

## **CHAPTER 10 - WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND WATER SAFETY**

This Chapter 10 of Title 15A of the North Carolina Administrative Code (15A NCAC 10); WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND WATER SAFETY; has been transferred and recodified from Chapter 10 of Title 15 of the North Carolina Administrative Code (15 NCAC 10), effective November 1, 1989. The recodification was pursuant to G.S. 143B-279.1.

### **SUBCHAPTER 10A - WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

#### **SECTION .0100 - GENERAL**

- 15A NCAC 10A .0101    RESPONSIBILITIES**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0102    FUNCTIONS**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0103    FISCAL POLICY**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0104    REIMBURSEMENT OF WILDLIFE FUND**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0105    STEWARDSHIP OF REVENUES**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0106    MOTTO**

*History Note:*    Authority G.S. 75A-3; 113-306; 113-307.1; 143-239; 143-243; 143-250; 143-254.1; 143A-118; 143B-281;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. February 1, 1982.

#### **SECTION .0200 - ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE**

- 15A NCAC 10A .0201    ACTION BY COMMISSION**

*History Note:*    Authority G.S. 143-243;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

- 15A NCAC 10A .0202    OFFICERS OF COMMISSION**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0203    MEETINGS OF COMMISSION**

*History Note:*    Authority G.S. 143-243;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. April 15, 1979;  
Repealed Eff. February 1, 1982.

- 15A NCAC 10A .0204    COMMITTEES**

*History Note:*    Authority G.S. 75A-3(b); 143-243;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. April 15, 1979;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

- 15A NCAC 10A .0205    SEAL OF COMMISSION**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0206    EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0207    ASSISTANT FOR ADMINISTRATION**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0208    ASSISTANT FOR FIELD OPERATIONS**

*History Note:*    Authority G.S. 143-243; 143-246;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. February 1, 1982.

- 15A NCAC 10A .0209    ENFORCEMENT JURISDICTION OF SPECIAL OFFICERS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-138; 113-305;  
Eff. May 1, 1982;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

#### **SECTION .0300 - ANNUAL REGULATIONS PROCEDURE**

##### **15A NCAC 10A .0301 NECESSITY FOR ANNUAL REGULATIONS** **15A NCAC 10A .0302 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-131; 113-132; 113-273; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-301.1; 113-307; 143-239;  
150B-12;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

##### **15A NCAC 10A .0303 PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTION**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 143-243; 143B-18; 150B-12;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. February 1, 1982.

#### **SECTION .0400 – PETITIONS FOR RULE**

##### **15A NCAC 10A .0401 FORM AND CONTENTS OF PETITION**

(a) A written petition requesting rulemaking shall be sent to the Executive Director of the Wildlife Resources Commission at 1701 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1700 for U.S. Postal Service delivery or 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576 for other delivery services or in person and must contain:

- (1) the name and address of the petitioner;
- (2) the name and address of the person, group, or organization, if any, on behalf of which the petition is made, together with the representative capacity of the petitioner;
- (3) the citation to the rule sought to be amended or repealed;
- (4) suggested language for the rule sought to be adopted or amended and a statement of its desired effect; and
- (5) the signature of the petitioner.

(b) In addition to the information required by Paragraph (a) of this Rule, the petition may contain expression of reasons in support or arguments in favor of the regulatory action proposed, and tables, charts, maps, publications, photographs, or other supporting materials that the petitioner deems pertinent to the proposal by way of exhibits or attachments.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 150B-20;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2018; July 1, 1993; April 15, 1979;  
Readopted Eff. November 1, 2023.

##### **15A NCAC 10A .0402 ACTION ON PETITION**

(a) Upon receipt, the Executive Director, or his or her designee, shall stamp the petition with the date of receipt which shall constitute the date of submission. The petition shall then be referred to the Commission for its consideration.

(b) Within three business days of receipt, the proposed text and statement of effect of the petition shall be forwarded to the Office of Administrative Hearings as required by G.S. 150B-20.

(c) Within 120 days following submission of the petition requesting rulemaking, the Commission shall:

- (1) deny the petition in writing, stating the reason or reasons for such denial; or
- (2) initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with G.S. 150B-20.

(d) The Commission shall notify the person who submitted the petition of the action taken. Denial of a petition requesting rulemaking shall be sent to the petitioner at the address therein indicated by registered mail, "return receipt requested."

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 150B-20;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;

*Amended Eff. July 1, 1993;*  
*Readopted Eff. November 1, 2023.*

## **SECTION .0500 - DECLARATORY RULINGS**

### **15A NCAC 10A .0501 WHEN ISSUED**

In accordance with G.S. 150B-4 and the procedures set forth in Rule .0503 of this Section, the Wildlife Resources Commission shall issue a declaratory ruling when a written request signed and verified under oath by or on behalf of a person or group of persons aggrieved, shows on its face:

- (1) that there is a controversy as to the validity of a rule; or that there is a controversy as to the applicability of a rule of the Commission, or of a specific statute administered or enforced by the Commission, to an existing factual situation; or that there is a conflict or inconsistency regarding the interpretation of a specific law or rule adopted by the Commission;
- (2) that the relevant facts and circumstances necessary to the ruling are definitively stated and are conceded by all parties to be a true and existing fact or circumstance for all purposes;
- (3) that the parties who will be directly or indirectly affected by the ruling, other than the Commission and its agents and employees, have joined in the request and in the verification of the facts therein set forth; and
- (4) that the ruling will be final and determinative of the controversy and binding on the parties affected thereby, subject only to reversal or modification by a court on direct judicial review as provided by law.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 150B-4;*  
*Eff. February 1 1976;*  
*Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024.*

### **15A NCAC 10A .0502 WHEN NOT ISSUED**

The Wildlife Resources Commission shall not issue a declaratory ruling upon a request which does not comply with the requirements of Rules .0501 and .0503 of this Section, or that is the request of a person or group not aggrieved, or when it is or becomes apparent from a source:

- (1) that no controversy exists, either among the respective parties or between the parties and the Commission, as to the applicability of a specific rule of the Commission, or of a specific statute administered or enforced by the Commission, to an existing factual situation;
- (2) that the question to be ruled upon is academic, hypothetical, moot, speculative, or lacking in specificity;
- (3) that a relevant fact or circumstance necessary to the ruling is controverted, unverified, indefinite as to time or place, or omitted from the request for ruling;
- (4) that the proposed ruling will substantially affect a person, other than an agent or employee of the Commission, who is not a party to the request;
- (5) that a case or proceeding involving the substance of the requested ruling is pending before a court or another agency;
- (6) that the requested ruling would not be final and binding on the parties affected thereby, subject only to direct judicial review as provided by law;
- (7) that the request for ruling challenges the validity of a statute administered or enforced by the Commission;
- (8) that the requested ruling would require an interpretation of a statute not administered or enforced by the Commission or of a rule, order, or ordinance of some other governmental agency;
- (9) that the Commission is without power or authority to issue the requested ruling; or
- (10) that the request is not made in good faith.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 150B-4;*  
*Eff. February 1 1976;*  
*Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024.*

### **15A NCAC 10A .0503 PROCEDURE**

(a) A request for a declaratory ruling shall be in writing and sent to the Executive Director of the Wildlife Resources Commission at 1701 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1700 for U.S. Postal Service delivery, or 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576 for other delivery services or in person. The request shall contain:

- (1) names and addresses of persons requesting the ruling;

- (2) designation of the person or persons authorized to receive the ruling or communication relative thereto, if different from those requesting;
  - (3) statement of the material facts and circumstances sufficient to show the existence and nature of the controversy and the relation of the parties with respect thereto;
  - (4) identification of the specific rule or statute involved;
  - (5) the specific question to be ruled upon;
  - (6) a statement that the substance of the request is not pending for decision before a court or another agency of government;
  - (7) signature of the persons making the request or of one or more authorized representatives of such persons, indicating the capacity of such representation; and
  - (8) verification by, or on behalf of, the persons making the request.
- (b) The verification of a request for a declaratory ruling shall be executed before an official authorized to administer oaths.
- (c) The request for a declaratory ruling shall be marked or stamped with the date of receipt, and the Commission shall respond to the request as required by G.S. 150B-4(a1).
- (d) The Commission's response to a request for a declaratory ruling is a written communication, addressed to the persons requesting the ruling or to the person or persons authorized in the request to receive the ruling or communications relative thereto, containing the following:
- (1) reference to the request for declaratory ruling;
  - (2) reference to authority for the ruling;
  - (3) names and addresses of the persons affected by the ruling, unless it is general in effect and is so indicated;
  - (4) recital of the material facts on which the ruling is based, or reference to the facts as stated in the request;
  - (5) the ruling;
  - (6) date of issue; and
  - (7) signature of Executive Director.
- (e) A declaratory ruling issued by the Commission or the Executive Director and the communication denying such a ruling shall be sent by registered mail, return receipt requested, to the persons requesting the ruling, or to persons designated in the request to receive the ruling or communications relative thereto.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 150B-4;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Amended Eff. April 15, 1979;  
 Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024.

#### **SECTION .0600 - LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL: DISABILITY AND RETIREMENT**

- 15A NCAC 10A .0601 POLICY**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0602 DEFINITIONS**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0603 TENURE**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0604 RETIREMENT AGE**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0605 MEDICAL EVALUATION OFFICER**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0606 DUTIES OF MEDICAL EVALUATION OFFICER**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0607 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0608 FITNESS REQUIREMENTS**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0609 FITNESS CLASSIFICATIONS**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0610 PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL DISABILITY**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0611 APPEALS**
- 15A NCAC 10A .0612 CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEDICAL INFORMATION**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 8-53; 113-128(9); 126-16; 126-24; 126-34; 126-35; 126-36; 126-36.1; 126-39; 126-53; 143-243; 143-246; 143B-281;  
 Eff. December 21, 1978;  
 Amended Eff. June 17, 1979;  
 Repealed Eff. June 21, 1981.

#### **SECTION .0700 - SECONDARY EMPLOYMENT**

<b>15A NCAC 10A .0701</b>	<b>POLICY</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0702</b>	<b>DEFINITIONS</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0703</b>	<b>EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0704</b>	<b>AGENCY RESPONSIBILITY</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0705</b>	<b>APPEAL</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0706</b>	<b>PENALTIES</b>

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 126-24; 126-35; 143-243; 143-246; 143B-281;  
 Eff. February 7, 1979;  
 Repealed Eff. June 21, 1981.

#### **SECTION .0800 - WORK PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

<b>15A NCAC 10A .0801</b>	<b>POLICY</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0802</b>	<b>WORK PLANNING</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0803</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE REVIEW</b>

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-91(2); 126-7; 126-22; 126-24; 143-243; 143-246; 143B-281;  
 Eff. March 9, 1979;  
 Amended Eff. January 6, 1980;  
 Repealed Eff. June 21, 1981.

#### **SECTION .0900 - EMPLOYMENT AND PROMOTIONS**

<b>15A NCAC 10A .0901</b>	<b>POLICY</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0902</b>	<b>PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0903</b>	<b>WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0904</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE EVALUATION</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0905</b>	<b>DISMISSAL DURING PROBATIONARY PERIOD</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0906</b>	<b>PERSONNEL ACTION AT CONCLUSION OF PROBATION</b>
<b>15A NCAC 10A .0907</b>	<b>EMPLOYEE PROMOTIONS</b>

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 17A-7; 113-91(2); 126-4; 126-5; 126-24; 126-35; 143-243; 143-246; 143A-281; 1 NCAC  
 8C .0404; 1 NCAC 8D .0202;  
 Eff. June 17, 1979;  
 Repealed Eff. June 21, 1981.

#### **SECTION .1000 - WARNING TICKETS**

##### **15A NCAC 10A .1001 WARNING TICKETS**

Warning Tickets Prohibited. Wildlife Enforcement Officers shall not issue warning tickets for the following offenses and classes of offenses:

- (1) second offense of the same charge;
- (2) exceeding bag or creel limits;
- (3) unlawful taking of fish or wildlife by use of drugs, poison, explosives, or electricity;
- (4) hunting, fishing, or trapping in closed season;
- (5) unlawful taking of deer or fox;
- (6) unlawful taking or possession of bear or wild turkey;
- (7) unlawful purchase or sale of wildlife, except when possession of a Trophy Wildlife Sale Permit would otherwise make purchase or sale lawful; and
- (8) taking wildlife with the aid of or from a motor vehicle or boat under power or while in motion.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-140;

*Eff. April 1, 1991;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2007; May 1, 2004; November 2, 1992; November 1, 1991;*  
*Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019.*

## **SECTION .1100 - WAIVER**

### **15A NCAC 10A .1101 WAIVER**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274; 150B-19(6);*  
*Temporary Adoption Eff. May 21, 2003;*  
*Temporary Adoption Expired March 12, 2004;*  
*Eff. November 1, 2004;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2006;*  
*Repealed Eff. November 1, 2023.*

### **15 NCAC 10A .1102 EMERGENCY CLOSURES AND WAIVERS**

- (a) The Commission may prohibit or restrict public access to and use of Wildlife Resources Commission property if the Commission finds that the closure is necessary to protect public health, public safety, or wildlife resources. Closures exercised under this Paragraph shall only be exercised for the duration of the threat.
- (b) The Commission may waive any rule in this Chapter or portion thereof, that is not statutorily required, upon declaration of a national emergency, disaster, or state of emergency, by a federal, state, or local governmental authority impacting North Carolina. Waivers exercised under this Paragraph shall only be exercised for the duration of the declaration.
- (c) The Commission may delegate emergency closure and waiver authority to the Executive Director.
- (d) The following factors shall be considered in determining whether to restrict or prohibit public access or use, or waive requirements of rule:
- (1) need for the closure or waiver;
  - (2) degree of benefit to the public, if applicable;
  - (3) degree of benefit to the resource, if applicable;
  - (4) degree of disruption to the Commission; and
  - (5) cost to the Commission.
- (e) All closures and waivers shall be posted on the Commission website at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).
- (f) It is unlawful to use, enter, or remain on Wildlife Resources Commission Property that is closed pursuant to this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-306(c);*  
*Eff. August 1, 2021.*

## **SECTION .1200 - EMERGENCY POWERS**

### **15A NCAC 10A .1201 EMERGENCY POWERS**

- (a) Upon determination by the Commission that a wildlife disease threatens irreparable injury to wildlife or to the public, the Executive Director shall develop an emergency response plan in consultation with the Commission, Governor's office and the State Veterinarian prescribing one or more of the following actions:
- (1) shorten or lengthen harvest seasons;
  - (2) prohibit transport of wildlife resources or parts thereof;
  - (3) prohibit possession of wildlife resources;
  - (4) confiscate wildlife resources;
  - (5) revoke licenses or permits;
  - (6) expand or restrict daily bag limits, daily creel limits, and possession limits;
  - (7) establish mandatory wildlife check stations;
  - (8) restrict public access to game lands;
  - (9) require prepayment of outside testing costs by persons who desire disease testing of their harvested wildlife resource when such testing is not essential to the objectives of the plan;
  - (10) prohibit supplemental feeding or baiting of wildlife;
  - (11) prohibit other activities that aid in the transmission or movement of the disease as determined by the best available science regarding the disease threat;

- (12) implement other activities necessary to reduce infection opportunities; and
  - (13) implement other requirements necessary to assist in the detection and isolation of the disease.
- (b) The Commission shall inform the public of the implementation of emergency powers and actions in the response plan through press releases, postings on the Wildlife Commission website and social media, emails to representatives of sportsmen's groups or other constituents likely to be directly affected, and employee outreach.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-306(f);  
Eff. March 1, 2011;  
Readopted Eff. November 1, 2023.*

## **SECTION .1300 – WILDLIFE POACHER REWARD FUND**

### **15A NCAC 10A .1301 FUNDING SOURCES**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 15A-1343; 113-134; 113-294;  
Eff. May 1, 2014;  
Repealed Eff. May 1, 2024.*

### **15A NCAC 10A .1302 OFFENSES AND REWARD AMOUNTS**

- (a) Rewards shall be paid for conviction of persons who have committed Class 1 or Class 2 misdemeanors specified in G.S. 113-262, G.S. 113-294 and G.S. 113-337, Class 1 misdemeanors involving wildlife resources specified in G.S. 113-264(b), and Class 3 misdemeanors involving fisheries resources specified in Rules 15A NCAC 10C .0302(a), .0304, .0401, .0402, and .0409 of this Chapter.
- (b) The reward amount shall be equivalent to the amount of the fine, replacement costs, or restitution assessed by the court, whichever is greatest, not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). If no fine, replacement cost, or restitution is assessed, including in cases that result in a prayer for judgment, the reward shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-294; 113-294.1; 113-337;  
Eff. May 1, 2014;  
Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024.*

### **15A NCAC 10A .1303 ELIGIBILITY**

- (a) Rewards shall be paid to individuals who provide information resulting in the arrest and conviction of persons who commit the offenses specified in Rule .1302(a) of this Section. If more than one individual provides information resulting in the arrest of a person for the same offense, the Commission shall pay the individuals equal amounts not to exceed the amount specified in Rule .1302(b) of this Section.
- (b) Rewards shall be paid after the final disposition of a case resulting in a conviction, as defined in G.S. 113-171(a), or a prayer for judgment.
- (c) The following individuals are not eligible to receive reward money:
- (1) a current Wildlife Resources Commission employee or members of his or her immediate family;
  - (2) current Wildlife Resources Commissioners;
  - (3) a sworn law enforcement officer;
  - (4) the perpetrator of the crime for which the information has been given and an accomplice or accessory to that crime; and
  - (5) an individual who refuses to provide the Commission with his or her name and contact information.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-171; 113-294.1;  
Eff. May 1, 2014;  
Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024.*

## **SECTION .1400 – INTERSTATE WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT (WVC)**

### **15A NCAC 10A .1401 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- (a) Purpose. The purpose of this section is to establish the rules necessary to implement G.S. 113 Article 22B, the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (hereinafter referred to as WVC).

(b) Applicability. The rules in this Section shall apply to any person possessing a license, privilege or right to hunt, fish, trap, possess, or transport wildlife in the State of North Carolina. Violations under this Section apply to only hunting, fishing and trapping. The rules shall not apply to any offenses committed in North Carolina or any other WVC state prior to August 1, 2017.

(c) Definitions. The definitions in G.S. 113-300.6 Article II shall apply throughout this Subchapter and to all forms prescribed pursuant to this Subchapter, unless otherwise indicated.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-300.7;  
Eff. August 1, 2017.

#### **15A NCAC 10A .1402 WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT MANUAL**

The Wildlife Violator Compact Operations Manual, which is incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions, may be found free of charge, at <http://www.ncwildlife.org>, and G.S. 113-300.6 hereby establish the administrative and procedural guidelines for participation in the WVC.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-300.7;  
Eff. August 1, 2017.

#### **15A NCAC 10A .1403 WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT CONDITIONS FOR NON-RESIDENTS**

(a) Non-residents of North Carolina who are residents of a WVC member state at the time of a misdemeanor hunting, fishing, or trapping violation occurring in North Carolina, may be released on personal recognizance when the violation consists of a written citation requiring a violator to resolve the violation directly with the court, either in person, by mail, or through an attorney.

(b) All identified offenses set forth in G.S. 113 are subject to the provisions of the WVC.

(c) Upon failure to comply with the terms of a citation for violation of North Carolina hunting, fishing, or trapping laws, the Wildlife Resources Commission shall send notice of failure to comply, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the violator's last known address, and report the failure to comply to the home state to start suspension procedures in accordance with the Wildlife Violator Compact Manual.

(d) License privileges shall only be restored when the citation is resolved through the North Carolina Court System.

(e) Upon resolving the citation, the non-resident shall notify the Wildlife Resources Commission so that hunting, fishing or trapping privileges can be restored.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-300.7;  
Eff. August 1, 2017.

#### **15A NCAC 10A .1404 WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT CONDITIONS FOR RESIDENTS**

(a) North Carolina residents committing hunting, fishing, or trapping violations in another WVC member state, who upon release on personal recognizance from the issuing state, failed to resolve the violation, shall have their hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges suspended in North Carolina.

(b) If the Wildlife Resources Commission receives notice of an unresolved violation, a Notice of Suspension shall be prepared and sent to the violator:

- (1) the notice shall have a delayed effective date of at least 14 business days, to allow the violator to contact the court in the issuing state and resolve the case;
- (2) the notice shall be delivered personally or by letter sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the licensee or permit holder;
- (3) the notice of suspension shall inform the violator of the facts supporting the suspension and procedures to be followed in resolving the matter with the court in the issuing state; and
- (4) the notice shall provide the procedure for appealing the suspension.

(c) Any suspensions received by the Wildlife Resources Commission shall remain in effect until such time as the North Carolina resident resolves the violation in the issuing state.

(d) When a North Carolina resident resolves a violation with the court in the issuing state, it is the responsibility of the resident to present documents to the Wildlife Resources Commission that acknowledge compliance. Upon receipt of documentation set forth in Paragraph (e) of this Rule, an acknowledgement of compliance shall be issued directly to that person by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(e) The following shall be sufficient evidence of compliance in response to a notice of suspension for non-compliance:

- (1) copy of the court judgment; or
  - (2) a copy of a Notice of Compliance from the issuing state.
- (f) The Wildlife Resources Commission shall reinstate the license if the acknowledgement of compliance is presented after the effective date of the suspension.
- (g) Residents receiving a Notice of Suspension from the Wildlife Resources Commission under the WVC provisions for failure to resolve a citation issued in another WVC member state may file a petition with the Office of Administrative Hearings, within 60 days from the date of delivery by certified mail to the residents last known address, pursuant to G.S. 150B-23.
- (h) The issuing state shall be notified if the suspension order is overturned by the Office of Administrative Hearings.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-300.7;  
Eff. August 1, 2017.

#### **15A NCAC 10A .1405 RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF SUSPENSIONS**

- (a) When the Wildlife Resources Commission receives notice of suspension of a North Carolina resident's hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges or licenses by a WVC member state that are the result of a conviction or an accumulation of convictions of wildlife violations in one or more states that participate in the WVC, the agency shall determine whether the violation, or accumulation of violations, leading to the suspension could have led to the suspension of rights, privileges, or licenses under G.S. 113. If it is determined that the resident's privileges or licenses would have been suspended under G.S. 113, the resident's licenses, rights, and privileges to hunt, fish, or trap in North Carolina shall be suspended pursuant to Article 22B of G.S. 113 for the same period as imposed by the WVC member state where the violation occurred.
- (b) North Carolina shall communicate suspension information to other member states, using the WVC database. Information may include the following:
- (1) name;
  - (2) date of birth;
  - (3) last known address;
  - (4) violation(s) and convictions upon which the suspension is based;
  - (5) scope of the suspension (i.e., fishing, hunting, trapping, all privileges or rights); and
  - (6) effective dates of the suspension and term of the suspension.
- (c) In the event documentation of a violation and subsequent license suspension is needed by a member state for license suspension hearings or other purposes, the Wildlife Resources Commission may provide certified copies of the citation or other charging instrument, any arrest or investigation reports, suspension orders, and the disposition of the matter.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-300.7;  
Eff. August 1, 2017.

#### **15A NCAC 10A .1406 APPEALS**

A final agency decision made by the Wildlife Resources Commission to suspend any North Carolina hunting, fishing or trapping license pursuant to the WVC shall be appealable to the Office of Administrative Hearings pursuant to G.S. 150B-23. Notice of the right to appeal shall be included in the correspondence notifying the licensee of the final agency decision.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-300.7;  
Eff. August 1, 2017.

### **SECTION .1500 - EVIDENCE**

#### **15A NCAC 10A .1501 SUMMARY DISPOSITION**

The Executive Director or his or her designee may determine the summary disposition of fish or wildlife seized by the Commission. Summary disposition shall be determined in accordance with G.S. 113-137(d), on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration factors that may include public health and safety, conservation objectives of the Commission, and the health or genetic integrity of native wildlife resources. Summary disposition may include release, relocation, or euthanasia.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-137;  
Eff. August 1, 2019.

**15A NCAC 10A .1502 REPLACEMENT COSTS OF WILDLIFE**

(a) For the purpose of this Rule, "replacement cost" means the monetary amount to replace a specimen of wildlife that has been taken, injured, removed, harmfully altered, damaged, or destroyed. As specified in G.S. 113-267, this term shall be broadly construed to include indirect costs of replacement if direct stocking or replacement is not feasible, including the costs of habitat improvement or restoration, the establishment of sanctuaries, and any other recognized conservation technique.

(b) The following factors shall be considered when determining replacement costs:

- (1) whether the species has a season for take;
- (2) whether the species is classified as endangered, threatened, or special concern;
- (3) the relative frequency of species occurrence in the State;
- (4) the extent of existing suitable habitat for the species within the State;
- (5) the unique habitat requirements of the species;
- (6) the cost of acquiring, by purchase or long-term lease, lands and waters for habitat development;
- (7) the cost of improving and maintaining suitable habitat for the species on lands and waters owned or acquired by the Commission;
- (8) the cost of live-trapping the species in areas of adequate populations and transplanting them to areas of suitable habitat with low populations;
- (9) the availability of replacement specimens and the cost of acquisition for restocking species in the wild;
- (10) the cost of propagating and rearing the species in captivity or a hatchery and the cost of transporting them to an area with suitable habitat;
- (11) the ratio between the natural life expectancy of the species and the period of its probable survival in the wild when having been reared in captivity;
- (12) the consumer price index; and
- (13) any other factor that gives value to the species.

