposit litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse on any game land except in receptacles provided for disposal of refuse at designated camping and target-shooting areas. No garbage dumps or sanitary landfills shall be established on a game land by a person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality, except as permitted by the landowner.

(d) Use of weapons. ~~*No*~~ *Except for archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, no* person shall ~~*discharge:*~~ *discharge a weapon within 150 yards of:*

(1) ~~*a weapon within 150 yards of*~~ a game land building or designated game land camping area, except where posted otherwise; *or*

(2) ~~*a weapon within 150 yards of*~~ a residence located on or adjacent to game *lands.* ~~*lands, except on Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and*~~

~~*(3) a firearm within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan Game Lands.*~~

No person shall hunt with or have in possession a shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on a posted waterfowl impoundment on a game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer hunting. Individuals carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-415.11, even if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan, Kerr Scott, and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document may be accessed at https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-36/part-327/section-327.13 ~~www.ecfr.gov~~ at no cost. On Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hyco, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee River Game Land north of U.S. 74; and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of U.S. 158 and east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days for game birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:

(1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;

(2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;

(3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or

(4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

(e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

(1) Except as provided in Subparagraph (e)(4) of this Rule, ~~(4) of this Paragraph,~~ a person entering a game land to hunt, trap, run dogs, or train dogs using wildlife shall have in his or her possession a valid North Carolina hunting or trapping license.

(2) For Commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114, in a field trial using wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license, except non-residents may substitute hunting licenses from their states ~~state(s)~~ of residence.

(3) For other field trials using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall possess a North Carolina hunting license.

(4) Exceptions:

(A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his or her parent or legal guardian;

(B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103(j)(1) ~~.0103 (j)(1)~~ of this Section, the game lands license is required for hunting doves; other activities are subject to the control of the landowners.

(f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. An individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial area shall file an application with the Commission to use the area with the facility use fee computed at the rate of three hundred dollars ($300.00) for each scheduled day of the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from 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 day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for all intermediate days on which trials are not run but the building or facilities are used or occupied. A fee of one hundred dollars ($100.00) per day shall be charged to sporting, educational, or scouting groups for scheduled events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or other entity shall enter or use the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area ~~or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility~~ without written approval from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission, and no entry or use of a facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The Sandhills Field Trial facilities shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources Commission. No more than 20 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during a calendar month, and no more than five days may be scheduled during a calendar week. A field trial requiring more than five days may be scheduled during one week with reduction of the maximum number of days allowable during some other week so that the monthly maximum of 20 days is not exceeded. Before October 1 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities between the Wednesday on or nearest October 18 and the second Friday before Thanksgiving and between the first Monday following Thanksgiving and March 31 shall submit its proposed schedule of use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for consideration and approval. ~~*The use of the Sandhills Field Trial facilities by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills Game Lands dogs may be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1.*~~ *Training dogs is prohibited at the Sandhills Field Trial facilities. Unless otherwise specified in Rules of this*

Subchapter and except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~*Dogs may*~~ *dogs shall* not be trained or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on game lands located west of *I-95, or* ~~*I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be trained or permitted to run unleashed*~~ from March 15 through June 15 on game lands located east of ~~*I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission.*~~ *I-95.* Additionally, on game lands located west of I-95 where special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts. A field trial shall be authorized when the field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the game land or field trial facilities, and the applying organization demonstrates their experience and expertise in conducting genuine field trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be granted when they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do not conflict with the mission of the agency.

(g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0300, trapping of furbearing animals, armadillos, coyotes, and groundhogs is permitted on game lands during the open trapping seasons for those areas, established by rule. Foxes may be trapped on game lands from October 1 through the end of February in a county with an open fox trapping season that falls between October 1 and the end of February. Foxes may not be taken by trapping on game lands in counties with a closed fox trapping season or during a fox trapping season that occurs outside the dates of October 1 through the end of February. Additionally, fox trapping is allowed on game lands in Clay, Graham, Henderson, Macon, and Tyrrell counties with a daily bag limit of two and a season bag limit of 10 from the first to the fourth Saturday in January. Trapping is prohibited:

(1) on the J Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of Sandhills Game Land;

(2) in posted "safety zones" located on a game land;

(3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south, US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;

(4) on the DuPont State Forest Game Lands; and

(5) from April 1 through September 31 on game lands. ~~31.~~

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 food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), is less than 3 cubic inches. ~~inches~~ and is covered to prevent it from being seen from above. Feathers, including those with attached skin or entire bird wings, hair with or without skin or hide, and bones that include no attached meat, organs, or viscera do not need to be covered.

(h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on a game land except on roads constructed, maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and on trails posted for vehicular travel, unless the person:

(1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land; or

(2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (l) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program Permit as described in Paragraph (l) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph (k).

(i) Camping.

(1) No person shall camp on a game land except on an area posted by the landowner for camping.

(2) *Camping on posted camping areas is allowed from September 1 through the last day of February and from March 31 through May 31 unless otherwise specified in rules of this Subchapter.*

(3) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at a designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period, unless otherwise specified in rules of this Subchapter. After 14 consecutive days of camping, personal belongings shall be removed from the game land.

~~(3)~~*(4)* A hunting, fishing, trapping, ~~trapping~~ or Game Lands License is required for individuals age 16 or older to camp on game lands in areas posted for camping except when camping within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land, within 100 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the game land west of NC-43, and in posted areas along the Mountains-to-Sea Trail on Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land.

(j) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds, domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild fish from one stream to another on game lands without written authorization. Written authorization shall be given when release of animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native wildlife in the area and is in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(k) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use on game lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (l) of this Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from this restriction but shall comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12102, which is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions and can be found free of charge online at www.govinfo.gov/app/details/USCODE-2024-title42/USCODE-2024-title42-chap126-sec12102, ~~Act (42 U.S.C. 126)~~ may use wheelchairs or other all-terrain wheelchairs on areas where foot travel is allowed. Off road vehicles including ATVs, UTVs, and ebikes are not permitted.

(l) Disabled Access Program. Disabled individuals who meet the requirements of G.S. 113-296 may obtain a Disabled Access Permit and Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification online at ncwildlife.org. The Disabled Access Permit allows individuals to operate electric wheelchairs, ~~wheel chairs,~~ all-terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands whose owners have agreed to that use. Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated online, at www.ncwildlife.gov/outdoors/accessible-opportunities/disabled-access-game-lands. ~~www.ncwildlife.org.~~ This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths, or trails planted for wildlife food or cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each qualified

disabled person, may accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is constantly in visual or verbal contact with the disabled person. The companion may participate in lawful activities while assisting a disabled person, provided license requirements are met. A vehicle used by a qualified disabled person for access to game lands under this provision shall have the Disabled Access Permit available for inspection by wildlife enforcement officers upon request. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their companions may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit hunting days on a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land. It is unlawful for anyone other than disabled persons holding a Disabled Access Permit, during waterfowl season, to hunt within 100 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the Wildlife Resources Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind. The Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification allows individuals to apply for available Disabled sportsman permit hunting opportunities as prescribed in G.S. 113-296.

(m) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on game lands, including land or water. For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while in a public place.

~~(n) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting ranges for purposes other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. Other uses, including camping, building fires, operating concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, unless written authorization is obtained from the Commission. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit debris or refuse on the grounds of the range. This includes items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the range, by the shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot items made of glass on the grounds of the range. No person may leave a vehicle or other obstruction in a location or position that it will prevent, impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave a vehicle or other object parked in a place on the shooting range other than the place or zone that is designated and posted or marked as an authorized parking zone. No person shall handle firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting range in a careless or reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other permanent fixture or structure while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller may be allowed to travel from the range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to a person. Persons using a shooting range shall obey posted range safety rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public safety hazard shall leave the shooting range if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission employees. No person shall handle firearms on a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours of operation shall be designated on signs and at least one sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting range. No person, when using a shooting range, shall do an act that is prohibited or neglect to do an act that is required by signs or markings placed on the area under authority of this Rule for regulating the use of the area.~~

~~(o)~~(n) Limited-access Roads. During the months of June, July, and August, roads posted as "Limited-access Roads" 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 times.

~~(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 part thereof, or possess a bird or animal that has been so mutilated.

~~(q)~~(p) Baiting. Except as provided in Paragraph (g) of this Rule, no person shall place, or cause to be placed on a game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without written authorization from an agent of the Commission. Written authorization may be provided for Commission authorized projects or Commission contractors to meet specific objectives. Except as authorized by rule, no person shall take or attempt to take wild birds or wild animals attracted to these foods.

History Note: *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;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; April 1, 1992;
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 1993;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 31, 2001;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004; (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);
Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; June 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; November 1, 2005;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2014;
Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; August 1, 2022; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027; August 1, 2026; June 1 2025; November 1, 2023.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 202 as follows:

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

(a) The following shall be prohibited on game lands:

(1) hunting on a designated game land while under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-4.01(14a); ~~20-4.01(48b);~~

(2) failing to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the use of the Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands;

(3) parking a vehicle on game lands in a manner that blocks traffic or gates, or prevents vehicles from using a roadway; ~~and~~

(4) affixing nails, screws, bolts, or applying paint to vegetation. This prohibition does 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; and [~~vegetation.~~]

(5) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform whose construction violates Subparagraph (a)(4) of this Rule.

~~(4) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts, or to a tree on a game land to hunt. This prohibition does not apply to lag screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.~~

(b) Unless otherwise allowed by permit, hunting on game lands shall be during the open season for game animals and game birds.

(c) Individual game lands or parts of game lands may be closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by this Subchapter.

(d) Persons shall hunt with weapons lawful for the open game animal or game bird seasons.

(e) On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

(1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;

(2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on the permitted hunting dates;

(3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;

(4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. daily; and

(5) not operate a vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

(f) On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited on game lands: ~~prohibited:~~

(1) hunting with a firearm between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.;

(2) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

(3) hunting with a firearm within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or an accessory structure thereof; and

(4) hunting migratory game birds.

(g) On designated Youth Waterfowl Days, the following shall apply:

(1) hunting on managed waterfowl impoundments shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset;

(2) Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall be followed; and ~~Rule; and~~

(3) youth may hunt on a game land and on an impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except where prohibited in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(h) On designated Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall apply.

(i) On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone."

(j) Definitions:

(1) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Dove Only Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which doves may be taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.

(2) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, Veterans Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Hunting is not allowed on Christmas Day, Veterans Day, and New Year's Day when these holidays fall on Sunday. Falconry may also be practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to antlerless deer hunting seasons listed for each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

(3) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open season and hunting is limited to ~~on the open days of~~ Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. ~~Saturday during the open seasons.~~ Falconry may be practiced on Sundays.

(4) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open season on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

(5) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. on Fridays, and 7:00 a.m. on Mondays.

(6) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Permit" means a written authorization from the Commission required for take or other activities listed on the permit during open seasons, if applicable, in a

specified area and subject to annual limitations imposed by the Commission to meet wildlife, hunter, or land management objectives. ~~objectives, unless otherwise specified.~~ Individuals may apply for available permits online at www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com, ~~ncwildlife.org,~~ by phone at 919-707-0040, ~~phone,~~ or in person at a wildlife service agent location. The Commission shall issue permits to applicants selected at random by computer in accordance with G.S. 113-264. Permits shall be non-transferrable. The laws and rules regarding the species or activity shall apply.

(7) For the purposes of this Subchapter, "Either-Sex" means antlered or antlerless.

(k) Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or parts of counties where taking deer with dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

(l) On permit hunts, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed applications shall include preferred hunt area and hunt dates and shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and are non-transferable. ~~nontransferable.~~ A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill online, to a wildlife cooperator agent, ~~agent~~ or by phone.

(m) The following game lands and refuges are closed to hunting except to individuals who have obtained a valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:

(1) Bertie, Halifax, and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;

(2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;

(3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;

(4) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);

(5) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and

(6) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

(n) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the Commission. Written permission may be granted when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge shall not compromise the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.

(o) The Commission may designate special hunts for participants of the Disabled Sportsman Program ~~disabled sportsman program~~ by permit. The Commission may schedule these permit hunts during the closed season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be identified on the permit. If the hunt has a limited weapon choice, the allowed weapons shall be stated on the permit.

(p) As used in the rules of this Subchapter, horseback riding includes all equine species.

(q) When waterfowl hunting is authorized on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;

Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; September 1, 1994; July 1, 1994;
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August 1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October 1, 2004;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2020; August 1, 2019;
Temporary Amendment Eff. September 25, 2020;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2021;
Amended Eff. November 1, 2022; October 1, 2022; August 23, 2022;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2024.

15A NCAC 10D .0106 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 204 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0106 DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS

(a) Bear may be taken on posted designated bear management areas specified in Paragraph (c) of this Rule ~~during the open season~~ by permit only. Individuals may apply for permits on or after July 1 online at www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com, ~~ncwildlife.org,~~ [~~ncwildlife.gov,~~] by phone at 919-707-0040, ~~phone,~~ or in person at a wildlife service agent location. The number of permits issued annually will be based on achieving population management objectives of the Commission. The Commission shall issue available bear management area permits to applicants selected at random by computer. Permits are ~~shall be~~ non-transferrable. All applicable laws and rules regarding the taking of bear shall apply.

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

Bachelor Bay designated bear management area – Bertie and Washington counties
Columbus County designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
Croatan designated bear management area – Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties
Fires Creek designated bear management area – Clay County
Flat Top designated bear management area – Mitchell and Yancey counties
Green Swamp designated bear management area – Brunswick County
Gull Rock designated bear management area – Hyde County
Harmon Den designated bear management area – Haywood County
Juniper Creek designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties
North River designated bear management area – Camden and Currituck counties
Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County
Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania
Pungo River designated bear management area – Hyde County
Rich Mountain designated bear management area – Madison County
Sherwood designated bear management area – Haywood County
Suggs Mill Pond designated bear management area – Bladen and Cumberland counties
Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County
Thurmond Chatham designated bear management area – Allegheny and Wilkes counties
Wayah designated bear management area – Macon County

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

Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties

Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties

Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County

Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania

Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305;*
Eff. August 1, 2019;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; March 15, 2023.

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission requests the renaming of subchapter 15A NCAC 10E as follows:

SUBCHAPTER 10E – ~~PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS~~ COMMISSION FACILITIES [~~FACILLITIES~~] AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission requests the addition of a section title for subchapter 15A NCAC 10E as follows:

SECTION .0100 – PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS

15A NCAC 10E .0201 is adopted with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 217 as follows:

SECTION .0200 – SHOOTING RANGES

15A NCAC 10E .0201 DEFINITIONS

~~(a)~~ The following definitions shall apply to the Rules in this ~~the~~ Section:

(1) "Downrange" is the area located forward of the firing line extending in the direction where firearms or archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, may be safely aimed and discharged.

(2) "Firing Line" is the designated area on the shooting range where individuals are authorized to aim and discharge ~~fire~~ firearms and archery equipment under supervision of the Range Safety Officer.

(3) "Range is cold" means that live firing is prohibited and firearms and archery equipment shall not be loaded, handled, or fired.

(4) "Range is hot" means that live firing is authorized.

(5) "Range Safety Officer" or "RSO" is a designated Commission employee or volunteer responsible for ensuring that activities conducted on the shooting range are safe and compliant with established rules and procedures.

(6) "Range Pass" is a card issued by the Commission to an individual who has provided identification and attended a range safety briefing. A range pass is valid for one year from issuance.

(7) "Shooting range" or "range" means the area designated ~~designed~~ for use of firearms or archery equipment.

(8) "Shooting range facility" or "range facility" means the shooting range and associated operational areas, including indoor and outdoor shooting ranges, backstops, berms, parking areas, offices, restrooms, and ingress and egress roadways.

(9) "Sky drawing" is the action of pointing archery equipment into the air and drawing the string, rather than aiming the equipment downrange.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;*
Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10E .0202 is adopted with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 218 as follows:

15A NCAC 10E .0202 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

(a) Shooting range facilities owned and managed by the Commission are for trap shooting, skeet shooting, five-stand shooting, rifle shooting, pistol shooting, practice archery, and 3D archery. Other uses of the ~~Non-specified use of~~ range facilities are ~~is~~ prohibited unless approved, in writing, by the Commission.

(b) Individuals using shooting range facilities shall:

(1) adhere to posted signs and verbal Range Safety Officer (RSO) instruction;

(2) wear eye protection; and

(3) wear ear protection on the firearm firing line.

(c) General Restrictions. The following shall be prohibited at shooting range facilities:

(1) open-toed shoes;

(2) individuals under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-4.01(14a);

(3) alcohol or alcoholic beverages;

(4) smoking, vaping, or use of tobacco or nicotine products, except in designated smoking areas;

(5) eating or drinking while on the firing line;

(6) harassment or intimidating behavior toward staff or other guests;

(7) parking vehicles outside of designated parking areas; and

(8) animals other than service dogs.

(d) Prior to entering the shooting range, individuals participating in shooting sports shall complete the following steps to receive a Range Pass:

(1) sign-in with the RSO;

(2) attend a safety briefing; and

(3) complete a range waiver by providing the following information:

(A) first and last name;

(B) age and age certification;

(C) ethnicity;

(D) gender;

(E) zip code;

(F) email address;

(G) shooting range facility location;

(H) range selection;

(I) NCWRC license status;

(J) attestation of the Risk, Release, and Indemnity Agreement; and

(K) electronic signature.

(e) Age Restrictions.

(1) Individuals under 18 years of age shall be accompanied by an adult when on the firing line.

(2) Individuals 12 years of age and younger shall have one-on-one adult supervision when on the firing line.

(f) Violation of a provision of this Section or RSO instruction shall be grounds for removal from the range facility.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;*
Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10E .0203 is adopted with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 218 as follows:

15A NCAC 10E .0203 RANGE REQUIREMENTS

(a) Firearms.

(1) Firearms shall not be carried into the range facility office.

(2) Firearms shall be cased during transport to and from the firing line.

(3) Firearms shall remain unloaded until on the firing line and the range is hot.

(4) Concealed carry of firearms is prohibited.

(5) Firearms shall not be loaded, handled, or fired when the range is cold.

(6) Fully automatic and automatic simulated firearms are prohibited.

(7) Firearms shall not be pointed at a person.

(8) Firearms shall be pointed downrange at all times.

(b) Archery Equipment.

(1) Arrows shall remain unnocked until individuals are on the firing line and the range is hot.

(2) Broadhead tips are prohibited.

(3) Sky drawing is prohibited.

(4) Firearms are prohibited on the practice archery and 3D archery range.

(5) Individuals using the 3D archery range shall wear a blaze orange vest.

(c) Trap and Skeet.

(1) Shot other than size 7.5, 8, or 9 is prohibited.

(2) Muzzle velocity greater than 1,300 ~~1300~~ feet per second is prohibited.

(3) The firearm's action shall be open and the firearm shall be unloaded when moving between stations.

(d) Ammunition.

(1) Individuals shall use the correct ammunition for their firearms.

(2) Individuals shall collect their spent cartridges, paper targets, trash, litter, and personal items before leaving the shooting range.

(3) The following types of ammunition are prohibited:

(A) tracer;

(B) incendiary;

(C) armor-piercing;

(D) steel core; and

(E) other types deemed unsafe by the RSO.

(e) Targets.

(1) Individuals shall supply their own paper targets.

(2) Target stands provided by the Commission shall be used.

(3) Steel targets are prohibited, unless provided by the Commission.

(4) Glass targets are prohibited.

(5) Intentionally shooting into target stands, posts, or other permanent structures is prohibited.

(6) Shooting a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off the range is prohibited.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;
Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10H .0810 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 219 as follows:

15A NCAC 10H .0810 TAKING RAPTORS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29; 50 C.F.R. 21.82;*
Eff. September 1, 1979;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; July 1, 1998;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027; June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.

Burgos, Alexander N

Subject: FW: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

From: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2026 4:32 PM
To: Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Chris,

Confirming receipt. Yes, we should be able to have these back to you before EOD Thursday. I'll reach out if we have questions as we work through the comments.

Thanks,

Will

Will Casola, PhD
Policy Analyst
Office of Conservation Policy & Analysis
51 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606
Office: 919-707-0125

From: Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2026 4:15 PM
To: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Cc: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>; Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Will,

Thanks for your work on these rules. I have a few follow-ups for your consideration. I've highlighted my comments in yellow in the attached document. Let me know if you have any questions.

Do you think you could get these last rules back to me by EOD Thursday? The requested changes shouldn't involve too much work.

Best,

Chris

Chris Miller
Rules Review Commission Counsel
North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings | Rules Division
1711 New Hope Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27609
(984) 236-1935

NOTICE: E-mail correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by authorized State officials.

Request for Changes Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-21.10

Staff reviewed these Rules to ensure that each Rule is within the agency's statutory authority, reasonably necessary, clear, and unambiguous, and adopted in accordance with Part 2 of the North Carolina Administrative Procedure Act. Following review, staff has issued this document that may request changes pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.10 from your agency or ask clarifying questions.

Questions contained herein suggest that the rule as written is unclear or there is some ambiguity. If this document includes questions and you do not understand the question, please contact the reviewing attorney to discuss. Failure to respond may result in a staff opinion recommending objection.

Staff may suggest the agency "consider" an idea or language in this document. This is in no way a formal request that the agency adopt the idea or language but rather is offered merely for the agency's consideration which the agency may find preferable and clarifying.

To properly submit rewritten rules, please refer to the following Rules in the NC Administrative Code:

- Rule 26 NCAC 02C .0108 – The Rule addresses general formatting.
- Rule 26 NCAC 02C .0404 – The Rule addresses changing the introductory statement.
- Rule 26 NCAC 02C .0405 – The Rule addresses properly formatting changes made after publication in the NC Register.

Note the following general instructions:

1. You must submit the revised rule via email to oah.rules@oah.nc.gov and copy RRC Counsel. The electronic copy must be saved as the official rule name (XX NCAC XXXX).
2. For rules longer than one page, insert a page number.
3. Use line numbers; if the rule spans more than one page, have the line numbers reset at one for each page.
4. Do not use track changes. Make all changes using manual strikethroughs, underlines and highlighting.
5. You cannot change just one part of a word. For example:
    - Wrong: "~~a~~Association"
    - Right: "~~association~~ Association"
6. Treat punctuation as part of a word. For example:
    - Wrong: "day~~,~~; and"
    - Right: "~~day,~~ day; and"
7. Formatting instructions and examples may be found at: www.ncoah.com/rules/examples.html

If you have any questions regarding proper formatting of edits after reviewing the rules and examples, please contact the reviewing attorney.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: ALL RULES

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

Fiscal Note(s): Please confirm that the corresponding fiscal note and approval documentation are included in the rulemaking record and were timely posted.

Five fiscal notes were approved by OSBM for this set of rules and posted to the NCWRC website on 7/15/2026.

- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10C (Inland Fisheries) rules approved by OSBM on 4/30/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10B, 10D, 10H (Wildlife Management) rules approved by OSBM on 5/8/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10D, 10E (Shooting Ranges) rules approved by OSBM on 5/12/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10D (Land and Water Access) rules approved by OSBM on 5/26/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10I (Endangered Species) rules approved by OSBM on 5/29/2026

Maps: The Commissioners greatly appreciate maps for visually aid when reviewing rules. For any rules where you are amending, removing, or introducing new geographic boundaries (e.g., 15A NCAC 10C .0314 and 15A NCAC 10D .0211 and 15A NCAC 10D .0296), can you please provide me maps, if possible? I will upload them to the Agenda for the Commissioners use.

We now provide maps for the requested rules.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0119

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), line 4: What is a "qualified individual"? This is not defined. What qualifications are you referring to?

Qualified individual means someone collecting wildlife for a reason specified in (a) and whose application is approved after being evaluated with the criteria outlined in (c) and (g). We used this term to help better communicate that Wildlife Collection licenses are typically not granted to members of the general public, instead they are issued to individuals who are "qualified" via a specific scientific or educational purpose.

(b)(1), line 10: For consistency, delete the word "shall" and change "mean" to "means".

We updated line 10 as suggested.

(c)(3): If there are only two possible types of study, consider: "whether the proposed collection is permanent or catch-and-release;".

We updated the wording for clarity and believe it is important to allow the applicant to expand and elaborate on the type of study they are performing. Some studies require holding animals for extended periods of time and so while they may be technically catch and release, they could have a negative impact on local populations. We believe it is important to allow the applicant to describe their study rather than simplifying their response to a check box style answer.

(d)(1), line 27: You use the word "individuals" here when referring to animals, but you also use it on line 25 when describing the collectors. Consider revising the language on

line 27 to reduce any confusion. Could you not just delete the use of "individuals" on line 27? Or consider replacing it with "reptiles" and "amphibians", respectively.

We updated (d) to improve clarity and reduce confusion.

(d)(1): Is this limit based on collections/holdings at the same time? Within a given year? Be specific as to when this is measured.

We updated (d)(1) to improve clarity. The collection/holding limit is at any given time.

(e), lines 31 and 32: The use of "except" and "unless" here is confusing. What is your intent? Should there be an "or" placed before "unless"? Or should commas be placed around "except under an endangered species permit"?

We added commas as suggested.

(f), line 35: Add "by the Commission" after "authorized".

We updated line 35 as suggested.

(g), line 3: Could you provide a more direct link to the application page/portal?

We updated the link but cannot provide a direct link to the application because the system requires applicants to login with a unique username and password.

(g)(1): Add "address" after "email".

We updated (g)(1) as suggested.

(g)(1): What happens if the person does not have a driver's license? Can they not get a license?

Drivers license number is an optional field that applicants may choose to fill out when creating an account. We removed this from the rule since it is not a required field.

(g)(3)(B): What do you mean by "full" documentation? What needs to be included?

Research proposals are often presented as either abstracts or full proposals. We specify that full documentation is required because we require full proposals, not abstracts, as part of the application.

(g)(3)(B): Change "proposal(s)" to "proposals".

We updated (g)(3)(B) as suggested.

(i)(4)(C): 15A NCAC 10B .0110 has been repealed. Replace or remove the citation.

We removed the citation as suggested.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(k), line 29: How does the reporting requirement vary "depending on the species taken"? Your rule does not explain this. How would one know what is required based on the rule text?

Reporting specifics are listed on the permit when issued. Some species require more detailed reporting than others, for example, collecting endangered species may require the reporting of every item listed in (k), whereas a blanket permit for collecting a more common species may not require information such as the specific sex, size and location of each individual animal collected.

History Note, Authority: Consider adding G.S. 113-333(a).

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0203

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 1: Change "NCAC" to "NCR".

We corrected this typo.

(a)(1), line 5; and (f), line 32: What is the intended effect of this change? The language seemed to be clearer when it clarified that spikes are "protruding through the skin".

It was biologically incorrect. Antlers grow from the pedicle every year but only protrude from the skin during a deer's first year. After that, antlers/spikes grow from the pedicle annually, which remains attached to the deer's skull for its entire life, and are covered in velvet when precalcified. Removing this language will alleviate confusion and align the rule with the general understanding of what an antlered deer is – one with antlers or spikes regardless of the presence of velvet.

(a)(2)(B), line 12: Change "Paragraph" to "Part".

We updated (a)(2)(B) as suggested.

(b)(1), line 1: Change "Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (b)(2) of this Rule".

We updated (b)(1) as suggested.

(b)(2) and (c)(2): Add a colon after "Restrictions".

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (b)(2) and (c)(2) as suggested.

(b)(2)(C): What does this paragraph do? How is this any different from what you've already stated in (b)(1)?

This explicitly communicates to the regulated community that BOTH antlered and antlerless deer may be taken during the open archery season. This information is not specified in (b)(1).

(c)(1), line 16: Change "Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (c)(2) of this Rule".

We updated (c)(1) as suggested.

(c)(1), line 17: You include "archery equipment" here. Doesn't this contradict the archery season that you set forth above in (b)(1)? This is confusing.

The seasons are additive when it comes to which types of weapons are allowed and each season has an explicit beginning and end date, so they do not conflict. This is well understood among the hunting public.

- Archery season = archery equipment
- Blackpowder season = blackpowder firearms and archery equipment
- All lawful weapons = rifled and blackpowder firearms, shotguns, and archery equipment

(c)(2)(A), line 23: Revise to "Part (a)(2)(D) and (E)".

We updated (c)(2)(A) as suggested.

(d)(1), line 6: Change "Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (d)(3) of this Rule".

We updated (d)(1) as suggested.

(d)(2), line 16: Does the "Commission" share the same address as the "Executive Director"? You use different terms on lines 12 and 16, which could be confusing. Do the letters go to different people?

We updated (d)(2) so that Executive Director is used consistently. The letters go to the same people.

History Note, line 32: Add a period after "2027".

We updated the history note.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0205

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

History Note, Authority: Consider adding G.S. 113-291.1.

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0206

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(b): Add a comma after "aggregate".

We updated (b) as suggested.

History Note, line 16: This is missing the August 1, 2026, amendment. Please update.

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0212

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), line 4: Underline "(a)" here since you are deleting it on line 12.

We updated line 4 as suggested.

(a)(1-6): The first four items should end with a semi-colon. The fifth item should end with "; and". And the sixth item should end with a period.

We updated the list as suggested.

(a)(3): Session Laws 1963, Chapter 322, which is still retained by G.S. 113-133.1, states that "[r]ed foxes may not be hunted and taken by use of guns at any time in Haywood County." Please explain why your rule does not violate the law.

We are aware of this Session Law and explicitly state "unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly" in (a) for this situation. This is the only county in NC with a species-specific fox law. Fox laws are incredibly complex, and the rule serves to "fill the gap" among the many Session Laws and Statues governing the take of the species. The agency produces a county-by-county guide for our constituents that describes the litany of laws and rules that govern both fox trapping and fox hunting in each county.

(c): For my knowledge, does this mean that firearms, archery, and traps are allowed in these counties for the same season as noted for trapping in .0303? Or are you saying that only trapping is allowed under those timeframes?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Firearms, archery, and traps are allowed in these counties for the same season as noted for trapping in .0303. We agree this is a confusing way to set the season but it is explicitly described this way in G.S. 113-291.4B(a).

(c), line 20: Add a comma after "archery equipment".

We added a comma as suggested.

(c), line 21: Delete "10B". It is not needed.

We deleted "10B" as suggested.

(e), line 26: Add "a" before "local act".

We updated line 26 as suggested.

(f): Are there bag or season limits for the other areas not described in (f)? Your rule does not specify. Are they governed by local acts? If so, specify this.

There are no bag or season limits for areas described in (a) and (c) when hunting fox (trapping bag limits may be different and based on Local Law).

Thanks. On line 31, please change "in (a) and (c)" to "in Paragraphs (a) and (c) of this Rule".

(f), line 29: Add "G.S." before "113-291.4B(c)".

We updated line 29 as suggested.

History Note, Authority: "G.S. 113-131.1" does not exist. Please correct this.

This should be 113-133.1 – it has been updated accordingly

History Note, Authority: Add a semi-colon after "113-291.4B".

The history note has been updated as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0219

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a)(4), (a)(5), (b)(2), and (b)(6): To improve wording, consider changing time frames to "between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset". (revise accordingly).

We updated all four lines as suggested.

(a)(7), line 13: Do you mean "when taking coyotes" rather than "to take coyotes"?

"To take" is a statutorily defined term, see NCGS 113-130(7). We prefer to maintain this wording based on feedback from our Law Enforcement Division. We have discussed similar wording with RRC Counsel in the past and settled on "to take" in our rules to match the term as defined in 113-130.

(a)(7), lines 13-14: Change "from a public road" to "on a public road".

We updated line 14 as suggested.

(a)(7), line 15: Delete the comma after "equipment".

We updated line 15 as suggested.

(b)(4): When does the suspension start? Is it for the next calendar year? From the date that the second red wolf is shot? Something else?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

The suspension starts immediately. After we're notified that the threshold has been crossed, we would reach out individually to permit holders to notify them that the hunt has been suspended.

(b)(5), line 28: I believe you are missing a word in between "the" and "by". Who must the hunter report to? The Commission?

This has been updated to specify the Commission.

(b)(5), line 28: Can you provide a more direct link to the online reporting portal?

We updated the link but cannot provide a direct link to the application because the system requires applicants to login with a unique username and password.

(b)(7), line 31: For clarity, add "hunting" before "license".

We updated line 31 as suggested.

(b)(7): This last sentence/requirement is very vague. Can you explain how/when this reporting happens?

Reporting typically occurs online; however, sometimes we ask hunters to send biological samples in (e.g., hair sample). The reporting requirements are listed on the permit when issued.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0223

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a): Consider rewriting this as, "There is no closed season for taking feral swine on private lands, and feral swine may be taken on private lands at any time of day."

We updated (a) as suggested.

(b), lines 5-6: To improve wording, consider changing time frames to "between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset". Same suggestion also applies to Paragraph (c).

We updated (b) and (c) as suggested.

(b), line 7: Change "season" to "seasons".

We updated line 7 as suggested.

(c), line 11: Add "each year" after "July 1".

We updated line 11 as suggested.

(c), line 11: Can you provide a more direct link to the permit application portal?

We updated the link but cannot provide a direct link to the application because the system requires applicants to login with a unique username and password.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(c), line 11: Add a telephone number to clarify how to apply by phone.

We added a telephone number.

(c), lines 14-15: You state, "All applicable laws and rules regarding the taking of feral swine shall apply." What laws are you referring to? And isn't this the rule that applies to taking feral swine? The meaning of this sentence is not clear.

Other statutes and rules outside WRC authority exist that regulate feral swine, especially in relation to agriculture. For example, NCDACS rules in 02 NCAC 52C and NCGS 113-291.12 and 106-798(b).

(f), line 18: Do you mean "when taking coyotes" rather than "to take coyotes"?

"To take" is a statutorily defined term, see NCGS 113-130(7). We prefer to maintain this wording based on feedback from our Law Enforcement Division. We have discussed similar wording with RRC Counsel in the past and settled on "to take" in our rules to match the term as defined in 113-130.

(f), lines 18-19: Change "from a public road" to "on a public road".

We updated (f) as suggested.

(a)(7), line 19: Delete the comma after "equipment".

We updated line 19 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0502

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 1: Change "NCAC" to "NCR".

We corrected this typo.

(c), line 15: Should this state, "Open seasons for hunting deer in CWD Management Areas …"? There needs to be some limitation here. Otherwise, it would conflict with your deer season rule.

We updated line 15 as suggested.

(c)(1), line 16: What is the intended effect of this change? The language seemed to be clearer when it clarified that spikes are "protruding through the skin".

It was biologically incorrect. Antlers grow from the pedicle every year but only protrude from the skin during a deer's first year. After that, antlers/spikes grow from the pedicle annually, which remains attached to the deer's skull for its entire life, and are covered in velvet when precalcified. Removing this language will alleviate confusion and align the rule with the general understanding of what an antlered deer is – one with antlers or spikes regardless of the presence of velvet. This language has also been corrected in 15A NCAC 10B .0203.

(c)(4): It's slightly confusing that you also cover additional time for archery hunting in a section titled "Blackpowder Firearms Seasons". It would probably just make more sense to add this time into (c)(3). Consider revising (although not absolutely necessary).

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

This format mimics that seasons in the rest of the state as outline in 15A NCAC 10B .0203. We prefer to maintain consistency and keep the text as written.

(d), line 36: Capitalize "Paragraphs".

We updated line 36 as suggested.

(d), line 36: Delete "10B". It is not needed.

We updated line 36 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0305

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 1: Change the page number in the citation to 202 rather than 203.

We updated the page number.

(b), line 6: For clarity, I suggest changing "only two" to "no more than two".

We updated line 6 as suggested.

(b): Two per day? Two per season? Something else? You should specify.

We updated the text to specify the limit is two per day.

(d), line 11: You can delete the comma after "Alamance County". It is not needed.

We deleted the comma.

(d), line 13: For clarity of the limit, I would suggest changing "only five" to "no more than five".

We updated line 13 as suggested.

(d), line 14: Here you state a prohibition on "possession" of certain fish, but on (c), line 10, you prohibit both "taking" and "possession". What is the difference? Is this intentional? Is (c) saying that you can't even fish for them in those locations?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Correct. This is intentional as anglers are prohibited from targeting bass in the waters described in (c) even if just for catch-and-release.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(l) and (m): Here, using "only one" may be clearer for setting the limit.

We updated (l) and (m) with "only" as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0314

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(b), line 6: For consistency with your other rules, I would delete "for these fish".

We updated line 6 as suggested.

(d): The wording of this paragraph is awkward. It seems like the first sentence only applies from October 1 to May 31 based on the limits set forth in the third sentence. If that's the case, you should state that in the rule. Consider combining with the second sentence.

We updated (d) to improve clarity.

(f), line 17: Add a comma after "Salem Lake".

We updated line 17 as suggested.

(g), lines 19-20: I would revise to say, "no more than two".

We updated line 20 as suggested.

(h), line 21: You can delete the comma after "Lake Mattamuskeet". It is not needed.

We updated line 21 as suggested.

(i): Should there be a comma in the coordinates? So for example, the first one would read as: 35.419448 N, 76.758752 W.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated the coordinates with a comma as suggested.

(i), lines 25, 26, and 27: Should "at" be inserted between "Point" and the coordinates?

We updated lines 25, 26, and 27 as suggested.

(i)(3): For consistency with your other rules, I suggest: "no striped bass or striped bass hybrid less than 18 inches or between 22 and 27 inches in length may be possessed."

We updated (i)(3) as suggested.

(i), line 34: Add "the" before "Neuse River".

We updated line 34 as suggested.

(i), lines 34-35: Wouldn't it be more direct to say, "There is no open season in the inland waters tributary to the Tar-Pamlico River and the Neuse River downstream of these lines." Or does it need to be worded this way?

It is deliberately worded this way to maintain consistency with WRC and DMF striped bass management proclamations (see NCGS 113-292). There technically is a season; however, it is currently closed.

(j), line 1: Does the cross-reference to paragraphs (h), (j), and (k) need to be updated based on your rule revisions? Please check and confirm.

We updated the cross-references as appropriate.

(j): Here, you only state "striped bass". Is this intentional? Or should this also include hybrids?

We updated (j) to also include hybrids.

(m), line 14: Change "is" to "shall be".

We updated (m) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0414

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

History Note, Authority: Why are G.S. 113-304 and 113-305 relevant to this rule?

All rules regarding fish species that occur within the jurisdiction of both the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and other state or federal agencies (e.g., the NC Marine Fisheries Commission, the NC Division of Marine Fisheries, the National Marine Fisheries Service) include these statutes in their history note. The WRC sets agreements with these other agencies as outlined in the statues to manage and regulate these fisheries.

History Note, line 11: Change the period at the end of this line to a semi-colon.

We updated line 11 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0425

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

History Note, Authority: Why are G.S. 113-304 and 113-305 relevant to this rule?

All rules regarding fish species that occur within the jurisdiction of both the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and other state or federal agencies (e.g., the NC Marine Fisheries Commission, the NC Division of Marine Fisheries, the National Marine Fisheries Service) include these statutes in their history note. The WRC sets agreements with these other agencies as outlined in the statues to manage and regulate these fisheries.

History Note, line 11: Change the period at the end of this line to a semi-colon.

We updated line 11 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0102

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

Line 1: Change "NCAC" to "NCR" in the Register citation.

We corrected this typo.

(b)(9), lines 4-6: This sentence needs to be broken up or clarified. I'd recommend putting a period after "Commission" and then stating: "Permits may be requested by calling 919-707-0150."

We updated (b)(9) as suggested.

(d), line 29: Can you provide a more direct link to the reg that you reference?

We updated the link directly to the CFR reg referenced.

(e)(1): Change "Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (e)(4) of this Rule".

We updated (e)(1) as suggested.

(e)(2): Change "state(s)" to "states".

We updated (e)(2) as suggested.

(e)(4)(A): Change "his" to "his or her".

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (e)(4)(A) as suggested.

(e)(4)(B): Delete the space before "(j)(1)".

We updated (e)(4)(B) as suggested.

(f), lines 7-8: You state, "… and the applying organization demonstrates their experience and expertise in conducting genuine field trial activities." How does one do this? Do they have to submit specific documents or information to you? Do they have to take a test or answer questions? Your rule is not clear.

This is an informal process because it is a small and consistent group of organizations that apply for field trials on game lands. Each year the agency holds a meeting with these organizations and works together to schedule trials based on the availability of the facility and the availability and preference of each organization.

The Sandhills Field Trial facility described in Paragraph (f) is the only one the Commission owns. We anticipate working with our game land supervisors to remove this paragraph from 10D .0102, update and reformat it accordingly, and incorporate it into the Sandhills Game Land rule 10D .0271 during the readoption phase of the Periodic Rules Review.

(g)(5): Do these dates apply to all game lands? If so, you should explicitly state that.

Yes this applies to all game lands. We now specify as such.

Would you be willing to add the word "all" before "game lands"? Or do you think it's clearer as is?

(g), line 26: Add a comma after "inches".

We updated line 26 as suggested.

(i)(4), line 8: Add a comma after "trapping".

We updated line 8 as suggested.

(k), line 23: This should be a cite to the definition. I believe this is 42 U.S.C. 12101. Please update.

We updated line 23 as suggested.

(l), line 27: For consistency, use "wheelchairs".

We updated line 27 as suggested.

(l), line 31: Can you provide a more direct link to the site that specifies these locations?

We updated the link as suggested.

(p), lines 1-2: Is this sentence missing something? Should this clarify, "to be placed <u>for the purpose of baiting</u>"?

The intent of this Rule is to prohibit all the types of foods listed from being placed on game lands no matter the reason, except for trapping. After consulting with our Law Enforcement Division, the Commission requests maintaining the current wording to avoid creating loopholes where individuals place these foods on game lands but claim to not be baiting. For example, someone spreading grain (e.g., birdseed) to attract game animals but claim they're "planting" the grain.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0103

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(a)(5), line 14: Add "(a)" before "(4)".

We updated line 14 as suggested.

(b), line 19: Add "otherwise" between "Unless" and "allowed".

We updated line 19 as suggested.

(e)(4): Why is the word "daily" needed here but not in other places?

We need "daily" so that hunters explicitly know that the decoys need to be removed everyday rather than just at the end of the season. This was specifically added to address a problem we've had in the past.

(f): Where does this apply? To all game lands? Please specify.

We specify that the prohibition applies to all game lands.

(g)(2): For parallel structure within the list, consider revising to: "Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall be followed; and".

We updated (g)(2) as suggested.

(j): Why is "Game Land" capitalized here? It is not capitalized elsewhere throughout your rules.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (j), removing the capitalization for consistency with the rest of the rule.

(j)(3): This provision says "may be taken on the open days of" while others say "may be taken during the open season on …". Why does this language differ? Is there a difference in meaning?

We updated (j)(3) for consistency with the other definitions.

You can now delete "during the open seasons" on line 26 at the end of the sentence. It is redundant given the revisions.

(j)(4): For consistency, say "may be taken during the open season and hunting is limited to …".

We updated (j)(4) for consistency with the other definitions.

After re-reading this, you can revert back to the original rule language. Stating "and hunting is limited to" doesn't make sense given that there is no day limit here. Hunting is allowed seven days per week. My apologies.

(j)(6), line 1: Delete ", unless otherwise specified". It is not needed and confusing.

We updated (j)(6) as suggested.

(j)(6), line 2: Can you provide a more direct link to the permit application portal?

We updated the link as suggested.

Thanks. And similar to revisions in other rules, can you add the phone number after "by phone"? That would improve clarity.

(l), line 10: You mention an "application" here. What information are you requiring applicants to submit? Do you spell this out somewhere in your rules? Can you add a cross-reference, if so?

The applications are submitted through our online permit system. There is no additional information required besides selecting a location and a date range to apply for. The application is linked to their online account which includes all the information submitted when they purchased their hunting license.

Thanks. Since this is mandatory information, would you be willing to add it into the rule? For example, the second sentence could be revised as, "Completed applications shall include location and date range of the hunt and shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of hunt."

(l), line 10: What does "next preceding" mean? This is not clear.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

The phrase "September next preceding" means the September immediately before the hunt dates.

(l), line 12: Hyphenate "nontransferable" for consistency.

We updated line 12 as suggested.

(l), line 12: What does it mean to "validate" a kill?

This concept is well understood among hunters. To validate a kill is to "tag" a harvested animal. It proves the animal has been legally claimed right where it fell, allowing the hunter to legally possess and transport it. The Commission no longer issues paper tags to hunters, instead, hunters now validate the harvest with either our mobile app or by printing tags themselves and punching them in the field. Validation is separate from reporting. Validation is done before the harvested animal is moved, reporting can be done later.

(o): You should capitalize the Program name, like you have in other rules.

We updated (o) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0106

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(a), line 4-5: Does the deletion mean that these permit hunts can now be allowed at anytime of the year, regardless of any specified season?

No, the permit explicitly lists the dates when it is valid. Permits are only issued during the open season. Because permits are only issued during the open season, it seemed duplicative to list it in the rule.

(a), line 6: Can you provide a more direct link to the permit application?

We updated the link as suggested.

Thanks. Can you add the phone number here too? Trying to be consistent with the revisions requested to other rules.

(a), line 9: Which "laws and rules" are you referencing? Can you be more specific? The rule language is not very helpful.

There are too many to list as many individual game lands have specific rules for bear hunting, there is the bear specific hunting rule in 15A NCAC 10B, and there are many statutes that govern different aspects of bear hunting (e.g., manner of take, baiting). The intent of this sentence is to remind the regulated community of their responsibility to not only follow the rules outlined in 10D .0106 but also the other laws that apply to the species.

(b) and (c): Is there a reason why these lists aren't broken out into subitems?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Many of the Commission's rules have never had numbered lists. See also 10A .1502 and 10C .0205.

(b) and (c): Several of the areas overlap (e.g., Daniel Boone and Dare). How does this work? Do you need two separate permits to hunt in these areas? Or you can use either one? Your rule is not clear.

The designated bear management areas (DBMA) themselves do not overlap. For example, Dare DBMA and Gull Rock DBMA are both in Dare County, however, they do not occupy the same part of Dare County. The specific boundaries of the DBMAs often coincide with game land boundaries and/or are contained within game land boundaries. Maps are on our website and made available to permittees, and the boundaries are posted.

(c), lines 33-34: Do you mean that (c) only covers permits for "scheduled managed hunts"? Please clarify in your rule. Do you not need any "bear management area permit" for bear management areas named in (b)? This is confusing, especially given how you've worded (a).

Paragraph (b) is simply a list of all the DMBAs in NC. Paragraph (c) is a list of the DBMAs where we currently issue bear hunting permits. DBMA listed in (b), but not (c), are not open to bear hunting.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0202

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0210

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(2): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (2) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0211

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(c), lines 12-13: Is this last sentence only applicable to "Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays"? Or does this apply to all of (2)? The way you've formatted this is confusing. If it applies to all of (2), it should fall in line with the spacing for line 8.

This applies to all of (2). We fixed the formatting.

(7), line 19: Are these areas posted? If so, consider adding the word "posted" here for consistency.

Currently this only applies to the Mountain to Sea Trail which is marked both on our maps and on the ground. We prefer not to put "posted" in the rule because the Commission is not responsible for marking the trail and we cannot guarantee the condition or consistency of the markings.

*(8): You say, "on areas posted for camping as specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter." That rule does not specify camping areas. Do you mean, "on areas posted for camping **and shall comply with the requirements** specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter."?*

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting. As stated, Rule .0102 of this Subchapter specifies all the camping requirements and geographic bounds ("on an area posted by the landowner for camping").

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(10): Change "(Wake County)" to "in Wake County".

We updated (10) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0213

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(5): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(5): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (5) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0214

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(4): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(4): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (4) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0221

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(5): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(5): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (5) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0222

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(1), line 5: Should this say "used for hunting" rather than "hunted", since you are referring to the blinds?

To hunt a blind or a stand means to hunt from that position. This is a commonly used term when referring to blinds, stands, and other hunting positions.

(2), line 7: "Licensed" by whom?

The Commission licenses hunting guides under NCGS 113-270.4. Hunting and fishing guide license.

(5): Does this need to be updated based on the revisions made to 10D .0103? They are no longer consistent.

We deleted (5) as 10D .0103 covers all game lands.

(7): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(7): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (7) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0229

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): What do you mean by, "Except as provided in 15A NCAC 10D .0103(e), …"? That rule provision does not mention anything about specific hunting days. Do you mean, "Subject to the requirements provided in 15A NCAC 10D .0103(e), …"? Consider different language for improved clarity.

We updated (2) as suggested.

(5), lines 20-21: Consider: "… in accordance with Rule .0102(i) of this Subchapter."