(c) Based on the factors in Paragraph (b) of this Rule, the following scheduled amounts shall represent the estimated replacement cost of an individual wildlife specimen. Replacement costs are per individual for wildlife species and per inch for fish species unless otherwise noted:

Species	Replacement Cost
<b>Birds</b>	
Crow	4.00
Dove	13.00
Duck	
American black duck	125.00
Canvasback	125.00
Gadwall	125.00
Long-tailed duck	125.00
White-winged scoter	125.00
All other ducks	41.00
Goose (includes Brant and Snow)	125.00
Grouse	125.00
Pheasant	37.00
Quail	125.00
Rail	
Clapper, king, and Virginia	125.00
Coot, Gallinule, Moorhen, and Sora	37.00
Snipe	26.00
Swan, tundra	1078.00
Woodcock	125.00
<b>Big Game</b>	
Bear, black	2232.00
Deer	602.00
Turkey, wild	525.00
<b>Small Game</b>	

Beaver	104.00	
Bobcat	647.00	
Fox		88.00
Mink	75.00	
Muskrat	19.00	
Opossum	6.00	
Otter	647.00	
Rabbit	13.00	
Raccoon	58.00	
Skunk	19.00	
Squirrel, fox	54.00	
Squirrel, gray and red	17.00	
Weasel	11.00	
Reptiles		
Kingsnake, scarlet	100.00	
Milksnake, coastal plain	200.00	
Milksnake, eastern	100.00	
Snake, eastern hognose	100.00	
Turtle, eastern box	150.00	
Turtle, spotted	150.00	
Elk		
Elk	2500.00	
Any other species with no open season	54.00	
Endangered Species		
Endangered Species	4960.00	
Threatened Species	4313.00	
Special Concern Species	3000.00	
Fish Species		
Bass		
Alabama Bass	0.80	
Hybrid (Bodie) Bass	1.27	
Largemouth Bass	0.80	
Redeye Bass	0.80	
Smallmouth Bass	2.34	
Spotted Bass	0.80	
Striped Bass	1.27	
White	0.25	
Bullhead		
Black Bullhead	1.72/fish	
Brown Bullhead	1.72/fish	
Flat Bullhead	1.72/fish	
Snail Bullhead	1.72/fish	
Yellow Bullhead	1.72/fish	
Catfish		
Blue Catfish	0.61	
Channel Catfish	0.61	
Flathead Catfish	0.61	
White Catfish	0.61	
Crappie	0.48	
Kokanee Salmon	0.71	
Muskellunge	9.99	
Pickerel		
Chain Pickerel	0.99	

	Redfin Pickerel	0.99
Sauger		0.92
Shad		
	American Shad	1.40/fish
	Hickory Shad	1.40/fish
Sunfish		
	Bluegill Sunfish	2.65/fish
	Flier Sunfish	2.65/fish
	Green Sunfish	2.65/fish
	Pumpkinseed Sunfish	2.65/fish
	Redbreast (Robin)	2.65/fish
	Redear (Shellracer)	2.65/fish
	Roanoke Bass	2.65/fish
	Rock Bass Sunfish	2.65/fish
	Warmouth Sunfish	2.65/fish
Trout		
	Brook Trout	0.71
	Brown Trout	0.71
	Rainbow Trout	0.71
Walleye		0.92
White Perch		0.25
Yellow Perch		0.92
	All other game fish	0.76/fish
	All other nongame fish	1.87/fish
	Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern	
	Mussels	50.54/mussel
	Crayfish	50.00/crayfish
	Finfish	157.54/fish

(d) The following factors shall be considered when determining the costs of an investigation conducted pursuant to G.S. 143-215.3(a)(7) or by court order for the purpose of determining the cost of replacement of wildlife:

- (1) the time expended by the employee conducting or involved in the investigation, including travel time between the place of usual employment and the site of the investigation, and the time required in formulating and rendering the report;
- (2) the total compensation cost of service to the state for each employee involved, including annual salary, total insurance, and the state's contribution to social security taxes and to the applicable retirement system;
- (3) subsistence costs for the investigating personnel, including meals, reasonable gratuities, and lodging, when required;
- (4) the cost of all necessary transportation;
- (5) the use or rental equipment or vehicles, when required;
- (6) the cost of cleaning, repairing, or replacing any clothing damaged, soiled, or contaminated by conducting the investigation; and
- (7) any other expense directly related to and necessitated by the investigation.

(e) In assessing the cost of time expended in completing the investigation, the time expended by each person required to take part in the investigation shall be recorded in hours, the value of which shall be computed according to the ratio between the annual costs of service of the employee and his or her total annual working hours 2087 hours reduced by holidays, annual leave entitlement, and earned sick leave. Other costs shall be assessed as follows:

- (1) the actual cost of meals, reasonable gratuities, and lodging away from home, not to exceed the current maximum per diem for state employees at the time of the investigation;
- (2) total mileage by motor vehicle multiplied by:
  - (A) the then current rate per mile for travel by state-owned vehicle; or
  - (B) the then current rate per mile for travel by privately owned vehicle, if applicable;
- (3) ten dollars (\$10.00) per hour for boat and motor use;
- (4) uniform and clothing cleaning and repair cost; and

- (5) any other expense directly related to and necessitated by the investigation.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-267; 143-215.3;  
Eff. December 22, 2022.*

## **SECTION .1600 - WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION FEES**

### **15A NCAC 10A .1601 LICENSE FEES**

- (a) License fees established by the Commission in this Rule shall be subject to the requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B(e).
- (b) The following fees shall apply to combination hunting and inland fishing licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.1C:
- (1) Resident Annual Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$44.00.
  - (2) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$15.00.
  - (3) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License - \$15.00.
- (c) The following fees shall apply to sportsman licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.1D:
- (1) Annual Sportsman License - \$66.00.
  - (2) Infant Lifetime Sportsman License - \$261.00.
  - (3) Youth Lifetime Sportsman License - \$456.00.
  - (4) Adult Resident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$652.00.
  - (5) Nonresident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$1,563.00.
  - (6) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Sportsman License - \$20.00.
  - (7) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Sportsman License - \$131.00.
  - (8) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Sportsman License - \$131.00.
- (d) The following fees shall apply to hunting licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.2:
- (1) Resident State Hunting License - \$32.00.
  - (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Hunting License - \$326.00.
  - (3) Controlled Hunting Preserve Hunting License - \$28.00.
  - (4) Resident Annual Comprehensive Hunting License - \$49.00.
  - (5) Nonresident State Hunting Licenses:
    - (A) Season License - \$124.00.
    - (B) Ten-Day License - \$99.00.
  - (6) Falconry Hunting License - \$32.00.
- (e) The following fees shall apply to special activity licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.3:
- (1) Resident Big Game Hunting License - \$18.00.
  - (2) Nonresident Bear Hunting License - \$294.00.
  - (3) Bear Management Stamp - \$15.00.
  - (4) Nonresident Big Game Hunting License:
    - (A) Season License - \$124.00.
    - (B) Ten-Day License - \$99.00.
  - (5) Bonus Antlerless Deer License - \$15.00.
  - (6) Game Land License - \$20.00.
  - (7) Falconry License - \$15.00.
  - (8) Migratory Waterfowl Hunting License - \$18.00.
  - (9) Resident American Alligator License - \$308.00.
  - (10) Nonresident American Alligator License - \$615.00.
  - (11) Resident Elk License - \$615.00.
  - (12) Nonresident Elk License - \$1,229.00.
- (f) The following fees shall apply to hunting and fishing guide licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.4:
- (1) Resident Hunting and Fishing Guide License - \$20.00.
  - (2) Nonresident Hunting and Fishing Guide License - \$196.00.
- (g) The following fees shall apply to trapping licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-270.5:
- (1) Resident State Trapping License - \$40.00.
  - (2) Resident Lifetime Trapping License - \$370.00.
  - (3) Nonresident State Trapping License - \$164.00.

(h) The following fees shall apply to hook-and-line licenses in inland and joint fishing waters issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-271:

- (1) Resident State Inland Fishing License - \$32.00.
- (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Inland Fishing License - \$326.00.
- (3) Nonresident State Inland Fishing License - \$56.00.
- (4) Short-Term Inland Fishing License:
  - (A) Resident 10-day Inland Fishing License - \$12.00.
  - (B) Nonresident 10-day Inland Fishing License - \$29.00.
- (5) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$20.00.
- (6) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$15.00.
- (7) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Inland Fishing License - \$15.00.
- (8) Special Landholder and Guest Fishing License - \$131.00.
- (9) Mountain Heritage Trout Waters Three-Day Fishing License - \$11.00.

(i) The following shall apply to special device licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.2:

- (1) Resident Special Device License - \$99.00.
- (2) Nonresident Special Device License - \$652.00.

(j) The non-refundable fee for a collection license issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.4 shall be \$13.00.

(k) The following non-refundable fees shall apply to captivity licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-272.5:

- (1) Captivity License for Holding - \$63.00.
- (2) Captivity License for Rehabilitation - \$13.00.

(l) The following non-refundable fees shall apply to dealer licenses issued by the Commission as set forth in G.S. 113-273:

- (1) Resident Fur-dealer License - \$32.00.
- (2) Nonresident Fur-dealer License - \$63.00.
- (3) Fur-dealer Station License - \$125.00.
- (4) Controlled Hunting Preserve Operator License - \$124.00.
- (5) Controlled Hunting Preserve Rabbit Operator License - \$32.00.
- (6) Game Bird Propagation License - \$13.00.
- (7) Furbearer Propagation License - \$35.00.
- (8) Taxidermy License - \$63.00.
- (9) Taxidermy Cervid Certification - \$7.00.
- (10) Wildlife Control Agent License - \$63.00.
- (11) Wildlife Control Technician Certification - \$32.00.
- (12) Alligator Control Agent Certification - \$32.00.

(m) The following non-refundable fees shall apply to permits issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-274:

- (1) Possession Permit - \$13.00.
- (2) Exportation or Importation Permit - \$13.00.
- (3) Trophy Wildlife Sale Permit - \$13.00.
- (4) Endangered Species Permit - \$13.00.
- (5) Field Trial Permit - \$13.00.

(n) Unified hunting and fishing licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-351:

- (1) Annual Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$85.00.
- (2) Annual Resident Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$51.00.
- (3) Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses:
  - (A) Infant Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$359.00.
  - (B) Youth Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$587.00.
  - (C) Resident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$880.00.
  - (D) Nonresident Adult Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$2,019.00.
  - (E) Resident Age 70 Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$40.00.
  - (F) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$144.00.
  - (G) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$144.00.
- (4) Resident Lifetime Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$587.00.

(o) The following fees shall apply to Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses issued by the Commission, as set forth in G.S. 113-174.2:

- (1) Annual Resident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$20.00.
- (2) Annual Nonresident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$40.00.
- (3) Ten-Day Resident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$9.00.
- (4) Ten-Day Nonresident Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$15.00.
- (5) Infant Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$131.00.
- (6) Youth Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$196.00.
- (7) Resident Adult Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$326.00.
- (8) Nonresident Adult Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$652.00.
- (9) Resident Age 70 Lifetime Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$20.00.
- (10) Resident Disabled Veteran Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$15.00.
- (11) Resident Totally Disabled Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$15.00.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-270.1B(e);  
Temporary Adoption Eff. January 1, 2020;  
Eff. July 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2026; July 1, 2024; May 1, 2022.

## **SUBCHAPTER 10B - HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

### **SECTION .0100 - GENERAL REGULATIONS**

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0101 IMPORTATION OF WILD ANIMALS, BIRDS, AND NATIVE REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**

(a) Before any live wild bird, wild animal, or any native reptile or amphibian, is imported into North Carolina for any purpose, a permit shall be obtained from the Executive Director of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission authorizing the importation, using application forms provided by the Commission, available at [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org), and from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to 02 NCAC 52B .0200, if applicable.

(b) Domestically raised game birds, chukars, and Hungarian partridges imported into North Carolina shall be accompanied by a certificate or label showing the name and address of the shipper and the National Poultry Improvement plan (NPIP) Disease Program Status of the flock of origin pursuant to 02 NCAC 52B .0603. If the source birds are not part of NPIP, they must be tested pullorum-typhoid and avian influenza negative by NPIP standards within 21 days prior to entry into North Carolina. Health certificates for imported waterfowl shall be available for inspection by authorized Commission personnel upon request.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 106.549.97; 113-134; 113-272.6; 113-274; 113-291.3;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 8, 2002; May 17, 2002;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; May 1, 2010; June 1, 2005; August 1, 2004;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0102 IMPORTATION OF GRAY FOXES**

The importation of gray foxes into Anson, Avery, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Davidson, Gaston, Lincoln, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Rowan, Rutherford, Stanly, Union and Yancey Counties is prohibited.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274; 113-291.3; 113-291.4;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0103 RESPONSIBILITY OF GUIDES**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.4;

*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Repealed Eff. February 1, 1982.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0104 HUNTING AND TRAPPING IN VICINITY OF FLOOD OR FIRE**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Repealed Eff. March 1, 1992.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0105 MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS**

(a) Cooperative State Rules:

- (1) The waters of the Atlantic Ocean, and those coastal waters south of US 64 that are separated by a distance of at least 800 yards of open water from any shore, island or marsh are designated as a special hunting area for the taking of sea ducks (scoter, eider, and long-tailed duck).
- (2) Tundra swans may be taken during the open season by permit only subject to annual limitations imposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Based upon the annual limitations imposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Wildlife Resources Commission shall issue nontransferable swan permits to applicants who will be selected at random by computer. Only one swan shall be taken under each permit which shall be cancelled at the time of the kill by cutting out the month and day of the kill. Accompanying the permit is a tag which must be affixed to the swan at the time and place of the kill. The tag must be affixed in accordance with instructions provided with the permit. In addition, a preaddressed post-paid card is supplied to each permittee on which to report the number of days hunted and the details of the kill if made. Hunting swans without having the permit and the tag in possession or to possess a swan without the cancelled permit in possession and the tag affixed in accordance with instructions provided with the permit to the swan is prohibited. Possessing a swan permit or tag while hunting that was assigned to another person or to alter the permit or tag in any way other than cutting out the proper month and day of kill is prohibited.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 113-291.1(a) and (b), the following restrictions apply to the taking of migratory game birds:

- (1) No migratory game bird may be taken:
  - (A) With a rifle;
  - (B) With a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, to limit its total capacity to not more than three shells.
  - (C) From or by the use of a sinkbox or any other type of low floating device affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water;
  - (D) With the aid of bait, or on, over, or within 300 yards of any place where any grain, salt or other feed is exposed so as to constitute an attraction to migratory game birds or has been so exposed during any of the 10 consecutive days preceding the taking, except that this Part shall not apply to standing crops, flooded croplands, grain crops shocked on the field where grown, or grains found scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural planting or harvesting;
  - (E) With the aid of live decoys, or on, over or within 300 yards of any place where tame or captive migratory game birds are present, unless such birds are and have been for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to such taking confined within an enclosure which eliminates the audibility of their calls and totally conceals them from the sight of wild migratory game birds.
- (2) Crippled waterfowl may be taken from a motorboat under power in those areas described, delineated, and designated as special sea duck hunting areas in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule.
- (3) In that area of Roanoke Sound adjacent to and immediately Northeast of Roanoke Island as marked by buoys designating the waterfowl rest area, it is unlawful to harass or take any waterfowl.
- (4) The area east of US 17 is designated as the September teal season zone.

(c) For tundra swan and Canada goose seasons where a permit is required to hunt by Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, hunter questionnaires shall be completed online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org), or on the Commission-supplied, preaddressed, postage-paid cards. Questionnaires shall be completed by or postmarked no later than April 1 following the end of the applicable season.

(d) Failure to return the questionnaire and any required animal parts, by this date shall make the individual ineligible to receive a permit as referenced in Paragraph (c) for the following applicable season.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 50 C.F.R. 20.21; 50 C.F.R. 20.105; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. July 1, 1995; April 1, 1992; February 1, 1990; September 1, 1989; Temporary Amendment Eff. September 10, 1998; Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; May 1, 2007; June 1, 2005; May 1, 2004; July 1, 2000; Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0106 WILDLIFE TAKEN FOR DEPREDATIONS**

(a) Depredation permits shall authorize the taking, destruction, transfer, removal, transplanting, or driving away of undesirable, destructive, or excess wildlife or wildlife resources as specified in this Rule.

(b) Depredation permits shall not be required for the owner or lessee of a property to take wildlife while committing depredations to that property; however, the manner of take, disposition of dead wildlife, and reporting requirements specified in this Rule shall apply.

(c) No permit shall be issued to take endangered or threatened species of wildlife listed under 15A NCAC 10I, except alligators, by reason of depredations to property. Only the Executive Director or his or her designee may issue depredation permits for Special Concern species listed in 15A NCAC 10I .0105 and for alligators.

(d) An individual may take an endangered or threatened species in immediate defense of his or her own life or of the lives of others without a permit. Any endangered or threatened species that may constitute a demonstrable but non-immediate threat to human safety shall be reported to a state or Federal conservation Officer or employee who is designated by their agency, who, upon verification of the report, may take or remove the specimen as provided by 15A NCAC 10I .0102(h)(1).

(e) No permit may be issued for the taking of migratory birds and other federally-protected animals unless a current Federal Depredation Order applies to a species or a corresponding, valid U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service depredation permit, if required, has been issued.

(f) Depredation permits may be issued for taking of wildlife resources in circumstances of overabundance or when the wildlife resources present a danger to human safety. Cities, as defined in G.S. 160A-1(2), seeking a depredation permit pursuant to these circumstances shall submit to the Commission the following information:

- (1) the name and location of the city;
- (2) the acreage of the affected property;
- (3) a map of the affected property;
- (4) the signature of an authorized city representative;
- (5) the nature of the overabundance or the threat to public safety; and
- (6) a description of previous actions taken by the city to ameliorate the problem.

(g) Depredation permits for other species may be issued for taking wildlife that is or has been damaging or destroying property, provided there is evidence of property damage.

(h) Depredation Permits shall:

- (1) be prepared on a form supplied by the Commission;
- (2) only be issued by authorized employees of the Commission or licensed Wildlife Control Agents (WCA);
- (3) have an expiration date;
- (4) name the species allowed to be taken;
- (5) include limitations on age, sex, type of depredation, location of animal or damage, and local laws;
- (6) be issued to a landholder or an authorized representative of a unit of local government for depredations on public property;
- (7) be used only by individuals named on the permit;
- (8) authorize the possession of wildlife resources taken under the authority of the permit; and
- (9) be retained as long as the wildlife resource is in the authorized individual's possession.

(i) Individuals taking wildlife resources under the authority of a depredation permit shall comply with the conditions of the permit and the requirements specified in this Rule.

(j) The following shall apply to manner of take:

- (1) Wildlife taken without a permit while committing depredations to property may, during the open season for the species, be taken by the landholder by any lawful method. During the closed season, such depredating wildlife may be taken without a permit only by use of firearms or archery equipment as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116.

- (2) Wildlife taken under a depredation permit may be taken only by the method or methods authorized by the permit. When trapping is authorized, in order to limit the taking to the intended purpose, the permit may specify a reasonable distance from the property sought to be protected, within which the traps shall be set. The Executive Director, Commission employee, or WCA may also state in a permit authorizing trapping whether or not bait or lure may be used and the type of bait or lure that is authorized based upon factors such as type of depredation, locations of animal or damage, and local laws. In addition to any trapping restrictions that may be contained in the permit, the method of trapping shall be in accordance with the requirements and restrictions imposed by G.S. 113-291.6 and other local laws passed by the General Assembly. No depredation permit shall authorize the use of poisons or pesticides in taking wildlife except in accordance with the provisions of the North Carolina Pesticide Law of 1971, G.S. 143, Article 52, the Structural Pest Control Act of 1955, G.S. 106, Article 4C, and G.S. 113, Article 22A. No depredation permit shall authorize the taking of wildlife by any method by any landholder upon the lands of another except when the individual is listed as a second party on a depredation permit.
  - (3) Any landholder, with or without a depredation permit, or second party on a depredation permit shall not intentionally wound a wild animal in a manner that will not cause its immediate death as suddenly and humanely as the circumstances permit.
- (k) The following shall apply to the disposition of wildlife taken:
- (1) Except as provided by Subparagraphs (2) through (7) of this Paragraph, any wildlife killed without a permit while committing depredations shall be buried or disposed of in a safe and sanitary manner on the property where taken. Wildlife killed under a depredation permit shall be buried or otherwise disposed of as stated on the permit.
  - (2) Wildlife killed under a depredation permit may be transported to an alternate disposal site. Anyone in possession of carcasses of animals being transported under a depredation permit shall have a copy of the depredation permit in his or her possession.
  - (3) The edible portions of feral swine and deer may be retained by landholder for consumption but shall not be transported from the property where the depredations took place without a valid depredation permit. The landholder may give a second party the edible portions of feral swine or deer taken under a depredation permit. The receiver of the edible portions shall hold a copy of the depredation permit. The nonedible portions of any deer carcass, including head, hide, feet, and antlers, shall be disposed of as specified in Subparagraph (1) or (2) of this Paragraph or turned over to a Commission employee for disposition.
  - (4) Any fox killed under a depredation permit may be disposed of as described in Subparagraph (1) or (2) of this Paragraph or, upon compliance with the fur tagging requirements of 15A NCAC 10B Section .0400, the carcass or pelt may be sold to a licensed fur dealer.
  - (5) The carcass or pelt of any furbearing animal killed during their open season for control of depredations to property, whether with or without a permit, may be sold to a licensed fur dealer provided that the person offering such carcass or pelt for sale has a valid hunting or trapping license. Bobcats and otters may only be sold upon compliance with any required fur tagging requirement set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0400.
  - (6) Wild animals in the order Carnivora, armadillos, groundhogs, nutria, and beaver shall be humanely euthanized either at the site of capture or at a facility designed to humanely handle the euthanasia, or such wild animals must be released on the property where captured with permission from the landholder. Feral swine shall be euthanized while still in the trap in accordance with G.S. 113-291.12. Animals transported or held for euthanasia shall be euthanized within 12 hours of possession. Anyone in possession of live animals being transported for relocation or euthanasia under a depredation permit shall have a copy of the depredation permit in his or her possession. When the relocation site is public property, written permission shall be obtained from the local, State, or federal official authorized to manage the property before any animal may be released.
  - (7) The edible portions of bear may only be retained by the landholder for consumption but shall not be transported from the property where the depredations took place without a valid depredation permit. The landholder may give a second party the edible portions of a bear taken under a valid depredation permit. The receiver of the edible portions shall hold a copy of the depredation permit. The complete carcass of a bear taken without a depredation permit and nonedible portions of any bear carcass, including head, hide, feet, claws, and internal organs, from a bear taken under a valid depredation permit shall be disposed of as specified in Subparagraph (1) or (2) of this Paragraph or turned over to a Commission employee for disposition.

(l) Any landholder who kills an alligator; coyote in the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, or Washington; deer; Canada goose; bear; elk; or wild turkey under a valid depredation permit shall report the number and species of animal killed upon the expiration date of the depredation permit to the Wildlife Resources Commission on the form provided with the permit, or through the website link provided on the permit.

(m) Any landholder shall report the killing and method of disposition of every alligator; coyote in the counties of Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington; bear; or elk taken without a permit to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 24 hours following the killing.

(n) Animal Control Officers, as defined by G.S. 130A-184(1) when in the performance of official duties, shall be exempt from obtaining a depredation permit when taking wild animals that:

- (1) exhibit visible signs of rabies;
- (2) exhibit unprovoked aggression that may be associated with rabies;
- (3) are suspected to be rabid; or
- (4) have or may have exposed humans, pets, or livestock to rabies.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274; 113-291.4; 113-291.6; 113-300.1; 113-300.2; 113-307; 113-331; 113-333; 113-334(a); 113-337;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; August 1, 2010; July 1, 2010; May 1, 2008; August 1, 2002; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1995; January 1, 1995; January 1, 1992; August 1, 1990;  
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](http://www.ncwildlife.org);  
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2021; October 1, 2019; December 1, 2016; July 1, 2016; May 1, 2016;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 2024.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0107 BLACK BEAR**

It is unlawful to take or possess a female bear with a cub or cubs at its side, or to take or possess a cub bear, unless authorized by a valid captivity license, depredation permit, or scientific collection license issued by the Commission. For the purpose of this Rule, cub bear is defined as specified in G.S. 113-291.7(b).

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.7;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2016; June 1, 2005; July 1, 1985;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0108 CHASING DEER BY DOGS IN CLOSED SEASON**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.5;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. February 1, 1982.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0109 CHASING DEER BY DOGS IN CERTAIN COUNTIES**

(a) Allowing dogs to run or chase deer or to attempt to take deer with dogs at any time in and west of the following counties or parts of counties is prohibited:

- (1) Alamance County south of I-85;
- (2) Anson County west of NC 742;
- (3) Chatham;
- (4) Guilford;
- (5) Lee;
- (6) Montgomery;
- (7) Orange County south of I-85;
- (8) Randolph;

- (9) Rockingham;
- (10) Stanly;
- (11) Union; and
- (12) Wake south of NC 98.

(b) For counties and parts of counties east of those listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, local laws may restrict the taking of deer with dogs.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.5;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1999; July 1, 1991; August 1, 1980; August 1, 1978; August 1, 1977;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0110 ATTENDANCE OF TRAPS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.6;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002; July 1, 1988;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2021;  
Repealed Eff. August 1, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0111 RESTRICTIONS ON RACCOON AND OPOSSUM HUNTING**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 1981; August 1, 1979; August 1, 1978; August 1, 1977;  
Repealed Eff. August 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0112 BEAVER**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0113 BIG GAME HARVEST REPORTING**

(a) Definitions. The following definitions shall apply in this Rule:

- (1) "Authorization number" means the number or code issued by the Commission after big game harvest registration is completed, which shall serve as proof of registration and allow continued possession of the carcass.
- (2) "Big Game" means bear, wild turkey, and white-tailed deer, as defined in G.S. 113-129.
- (3) "Big Game Harvest Report Card" means the non-transferrable physical or electronic reporting card issued to an individual by the Commission as part of his or her big game license, where the hunter validates his or her big game harvest and records the authorization number.
- (4) "DMAP" means Deer Management Assistance Program as defined in G.S. 113-291.2(e).
- (5) "Field Dress" means the bleeding or removal of the digestive, respiratory, and circulatory organs.
- (6) "Validate" or "validation" means electronically recording a harvest on the mobile app, cutting or punching-out the day and month of the harvest on the Big Game Harvest Report Card or Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report Card, or affixing a Commission-issued DMAP tag to a harvested animal.
- (7) "Register" or "Registration" means the process by which the big game harvest is reported to the Commission and an authorization number is issued by the Commission.
- (8) "Remote Area" means an area where cellular phone signal, internet access, and the mobile app are unavailable.
- (9) "Site of kill" or "site of harvest" means the location that a person takes possession of harvested big game.
- (10) "Successful hunter" means a person that has lawfully taken and reduced to possession a big game animal.
- (11) "Mobile app" means a unique Commission application that may be downloaded to a mobile device allowing successful hunters to validate and register a big game harvest.