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting.

(8): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(8): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (8) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0239

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3), line 8: Consider: "… in accordance with Rule .0102(i) of this Subchapter."

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0241

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

Line 4: Remove "(a)". It is not needed since there are no other paragraphs in the rule.

We updated line 4 as suggested.

(2), lines 7-8: Consider: "… in accordance with Rule .0102(i) of this Subchapter."

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0246

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(2): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (2) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0251

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0254

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(2): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (2) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0256

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(5): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(5): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (5) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0257

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0260

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2) and (5): Does the word "Tract" need to be added after "Black Bear" and "Linville River"? The wording is a little bit awkward.

We added "tract" as suggested.

(3): How are these trails "designated"? Are they posted? Consider specifying.

Trails are marked and noted on information kiosks at the property. We prefer not to put "posted" in the rule because the Commission is not responsible for marking the trails and we cannot guarantee the condition or consistency of the markings.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0270

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

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Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0279

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0284

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

> *Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*
>
> We corrected this typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0290

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3), line 15: Either delete "Tract" after "Huggins" or change "Morton Tracts" to "Morton Tract".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0296 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10E .0201 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

*RULE FORMATTING: Please use the formatting instructions for a **Permanent Adoption with changes from publication** – see https://www.oah.nc.gov/documents/rules/permanent-adoption-changes-publication/download?attachment. Changes should just be shown with underlining and strikethrough only.*

Line 4: "FACILITIES" is misspelled.

We corrected the typo.

Line 15: You can delete "(a)" since there is no paragraph (b) in your rule.

We deleted (a) as suggested.

(a), line 15: Change "the Section" to "this Section".

We changed "the" to "this" as suggested.

(a)(2), line 18: You use "fire" here but "aim and discharge" in (a)(1). Do these have different meanings? If not, use the same term for consistency throughout this rule.

We updated (2) so that "aim and discharge" is used consistently throughout the rule.

(a)(6), line 26: "Issued" by whom?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (6) to specify that the card is issued by the Commission.

(a)(6), line 27: Add "for" before "one year from issuance".

We added "for" as suggested.

(a)(7): Do you mean "designated" rather than "designed"?

We corrected the typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10E .0202 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

*RULE FORMATTING: Please use the formatting instructions for a **Permanent Adoption with changes from publication** – see https://www.oah.nc.gov/documents/rules/permanent-adoption-changes-publication/download?attachment. Changes should just be shown with underlining and strikethrough only.*

(a), line 5: What do you mean by "non-specified use"? Just any use other than those listed in the first sentence?

Correct. Shooting range facilities are only to be used as specified in (a) unless the Commission approves otherwise. We updated line 5 to improve clarity.

(b)(3): Delete "firearm" for consistency.

Firearm is deliberately listed because ear protection is only required when shooting firearms, not when shooting archery equipment.

(d)(3)(B): What is "age certification"? Do you only accept certain documentation? If so, you may want to specify here.

Age certification is a check box on our form that requires adult participants to attest to the fact that they are 18 years of age or older.

(e)(2): What do you mean by "one-on-one adult supervision"? Can you define or explain this? What is the adult required to do?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

The difference between (e)(1) and (e)(2) is the ratio of adults to youth when on the firing line. Multiple youth between the ages of 13 and 17 can be supervised by a single adult, whereas youth 12 and younger must each have their own adult supervisor (i.e., one-on-one). See NCGS 14-316(a).

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10E .0203 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

*RULE FORMATTING: Please use the formatting instructions for a **Permanent Adoption with changes from publication** – see https://www.oah.nc.gov/documents/rules/permanent-adoption-changes-publication/download?attachment. Changes should just be shown with underlining and strikethrough only.*

(a)(6): For my understanding, what is an "automatic simulated firearm"? Is this defined somewhere?

Automatic simulated firearms are created when a device (e.g., bump stock, forced reset trigger, machinegun conversion device) is attached to a semi-automatic firearm to make the firearm shoot more than one round with the single function of the trigger. Generally, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives treats automatic simulated firearms as automatic firearms; however, we felt listing both in rule would make it clear to the regulated community that neither type of firearm is allowed.

(c)(2): Change "1300" to "1,300".

We updated the number as suggested.

(d)(1): What do you mean by "correct ammunition"?

All firearms are designed to be used with a specific size and/or type of ammunition. The ammunition requirements are generally stamped on the firearm itself. Failure to use the correct ammunition can cause an explosion of the barrel of the firearm.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10H .0810

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), lines 4-6: How does this not conflict with rule .0802(a), where you require non-state residents to have both a state license AND an NC falconry license?

We updated (a) to read AND. We confirmed with our Wildlife Management Division, our Law Enforcement Division, and the NC Falconer's Guild that currently in practice we require both an NC falconry license and a falconry license from the individuals state of residence, as outlined in 10H .0802(a).

(b): Does "annually" mean per calendar year, or one year from the issuance of permit/license?

50 CFR 21.82(e)(2) is explicit, only two birds may be taken each year.

Understood – but your rule states "annually". "Annually" could mean each calendar year or it could mean any consecutive 12-month period. You should consider clarifying this.

(d)(4), line 28: "Special hunt permit" issued by the WRC?

Correct, this is a permit issued by the WRC.

(e), line 30: If this aligns with your intent, I recommend changing this to "at least once every 24 hours".

We updated line 30 as suggested.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(e)(1): Do you have specific limits on "drag weight" based on species? How would the trapper know what is and is not allowed?

There are established best practices for drag weights set by the profession and differ based on species, the bird's flying weight, and body condition.

Are you able to add reference to the professional standards or best practices? If not, why? Based on the rule language, you seem to be making them binding.

(f), line 37: Doesn't 21.82(e)(3)(iii) also apply?

Correct, we updated line 37 to include 21.82(e)(3)(iii).

History Note, Authority: Add 50 C.F.R. 21.82.

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10I .0102

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(b): Consider rephrasing to state, "No person shall purchase, sell, or take …".

We corrected paragraph (b) using your suggested wording.

(d): How does the Executive Director exercise this discretion? If a person fits within (1)-(7), do they automatically get a permit? Or are there additional considerations or criteria?

Permits are only issued to people who fit within one of the explicitly listed categories in (d). When deciding to issue the permit, the information submitted by the applicant in compliance with Paragraph (f) is considered.

(d)(4): The comma here is not needed.

We removed the comma as suggested.

(d)(7)(C): What is "the agency's or institution's Animal Care and Use Committee"? Are all federal and state agencies required to have one of these?

Research institutions that use certain animals for federally funded laboratory research must have an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). These committees stem from federal animal welfare regulations in the Animal Welfare Act and U.S. Public Health Service policy. Permittees are required to submit IACUC approval from their institution when applying for an endangered species permit.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(e): Can you explain to me how this is different than (d)? Also, what "additional permits" are you referring to? How would a regulated person know what they need based on the text of your rule? This additional requirement is not clear and provides no standard.

An endangered species permit may be issued for any of the activities listed in (d). Alone, that permit does not allow any of the activities listed in (e) unless explicitly listed on the permit. Paragraph (e) lists all the other permits that may be applicable to the activities in (d) now and in the future. By specifically stating them in a separate paragraph, it is clearer that the endangered species permit does not necessarily cover all activities in perpetuity. See NCGS 113-274.

(f): Can you provide a more direct link to the portal for endangered species permits?

We cannot provide a more direct link because the system requires permittees to login with a unique username and password.

(f)(1): Add "address" after "email".

We added address as suggested.

(h), line 24: For clarity, add "endangered species" before "permit".

We added endangered species as suggested.

(h)(1): Add "(d)" to the rule citation.

We updated the citation as suggested.

(i): Are you able to specify the reporting requirements in your rule? What are the federal requirements? And where are your permit reporting requirements? How would a regulated person know what is required based on the text of your rule?

We cannot specify these in rule as they are different depending on the species and the activities. Federal regulations give the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service some flexibility in determining what reporting requirements are deemed necessary for determining whether the permittee is complying with the terms and conditions of their permit. See 50 CFR 17.22(b)(3). Permit reporting requirements will be on the permit.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

15A NCAC 10B .0212 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 200 as follows:

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

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

(1) [~~Ashe~~] Ashe;

(2) [~~Catawba~~] Catawba;

(3) [~~Haywood~~] Haywood;

(4) [~~Perquimans~~] Perquimans;

(5) [~~Wilkes~~] Wilkes; and

(6) [~~Yadkin~~] Yadkin.

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

~~(1) Caswell;~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~(d)~~ (f) For ~~areas of open season~~ seasons detailed in Paragraphs ~~(a) through (c)~~ (b), (d), and (e) of this Rule, and areas detailed in G.S. 113-291.4A(a), excluding the counties listed in G.S. 113-291.4B(c), ~~Rule,~~ the daily bag limit is ~~two;~~ two and the season limit is ~~10.~~ 10, unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly. There are no bag or season limits for areas described in (a) and (c), unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly.

History Note: *Authority G.S.* [~~*113-131.1;*~~] *113-133.1; 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.4; 113-291.4A;* [~~*113-294.4B*~~] *113-291.4B;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1987; December 1, 1985;
Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1989;

Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; May 1, 1990;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2000;
Readopted Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0102 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 214 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE

(a) For purposes of this Subchapter, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Permanent Hunting Blind" means a structure that is used for hunter concealment, constructed from manmade or natural materials, and that is not disassembled and removed at the end of the day's hunt.

(2) "Target shooting" means the discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or self-defense.

(3) "Youth" means individuals under 16 years of age.

(b) Trespass. Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the landowner. The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified the following areas on game lands that have additional restrictions on entry or usage:

(1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to archery equipment and falconry. During the open deer seasons for these areas, antlered and antlerless deer may be taken.

(2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on a game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.

(3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

(4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to use by the public, and entry on these areas is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission. The Commission may authorize entry when the primary purpose for the Restricted Zone shall not be compromised and the persons requesting entry demonstrate a valid need, or official business of the Commission is being conducted by a contractor or agent of the Commission. Valid needs may include access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.

(5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are closed to use by the public, and entry is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission. An area of a game land shall be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public.

(6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.

(7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S. 113-264(d).

(8) Day Use Only Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" the use by the public shall be prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

(9) Sensitive Habitat Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Sensitive Habitat Zones" are closed to use by the public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~Commission~~ Permits may be requested by calling 919-707-0150. ~~919-707-0150 and requesting a permit.~~

The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing the following zones: archery, restricted firearms, restricted deer hunting, day use only, or sensitive habitat. After the input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final determination.

(c) Littering. No person shall deposit litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse on any game land except in receptacles provided for disposal of refuse at designated camping and target-shooting areas. No garbage dumps or sanitary landfills shall be established on a game land by a person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality, except as permitted by the landowner.

(d) Use of weapons. ~~*No*~~ *Except for archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, no* person shall ~~*discharge:*~~ *discharge a weapon within 150 yards of:*

(1) ~~*a weapon within 150 yards of*~~ a game land building or designated game land camping area, except where posted otherwise; *or*

(2) ~~*a weapon within 150 yards of*~~ a residence located on or adjacent to game *lands.* ~~*lands, except on Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and*~~

~~*(3) a firearm within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan Game Lands.*~~

No person shall hunt with or have in possession a shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on a posted waterfowl impoundment on a game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer hunting. Individuals carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-415.11, even if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan, Kerr Scott, and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document may be accessed at https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-36/part-327/section-327.13 ~~www.ecfr.gov~~ at no cost. On Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hyco, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee River Game Land north of U.S. 74; and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of U.S. 158 and east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days for game birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:

(1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;

(2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;

(3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or

(4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

(e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

(1) Except as provided in Subparagraph (e)(4) of this Rule, ~~(4) of this Paragraph,~~ a person entering a game land to hunt, trap, run dogs, or train dogs using wildlife shall have in his or her possession a valid North Carolina hunting or trapping license.

(2) For Commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114, in a field trial using wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license, except non-residents may substitute hunting licenses from their states ~~state(s)~~ of residence.

(3) For other field trials using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall possess a North Carolina hunting license.

(4) Exceptions:

(A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his or her parent or legal guardian;

(B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103(j)(1) ~~.0103 (j)(1)~~ of this Section, the game lands license is required for hunting doves; other activities are subject to the control of the landowners.

(f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. An individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial area shall file an application with the Commission to use the area with the facility use fee computed at the rate of three hundred dollars ($300.00) for each scheduled day of the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from 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 day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for all intermediate days on which trials are not run but the building or facilities are used or occupied. A fee of one hundred dollars ($100.00) per day shall be charged to sporting, educational, or scouting groups for scheduled events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or other entity shall enter or use the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area ~~or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility~~ without written approval from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission, and no entry or use of a facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The Sandhills Field Trial facilities shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources Commission. No more than 20 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during a calendar month, and no more than five days may be scheduled during a calendar week. A field trial requiring more than five days may be scheduled during one week with reduction of the maximum number of days allowable during some other week so that the monthly maximum of 20 days is not exceeded. Before October 1 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities between the Wednesday on or nearest October 18 and the second Friday before Thanksgiving and between the first Monday following Thanksgiving and March 31 shall submit its proposed schedule of use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for consideration and approval. ~~*The use of the Sandhills Field Trial facilities by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills Game Lands dogs may be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1.*~~ *Training dogs is prohibited at the Sandhills Field Trial facilities. Unless otherwise specified in Rules of this*

Subchapter and except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~*Dogs may*~~ *dogs shall* not be trained or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on game lands located west of *I-95, or* ~~*I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be trained or permitted to run unleashed*~~ from March 15 through June 15 on game lands located east of ~~*I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission.*~~ *I-95.* Additionally, on game lands located west of I-95 where special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts. A field trial shall be authorized when the field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the game land or field trial facilities, and the applying organization demonstrates their experience and expertise in conducting genuine field trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be granted when they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do not conflict with the mission of the agency.

(g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0300, trapping of furbearing animals, armadillos, coyotes, and groundhogs is permitted on game lands during the open trapping seasons for those areas, established by rule. Foxes may be trapped on game lands from October 1 through the end of February in a county with an open fox trapping season that falls between October 1 and the end of February. Foxes may not be taken by trapping on game lands in counties with a closed fox trapping season or during a fox trapping season that occurs outside the dates of October 1 through the end of February. Additionally, fox trapping is allowed on game lands in Clay, Graham, Henderson, Macon, and Tyrrell counties with a daily bag limit of two and a season bag limit of 10 from the first to the fourth Saturday in January. Trapping is prohibited:

(1) on the J Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of Sandhills Game Land;

(2) in posted "safety zones" located on a game land;

(3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south, US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;

(4) on the DuPont State Forest Game Lands; and

(5) from April 1 through September 31 on game lands. ~~31.~~

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 food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), is less than 3 cubic inches. ~~inches~~ and is covered to prevent it from being seen from above. Feathers, including those with attached skin or entire bird wings, hair with or without skin or hide, and bones that include no attached meat, organs, or viscera do not need to be covered.

(h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on a game land except on roads constructed, maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and on trails posted for vehicular travel, unless the person:

(1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land; or

(2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (l) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program Permit as described in Paragraph (l) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph (k).

(i) Camping.

(1) No person shall camp on a game land except on an area posted by the landowner for camping.

(2) *Camping on posted camping areas is allowed from September 1 through the last day of February and from March 31 through May 31 unless otherwise specified in rules of this Subchapter.*

(3) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at a designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period, unless otherwise specified in rules of this Subchapter. After 14 consecutive days of camping, personal belongings shall be removed from the game land.

~~(3)~~*(4)* A hunting, fishing, trapping, ~~trapping~~ or Game Lands License is required for individuals age 16 or older to camp on game lands in areas posted for camping except when camping within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land, within 100 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the game land west of NC-43, and in posted areas along the Mountains-to-Sea Trail on Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land.

(j) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds, domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild fish from one stream to another on game lands without written authorization. Written authorization shall be given when release of animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native wildlife in the area and is in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(k) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use on game lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (l) of this Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from this restriction but shall comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12102, which is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions and can be found free of charge online at www.govinfo.gov/app/details/USCODE-2024-title42/USCODE-2024-title42-chap126-sec12102, ~~Act (42 U.S.C. 126)~~ may use wheelchairs or other all-terrain wheelchairs on areas where foot travel is allowed. Off road vehicles including ATVs, UTVs, and ebikes are not permitted.

(l) Disabled Access Program. Disabled individuals who meet the requirements of G.S. 113-296 may obtain a Disabled Access Permit and Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification online at ncwildlife.org. The Disabled Access Permit allows individuals to operate electric wheelchairs, ~~wheel chairs,~~ all-terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands whose owners have agreed to that use. Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated online, at www.ncwildlife.gov/outdoors/accessible-opportunities/disabled-access-game-lands. ~~www.ncwildlife.org.~~ This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths, or trails planted for wildlife food or cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each qualified

disabled person, may accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is constantly in visual or verbal contact with the disabled person. The companion may participate in lawful activities while assisting a disabled person, provided license requirements are met. A vehicle used by a qualified disabled person for access to game lands under this provision shall have the Disabled Access Permit available for inspection by wildlife enforcement officers upon request. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their companions may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit hunting days on a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land. It is unlawful for anyone other than disabled persons holding a Disabled Access Permit, during waterfowl season, to hunt within 100 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the Wildlife Resources Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind. The Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification allows individuals to apply for available Disabled sportsman permit hunting opportunities as prescribed in G.S. 113-296.

(m) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on game lands, including land or water. For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while in a public place.

~~(n) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting ranges for purposes other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. Other uses, including camping, building fires, operating concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, unless written authorization is obtained from the Commission. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit debris or refuse on the grounds of the range. This includes items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the range, by the shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot items made of glass on the grounds of the range. No person may leave a vehicle or other obstruction in a location or position that it will prevent, impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave a vehicle or other object parked in a place on the shooting range other than the place or zone that is designated and posted or marked as an authorized parking zone. No person shall handle firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting range in a careless or reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other permanent fixture or structure while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller may be allowed to travel from the range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to a person. Persons using a shooting range shall obey posted range safety rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public safety hazard shall leave the shooting range if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission employees. No person shall handle firearms on a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours of operation shall be designated on signs and at least one sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting range. No person, when using a shooting range, shall do an act that is prohibited or neglect to do an act that is required by signs or markings placed on the area under authority of this Rule for regulating the use of the area.~~

~~(o)~~(n) Limited-access Roads. During the months of June, July, and August, roads posted as "Limited-access Roads" 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 times.

~~(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 part thereof, or possess a bird or animal that has been so mutilated.

~~(q)~~(p) Baiting. Except as provided in Paragraph (g) of this Rule, no person shall place, or cause to be placed on a game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without written authorization from an agent of the Commission. Written authorization may be provided for Commission authorized projects or Commission contractors to meet specific objectives. Except as authorized by rule, no person shall take or attempt to take wild birds or wild animals attracted to these foods.

History Note: *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;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; April 1, 1992;
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 1993;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 31, 2001;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004; (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);
Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; June 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; November 1, 2005;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2014;
Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; August 1, 2022; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027; August 1, 2026; June 1 2025; November 1, 2023.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 202 as follows:

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

(a) The following shall be prohibited on game lands:

(1) hunting on a designated game land while under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-4.01(14a); ~~20-4.01(48b);~~

(2) failing to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the use of the Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands;

(3) parking a vehicle on game lands in a manner that blocks traffic or gates, or prevents vehicles from using a roadway; ~~and~~

(4) affixing nails, screws, bolts, or applying paint to vegetation. This prohibition does 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; and [~~vegetation.~~]

(5) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform whose construction violates Subparagraph (a)(4) of this Rule.

~~(4) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts, or to a tree on a game land to hunt. This prohibition does not apply to lag screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.~~

(b) Unless otherwise allowed by permit, hunting on game lands shall be during the open season for game animals and game birds.

(c) Individual game lands or parts of game lands may be closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by this Subchapter.

(d) Persons shall hunt with weapons lawful for the open game animal or game bird seasons.

(e) On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

(1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;

(2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on the permitted hunting dates;

(3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;

(4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. daily; and

(5) not operate a vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

(f) On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited on game lands: ~~prohibited:~~

(1) hunting with a firearm between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.;

(2) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

(3) hunting with a firearm within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or an accessory structure thereof; and

(4) hunting migratory game birds.

(g) On designated Youth Waterfowl Days, the following shall apply:

(1) hunting on managed waterfowl impoundments shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset;

(2) Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall be followed; and ~~Rule; and~~

(3) youth may hunt on a game land and on an impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except where prohibited in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(h) On designated Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall apply.

(i) On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone."

(j) Definitions:

(1) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Dove Only Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which doves may be taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.

(2) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, Veterans Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Hunting is not allowed on Christmas Day, Veterans Day, and New Year's Day when these holidays fall on Sunday. Falconry may also be practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to antlerless deer hunting seasons listed for each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

(3) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open season and hunting is limited to ~~on the open days of~~ Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday during the open seasons. Falconry may be practiced on Sundays.

(4) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open season and hunting is limited to ~~on~~ Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

(5) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. on Fridays, and 7:00 a.m. on Mondays.

(6) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Permit" means a written authorization from the Commission required for take or other activities listed on the permit during open seasons, if applicable, in a

specified area and subject to annual limitations imposed by the Commission to meet wildlife, hunter, or land management objectives. ~~objectives, unless otherwise specified.~~ Individuals may apply for available permits online at www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com, ~~ncwildlife.org,~~ by phone, or in person at a wildlife service agent location. The Commission shall issue permits to applicants selected at random by computer in accordance with G.S. 113-264. Permits shall be non-transferrable. The laws and rules regarding the species or activity shall apply.

(7) For the purposes of this Subchapter, "Either-Sex" means antlered or antlerless.

(k) Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or parts of counties where taking deer with dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

(l) On permit hunts, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and are non-transferable. ~~nontransferable.~~ A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill online, to a wildlife cooperator agent, ~~agent~~ or by phone.

(m) The following game lands and refuges are closed to hunting except to individuals who have obtained a valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:

(1) Bertie, Halifax, and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;

(2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;

(3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;

(4) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);

(5) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and

(6) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

(n) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the Commission. Written permission may be granted when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge shall not compromise the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.

(o) The Commission may designate special hunts for participants of the Disabled Sportsman Program ~~disabled sportsman program~~ by permit. The Commission may schedule these permit hunts during the closed season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be identified on the permit. If the hunt has a limited weapon choice, the allowed weapons shall be stated on the permit.

(p) As used in the rules of this Subchapter, horseback riding includes all equine species.

(q) When waterfowl hunting is authorized on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;

Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; September 1, 1994; July 1, 1994;
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August 1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October 1, 2004;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2020; August 1, 2019;
Temporary Amendment Eff. September 25, 2020;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2021;
Amended Eff. November 1, 2022; October 1, 2022; August 23, 2022;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2024.

15A NCAC 10D .0106 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 204 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0106 DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS

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

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

Bachelor Bay designated bear management area – Bertie and Washington counties
Columbus County designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
Croatan designated bear management area – Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties
Fires Creek designated bear management area – Clay County
Flat Top designated bear management area – Mitchell and Yancey counties
Green Swamp designated bear management area – Brunswick County
Gull Rock designated bear management area – Hyde County
Harmon Den designated bear management area – Haywood County
Juniper Creek designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties
North River designated bear management area – Camden and Currituck counties
Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County
Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania
Pungo River designated bear management area – Hyde County
Rich Mountain designated bear management area – Madison County
Sherwood designated bear management area – Haywood County
Suggs Mill Pond designated bear management area – Bladen and Cumberland counties
Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County
Thurmond Chatham designated bear management area – Allegheny and Wilkes counties
Wayah designated bear management area – Macon County

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

Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties

Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties

Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County

Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania

Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305;*
Eff. August 1, 2019;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; March 15, 2023.

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission requests the renaming of subchapter 15A NCAC 10E as follows:

SUBCHAPTER 10E – ~~PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS~~ COMMISSION FACILITIES [~~FACILLITIES~~] AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission requests the addition of a section title for subchapter 15A NCAC 10E as follows:

SECTION .0100 – PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS

15A NCAC 10E .0201 is adopted with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 217 as follows:

SECTION .0200 – SHOOTING RANGES

15A NCAC 10E .0201 DEFINITIONS

[~~(a)~~] The following definitions shall apply to the Rules in this [~~the~~] Section:

(1) "Downrange" is the area located forward of the firing line extending in the direction where firearms or archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, may be safely aimed and discharged.

(2) "Firing Line" is the designated area on the shooting range where individuals are authorized to aim and discharge [~~fire~~] firearms and archery equipment under supervision of the Range Safety Officer.

(3) "Range is cold" means that live firing is prohibited and firearms and archery equipment shall not be loaded, handled, or fired.

(4) "Range is hot" means that live firing is authorized.

(5) "Range Safety Officer" or "RSO" is a designated Commission employee or volunteer responsible for ensuring that activities conducted on the shooting range are safe and compliant with established rules and procedures.

(6) "Range Pass" is a card issued by the Commission to an individual who has provided identification and attended a range safety briefing. A range pass is valid for one year from issuance.

(7) "Shooting range" or "range" means the area designated [~~designed~~] for use of firearms or archery equipment.

(8) "Shooting range facility" or "range facility" means the shooting range and associated operational areas, including indoor and outdoor shooting ranges, backstops, berms, parking areas, offices, restrooms, and ingress and egress roadways.

(9) "Sky drawing" is the action of pointing archery equipment into the air and drawing the string, rather than aiming the equipment downrange.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;*
Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10E .0202 is adopted with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 218 as follows:

15A NCAC 10E .0202 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

(a) Shooting range facilities owned and managed by the Commission are for trap shooting, skeet shooting, five-stand shooting, rifle shooting, pistol shooting, practice archery, and 3D archery. Other uses of the [~~Non-specified use of~~] range facilities are [~~is~~] prohibited unless approved, in writing, by the Commission.

(b) Individuals using shooting range facilities shall:

(1) adhere to posted signs and verbal Range Safety Officer (RSO) instruction;

(2) wear eye protection; and

(3) wear ear protection on the firearm firing line.

(c) General Restrictions. The following shall be prohibited at shooting range facilities:

(1) open-toed shoes;

(2) individuals under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-4.01(14a);

(3) alcohol or alcoholic beverages;

(4) smoking, vaping, or use of tobacco or nicotine products, except in designated smoking areas;

(5) eating or drinking while on the firing line;

(6) harassment or intimidating behavior toward staff or other guests;

(7) parking vehicles outside of designated parking areas; and

(8) animals other than service dogs.

(d) Prior to entering the shooting range, individuals participating in shooting sports shall complete the following steps to receive a Range Pass:

(1) sign-in with the RSO;

(2) attend a safety briefing; and

(3) complete a range waiver by providing the following information:

(A) first and last name;

(B) age and age certification;

(C) ethnicity;

(D) gender;

(E) zip code;

(F) email address;

(G) shooting range facility location;

(H) range selection;

(I) NCWRC license status;

(J) attestation of the Risk, Release, and Indemnity Agreement; and

(K) electronic signature.

(e) Age Restrictions.

(1) Individuals under 18 years of age shall be accompanied by an adult when on the firing line.

(2) Individuals 12 years of age and younger shall have one-on-one adult supervision when on the firing line.

(f) Violation of a provision of this Section or RSO instruction shall be grounds for removal from the range facility.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;*
Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10E .0203 is adopted with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 218 as follows:

15A NCAC 10E .0203 RANGE REQUIREMENTS

(a) Firearms.

(1) Firearms shall not be carried into the range facility office.

(2) Firearms shall be cased during transport to and from the firing line.

(3) Firearms shall remain unloaded until on the firing line and the range is hot.

(4) Concealed carry of firearms is prohibited.

(5) Firearms shall not be loaded, handled, or fired when the range is cold.

(6) Fully automatic and automatic simulated firearms are prohibited.

(7) Firearms shall not be pointed at a person.

(8) Firearms shall be pointed downrange at all times.

(b) Archery Equipment.

(1) Arrows shall remain unnocked until individuals are on the firing line and the range is hot.

(2) Broadhead tips are prohibited.

(3) Sky drawing is prohibited.

(4) Firearms are prohibited on the practice archery and 3D archery range.

(5) Individuals using the 3D archery range shall wear a blaze orange vest.

(c) Trap and Skeet.

(1) Shot other than size 7.5, 8, or 9 is prohibited.

(2) Muzzle velocity greater than 1,300 [~~1300~~] feet per second is prohibited.

(3) The firearm's action shall be open and the firearm shall be unloaded when moving between stations.

(d) Ammunition.

(1) Individuals shall use the correct ammunition for their firearms.

(2) Individuals shall collect their spent cartridges, paper targets, trash, litter, and personal items before leaving the shooting range.

(3) The following types of ammunition are prohibited:

(A) tracer;

(B) incendiary;

(C) armor-piercing;

(D) steel core; and

(E) other types deemed unsafe by the RSO.

(e) Targets.

(1) Individuals shall supply their own paper targets.

(2) Target stands provided by the Commission shall be used.

(3) Steel targets are prohibited, unless provided by the Commission.

(4) Glass targets are prohibited.

(5) Intentionally shooting into target stands, posts, or other permanent structures is prohibited.

(6) Shooting a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off the range is prohibited.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;*
Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10H .0810 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 219 as follows:

15A NCAC 10H .0810 TAKING RAPTORS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29; 50 C.F.R. 21.82;*
Eff. September 1, 1979;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; July 1, 1998;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027; June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.

Burgos, Alexander N

Subject: FW: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

From: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2026 10:35 AM
To: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>; Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Perfect, thank you Will.

Alexander Burgos
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From: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2026 10:32 AM
To: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Alex,

Attached, please find combined 0400 forms. Please let us know if you have issues with these in the future.

Best,

Will

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10B .0119 WILDLIFE COLLECTORS

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

The amednments 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 change improves clarity and reduces ambiguity 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.

10. Rulemaking Coordinator:
William Casola
Phone: 919-707-0125
E-Mail:
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov
Additional agency contact, if any:
Carrie Ruhlman
Phone: 919-707-0011
E-Mail:
carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov

11. Signature of Agency Head* or Rule-making Coordinator:
William Casola
By signing, I have verified that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
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Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

Note: Previously adopted amendments effective 8/1/2026 are noted with italic text as these changes went into effect after the current amendments were published in the Register.

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10B .0205 RACCOON AND OPOSSUM

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
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Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
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☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

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☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10B .0206 SQUIRRELS

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
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Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

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☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10B .0212 FOXES (GRAY AND RED)

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
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☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10B .0219 COYOTE

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
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Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
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7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
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Cite Session Law:
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9B. Explain:

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10B .0223 FERAL SWINE

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

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☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10B .0502 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE MANAGEMENT AREAS

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
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Typed Name: William Casola
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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
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11. Signature of Agency Head* or Rule-making Coordinator:

William Casola

By signing, I have verified that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☐ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

10. Rulemaking Coordinator:
William Casola
Phone: 919-707-0125
E-Mail:
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov
Additional agency contact, if any:
Carrie Ruhlman
Phone: 919-707-0011
E-Mail:
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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10C .0414 BLUEFISH

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☐ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10C .0425 SHEEPSHEAD

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☐ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
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Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☐ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

The amendments remove the shooting range rules from the Game Lands chapter of the NCAC (15A NCAC 10D). New rules establish definitions for terms used throughout the shooting range rules in 10E .0200. The new rules 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.

Note: Previously adopted amendments effective 8/1/2026 are noted with italic text as these changes went into effect after the current amendments were published in the Register.

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Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0103 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING HUNTING ON GAME LANDS

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0106 DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

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☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0202 ANGOLA BAY GAME LAND IN DUPLIN AND PENDER COUNTIES

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:
☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)
☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:
☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.
☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:
☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:
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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0210 BULLARD AND BRANCH HUNTING PRESERVE GAME LANDS IN ROBESON COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:
☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)
☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:
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☐ **Court order / cite:**
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Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
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9B. Explain:
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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0211 BUTNER-FALLS OF NEUSE GAME LAND IN DURHAM, GRANVILLE, AND WAKE COUNTIES

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:
☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
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Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)
☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:
☑ **No**

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☐ **Court order / cite:**
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☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
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9B. Explain:
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Note: Previously adopted amendments effective 8/1/2026 are noted with italic text as these changes went into effect after the current amendments were published in the Register.

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***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0213 CAPE FEAR RIVER WETLANDS GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

10. Rulemaking Coordinator:
William Casola
Phone: 919-707-0125
E-Mail:
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov
Additional agency contact, if any:
Carrie Ruhlman
Phone: 919-707-0011
E-Mail:
carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov

11. Signature of Agency Head* or Rule-making Coordinator:
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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0214 CARTERET COUNTY GAME LAND IN CARTERET COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
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Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0221 CROATAN GAME LAND IN CARTERET, CRAVEN, AND JONES COUNTIES

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
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Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

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☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

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☑ **Agency**
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☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0222 CURRITUCK BANKS GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

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☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0229 GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND PAMLICO COUNTIES

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
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9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

Note: Previously adopted amendments effective 8/1/2026 are noted with italic text as these changes went into effect after the current amendments were published in the Register.

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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0239 JOHNS RIVER GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
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9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

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Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0241 JUNIPER CREEK GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

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Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0246 LIGHT GROUND POCOSIN GAME LAND IN PAMLICO COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
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Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

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☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
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☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0251 NANTAHALA GAME LAND IN CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, JACKSON, MACON, AND SWAIN

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:
☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
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7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)
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Consultation not required. Cite authority:
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William Casola
By signing, I have verified that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0254 NEW LAKE GAME LAND IN HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:
☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)
☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:
☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.
☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:
☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:
Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

10. Rulemaking Coordinator:
William Casola
Phone: 919-707-0125
E-Mail:
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov
Additional agency contact, if any:
Carrie Ruhlman
Phone: 919-707-0011
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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0256 NORTH RIVER GAME LAND IN CAMDEN AND CURRITUCK COUNTIES

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:
☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)
☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:
☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.
☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:
☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:
Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0260 PISGAH GAME LAND IN AVERY, BUNCOMBE, BURKE, CALDWELL, HAYWOOD, HENDERSON,

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:
☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)
☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:
☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.
☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:
☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:
Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0270 SAMPSON GAME LAND IN SAMPSON COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
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9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
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☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0279 SUTTON LAKE GAME LAND IN NEW HANOVER AND BRUNSWICK COUNTIES

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:
☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)
☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:
☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.
☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:
☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:
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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0284 TILLERY GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
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9. REASON FOR ACTION

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☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
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☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
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9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

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RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0290 WHITE OAK RIVER GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
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☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
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☐ **Court order / cite:**
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☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
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9B. Explain:

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Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
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☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10D .0296 BIG SWAMP GAME LAND IN ROBESON COUNTY

3. Action:
☑ **ADOPTION** ☐ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026
☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
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☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
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9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

The rule establishes the Big Swamp tract 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. The property will provide numerous recreational opportunities including hiking, birdwatching, hunting, and fishing.

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11. Signature of Agency Head* or Rule-making Coordinator:
William Casola
By signing, I have verified that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10E .0201 DEFINITIONS

3. Action:
☑ **ADOPTION** ☐ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☐ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:
Shooting range rules were removed from the Game Lands chapter of the NCAC (15A NCAC 10D). This rule establishes definitions for terms used throughout the shooting range rules in 10E .0200.

10. Rulemaking Coordinator:
William Casola
Phone: 919-707-0125
E-Mail:
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov
Additional agency contact, if any:
Carrie Ruhlman
Phone: 919-707-0011
E-Mail:
carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov

11. Signature of Agency Head* or Rule-making Coordinator:
William Casola
By signing, I have verified that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10E .0202 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

3. Action:
☑ **ADOPTION** ☐ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☐ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Amendments were made to remove the shooting range rules from the Game Lands chapter of the NCAC (15A NCAC 10D). This rule establishes general safety requirements for WRC shooting range.

10. Rulemaking Coordinator:
William Casola
Phone: 919-707-0125
E-Mail:
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov
Additional agency contact, if any:
Carrie Ruhlman
Phone: 919-707-0011
E-Mail:
carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov

11. Signature of Agency Head* or Rule-making Coordinator:

William Casola

By signing, I have verified that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10E .0203 RANGE REQUIREMENTS

3. Action:
☑ **ADOPTION** ☐ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☐ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Amendments were made to remove the shooting range rules from the Game Lands chapter of the NCAC (15A NCAC 10D). This rule establishes range requirements for WRC shooting range.

10. Rulemaking Coordinator:
William Casola
Phone: 919-707-0125
E-Mail:
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov
Additional agency contact, if any:
Carrie Ruhlman
Phone: 919-707-0011
E-Mail:
carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov

11. Signature of Agency Head* or Rule-making Coordinator:

William Casola

By signing, I have verified that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10H .0810 TAKING RAPTORS

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☑ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☑ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

Each year, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reviews and adjusts seasons, bag limits, and the land management regulations, as needed, to achieve conservation management goals, comply with statutory changes, and respond to constituent requests.

10. Rulemaking Coordinator:
William Casola
Phone: 919-707-0125
E-Mail:
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov
Additional agency contact, if any:
Carrie Ruhlman
Phone: 919-707-0011
E-Mail:
carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov

11. Signature of Agency Head* or Rule-making Coordinator:

William Casola

By signing, I have verified that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

SUBMISSION FOR PERMANENT RULE

1. Rule-Making Agency: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

2. Rule citation & name (name not required for repeal):
15A NCAC 10I .0102 PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES

3. Action:
☐ **ADOPTION** ☑ **AMENDMENT** ☐ **REPEAL** ☐ **READOPTION** ☐ **REPEAL through READOPTION**

4. Rule exempt from RRC review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

5. Rule automatically subject to legislative review?
☐ **Yes. Cite authority:**
☑ **No**

6. Notice for Proposed Rule:

☑ **Notice Required**
Notice of Text published on: 7/15/2026
Link to Agency notice: https://www.ncwildlife.gov/hunting/regulations/proposed-regulations
Hearing on: 8/20/2026 & 8/25/2026
☑ **The requirements listed in G.S. 150B-19.1(c)(1)-(5) were posted on the agency's Web site no later than the publication date of the notice of text in the N.C. Register.**
Adoption by Agency on: 10/1/2026

☐ **Notice not required under G.S.:**
Adoption by Agency on:

7. Rule establishes or increases a fee? (See G.S. 12-3.1)

☐ **Yes**
Agency submitted request for consultation on:
Consultation not required. Cite authority:

☑ **No**

8. Fiscal impact. Check all that apply.

☐ **This Rule was part of a combined analysis.**
☑ **State funds affected**
☐ **Local funds affected**
☐ **Substantial economic impact (≥$1,000,000)**
☑ **Approved by OSBM**
☐ **No fiscal note required**

9. REASON FOR ACTION

9A. What prompted this action? Check all that apply:

☑ **Agency**
☐ **Court order / cite:**
☐ **Federal statute / cite:**
☐ **Federal regulation / cite:**
☐ **Legislation enacted by the General Assembly**
Cite Session Law:
☐ **Petition for rule-making**
☐ **Other:**

9B. Explain:

The rule amendments 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. Current Rule language could be interpreted to allow unrestricted movement of species parts between individuals. The proposed change closes this loophole, allows for additional oversight and control of these animals, and prevents transfer and movement to entities that are not permitted.

10. Rulemaking Coordinator:
William Casola
Phone: 919-707-0125
E-Mail:
william.casola@ncwildlife.gov
Additional agency contact, if any:
Carrie Ruhlman
Phone: 919-707-0011
E-Mail:
carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov

11. Signature of Agency Head* or Rule-making Coordinator:

William Casola

By signing, I have verified that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

***If this function has been delegated (reassigned) pursuant to G.S. 143B-10(a), submit a copy of the delegation with this form.**

Typed Name: William Casola
Title: Rulemaking Coordinator

RRC AND OAH USE ONLY

Action taken:
☐ RRC extended period of review:
☐ RRC determined substantial changes:
☐ Withdrawn by agency
☐ Subject to Legislative Review
☐ Other:

Burgos, Alexander N

Subject: FW: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

From: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2026 9:58 AM
To: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>; Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Great, thanks for your help. I appreciate it.

Alexander Burgos
Paralegal
Office of Administrative Hearings
1711 New Hope Church Road
Raleigh NC, 27609
(984) 236-1940
Alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov

From: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2026 9:57 AM
To: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Alex,

I apologize for the PDF issues. I believe I found a quick workaround by saving the file as an optimized PDF and then combining them together. I will send you a combined file of all 0400 I just submitted shortly and will make sure to save them in this format moving forward.

Thank you,

Will

From: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2026 9:19 AM
To: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>; Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Will,

For some reason, when we receive forms from your agency and I attempt to combine them into a single PDF, the first form is duplicated throughout the entire combined document.

For your initial submission, I had to print each form individually, walk them to the copier, and scan them back in to create a complete PDF containing all the forms. I have been using this workaround for some time with form submissions from WRC.

Could you please have your support staff investigate this issue and resubmit the forms either as a properly combined PDF or in a format that does not require us to print and rescan each form in order to create a complete file?

I apologize for not bringing this issue to your attention sooner, but it has become increasingly difficult to manage.

Thank you,

Alexander Burgos
Paralegal
Office of Administrative Hearings
1711 New Hope Church Road
Raleigh NC, 27609
(984) 236-1940
Alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov

Burgos, Alexander N

Subject: FW: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting
Attachments: 15A NCAC 10D.zip

From: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2026 8:38 AM
To: Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>; Rules, Oah <oah.rules@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>; Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Chris,

Attached, please find rules, 0400 Forms, and maps for 10D rules.

Please let us know if you have additional questions or edits.

Best,

Will Casola

Will Casola, PhD
Policy Analyst
Office of Conservation Policy & Analysis
51 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606
Office: 919-707-0125

15A NCAC 10D .0102 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 214 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE

(a) For purposes of this Subchapter, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Permanent Hunting Blind" means a structure that is used for hunter concealment, constructed from manmade or natural materials, and that is not disassembled and removed at the end of the day's hunt.

(2) "Target shooting" means the discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or self-defense.

(3) "Youth" means individuals under 16 years of age.

(b) Trespass. Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the landowner. The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified the following areas on game lands that have additional restrictions on entry or usage:

(1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to archery equipment and falconry. During the open deer seasons for these areas, antlered and antlerless deer may be taken.

(2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on a game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.

(3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

(4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to use by the public, and entry on these areas is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission. The Commission may authorize entry when the primary purpose for the Restricted Zone shall not be compromised and the persons requesting entry demonstrate a valid need, or official business of the Commission is being conducted by a contractor or agent of the Commission. Valid needs may include access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.

(5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are closed to use by the public, and entry is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission. An area of a game land shall be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public.

(6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.

(7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S. 113-264(d).

(8) Day Use Only Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" the use by the public shall be prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

(9) Sensitive Habitat Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Sensitive Habitat Zones" are closed to use by the public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry is prohibited without written approval from the Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~Commission~~ Permits may be requested by calling 919-707-0150. ~~919-707-0150 and requesting a permit.~~

The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing the following zones: archery, restricted firearms, restricted deer hunting, day use only, or sensitive habitat. After the input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final determination.

(c) Littering. No person shall deposit litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse on any game land except in receptacles provided for disposal of refuse at designated camping and target-shooting areas. No garbage dumps or sanitary landfills shall be established on a game land by a person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality, except as permitted by the landowner.

(d) Use of weapons. ~~*No*~~ *Except for archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, no* person shall ~~*discharge:*~~ *discharge a weapon within 150 yards of:*

(1) ~~*a weapon within 150 yards of*~~ a game land building or designated game land camping area, except where posted otherwise; *or*

(2) ~~*a weapon within 150 yards of*~~ a residence located on or adjacent to game *lands.* ~~*lands, except on Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and*~~

~~*(3) a firearm within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan Game Lands.*~~

No person shall hunt with or have in possession a shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on a posted waterfowl impoundment on a game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer hunting. Individuals carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-415.11, even if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan, Kerr Scott, and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document may be accessed at https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-36/part-327/section-327.13 ~~www.ecfr.gov~~ at no cost. On Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hyco, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee River Game Land north of U.S. 74; and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of U.S. 158 and east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days for game birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:

(1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;

(2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;

(3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or

(4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

(e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

(1) Except as provided in Subparagraph (e)(4) of this Rule, ~~(4) of this Paragraph,~~ a person entering a game land to hunt, trap, run dogs, or train dogs using wildlife shall have in his or her possession a valid North Carolina hunting or trapping license.

(2) For Commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114, in a field trial using wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license, except non-residents may substitute hunting licenses from their states ~~state(s)~~ of residence.

(3) For other field trials using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall possess a North Carolina hunting license.

(4) Exceptions:

(A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his or her parent or legal guardian;

(B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103(j)(1) ~~.0103 (j)(1)~~ of this Section, the game lands license is required for hunting doves; other activities are subject to the control of the landowners.

(f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. An individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial area shall file an application with the Commission to use the area with the facility use fee computed at the rate of three hundred dollars ($300.00) for each scheduled day of the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from 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 day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for all intermediate days on which trials are not run but the building or facilities are used or occupied. A fee of one hundred dollars ($100.00) per day shall be charged to sporting, educational, or scouting groups for scheduled events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or other entity shall enter or use the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area ~~or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility~~ without written approval from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission, and no entry or use of a facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The Sandhills Field Trial facilities shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources Commission. No more than 20 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during a calendar month, and no more than five days may be scheduled during a calendar week. A field trial requiring more than five days may be scheduled during one week with reduction of the maximum number of days allowable during some other week so that the monthly maximum of 20 days is not exceeded. Before October 1 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities between the Wednesday on or nearest October 18 and the second Friday before Thanksgiving and between the first Monday following Thanksgiving and March 31 shall submit its proposed schedule of use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for consideration and approval. ~~*The use of the Sandhills Field Trial facilities by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills Game Lands dogs may be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1.*~~ *Training dogs is prohibited at the Sandhills Field Trial facilities. Unless otherwise specified in Rules of this*

Subchapter and except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~*Dogs may*~~ *dogs shall* not be trained or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on game lands located west of *I-95, or* ~~*I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be trained or permitted to run unleashed*~~ from March 15 through June 15 on game lands located east of ~~*I-95, except when participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission.*~~ *I-95.* Additionally, on game lands located west of I-95 where special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts. A field trial shall be authorized when the field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the game land or field trial facilities, and the applying organization demonstrates their experience and expertise in conducting genuine field trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be granted when they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do not conflict with the mission of the agency.

(g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0300, trapping of furbearing animals, armadillos, coyotes, and groundhogs is permitted on game lands during the open trapping seasons for those areas, established by rule. Foxes may be trapped on game lands from October 1 through the end of February in a county with an open fox trapping season that falls between October 1 and the end of February. Foxes may not be taken by trapping on game lands in counties with a closed fox trapping season or during a fox trapping season that occurs outside the dates of October 1 through the end of February. Additionally, fox trapping is allowed on game lands in Clay, Graham, Henderson, Macon, and Tyrrell counties with a daily bag limit of two and a season bag limit of 10 from the first to the fourth Saturday in January. Trapping is prohibited:

(1) on the J Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of Sandhills Game Land;

(2) in posted "safety zones" located on a game land;

(3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south, US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;

(4) on the DuPont State Forest Game Lands; and

(5) from April 1 through September 31 on game lands. ~~31.~~

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 food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), is less than 3 cubic inches. ~~inches~~ and is covered to prevent it from being seen from above. Feathers, including those with attached skin or entire bird wings, hair with or without skin or hide, and bones that include no attached meat, organs, or viscera do not need to be covered.

(h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on a game land except on roads constructed, maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and on trails posted for vehicular travel, unless the person:

(1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land; or

(2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (l) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program Permit as described in Paragraph (l) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph (k).

(i) Camping.

(1) No person shall camp on a game land except on an area posted by the landowner for camping.

(2) *Camping on posted camping areas is allowed from September 1 through the last day of February and from March 31 through May 31 unless otherwise specified in rules of this Subchapter.*

(3) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at a designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period, unless otherwise specified in rules of this Subchapter. After 14 consecutive days of camping, personal belongings shall be removed from the game land.

~~(3)~~*(4)* A hunting, fishing, trapping, ~~trapping~~ or Game Lands License is required for individuals age 16 or older to camp on game lands in areas posted for camping except when camping within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land, within 100 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the game land west of NC-43, and in posted areas along the Mountains-to-Sea Trail on Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land.