(b) An individual hunting big game animals, including license exempt individuals, shall have an electronic or paper version of the Big Game Harvest Report Card, Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report Card, or DMAP tag pursuant to G.S. 113-291.2 on his or her person while hunting.

(c) Validation. A successful hunter shall validate his or her Big Game Harvest Report Card or the Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report Card or affix a Commission-issued DMAP tag before moving a big game animal from the site of kill.

(d) Field Dressing. Harvested big game may be field dressed at the site of kill or before registration. Further processing that obscures the identification of the harvested animal's species, age, or sex shall be prohibited without a valid authorization number.

(e) Registration. Harvested big game shall be registered via the Commission's mobile app, online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org), by calling 1-800-446-8663, or as described in the DMAP license. Harvested big game shall be registered before the animal is:

- (1) skinned;
- (2) dismembered;
- (3) left unattended by the successful hunter; or
- (4) placed in the possession of another person.

Harvested big game animals that are not skinned, dismembered, left unattended by the successful hunter, or placed in the possession of another person shall be registered by 12:00 p.m. the day following the harvest.

(f) Registration in Remote Areas. Big game harvested in remote areas shall be registered by 12:00 p.m. the day after leaving the remote area. Big game harvested in remote areas may:

- (1) be placed in the possession of another, if the person in possession of the big game has the successful hunter's name and date of kill on his or her person; and
- (2) be skinned and dismembered before registration, if the carcass cannot be transported intact.

(g) Authorization number. Successful hunters using the paper Big Game Harvest Report Card or Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report shall record the authorization number in the space provided for the harvested big game animal. Successful hunters using a Commission-issued DMAP tag shall record and maintain the authorization number as described in the DMAP license.

(h) Unattended Harvests. Successful hunters that leave a harvested big game animal unattended or in the possession of another person shall identify the carcass by attaching the authorization number issued at the time of registration. Except as provided in Paragraph (f) of this Rule, a person that takes possession of a big game animal from a successful hunter shall retain the authorization number of that animal.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; July 1, 1989;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2017; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2010; June 1, 2009; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2004;  
July 1, 2000;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. September 1, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0114 DOG TRAINING AND FIELD TRIALS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276; 113-291.1; 113-291.5; 50 CFR 21.45;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2015; January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; May 1, 2006; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;  
July 1, 1991; May 1, 1990;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2023;  
Repealed Eff. August 1, 2024.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0115 SHINING LIGHTS IN DEER AREAS**

(a) Intentionally shining a light upon a deer or sweeping a light in search of deer between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and one-half hour before sunrise is prohibited in the following counties:

- (1) Beaufort;
- (2) Bladen;
- (3) Brunswick;

- (4) Camden;
- (5) Chowan;
- (6) Currituck;
- (7) Duplin;
- (8) Franklin;
- (9) Gates;
- (10) Greene;
- (11) Hertford;
- (12) Hyde;
- (13) Jones;
- (14) Lenoir;
- (15) Martin;
- (16) Nash;
- (17) Pamlico;
- (18) Pasquotank;
- (19) Pender;
- (20) Perquimans;
- (21) Pitt;
- (22) Sampson;
- (23) Tyrrell;
- (24) Vance;
- (25) Wake;
- (26) Warren;
- (27) Washington; and
- (28) Wayne.

(b) Intentionally shining a light upon a deer or sweeping a light in search of deer between the hours of one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise is prohibited in the following counties or portions thereof:

- (1) Alamance;
- (2) Alexander;
- (3) Alleghany;
- (4) Anson;
- (5) Ashe;
- (6) Avery; -- that portion south and east of Highway 221;
- (7) Buncombe;
- (8) Burke;
- (9) Cabarrus;
- (10) Caswell;
- (11) Catawba;
- (12) Chatham;
- (13) Cherokee;
- (14) Clay;
- (15) Cleveland;
- (16) Cumberland;
- (17) Davidson;
- (18) Davie;
- (19) Durham;
- (20) Edgecombe;
- (21) Forsyth;
- (22) Gaston;
- (23) Granville;
- (24) Guilford;
- (25) Halifax;
- (26) Harnett;
- (27) Henderson;
- (28) Hoke;

- (29) Iredell;
- (30) Johnston;
- (31) Lee;
- (32) Lincoln;
- (33) Macon;
- (34) McDowell;
- (35) Mecklenburg;
- (36) Mitchell;
- (37) Montgomery;
- (38) Northampton;
- (39) Orange;
- (40) Person;
- (41) Polk;
- (42) Randolph;
- (43) Robeson;
- (44) Rockingham;
- (45) Rowan;
- (46) Rutherford;
- (47) Stanly;
- (48) Stokes;
- (49) Surry;
- (50) Swain;
- (51) Transylvania;
- (52) Union;
- (53) Watauga; and
- (54) Yancey.

(c) Paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule shall not be construed to prevent:

- (1) the lawful hunting of raccoon or opossum during open season with artificial lights designed or commonly used in taking raccoon and opossum at night;
- (2) the necessary shining of lights by landholders on their own lands;
- (3) the shining of lights necessary to normal travel by motor vehicles on roads or highways; or
- (4) the use of lights by campers and others who are legitimately in areas specified in Paragraphs (a) and (b) for other reasons and who are not attempting to attract or to immobilize deer by the use of lights.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; S.L. 1981, c. 410; S.L. 1981 (Second Session 1982), c. 1180; Eff. November 11, 1979; Amended Eff. July 18, 2002; April 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; November 1, 1995; March 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0116 PERMITTED ARCHERY EQUIPMENT**

- (a) "Archery equipment" means any device that has a solid, stationary handle, two limbs, and a string, that uses non-pneumatic means to propel a single arrow or bolt and may be used to take game and nongame species.
- (b) When used for taking bear, deer, elk, wild turkey, alligator, and feral swine, longbows and recurved bows shall have a minimum pull of 40 pounds, compound bows having a minimum pull of 35 pounds, and crossbows shall have a minimum pull of 100 pounds.
- (c) Archery equipment utilizing an elastic string and having a minimum pull of 40 pounds may be used to take deer, wild turkey, small game animals, nongame animals, and nongame fish.
- (d) Only arrows and bolts with a fixed minimum broadhead width of seven-eighths of an inch or a mechanically opening broadhead with a width of at least seven-eighths of an inch in the open position shall be used for taking bear, deer, elk, wild turkey, alligator, and feral swine.
- (e) Blunt-type arrow heads may be used in taking small animals and birds including rabbits, squirrels, quail, grouse, and pheasants.
- (f) Poisonous, drugged, or explosive arrowheads shall not be used for taking any wildlife.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1(a);

*Eff. September 1, 1980;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2014; August 1, 2012; July 10, 2010; May 1, 2007; August 1, 2002; July 1, 2000;*  
*July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; August 1, 1990;*  
*Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2021.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0117 REPLACEMENT COSTS OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-267;*  
*Eff. October 1, 1980;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2002; December 1, 1993; October 1, 1989.*  
*Repealed Eff. October 1, 2022.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0118 SALE OF WILDLIFE**

- (a) The carcasses, parts, or pelts of bobcats, opossums, and raccoon that have been lawfully taken and tagged in accordance with 15A NCAC 10B .0402 may be sold. The sale of carcasses or pelts of bobcats, opossums, and raccoon killed accidentally or taken by hunting for control of depredations shall be permitted under the conditions set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0106 and 15A NCAC 10B .0127.
- (b) The sale of lawfully acquired game birds and game animals or their parts is prohibited, except that processed non-edible products may be sold except as otherwise provided in this Rule or by statute.
- (c) The dressed pelt or feathers of deer, elk, fox, pheasant, quail, rabbit, or fox and gray squirrel may be bought or sold for the purpose of making fishing flies provided that the source of these animals may be documented as being legally obtained from out of state sources or from lawfully operated commercial breeding facilities. The buying and selling of migratory game birds shall be in accordance with 50 CFR 20.91 which is incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document may be accessed at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov) at no cost.
- (d) The Executive Director or his designee may issue Trophy Wildlife Sale permits as authorized in G.S. 113-274 for the sale of lawfully taken and possessed individual dead wildlife specimens or their parts that are mounted, stuffed, or otherwise permanently preserved that may be sold under G.S. 113-291.3. A copy of the permit shall be retained with the specimen.
- (e) Raw hides from any lawfully-taken or possessed white-tailed deer may be sold.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274; 113-276.2; 113-291.3; 113-337; 50 CFR 20.91;*  
*Eff. November 9, 1980;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2014; August 1, 2002; April 1, 1991; February 1, 1990;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;*  
*Temporary Amendment Expired Eff. December 11, 2015;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2016;*  
*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.*

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

- (a) Wildlife Collection Licenses may be issued to qualified individuals 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 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 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 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 native reptile species or 24 individuals of any combination of amphibian species per 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 not be taken or collected except under an endangered species 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, 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 by sending an application to 1701 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606 or by completing and submitting an application online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). The application shall include:
- (1) name, address, date of birth, 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 proposal(s) and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee approval, if applicable.
- (h) Wildlife Collection Licenses shall be used in lieu of any other 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 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) Wildlife Collections License shall not be transferable either by license holder or by site of a facility.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 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.*

### **15A NCAC 10B .0120 TAKING OF WILDLIFE WITH HANDGUNS**

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, handguns of any type may be used to take game, fur-bearing, and nongame birds and animals as defined in G.S. 113-129 during the established open season for take with firearms or trapping for each species. Ammunition of any type may be used unless otherwise prohibited by state or federal law.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1;  
Eff. October 1, 1983;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2014; June 1, 2005.  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

### **15A NCAC 10B .0121 WILD BIRD EXCEPTIONS**

The following wild birds are excluded from the definition of "wild birds" contained in G.S. 113-129(15a):

- (1) English sparrow (*Passer domesticus*);
- (2) Eurasian collared dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*);
- (3) pigeon (*Columba livia*);
- (4) mute swan (*Cygnus olor*); and
- (5) starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*).

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134;  
Eff. December 1, 1987;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; May 1, 2006; October 1, 2004;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

### **15A NCAC 10B .0122 PROHIBITED HUNTING ON STATE FISH HATCHERIES**

Possessing a loaded firearm within a posted restricted zone or discharging a firearm into or across a restricted zone on any State-owned fish hatchery is prohibited.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264;  
Eff. September 1, 1989;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

### **15A NCAC 10B .0123 LIMITATIONS ON CERTAIN EXOTIC SPECIES**

(a) Except as provided in this Rule, it shall be unlawful to import, transport, export, purchase, possess, sell, transfer, or release into public or private waters or lands of the State, any live specimen of:

- (1) Tongueless or African Clawed Frog (*Xenopus* spp.);
- (2) Brown Anole (*Anolis sagrei*);
- (3) Cuban Treefrog (*Osteopilus septentrionalis*);
- (4) Asian Newts (genera *Cynops*, *Pachytriton*, *Paramesotriton*, *Laotriton*, *Tylotriton*);
- (5) Red-eared Slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*);
- (6) Argentine Black and White Tegu (*Salvator merianae* or *Tupinambis merianae*); or
- (7) Greenhouse Frog (*Eleutherodactylus planirostris*).

(b) The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission may by permit authorize importation, transportation, exportation, purchase, possession, sale, or transfer of any species in this Rule by the following entities, subject to the specified limitations:

- (1) Retail and Wholesale Establishments. Importation, possession, sale, transfer, transportation, and exportation of these species within North Carolina, by retail and wholesale establishments whose primary business is providing scientific supplies for research, shall be allowed by permit, provided the following conditions are met:
  - (A) the application for a permit shall be in writing and include plans for holding, transportation, advertisement, and sale to allow a determination of the safeguards employed to prevent accidental escape and sales to unauthorized individuals;
  - (B) in-State sale or transfer is allowed only to agencies, entities, and institutions listed in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph;
  - (C) exportation shall comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the importing state;
  - (D) all specimens shall be possessed in indoor facilities; and
  - (E) transportation of specimens shall employ safeguards that prevent accidental escape.

- (2) Government Agencies and Research Institutions. Purchase, importation, possession, transfer, transportation, and exportation of these species within North Carolina shall be allowed by permitted State and federal governmental agencies, corporate research entities, and research institutions, provided the following conditions are met:
- (A) the application for a permit shall be in writing and include plans for holding, transportation, final disposition, and safeguards to prevent accidental escape;
  - (B) exportation shall comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the importing state;
  - (C) all specimens shall be possessed in indoor facilities;
  - (D) transportation of specimens shall employ safeguards that prevent accidental escape; and
  - (E) the agency's, entity's, or institution's Animal Use and Care Committee has approved the research protocol for these species.

(c) Notwithstanding Paragraph (a) of this Rule, it shall be lawful for private individuals in possession of a live specimen of Red-eared Slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) prior to August 1, 2018, to retain, transport, transfer, or export the animal in their possession. Notwithstanding Paragraph (a) of this Rule, it shall be lawful for private individuals in possession of a live specimen Argentine Black and White Tegu (*Salvator merianae* and *Tupinambis merianae*) prior to August 1, 2022, to retain, transport, transfer, or export the animal in their possession.

(d) Notwithstanding Paragraph (a) of this Rule, facilities open to the public for education may apply for a permit to collect, receive, and possess any of the species listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274; 113-292;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1994;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; April 1, 1997;*  
*Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0124 IMPORTATION OF ANIMAL PARTS**

(a) It is unlawful to import, transport, or possess a cervid carcass or carcass part originating from outside of North Carolina except:

- (1) meat that has been boned out such that no pieces or fragments of bone remain;
- (2) caped hides with no part of the skull or spinal column attached;
- (3) antlers, antlers attached to cleaned skull plates, or skulls free from meat or brain tissue;
- (4) cleaned lower jawbones with teeth or cleaned teeth; or
- (5) finished taxidermy products and tanned hides.

(b) Any cervid carcass, carcass part, or container of cervid meat or carcass parts listed in Subparagraph (a)(1) through (4) of this Rule shall be labeled or identified with the following information:

- (1) the individual's name and address;
- (2) the state, Canadian province, or foreign country of origin; and
- (3) the date the cervid was killed and the individual's hunting license number, permit number, or equivalent identification from the state, Canadian province, or foreign country of origin.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-291.2;*  
*Eff. May 1, 2006;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0125 RELEASE OF MUTE SWANS**

(a) Individuals shall not release mute swans (*Cygnus olor*) into the public waters of North Carolina.

(b) Any individual who releases mute swan into privately controlled waters, possesses, or confines mute swans or any progeny of mute swans on their property, shall ensure that the animal has been pinioned.

(c) For the purposes of this Rule, "privately controlled waters" means:

- (1) a body of water lying wholly upon a single tract of privately owned land or a body of water lying entirely within private property, even if that property is comprised of multiple tracts owned by one or multiple individuals; and
- (2) waters to which the public does not have access without permission of one or more of the private landowners surrounding the water(s).

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-292(d);  
Eff. July 1, 2008;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0126 STATE HUNTING LICENSE EXEMPTIONS**

(a) Any governmental or non-profit entity conducting an organized hunting event may obtain from the Executive Director or his designee, subject to the requirements in Paragraph (b) of this Rule, an exemption which allows all participants in the event to hunt without first obtaining hunting licenses, but the participants must:

- (1) comply with the hunter safety requirements of G.S. 113-270.1A or be accompanied by a properly licensed adult who maintains a proximity to the license exempt individual which enables the adult to monitor the activities of, and communicate with, the individual at all times;
- (2) report all big game harvested as proscribed in Rule .0113 of this Section;
- (3) obtain a certificate of participation in federal Harvest Information Program, if hunting migratory game birds; and
- (4) obtain a federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, if the participant is 16 years of age or older and hunting waterfowl.

(b) The governmental or non-profit entity requesting a state hunting license exemption shall apply using a form provided by the Commission and submit that form to the Chief of the Division of Wildlife Management not less than 21 days prior to the organized hunting event. A statement of purpose for the event must be attached to the completed form. The Executive Director or his designee shall deny any request with a statement of purpose that is inconsistent with the mission of the Wildlife Resources Commission or is for a purpose other than to promote hunting to youth, individuals with disabilities, novice hunters, or lapsed hunters.

(c) The person in charge of the event must be on-site at all times and have a copy of the exemption available for inspection on request by Commission personnel. The exemption is limited to the immediate location of the event and shall remain in effect for the time period specified on the exemption.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.2; 113-276; 113-276.1;  
Eff. August 1, 2010;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0127 POSSESSION OF WILDLIFE KILLED ACCIDENTALLY OR FOUND DEAD**

(a) Deer killed accidentally on a road by reason of collision with a motor vehicle may be possessed and transported if authorization is obtained from the law enforcement officer who investigates the accident. Possession and transport of the deer carcass for personal and lawful use, including delivery of the carcass to a second person for his or her private use or use by a charitable organization shall be authorized.

(b) Commission employees may authorize possession and transport of deer and turkey killed accidentally or found dead.

(c) The following shall not be possessed or transported if killed accidentally or found dead unless written authorization is obtained from the Commission:

- (1) black bears; and
- (2) elk.

(d) Species listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern under 15A NCAC 10I .0103, .0104, and .0105 killed accidentally or found dead may be possessed or transported if an endangered species permit is obtained from the Commission.

(e) Raptors and migratory birds killed accidentally or found dead may be possessed and transported under federal permits obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

(f) Other wildlife resources may be possessed and transported legally if killed accidentally or found dead.

(g) The sale of wildlife resources or wildlife parts from an animal killed accidentally or found dead is prohibited, except that licensed trappers and hunters may sell the carcasses, parts, or pelt of any armadillo, beaver, coyote, groundhog, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, otter, raccoon, skunk, weasel, or bobcat to a licensed fur dealer if the dead furbearing animal was found during the open season for that species. Licensed trappers and hunters may also sell the carcasses, parts, or pelt of a fox to a licensed fur dealer if the dead fox was found during an open fox season and the county where the fox was found allows for the sale of fox carcasses, parts, and pelts. The tagging requirements set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0400 apply.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274; 113-291.3; 113-291.4; 113-331; 113-333; 113-337;  
Eff. January 1, 2013;

*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2023.*

## **SECTION .0200 - HUNTING**

### **15A NCAC 10B .0201 PROHIBITED TAKING AND MANNER OF TAKE**

(a) No person shall take, or have in their possession, any wild animal or wild bird listed in this Section except during the open seasons and in accordance with the limits herein prescribed, or as prescribed by 15A NCAC 10B .0300 pertaining to trapping or 15A NCAC 10D applicable to game lands managed by the Wildlife Resources Commission, unless otherwise permitted by law.

(b) Lawful seasons and bag limits for each species apply beginning with the first day of the established season and continue through the last day of the listed season, with all dates being included.

(c) When any hunting season ends on a January 1 that falls on a Sunday, that season shall be extended to Monday, January 2.

(d) On Sundays, the following manners of take shall be allowed subject to the restrictions in G.S. 103-2:

- (1) archery equipment as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0116;
- (2) falconry; and
- (3) dogs where and when allowed the other days of the week.

(e) Migratory game birds shall not be taken on Sundays.

(f) Sunday hunting restrictions in Paragraph (d) of this Rule shall not apply to military reservations.

(g) Those animals not classified as game animals in G.S. 113-129(7c), and for which a season is set under this Section, may be taken during the hours and methods authorized for taking game animals.

(h) No person shall possess or use any substance or material that contains or is labeled as containing any excretion collected from a cervid, including feces, urine, blood, gland oil, or other bodily fluid for the purposes of taking or attempting to take, attracting, or scouting wildlife. This prohibition shall not apply to the following substances:

- (1) Products containing synthetic analogs of cervid excretions and labeled as such.
- (2) Products consisting of or containing natural substances collected by a hunter from a legally harvested cervid in North Carolina.
- (3) Natural substances collected from facilities within North Carolina that have a valid Farmed Cervid License from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and are labeled as such.
- (4) Natural deer urine products containing excretions from facilities within North Carolina that have a valid Farmed Cervid License from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and are labeled as such.
- (5) Natural deer urine products containing excretions from facilities that meet all the following requirements and are labeled as such:
  - (A) Determined to be free of chronic wasting disease (CWD) based on testing by an independent laboratory using a method that may help detect the presence of CWD prions.
  - (B) Complies with a federally approved CWD herd certification program and any federal CWD protocols.
  - (C) Participates in additional herd management requirements as specified by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(i) Where laws with local effect govern hunting, or conflict with this Subchapter, that law shall prevail.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 103-2; 113-291.1(a); 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.3; S.L. 2021-176;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2016; August 1, 2012; July 10, 2010; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1987*  
*Readopted Eff. June 17, 2024.*

### **15A NCAC 10B .0202 BEAR**

(a) Open Seasons for hunting bear shall be from the:

- (1) Saturday on or immediately prior to October 9 through the Saturday before Thanksgiving and the third Saturday after Thanksgiving through January 1 in and west of Surry, Wilkes, Caldwell, Burke, and Cleveland counties;
- (2) second Monday in November through January 1 in Bladen, Brunswick, Carteret, Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Robeson, and Sampson counties;

- (3) second Saturday in November through the second Sunday thereafter and the third Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Beaufort, Bertie, Craven, Hertford, Jones, Martin, and Washington counties;
- (4) second Saturday in November through the third Sunday thereafter and the third Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Dare, Hyde, and Tyrrell counties;
- (5) second Saturday in November through the second Sunday thereafter and the third Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Currituck, Gates, and Perquimans counties;
- (6) second Sunday in November through the following Sunday, when November 1 falls on a Sunday the season shall be from the third Sunday in November through the following Sunday, and the third Saturday after Thanksgiving through the fifth Sunday after Thanksgiving in Camden, Chowan, and Pasquotank counties;
- (7) third Saturday in November through the fifth Sunday thereafter in Edgecombe, Greene, Halifax, Lenoir, Nash, Northampton, Pitt, Wayne, and Wilson counties; and
- (8) concurrent with the open season for All Lawful Weapons for hunting deer as specified in 15A NCAC 10B .0203(a)(1) in Alamance, Alexander, Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Catawba, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Durham, Franklin, Forsyth, Gaston, Granville, Guilford, Harnett, Hoke, Iredell, Johnston, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Moore, Orange, Person, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, and Yadkin counties.

(b) Restrictions

- (1) For purposes of this Paragraph, "bait" means a natural, unprocessed food product that is a grain, fruit, nut, vegetable, or other material harvested from a plant crop that is not modified from its raw components.
- (2) Bears shall not be taken with the use or aid of:
  - (A) processed food product as defined in G.S. 113-294(r), an animal, animal part or product, salt, salt lick, honey, sugar, sugar-based material, syrups, candy, pastry, gum, candy block, oils, spices, peanut butter, or grease;
  - (B) extracts of substances identified in Part (A) of this Subparagraph;
  - (C) substances modified by substances identified in Part (A) of this Subparagraph, including extracts of those substances; or
  - (D) bear bait attractant, including sprays, aerosols, scent balls, and scent powders.
- (3) Bears may be taken with the aid of bait during the open season in the counties identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (4) Bears shall not be taken while in the act of consuming bait as specified in G.S. 113-291.1(b)(2).
- (5) Hunters shall not take bears using dogs in the following counties: Alamance south of Interstate 85, Anson west of N.C. Highway 742, Cabarrus, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange south of Interstate 85, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Union, and Wake south of N.C. Highway 98. In other counties and parts of counties, hunters may take bears using dogs and may release dogs in the vicinity of bait.

(c) No Open Season. It shall be unlawful to take bear on posted designated bear management areas except when authorized by permit issued by the Commission. See 15A NCAC 10D .0106 for posted designated bear management areas.

(d) The daily bag limit for bear is one, the possession limit is one, and the season limit is one.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.7; 113-305; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; April 14, 1992; Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999; Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; Amendment Eff. August 1, 2002; Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2003; Temporary Amendment Expired Eff. December 27, 2003; Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; Temporary Amendment Eff. May 31, 2016; Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018; Amended Eff. August 1, 2019;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2020;*  
*Amended Eff. June 1, 2021;*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022;*  
*Amended Eff. March 24, 2025.*

**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 protruding through the skin, as distinguished from knobs or buttons covered by skin or velvet, 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 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) 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 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 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) 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) 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 counties and in 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 (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
  - (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) of this Rule.

(c) Open Blackpowder Firearms Seasons for hunting deer:

- (1) Authorization. Subject to the restrictions set out in Subparagraph (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
  - (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), (E), (F), or (G) 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 (3) of this Paragraph and the bag limits set out in Paragraph (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 his designee at 1722 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1700. Cities shall also submit a map of the city's boundaries within which the Urban Season shall apply.

(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 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.

*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. June 1, 2025; August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0204 WILD BOAR (BOTH SEXES)**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291.2;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2009; May 1, 2007; July 1, 1999; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1993; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986;

*Repealed Eff. February 1, 2012.*

**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) The daily bag limit for raccoon is three and there are no season and no possession limits.
  - (2) There is no restriction on bag limits for opossum.
- (c) Axes or saws shall not be carried when raccoon or opossum hunting.