(j) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds, domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild fish from one stream to another on game lands without written authorization. Written authorization shall be given when release of animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native wildlife in the area and is in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(k) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use on game lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (l) of this Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from this restriction but shall comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12102, which is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions and can be found free of charge online at www.govinfo.gov/app/details/USCODE-2024-title42/USCODE-2024-title42-chap126-sec12102, ~~Act (42 U.S.C. 126)~~ may use wheelchairs or other all-terrain wheelchairs on areas where foot travel is allowed. Off road vehicles including ATVs, UTVs, and ebikes are not permitted.

(l) Disabled Access Program. Disabled individuals who meet the requirements of G.S. 113-296 may obtain a Disabled Access Permit and Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification online at ncwildlife.org. The Disabled Access Permit allows individuals to operate electric wheelchairs, ~~wheel chairs,~~ all-terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands whose owners have agreed to that use. Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated online, at www.ncwildlife.gov/outdoors/accessible-opportunities/disabled-access-game-lands. ~~www.ncwildlife.org.~~ This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths, or trails planted for wildlife food or cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each qualified

disabled person, may accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is constantly in visual or verbal contact with the disabled person. The companion may participate in lawful activities while assisting a disabled person, provided license requirements are met. A vehicle used by a qualified disabled person for access to game lands under this provision shall have the Disabled Access Permit available for inspection by wildlife enforcement officers upon request. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their companions may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit hunting days on a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land. It is unlawful for anyone other than disabled persons holding a Disabled Access Permit, during waterfowl season, to hunt within 100 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the Wildlife Resources Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind. The Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification allows individuals to apply for available Disabled sportsman permit hunting opportunities as prescribed in G.S. 113-296.

(m) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on game lands, including land or water. For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while in a public place.

~~(n) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting ranges for purposes other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. Other uses, including camping, building fires, operating concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, unless written authorization is obtained from the Commission. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit debris or refuse on the grounds of the range. This includes items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the range, by the shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot items made of glass on the grounds of the range. No person may leave a vehicle or other obstruction in a location or position that it will prevent, impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave a vehicle or other object parked in a place on the shooting range other than the place or zone that is designated and posted or marked as an authorized parking zone. No person shall handle firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting range in a careless or reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other permanent fixture or structure while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller may be allowed to travel from the range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to a person. Persons using a shooting range shall obey posted range safety rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public safety hazard shall leave the shooting range if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission employees. No person shall handle firearms on a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours of operation shall be designated on signs and at least one sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting range. No person, when using a shooting range, shall do an act that is prohibited or neglect to do an act that is required by signs or markings placed on the area under authority of this Rule for regulating the use of the area.~~

~~(o)~~(n) Limited-access Roads. During the months of June, July, and August, roads posted as "Limited-access Roads" 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 times.

~~(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 part thereof, or possess a bird or animal that has been so mutilated.

~~(q)~~(p) Baiting. Except as provided in Paragraph (g) of this Rule, no person shall place, or cause to be placed on a game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without written authorization from an agent of the Commission. Written authorization may be provided for Commission authorized projects or Commission contractors to meet specific objectives. Except as authorized by rule, no person shall take or attempt to take wild birds or wild animals attracted to these foods.

History Note: *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;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; April 1, 1992;
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 1993;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 31, 2001;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004; (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);
Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; June 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; November 1, 2005;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2014;
Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; August 1, 2022; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027; August 1, 2026; June 1 2025; November 1, 2023.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 202 as follows:

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

(a) The following shall be prohibited on game lands:

(1) hunting on a designated game land while under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-4.01(14a); ~~20-4.01(48b);~~

(2) failing to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the use of the Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands;

(3) parking a vehicle on game lands in a manner that blocks traffic or gates, or prevents vehicles from using a roadway; ~~and~~

(4) affixing nails, screws, bolts, or applying paint to vegetation. This prohibition does 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; and [~~vegetation.~~]

(5) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform whose construction violates Subparagraph (a)(4) of this Rule.

~~(4) erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts, or to a tree on a game land to hunt. This prohibition does not apply to lag screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.~~

(b) Unless otherwise allowed by permit, hunting on game lands shall be during the open season for game animals and game birds.

(c) Individual game lands or parts of game lands may be closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by this Subchapter.

(d) Persons shall hunt with weapons lawful for the open game animal or game bird seasons.

(e) On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

(1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;

(2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on the permitted hunting dates;

(3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;

(4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. daily; and

(5) not operate a vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

(f) On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited on game lands: ~~prohibited:~~

(1) hunting with a firearm between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.;

(2) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

(3) hunting with a firearm within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or an accessory structure thereof; and

(4) hunting migratory game birds.

(g) On designated Youth Waterfowl Days, the following shall apply:

(1) hunting on managed waterfowl impoundments shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset;

(2) Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall be followed; and ~~Rule; and~~

(3) youth may hunt on a game land and on an impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except where prohibited in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(h) On designated Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall apply.

(i) On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone."

(j) Definitions:

(1) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Dove Only Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which doves may be taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.

(2) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, Veterans Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Hunting is not allowed on Christmas Day, Veterans Day, and New Year's Day when these holidays fall on Sunday. Falconry may also be practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to antlerless deer hunting seasons listed for each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

(3) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open season and hunting is limited to ~~on the open days of~~ Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday during the open seasons. Falconry may be practiced on Sundays.

(4) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open season and hunting is limited to ~~on~~ Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

(5) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a game land ~~Game Land~~ on which game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. on Fridays, and 7:00 a.m. on Mondays.

(6) For purposes of this Subchapter, "Permit" means a written authorization from the Commission required for take or other activities listed on the permit during open seasons, if applicable, in a

specified area and subject to annual limitations imposed by the Commission to meet wildlife, hunter, or land management objectives. ~~objectives, unless otherwise specified.~~ Individuals may apply for available permits online at www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com, ~~ncwildlife.org,~~ by phone, or in person at a wildlife service agent location. The Commission shall issue permits to applicants selected at random by computer in accordance with G.S. 113-264. Permits shall be non-transferrable. The laws and rules regarding the species or activity shall apply.

(7) For the purposes of this Subchapter, "Either-Sex" means antlered or antlerless.

(k) Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or parts of counties where taking deer with dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

(l) On permit hunts, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and are non-transferable. ~~nontransferable.~~ A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill online, to a wildlife cooperator agent, ~~agent~~ or by phone.

(m) The following game lands and refuges are closed to hunting except to individuals who have obtained a valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:

(1) Bertie, Halifax, and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;

(2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;

(3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;

(4) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);

(5) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and

(6) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

(n) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the Commission. Written permission may be granted when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge shall not compromise the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.

(o) The Commission may designate special hunts for participants of the Disabled Sportsman Program ~~disabled sportsman program~~ by permit. The Commission may schedule these permit hunts during the closed season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be identified on the permit. If the hunt has a limited weapon choice, the allowed weapons shall be stated on the permit.

(p) As used in the rules of this Subchapter, horseback riding includes all equine species.

(q) When waterfowl hunting is authorized on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;

Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; September 1, 1994; July 1, 1994;
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August 1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October 1, 2004;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2020; August 1, 2019;
Temporary Amendment Eff. September 25, 2020;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2021;
Amended Eff. November 1, 2022; October 1, 2022; August 23, 2022;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2024.

15A NCAC 10D .0106 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 204 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0106 DESIGNATED BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS

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

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

Bachelor Bay designated bear management area – Bertie and Washington counties
Columbus County designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
Croatan designated bear management area – Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties
Fires Creek designated bear management area – Clay County
Flat Top designated bear management area – Mitchell and Yancey counties
Green Swamp designated bear management area – Brunswick County
Gull Rock designated bear management area – Hyde County
Harmon Den designated bear management area – Haywood County
Juniper Creek designated bear management area – Brunswick and Columbus counties
Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties
North River designated bear management area – Camden and Currituck counties
Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County
Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania
Pungo River designated bear management area – Hyde County
Rich Mountain designated bear management area – Madison County
Sherwood designated bear management area – Haywood County
Suggs Mill Pond designated bear management area – Bladen and Cumberland counties
Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County
Thurmond Chatham designated bear management area – Allegheny and Wilkes counties
Wayah designated bear management area – Macon County

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

Daniel Boone designated bear management area – Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties
Dare designated bear management area – Dare and Hyde counties

Mt. Mitchell designated bear management area – McDowell and Yancey counties

Panthertown – Bonas Defeat designated bear management area – Jackson County

Pisgah designated bear management area – Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania

Standing Indian designated bear management area – Macon County

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305;*
Eff. August 1, 2019;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; March 15, 2023.

15A NCAC 10D .0202 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 205 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0202 ANGOLA BAY GAME LAND IN DUPLIN AND PENDER COUNTIES

Angola Bay Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) Target shooting is prohibited.

(3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0210 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 205 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0210 BULLARD AND BRANCH HUNTING PRESERVE GAME LANDS IN ROBESON COUNTY

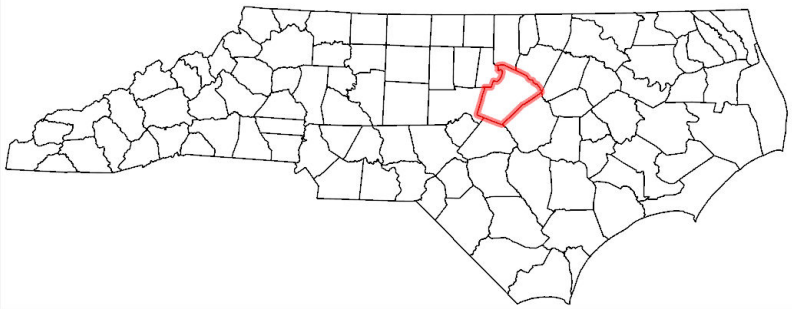
Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Four Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

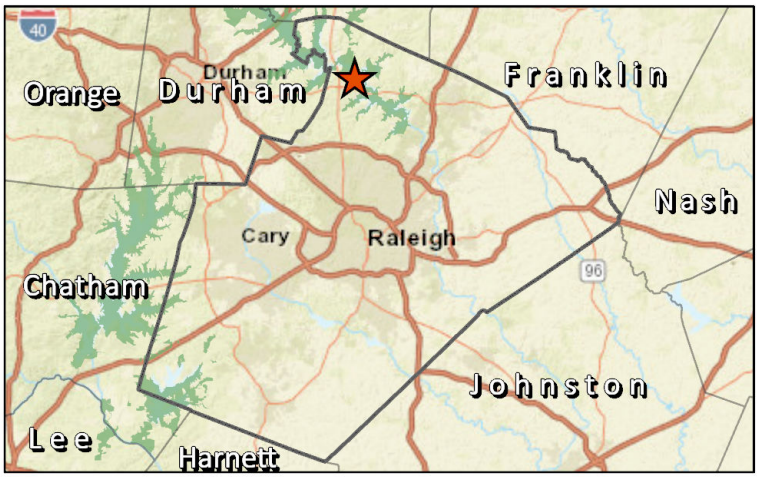
(1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

New Light Tract Designation
Butner-Falls Of Neuse Game Land
Wake County





Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land
US Army Corps
of Engineers

18 ac.

6 ac.

New Light Rd

Falls Lake

Ghoston Rd

Waterline Dr

NORTH CAROLINA Wildlife RESOURCES COMMISSION

New Light Road Tracts

Game Land

Mountain-to-Sea Trail

Parcel Boundaries

0 200 400
Feet

N
W E
S

15A NCAC 10D .0211 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 205 as follows:

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 in Wake County [~~(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, 2027; August 1, 2026; August 1, 2023.

15A NCAC 10D .0213 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 205 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0213 CAPE FEAR RIVER WETLANDS GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY

Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on ~~that portion known as~~ the Roan Island Tract.

(3) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion ~~of the game land that is~~ west of the Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck Road, and south of NC 210 to the Black River.

(4) Target shooting is prohibited.

(5) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0214 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 205 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0214 CARTERET COUNTY GAME LAND IN CARTERET COUNTY

Carteret County Game Land ~~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 day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

(2) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

(3) Bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract is by permit only.

(4) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0221 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 206 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0221 CROATAN GAME LAND IN CARTERET, CRAVEN, AND JONES COUNTIES

Croatan Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:

(a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

(b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and

(c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

(3) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of all waterfowl seasons, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish Lake Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.

(4) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted areas. During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.

(5) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0222 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 206 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0222 CURRITUCK BANKS GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY

Currituck Banks Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by permit only from November 1 through the end of all waterfowl seasons.

(2) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the guides do not use a firearm.

(3) The boundary of the game land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

(4) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day of their hunt.

~~(5)~~ ~~No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.~~

~~(6)~~(5) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers season.

~~(7)~~(6) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0229 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 206 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0229 GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND PAMLICO COUNTIES

Goose Creek ~~*game land*~~ *Game Land* is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) ~~Except as provided in~~ Subject to the requirements of 15A NCAC 10D .0103(e), waterfowl in posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:

(a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

(b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and

(c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

(3) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October, through the end of all waterfowl seasons, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl impoundments: Pamlico Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith Creek, and Hobucken.

(4) On Spring Lake, Pamlico Point, and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments, all activities, except waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the trapping season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period November 1 through March 15.

(5) Camping is ~~*restricted to September 1 through the last day of February, and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and*~~ *allowed on areas* posted ~~*as*~~ *for* camping ~~*areas.*~~ *as specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter.*

(6) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1 through January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting opportunity permit.

(7) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is prohibited on the Beaufort County portion north of N.C. 33, except for that portion east of Smith Creek and south of Campbell Creek.

(8) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

(9) Hunting for deer, bear, and turkey on the Bates-Bay Tract is by permit only.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Temporary Adoption Eff. December 1, 2022;
Eff. March 15, 2023;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2026; August 1, 2025.

15A NCAC 10D .0239 is amended as published in 41:02 NCR 207 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0239 JOHNS RIVER GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY

Johns River ~~*game land*~~ *Game Land* is hunting by permit only. The following shall apply:

(1) During permitted deer hunts, antlered or antlerless deer may be taken by permit holders.

(2) The construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.

(3) Camping is ~~*restricted to August 31 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.*

(4) Target shooting is prohibited.

(5) During the open days of the seasons for game birds and game animals, entry is restricted to permit holders. ~~the use of bicycles is restricted to hunters engaged in the act of hunting.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2026; August 1, 2025; August 1, 2023.

15A NCAC 10D .0241 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 207 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0241 JUNIPER CREEK GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES

~~(a)~~ Juniper Creek ~~*game land*~~ *Game Land* is a Seven Days per Week Area. The following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) Camping is ~~*restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in*~~ *allowed on* areas ~~*both designated and*~~ posted ~~*as*~~ *for* camping ~~*areas.*~~ *as specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter.*

(3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2026.

15A NCAC 10D .0246 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 207 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0246 LIGHT GROUND POCOSIN GAME LAND IN PAMLICO COUNTY

Light Ground Pocosin Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0251 is amended as published in 41:02 NCR 207 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0251 NANTAHALA GAME LAND IN CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, JACKSON, MACON, AND SWAIN COUNTIES ~~SWAIN, AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES~~

~~(a)~~ Nantahala Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies: ~~Area.~~

~~(b)~~(1) Antlerless deer shall not be taken during the All Lawful Weapons Season. ~~In this game land Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season in that portion located in Transylvania County.~~

~~(c)~~(2) Dogs may be used to hunt feral swine during the open bear season established in 15A NCAC 10B .0202 and from January 1 through January 31.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2024.

15A NCAC 10D .0254 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 207 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0254 NEW LAKE GAME LAND IN HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES

New Lake Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0256 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 207 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0256 NORTH RIVER GAME LAND IN CAMDEN AND CURRITUCK COUNTIES

North River Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

(3) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only. ~~permit.~~

(4) All activities on the North River Game Land Waterfowl Impoundments except waterfowl hunting and trapping during the trapping season are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone from November 1 through March 15.

(5) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2024.

15A NCAC 10D .0257 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 207 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY

Northwest River Marsh Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

(3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

(4) Target shooting 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.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0260 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 208 as follows:

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 Tract (McDowell County), Linville River Tract (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 Tract (McDowell County), Linville River Tract (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. August 1, 2027; January 1, 2026.

15A NCAC 10D .0270 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 208 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0270 SAMPSON GAME LAND IN SAMPSON COUNTY

Sampson Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Four Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) Target shooting is prohibited.

(3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0279 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 208 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0279 ~~SUGGS~~ SUTTON LAKE GAME LAND IN NEW HANOVER AND BRUNSWICK COUNTIES

~~Suggs~~ Sutton Lake Game Land ~~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 day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.

(2) Target shooting is prohibited.

(3) Bear shall not be taken ~~harvested~~ on Sundays. ~~Sunday.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0284 is amended as published in 41:02 NCR 208 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0284 TILLERY GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY

Tillery Game Land ~~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 day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

(2) Horseback riding is prohibited.

(3) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

(4) ~~Wild turkey~~ Quail, wild turkey, and woodcock hunting is by permit only.

(5) Target Shooting 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.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10D .0290 is amended with changs as published in 41:02 NCR 208 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0290 WHITE OAK RIVER GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY

White Oak River Game Land ~~game land~~ is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

~~(2) Except as provided in Item (3) of this Rule, waterfowl in posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:~~

~~(a) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;~~

~~(b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and~~

~~(c) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.~~

~~(3) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all waterfowl seasons, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.~~

~~(4)~~(3) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tract ~~Tracts~~ have the following restrictions:

(a) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d);

(b) hunting is by permit only; and

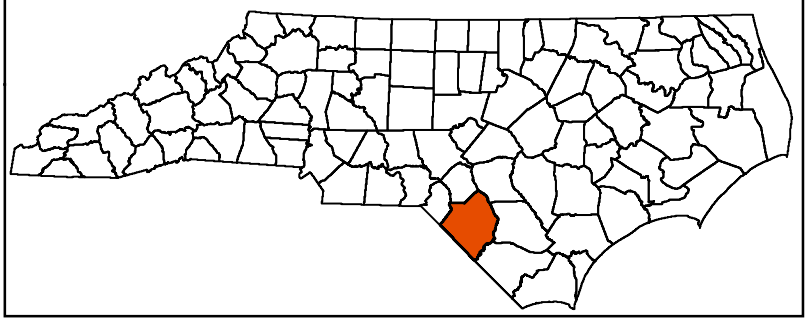
(c) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

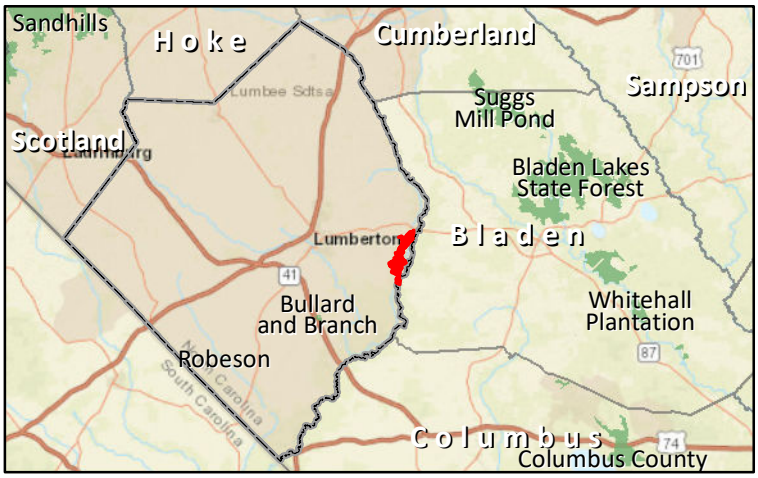
~~(5)~~(4) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

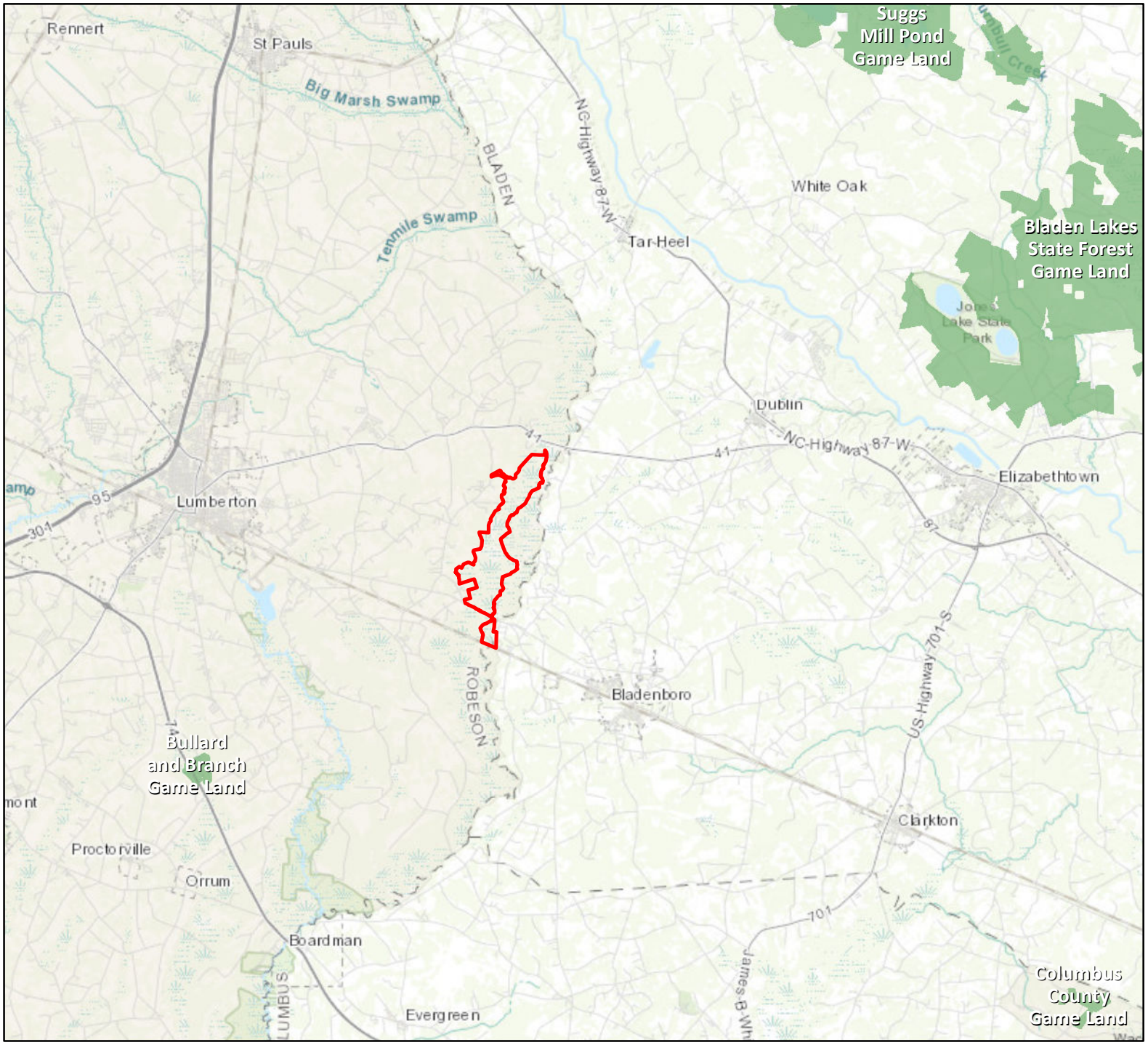
~~(6)~~(5) Target ~~Shooting~~ shooting is prohibited.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. November 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

Big SwampTract
Robeson County
~2,475 Acres







NORTH CAROLINA Wildlife RESOURCES COMMISSION

August 17, 2022

Big Swamp Tract

Game Land

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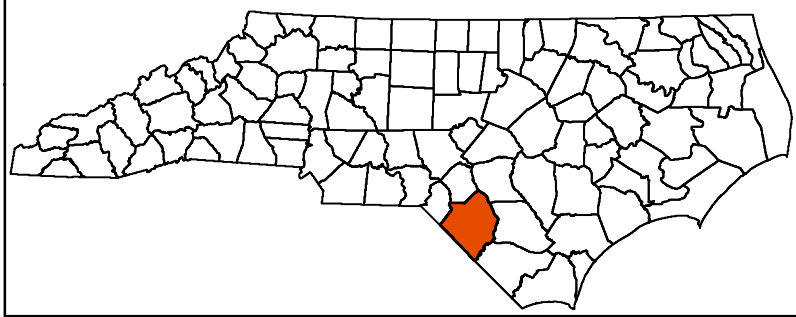
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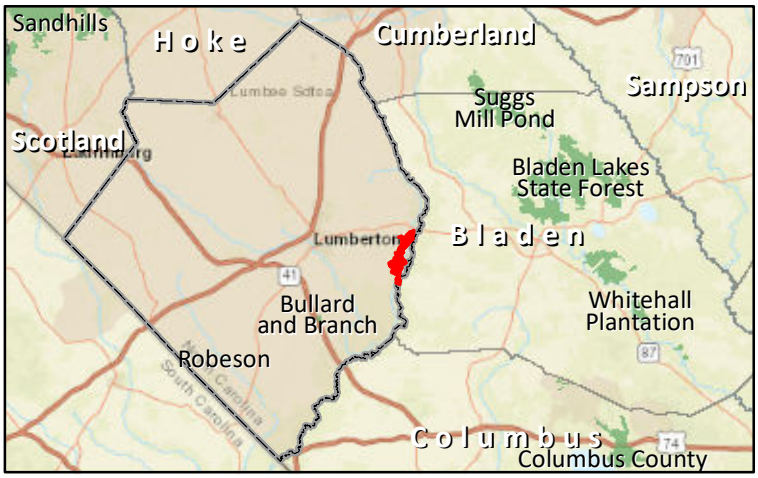
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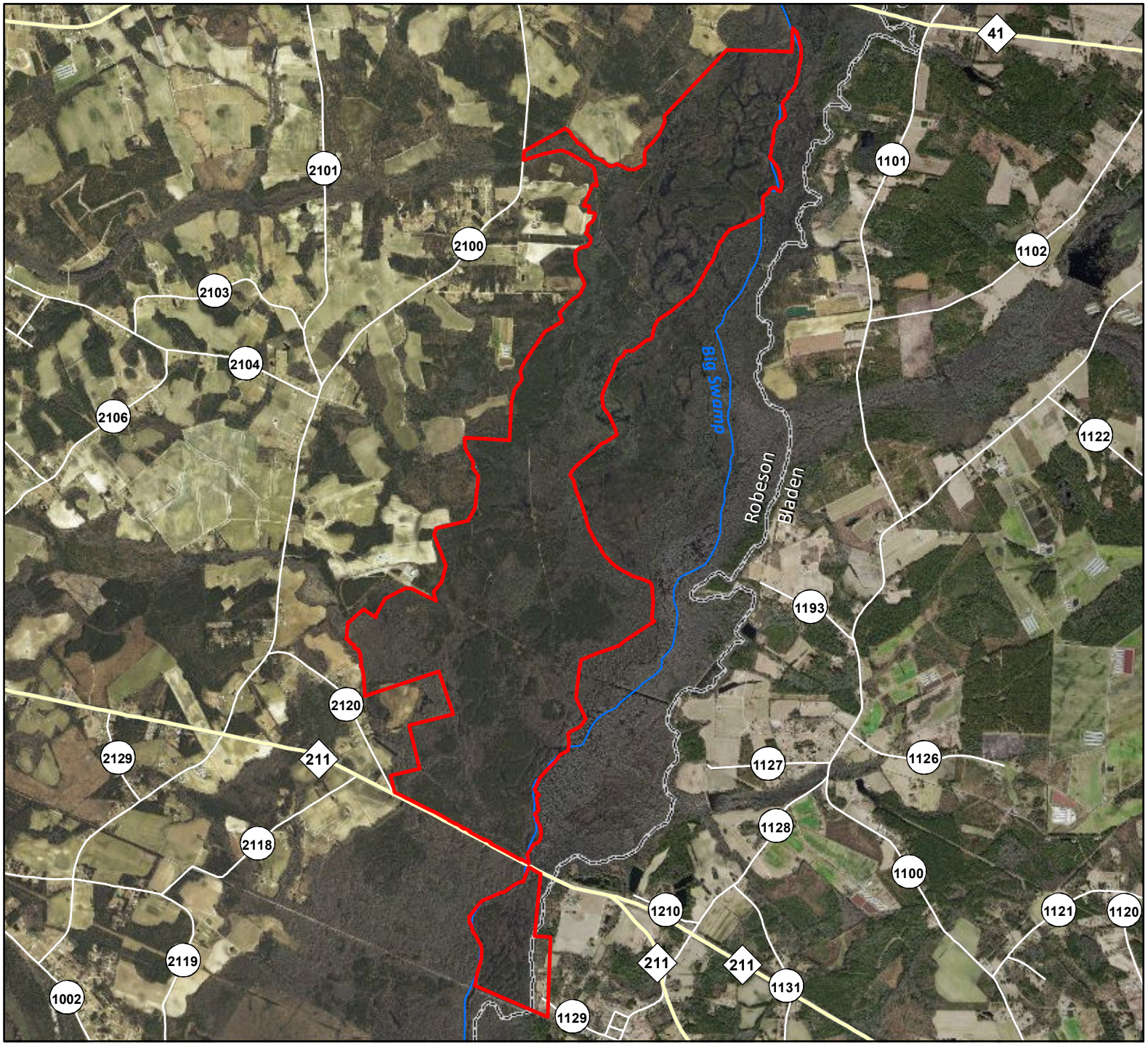
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Big SwampTract
Robeson County
~2,475 Acres







NORTH CAROLINA Wildlife RESOURCES COMMISSION

August 17, 2022

Big Swamp Tract

Game Land

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15A NCAC 10D .0296 is adopted as published in 41:02 NCR 209 as follows:

15A NCAC 10D .0296 BIG SWAMP GAME LAND IN ROBESON COUNTY

Big Swamp Game Land is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(2) The use of dogs for hunting deer or bear is prohibited.

(3) Target shooting is prohibited.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
Eff. August 1, 2027.

Burgos, Alexander N

Subject: FW: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting
Attachments: Request for Changes - NCWRC - 11 2026.docx; 15A NCAC 10E.zip; 15A NCAC 10H.zip; 15A NCAC 10I.zip; 15A NCAC 10B.zip; 15A NCAC 10C.zip

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From: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2026 8:34 AM
To: Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>; Rules, Oah <oah.rules@oah.nc.gov>
Cc: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>; Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Chris,

Attached, please find responses to your request for changes, updated rule text, maps, and updated 0400 Forms for rules within 15A NCAC 10B, 10C, 10E, 10H, & 10I. I've organized these by subchapter in zipped folders for easier file management.

The remaining rules (10D) will be sent in a separate email due to attachment size limitations.

Please let us know if you have additional questions or edits.

Best,

Will Casola

Will Casola, PhD
Policy Analyst
Office of Conservation Policy & Analysis
51 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606
Office: 919-707-0125

Request for Changes Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-21.10

Staff reviewed these Rules to ensure that each Rule is within the agency's statutory authority, reasonably necessary, clear, and unambiguous, and adopted in accordance with Part 2 of the North Carolina Administrative Procedure Act. Following review, staff has issued this document that may request changes pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.10 from your agency or ask clarifying questions.

Questions contained herein suggest that the rule as written is unclear or there is some ambiguity. If this document includes questions and you do not understand the question, please contact the reviewing attorney to discuss. Failure to respond may result in a staff opinion recommending objection.

Staff may suggest the agency "consider" an idea or language in this document. This is in no way a formal request that the agency adopt the idea or language but rather is offered merely for the agency's consideration which the agency may find preferable and clarifying.

To properly submit rewritten rules, please refer to the following Rules in the NC Administrative Code:

- Rule 26 NCAC 02C .0108 – The Rule addresses general formatting.
- Rule 26 NCAC 02C .0404 – The Rule addresses changing the introductory statement.
- Rule 26 NCAC 02C .0405 – The Rule addresses properly formatting changes made after publication in the NC Register.

Note the following general instructions:

1. You must submit the revised rule via email to oah.rules@oah.nc.gov and copy RRC Counsel. The electronic copy must be saved as the official rule name (XX NCAC XXXX).
2. For rules longer than one page, insert a page number.
3. Use line numbers; if the rule spans more than one page, have the line numbers reset at one for each page.
4. Do not use track changes. Make all changes using manual strikethroughs, underlines and highlighting.
5. You cannot change just one part of a word. For example:
    - Wrong: "~~a~~Association"
    - Right: "~~association~~ Association"
6. Treat punctuation as part of a word. For example:
    - Wrong: "day~~,~~; and"
    - Right: "~~day,~~ day; and"
7. Formatting instructions and examples may be found at: www.ncoah.com/rules/examples.html

If you have any questions regarding proper formatting of edits after reviewing the rules and examples, please contact the reviewing attorney.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: ALL RULES

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

Fiscal Note(s): Please confirm that the corresponding fiscal note and approval documentation are included in the rulemaking record and were timely posted.

Five fiscal notes were approved by OSBM for this set of rules and posted to the NCWRC website on 7/15/2026.

- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10C (Inland Fisheries) rules approved by OSBM on 4/30/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10B, 10D, 10H (Wildlife Management) rules approved by OSBM on 5/8/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10D, 10E (Shooting Ranges) rules approved by OSBM on 5/12/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10D (Land and Water Access) rules approved by OSBM on 5/26/2026
- Fiscal Note for 15A NCAC 10I (Endangered Species) rules approved by OSBM on 5/29/2026

Maps: The Commissioners greatly appreciate maps for visually aid when reviewing rules. For any rules where you are amending, removing, or introducing new geographic boundaries (e.g., 15A NCAC 10C .0314 and 15A NCAC 10D .0211 and 15A NCAC 10D .0296), can you please provide me maps, if possible? I will upload them to the Agenda for the Commissioners use.

We now provide maps for the requested rules.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0119

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), line 4: What is a "qualified individual"? This is not defined. What qualifications are you referring to?

Qualified individual means someone collecting wildlife for a reason specified in (a) and whose application is approved after being evaluated with the criteria outlined in (c) and (g). We used this term to help better communicate that Wildlife Collection licenses are typically not granted to members of the general public, instead they are issued to individuals who are "qualified" via a specific scientific or educational purpose.

(b)(1), line 10: For consistency, delete the word "shall" and change "mean" to "means".

We updated line 10 as suggested.

(c)(3): If there are only two possible types of study, consider: "whether the proposed collection is permanent or catch-and-release;".

We updated the wording for clarity and believe it is important to allow the applicant to expand and elaborate on the type of study they are performing. Some studies require holding animals for extended periods of time and so while they may be technically catch and release, they could have a negative impact on local populations. We believe it is important to allow the applicant to describe their study rather than simplifying their response to a check box style answer.

(d)(1), line 27: You use the word "individuals" here when referring to animals, but you also use it on line 25 when describing the collectors. Consider revising the language on

line 27 to reduce any confusion. Could you not just delete the use of "individuals" on line 27? Or consider replacing it with "reptiles" and "amphibians", respectively.

We updated (d) to improve clarity and reduce confusion.

(d)(1): Is this limit based on collections/holdings at the same time? Within a given year? Be specific as to when this is measured.

We updated (d)(1) to improve clarity. The collection/holding limit is at any given time.

(e), lines 31 and 32: The use of "except" and "unless" here is confusing. What is your intent? Should there be an "or" placed before "unless"? Or should commas be placed around "except under an endangered species permit"?

We added commas as suggested.

(f), line 35: Add "by the Commission" after "authorized".

We updated line 35 as suggested.

(g), line 3: Could you provide a more direct link to the application page/portal?

We updated the link but cannot provide a direct link to the application because the system requires applicants to login with a unique username and password.

(g)(1): Add "address" after "email".

We updated (g)(1) as suggested.

(g)(1): What happens if the person does not have a driver's license? Can they not get a license?

Drivers license number is an optional field that applicants may choose to fill out when creating an account. We removed this from the rule since it is not a required field.

(g)(3)(B): What do you mean by "full" documentation? What needs to be included?

Research proposals are often presented as either abstracts or full proposals. We specify that full documentation is required because we require full proposals, not abstracts, as part of the application.

(g)(3)(B): Change "proposal(s)" to "proposals".

We updated (g)(3)(B) as suggested.

(i)(4)(C): 15A NCAC 10B .0110 has been repealed. Replace or remove the citation.

We removed the citation as suggested.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(k), line 29: How does the reporting requirement vary "depending on the species taken"? Your rule does not explain this. How would one know what is required based on the rule text?

Reporting specifics are listed on the permit when issued. Some species require more detailed reporting than others, for example, collecting endangered species may require the reporting of every item listed in (k), whereas a blanket permit for collecting a more common species may not require information such as the specific sex, size and location of each individual animal collected.

History Note, Authority: Consider adding G.S. 113-333(a).

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0203

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 1: Change "NCAC" to "NCR".

We corrected this typo.

(a)(1), line 5; and (f), line 32: What is the intended effect of this change? The language seemed to be clearer when it clarified that spikes are "protruding through the skin".

It was biologically incorrect. Antlers grow from the pedicle every year but only protrude from the skin during a deer's first year. After that, antlers/spikes grow from the pedicle annually, which remains attached to the deer's skull for its entire life, and are covered in velvet when precalcified. Removing this language will alleviate confusion and align the rule with the general understanding of what an antlered deer is – one with antlers or spikes regardless of the presence of velvet.

(a)(2)(B), line 12: Change "Paragraph" to "Part".

We updated (a)(2)(B) as suggested.

(b)(1), line 1: Change "Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (b)(2) of this Rule".

We updated (b)(1) as suggested.

(b)(2) and (c)(2): Add a colon after "Restrictions".

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (b)(2) and (c)(2) as suggested.

(b)(2)(C): What does this paragraph do? How is this any different from what you've already stated in (b)(1)?

This explicitly communicates to the regulated community that BOTH antlered and antlerless deer may be taken during the open archery season. This information is not specified in (b)(1).

(c)(1), line 16: Change "Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (c)(2) of this Rule".

We updated (c)(1) as suggested.

(c)(1), line 17: You include "archery equipment" here. Doesn't this contradict the archery season that you set forth above in (b)(1)? This is confusing.

The seasons are additive when it comes to which types of weapons are allowed and each season has an explicit beginning and end date, so they do not conflict. This is well understood among the hunting public.

- Archery season = archery equipment
- Blackpowder season = blackpowder firearms and archery equipment
- All lawful weapons = rifled and blackpowder firearms, shotguns, and archery equipment

(c)(2)(A), line 23: Revise to "Part (a)(2)(D) and (E)".

We updated (c)(2)(A) as suggested.

(d)(1), line 6: Change "Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (d)(3) of this Rule".

We updated (d)(1) as suggested.

(d)(2), line 16: Does the "Commission" share the same address as the "Executive Director"? You use different terms on lines 12 and 16, which could be confusing. Do the letters go to different people?

We updated (d)(2) so that Executive Director is used consistently. The letters go to the same people.

History Note, line 32: Add a period after "2027".

We updated the history note.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0205

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

History Note, Authority: Consider adding G.S. 113-291.1.

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0206

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(b): Add a comma after "aggregate".

We updated (b) as suggested.

History Note, line 16: This is missing the August 1, 2026, amendment. Please update.

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0212

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), line 4: Underline "(a)" here since you are deleting it on line 12.

We updated line 4 as suggested.

(a)(1-6): The first four items should end with a semi-colon. The fifth item should end with "; and". And the sixth item should end with a period.

We updated the list as suggested.

(a)(3): Session Laws 1963, Chapter 322, which is still retained by G.S. 113-133.1, states that "[r]ed foxes may not be hunted and taken by use of guns at any time in Haywood County." Please explain why your rule does not violate the law.

We are aware of this Session Law and explicitly state "unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly" in (a) for this situation. This is the only county in NC with a species-specific fox law. Fox laws are incredibly complex, and the rule serves to "fill the gap" among the many Session Laws and Statues governing the take of the species. The agency produces a county-by-county guide for our constituents that describes the litany of laws and rules that govern both fox trapping and fox hunting in each county.

(c): For my knowledge, does this mean that firearms, archery, and traps are allowed in these counties for the same season as noted for trapping in .0303? Or are you saying that only trapping is allowed under those timeframes?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Firearms, archery, and traps are allowed in these counties for the same season as noted for trapping in .0303. We agree this is a confusing way to set the season but it is explicitly described this way in G.S. 113-291.4B(a).

(c), line 20: Add a comma after "archery equipment".

We added a comma as suggested.

(c), line 21: Delete "10B". It is not needed.

We deleted "10B" as suggested.

(e), line 26: Add "a" before "local act".

We updated line 26 as suggested.

(f): Are there bag or season limits for the other areas not described in (f)? Your rule does not specify. Are they governed by local acts? If so, specify this.

There are no bag or season limits for areas described in (a) and (c) when hunting fox (trapping bag limits may be different and based on Local Law).

(f), line 29: Add "G.S." before "113-291.4B(c)".

We updated line 29 as suggested.

History Note, Authority: "G.S. 113-131.1" does not exist. Please correct this.

This should be 113-133.1 – it has been updated accordingly

History Note, Authority: Add a semi-colon after "113-291.4B".

The history note has been updated as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0219

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a)(4), (a)(5), (b)(2), and (b)(6): To improve wording, consider changing time frames to "between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset". (revise accordingly).

We updated all four lines as suggested.

(a)(7), line 13: Do you mean "when taking coyotes" rather than "to take coyotes"?

"To take" is a statutorily defined term, see NCGS 113-130(7). We prefer to maintain this wording based on feedback from our Law Enforcement Division. We have discussed similar wording with RRC Counsel in the past and settled on "to take" in our rules to match the term as defined in 113-130.

(a)(7), lines 13-14: Change "from a public road" to "on a public road".

We updated line 14 as suggested.

(a)(7), line 15: Delete the comma after "equipment".

We updated line 15 as suggested.

(b)(4): When does the suspension start? Is it for the next calendar year? From the date that the second red wolf is shot? Something else?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

The suspension starts immediately. After we're notified that the threshold has been crossed, we would reach out individually to permit holders to notify them that the hunt has been suspended.

(b)(5), line 28: I believe you are missing a word in between "the" and "by". Who must the hunter report to? The Commission?

This has been updated to specify the Commission.

(b)(5), line 28: Can you provide a more direct link to the online reporting portal?

We updated the link but cannot provide a direct link to the application because the system requires applicants to login with a unique username and password.

(b)(7), line 31: For clarity, add "hunting" before "license".

We updated line 31 as suggested.

(b)(7): This last sentence/requirement is very vague. Can you explain how/when this reporting happens?

Reporting typically occurs online; however, sometimes we ask hunters to send biological samples in (e.g., hair sample). The reporting requirements are listed on the permit when issued.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0223

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a): Consider rewriting this as, "There is no closed season for taking feral swine on private lands, and feral swine may be taken on private lands at any time of day."

We updated (a) as suggested.

(b), lines 5-6: To improve wording, consider changing time frames to "between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset". Same suggestion also applies to Paragraph (c).

We updated (b) and (c) as suggested.

(b), line 7: Change "season" to "seasons".

We updated line 7 as suggested.

(c), line 11: Add "each year" after "July 1".

We updated line 11 as suggested.

(c), line 11: Can you provide a more direct link to the permit application portal?

We updated the link but cannot provide a direct link to the application because the system requires applicants to login with a unique username and password.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(c), line 11: Add a telephone number to clarify how to apply by phone.

We added a telephone number.

(c), lines 14-15: You state, "All applicable laws and rules regarding the taking of feral swine shall apply." What laws are you referring to? And isn't this the rule that applies to taking feral swine? The meaning of this sentence is not clear.

Other statutes and rules outside WRC authority exist that regulate feral swine, especially in relation to agriculture. For example, NCDACS rules in 02 NCAC 52C and NCGS 113-291.12 and 106-798(b).

(f), line 18: Do you mean "when taking coyotes" rather than "to take coyotes"?

"To take" is a statutorily defined term, see NCGS 113-130(7). We prefer to maintain this wording based on feedback from our Law Enforcement Division. We have discussed similar wording with RRC Counsel in the past and settled on "to take" in our rules to match the term as defined in 113-130.

(f), lines 18-19: Change "from a public road" to "on a public road".

We updated (f) as suggested.

(a)(7), line 19: Delete the comma after "equipment".

We updated line 19 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10B .0502

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 1: Change "NCAC" to "NCR".

We corrected this typo.

(c), line 15: Should this state, "Open seasons for hunting deer in CWD Management Areas …"? There needs to be some limitation here. Otherwise, it would conflict with your deer season rule.

We updated line 15 as suggested.

(c)(1), line 16: What is the intended effect of this change? The language seemed to be clearer when it clarified that spikes are "protruding through the skin".

It was biologically incorrect. Antlers grow from the pedicle every year but only protrude from the skin during a deer's first year. After that, antlers/spikes grow from the pedicle annually, which remains attached to the deer's skull for its entire life, and are covered in velvet when precalcified. Removing this language will alleviate confusion and align the rule with the general understanding of what an antlered deer is – one with antlers or spikes regardless of the presence of velvet. This language has also been corrected in 15A NCAC 10B .0203.

(c)(4): It's slightly confusing that you also cover additional time for archery hunting in a section titled "Blackpowder Firearms Seasons". It would probably just make more sense to add this time into (c)(3). Consider revising (although not absolutely necessary).

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

This format mimics that seasons in the rest of the state as outline in 15A NCAC 10B .0203. We prefer to maintain consistency and keep the text as written.

(d), line 36: Capitalize "Paragraphs".

We updated line 36 as suggested.

(d), line 36: Delete "10B". It is not needed.

We updated line 36 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0305

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 1: Change the page number in the citation to 202 rather than 203.

We updated the page number.

(b), line 6: For clarity, I suggest changing "only two" to "no more than two".

We updated line 6 as suggested.

(b): Two per day? Two per season? Something else? You should specify.

We updated the text to specify the limit is two per day.

(d), line 11: You can delete the comma after "Alamance County". It is not needed.

We deleted the comma.

(d), line 13: For clarity of the limit, I would suggest changing "only five" to "no more than five".

We updated line 13 as suggested.

(d), line 14: Here you state a prohibition on "possession" of certain fish, but on (c), line 10, you prohibit both "taking" and "possession". What is the difference? Is this intentional? Is (c) saying that you can't even fish for them in those locations?

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Correct. This is intentional as anglers are prohibited from targeting bass in the waters described in (c) even if just for catch-and-release.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(l) and (m): Here, using "only one" may be clearer for setting the limit.

We updated (l) and (m) with "only" as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0314

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(b), line 6: For consistency with your other rules, I would delete "for these fish".

We updated line 6 as suggested.

(d): The wording of this paragraph is awkward. It seems like the first sentence only applies from October 1 to May 31 based on the limits set forth in the third sentence. If that's the case, you should state that in the rule. Consider combining with the second sentence.

We updated (d) to improve clarity.

(f), line 17: Add a comma after "Salem Lake".

We updated line 17 as suggested.

(g), lines 19-20: I would revise to say, "no more than two".

We updated line 20 as suggested.

(h), line 21: You can delete the comma after "Lake Mattamuskeet". It is not needed.

We updated line 21 as suggested.

(i): Should there be a comma in the coordinates? So for example, the first one would read as: 35.419448 N, 76.758752 W.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated the coordinates with a comma as suggested.

(i), lines 25, 26, and 27: Should "at" be inserted between "Point" and the coordinates?

We updated lines 25, 26, and 27 as suggested.

(i)(3): For consistency with your other rules, I suggest: "no striped bass or striped bass hybrid less than 18 inches or between 22 and 27 inches in length may be possessed."

We updated (i)(3) as suggested.

(i), line 34: Add "the" before "Neuse River".

We updated line 34 as suggested.

(i), lines 34-35: Wouldn't it be more direct to say, "There is no open season in the inland waters tributary to the Tar-Pamlico River and the Neuse River downstream of these lines." Or does it need to be worded this way?

It is deliberately worded this way to maintain consistency with WRC and DMF striped bass management proclamations (see NCGS 113-292). There technically is a season; however, it is currently closed.

(j), line 1: Does the cross-reference to paragraphs (h), (j), and (k) need to be updated based on your rule revisions? Please check and confirm.

We updated the cross-references as appropriate.

(j): Here, you only state "striped bass". Is this intentional? Or should this also include hybrids?

We updated (j) to also include hybrids.

(m), line 14: Change "is" to "shall be".

We updated (m) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0414

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

History Note, Authority: Why are G.S. 113-304 and 113-305 relevant to this rule?

All rules regarding fish species that occur within the jurisdiction of both the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and other state or federal agencies (e.g., the NC Marine Fisheries Commission, the NC Division of Marine Fisheries, the National Marine Fisheries Service) include these statutes in their history note. The WRC sets agreements with these other agencies as outlined in the statues to manage and regulate these fisheries.