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

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

- (a) The open season for gray and red squirrels is the Monday on or closest to October 15 through the last day of February.
- (b) The open season for fox squirrels is the Monday on or nearest October 15 through January 31.
- (c) Except on game lands, gray squirrels may also be taken by hunting on the second Monday in May through the fourth Monday in May.
- (d) The daily bag limit for gray and red squirrels is eight in aggregate and there are no season or possession limits.
- (e) 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, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0207 RABBITS**

- (a) Rabbit Open Season: The open season for taking rabbits shall be from the Monday on or nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- (b) Rabbit Bag Limits: The daily bag limit for rabbits is five and there are no season and no possession limits.
- (c) Rabbit Box-traps: During the hunting season specified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule and subject to the bag limits set forth in Paragraph (b) of this Rule, rabbits may be taken with box-traps. A valid hunting license shall serve as a transportation permit for live rabbits taken pursuant to this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985; July 1, 1984;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; May 1, 2008; April 1, 1999;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0208 QUAIL**

- (a) The open season for quail is the Saturday before Thanksgiving through the last day of February.
- (b) The daily bag limit is six, the possession limit is 12, and there is no season limit.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1996; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985; July 1, 1984;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*

*Amended Eff. July 18, 2002;*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0209 WILD TURKEY**

- (a) The open season for wild turkey is from the Saturday on or after April 11 through the fourth Saturday thereafter, on bearded or male turkeys only.
- (b) The daily bag limit is one, the possession limit is two, and the season limit is two.
- (c) The following shall apply to Spring Youth Only Wild Turkey Season:
  - (1) the open season is the Saturday and Sunday prior to April 11, on bearded or male wild turkeys only;
  - (2) the season limit is one; and
  - (3) youth are individuals under 16 years of age.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3; 113-276.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.5;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; July 1, 1992;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;*  
*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. February 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; January 1, 2013; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2007; November 1, 2005;*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2025.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0210 RUFFED GROUSE**

- (a) The open season for taking ruffed grouse is the Monday on or nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- (b) The daily bag limit is three, the possession limit is six, and the season limit is 30.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985; July 1, 1984;*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0211 RING-NECKED PHEASANT**

- (a) On the barrier islands of Carteret, Dare, and Hyde counties east of Core Sound and Pamlico Sound, the open season for taking ring-necked pheasant is the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the last day of February on male pheasant only.
- (b) In areas of the state not specified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, the open season for taking male and female ring-necked pheasant is the earlier of the first Saturday in September or Labor Day, through the last day of February.
- (c) In the areas of the state specified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, the daily bag limit for ring-necked pheasants is three, the possession limit is six, and the season limit is 30.
- (d) In areas of the state not specified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, there is no daily bag limit, no season limit, and no possession limit.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985; July 1, 1984;*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1 2022;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

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

- (a) Foxes may be taken with weapons or traps the first through fourth Saturday in January in the following counties:

- (1) Caswell;
- (2) Clay;
- (3) Graham;
- (4) Henderson;
- (5) Macon; and
- (6) Tyrell.

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

(c) Foxes may be taken the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through January 1 using archery equipment in all areas of the State east of Interstate Highway 77 and in Mitchell County.

(d) For areas of open season detailed in Paragraphs (a) through (c) of this Rule, the daily limit is two; and the season limit is 10.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.4; 113-291.4A;*  
*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.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0213 GROUNDHOG**

(a) There is no closed season for groundhogs.

(b) There is no bag limit.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0214 BOBCAT**

(a) The open season for hunting bobcat is the Monday on or nearest October 15 through the last day in February.

(b) There is no bag limit.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1986; July 1, 1985;*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0215 CROWS**

(a) Open seasons for hunting crows are as follows: Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday of each week from the first Wednesday in June through the last day of February and on the following holidays: July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, and Martin Luther King, Jr., except when those days occur on a Sunday.

(b) There is no bag limit.

(c) Hunters may use electronic calls to take crows.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 50 C.F.R. 20.133;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2009; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; July 1, 1991; July 1, 1987; July 1, 1984; July 1, 1983;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 2011;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2017; January 1, 2012;*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0216 FALCONRY**

- (a) The open seasons for the practice of falconry coincide with the regular open seasons for squirrel, rabbit, quail, ruffed grouse and pheasant, and with the open seasons set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations for migratory game birds in this State.
- (b) The daily bag, possession, and season limits in this Section for squirrel, rabbit, quail, ruffed grouse and pheasant and the daily bag, field possession, and total possession limits set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations for migratory game birds shall apply to falconry.
- (c) An extended falconry season on rabbits is the Monday on or nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- (d) The daily bag limit for the extended season on rabbits is three, and the possession limit is six.
- (e) When any raptor being used in falconry kills any species of wildlife for which there is no open season or a species of game on which the season is then closed, the licensed falconer or person using the raptor shall not take the dead wildlife into his or her possession, but shall leave the game where it lies, except that the raptor may be allowed to feed on the dead wildlife before leaving the site of the kill. If the species killed is a species of game on which there is a season limit, the kill shall be included as part of the season limit of the licensed falconer.
- (d) After a falconer has acquired the daily bag, possession or season limit of any lawful species, regardless of the manner of taking, the falconer shall not release any raptor.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.28; 50 C.F.R. 21.29;  
 Eff. September 1, 1979;  
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2012; May 1, 2008; July 1, 1998;  
 Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0217 PISTOL SEASONS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1(g); 50 C.F.R. 20.133;  
 Eff. August 1, 1980;  
 Repealed Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0218 LOCAL TURKEY SEASON CLOSED**

*History Note:* Temporary Adoption Eff. April 2, 1982;  
 Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 150B-13;  
 Repealed Eff. September 1, 1982.

#### **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) Coyotes may be taken on private lands anytime during the day or night.
  - (3) Coyotes may be taken on public lands without a permit from the hours of one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.
  - (4) Coyotes may be taken on public lands with a permit from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise.
  - (5) Hunters may use electronic calls and artificial lights to take coyotes.
- (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 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 by phone at 919-707-0040 or online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

- (6) There is no closed season for taking coyotes on private lands. Coyotes may be taken on private lands 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 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](http://www.ncwildlife.org);  
Amended Eff. July 26, 2013;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2016;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10B .0220 NUTRIA**

- (a) There is no closed season for taking nutria by hunting.
- (b) There is no bag limit.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2; 113-291.1(a);  
Eff. July 1, 1996;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10B .0221 STRIPED SKUNK**

- (a) There is no closed season for taking striped skunk by hunting.
- (b) There is no bag limit.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;  
Eff. May 1, 2006;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10B .0222 ARMADILLO**

- (a) There is no closed season for taking armadillo by hunting.
- (b) There is no bag limit.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;  
Eff. August 1, 2010;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

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

- (a) There is no closed season for taking feral swine on private lands anytime during the day or night.
- (b) Feral swine may be taken on game lands 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 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 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 online at [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org), 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 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 artificial lights and electronic calls.

*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, 2024.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0224 AMERICAN ALLIGATOR**

- (a) The season for taking American alligators shall be September 1 to October 1.
- (b) Take shall be by permit only.
- (c) The bag limit shall be one per permit and the season limit is one.
- (d) American alligators shall only be restrained using one of the following methods in accordance with the provisions of the permit:
  - (1) a hand-held restraining line or catch pole;
  - (2) a snatch hook attached to a hand-held restraining line or rod and reel;
  - (3) a harpoon or gig attached to a hand-held restraining line;
  - (4) a baited wooden peg less than two inches in length attached to a hand-held restraining line; or
  - (5) archery equipment with an arrow-attached restraining line.
- (e) If a minimum size limit is applicable to the county or municipality for which the permit is issued, the authorized size limit and method(s) of restraint shall be specified on the permit.
- (f) American alligators restrained by any method specified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule shall be killed without delay upon capture except when a minimum size limit is specified on the permit. When a minimum size limit is specified on the permit, animals not meeting the minimum size limit shall be released immediately at the site of capture.
- (g) American alligators may be taken day or night and with the use of artificial lights.
- (h) The use of baited hooks is prohibited.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;  
Eff. August 1, 2018;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2020.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0225 ELK**

- (a) The season for taking elk is October 1 through November 1.
- (b) Hunting shall be by permit only.
- (c) The bag limit is one per permit.
- (d) Elk may be taken by any legal weapon as specified in G.S. 113-291.1.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;  
Eff. August 1, 2016;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0226 BULLFROGS**

- (a) The open seasons for taking of bullfrog, *Rana catesbeiana*, shall be as follows:
  - (1) Except as provided in Subparagraph (a)(2) of this Rule, there shall be no closed season for taking bullfrogs.
  - (2) On Wildlife Resources Commission Property, as defined in G.S. 113-129, bullfrogs may be taken from April 1 to August 31 with a valid license that entitles the licensee to access and use Wildlife Resources Commission Property.
- (b) Bag Limit: It shall be unlawful to take more than 24 bullfrogs in a 24-hour period that runs from 12 noon to 12 noon.
- (c) Artificial lights may be used to take bullfrogs.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1;  
Eff. August 1, 2020.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0227 WILD QUAIL MANAGEMENT AREAS**

- (a) A "Wild Quail Management Area" shall be land maintained to enhance enjoyment of sportsmen and support wild bobwhite quail conservation under signed agreement between the landowners and the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- (b) The following qualifications shall apply to all Wild Quail Management Areas:
- (1) At least 500 acres of contiguous land; and
  - (2) A minimum of 225 acres or 15 percent of the land, whichever is greater, shall be maintained in year-round bobwhite quail habitat.
- (c) Wild bobwhite quail habitat shall be early successional habitat dominated by herbaceous vegetation or shrub cover consisting of a mixture of young saplings, shrubs, forbs, and woody plants typically less than ten feet tall with scattered open patches of grasses, wildflowers, and vines. Forest stands shall have a basal area no greater than 60 square feet per acre. Land managed and maintained primarily for human uses including but not limited to large lawns, golf courses, sod-forming pastures, production agriculture fields, monoculture hayfields, solar energy, or production timber stands shall not qualify as early successional habitat.
- (d) Landowners interested in establishing a Wild Quail Management Area shall contact the Commission as described on the Commission's website at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).
- (e) The Commission and landowners shall sign an agreement that contains:
- (1) a list of the owners of land included in the Wild Quail Management Area;
  - (2) county parcel identification information for each parcel to be included in the Wild Quail Management Area;
  - (3) a scaled map of the Wild Quail Management Area with the areas to be maintained in year-round bobwhite quail habitat identified;
  - (4) management practices to be used to maintain bobwhite quail habitat and populations; and
  - (5) reporting requirements specific to the individual Wild Quail Management Areas, if applicable.
- (f) Property inspection:
- (1) a representative of the Commission shall inspect the potential properties prior to acceptance into the program to determine that the proposed land and habitat will qualify to become a Wild Quail Management Area; and
  - (2) a representative of the Commission shall inspect Wild Quail Management Areas at least once every five years to determine that the requirements of the signed agreement and this rule are being met.
- (g) The following shall apply to Wild Quail Management Areas:
- (1) No domestically raised upland game birds shall be released on Wild Quail Management Areas.
  - (2) The hunting of wild bobwhite quail shall only be permitted during the established seasons in 15A NCAC 10B .0208.
  - (3) Supplemental feeding, if conducted, shall be for the primary purpose of ensuring that wild bobwhite quail populations remain stable during droughts or other periods of stressful environmental conditions. Supplemental feed shall:
    - (A) be broadcast into quail habitat along a minimum linear distance of one mile per 100 acres of habitat at a rate of three bushels per mile;
    - (B) be broadcast on a bi-weekly schedule during a minimum of five months per year;
    - (C) be broadcast using a non-stationary spreader;
    - (D) be only natural grains or seed; and
    - (E) not be placed to attract birds to hunt.
  - (4) Except for wild bobwhite quail on Wild Quail Management Areas, no wild birds shall be taken near or with the aid of supplemental feed.
  - (5) Outside of the trapping season established in 15A NCAC 10B .0303, trapping for raccoon, striped skunk, armadillo, and opossum on Wild Quail Management Areas for nest predator control shall only be allowed using enclosed foot-hold traps with a one-way trigger or cage traps. Trapped raccoons, striped skunks, armadillos, and opossums may be euthanized or released at the trap site.
  - (6) An annual report for the period of June 1 through May 31 shall be submitted to the Commission within 30 days of the end of the reporting period, and shall include the following:
    - (A) number of days and hours wild bobwhite quail were hunted;

- (B) total annual harvest of wild bobwhite quail;
- (C) total number of coveys flushed;
- (D) supplemental feeding activities;
- (E) number of trap nights, number of animals trapped and their disposition or release, by species, for trapping activity conducted during trapping seasons established by 15A NCAC 10B .0303; and
- (F) number of trap nights, number of animals trapped and their disposition or release, by species, for trapping activity conducted outside of trapping seasons established by 15A NCAC 10B .0303.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113- 291.1;  
Eff. August 1, 2021;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2023.*

## **SECTION .0300 - TRAPPING**

### **15A NCAC 10B .0301 DEFINITIONS**

As used in this Section, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Box trap", "corral trap", and "cage trap" are devices designed so that the animal enters the trap through a door that closes and is meant to prevent the animal from exiting.
- (2) "Breakaway device" means a device incorporated into a snare or snare component that allows the loop to break open, and an animal to escape completely free of the snare, when a specified amount of force is applied.
- (3) "Collarum™-type trap" means a power-activated snare that is activated when the trigger is pulled and is designed to capture and restrain the animal by a cable around the neck.
- (4) "Conibear®", "Conibear®-type", and "bodygrip" traps are designed to catch an animal in a body hold resulting in a quick kill.
- (5) "Leghold" and "foothold" mean a trap designed to hold an animal by the foot.
- (6) "Loop stop" means a device that is attached to the snare cable to prevent the loop from closing beyond a specified point.
- (7) "Power-activated" means a snare on which the speed or direction of the loop closure is initiated or augmented by a powering device like a spring.
- (8) "Relaxing lock" means a snare lock that allows the snare loop to release constriction pressure on the captured animal when the cable is not taut.
- (9) "Snare" means a cable restraining device.
- (10) "Steel-jaw" means a leghold or foothold trap in which the jaws are made of metal.
- (11) "Submersion trapping systems" are traps, other than snares and Conibear®-type traps, that are set in a manner that allow or cause the captured animal to become irreversibly submerged in water.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.6;  
Eff. January 1, 2011;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022;  
Amended Eff. March 1, 2025; August 1, 2023.*

### **15A NCAC 10B .0302 PROHIBITED TAKING**

No person shall trap, take, or possess any armadillo, beaver, coyote, groundhog, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, otter, raccoon, skunk, weasel or bobcat, except:

- (1) during the open trapping seasons for that species and in accordance with the bag limits set forth in Rule .0303 of this Section; or
- (2) during the open hunting seasons for that species and within the bag limits prescribed for the species in Section .0200 of this Subchapter.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 1977;  
Recodified from Rule 10B .0301 Eff. January 1, 2011;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.*

### **15A NCAC 10B .0303 OPEN SEASONS**

(a) The open season for the taking by trapping of fur-bearing animals as those animals are defined in G.S. 113-129(7a), as well as the taking by trapping of coyotes, armadillos, and groundhogs, shall be October 1 through the last day of February, subject to the following:

- (1) trapping coyotes shall also be allowed during local fox trapping seasons and in accordance with methods described by local law in counties that have established fox trapping seasons by law outside the regular trapping season described in Paragraph (a); and
  - (2) there is no closed trapping season for nutria east of I-77.
- (b) Feral Swine. There is no closed season for trapping feral swine, subject to the following restrictions:
- (1) in addition to a hunting or trapping license, a permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission is required to trap feral swine. Individuals exempted from license requirements under the provisions of G.S. 113-276 may trap feral swine without a hunting or trapping license, but must also acquire the permit. Individuals may obtain a permit free of charge online at [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org) by indicating the county where trapping will occur.
  - (2) feral swine may be live-trapped using only corral or box traps. Corral and box traps must be constructed so that a non-target animal may be released or can escape without harm. The permit number must be displayed on the traps; and
  - (3) feral swine shall be euthanized while in the trap and may not be removed from the trap alive.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.12;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1996; July 1, 1984; July 1, 1983; August 1, 1982; August 1, 1981;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; November 1, 2008; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006;*  
*June 1, 2005; August 1, 2004;*  
*Recodified from Rule 10B .0302 Eff. January 1, 2011;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. December 29, 2011;*  
*Amended Eff. November 1, 2012;*  
*Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2023.*

### **15A NCAC 10B .0304 BAG LIMITS**

There are no bag limits on fur-bearing animals as defined in G.S. 113-129(7a), armadillos, coyotes, groundhogs, and feral swine, except where local laws govern trapping, or conflict with this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.2;*  
*Eff. August 1, 1977;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; June 1, 2005; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1984;*  
*Recodified from Rule 10B .0303 Eff. January 1, 2011;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. December 29, 2011;*  
*Amended Eff. November 1, 2012;*  
*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.*

### **15A NCAC 10B .0305 TRAPS**

(a) A foothold, steel-jaw, or leghold trap set on dry land with a solid anchor shall not have a chain longer than eight inches unless the chain is fitted with a shock-absorbing device with at least 40 pounds and no more than 75 pounds of pressure to stretch or compress the device.

(b) A Collarum™-type trap shall:

- (1) have a cable that is 3/16 inch in diameter, a loop stop with a minimum loop diameter of three inches, a relaxing lock, and a breakaway device that has been tested to break or disassemble at no more than 285 pounds of pull;
- (2) have a set capture loop no less than 10 inches and no greater than 12 inches in diameter;

- (3) be equipped with at least one swivel device between the loop and the anchor;
- (4) be staked in a manner that does not allow the animal or the restraint device to reach any part of a fence or reach rooted, woody vegetation greater than one-half inch in diameter;
- (5) not be set using a drag; and
- (6) not be used with a kill pole.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.6;  
Eff. May 1, 2007;  
Recodified from Rule 10B .0304 Eff. January 1, 2011;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2011;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.*

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0306 ATTENDANCE AND TAGGING OF TRAPS**

- (a) Traps shall be visited daily and animals caught shall be removed, except for completely submerged Conibear®-type, Conibear®, bodygrip traps, and submersion trapping systems, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0301, which shall be visited once per 72 hours and animals caught shall be removed.
- (b) Steel-jaw, leghold, Conibear®, Conibear®-type traps, Collarum™-type traps, snares, box traps, and cage traps must have a weather-resistant permanent tag attached, legibly giving the trapper's name and address, or the trapper's trapper identification number provided by the Wildlife Resources Commission, and the Wildlife Resources Commission's telephone number to report wildlife violations. Box traps for rabbits shall have a weather-resistant permanent tag attached legibly giving the hunter's name and address, or the hunter's Wildlife Resources Commission customer number, and the Wildlife Resources Commission's telephone number to report wildlife violations.
- (c) Remote trap checking systems may be used in lieu of visiting the trap, provided the system has the following features:
  - (1) a control unit that monitors the trap in real-time and reports trap status and unit status to a centralized application database a minimum of once every two hours;
  - (2) a software application that notifies the user of unit status, trap activity, and system health issues within 10 minutes of these events via email, text-based messaging systems, or an in-application notification; and
  - (3) an on-demand test procedure that is used at deployment of a unit to confirm that the unit is placed in a location where its wireless communication can be received and processed.
- (d) If the remote trap checking system control unit reports a trap closure, the trap shall be physically visited within 24 hours of the time the trap was reported closed.
- (e) If a remote trap checking system control unit fails to report its status after a 12-hour period, or reports a system health issue, the trap shall be physically visited within 24 hours of the last time a status report was sent.
- (f) Remote trap checking system users shall maintain records of trap status and notification alarms for a minimum of seven days after receipt. Records shall be made available for inspection upon request by a representative of the Commission.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1; 113-291.2;  
Eff. August 1, 2023;  
Amended Eff. March 1, 2025.*

### **SECTION .0400 - TAGGING FURS**

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0401 DEFINITIONS**

As used in this Section, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) "Affix", when used in reference to attachment of a fur tag to the carcass or pelt of an animal, means permanent attachment of the tag through some portion of the carcass or pelt in a manner that is not removable without damage to the tag.
- (2) "Carcass" means the dead body of an animal from which the pelt has not been removed;
- (3) "Fur dealer" means any person who is licensed under the provisions of G.S. 113-273(f).
- (4) "Pelt" means the fur, hide, or skin of an animal which has been removed from the carcass, but does not include a finished product which has been manufactured from such fur, hide, or skin or is in the active process of such manufacture.
- (5) "Person" means any individual, firm, corporation, or association which is authorized by law to act as an entity.

- (6) "Parts" means any part or portion from the dead body of an animal, including the meat, glands, urine, skull, and dead body of the animal without the pelt.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-273; 113-291.4;  
Eff. November 14, 1978;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 1992; August 1, 1981; October 1, 1980;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0402 TAGGING FURS**

- (a) Except as provided in Rule .0404 and .0405 of this Section, buying, selling, bartering, trading, or otherwise transferring possession or ownership of the carcass or pelt of any bobcat, otter, or fox without having affixed to such carcass or pelt an individual tag provided by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is prohibited.
- (b) Importing into this State the carcass or pelt of any otter or bobcat that has not been previously affixed with a tag required and supplied by the state where the animal was taken shall be prohibited.
- (c) Foxes shall be tagged in accordance with G.S. 113-291.4.
- (d) The carcasses or pelts of foxes lawfully taken and lawfully tagged may be sold, except those taken under a depredation permit in any county where the sale of foxes or parts thereof is prohibited by local law.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276.1; 50 C.F.R. 23;  
Eff. November 14, 1978;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; August 1, 2004; January 1, 1992; October 11, 1980; October 1, 1980;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0403 APPLICATION FOR TAGS**

- (a) Fur tags shall be issued free of charge, excluding postage if applicable, by applying in person at 1751 Varsity Dr., Raleigh, NC 27606, over the phone, or by completing and submitting a request form to the Commission online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).
- (b) Fur tag requests shall include the following applicant information:
- (1) name;
  - (2) date of birth;
  - (3) physical address;
  - (4) type and quantity of tags requested; and
  - (5) telephone number, email address, and WRC Customer number, as applicable.
- (c) The following restrictions shall apply to fur tags:
- (1) no more than 50 bobcat tags shall be issued per request;
  - (2) no more than 150 otter tags shall be issued per request; and
  - (3) fox tags may be limited in accordance with area, bag, possession, or season limits.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276.1; 113-291.4;  
Eff. November 14, 1978;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2003; January 1, 1992; August 1, 1988; July 1, 1988; July 1, 1984;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0404 TAGGING**

- (a) Every fox taken in an area of open season as provided by G.S. 113-291.4 shall be tagged at the scene of taking.
- (b) Every person taking any bobcat or otter in this State, or any foxes under a depredation permit, general statute, rule, or local law that permits taking, shall obtain and affix the appropriate tag to the carcass or pelt before selling, transferring, or transporting within or outside the State, except that:
- (1) A person may transport the same from the place of taking to his North Carolina residence and from his North Carolina residence to a fur tag agent or taxidermist's place of business.
  - (2) A person may transport the same from the place of taking to the nearest place in this State where the appropriate tag may be obtained.
  - (3) The carcass, pelt, or mounted specimen is exempt from tagging requirements while in the taxidermist's place of business or after the mount is completed.

- (4) A licensed trapper may take live foxes during any legal trapping season, except foxes taken under G.S. 113-291.4(f) and (f1), without tagging them and sell them to a licensed controlled hunting preserve for fox in accordance with G.S. 113-273(g).
- (5) A licensed taxidermist may ship the same to a tannery for processing.
- (c) Carcasses and pelts of bobcats, otters, and foxes taken within this State shall not be removed from the state without an appropriate fur tag affixed thereto, except a licensed taxidermist may ship the same to a tannery for processing. When the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service repeals its tagging requirements for otter and bobcat this Paragraph shall apply only to tagging foxes.
- (d) Where the taking of foxes with weapons or traps and the sale thereof is authorized by local legislation, except foxes taken by licensed trappers who live-trap for sale during any open season, the hunter or trapper taking the fox shall, in the absence of a specific provision to the contrary, obtain and affix the carcass or pelt with an appropriate tag before selling or transferring to any other person, or transporting the same for any purpose than as authorized by Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-276.1; 113-291.4; S.L. 1985, chs. 108, 179, 180, 664 and 722; Eff. November 14, 1978; Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; August 1, 2010; July 10, 2010; May 1, 2008; July 1, 1994; January 1, 1992; December 1, 1985; October 1, 1980; Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0405 FUR DEALERS**

- (a) Any individual wanting to engage in the business of buying or selling fur-bearing animals or other wild animals that may lawfully be sold, as specified in G.S. 113-273(f), shall first obtain a fur dealer license from the Commission.
- (b) Application for a fur dealer license shall be made online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) or at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606. Information required from the applicant shall include:
  - (1) the applicant's name, address, telephone number, date of birth; and
  - (2) a list of all employees to be covered under the license.
- (c) The fur dealer license shall not be transferable.
- (d) Any individual working on behalf of the licensed fur dealer shall have a copy of the fur dealer's current license.
- (e) It is unlawful for a fur dealer, or person acting on his or her behalf, to import, buy, or accept delivery of a carcass or pelt of a fur-bearing animal, or other wild animal, from a source located in any other state that has not been affixed with a tag in accordance with the tagging requirements of the state from which the animal was taken, unless documentation of the date and hour of the arrival of such carcass or pelt at the fur dealer's place of business is available for inspection.
- (f) Imported carcasses and pelts shall not be resold or removed from a fur dealer's place of business without having been tagged as required by Paragraph (e) of this Rule.
- (g) Except as provided by Paragraph (e) of this Rule, it is unlawful for any licensed fur dealer to have in his or her possession the carcass or pelt of any bobcat, otter, or fox which has not been affixed with a fur tag provided by the Commission, unless the fox was taken from a county exempt from fox tagging requirements.
- (h) Licensed fur dealers shall maintain records of all acquisitions of carcasses and pelts of beaver, bobcat, coyote, groundhog, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, otter, raccoon, striped skunk, spotted skunk, weasel, and foxes, on forms supplied by the Commission, for one year following expiration of the license. Records shall contain the following information:
  - (1) fur dealer license number;
  - (2) date of purchase;
  - (3) county of harvest in North Carolina, or state of origin if not in North Carolina;
  - (4) seller's name and address;
  - (5) manner of harvest and applicable license number; and
  - (6) species, quantity, fur grade, unit price and total price for each fur purchased.
- (i) Records from all acquisitions of carcasses and pelts, except those which have been acquired from and reported by other fur dealers licensed by the State, shall be submitted to the Commission at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576 within 15 days following the date of license expiration. In the case of nonresident fur dealers licensed to do business in this State, the records and reports required by this Paragraph apply only to carcasses or pelts of animals acquired from within this State, and no reports are required from nonresident fur dealers who acquire pelts only from other fur dealers licensed in the State.
- (j) The records required by Paragraph (h) of this Rule and the inventory of carcasses and pelts on hand shall be made available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request or during the fur dealer's business hours.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-273; 113-291.2; 113-291.3; 113-291.4; 50 C.F.R. 23; 87 Stat. 884;

*Eff. November 14, 1978;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; January 1, 1992; December 1, 1981; August 1, 1981; February 2, 1981;*  
*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;*  
*Amended Eff. March 1, 2025.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0406 MISUSE OF TAGS**

- (a) Fur tags shall only be affixed to the carcass or pelt of the species of animal for which their use is authorized.
- (b) It is unlawful to buy or sell any bobcat, otter, or fox carcass or pelt that has an unauthorized tag affixed.
- (c) Unused fox tags shall not be sold or transferred to any other person.
- (d) Unused fur tags shall not be sold for a price greater than the fee listed for such tag in Rule .0403(c) of this Section.
- (e) Fur tags shall not be reused or removed from the pelt to which they are affixed prior to delivery to a manufacturer or fur processor.
- (f) Fur tags shall not be counterfeit or modified.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-135; 113-135.1; 113-273; 113-276.1; 113-291.4;*  
*Eff. November 14, 1978;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2017; August 1, 2010; January 1, 1992; December 1, 1981; October 1, 1980;*  
*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0407 REVOCATION AND NONRENEWAL OF LICENSES**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-276.2; 113-276.3; 113-277;*  
*Eff. October 1, 1980;*  
*Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0408 FOX DEALER PERMIT**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274; 113-291.3; 113-291.4;*  
*Eff. November 1, 1982;*  
*Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

**15A NCAC 10B .0409 SALE OF LIVE FOXES AND COYOTES TO CONTROLLED FOX HUNTING PRESERVES**

- (a) In counties with a trapping season for foxes and coyotes that do not prohibit live sale, licensed trappers may, subject to the restrictions on taking foxes in G.S.113- 291.4, live-trap foxes and coyotes during that season and sell them to licensed controlled fox hunting preserves in accordance with the conditions set forth in this Rule.
- (b) Licensed trappers are exempt from captivity permit and captivity license requirements for any live-trapped foxes or coyotes trapped for the purpose of sale to controlled fox hunting preserves. This exemption shall apply during the trapping season for foxes and coyotes, and for no more than 30 days after the trapping season.
- (c) Live-trapped foxes and coyotes shall not be held for more than 30 days after capture.
- (d) Licensed trappers shall provide drinking water, food of a type and quantity appropriate for the species, and shelter that protects the foxes and coyotes from direct sunlight and precipitation.
- (e) Licensed trappers shall be exempt from tagging requirements set forth in this Section so long as the foxes are kept alive.
- (f) Licensed trappers and any individual(s) transporting live foxes and coyotes shall have a current and valid transportation permit prior to taking possession of the live foxes and coyotes.
- (g) Licensed trappers shall keep accurate written records, on a form provided by the Commission online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org), for each fox or coyote sold or transferred to a controlled fox hunting preserve. Records shall contain the following information:
  - (1) preserve operator license number, if applicable;
  - (2) transportation permit number;
  - (3) county of origin;
  - (4) number of animals of each species;
  - (5) date of capture; and
  - (6) date of sale or transfer.
- (h) Records required pursuant to this Rule shall be:

- (1) available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request;
- (2) submitted to and received by the Commission annually by May 1; and
- (3) retained by the licensed trapper for 12 months following transportation permit expiration.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);113-291.4;  
Eff. January 1, 1992;  
Amended Eff. July 10, 2010; June 1, 2004;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021.