History Note, line 11: Change the period at the end of this line to a semi-colon.

We updated line 11 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10C .0425

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

History Note, Authority: Why are G.S. 113-304 and 113-305 relevant to this rule?

All rules regarding fish species that occur within the jurisdiction of both the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and other state or federal agencies (e.g., the NC Marine Fisheries Commission, the NC Division of Marine Fisheries, the National Marine Fisheries Service) include these statutes in their history note. The WRC sets agreements with these other agencies as outlined in the statues to manage and regulate these fisheries.

History Note, line 11: Change the period at the end of this line to a semi-colon.

We updated line 11 as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0102

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

Line 1: Change "NCAC" to "NCR" in the Register citation.

We corrected this typo.

(b)(9), lines 4-6: This sentence needs to be broken up or clarified. I'd recommend putting a period after "Commission" and then stating: "Permits may be requested by calling 919-707-0150."

We updated (b)(9) as suggested.

(d), line 29: Can you provide a more direct link to the reg that you reference?

We updated the link directly to the CFR reg referenced.

(e)(1): Change "Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph" to "Subparagraph (e)(4) of this Rule".

We updated (e)(1) as suggested.

(e)(2): Change "state(s)" to "states".

We updated (e)(2) as suggested.

(e)(4)(A): Change "his" to "his or her".

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (e)(4)(A) as suggested.

(e)(4)(B): Delete the space before "(j)(1)".

We updated (e)(4)(B) as suggested.

(f), lines 7-8: You state, "… and the applying organization demonstrates their experience and expertise in conducting genuine field trial activities." How does one do this? Do they have to submit specific documents or information to you? Do they have to take a test or answer questions? Your rule is not clear.

This is an informal process because it is a small and consistent group of organizations that apply for field trials on game lands. Each year the agency holds a meeting with these organizations and works together to schedule trials based on the availability of the facility and the availability and preference of each organization.

The Sandhills Field Trial facility described in Paragraph (f) is the only one the Commission owns. We anticipate working with our game land supervisors to remove this paragraph from 10D .0102, update and reformat it accordingly, and incorporate it into the Sandhills Game Land rule 10D .0271 during the readoption phase of the Periodic Rules Review.

(g)(5): Do these dates apply to all game lands? If so, you should explicitly state that.

Yes this applies to all game lands. We now specify as such.

(g), line 26: Add a comma after "inches".

We updated line 26 as suggested.

(i)(4), line 8: Add a comma after "trapping".

We updated line 8 as suggested.

(k), line 23: This should be a cite to the definition. I believe this is 42 U.S.C. 12101. Please update.

We updated line 23 as suggested.

(l), line 27: For consistency, use "wheelchairs".

We updated line 27 as suggested.

(l), line 31: Can you provide a more direct link to the site that specifies these locations?

We updated the link as suggested.

(p), lines 1-2: Is this sentence missing something? Should this clarify, "to be placed <u>for the purpose of baiting</u>"?

The intent of this Rule is to prohibit all the types of foods listed from being placed on game lands no matter the reason, except for trapping. After consulting with our Law Enforcement Division, the Commission requests maintaining the current wording to avoid creating loopholes where individuals place these foods on game lands but claim to not be baiting. For example, someone spreading grain (e.g., birdseed) to attract game animals but claim they're "planting" the grain.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0103

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(a)(5), line 14: Add "(a)" before "(4)".

We updated line 14 as suggested.

(b), line 19: Add "otherwise" between "Unless" and "allowed".

We updated line 19 as suggested.

(e)(4): Why is the word "daily" needed here but not in other places?

We need "daily" so that hunters explicitly know that the decoys need to be removed everyday rather than just at the end of the season. This was specifically added to address a problem we've had in the past.

(f): Where does this apply? To all game lands? Please specify.

We specify that the prohibition applies to all game lands.

(g)(2): For parallel structure within the list, consider revising to: "Subparagraphs (e)(1), (e)(3), and (e)(5) of this Rule shall be followed; and".

We updated (g)(2) as suggested.

(j): Why is "Game Land" capitalized here? It is not capitalized elsewhere throughout your rules.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

We updated (j), removing the capitalization for consistency with the rest of the rule.

(j)(3): This provision says "may be taken on the open days of" while others say "may be taken during the open season on …". Why does this language differ? Is there a difference in meaning?

We updated (j)(3) for consistency with the other definitions.

(j)(4): For consistency, say "may be taken during the open season and hunting is limited to …".

We updated (j)(4) for consistency with the other definitions.

(j)(6), line 1: Delete ", unless otherwise specified". It is not needed and confusing.

We updated (j)(6) as suggested.

(j)(6), line 2: Can you provide a more direct link to the permit application portal?

We updated the link as suggested.

(l), line 10: You mention an "application" here. What information are you requiring applicants to submit? Do you spell this out somewhere in your rules? Can you add a cross-reference, if so?

The applications are submitted through our online permit system. There is no additional information required besides selecting a location and a date range to apply for. The application is linked to their online account which includes all the information submitted when they purchased their hunting license.

(l), line 10: What does "next preceding" mean? This is not clear.

The phrase "September next preceding" means the September immediately before the hunt dates.

(l), line 12: Hyphenate "nontransferable" for consistency.

We updated line 12 as suggested.

(l), line 12: What does it mean to "validate" a kill?

This concept is well understood among hunters. To validate a kill is to "tag" a harvested animal. It proves the animal has been legally claimed right where it fell, allowing the hunter to legally possess and transport it. The Commission no longer issues paper tags to hunters, instead, hunters now validate the harvest with either our mobile app or by printing tags themselves and punching them in the field.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Validation is separate from reporting. Validation is done before the harvested animal is moved, reporting can be done later.

(o): You should capitalize the Program name, like you have in other rules.

We updated (o) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0106

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(a), line 4-5: Does the deletion mean that these permit hunts can now be allowed at anytime of the year, regardless of any specified season?

No, the permit explicitly lists the dates when it is valid. Permits are only issued during the open season. Because permits are only issued during the open season, it seemed duplicative to list it in the rule.

(a), line 6: Can you provide a more direct link to the permit application?

We updated the link as suggested.

(a), line 9: Which "laws and rules" are you referencing? Can you be more specific? The rule language is not very helpful.

There are too many to list as many individual game lands have specific rules for bear hunting, there is the bear specific hunting rule in 15A NCAC 10B, and there are many statutes that govern different aspects of bear hunting (e.g., manner of take, baiting). The intent of this sentence is to remind the regulated community of their responsibility to not only follow the rules outlined in 10D .0106 but also the other laws that apply to the species.

(b) and (c): Is there a reason why these lists aren't broken out into subitems?

Many of the Commission's rules have never had numbered lists. See also 10A .1502 and 10C .0205.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(b) and (c): Several of the areas overlap (e.g., Daniel Boone and Dare). How does this work? Do you need two separate permits to hunt in these areas? Or you can use either one? Your rule is not clear.

The designated bear management areas (DBMA) themselves do not overlap. For example, Dare DBMA and Gull Rock DBMA are both in Dare County, however, they do not occupy the same part of Dare County. The specific boundaries of the DBMAs often coincide with game land boundaries and/or are contained within game land boundaries. Maps are on our website and made available to permittees, and the boundaries are posted.

(c), lines 33-34: Do you mean that (c) only covers permits for "scheduled managed hunts"? Please clarify in your rule. Do you not need any "bear management area permit" for bear management areas named in (b)? This is confusing, especially given how you've worded (a).

Paragraph (b) is simply a list of all the DMBAs in NC. Paragraph (c) is a list of the DBMAs where we currently issue bear hunting permits. DBMA listed in (b), but not (c), are not open to bear hunting.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0202

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0210

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

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(2): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (2) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0211

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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 email the reviewing attorney to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(c), lines 12-13: Is this last sentence only applicable to "Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays"? Or does this apply to all of (2)? The way you've formatted this is confusing. If it applies to all of (2), it should fall in line with the spacing for line 8.

This applies to all of (2). We fixed the formatting.

(7), line 19: Are these areas posted? If so, consider adding the word "posted" here for consistency.

Currently this only applies to the Mountain to Sea Trail which is marked both on our maps and on the ground. We prefer not to put "posted" in the rule because the Commission is not responsible for marking the trail and we cannot guarantee the condition or consistency of the markings.

*(8): You say, "on areas posted for camping as specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter." That rule does not specify camping areas. Do you mean, "on areas posted for camping **and shall comply with the requirements** specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter."?*

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting. As stated, Rule .0102 of this Subchapter specifies all the camping requirements and geographic bounds ("on an area posted by the landowner for camping").

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(10): Change "(Wake County)" to "in Wake County".

We updated (10) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0213

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(5): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(5): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (5) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0214

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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We corrected this typo.

(4): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(4): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (4) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0221

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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We corrected this typo.

(5): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

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Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(5): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (5) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0222

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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We corrected this typo.

(1), line 5: Should this say "used for hunting" rather than "hunted", since you are referring to the blinds?

To hunt a blind or a stand means to hunt from that position. This is a commonly used term when referring to blinds, stands, and other hunting positions.

(2), line 7: "Licensed" by whom?

The Commission licenses hunting guides under NCGS 113-270.4. Hunting and fishing guide license.

(5): Does this need to be updated based on the revisions made to 10D .0103? They are no longer consistent.

We deleted (5) as 10D .0103 covers all game lands.

(7): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(7): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (7) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0229

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): What do you mean by, "Except as provided in 15A NCAC 10D .0103(e), …"? That rule provision does not mention anything about specific hunting days. Do you mean, "Subject to the requirements provided in 15A NCAC 10D .0103(e), …"? Consider different language for improved clarity.

We updated (2) as suggested.

(5), lines 20-21: Consider: "… in accordance with Rule .0102(i) of this Subchapter."

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting.

(8): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(8): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (8) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0239

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3), line 8: Consider: "… in accordance with Rule .0102(i) of this Subchapter."

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0241

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

Line 4: Remove "(a)". It is not needed since there are no other paragraphs in the rule.

We updated line 4 as suggested.

(2), lines 7-8: Consider: "… in accordance with Rule .0102(i) of this Subchapter."

Camping rules for game lands were just updated throughout all of Subchapter 10D and we believe the wording is appropriate. RRC Commission Counsel recommended adoption of the amended text as italicized in the submitted rule at the Nov. 2025 RRC meeting.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0246

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(2): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (2) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0251

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0254

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(2): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (2) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0256

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(5): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(5): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (5) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0257

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0260

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(2) and (5): Does the word "Tract" need to be added after "Black Bear" and "Linville River"? The wording is a little bit awkward.

We added "tract" as suggested.

(3): How are these trails "designated"? Are they posted? Consider specifying.

Trails are marked and noted on information kiosks at the property. We prefer not to put "posted" in the rule because the Commission is not responsible for marking the trails and we cannot guarantee the condition or consistency of the markings.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0270

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0279

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3): For my knowledge, what is the intent of this change? Does it have any impact? "Take" and "harvest" do not appear to be defined terms. You use the two terms in several places in your rules. Are they interchangeable? Does harvest mean to kill, while take means the act of hunting?

"Harvest" only allows enforcement of the rule after a bear has been killed. "Take" is statutorily defined and allows for enforcement of the rule before or after a bear has been killed. This change was requested by our Law Enforcement Division so they can proactively prevent and prosecute illegal bear harvest on game lands.

Take is defined in NCGS 113-130(7) as: To Take. – 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 resources or wildlife resources.

(3): Consider changing "Sunday" to "Sundays".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0284

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

> *Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*
>
> We corrected this typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0290

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

(3), line 15: Either delete "Tract" after "Huggins" or change "Morton Tracts" to "Morton Tract".

We updated (3) as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10D .0296 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10E .0201 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

Line 4: "FACILITIES" is misspelled.

We corrected the typo.

Line 15: You can delete "(a)" since there is no paragraph (b) in your rule.

We deleted (a) as suggested.

(a), line 15: Change "the Section" to "this Section".

We changed "the" to "this" as suggested.

(a)(2), line 18: You use "fire" here but "aim and discharge" in (a)(1). Do these have different meanings? If not, use the same term for consistency throughout this rule.

We updated (2) so that "aim and discharge" is used consistently throughout the rule.

(a)(6), line 26: "Issued" by whom?

We updated (6) to specify that the card is issued by the Commission.

(a)(6), line 27: Add "for" before "one year from issuance".

We added "for" as suggested.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(a)(7): Do you mean "designated" rather than "designed"?

We corrected the typo.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10E .0202 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), line 5: What do you mean by "non-specified use"? Just any use other than those listed in the first sentence?

Correct. Shooting range facilities are only to be used as specified in (a) unless the Commission approves otherwise. We updated line 5 to improve clarity.

(b)(3): Delete "firearm" for consistency.

Firearm is deliberately listed because ear protection is only required when shooting firearms, not when shooting archery equipment.

(d)(3)(B): What is "age certification"? Do you only accept certain documentation? If so, you may want to specify here.

Age certification is a check box on our form that requires adult participants to attest to the fact that they are 18 years of age or older.

(e)(2): What do you mean by "one-on-one adult supervision"? Can you define or explain this? What is the adult required to do?

The difference between (e)(1) and (e)(2) is the ratio of adults to youth when on the firing line. Multiple youth between the ages of 13 and 17 can be supervised by a single adult, whereas youth 12 and younger must each have their own adult supervisor (i.e., one-on-one). See NCGS 14-316(a).

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10E .0203 (Adoption)

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a)(6): For my understanding, what is an "automatic simulated firearm"? Is this defined somewhere?

Automatic simulated firearms are created when a device (e.g., bump stock, forced reset trigger, machinegun conversion device) is attached to a semi-automatic firearm to make the firearm shoot more than one round with the single function of the trigger. Generally, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives treats automatic simulated firearms as automatic firearms; however, we felt listing both in rule would make it clear to the regulated community that neither type of firearm is allowed.

(c)(2): Change "1300" to "1,300".

We updated the number as suggested.

(d)(1): What do you mean by "correct ammunition"?

All firearms are designed to be used with a specific size and/or type of ammunition. The ammunition requirements are generally stamped on the firearm itself. Failure to use the correct ammunition can cause an explosion of the barrel of the firearm.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10H .0810

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 2026

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

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(a), lines 4-6: How does this not conflict with rule .0802(a), where you require non-state residents to have both a state license AND an NC falconry license?

We updated (a) to read AND. We confirmed with our Wildlife Management Division, our Law Enforcement Division, and the NC Falconer's Guild that currently in practice we require both an NC falconry license and a falconry license from the individuals state of residence, as outlined in 10H .0802(a).

(b): Does "annually" mean per calendar year, or one year from the issuance of permit/license?

50 CFR 21.82(e)(2) is explicit, only two birds may be taken each year.

(d)(4), line 28: "Special hunt permit" issued by the WRC?

Correct, this is a permit issued by the WRC.

(e), line 30: If this aligns with your intent, I recommend changing this to "at least once every 24 hours".

We updated line 30 as suggested.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(e)(1): Do you have specific limits on "drag weight" based on species? How would the trapper know what is and is not allowed?

There are established best practices for drag weights set by the profession and differ based on species, the bird's flying weight, and body condition.

(f), line 37: Doesn't 21.82(e)(3)(iii) also apply?

Correct, we updated line 37 to include 21.82(e)(3)(iii).

History Note, Authority: Add 50 C.F.R. 21.82.

We updated the history note as suggested.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

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

AGENCY: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

RULE CITATION: 15A NCAC 10I .0102

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: November 13, 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:

*Form 0400, Box 6: You state that the rule was Adopted by the Agency on 10/1/2025. I assume you mean **2026**. Please correct this and submit the revised form to me.*

We corrected this typo and resubmitted Form 0400.

(b): Consider rephrasing to state, "No person shall purchase, sell, or take …".

We corrected paragraph (b) using your suggested wording.

(d): How does the Executive Director exercise this discretion? If a person fits within (1)-(7), do they automatically get a permit? Or are there additional considerations or criteria?

Permits are only issued to people who fit within one of the explicitly listed categories in (d). When deciding to issue the permit, the information submitted by the applicant in compliance with Paragraph (f) is considered.

(d)(4): The comma here is not needed.

We removed the comma as suggested.

(d)(7)(C): What is "the agency's or institution's Animal Care and Use Committee"? Are all federal and state agencies required to have one of these?

Research institutions that use certain animals for federally funded laboratory research must have an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). These committees stem from federal animal welfare regulations in the Animal Welfare Act and U.S. Public Health Service policy. Permittees are required to submit IACUC approval from their institution when applying for an endangered species permit.

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

(e): Can you explain to me how this is different than (d)? Also, what "additional permits" are you referring to? How would a regulated person know what they need based on the text of your rule? This additional requirement is not clear and provides no standard.

An endangered species permit may be issued for any of the activities listed in (d). Alone, that permit does not allow any of the activities listed in (e) unless explicitly listed on the permit. Paragraph (e) lists all the other permits that may be applicable to the activities in (d) now and in the future. By specifically stating them in a separate paragraph, it is clearer that the endangered species permit does not necessarily cover all activities in perpetuity. See NCGS 113-274.

(f): Can you provide a more direct link to the portal for endangered species permits?

We cannot provide a more direct link because the system requires permittees to login with a unique username and password.

(f)(1): Add "address" after "email".

We added address as suggested.

(h), line 24: For clarity, add "endangered species" before "permit".

We added endangered species as suggested.

(h)(1): Add "(d)" to the rule citation.

We updated the citation as suggested.

(i): Are you able to specify the reporting requirements in your rule? What are the federal requirements? And where are your permit reporting requirements? How would a regulated person know what is required based on the text of your rule?

We cannot specify these in rule as they are different depending on the species and the activities. Federal regulations give the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service some flexibility in determining what reporting requirements are deemed necessary for determining whether the permittee is complying with the terms and conditions of their permit. See 50 CFR 17.22(b)(3). Permit reporting requirements will be on the permit.

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

Christopher S. Miller
Commission Counsel
Date submitted to agency: November 3, 2026

15A NCAC 10B .0119 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 199 as follows:

15A NCAC 10B .0119 WILDLIFE COLLECTORS

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

(1) scientific collection;

(2) educational collection; or

(3) snapping turtle collection.

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

(1) "Scientific Collection" ~~shall mean~~ means collection for the purpose of conducting scientific research or survey.

(2) "Educational Collection" means collection for the purpose of providing instruction, training, or information to the public.

(3) "Snapping Turtle Collection" means collection of snapping turtles from the family Chelydridae for sale pursuant to 15A NCAC 10H .1301.

(4) "Personal Use" means collection and holding, using as bait, or personal consumption of reptiles or amphibians.

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

(1) prior research or educational experience in the same or similar field;

(2) work with or for an educational institution;

(3) type of study requested for license including permanent, long-term, or catch and release; ~~of license (permanent or catch and release);~~

(4) current state and quantity of species requested;

(5) collection methodology proposed; and

(6) disposition of collection.

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

(1) no more than 4 individuals of any combination of native reptile species and ~~or~~ 24 individuals of any combination of amphibian species per person at any given time; ~~person;~~

(2) collected reptiles and amphibians shall not be bought or sold; and

(3) no endangered, threatened, or special concern species shall be collected and retained.

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

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

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

(1) name, address, date of birth, and email address; and ~~email, and driver's license number; and~~

(2) species information.

(3) Additional information required for scientific and educational collection shall include:

(A) organizational affiliation, if any; and

(B) full documentation of research or educational proposals ~~proposal(s)~~ and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee approval, if applicable.

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

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

(1) no more than 10 snapping turtles per person per day;

(2) no more than 100 snapping turtles per person per calendar year;

(3) turtles shall have a minimum curved carapace length of 13 inches; and

(4) no more than 15 trapping devices per license. Devices shall be:

(A) labeled with a waterproof tag that shows the licensee's name, WRC Customer Number, or Wildlife Collection License number;

(B) hoop traps or other trap style that allows for the unharmed release of any nontarget species or snapping turtles less than 13 inches; and

(C) checked daily. ~~daily per 15A NCAC 10B .0110.~~

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

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

(1) the numbers of each species taken under the license and the use or disposition thereof;

(2) dates and location of the taking; and

(3) sex, size, weight, condition, or approximate age of each specimen taken as specified on the license.

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-333(a); 113-134; 113-272.4;*
Eff. January 1, 1981;

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

Readopted Eff. August 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;

Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10B .0203 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 210 as follows:

15A NCAC 10B .0203 WHITE-TAILED DEER

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) Open Archery Seasons for hunting deer:

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

(2) ~~Restrictions~~ Restrictions:

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

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

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

(c) Open Blackpowder Firearms Seasons for hunting deer:

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

(2) ~~Restrictions~~ Restrictions:

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

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

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

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

(3) As used in this Rule, "blackpowder firearms" means any firearm, including any firearm with a matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system, manufactured before 1899,

that cannot use fixed ammunition; any replica of this type of firearm if the replica is not designed or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition; and any muzzle-loading rifle, muzzle-loading shotgun, or muzzle-loading or cylinder-loading handgun that is designed to use blackpowder, blackpowder substitute, or any other propellant loaded through the muzzle, cylinder, or breech and that cannot use fixed ammunition.

(d) Open Urban Season for hunting deer:

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

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

(3) Restrictions:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(g) Deer Management Assistance Program. The bag limits described in Paragraph (f) of this Rule do not apply to deer harvested in areas covered in the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) as described in G.S. 113-291.2(e) for those individuals using Commission-issued DMAP tags and reporting harvest as described on the DMAP license. Season bag limits shall be set by the number of DMAP tags issued and in the hunters' possession. All deer harvested under this program, regardless of the date of harvest, shall be tagged with DMAP tags and reported as instructed on the DMAP license. The hunter does not have to validate the Big Game Harvest Report Card provided with the hunting license for deer tagged with the DMAP tags. Any deer harvested on lands enrolled in the DMAP and not tagged with DMAP tags may only be harvested during the regularly established deer seasons subject to the restrictions of those seasons, including bag limits, and reported using the big game harvest report card or the bonus antlerless harvest report card.

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.5;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996, July 1, 1995; December 1, 1994; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (Approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);
Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; July 10, 2010; June 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2026; June 1, 2025; August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023.
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 7, ~~2026.~~ 2026;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027. [~~2027~~]

15A NCAC 10B .0205 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 200 as follows:

15A NCAC 10B .0205 RACCOON AND OPOSSUM

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

(b) Bag Limits:

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

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1995; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; July 1, 2000;
Readopted Eff. August 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10B .0206 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 200 as follows:

15A NCAC 10B .0206 SQUIRRELS

(a) The open season for gray and red squirrels is the Saturday ~~Monday~~ on or nearest ~~closest to~~ October 1 ~~15~~ through the last day of February. Gray squirrels may also be taken by hunting on the Monday following the closing of the open season for wild turkey in 15A NCAC 10B .0209(a) through the second Monday thereafter.

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

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

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

History Note *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2022; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2006; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2026; August 1, 2022.

15A NCAC 10B .0212 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 200 as follows:

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

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

(1) [~~Ashe~~] Ashe;

(2) [~~Catawba~~] Catawba;

(3) [~~Haywood~~] Haywood;

(4) [~~Perquimans~~] Perquimans;

(5) [~~Wilkes~~] Wilkes; and

(6) [~~Yadkin~~] Yadkin.

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

~~(1) Caswell;~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~(d)~~ (f) For ~~areas of open season~~ seasons detailed in Paragraphs ~~(a) through (c)~~ (b), (d), and (e) of this Rule, and areas detailed in G.S. 113-291.4A(a), excluding the counties listed in G.S. 113-291.4B(c), ~~Rule,~~ the daily bag limit is ~~two;~~ two and the season limit is ~~10.~~ 10, unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly. There are no bag or season limits for areas described in (a) and (c), unless otherwise specified in a local act of the General Assembly.

History Note: *Authority G.S.* [~~*113-131.1;*~~] *113-133.1; 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.4; 113-291.4A;* [~~*113-294.4B*~~] *113-291.4B;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1987; December 1, 1985;
Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1989;

Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; May 1, 1990;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2000;
Readopted Eff. October 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10B .0219 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 201 as follows:

15A NCAC 10B .0219 COYOTE

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

(1) There is no closed season for taking coyotes.

(2) There is no bag limit.

~~(2)~~(3) Coyotes may be taken on private lands anytime during the day or night.