## **SECTION .0500 – CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE MANAGEMENT**

### **15A NCAC 10B .0501 DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

(a) The rules in this Section apply to an area of the State where Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been detected, as determined by the Commission.

(b) The following definitions shall apply to rules in this Section:

- (1) "Cervid" means the animals in the Family Cervidae not otherwise regulated by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- (2) "Cervid Health Cooperator" means an individual authorized to collect CWD samples on behalf of the Commission.
- (3) "Chronic Wasting Disease" or "CWD" means the transmissible spongiform encephalopathy prion disease affecting species within the deer (Cervidae) Family.
- (4) "CWD Management Area" means the area delineated by the Commission where CWD has been determined to be endemic and the rules of this Section apply.
- (5) "Primary Surveillance Area" or "PSA" means a county delineated by the Commission for CWD surveillance where a confirmed CWD positive cervid has been found.
- (6) "Sample" means the cervid head and no less than three inches of the neck.
- (7) "Secondary Surveillance Area" or "SSA" means a county adjacent to or near a PSA delineated by the Commission for CWD surveillance.
- (8) "Submit" means to deliver a sample to a cervid health cooperator or qualified Commission employee or deposit in a Commission CWD Testing Drop-off Station.
- (9) "Surveillance Area" means the PSA and SSA collectively.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-306;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2022;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2023;  
Eff. January 1, 2024.

### **15A NCAC 10B .0502 CWD SURVEILLANCE AREAS DEFINED**

*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.

### **15A NCAC 10B .0503 SURVEILLANCE AREA**

(a) Inside a surveillance area, placement of minerals or salt licks to purposefully congregate wildlife shall be prohibited. Placement of bait, food, or food product to purposefully congregate wildlife shall be prohibited from January 2 through August 31 inside a Surveillance Area, except that:

- (1) bird feeders specifically designed for nongame birds shall be allowed;
- (2) placement of bait, food, or food products to hunt during the urban archery season shall be allowed within the established season in participating municipalities; and
- (3) the placement of food specifically permitted by the Commission for scientific research, population management, and wildlife control may be allowed.

(b) White-tailed deer fawn rehabilitation is prohibited in a Surveillance Area.

(c) White-tailed deer fawns originating from within a Surveillance Area shall not be transported outside the Surveillance Area.

(d) No cervid carcass or carcass parts originating from inside a Primary Surveillance Area (PSA) or Secondary Surveillance Area (SSA) shall be transported outside of the county of origin, except:

- (1) meat that has been boned out so that no pieces or fragments of bone remain;
- (2) caped hides with no part of the skull or spinal column attached;
- (3) antlers, antlers attached to cleaned skull plates, or skulls free from meat or brain tissue;
- (4) cleaned lower jawbones with teeth or cleaned teeth;
- (5) finished taxidermy products and tanned hides;
- (6) carcass or carcass parts permitted by the Commission for disposal outside of the Surveillance Area;
- (7) carcass or carcass parts originating inside a PSA county may be transported into contiguous PSA counties; and
- (8) carcass or carcass parts originating inside a SSA county may be transported into contiguous SSA or PSA counties.

(e) No person shall possess or use a substance or material that contains or is labeled as containing any excretion collected from a cervid, including feces, urine, blood, gland oil, or other bodily fluid for the purposes of taking or attempting to take, attracting, or scouting wildlife inside a surveillance area. This prohibition shall not apply to the following substances:

- (1) products labeled as containing synthetic analogs of cervid excretions;
- (2) natural substances labeled as being collected from facilities within North Carolina that have a valid Farmed Cervid License from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Services;
- (3) natural deer urine products labeled as containing excretions from facilities within North Carolina that have a valid Farmed Cervid License from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and
- (4) natural deer urine products labeled as containing excretions from facilities that meet all the following requirements:
  - (A) determined to be free of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) based on testing by an independent laboratory using a method that may help detect the presence of CWD prions;
  - (B) complies with a federally approved CWD herd certification program and any federal CWD protocols; and
  - (C) participates in additional herd management requirements as specified by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-306;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2022;  
Emergency Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. November 29, 2022;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2023;  
Eff. January 1, 2024.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0504 PRIMARY SURVEILLANCE AREA**

*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.

#### **15A NCAC 10B .0505 SECONDARY SURVEILLANCE AREA**

*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.

## **SUBCHAPTER 10C - INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS**

### **SECTION .0100 - JURISDICTION OF AGENCIES: CLASSIFICATION OF WATERS**

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0101 SCOPE AND PURPOSE**

The following rules pertain to the classification of the waters of North Carolina as coastal fishing waters, inland fishing waters, and joint fishing waters. These rules are adopted jointly by the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission. In addition to the classification of the waters of the State, these joint rules set forth guidelines to determine which fishing activities in joint fishing waters are regulated by the Marine Fisheries Commission and which are regulated by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Finally, the joint rules set forth special fishing regulations applicable in joint fishing waters that can be enforced by officers of the Division of Marine Fisheries and the Wildlife Resources Commission. These regulations do not affect the jurisdiction of the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission in any matters other than those specifically set out.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 113-136;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 1977;  
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0102 INLAND FISHING WATERS**

Inland fishing waters are all inland waters except private ponds and all waters connecting with or tributary to coastal sounds or the ocean extending inland from the dividing line between coastal fishing waters and inland fishing waters agreed upon by the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission. All waters that are tributary to inland fishing waters and that are not otherwise designated by agreement between the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission are inland fishing waters. The regulation and licensing of fishing in inland fishing waters is under the jurisdiction of the Wildlife Resources Commission. Regulations and laws administered by the Wildlife Resources Commission regarding fishing in inland fishing waters are enforced by wildlife officers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-132; 113-134;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 1977;  
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0103 COASTAL FISHING WATERS**

Coastal fishing waters are the Atlantic Ocean, the various coastal sounds, and estuarine waters up to the dividing line between coastal fishing waters and inland fishing waters agreed upon by the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission. All waters that are tributary to coastal fishing waters that are not otherwise designated by agreement between the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission are coastal fishing waters. The regulation and licensing of fishing in coastal fishing waters is under the jurisdiction of the Marine Fisheries Commission; except that inland game fish exclusive of spotted seatrout, red drum, flounder, white perch, yellow perch, weakfish, and striped bass are subject to regulations by the Wildlife Resources Commission in coastal fishing waters. Regulations and laws administered by the Marine Fisheries Commission regarding fishing in coastal fishing waters are enforced by marine fisheries inspectors. Regulations regarding inland game fish in coastal fishing waters are enforced by wildlife officers, unless otherwise agreed to by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-132; 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1991; January 1, 1977;  
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0104 JOINT FISHING WATERS**

Joint fishing waters are those coastal fishing waters, denominated by agreement of the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-132(e) as joint fishing waters. All waters that are tributary to joint fishing waters and not otherwise designated by agreement between the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission are classified as joint fishing waters.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 1977;  
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0105 POSTING DIVIDING LINES**

The dividing lines of all major bodies of water and watercourses which are divided by the agreement of the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission so that portions of the same are constituted inland fishing waters, coastal fishing waters, or joint fishing waters shall be marked with signs insofar as may be practicable. Unmarked and undesignated tributaries shall have the same classification as the designated waters to which they connect or into which they flow. No unauthorized removal or relocation of any such marker shall have the effect of changing the classification of any body of water or portion thereof, nor shall any such unauthorized removal or relocation or the absence of any marker affect the applicability of any regulations pertaining to any such body of water or portion thereof.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134;  
Eff. January 1, 1977;  
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0106 APPLICABILITY OF RULES: JOINT FISHING WATERS**

(a) All coastal fishing laws and regulations administered by the Department of Environmental Quality and the Marine Fisheries Commission apply to joint fishing waters except as otherwise provided in this Section and shall be enforced by marine fisheries inspectors.

(b) The following inland fishing laws and regulations administered by the Wildlife Resources Commission apply to joint fishing waters and shall be enforced by wildlife officers:

- (1) all laws and regulations pertaining to inland game fishes;
- (2) all laws and regulations pertaining to inland fishing license requirements for hook and line fishing; and
- (3) all laws and regulations pertaining to hook and line fishing except as hereinafter provided.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 113-271; 113-275; 113-182; 113-292; 113-333;  
Eff. January 1, 1977;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1990; April 15, 1979;  
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0107 SPECIAL REGULATIONS: JOINT FISHING WATERS**

The following shall supersede any inconsistent rules of the Marine Fisheries Commission or the Wildlife Resources Commission that would otherwise be applicable in joint fishing waters under the provisions of 15A NCAC 10C .0106:

- (1) Striped Bass
  - (a) It is unlawful to possess any striped bass or striped bass hybrid that is less than 18 inches total length.
  - (b) It is unlawful to possess striped bass or striped bass hybrids between 22 and 27 inches total length in joint fishing waters of the Central Southern Management Area as designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0201.
  - (c) It is unlawful to possess striped bass or striped bass hybrids May through September in the joint fishing waters of the Central Southern Management Area and the Albemarle Sound Management Area.
  - (d) It is unlawful to possess striped bass or striped bass hybrids taken from the joint fishing waters of the Cape Fear River.
  - (e) It is unlawful to possess more than one daily creel limit of striped bass or striped bass hybrids, in the aggregate, per person per day, regardless of the number of management areas fished.
  - (f) Possession of fish shall be assessed for the creel and size limits of the management area in which the individual is found to be fishing, regardless of the size or creel limits for other management areas visited by that individual in a given day.

- (g) It is unlawful to engage in net fishing for striped bass or their hybrids in joint fishing waters except as authorized by rules of the Marine Fisheries Commission as set forth in 15A NCAC 03M .0201, .0202, .0204, .0205, and .0512.
- (2) Lake Mattamuskeet
  - (a) It is unlawful to set or attempt to set any gill net in Lake Mattamuskeet canals designated as joint fishing waters.
  - (b) It is unlawful to use or attempt to use any trawl net or seines in Lake Mattamuskeet canals designated as joint fishing waters.
- (3) Cape Fear River. It is unlawful to use or attempt to use any net, net stakes, or electrical fishing device within 800 feet of the dam at Lock No. 1 on the Cape Fear River.
- (4) Shad: It is unlawful to possess more than 10 American shad or hickory shad, in the aggregate, per person per day taken by hook-and-line.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 113-138; 113-182; 113-292;  
 Eff. January 1, 1977;  
 Amended Eff. July 1, 2008; May 1, 2005; August 1, 2000; July 1, 1993; November 1, 1991; January 1, 1991; August 1, 1985;  
 Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0108 SPECIFIC CLASSIFICATION OF WATERS**

The several sounds and estuarine and tributary waters all or portions of which are specifically classified as inland, joint, or coastal fishing waters by agreement of the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission are listed in the regulations of the Marine Fisheries Commission under 15A NCAC 3Q .0200 and such list and classification is incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-132; 113-134;  
 Eff. January 1, 1977;  
 Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; January 1, 1981; January 1, 1978;  
 Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0109 PROTECTION OF SEA TURTLES**

Pursuant to a cooperative agreement entered into on the fifth day of February 1979, by the Department of Environmental Quality, the Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Wildlife Resources Commission, the Wildlife Resources Commission shall exercise regulatory jurisdiction over any species of sea turtles, and their eggs and nests, consistent with designation of such species as endangered or threatened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As provided by said agreement, the law enforcement officers of both the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission shall have jurisdiction to enforce any state laws and regulations, including those contained in 15A NCAC 10I, relating to endangered or threatened species of sea turtles and their eggs and nests.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 113-138; 113-181; 113-182; 113-224; 113-305;  
 Eff. April 29, 1979;  
 Amended Eff. April 1, 1990;  
 Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0110 MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ESTUARINE STRIPED BASS IN JOINT FISHING WATERS**

- (a) The management areas for estuarine striped bass fisheries in coastal North Carolina are designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0201.
- (b) In order to effectively manage the recreational hook and line harvest in joint fishing waters of the Albemarle Sound-Roanoke River stock of striped bass, the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission deem it necessary to establish two management areas: the Albemarle Sound Management Area and the Roanoke River Management Area as designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0201. The Wildlife Resources Commission shall have principal management responsibility for the stock when it is in the joint and inland fishing waters of the Roanoke River Management Area. The Marine Fisheries Commission shall have principal management responsibility for the stock in the coastal, joint, and inland fishing waters of the Albemarle Sound Management Area. The annual quota for recreational harvest of the Albemarle Sound-

Roanoke River striped bass stock shall be divided equally between the two management areas. Each Commission shall implement management actions for recreational harvest within their respective management areas that shall be consistent with the North Carolina Estuarine Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 113-138; 113-182; 113-292;  
Eff. January 1, 1991;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2005;  
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0111 IMPLEMENTATION OF ESTUARINE STRIPED BASS MANAGEMENT PLANS: RECREATIONAL FISHING**

The Marine Fisheries and Wildlife Resources Commissions shall implement their respective striped bass management plans for recreational fishing pursuant to their respective rulemaking powers. To preserve jurisdictional authority of each Commission, the following means are established through which management measures can be implemented by a single instrument in the following management areas:

- (1) In the Roanoke River Management Area, the exclusive authority to open and close seasons and areas and establish size and creel limits, whether inland or joint fishing waters, shall be vested in the Wildlife Resources Commission. An instrument closing any management area in joint fishing waters shall operate as a jointly-issued instrument opening or closing seasons or areas to harvest in the Roanoke River Management Area.
- (2) In the Albemarle Sound Management Area, the exclusive authority to open and close seasons and areas and establish size and creel limits, whether coastal or joint fishing waters, shall be vested in the Marine Fisheries Commission. The season shall close by Marine Fisheries Commission proclamation if the quota is about to be exceeded. In the Albemarle Sound Management Area administered by the Marine Fisheries Commission, a proclamation affecting the harvest in joint and coastal fishing waters, excluding the Roanoke River Management Area, shall automatically be implemented and effective as a Wildlife Resources Commission action in the inland fishing waters and tributaries to the waters affected.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 113-138; 113-292;  
Eff. January 1, 1991;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2005;  
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

### **SECTION .0200 - GENERAL REGULATIONS**

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0201 IDENTIFICATION**

An individual shall have means of identification on their person indicating their current residence while fishing.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-276.1;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0202 FISHING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0203 RECIPROCAL LICENSE AGREEMENTS**

(a) Virginia. In accordance with a reciprocal license agreement between the States of North Carolina and Virginia, all valid fishing licenses and permits legally obtained from the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources or the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, or the duly authorized agents of either, shall be reciprocally honored for the purpose of fishing with rod and reel, or hook and line, in the following waters:

- (1) Portions of New River:

- (A) between the confluence of the North and South fork of the New River in Allegheny County North Carolina; and
- (B) confluence of New and Little Rivers in Grayson County Virginia.
- (2) Dan River east of the Union Street Dam at Danville;
- (3) Staunton River arm of Kerr Reservoir East of the mouth of Difficult Creek;
- (4) Kerr Reservoir;
- (5) Lake Gaston; and
- (6) all tributary waters in either Virginia or North Carolina that are accessible by boat from the main bodies of the Kerr and Gaston Reservoirs, from the Island Creek subimpoundment.

(b) Georgia. In accordance with a reciprocal license agreement between the States of North Carolina and Georgia, all valid fishing licenses and permits legally obtained from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, or duly authorized agents of either, shall be reciprocally honored for the purposes of fishing with hook and line in all of Chatuge Reservoir including all tributary waters lying in either Georgia or North Carolina that are accessible by boat from the main body of Chatuge Reservoir. All persons fishing in the waters of Chatuge Reservoir beyond the bounds of the state from which they hold a valid fishing license, shall be authorized to fish with said license only from boats not anchored to the shore or to a pier or boat dock connecting to the shore. Senior citizen and juvenile license exemptions authorized by either state shall be honored by both states.

(c) Tennessee. In accordance with a reciprocal license agreement between the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, all valid inland fishing licenses and permits obtained from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, or the duly authorized agents of either, shall be reciprocally honored for the purpose of fishing with rod and reel, or hook in line in the following waters:

- (1) The portion of Slick Rock Creek that coincides with the state line between North Carolina and Tennessee; and
- (2) Calderwood Reservoir.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-275; 113-304;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2017; August 1, 2014; July 1, 1998; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1991;  
 Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10C .0204 DRAINING IMPOUNDED PUBLIC WATERS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

**15A NCAC 10C .0205 PUBLIC MOUNTAIN TROUT WATERS**

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

- (1) "Natural bait" means a living or dead plant or animal, or parts thereof, or prepared substances designed to attract fish by the sense of taste or smell.
- (2) "Single hook" means a fish hook with only one point.
- (3) "Artificial lure" means a fishing lure that neither contains nor has been treated by a substance that attracts fish by the sense of taste or smell.
- (4) "Artificial fly" means one single hook dressed with feathers, hair, thread, tinsel, rubber, or a similar material to which no additional hook, spinner, spoon, or similar device is added.
- (5) "Youth anglers" are individuals under 16 years of age.

(b) For purposes of this Rule, 15A NCAC 10C .0316, and 15A NCAC 10D .0104, the following classifications apply:

- (1) "Public Mountain Trout Waters" are the waters included in this Rule and those designated in 15A NCAC 10D .0104.
- (2) "Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters where only artificial flies and lures having one single hook may be used. No trout may be possessed or harvested while fishing these streams. Waters with this designation include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
- (3) "Delayed Harvest Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters where between October 1 and one-half hour after sunset on the Friday before the first Saturday of the following June, it is unlawful to possess natural bait, use more than one single hook on an artificial lure, or harvest or possess trout while fishing.

From 6:00 a.m. until noon on the first Saturday in June, only youth anglers may fish and these waters have no bait or lure restrictions. From noon on the first Saturday in June until October 1, anglers may fish these waters with no bait or lure restrictions. Waters with this designation do not include tributaries unless otherwise noted.

- (4) "Hatchery Supported Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters that have no bait or lure restrictions. Waters with this designation do not include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
  - (5) "Special Regulation Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters where watercourse-specific regulations apply. Waters with this designation do not include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
  - (6) "Wild Trout Waters" are Public Mountain Trout Waters identified in this Rule or 15A NCAC 10D .0104. Only artificial lures having only one single hook may be used. No person shall possess natural bait while fishing these waters. Waters with this designation do not include tributaries unless otherwise noted.
  - (7) "Undesignated Waters" are the other waters in the State. These waters have no bait or lure restrictions.
- (c) Seasons, creel, and size limits. Seasons, creel, and size limits for trout are listed in Rule .0316 of this Subchapter.
- (d) Classifications. This Paragraph designates waters in each county that have a specific classification. Waters on game lands are designated in 15A NCAC 10D .0104, unless otherwise indicated in this Paragraph. The other waters are classified as Undesignated Waters.

(1) Alleghany

(A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:

Big Pine Creek  
Bledsoe Creek  
Brush Creek from the N.C. 21 bridge to the confluence with the Little River, except where posted against trespassing  
Cranberry Creek  
Glade Creek  
Little River from 400 yards upstream of the S.R. 1128 bridge, marked by a sign on each bank, to McCann Dam  
Meadow Fork  
Pine Swamp Creek  
Piney Fork  
Prathers Creek

(B) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:

The waters located on Stone Mountain State Park

(2) Ashe County

(A) Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:

Big Horse Creek from the Virginia state line to Mud Creek at S.R. 1363, excluding tributaries

(B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:

Big Horse Creek from the S.R. 1324 bridge to the North Fork New River  
Helton Creek from 900 yards upstream of the S.R. 1372 bridge, marked by a sign on both banks to a point adjacent to intersection of N.C. 16 and S.R. 1536  
South Fork New River from the upstream end of Todd Island to the S.R. 1351 bridge  
Trout Lake

(C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:

Beaver Creek from N.C. 221 to the confluence of Beaver Creek and South Beaver Creek  
Big Horse Creek from Mud Creek at S.R. 1363 to the S.R. 1324 bridge  
Big Laurel Creek from the S.R. 1315 bridge to the confluence with the North Fork New River  
Buffalo Creek from the S.R. 1133 bridge to the N.C. 194-88 bridge  
Cranberry Creek from the Alleghany Co. line to the South Fork New River  
Nathans Creek  
North Fork New River from the Watauga Co. line to Sharp Dam  
Old Fields Creek from N.C. 221 to the South Fork New River  
Peak Creek from the upper boundary of the NCDA-NCSU Upper Mountain Research Station to Trout Lake  
Roan Creek  
Three Top Creek

(3) Avery County

- (A) Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Elk River, the portion on Lees-McRae College property, excluding the millpond  
Lost Cove Creek, the game land portion, excluding Gragg Prong and Rockhouse Creek  
Wilson Creek, the game land portion
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Boyde Coffey Lake  
Elk River from the S.R. 1305 crossing immediately upstream of Big Falls to the Tennessee state line  
Linville River from S.R. 1504 to the Blue Ridge Parkway boundary line, except where posted against trespassing  
Milltimber Creek  
North Toe River from Watauga St. to Roby Shoemaker Wetlands and Family Recreational Park, except where posted against trespassing  
North Toe River from S.R. 1164 to Mitchell Co. line, except where posted against trespassing  
Squirrel Creek  
Wildcat Lake
  - (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
Birchfield Creek  
Cow Camp Creek  
Cranberry Creek from the headwaters to the U.S. 19E, N.C. 194, bridge  
Gragg Prong  
Horse Creek  
Kentucky Creek  
North Harper Creek  
Plumtree Creek  
Roaring Creek  
Rockhouse Creek  
Shawneehaw Creek, the portion adjacent to Banner Elk Greenway  
South Harper Creek  
Webb Prong
- (4) Buncombe County
- (A) Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Carter Creek, the game land portion
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Bent Creek from the headwaters to the N.C. Arboretum boundary line  
Cane Creek from the headwaters to the S.R. 3138 bridge  
Corner Rock Creek from Little Andy Creek to the confluence with Walker Branch  
Dillingham Creek from Corner Rock Creek to Ivy Creek  
Ivy Creek from Dillingham Creek to the U.S. 19-23 bridge  
Lake Powhatan  
Reems Creek from Sugar Camp Fork to the U.S. 19-23 bridge, except where posted against trespassing  
Rich Branch from downstream of the confluence with Rocky Branch  
Stony Creek  
Swannanoa from the S.R. 2702 bridge near Ridgecrest to the Wood Avenue bridge, at the intersection of N.C. 81 and U.S. 74A in Asheville, except where posted against trespassing
- (5) Burke County
- (A) Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Henry Fork, the portion on South Mountains State Park
  - (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Jacob Fork from Shinny Creek to the lower South Mountains State Park boundary
  - (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Carroll Creek, the game land portion above S.R. 1405  
Linville River, the portion below Lake James powerhouse from the upstream bridge on S.R. 1223 to Muddy Creek