~~(3)~~(4) Coyotes may be taken on public lands without a permit between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset. ~~from the hours of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.~~

~~(4)~~(5) Coyotes may be taken on public lands with a permit between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise. ~~from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise.~~

~~(5)~~(6) Hunters may use electronic calls. ~~calls and artificial lights to take coyotes.~~

(7) Hunters may shine artificial lights to take coyotes, except from a motorized conveyance on [~~from~~] a public road or public road [~~right of way~~] right-of-way while in possession of a firearm or archery equipment [~~equipment,~~] as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116.

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

(1) Coyote hunting on public lands is prohibited, except that coyotes may be taken on State-owned game lands by the holder of a permit for a specific special hunt opportunity for coyotes authorized by G.S 113-264(d).

(2) Any special hunt for coyotes pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d) shall only allow hunting between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset. ~~from the hours of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.~~

(3) Contests or competition coyote hunts on public lands are prohibited.

(4) If, within a calendar year, two or more red wolves are shot by one or more hunters with a valid special hunt permit for coyotes on State game lands within the five counties identified in this Paragraph, all special hunts for coyotes on State game lands within those five counties shall be suspended for one calendar year.

(5) Coyotes may be taken on private lands by permit only, and any take shall be reported within 24 hours to the Commission by phone at 919-707-0040 or online at www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com. [~~www.ncwildlife.gov.~~] ~~www.ncwildlife.org.~~

(6) There is no closed season for taking coyotes on private lands. Coyotes may be taken on private lands between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset. ~~from hours of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset only.~~

(7) Coyote hunting permits are in addition to hunting licenses. Individuals exempted from hunting license requirements under the provisions specified in G.S. 113-276 shall acquire the coyote hunting permits to hunt coyotes in the counties specified in this Paragraph. Coyote hunting permits are valid

for one calendar year and are subject to annual renewal. These permits are non-transferable. Permit holders shall submit their harvest reports in order to be eligible for permit renewal.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;*
Eff. July 1, 1993;
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 2011;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2012;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2014 and shall remain in effect until amendments expire as specified in G.S. 150B-21.1(d) or the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina's court order number 2:13-CV-60-BOs signed on May 13, 2014 is rescinded, whichever date is earlier. The court order is available at www.ncwildlife.org;
Amended Eff. July 26, 2013;
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2016;
Readopted Eff. February 1, ~~2022.~~ 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10B .0223 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 201 as follows:

15A NCAC 10B .0223 FERAL SWINE

(a) There is no closed season for taking feral swine on private lands, and feral swine may be taken on private lands at any time of day. ~~lands anytime during the day or night.~~

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

(c) Feral swine may be taken on game lands between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise ~~from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise~~ by permit only. Individuals may apply for permits on or after July 1 each year online at www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com, [~~ncwildlife.gov,~~] ~~ncwildlife.org,~~ by phone at 919-707-0040, ~~phone,~~ or in person at a wildlife service agent location. The number of permits issued annually will be based on achieving population management objectives of the Commission. The Commission shall issue available feral swine permits to applicants selected at random by computer. Permits shall be non-transferrable. All applicable laws and rules regarding the taking of feral swine shall apply.

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

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-291; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;*
Temporary Adoption Eff. October 1, 2011;
Eff. February 1, 2012;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2012;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; March 21, 2013;
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2024.

15A NCAC 10B .0502 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 212 as follows:

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

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

(1) Cumberland;

(2) Forsyth;

(3) Sampson;

~~(3)~~(4) *Stokes;*

~~(4)~~(5) *Surry;*

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

~~(6)~~(7) *Yadkin.*

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

(c) Open seasons for hunting deer in CWD Management Areas *are as follows:*

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

(2) All Lawful Weapons.

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

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

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

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

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

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;
Eff. August 1, 2026;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 7, ~~2026.~~ 2026;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10C .0305 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 202 as follows:

15A NCAC 10C .0305 LARGEMOUTH BASS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Lake Raleigh in Wake County;

(2) Lake Sutton in New Hanover County;

(3) Pungo Lake in Washington and Hyde counties;

(4) New Lake in Hyde County; and

(5) Currituck, Roanoke, Croatan, Albemarle sounds, and their tributaries, including Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam, Chowan River, Meherrin River, Yeopim River, Pasquotank River, Perquimans River, Little River, Big Flatty Creek, North River, Northwest River, Scuppernong River, Alligator River, including the Alligator/Pungo Canal east of the N.C. Hwy 264/45 bridge, and the other associated tributaries and canals in these river systems.

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

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

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

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

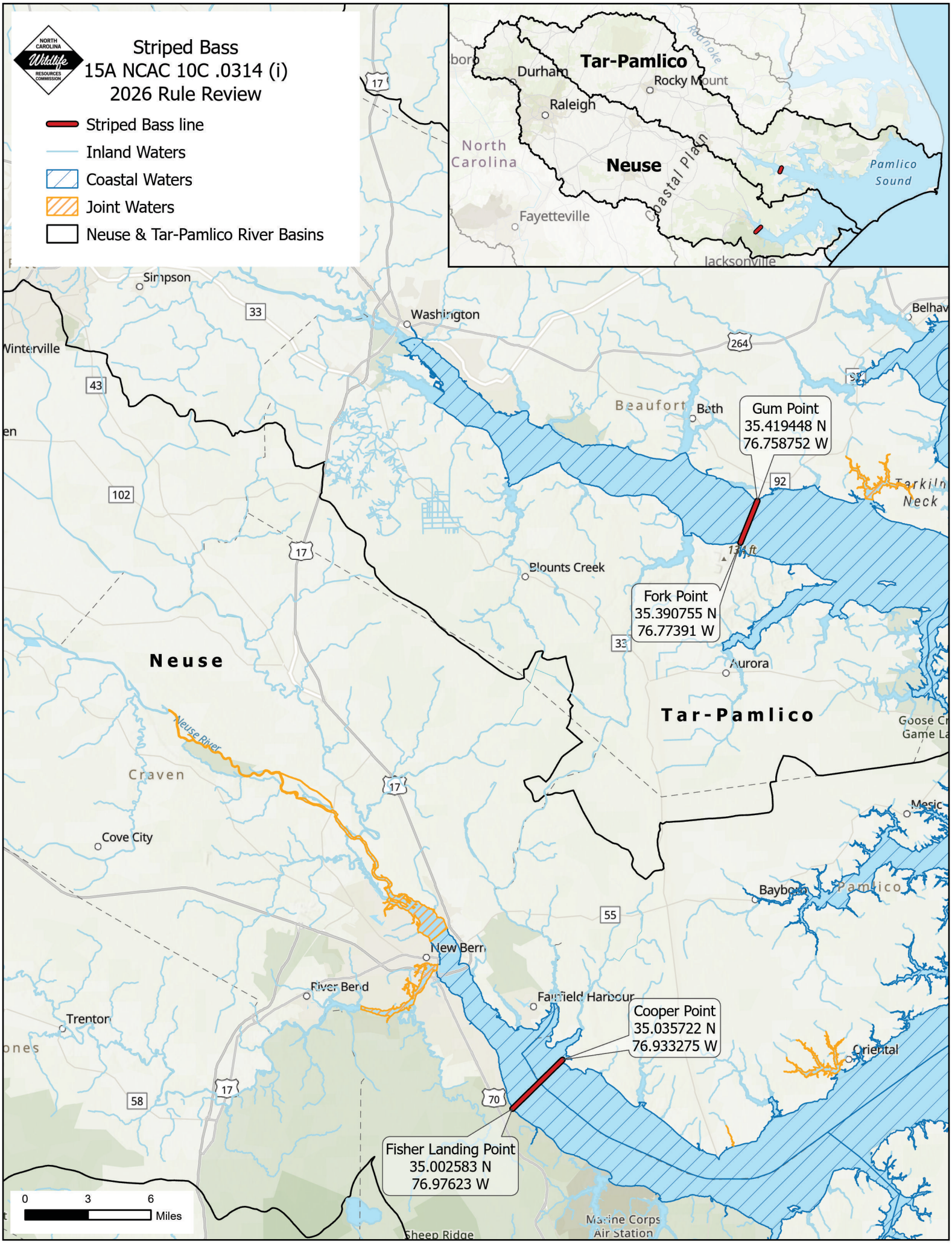
(l) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia), the daily creel limit for Largemouth ~~*Bass,*~~ *Bass and* Smallmouth ~~*Bass, and Spotted*~~ Bass is five fish in aggregate. There is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but no fish between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

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

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 10, 1990, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1990;
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 22, 1990, for a period of 168 days to expire on November 1, 1990;
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 1991, for a period of 180 days to expire on November 1, 1991;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; October 1, 1992;
Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1994 for a period of 180 days or until the permanent rule becomes effective, whichever is sooner;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995;
Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1998;
Amended Eff. April 1, 1999;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;
Temporary Amendment Eff. March 8, 2002 [This rule replaces the rule proposed for permanent amendment effective July 1, 2002 and approved by RRC in May 2001];
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC in April 2002);
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; November 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; March 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; July 1, 2008; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2027; August 1, 2026; August 1, 2024; March 15, 2023; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020.


Striped Bass
15A NCAC 10C .0314 (i)
2026 Rule Review
Striped Bass line
Inland Waters
Coastal Waters
Joint Waters
Neuse & Tar-Pamlico River Basins
Tar-Pamlico
Neuse
North Carolina
Coastal Plain
Pamlico Sound
Durham
Rocky Mount
Raleigh
Fayetteville
Jacksonville
Roanoke
Simpson
Washington
Winterville
Belhaven
Beaufort
Bath
Gum Point
35.419448 N
76.758752 W
Tarkiln Neck
Blounts Creek
Fork Point
35.390755 N
76.77391 W
Aurora
Neuse River
Craven
Cove City
Goose Creek Game Land
Mesic
Bayboro
Pamlico
New Bern
River Bend
Fairfield Harbour
Cooper Point
35.035722 N
76.933275 W
Oriental
Trenton
Fisher Landing Point
35.002583 N
76.97623 W
Marine Corps Air Station
Sheep Ridge
0 3 6
Miles

15A NCAC 10C .0314 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 213 as follows:

15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) no striped bass or striped bass hybrid less than 18 inches or between 22 and 27 inches in length may be possessed. [~~it is unlawful to possess a striped bass or striped bass hybrid less than 18 inches or between 22 and 27 inches in length.~~]

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

~~(i)~~(j) In the inland fishing waters of the ~~Tar, Pungo, Neuse,~~ Pungo and Cape Fear rivers and their tributaries extending upstream to the first impoundment of the main course on the river or its tributaries, in other inland fishing waters east of Interstate 95 not specified in Paragraphs (h), (k), and (l) ~~(j), and (k)~~ of this Rule, and in the ponds associated with Martin Marietta Park in Craven County, the season for taking and possessing striped bass and its hybrids is closed year-round.

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

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*
Eff. November 1, 2013;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2018; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020;
Temporary Amendment Eff. November 30, 2021;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2022;
Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023; March 15, 2023.
Temporary Amendment Eff. March 6, ~~2026.~~ 2026;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10C .0414 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 214 as follows:

15A NCAC 10C .0414 BLUEFISH

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

(b) There is no size limit.

(c) There is no closed season.

(d) Bluefish shall not be sold.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;
Eff. March 15, 2023; ~~2023.~~
Temporary Amendment Eff. March 6, ~~2026.~~ 2026;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10C .0425 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 214 as follows:

15A NCAC 10C .0425 SHEEPSHEAD

(a) The daily creel limit for sheepshead is ~~10~~ five fish.

(b) The minimum size limit is ~~10~~ 14 inches.

(c) There is no closed season.

(d) Sheepshead shall not be sold.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;
Eff. March 15, 2023; ~~2023.~~
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 6, ~~2026.~~ 2026;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027.

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission requests the renaming of subchapter 15A NCAC 10E as follows:

SUBCHAPTER 10E – ~~PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS~~ COMMISSION FACILITIES [~~FACILLITIES~~] AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission requests the addition of a section title for subchapter 15A NCAC 10E as follows:

SECTION .0100 – PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS

15A NCAC 10E .0201 is adopted with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 217 as follows:

SECTION .0200 – SHOOTING RANGES

15A NCAC 10E .0201 DEFINITIONS

[~~(a)~~] The following definitions shall apply to the Rules in this [~~the~~] Section:

(1) "Downrange" is the area located forward of the firing line extending in the direction where firearms or archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, may be safely aimed and discharged.

(2) "Firing Line" is the designated area on the shooting range where individuals are authorized to aim and discharge [~~fire~~] firearms and archery equipment under supervision of the Range Safety Officer.

(3) "Range is cold" means that live firing is prohibited and firearms and archery equipment shall not be loaded, handled, or fired.

(4) "Range is hot" means that live firing is authorized.

(5) "Range Safety Officer" or "RSO" is a designated Commission employee or volunteer responsible for ensuring that activities conducted on the shooting range are safe and compliant with established rules and procedures.

(6) "Range Pass" is a card issued by the Commission to an individual who has provided identification and attended a range safety briefing. A range pass is valid for one year from issuance.

(7) "Shooting range" or "range" means the area designated [~~designed~~] for use of firearms or archery equipment.

(8) "Shooting range facility" or "range facility" means the shooting range and associated operational areas, including indoor and outdoor shooting ranges, backstops, berms, parking areas, offices, restrooms, and ingress and egress roadways.

(9) "Sky drawing" is the action of pointing archery equipment into the air and drawing the string, rather than aiming the equipment downrange.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;*
Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10E .0202 is adopted with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 218 as follows:

15A NCAC 10E .0202 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

(a) Shooting range facilities owned and managed by the Commission are for trap shooting, skeet shooting, five-stand shooting, rifle shooting, pistol shooting, practice archery, and 3D archery. Other uses of the [~~Non-specified use of~~] range facilities are [~~is~~] prohibited unless approved, in writing, by the Commission.

(b) Individuals using shooting range facilities shall:

(1) adhere to posted signs and verbal Range Safety Officer (RSO) instruction;

(2) wear eye protection; and

(3) wear ear protection on the firearm firing line.

(c) General Restrictions. The following shall be prohibited at shooting range facilities:

(1) open-toed shoes;

(2) individuals under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-4.01(14a);

(3) alcohol or alcoholic beverages;

(4) smoking, vaping, or use of tobacco or nicotine products, except in designated smoking areas;

(5) eating or drinking while on the firing line;

(6) harassment or intimidating behavior toward staff or other guests;

(7) parking vehicles outside of designated parking areas; and

(8) animals other than service dogs.

(d) Prior to entering the shooting range, individuals participating in shooting sports shall complete the following steps to receive a Range Pass:

(1) sign-in with the RSO;

(2) attend a safety briefing; and

(3) complete a range waiver by providing the following information:

(A) first and last name;

(B) age and age certification;

(C) ethnicity;

(D) gender;

(E) zip code;

(F) email address;

(G) shooting range facility location;

(H) range selection;

(I) NCWRC license status;

(J) attestation of the Risk, Release, and Indemnity Agreement; and

(K) electronic signature.

(e) Age Restrictions.

(1) Individuals under 18 years of age shall be accompanied by an adult when on the firing line.

(2) Individuals 12 years of age and younger shall have one-on-one adult supervision when on the firing line.

(f) Violation of a provision of this Section or RSO instruction shall be grounds for removal from the range facility.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;*
Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10E .0203 is adopted with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 218 as follows:

15A NCAC 10E .0203 RANGE REQUIREMENTS

(a) Firearms.

(1) Firearms shall not be carried into the range facility office.

(2) Firearms shall be cased during transport to and from the firing line.

(3) Firearms shall remain unloaded until on the firing line and the range is hot.

(4) Concealed carry of firearms is prohibited.

(5) Firearms shall not be loaded, handled, or fired when the range is cold.

(6) Fully automatic and automatic simulated firearms are prohibited.

(7) Firearms shall not be pointed at a person.

(8) Firearms shall be pointed downrange at all times.

(b) Archery Equipment.

(1) Arrows shall remain unnocked until individuals are on the firing line and the range is hot.

(2) Broadhead tips are prohibited.

(3) Sky drawing is prohibited.

(4) Firearms are prohibited on the practice archery and 3D archery range.

(5) Individuals using the 3D archery range shall wear a blaze orange vest.

(c) Trap and Skeet.

(1) Shot other than size 7.5, 8, or 9 is prohibited.

(2) Muzzle velocity greater than 1,300 [~~1300~~] feet per second is prohibited.

(3) The firearm's action shall be open and the firearm shall be unloaded when moving between stations.

(d) Ammunition.

(1) Individuals shall use the correct ammunition for their firearms.

(2) Individuals shall collect their spent cartridges, paper targets, trash, litter, and personal items before leaving the shooting range.

(3) The following types of ammunition are prohibited:

(A) tracer;

(B) incendiary;

(C) armor-piercing;

(D) steel core; and

(E) other types deemed unsafe by the RSO.

(e) Targets.

(1) Individuals shall supply their own paper targets.

(2) Target stands provided by the Commission shall be used.

(3) Steel targets are prohibited, unless provided by the Commission.

(4) Glass targets are prohibited.

(5) Intentionally shooting into target stands, posts, or other permanent structures is prohibited.

(6) Shooting a firearm in a manner that would cause rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off the range is prohibited.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306;*
Eff. January 1, 2027.

15A NCAC 10H .0810 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 219 as follows:

15A NCAC 10H .0810 TAKING RAPTORS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29; 50 C.F.R. 21.82;*
Eff. September 1, 1979;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; July 1, 1998;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027; June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.

15A NCAC 10I .0102 is amended with changes as published in 41:02 NCR 219 as follows:

15A NCAC 10I .0102 PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES

(a) There is no open season for taking the species listed in Rules .0103, .0104, or .0105 of this Section, except for the American alligator (Alligator mississippiensis) as set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0224.

(b) Except as provided in Paragraphs (d) and (h) of this Rule, no person shall purchase, sell, or take the species listed in Rules .0103, .0104, or .0105 of this Section.

~~(b) Except as provided in Paragraphs (d) and (h) of this Rule, there is no purchase, sale, or take of the species listed in Rules .0103, .0104, or .0105 of this Section.~~

(c) Take of federally listed endangered and threatened fish and wildlife species requires a federal permit, as specified in 50 ~~C.F.R~~ CFR Chapter 1, Subchapter B, hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and additions, and a state endangered species permit, as specified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule. 50 ~~C.F.R.~~ CFR Chapter 1, Subchapter B is available free of charge at ~~www.ecfr.gov.~~ https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-50/chapter-I/subchapter-B.

(d) The Executive Director or his or her designee may issue endangered species permits to take, possess, sell, propagate, transport, import, export, transfer, barter, trade, or stock federally listed and State-listed ~~state-listed~~ endangered, threatened, or special concern ~~species~~ species or their parts to:

(1) an individual or institution conducting a scientific investigation for the perpetuation, restoration, or management of a species;

(2) a public or private educator or exhibitor who demonstrates that he or she has lawfully obtained the specimens in his or her possession, possesses the equipment and expertise to care for the specimens, and abides by applicable caging requirements for the species set forth in 15A NCAC 10H .1404;

(3) a person who lawfully possessed the species for 90 days immediately prior to the date that the species was listed and who abides by applicable caging requirements for the species set forth in 15A NCAC 10H .1404;

(4) a person with demonstrable depredation from a Special Concern Species ~~Species,~~ or American alligator (Alligator mississippiensis);

(5) a licensed falconer who meets the requirements of the rules in 15A NCAC 10H .0800;

(6) a retail or wholesale establishment whose primary function is providing scientific supplies, provided that:

(A) the specimens were lawfully obtained from captive populations or wild populations outside of North Carolina;

(B) the specimens are possessed in indoor facilities; and

(C) safeguards are provided during transportation to prevent accidental escape of the specimens.

(7) state and federal government agencies, corporate research entities, and research institutions within North Carolina provided that:

(A) the specimens are possessed in indoor facilities;

(B) safeguards are provided during transportation to prevent accidental escape of the specimens; and

(C) the agency's or institution's Animal Care and Use Committee has approved the research protocol for the species.

(e) Additional permits or authorizations from the Commission shall be required for importation, exportation, propagation, transfer, transportation, stocking, and release of endangered, threatened, or special concern species or their parts. ~~species.~~

(f) An individual may apply for an endangered species permit online at www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com by providing the following information:

(1) name, address, phone number, and email address of the applicant;

(2) applicant's affiliation, if applicable;

(3) species name and quantity;

(4) proposed activities;

(5) map with specific location of activities identified, if applicable;

(6) the source of the specimens and documentation of lawful acquisition;

(7) caging or confinement plans for specimens, if applicable;

(8) qualifications and explanation of experience for anyone working with the species;

(9) research proposal, if applicable;

(10) proof that federal permits have been applied for or obtained, if applicable;

(11) plans for care of specimens and copy of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee permit, if applicable; and

(12) plans for final disposition of specimens.

(g) Endangered species permits shall not be transferrable by license holder or by site.

(h) The species listed in Rules .0103, .0104, and .0105 of this Section may be taken or possessed without ~~a~~ an endangered species permit when:

(1) an individual takes the species in defense of his or her own life or the lives of others, as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0106(d). ~~15A NCAC 10B .0106.~~

(2) an individual has obtained a permit to take an American alligator in accordance with 15A NCAC 10B .0224.

(3) an individual possesses meat or other parts of American alligators that have been lawfully taken, possessed, or bought in a state where there is an open season for harvesting alligators and the products are marketed in packages or containers that are labeled to indicate the state in which the animals were taken and the identity, address, and lawful authority of the processor or distributor.

(4) an individual is taking or harassing a red wolf (Canis rufus) pursuant to the conditions in 50 CFR ~~C.F.R.~~ 17.84(c), hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions, available free of charge at ~~www.ecfr.gov.~~ https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-50/part-17/section-17.84.

(5) an individual who meets the requirements of G.S. 113-261, who, when acting in the course of his or her official duties, takes, possesses, or transports endangered, threatened, or special concern species if the action is necessary to:

(A) aid a sick, injured, diseased, or orphaned specimen;

(B) dispose of a dead specimen;

(C) salvage a dead specimen that may be useful for scientific study; or

(D) remove specimens that constitute a demonstrable but nonimmediate threat to human safety and release the specimen unharmed, in a habitat that is suitable for survival.

(i) Take, possession, sale, propagation, transportation, importation, exportation, transfer, barter, trade, or stocking of endangered, threatened, or special concern species under Paragraphs (d) and (h) of this Rule is subject to federal reporting requirements, and reporting requirements of the endangered species permit.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.3; 113-292; 113-333; 113-337;*
Eff. June 11, 1977;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; May 1, 2009; April 1, 2003; April 1, 2001; April 1, 1997; February 1, 1994; September 1, 1989; March 1, 1981; March 17, 1978.
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;
Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; July 1, 2016;
Readopted Eff. October 1, ~~2024.~~ 2024;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2027.

Burgos, Alexander N

From: Casola, William
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2026 7:46 AM
To: Miller, Christopher S; Ruhlman, Carrie A
Cc: Burgos, Alexander N
Subject: RE: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Chris,

Confirming receipt. We will work through these and have responses and revised rules and forms to you before close of business on Nov 13th.

I will reach out if we have questions about specific changes.

Thanks,

Will Casola

Will Casola, PhD
Policy Analyst
Office of Conservation Policy & Analysis
51 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606
Office: 919-707-0125

From: Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2026 11:57 AM
To: Casola, William <william.casola@ncwildlife.gov>; Ruhlman, Carrie A <carrie.ruhlman@ncwildlife.gov>
Cc: Burgos, Alexander N <alexander.burgos@oah.nc.gov>; Miller, Christopher S <christopher.miller@oah.nc.gov>
Subject: NCWRC - Rules for November 2026 RRC Meeting

Good morning!

I'm the staff attorney who reviewed the rules submitted by the Wildlife Resources Commission for the November 2026 RRC meeting. The RRC will formally review these rules at its meeting on Tuesday, November 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be a hybrid of in-person and WebEx attendance, and an evite should be sent to you as we get close to the meeting. If there are any other representatives from your agency who want to attend virtually, please let me know prior to the meeting, and we will get evites out to them as well.

Attached is my Request for Changes pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.10. Please submit the responses and revised rules and forms to me via email, no later than **5 p.m. on November 13, 2026**.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Chris Miller
Rules Review Commission Counsel
North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings | Rules Division
1711 New Hope Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27609
(984) 236-1935

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