- (D) Special Regulation Trout Waters are as follows:  
Catawba River from Muddy Creek to the City of Morganton water intake dam
- (E) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
The waters located on South Mountains State Park, except those waters identified in Parts (A) and (B) of this Subparagraph
- (6) Caldwell County
  - (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Wilson Creek, the game land portion below Lost Cove Creek to Philips Branch
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Boone Fork Pond  
Buffalo Creek from the mouth of Joes Creek to McCloud Branch  
Joes Creek from the first falls upstream of S.R. 1574 to the confluence with Buffalo Creek  
Wilson Creek from Phillips Branch to Brown Mountain Beach Dam, except where posted against trespassing  
Yadkin River from the Happy Valley Ruritan Community Park to S.R. 1515
  - (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
Buffalo Creek from the Watauga Co. line to Long Ridge Branch including game land tributaries  
Joes Creek from the Watauga Co. line to the first falls upstream of the end of S.R. 1574  
Rockhouse Creek
- (7) Cherokee County
  - (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Davis Creek from the confluence of Bald Creek and Dockery Creek to Hanging Dog Creek  
Hyatt Creek from Big Dam Branch to the Valley River  
Junaluska Creek from Ashturn Creek to the Valley River  
Shuler Creek from the Joe Brown Hwy, S.R. 1325 bridge, to the Tennessee state line  
Valley River from S.R. 1359 to the U.S. 19 Business bridge in Murphy
  - (B) Special Regulation Trout Waters are as follows:  
Apalachia Reservoir
- (8) Clay County
  - (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Fires Creek from Rockhouse Creek to the foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Buck Creek, the game land portion downstream of the U.S. 64 bridge  
Fires Creek from the foot bridge in the USFS Fires Creek Picnic Area to S.R. 1300  
Tusquitee Creek from Compass Creek to the lower S.R. 1300 bridge
- (9) Graham County
  - (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Snowbird Creek from the USFS footbridge at the old railroad junction to USFS Rd. 2579
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Calderwood Reservoir from Cheoah Dam to the Tennessee state line  
Cheoah Reservoir  
Panther Creek from the confluence of Stand Creek and Rock Creek to Lake Fontana  
Santeetlah Creek from Johns Branch to Lake Santeetlah  
Snowbird Creek from USFS Rd. 2579 to the S.R. 1127 bridge  
Stecoah Creek from the upper game land boundary to Lake Fontana  
Tulula Creek from S.R. 1201 to the lower bridge on S.R. 1275  
West Buffalo Creek  
Yellow Creek from Lake Santeetlah hydropower pipeline to the Cheoah River
  - (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
Little Buffalo Creek  
South Fork Squally Creek  
Squally Creek
- (10) Haywood County
  - (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:

- West Fork Pigeon River from Queen Creek to the first game land boundary upstream of Lake Logan
- (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
 Cold Springs Creek from Fall Branch to the Pigeon River  
 Jonathan Creek from upstream of the S.R. 1302 bridge to the Pigeon River, except where posted against trespassing  
 Pigeon River from Stamey Cove Branch to the upstream U.S. 19-23 bridge  
 Richland Creek from the Russ Avenue, U.S. 276, bridge to the U.S. 19 bridge  
 West Fork Pigeon River from Tom Creek to Queen Creek
- (11) Henderson County
- (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
 North Fork Mills River, the game land portion below the Hendersonville watershed dam
- (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
 Broad River from the end of S.R. 1611 to the Rutherford Co. line  
 Cane Creek from the railroad bridge upstream of the S.R. 1551 bridge to the U.S. 25 bridge  
 Clear Creek from Laurel Fork to S.R. 1582  
 Green River from the Lake Summit powerhouse to the game land boundary  
 Hungry River from Little Hungry River to the Green River
- (12) Jackson County
- (A) Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
 Flat Creek  
 Tuckasegee River, the game land portion upstream of Tanasee Creek Lake, including the Duke Energy powerline corridor  
 Tuckasegee River the portion upstream from the Clark property
- (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
 Tuckasegee River from downstream of the N.C. 107 bridge to the falls located 275 yards upstream of the U.S. 23-441 bridge, marked by a sign on both banks
- (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
 Balsam Lake  
 Bear Creek Lake  
 Cedar Cliff Lake  
 Cullowhee Creek from Tilley Creek to the Tuckasegee River  
 Dark Ridge Creek from Jones Creek to Scott Creek  
 Greens Creek from Greens Creek Baptist Church on S.R. 1370 to Savannah Creek  
 Savannah Creek from Shell Branch to Cagle Branch  
 Scott Creek from Dark Ridge Creek to the Tuckasegee River, except where posted against trespassing  
 Tanasee Creek Lake  
 Tuckasegee River from John Brown Branch to the downstream N.C. 107 bridge  
 Tuckasegee River from the falls located 275 yards upstream of the U.S. 23-441 bridge, marked by a sign on both banks, to the S.R. 1534 bridge at Wilmont  
 Wolf Creek Lake
- (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
 Gage Creek  
 North Fork Scott Creek  
 Tanasee Creek  
 Whitewater River from Silver Run Creek to the South Carolina state line  
 Wolf Creek except Balsam Lake and Wolf Creek Lake
- (13) Macon County
- (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
 Nantahala River from Whiteoak Creek to the Nantahala hydropower discharge canal
- (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
 Burningtown Creek from Left Prong to the Little Tennessee River  
 Cartoogechaye Creek from downstream of the U.S. 64 bridge to the Little Tennessee River  
 Cliffside Lake

Cullasaja River from Sequoyah Dam to the U.S. 64 bridge near the junction of S.R. 1672  
Nantahala River from Dicks Creek to Whiteoak Creek  
Nantahala River from the Nantahala hydropower discharge canal to the Swain Co. line  
Queens Creek Lake

(14) Madison County

(A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:

Big Laurel Creek from the N.C. 208 bridge to the U.S. 25-70 bridge  
Shelton Laurel Creek from the N.C. 208 bridge at Belva to the confluence with Big Laurel Creek  
Spring Creek from the N.C. 209 bridge at the Hot Springs city limits to the iron bridge at end of Andrews Ave.

(B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:

Big Laurel Creek from Puncheon Fork to the S.R. 1318, Big Laurel Rd., bridge downstream of Bearpen Branch  
Big Pine Creek from the S.R. 1151 bridge to the French Broad River  
Little Ivy Creek from the confluence of Middle Fork and Paint Fork at Beech Glen to the confluence with Ivy Creek at Forks of Ivy  
Max Patch Pond  
Meadow Fork Creek from Meadow Fork Campground to Spring Creek  
Puncheon Fork from Wolf Laurel Branch to Big Laurel Creek  
Roaring Fork from Fall Branch to Meadow Fork  
Shelton Laurel Creek from the confluence of Big Creek and Mill Creek to the N.C. 208 bridge at Belva  
Shut-in Creek  
Spillcorn Creek  
Spring Creek from the junction of N.C. 209 and N.C. 63 to the confluence with Meadow Fork  
West Fork Shut-in Creek from the lower game land boundary to the confluence with East Fork  
Shut-in Creek

(15) McDowell County

(A) Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:

Newberry Creek, the game land portion

(B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:

Catawba River, the portion adjacent to the Marion Greenway  
Curtis Creek, the game land portion downstream of the USFS boundary at Deep Branch  
Mill Creek from the U.S. 70 bridge to the I-40 bridge

(C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:

Armstrong Creek from the Cato Holler line downstream to the upper Greenlee line  
Catawba River from the Catawba Falls Campground to the Old Fort Recreation Park  
Little Buck Creek, the game land portion  
North Fork Catawba River from the headwaters to North Cove School at the S.R. 1569 bridge

(16) Mitchell County

(A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:

Cane Creek from the N.C. 226 bridge to the S.R. 1189 bridge  
North Toe River from the U.S. 19E bridge to the N.C. 226 bridge

(B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:

Big Rock Creek from the headwaters to the S.R. 1325 bridge  
Cane Creek from S.R. 1219 to the N.C. 226 bridge  
East Fork Grassy Creek

Grassy Creek from East Fork Grassy Creek to the mouth  
North Toe River from the Avery Co. line to the S.R. 1121 bridge

(C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:

Green Creek from the headwaters to the Green Creek bridge, except where posted against trespassing  
Little Rock Creek the portion upstream of the Green Creek bridge, including the tributaries, except where posted against trespassing  
Wiles Creek from the game land boundary to the mouth

- (17) Polk County
- (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Green River from the Fishtop Falls Access Area to the confluence with Cove Creek
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Green River from the mouth of Cove Creek to the natural gas pipeline crossing  
North Pacolet River from Joels Creek to the N.C. 108 bridge
- (18) Rutherford County
- (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Broad River from the Henderson Co. line to the U.S. 64/74 bridge, except where posted against trespassing
- (19) Stokes County
- (A) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Dan River from the Virginia state line downstream to a point 200 yards below the end of S.R. 1421
- (20) Surry County
- (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Ararat River, the portion adjacent to the Ararat River Greenway downstream of the N.C. 103 bridge  
Mitchell River from 0.6 miles upstream of the end of S.R. 1333 to the lowermost bridge on S.R. 1330
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Ararat River, the portion adjacent to the Ararat River Greenway upstream of the N.C. 103 bridge  
Big Elkin Creek from the dam 440 yards upstream of the N.C. 268 bridge to a point 265 yards downstream of N.C. 268, marked by a sign on both banks  
Fisher River from the Virginia state line to the I-77 bridge  
Little Fisher River from the Virginia state line to the N.C. 89 bridge  
Lovills Creek from the U.S. 52 Business bridge to the Ararat River  
Pauls Creek from the Virginia state line to 0.3 miles below the S.R. 1625 bridge
- (21) Swain County
- (A) Delayed Harvest Waters Trout Waters are as follows:  
Tuckasegee River from the U.S. 19 bridge to the Slope Street bridge
  - (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Alarka Creek from the game land boundary to Fontana Reservoir  
Calderwood Reservoir from Cheoah Dam to the Tennessee state line  
Cheoah Reservoir  
Connelly Creek from Camp Branch to the Tuckasegee River  
Deep Creek from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Boundary line to the Tuckasegee River  
Nantahala River from the Macon Co. line to the existing Fontana Lake water level
- (22) Transylvania County
- (A) Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Davidson River from the headwaters to Avery Creek, excluding Avery Creek, Looking Glass Creek, Grogan Creek, Cedar Rock Creek and John Rock Branch
  - (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
East Fork French Broad River from East Fork Baptist Church to 350 yards downstream of Whitmire Falls, marked by a sign on both banks bridge  
Little River from the confluence of Lake Dense to 100 yards downstream of Hooker Falls
  - (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Davidson River from Avery Creek to the lower USFS boundary  
French Broad River from the confluence of the North Fork French Broad River and West Fork French Broad River to the Island Ford Rd., S.R. 1110, Access Area  
Middle Fork French Broad River from upstream of the U.S. 178 bridge to the French Broad River  
West Fork French Broad River from S.R. 1312 to confluence with North Fork French Broad River
  - (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:

- The waters located on Gorges State Park  
Whitewater River from Silver Run Creek to the South Carolina state line
- (23) Watauga County
- (A) Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:  
Laurel Creek from the confluence of North Fork Laurel Creek and South Fork Laurel Creek to Elk Creek, excluding tributaries  
Pond Creek from the headwaters to the Locust Ridge Rd. bridge, excluding the pond adjacent to Coffee Lake
- (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
Lake Coffey  
Watauga River from the S.R. 1114 bridge to the Valle Crucis Community Park lower boundary  
Watauga River from the S.R. 1103 bridge to the confluence with Laurel Creek
- (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Beaverdam Creek from the confluence of Beaverdam Creek and Little Beaverdam Creek to an unnamed tributary adjacent to the intersection of S.R. 1201 and S.R. 1203  
Beech Creek  
Buckeye Creek from Buckeye Creek Reservoir dam to Grassy Gap Creek  
Buckeye Creek Reservoir  
Cove Creek from the S.R. 1233 bridge at Zionville to the S.R. 1214 bridge at Sherwood  
Dutch Creek from the second S.R. 1136 bridge to the mouth  
Elk Creek from the S.R. 1510 bridge at Triplett to the Wilkes Co. line, except where posted against trespassing  
Laurel Creek from the S.R. 1123 bridge at the S.R. 1157 intersection to the Watauga River  
Meat Camp Creek from the S.R. 1340 bridge at the S.R. 1384 intersection to N.C. 194  
Middle Fork New River from adjacent to the intersection of S.R. 1539 and U.S. 321 to the South Fork New River  
Norris Fork Creek  
South Fork New River from the canoe launch 70 yards upstream of U.S. 421 bridge to the lower boundary of Brookshire Park  
Stony Fork from the S.R. 1500 bridge at the S.R. 1505 intersection to the Wilkes Co. line
- (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:  
Dutch Creek from the headwaters to the second S.R. 1136 bridge  
Howard Creek  
Maine Branch from the headwaters to the North Fork New River  
North Fork New River from the confluence with Maine Branch and Mine Branch to the Ashe Co. line  
Winkler Creek from the lower bridge on S.R. 1549 to the confluence with the South Fork New River
- (24) Wilkes County
- (A) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:  
East Prong Roaring River from Bullhead Creek to the Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary  
Elk Creek from the Watauga Co. line to the lower boundary of the Blue Ridge Mountain Club  
Elk Creek, the portion on Leatherwood Mountains development  
Reddies River from the Town of North Wilkesboro water intake dam to the confluence with the Yadkin River  
Stone Mountain Creek from the falls at the Alleghany Co. line to the confluence with the East Prong Roaring River and Bullhead Creek
- (B) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:  
Basin Creek from the S.R. 1730 bridge to the confluence with Lovelace Creek  
Bell Branch Pond  
Boundary Line Pond  
Cub Creek from 0.5 miles upstream of the S.R. 2460 bridge to the S.R. 1001 bridge  
Darnell Creek from the downstream ford on S.R. 1569 to the confluence with the North Fork Reddies River

- East Prong Roaring River from the Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary to the Low Meadows Lane bridge
- Fall Creek from the S.R. 1300 bridge to the confluence with South Prong Lewis Fork, except where posted against trespassing
- Middle Fork Reddies River from the headwaters to the bridge on S.R. 1580
- Middle Prong Roaring River from the headwaters to the second bridge on S.R. 1736
- North Fork Reddies River from the headwaters to the Union School bridge on S.R. 1559
- Pike Creek
- Pike Creek Pond
- South Fork Reddies River from the S.R. 1355 bridge to the confluence with the Middle Fork Reddies River
- South Prong Lewis Fork from Fall Creek to the U.S. 421 bridge adjacent to the S.R. 1155 intersection
- (C) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
  - The waters located on Stone Mountain State Park, except East Prong Roaring River from Bullhead Creek to the Stone Mountain State Park lower boundary where Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply, and Stone Mountain Creek from the falls at the Alleghany Co. line to the confluence with the East Prong Roaring River and Bullhead Creek in Stone Mountain State Park where Delayed Harvest Trout Waters regulations apply
- (25) Yancey County
  - (A) Catch and Release Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters are as follows:
    - South Toe River from the headwaters to Upper Creek
    - Upper Creek
  - (B) Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are as follows:
    - Cane River from Blackberry Ridge Rd. to the downstream boundary of Cane River County Park
  - (C) Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are as follows:
    - Bald Mountain Creek, except where posted against trespassing
    - Cane River from Bee Branch, S.R. 1110, to Bowlens Creek
    - Price Creek from the junction of S.R. 1120 and S.R. 1121 to Indian Creek
    - South Toe River from Clear Creek to the lower boundary line of Yancey Co. Recreation Park, except where posted against trespassing
  - (D) Wild Trout Waters are as follows:
    - Cattail Creek from the bridge at Mountain Farm Community Rd. to the N.C. 197 bridge
    - Lickskillet Creek
    - Middle Creek from the game land boundary to the mouth

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-272; 113-292;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;d  
 Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; October 1, 1992;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;  
 Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;  
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 6/21/01 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, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;  
 Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;  
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2025; August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023; August 1, 2022; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020.*

- (a) For purposes of this Rule, the following definitions apply:
- (1) "Set hook" means a fishing device consisting of a single line having no more than three hooks that is attached at one end only to a stationary object.
  - (2) "Jug hook" means a fishing device consisting of a single line having no more than three hooks that is attached to a float.
  - (3) "Trotline" means a fishing device consisting of a horizontal common line having multiple hooks attached.
- (b) Trotlines, jug hooks, and set hooks may be set in the inland waters of North Carolina, provided no live bait is used, except that they:
- (1) may not be set in the impounded waters on the Sandhills Game Land;
  - (2) may not be set in designated public mountain trout waters except impounded waters of power reservoirs and municipally-owned water supply reservoirs open to the public for fishing;
  - (3) in Lake Waccamaw, trotlines, jug hooks, or set hooks may only be set from October 1 through April 30; and
  - (4) in the Roanoke River, trotlines, jug hooks, or set hooks may only be set from July 1 through March 31.
- (c) A trotline, set hook, and jug hook shall bear legible and indelible identification of the user's name and address or the user's Wildlife Resources Commission customer number.
- (d) Trotlines and set hooks shall be conspicuously marked at each end with a flag, float, or other prominent object so that its location is readily discernible by boat operators and swimmers.
- (e) Trotlines shall be set parallel to the nearest shore in inland fishing waters unless otherwise prohibited.
- (f) The number of jug hooks that may be fished is limited to 70 per boat.
- (g) Trotlines, set hooks, and jug hooks shall be fished once daily with all fish removed.
- (h) Trotlines, set hooks, and jug hooks without bait or not labeled as described in this Paragraph may be removed from the water by wildlife enforcement officers.
- (i) It is unlawful to use metal cans or glass jugs as floats.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272; 113-292;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; May 1, 1992; July 1, 1989; January 1, 1982;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;  
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; May 1, 2008; June 1, 2005; August 1, 2002;  
 Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;  
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0207 GRABBLING FOR FISH**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0208 SPAWNING AREAS**

- (a) No person shall fish from March 1 to May 31 in the following restored floodplain sloughs connected to the French Broad River and Mud Creek in Henderson County:
- (1) Slough 1 at 35.403687 N, 82.531970 W connected to the French Broad River, located 0.25 miles upstream of Butler Bridge Rd. (S.R. 1345).
  - (2) Slough 2 at 35.398380 N, 82.528750 W connected to the French Broad River, located 1.0 miles upstream of Butler Bridge Rd.
  - (3) Slough 3 at 35.396449 N, 82.525462 W connected to Mud Creek, located 0.1 miles upstream from confluence with the French Broad River.
  - (4) Pleasant Grove slough at 35.298384 N, 82.584716 W connected to the French Broad River, located 0.25 miles upstream from S.R. 1205, Etowah School Road.
- (b) Each slough shall be marked with signs on both banks.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;

*Amended Eff. May 1, 2009; August 1, 2004; July 1, 1993; July 1, 1989; July 1, 1985; July 1, 1984;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0209 TRANSPORTATION OF LIVE FISH**

(a) Fish Transport: It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to transport live freshwater nongame fishes, or live game fishes in excess of the possession limit, or fish eggs without having in possession a permit obtained from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

(b) Fish Stocking: It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to stock any life stage of any species of fish in the inland fishing waters of this State without having first procured a stocking permit from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

(c) Permits for stocking fish shall be issued as follows:

- (1) Application for a stocking permit shall be made on a form provided by the Commission. The applicant shall specify the purpose for the stocking, species to be stocked, the source of the stock, the number of individual specimens to be released, and the location where release is desired.
- (2) Before issuing a stocking permit, the Executive Director shall review the application and determine, based on principles of wildlife management and biological science, that the proposed stocking will not:
  - (A) threaten the introduction of epizootic disease or
  - (B) create a danger to or an imbalance in the environment inimical to the conservation of wildlife resources.
- (3) Based on the determination made in Subparagraph (2):
  - (A) If the Executive Director determines that either or both conditions cannot be met under any circumstances, the application shall be denied.
  - (B) If the Executive Director determines that both conditions may be met only by the introduction of fewer than the number requested, a permit only for the number that may be safely released shall be issued.
  - (C) If the Executive Director determines that the number requested may be safely released, he shall issue the permit.
- (4) Any stocking permit issued by the Commission may impose the following conditions or restrictions:
  - (A) Location where the permitted number of fish may be stocked.
  - (B) Certification that fish are free of certifiable diseases by the vendor or a laboratory qualified to make such determination.
  - (C) Documentation of the date, time and location of the release.
  - (D) Access by the Commission to the property where fish introductions occur to assess impacts of the introduction.
  - (E) All conditions required shall be included in writing on the permit.
- (5) Based on the criteria in Subparagraph (2), no permit shall be issued to stock any of the following species in the areas indicated:

SPECIES	LOCATION
Salmonids except brown, brook, and rainbow trout	Statewide
Flathead catfish	Statewide
Blue Catfish	Statewide

(d) For purposes of this Rule, stocking is the introduction or attempted introduction of one or more individuals of a particular species of live fish into public waters for any purpose other than:

- (1) As bait affixed to a hook and line, or
- (2) A release incidental to "catch and release" fishing in an area within the same body of water where the fish was caught, or within an adjacent body of water not separated from that body by any natural or manmade obstruction to the passage of that species.

(e) The release of more than the daily creel limit, or if there is no established creel limit for the species, more than five individuals of the species, shall constitute prima facie evidence of an intentional release.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-135; 113-274; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2005;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2020.*

## 15A NCAC 10C .0210 FISHES TAKEN ILLEGALLY: MANAGEMENT PURPOSES

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-137;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

### 15A NCAC 10C .0211 POSSESSION OF CERTAIN FISHES

(a) It shall be unlawful to transport, purchase, possess, sell, or stock in the public or private waters of North Carolina any live individuals of:

- (1) African longfin eel (*Anguilla mossambica*);
- (2) amur sleeper (*Percottus glenii*);
- (3) applesnail (any species of the genus *Pomacea*);
- (4) Asian swamp eel, swamp or rice eel (*Monopterus albus*);
- (5) Australian red claw crayfish or red claw (*Cherax quadricarinatus*, or other species in the genus *Cherax*);
- (6) bigclaw crayfish (*Faxonius placidus*);
- (7) bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*);
- (8) black carp (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*);
- (9) brown hoplo (*Hoplosternum littorale*);
- (10) Chinese mysterysnail (*Cipangopaludina chinensis*);
- (11) Creole painted crayfish (*Faxonius palmeri creolanus*);
- (12) Crucian Carp (*Carassius carassius*);
- (13) European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*);
- (14) European minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*);
- (15) European perch (*Perca fluviatilis*);
- (16) Japanese mysterysnail (*Cipangopaludina japonica*);
- (17) marbled Crayfish or Marmorkrebs (*Procambarus virginalis* or *Procambarus fallax f. virginalis*);
- (18) olive mysterysnail (*Viviparus subpurpureus*);
- (19) Oriental weatherfish (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*);
- (20) piranha (any species of the genera *Pristobrycon*, *Pygocentrus*, *Pygopristis*, or *Serrasalmus*);
- (21) Prussian Carp (*Carassius gibelio*);
- (22) quagga mussel (*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*) or any mussel in the family *Dreissenidae*;
- (23) red shiner (*Cyprinella lutrensis*);
- (24) red-rim melania (*Melanoides tuberculatus* or *Melanoides tuberculata*);
- (25) redtail catfish (*Phractocephalus hemiliopterus*);
- (26) round goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*);
- (27) rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus* or *Scardinius erythrophthalmus*);
- (28) ruffe (*Gymnocephalus cernuus* or *Gymnocephalus cernua*);
- (29) rusty crayfish (*Faxonius rusticus*);
- (30) shortfin eel (*Anguilla australis*);
- (31) silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*);
- (32) snakehead fish (from the Family *Channidae*, formerly *Ophiocephalidae*);
- (33) tubenose goby (*Proterorhinus marmoratus*, *Proterorhinus semilunaris*, and *Proterorhinus semipellucidus*);
- (34) virile crayfish (*Faxonius virilis*);
- (35) walking catfish (any member of the genus *Batrachus*);
- (36) white amur or grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), except for triploid individuals as permitted in Paragraph (b) of this Rule;
- (37) yellow bass (*Morone mississippiensis*); or
- (38) zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*).

(b) A person may buy, possess, or stock grass carp that have been certified to be triploid or sterile, only for the purpose of controlling aquatic vegetation under a permit issued by the Executive Director or his or her designee based on an evaluation of the potential for escapement and threat to sensitive aquatic habitats.

(c) It shall be unlawful to transport, possess, or release live river herring, also known as alewife or blueback herring, in the waters of the Little Tennessee River in and upstream of Lake Santeetlah and Cedar Cliff Lake, including all the tributaries and impoundments thereof, and on adjacent shorelines, docks, access ramps, and bridge crossings.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-274(c)(1c); 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. September 1, 1984;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;  
Amended Eff. July 18, 2002;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2002;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2013; August 1, 2011; June 1, 2009, June 1, 2005; August 1, 2004;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0212 FISH HATCHERIES**

(a) Fishing by any method at any time in the waters of Bones Creek from the Lake Rim Dam to the US 401 Bypass (Raeford Road) or upon any property used in conjunction with any State fish hatchery is prohibited, except that fishing shall be allowed:

- (1) In McKinney Lake; and
  - (2) at any fishing event conducted by the Commission
- (b) On Lake Rim it shall be unlawful to:
- (1) use motorized boats, except those powered by electric motors;
  - (2) swim or bathe at any time; or
  - (3) use, or have in one's possession, any minnows, or other species of fish except golden shiners for use as bait.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; May 1, 1992;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0213 SNAGGING FISH**

Snagging by means of pulling or jerking a device equipped with one or more hooks through the water for the purpose of impaling fish is prohibited in all inland fishing waters.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. January 1, 1977;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1989; January 1, 1981; January 1, 1979; January 1, 1978;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0214 FISH COLLECTORS**

(a) A collection license may be issued to qualified individuals to take any species of fish from the inland fishing waters of the State, or inland game fish from the joint or coastal waters.

(b) Individuals interested in obtaining a collection license shall apply by sending an application to 1701 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606 or by completing and submitting an application online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). Information required by the applicant shall include:

- (1) name, address, date of birth, email, and driver's license number;
  - (2) species information;
  - (3) organizational affiliation, if any; and
  - (4) full documentation of research or educational proposal(s), if applicable.
- (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 of license (harvest or catch and release);
  - (4) current status and quantity of species requested;
  - (5) collection methodology proposed; and
  - (6) disposition of collection.

- (d) A collection license may be used in lieu of any other fishing license required by law and shall authorize possession and transportation of the fish incidental to the authorized taking.
- (e) A collection license may be issued:
  - (1) upon payment of the license fee.
  - (2) to any individual, so long as the take is not deemed harmful to the efficient conservation of the species to be collected or to other fish or wildlife resources that may be dependent thereon.
- (f) Endangered and threatened species shall not be taken or collected under a collection license except with a valid endangered species permit.
- (g) Unless a more limited duration is designated on the license, collection licenses shall be valid from January 1 through December 31 of the applicable year.
- (h) The manner of taking fish under a collection license may be specified on the license and need not be restricted to the usual methods of lawful fishing.
- (i) Licensed individuals shall submit the following information to the Commission within 15 days of license expiration. The report shall be completed online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) and include:
  - (1) the numbers of each species taken under the license;
  - (2) the use or disposition thereof; and
  - (3) the date and waterbody of taking.

Depending on the species taken, additional information including the sex, size, weight, age, and condition of species taken may be required.

- (j) The Executive Director or his or her designee may, pursuant to G.S. 113-272.4(d), impose further restrictions or conditions on individuals licensed under this Rule deemed to be necessary to the efficient administration of the wildlife conservation laws and Rules.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272.4;  
Eff. January 1, 1981;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0215 REPLACEMENT COSTS OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES - FISH**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-267;  
Eff. December 1, 1993.  
Repealed Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0216 STATE INLAND FISHING LICENSE EXEMPTIONS**

- (a) The Commission may exempt participants of an organized fishing event conducted by a governmental or non-profit entity from obtaining an inland fishing license.
- (b) The state inland fishing license exemption shall only be issued when all the following information is submitted by the applicant on a form found online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) not less than 21 days prior to the organized fishing event:
  - (1) applicant name, address, phone number, and email address;
  - (2) applicant organization name and address;
  - (3) date, time, and location of event; and
  - (4) estimated number of event attendees and event description.
- (c) The state inland fishing license exemption is subject to the following conditions:
  - (1) The person in charge of the event must be on-site at all times and have a copy of the exemption available for inspection on request by Commission personnel; and
  - (2) The exemption shall be limited to the immediate location of the event and shall remain in effect only for the duration of the event.
- (d) The Commission may require that the applicants submit participant information for those fishing under the exemption.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272.2; 113-276; 113-292;  
Eff. May 1, 2007;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2009;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0217 PUBLIC ACCESS FOR ANGLERS ONLY**

(a) By accepting and posting the Public Access for Fishing Only sign from the Wildlife Resources Commission on their property, a landowner:

- (1) agrees to allow any member of the public with a valid fishing license and any accompanying youth to cross his or her property in order to access public waters for the purpose of fishing; and
- (2) designates the Wildlife Resources Commission as an agent as described in G.S. 14-159.6. As an agent, the Commission confers access to any member of the public with a valid fishing license and any accompanying youth.

(b) Anglers who access property under the terms of this Rule are prohibited from engaging in any of the following activities while on the private property unless otherwise posted:

- (1) building fires;
- (2) littering;
- (3) swimming;
- (4) launching or retrieving boats;
- (5) camping;
- (6) causing property damage;
- (7) entering before 7:00 a.m.; and
- (8) remaining on the property after 9:00 p.m.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 14-159.6; 113-134; 113-305;  
Eff. August 1, 2014;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0218 HARVEST REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

(a) For the purpose of this Rule, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) "Division" means the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries.
- (2) "inland fishing waters adjacent to joint or coastal fishing waters" means inland fishing waters upstream of joint or coastal fishing waters of the Roanoke River upstream to Roanoke Rapids Dam, the Tar River upstream to Rocky Mount Mill Dam, the Neuse River upstream to Falls Lake Dam and the Cape Fear River upstream to Buckhorn Dam, and their tributaries extending upstream to the first impoundment, and in all other inland fishing waters east of Interstate 95 except in the Lumber and Waccamaw rivers and their tributaries.
- (3) "harvest" means catching or taking a fish and reducing it to permanent possession by not returning it to the water.

(b) An individual who harvests the following species, from joint fishing waters or inland fishing waters adjacent to joint or coastal fishing waters, shall report the information required in Rule 15A NCAC 03I .0124(b) to the Division at <https://www.ncmarinefisheries.net> or record the harvest on a Division-issued report card when harvest is complete:

- (1) flounder;
- (2) red drum;
- (3) spotted seatrout;
- (4) striped bass; and
- (5) weakfish.

(c) Individuals using a Division-issued report card shall report the information electronically at <https://www.ncmarinefisheries.net> in a manner consistent with requirements of Rule 15A NCAC 03I .0124(b).

(d) An individual shall not remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of the fish to render it impractical to identify, count, or measure while fishing or afield and until harvest has been recorded or reported.

(e) The requirements of this Rule shall be effective in accordance with the schedule in S.L. 2023-137, s. 6(f).

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-170.3;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. July 5, 2024;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. March 6, 2026.

#### **SECTION .0300 – GAME FISH IN INLAND FISHING WATERS**

##### **15A NCAC 10C .0301 INLAND GAME FISHES DESIGNATED**

(a) The following fishes are classified and designated as inland game fishes in inland, joint, and coastal fishing waters:

- (1) Alabama bass, largemouth bass, redeye bass, smallmouth bass, and spotted bass;
  - (2) black crappie and white crappie;
  - (3) chain pickerel (jack), muskellunge, and redbfin pickerel;
  - (4) kokanee salmon;
  - (5) mountain trout, all species including but not limited to brook trout, brown trout, and rainbow trout;
  - (6) sauger and walleye; and
  - (7) sunfish, including bluegill (bream), flier, pumpkinseed, redbreast (robin), redear (shellcracker), Roanoke bass, rock bass (redeye), warmouth, and all other species of the sunfish family (Centrarchidae) not specifically listed in this Rule.
- (b) The following fishes are classified as inland game fishes when found in inland fishing waters:
- (1) American shad and hickory shad;
  - (2) black bullhead, brown bullhead, flat bullhead, snail bullhead, white catfish, and yellow bullhead;
  - (3) flounder;
  - (4) red drum (channel bass, red fish, puppy drum);
  - (5) spotted seatrout (speckled trout);
  - (6) striped bass, white bass, white perch, and Morone hybrids (striped bass-white bass); and
  - (7) yellow perch.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Amended Eff. June 1, 2005; June 1, 2004; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1990; July 1, 1983; January 1, 1981;  
 January 1, 1980;  
 Readopted Eff. August 1, 2020;  
 Amended Eff. February 1, 2026; March 15, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0302 MANNER OF TAKING INLAND GAME FISHES**

- (a) Inland game fishes may only be taken with hook and line unless otherwise provided.
- (b) Landing nets may be used to land fishes caught on hook and line.
- (c) Game fishes taken incidental to the use of special devices for taking nongame fishes from inland fishing waters as authorized in 15A NCAC 10C .0402 or as authorized by 15A NCAC 10C .0407 by anglers licensed pursuant to G.S. 113-272.2(c) shall be immediately returned to the water unharmed except:
  - (1) that a daily creel limit of American and hickory shad may be taken with dip nets and bow nets from March 1 through April 30 in those waters where those gears may be lawfully used; and
  - (2) white perch may be taken when captured in a cast net being used to collect nongame fishes in impounded waters west of Interstate 95 and in the Tar River Reservoir in Nash County.
- (d) Inland game fishes taken from Inland Fishing Waters shall not be sold.
- (e) In the inland waters of the Roanoke River upstream of U.S. 258 bridge, only a single barbless circle hook may be used when fishing with live or natural bait from April 1 to June 30. With other tackle, only a single barbless hook may be used. "Circle hook" as used in this Rule means a hook with the point turned perpendicularly back to the shank. "Barbless" as used in this Rule requires that the hook does not have a barb or the barb is bent down.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272.3; 113-292;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Amended Eff. July 1, 1996; October 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; May 1, 1992; January 1, 1982;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1998;  
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2014; August 1, 2002; April 1, 1999;  
 Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021;  
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2023; March 15, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0303 PURCHASE AND SALE OF INLAND GAME FISHES**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-292; 113-302;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Amended Eff. January 1, 1982; January 1, 1981; January 1, 1979; January 1, 1977;

*Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0304 TAKING AND POSSESSION OF INLAND GAME FISHES**

- (a) Individuals shall only take up to the daily creel limit of those species of inland game fish having a specified creel limit.
- (b) Individuals shall only possess on those waters being fished:
  - (1) the specified daily creel limit for the species;
  - (2) fish conforming to the size limit for the species; and
  - (3) the daily creel limit while fishing or afield.
- (c) Individuals shall only possess up to three days creel limit at any place.
- (d) No person, while fishing or afield, shall:
  - (1) unnecessarily destroy any inland game fish taken from inland fishing waters;
  - (2) remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of any game fish having a size limit so to render it impracticable to measure its total original length; or
  - (3) change the appearance of any game fish having a daily creel limit so to obscure its identification or render it impracticable to count the number of fish in possession.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-135; 113-135.1; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1991; July 1, 1988; January 1, 1981;  
Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023.*

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

- (a) The daily creel limit for Largemouth Bass is five fish, except in waters identified in Paragraphs (d), (e), (f), (l), (m), and (n) of this Rule.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit for Largemouth Bass, but only two of them may be less than 14 inches except in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) through (n) of this Rule.
- (c) There is no closed season, except in waters identified in Paragraph (n) of this Rule.
- (d) In Lake Cammack in Alamance 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.
- (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, Scuppernon 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, 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 one Largemouth Bass, 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 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.

*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, 2024; March 15, 2023; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0306 CRAPPIE**

(a) There is no daily creel limit for Crappie, except in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) through (h) of this Rule.

(b) There is no minimum size limit except in waters identified in Paragraphs (f) through (h) of this Rule.

(c) There is no closed season.

(d) In Buckhorn Reservoir in Wilson and Nash counties, the daily creel limit is 20 fish.

(e) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit is 30 fish.

(f) In the following waters, the daily creel limit is 20 fish and the minimum size limit is 10 inches:

- (1) Roanoke River and its tributaries downstream of Roanoke Rapids dam;
- (2) Cashie River and its tributaries;
- (3) Middle River and its tributaries;
- (4) Eastmost River and its tributaries; and
- (5) Lake Mattamuskeet in Hyde County.

(g) In the following waters, the daily creel limit is 20 fish and the minimum size limit is eight inches:

- (1) Lake Norman;
- (2) Lake Hyco;
- (3) Cane Creek Lake in Union County;
- (4) Lake Hampton in Yadkin County;
- (5) B. Everett Jordan Reservoir;
- (6) Shearon Harris Reservoir;
- (7) Tar River downstream of Tar River Reservoir Dam including tributaries;
- (8) Neuse River downstream of Falls Lake Dam including tributaries;
- (9) Haw River downstream of B. Everett Jordan Reservoir Dam including tributaries;
- (10) Deep River downstream of Lockville Dam including tributaries;
- (11) Cape Fear River including tributaries;
- (12) Waccamaw River downstream of Lake Waccamaw Dam including tributaries;

- (13) Lumber River including Drowning Creek including tributaries;
  - (14) public fishing waters east of Interstate 95, except Tar River Reservoir in Nash County, Sutton Lake in New Hanover County, and waters listed in Paragraph (f) of this Rule; and
  - (15) public waters west of Interstate 77, except Lake Chatuga.
- (h) In John H. Kerr Reservoir, the daily creel limit is 25 fish and the minimum size limit is nine inches.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2025; August 1, 2024; August 1, 2023; March 15, 2023; August 1, 2020.

**15A NCAC 10C .0307 FLOUNDER**

- (a) The daily creel limit for flounder is one fish.
- (b) The minimum size limit is 15 inches.
- (c) The season for taking and possessing flounder is September 1 through September 14.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; March 15, 2023;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 8, 2024;  
Temporary Amendment Exp. May 31, 2025.

**15A NCAC 10C .0308 KOKANEE SALMON**

- (a) The daily creel limit for kokanee salmon is four fish.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. March 15, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10C .0309 MUSKELLUNGE**

- (a) The daily creel limit for Muskellunge is one fish.
- (b) The minimum size limit is 42 inches.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.

**15A NCAC 10C .0310 PICKEREL**

- (a) There is no daily creel limit for Pickerel (Chain and Redfin).
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.

**15A NCAC 10C .0311 ROANOKE AND ROCK BASS**

- (a) There is no daily creel limit for Roanoke and Rock Bass, except for waters identified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

- (b) There is no minimum size limit, except for waters identified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) In all public fishing waters east of Interstate 77, the daily creel limit for Roanoke and Rock Bass is two fish in the aggregate and the minimum size for these fish is eight inches.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0312 SAUGER**

- (a) The daily creel limit for Sauger is eight fish.
- (b) The minimum size limit is 15 inches.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0313 AMERICAN SHAD AND HICKORY SHAD**

- (a) The daily creel limit for American and Hickory Shad in aggregate is 10 fish, only one of which may be an American Shad, except for waters identified in Paragraphs (d) through (f) of this Rule.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season, except for waters identified in Paragraph (f) of this Rule.
- (d) In the inland waters of the Tar-Pamlico River, Pungo River, Pee Dee River, and their tributaries, the daily creel limit for American and Hickory Shad is 10 in aggregate.
- (e) In the inland waters of the Cape Fear River and its tributaries, the daily creel limit for American and Hickory Shad is 10 in aggregate, only five of which may be American Shad.
- (f) In public waters of the Roanoke River upstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam, including Roanoke Rapids Reservoir, Lake Gaston, John H. Kerr Reservoir, and their tributaries, and in public waters of the Yadkin-Pee Dee River upstream of Blewett Falls Dam, including Blewett Falls Reservoir, and its tributaries, no American Shad may be possessed.
- (g) American and Hickory Shad may be taken with dip nets and bow nets as allowed in Rule .0407 of this Subchapter from March 1 through April 30.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; March 15, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0314 STRIPED BASS**

- (a) The daily creel limit for striped bass and its hybrids is four fish in aggregate, except in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) and (g) through (m) of this Rule.
- (b) The minimum size limit for these fish is 20 inches, except in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) through (m) of this Rule.
- (c) There is no closed season, except for waters identified in Paragraphs (i) through (m) 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. No fish greater than 26 inches may be 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 the minimum size limit for striped bass and its hybrids is 16 inches.
- (g) In Lake Chatuge in Clay County, the daily creel limit is 15 in the aggregate. There is no minimum size limit, and two may be greater than 22 inches.

(h) In Lake 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.

(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 35.419448 N 76.758752 W running southwesterly to a point at Fork Point at 35.390755 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 35.035722 N 76.933275 W running southwesterly to a point at Fisher Landing Point 35.002583 N 76.97623 W, the following restrictions 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) 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 Neuse River downstream of these lines, the season for taking and possessing striped bass and striped bass hybrids is closed year-round.

(j) In the inland fishing waters of the 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), (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 is closed year-round.

(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.

(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.

(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 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.*

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0315 SUNFISH**

(a) For purposes of this Rule, Sunfish include bluegill, redbreast, redear, pumpkinseed, warmouth, flier, and all other species of the sunfish family (Centrarchidae) not specified in 15A NCAC 10C .0305, .0306, .0311, .0321, .0322, or .0323.

(b) There is no daily creel limit for Sunfish, except for waters identified in Paragraph (e) of this Rule.

(c) There is no minimum size limit.

(d) There is no closed season.

(e) In the following waters and all their tributaries, the daily creel limit for Sunfish is 30 in the aggregate, no more than 12 of which may be Redbreast Sunfish:

- (1) Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam;
- (2) Tar River downstream of Tar River Reservoir Dam;
- (3) Neuse River downstream of Falls Lake Dam;
- (4) Haw River downstream of Jordan Lake Dam;
- (5) Deep River downstream of Lockville Dam;

- (6) Cape Fear River;
- (7) Waccamaw River downstream of Lake Waccamaw Dam;
- (8) Lumber River including Drowning Creek; and
- (9) all other public fishing waters east of Interstate 95, except Tar River Reservoir in Nash County.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0316 MOUNTAIN TROUT**

- (a) The daily creel limit for trout in Hatchery-Supported Trout Waters is seven fish. There is no minimum size limit for these fish. The open season is from 7 a.m. on the first Saturday in April until March 1, except for waters designated in Paragraph (g) of this Rule.
- (b) The daily creel limit for trout in Wild Trout Waters is four fish. The minimum size limit for these fish is seven inches. There is no closed season.
- (c) No trout shall be harvested from Catch and Release/Artificial Flies and Lures Only Trout Waters. Trout shall not be possessed while fishing these waters.
- (d) The daily creel limit for trout in Delayed Harvest Trout Waters is seven fish. There is no minimum size limit for these fish. The Youth-only Delayed Harvest Trout Water Season is from 6:00 a.m. on the first Saturday in June until 12 p.m. that same day. During this season individuals under 16 years of age may fish. From 12:00 p.m. on the first Saturday in June until September 30, the Delayed Harvest Trout Waters Season is open for anglers. From October 1 to one-half hour after sunset on the Friday before the first Saturday in June, trout shall not be harvested or possessed while fishing these waters. Delayed Harvest Trout Waters are closed to fishing from one-half hour after sunset on the Friday before the first Saturday in June to 6 a.m. on the first Saturday in June.
- (e) The daily creel limits, size limits, and seasons for trout in Special Regulation Trout Waters are as follows:
  - (1) Apalachia Reservoir (Cherokee County) the daily creel limit is three trout. There is no minimum size limit, but only one may be greater than 14 inches. There is no closed season.
  - (2) Catawba River (Burke County) from Muddy Creek to the City of Morganton water intake dam the daily creel limit is two fish. The minimum size limit is 14 inches. There is no closed season.
- (f) The daily creel limit for trout in undesignated trout waters is seven fish. There is no minimum size limit for these fish.
- (g) There is no closed season on taking trout from Linville River within Linville Gorge Wilderness Area and the impounded waters of the following power reservoirs and municipally-owned water supply reservoirs open to the public for fishing.
  - (1) Bear Creek Lake;
  - (2) Buckeye Creek Reservoir;
  - (3) Calderwood Reservoir;
  - (4) Cedar Cliff Lake;
  - (5) Cheoah Reservoir;
  - (6) Cliffside Lake;
  - (7) Tanassee Creek Lake;
  - (8) Queens Creek Lake; and
  - (9) Wolf Lake.
- (h) In designated Public Mountain Trout Waters the season for taking all species of fish is the same as the trout fishing season.
- (i) Trout water designations and manners of take are set forth in 15A NCAC 10C .0205.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2015;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2019;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2025; August 1, 2024; August 1, 2021; August 1, 2020.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0317 WALLEYE**

- (a) The daily creel limit for Walleye is eight fish except for waters identified in Paragraphs (d) and (f) of this Rule.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit except for waters identified in Paragraphs (e) and (f) of this Rule.
- (c) There is no closed season.

- (d) In Linville River upstream from the NC 126 bridge, the daily creel limit for Walleye is four fish.
- (e) In Lake James and its tributaries, except the Linville River upstream from the N.C. 126 bridge, the minimum size limit for walleye is 15 inches.
- (f) In John H. Kerr Reservoir, Lake Gaston, and Roanoke Rapids Lake, the daily creel limit is five fish and the minimum size limit for Walleye is 18 inches.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.

**15A NCAC 10C .0318 WHITE BASS**

- (a) The daily creel limit for white bass is 10 fish.
- (b) There is a 14-inch minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. November 1, 2013.  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2017;  
Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10C .0319 WHITE PERCH**

- (a) There is no daily creel limit for white perch.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) In and west of Haywood, Buncombe, and Rutherford counties, it is unlawful to transport, possess, or release live white perch.
- (e) White perch may be taken when captured in a cast net being used to collect nongame fishes for bait or personal consumption in all impounded waters west of I-95 and in the Tar River Reservoir (Nash County).

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2016;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021;  
Amended Eff. March 15, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10C .0320 YELLOW PERCH**

- (a) There is no daily creel limit for Yellow Perch.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2013;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.

**15A NCAC 10C .0321 SMALLMOUTH BASS**

- (a) The daily creel limit for smallmouth bass is five fish, except in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) through (f) of this Rule.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit for smallmouth bass, but only two of them may be less than 14 inches except in waters identified in Paragraphs (d) through (f) of this Rule.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) 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.
- (e) 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. There is no minimum size limit for smallmouth bass.
- (f) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia), the daily creel limit for largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and spotted bass is five fish in aggregate. There is no minimum size limit for

smallmouth bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and only one largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, or spotted bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. August 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. March 15, 2023; August 1, 2021.

**15A NCAC 10C .0322 ALABAMA BASS AND SPOTTED BASS**

- (a) There is no daily creel limit for Alabama bass or spotted bass, except for waters identified in Paragraphs (d) and (e) of this Rule.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) 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.
- (e) In the Alleghany County portion of New River downstream of Fields Dam (Grayson County, Virginia), the daily creel limit for largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and spotted bass is five fish in aggregate. There is no minimum size limit for spotted bass, but no fish between 14 and 22 inches in length may be possessed and only one largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, or spotted bass greater than 22 inches may be possessed.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. August 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. March 15, 2023; August 1, 2021.

**15A NCAC 10C .0323 REDEYE BASS**

- (a) The daily creel limit for redeye bass is five fish.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit for redeye bass, but only two of them may be less than 14 inches.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. August 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. March 15, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10C .0324 BULLHEADS**

- (a) The daily creel limit for black bullhead, brown bullhead, flat bullhead, snail bullhead, white catfish, and yellow bullhead is 10 fish in aggregate.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;  
Eff. August 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. March 15, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10C .0325 SEATROUT**

- (a) Seatrout (spotted or speckled) shall not be taken or possessed.
- (b) The temporary amendment shall expire on June 30, 2026.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 7, 2025; May 2, 2025;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2026;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. April 6, 2026.

**15A NCAC 10C .0326 RED DRUM**

- (a) The daily creel limit for red drum (also known as channel bass, red fish or puppy drum) is one fish.

- (b) The minimum size limit is 18 inches and no fish over 27 inches may be possessed in the daily creel limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023.

## **SECTION .0400 – NONGAME FISH IN INLAND FISHING WATERS**

### **15A NCAC 10C .0401 MANNER OF TAKING NONGAME FISHES**

- (a) Except as permitted by the rules in this Section, no person shall take nongame fishes from the inland fishing waters of North Carolina in a manner other than with hook and line, grabbling, or special device with a special device fishing license, or inland fishing license.
- (b) Nongame fishes may be taken from inland fishing waters without restriction as to size limits or creel limits, except as specified in this Section.
- (c) Special devices used with a special device fishing license shall only be used in those counties and waters with open season designated in 15A NCAC 10C .0407.
- (d) Archery equipment used with either a hunting license or inland fishing license may be used to take nongame fishes year-round in inland fishing waters, except:
  - (1) in the Pee Dee River and its tributaries, downstream of Blewett Falls Dam to the South Carolina state line, where only catfish shall be taken;
  - (2) in impounded waters located on the Sandhills Game Land; and
  - (3) in public mountain trout waters.
- (e) Set hooks, jug hooks, and trotlines may be used to take nongame fishes as designated in 15A NCAC 10C .0206.
- (f) The season for taking nongame fishes by hook and line in designated public mountain trout waters is the same as the trout fishing season. Trout seasons are designated in 15A NCAC 10C .0316.
- (g) Nongame fishes taken by hook and line, grabbling, or by special device with a special device fishing license may be sold unless otherwise specified in this Section.
- (h) In the inland waters of the Roanoke River upstream of U.S. 258 bridge, only a single barbless circle hook may be used when fishing with live or natural bait from April 1 to June 30. With other tackle, only a single barbless hook may be used. "Circle hook" as used in this Rule means a hook with the point turned perpendicularly back to the shank. "Barbless" as used in this Rule requires that a hook does not have a barb or the barb is bent down.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; May 1, 1992;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1994;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995;  
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. May 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2019; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2021;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2023; March 15, 2023.

### **15A NCAC 10C .0402 TAKING NONGAME FISHES BY SPECIAL DEVICE FOR BAIT OR PERSONAL CONSUMPTION**

- (a) The use of equipment specified in this Rule requires a valid license that provides basic inland fishing privileges.

(b) It is unlawful to take nongame fish for bait or personal consumption in the inland waters of North Carolina using equipment other than:

- (1) a net of dip net design not greater than six feet across;
- (2) a seine of not greater than 12 feet in length (except in Lake Waccamaw in Columbus County where there is no length limitation) and with a bar mesh measure of not more than one-fourth inch;
- (3) a cast net;
- (4) a bow net for the seasons and waters in which the use of bow nets is authorized in 15A NCAC 10C .0407;
- (5) a dip net when used in conjunction with a licensed hand-crank electrofisher;
- (6) a gig (except in Public Mountain Trout Waters);
- (7) up to three traps for the seasons and waters in which the use of traps is authorized in 15A NCAC 10C .0407;
- (8) up to two eel pots;
- (9) a spear gun for the seasons and waters in which the use of a spear gun is authorized in 15A NCAC 10C .0407;
- (10) minnow traps not exceeding 12 inches in diameter and 24 inches in length, with funnel openings not exceeding one inch in diameter, from which all fish and animals are removed daily, and that are labeled with the user's Wildlife Resources Commission customer number or name and address;
- (11) a hand-held line with a single bait attached;
- (12) a single, multiple-bait line for taking crabs not to exceed 100 feet in length, marked on each end with a solid float no less than five inches in diameter, bearing legible and indelible identification of the user's name and address, and under the immediate control and attendance of the person using the device, with a limit of one line per person and no more than one line per vessel; or
- (13) a collapsible crab trap with the largest open dimension not greater than 18 inches and that by design is collapsed at all times when in the water, except when it is being retrieved or lowered to the bottom, with a limit of one trap per person.

(c) It is unlawful to sell nongame fishes or aquatic animals taken under this Rule.

(d) Game fishes taken shall be returned unharmed to the water, except for the following:

- (1) American and hickory shad may be taken when captured with dip nets and bow nets from March 1 through April 30 subject to the size and creel limits specified in 15A NAC 10C .0313.
- (2) white perch may be taken when captured in a cast net being used to collect nongame fishes for bait or personal consumption in all impounded waters west of I-95 and in the Tar River Reservoir (Nash County) subject to the size and creel limits specified in 15A NCAC 10C .0319.

(e) No person shall take or possess during one day more than 200 nongame fish, in aggregate, for bait or personal consumption, accounting for species specific size and creel limits identified in Section .0400 of this Subchapter.

(f) Any fishes taken for bait purposes are included within the daily possession limit for that species.

(g) It is unlawful to take nongame fish for bait from the following waters:

- (1) Public Mountain Trout Waters (except in impounded waters of power reservoirs and municipally-owned water supply reservoirs);
- (2) Bear Creek in Chatham County;
- (3) Deep River in Chatham, Lee, and Moore counties and downstream of Coleridge Dam in Randolph County;
- (4) Fork Creek in Randolph County; and
- (5) Rocky River in Chatham County.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272; 113-272.3; 113-292; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; July 1, 1998; July 1, 1993; July 1, 1992; May 1, 1992; July 1, 1989; Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001; Amended Eff. July 18, 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, 2019; August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2013; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; Readopted Eff. August 1, 2021; Temporary Amended Eff. September 1, 2022; Amended Eff. March 15, 2023.*

## **15A NCAC 10C .0403 TAKING NONGAME FISHES BY SPECIAL DEVICES**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272.3; 113-276; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 1982; January 1, 1977;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

### **15A NCAC 10C .0404 SPECIAL DEVICES**

(a) Archery equipment. Archery equipment, as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, is a special device.

(b) Nets. Where authorized, manually operated nets, including seines and bow, cast, dip, gill, drift, and fyke nets may be used under the special device license. No fixed gill net or other stationary net which may be authorized as a special device may be more than 100 yards in length, nor shall any such net be placed within 50 yards of any other fixed net. Fixed nets must be set so that they run parallel to the nearest shoreline. No fixed or drift gill nets shall be used unless such net is marked for the protection of boat operators. A net shall be deemed so marked when there is attached to it at each end two separate yellow buoys that shall be of solid foam or other solid buoyant material no less than five inches in its smallest dimensions. The owner shall be identified on a buoy on each end either by using engraved buoys or by attaching engraved metal or plastic tags to the buoys. Such identification shall include one of the following:

- (1) owner's N.C. motor boat registration number;
- (2) owner's U.S. vessel documentation name; or
- (3) owner's last name, first and middle initials.

It is unlawful to attach gill nets to any wire, rope, or similar device extended across any navigable watercourse.

(c) Traps. Baskets and traps, excluding collapsible crab traps, may be used under the special device license. Such devices when set and left unattended shall be affixed with a card or tag furnished by the license holder and upon which his name and address shall be legibly and indelibly inscribed. No fish trap may exceed 60 inches in length or 30 inches in depth or width. No lead nets, wing nets, or other device designed to guide or herd fish may be attached to the trap or used or set within 25 feet of the trap.

(d) Spears. Manually operated gigs or under-water spear or harpoon guns may be used under the special device license in the inland waters having a season for their use specified in 15A NCAC 10C .0407.

(e) Crab pots. It is unlawful to use crab pots in inland fishing waters, except by persons owning property adjacent to the inland fishing waters of coastal rivers and their tributaries who are permitted to set two crab pots to be attached to their property and not subject to special device license requirements.

(f) Eel pots. It is unlawful to use pots with mesh sizes smaller than one-half inch by one-half inch. Each pot must be marked by attaching a floating buoy that shall be of solid foam or other solid buoyant material and no less than five inches in diameter and no less than five inches in length. Buoys may be of any color except yellow. The owner shall be identified on the attached buoy by using engraved buoys or by engraved metal or plastic tags attached to the buoy. Such identification shall include one of the following:

- (1) owner's N.C. motorboat registration number;
- (2) owner's U.S. vessel documentation name; or
- (3) owner's last name, first and middle initials.

(g) Hand-crank electrofisher. For the purposes of this Rule, a hand-crank electrofisher is any manually-operated device which is capable of generating a low voltage electrical current not exceeding 300 volts for the taking of catfish. Hand-crank electrofishers may be used only where authorized by local law and only in those waters specified in 15A NCAC 10C .0407.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272.2; 113-276; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1999; July 1, 1996; December 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993;  
Temporary Amendment Effective July 1, 2001;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2014; August 1, 2012; May 1, 2008; May 1, 2007; August 1, 2004; July 18, 2002;  
Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023.

### **15A NCAC 10C .0405 POSSESSION OF LICENSES**

Except as indicated in this Rule, every individual participating in the taking of fish through the use of any special device must have the special device fishing license issued to him, personally, in his possession or readily available for inspection. A bow net or a dip net may be used by an individual other than the licensee with the licensee's permission, but such user must have

the license in his possession or readily available for inspection. When using drag seines authorized for taking nongame fishes at beaches on inland fishing waters where there are migratory saltwater fishes only the principal owner and operator is required to be licensed.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-275; 113-276; 113-276.1; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. November 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1999;  
Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0406 TRAWLS AND DREDGES**

It is unlawful to use a trawl or clam dredge in any inland fishing waters.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-276; 113-292;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1988; January 1, 1982; January 1, 1981;  
Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0407 PERMITTED SPECIAL DEVICES AND OPEN SEASONS**

The use of special fishing devices, including crab pots in impoundments located entirely on game lands, shall be prohibited. Seasons and waters in which the use of other special devices is authorized are indicated by counties below:

- (1) Alamance:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Alamance Creek below NC 49 bridge and Haw River;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters;
- (2) Alexander: July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters; and with spear guns in Lake Hickory and Lookout Shoals Reservoir;
- (3) Alleghany: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in New River, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (4) Anson:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Pee Dee River below Blewett Falls Dam;
  - (c) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters, except Pee Dee River from Blewett Falls downstream to the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad trestle;
- (5) Ashe: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in New River (both forks), except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (6) Beaufort:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in the Pungo River, and in the Tar and Pamlico Rivers above Norfolk and Southern Railroad bridge; and with gigs in all inland public waters;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters;
- (7) Bertie:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in the Broad Creek (tributary of Roanoke);
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (8) Bladen:
  - (a) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Black River;
  - (b) July 1 to March 1 with hand-crank electrofishers (local law) in Cape Fear River between Lock and Dam 1 and 3 and in Black River, except that hand-crank electrofishing is prohibited within 400 yards of Lock and Dam 1, 2, and 3 on Cape Fear River;
- (9) Brunswick: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Alligator Creek, Hoods Creek, Indian Creek, Orton Creek below Orton Pond, Rices Creek, Sturgeon Creek and Town Creek;
- (10) Buncombe: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (11) Burke:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters, except Johns River and designated public mountain trout waters;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps, gigs, and spear guns in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters and Lake James;

- (12) Cabarrus:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters,
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters;
- (13) Caldwell: July 1 to June 30 with traps, gigs, and spear guns in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (14) Camden:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in all inland public waters;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (15) Carteret: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters except South River and the tributaries of the White Oak River;
- (16) Caswell:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters;
  - (b) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters, except Moons Creek;
  - (c) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Hyco Reservoir;
- (17) Catawba:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters, except Catawba River below Lookout Dam;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps, spear guns, and gigs in all public waters;
- (18) Chatham:
  - (a) December 1 to April 15 with dip and gill nets in the Cape Fear River, Deep River, Haw River and Rocky River (local law);
  - (b) July 1 to August 31 with seines in the Cape Fear River, and Haw River;
  - (c) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Deep River; and with gigs in all public waters;
- (19) Cherokee: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (20) Chowan:
  - (a) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (21) Clay: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (22) Cleveland:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs, traps and spear guns in all public waters;
- (23) Columbus:
  - (a) December 1 to March 1 with gigs in all inland public waters, except Lake Waccamaw and its tributaries;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Livingston Creek;
  - (c) July 1 to March 1 with hand-crank electrofishers (local law) in Waccamaw and Lumber rivers;
- (24) Craven:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in the main run of the Trent and Neuse Rivers;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except Pitch Kettle, Grindle, Slocum (downstream of the US 70 bridge), Spring, and Hancock Creeks and their tributaries; and with seines in the Neuse River;
- (25) Currituck:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Tulls Creek and Northwest River;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (26) Dare:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Mashoes Creek, Milltail Creek, East Lake, and South Lake;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (27) Davidson:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters;

- (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, and with traps in all public waters except Leonard's Creek, Abbott's Creek below Lake Thom-A-Lex dam, and the Abbott's Creek arm of High Rock Lake upstream from the NC 8 bridge;
- (28) Davie:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters;
  - (b) July 1 to August 31 for taking only carp and suckers with seines in Dutchmans Creek from US 601 to Yadkin River and in Hunting Creek from SR 1338 to South Yadkin River;
- (29) Duplin:
  - (a) December 1 to June 5 with seines in the main run of the Northeast Cape Fear River downstream from a point one mile above Serecta Bridge;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in the main run of the Northeast Cape Fear River downstream from a point one mile above Serecta Bridge;
- (30) Durham:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Neuse River;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters;
- (31) Edgecombe: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all public waters;
- (32) Forsyth: July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters, except traps may not be used in Belews Creek Reservoir;
- (33) Franklin:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Tar River;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Parrish, Laurel Mill, Jackson, Clifton, Moore's, and Perry's Ponds, and in the Franklinton City ponds;
- (34) Gaston:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs, traps, and spear guns in all public waters;
- (35) Gates: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (36) Graham: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (37) Granville:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Kerr Reservoir;
  - (b) July 1 to August 31 with seines in the Tar River below US 158 bridge;
  - (c) July 1 to June 30 with dip and cast nets in Kerr Reservoir;
- (38) Greene: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets and reels in Contentnea Creek;
- (39) Guilford:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Haw River, Deep River below Jamestown Dam, and Reedy Fork Creek below US 29 bridge;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters;
- (40) Halifax: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Beech Swamp, Clarks Canal, Conoconnara Swamp, Fishing Creek below the Fishing Creek Mill Dam, Kehukee Swamp, Looking Glass Gut, Quankey Creek, and White's Mill Pond Run;
- (41) Harnett:
  - (a) January 1 to May 31 with gigs in Cape Fear River and tributaries;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Cape Fear River;
- (42) Haywood: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Lake Junaluska and designated public mountain trout waters;
- (43) Henderson: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (44) Hertford:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Wiccacon Creek;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (45) Hyde:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in all inland waters;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;

- (46) Iredell: July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters; and with spear guns in Lookout Shoals Reservoir and Lake Norman;
- (47) Jackson: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (48) Johnston: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Black Creek, Little River, Middle Creek, Mill Creek, Neuse River and Swift Creek;
- (49) Jones:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in the Trent River below US 17 bridge and White Oak River below US 17 bridge;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except the tributaries to the White Oak River;
- (50) Lee:
  - (a) December 1 to April 15 with dip and gill nets (local law) in Cape Fear River and Deep River;
  - (b) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Cape Fear River;
  - (c) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Deep River, and with gigs in all public waters;
- (51) Lenoir:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Neuse River below US 70 bridge at Kinston;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Neuse River and Contentnea Creek upstream from NC 118 bridge at Grifton; and with seines in Neuse River;
- (52) Lincoln:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps, gigs, and spear guns in all public waters;
- (53) McDowell:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps, gigs, and spear guns in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters and Lake James;
- (54) Macon: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (55) Madison: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (56) Martin: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (57) Mecklenburg:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps, gigs, and spear guns in all public waters except Freedom Park Pond and Hornet's Nest Ponds;
- (58) Montgomery:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters, except that part of the Pee Dee River between the Lake Tillery dam at Hydro and the mouth of Rocky River;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters;
- (59) Moore:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters except in Deep River;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except lakes located on the Sandhills Game Land; and with traps in Deep River and its tributaries;
- (60) Nash:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Tar River;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in the Tar River below Harris' Landing and Fishing Creek below the Fishing Creek Mill Dam;
- (61) New Hanover: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except Sutton (Catfish) Lake;
- (62) Northampton:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Reservoirs and the Roanoke River above the US 301 bridge;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Oconeechee Creek, Old River Landing Gut, and Vaughans Creek below Watsons Mill;
- (63) Onslow:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in White Oak River below US 17 bridge;

- (b) August 1 to March 31 with eel pots in the main run of New River between US 17 bridge and the mouth of Hawkins Creek;
- (c) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in the main run of New River and in the main run of the White Oak River;
- (d) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Grant's Creek;
- (64) Orange:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Haw River,
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters;
- (65) Pamlico: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except Dawson Creek;
- (66) Pasquotank:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in all inland waters;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (67) Pender:
  - (a) December 1 to June 5 with seines in the main run of Northeast Cape Fear River;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in the Northeast Cape Fear River, Long Creek, Moore's Creek approximately one mile upstream to New Moon Fishing Camp, and Black River;
  - (c) July 1 to March 1 with hand-crank electrofishers (local law) in Black River;
- (68) Perquimans:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in all inland waters;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except public lakes, ponds, and other impounded waters;
- (69) Person:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Hyco Creek and Mayo Creek;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters.
- (70) Pitt:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Neuse River and in Tar River below the mouth of Hardee Creek east of Greenville;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except Grindle Creek, and Contentnea Creek between NC 118 bridge at Grifton and the Neuse River;
  - (c) December 1 to June 5 with seines in Tar River;
- (71) Polk: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (72) Randolph:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Deep River above the Coleridge Dam and Uwharrie River;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters;
- (73) Richmond:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters, except Pee Dee River from Blewett Falls downstream to the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad trestle;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters, except lakes located on the Sandhills Game Land;
  - (c) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Pee Dee River below Blewett Falls Dam;
- (74) Robeson: December 1 to March 1 with gigs in all inland public waters.
- (75) Rockingham:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Dan River and Haw River;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Dan River; and with gigs in all public waters;
- (76) Rowan:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters,
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters;
- (77) Rutherford:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps, gigs, and spear guns in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (78) Sampson:
  - (a) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Big Coharie Creek, Black River and Six Runs Creek;

- (b) July 1 to March 1 with hand-crank electrofishers (local law) in Black River downstream of NC 1105 bridge;
- (79) Stanly:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters, except that part of the Pee Dee River between the Lake Tillery dam at Hydro and the mouth of Rocky River;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters;
- (80) Stokes: July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters, and traps may not be used in Belews Creek Reservoir;
- (81) Surry: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters; and with traps in the main stem of Yadkin River;
- (82) Swain: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (83) Transylvania: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (84) Tyrrell:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with traps in Scuppernong River and Alligator Creek;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except Lake Phelps, the drainage canals that connect Lake Phelps and Scuppernong River, public lakes, ponds and other impounded waters;
- (85) Union:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in all running public waters,
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with traps and gigs in all public waters;
- (86) Vance:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in the Tar River;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Rolands, Faulkners, Southerlands, and Weldon Ponds, City Lake, and Kerr Reservoir;
  - (c) July 1 to June 30 with dip and cast nets in Kerr Reservoir;
- (87) Wake:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Sunset, Benson, Wheeler, Raleigh, and Johnson Lakes;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in the Neuse River below Falls Lake Dam, and Swift Creek below Lake Benson Dam;
- (88) Warren:
  - (a) July 1 to August 31 with seines in Fishing Creek, Shocco Creek, and Walker Creek; except Duck and Hammes Mill Ponds;
  - (b) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, except Duck and Hammes Mill Ponds, Kerr Reservoir, and Gaston Reservoir;
  - (c) July 1 to June 30 with dip and cast nets in Kerr Reservoir;
- (89) Washington: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in all inland public waters, except Lake Phelps, the drainage canals that connect Lake Phelps and Scuppernong River, public lakes, ponds, and other impoundments.
- (90) Wayne: March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Little River, Mill Creek and Neuse River.
- (91) Wilkes: July 1 to June 30 with traps in Yadkin River below W. Kerr Scott Reservoir; and with gigs and spear guns in all public waters, except designated public mountain trout waters;
- (92) Wilson:
  - (a) July 1 to June 30 with gigs in Contentnea Creek (except Buckhorn Reservoir), including unnamed tributaries between Flowers Mill and SR 1163 (Deans) bridge;
  - (b) March 1 to April 30 with bow nets in Contentnea Creek below US 301 bridge and in Toisnot Swamp downstream from the Lake Toisnot Dam; and
- (93) Yadkin: July 1 to June 30 with gigs in all public waters, and with traps in the main stem of Yadkin River.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-276; 113-292;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. December 29, 1988;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 1993;

*Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; December 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; June 1, 1994;*  
*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. August 1, 2019; August 1, 2015; May 1, 2007; June 1, 2005; August 1, 2004;*  
*Readopted Eff. March 15, 2023.*

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0408 TRAPPING NONGAME FISH IN HIGH ROCK LAKE**

*History Note: Emergency Rule Eff. June 23, 1981;*  
*Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 150B-13;*  
*Made Permanent with Change Eff. September 30, 1981;*  
*Repealed Eff. January 1, 1982.*

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0409 TAKING AND POSSESSION OF NONGAME FISHES**

- (a) Individuals shall only take up to the daily creel limit of those species of nongame fish having a specified creel limit.
- (b) Individuals shall only possess, on those waters being fished:
  - (1) the specified daily creel limit for the species;
  - (2) fish conforming to the size limit of the species; and
  - (3) the daily creel limit while fishing or afield.
- (c) Individuals shall only possess up to three days creel limit at any place.
- (d) No person, while fishing or afield, shall:
  - (1) remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of any nongame fish specified in Section .0400 of this Subchapter as having a size limit, so as to render it impractical to measure its total original length, except as provided in 15A NCAC 10C .0410.
  - (2) change the appearance of any nongame fish that has a species-specific daily creel limit in Section .0400 of this Subchapter, as to obscure its identification or render it impractical to count the number of fish in possession, except for American Eel as provided in 15A NCAC 10C .0410.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292;*  
*Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;*  
*Eff. March 15, 2023.*

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0410 AMERICAN EEL**

- (a) The daily creel limit for American eels taken from or possessed, regardless of origin, while boating on or fishing in inland fishing waters is 25.
- (b) The minimum size limit is nine inches.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) Eels greater than nine inches in length and with a minimum body depth greater than ½ inch may be cut for use as bait.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;*  
*Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;*  
*Eff. March 15, 2023.*

#### **15A NCAC 10C .0411 ATLANTIC CROAKER**

- (a) The daily creel limit for Atlantic croaker is 50 fish.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) Atlantic croaker 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.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0412 BLACK DRUM**

- (a) The daily creel limit for black drum is 10 fish.
- (b) The minimum size limit is 14 inches and no fish over 25 inches may be possessed in the daily creel limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) Black drum 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.

**15A NCAC 10C .0413 BLUE CRAB**

- (a) Blue crabs shall have a minimum carapace width of five inches (point to point).
- (b) It is unlawful to possess more than 50 crabs per person per day, or to exceed 100 crabs per vessel per day.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) Blue crabs 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.

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

- (a) The daily creel limit for bluefish is five.
- (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;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. March 6, 2026.

**15A NCAC 10C .0415 BOWFIN**

- (a) There is no daily creel limit for bowfin.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) Bowfin 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.

**15A NCAC 10C .0416 BLUE CATFISH, CHANNEL CATFISH, AND FLATHEAD CATFISH**

- (a) There is no daily creel limit for blue, channel, and flathead catfish, except for waters identified in Paragraphs (e), (f), and (g) of this Rule.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) In waters that are stocked and managed for catfish and located on game lands, on Commission-owned property, or on the property of a cooperator, including waters within the Community Fishing Program, no person shall take channel or blue catfish by means other than hook and line.
- (e) In waters that are stocked and managed for catfish and located on game lands, on Commission-owned property, or on the property of a cooperator, including waters within the Community Fishing Program, the daily creel limit for channel catfish is seven on waters posted with signs indicating the creel limit.
- (f) The daily creel limit for blue catfish greater than 32 inches is one fish in the following waters:
  - (1) Lake Norman;
  - (2) Mountain Island Lake;

- (3) Lake Wylie;
- (4) Badin Lake;
- (5) Lake Tillery;
- (6) John H. Kerr Reservoir (North Carolina portion);
- (7) Dan River (Downstream of the Union Street Dam in Danville, VA);
- (8) Lake Gaston (North Carolina portion); and
- (9) Roanoke Rapids Reservoir.

(g) The daily creel limit is five catfish in aggregate on the Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam to the South Carolina state line and all tributaries.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10C .0417 COBIA**

- (a) The daily creel limit for cobia is one fish.
- (b) The minimum size limit is 36 inches.
- (c) The season for taking and possessing cobia is May 1 to December 31.
- (d) Cobia 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.

**15A NCAC 10C .0418 FRESHWATER MUSSELS**

- (a) Freshwater mussels, including the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*), may only be taken from impounded waters, except mussels shall not be taken in:
- (1) Lake Waccamaw in Columbus County; and
  - (2) University Lake in Orange County.
- (b) The daily possession limit for freshwater mussels is 200 in the aggregate, except there is no daily possession limit for the Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*).
- (c) There is no minimum size limit.
- (d) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10C .0419 GRASS CARP**

- (a) There is no daily creel limit for grass carp, except for waters identified in Paragraphs (d) and (e) of this Rule.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) Grass carp shall not be taken or possessed except that one fish per day may be taken with archery equipment on the following waters:
  - (1) Lake James;
  - (2) Lookout Shoals Lake;
  - (3) Mountain Island Reservoir; and
  - (4) Lake Wylie.
- (e) Grass carp shall not be taken or possessed except for scientific study by permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission on the following waters:
  - (1) Lake Gaston (S.L. 2009-261);
  - (2) Roanoke Rapids Reservoir (S.L. 2009-261);
  - (3) Lake Norman; and
  - (4) the North Carolina portion of John H. Kerr Reservoir.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10C .0420 KING MACKEREL**

- (a) The daily creel limit for king mackerel is three fish.
- (b) The minimum size limit is 24 inches.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) King mackerel 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.

**15A NCAC 10C .0421 MARGINED MADTOM AND TADPOLE MADTOM**

Margined madtom and tadpole madtom shall not be taken or possessed.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10C .0422 STRIPED MULLET AND WHITE MULLET**

- (a) The daily creel limit for striped mullet and white mullet is 100 fish per person in aggregate and no more than 400 fish per boat.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 5, 2024;  
Amended Eff. December 1, 2024.

**15A NCAC 10C .0423 ALEWIFE AND BLUEBACK HERRING**

- (a) There is no daily creel limit for alewife or blueback herring (river herring), except for waters identified in Paragraph (e) of this Rule.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit, except for waters identified in Paragraph (d) of this Rule.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) While boating on or fishing in the following inland fishing waters, no person shall take alewife and blueback herring that are greater than six inches in length, or possess such herring regardless of origin in:
  - (1) Roanoke River downstream of Roanoke Rapids Dam;
  - (2) Tar River downstream of Rocky Mount Mill Dam;
  - (3) Neuse River downstream of Falls Lake Dam;
  - (4) Cape Fear River downstream of Buckhorn Dam;
  - (5) Pee Dee River downstream of Blewett Falls Dam;
  - (6) Lumber River, including Drowning Creek;
  - (7) all the tributaries to the rivers listed above; and
  - (8) all other inland fishing waters east of I-95.
- (e) It shall be unlawful to transport, possess, or release live alewife or blueback herring, in the waters of the Little Tennessee River in and upstream of Lake Santeetlah and Cedar Cliff Lake, including all the tributaries and impoundments thereof, and on adjacent shorelines, docks, access ramps, and bridge crossings.
- (f) Alewife and blueback herring, excluding those less than 6 inches in length collected from Kerr Reservoir (Granville, Vance, and Warren counties), may 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.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0424 SHARKS**

Sharks shall not be taken or possessed.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023.*

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

- (a) The daily creel limit for sheepshead is 5 fish.
- (b) The minimum size limit is 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;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 6, 2026.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0426 SPANISH MACKEREL**

- (a) The daily creel limit for Spanish mackerel is 15 fish.
- (b) The minimum size limit is 12 inches.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) Spanish mackerel 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.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0427 SPOT**

- (a) The daily creel limit for spot is 50 fish.
- (b) There is no minimum size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) Spot 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.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0428 TARPON**

Tarpon shall not be taken or possessed.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0429 WEAKFISH (GRAY TROUT)**

- (a) The daily creel limit for weakfish (gray trout) is one fish.
- (b) The minimum size limit is 12 inches.
- (c) There is no closed season.
- (d) Weakfish 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.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0430 OTHER FISHES**

- (a) For any nongame fish species not specifically listed in this Section, there is no daily creel limit.
- (b) There is no size limit.
- (c) There is no closed season.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023.*

**SECTION .0500 – PRIMARY NURSERY AREAS**

**15A NCAC 10C .0501 SCOPE AND PURPOSE**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134;  
Eff. September 1, 1990;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;  
Repealed Eff. October 1, 2021.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0502 PRIMARY NURSERY AREAS DEFINED**

Primary nursery areas are defined as those areas inhabited by the embryonic, larval, or juvenile life stages of marine or estuarine fish or crustacean species due to favorable physical, chemical, or biological factors.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134;  
Eff. August 1, 1990;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.*

**15A NCAC 10C .0503 DESCRIPTIVE BOUNDARIES**

The following waters have been designated as primary nursery areas:

- (1) North River:
  - (a) Broad Creek - Camden County - Entire stream;
  - (b) Deep Creek - Currituck County - Entire stream; and
  - (c) Lutz Creek - Currituck County - Entire stream.
- (2) Alligator River:
  - (a) East Lake - Dare County - Inland waters portion; and
  - (b) Little Alligator River - Tyrrell County - Entire stream.
- (3) Currituck Sound:
  - (a) Martin Point Creek - Dare County - Entire stream (Jean Guite Creek); and
  - (b) Tull Creek and Bay - Currituck County - Tull Bay to mouth of Northwest River; Tull Creek from mouth upstream to SR 1222 bridge.
- (4) Pamlico River:
  - (a) Duck Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (b) Bath Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (c) Mixons Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (d) Porter Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (e) Tooleys Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (f) Jacobs Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (g) Jacks Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (h) Bond Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (i) Muddy Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (j) Strawhorn Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream;
  - (k) South Prong Wright Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream; and

- (1) Jordan Creek - Beaufort County - Entire stream.
- (5) Neuse River:
  - (a) Slocum Creek - Craven County - Entire stream; and
  - (b) Hancock Creek - Craven County - Entire stream.
- (6) New River:
  - (a) French Creek - Onslow County - Entire stream; and
  - (b) New River - Onslow County - US Highway 17 bridge to NC 24/US 258 bridge.
- (7) Roanoke River: Halifax and Northampton counties - US 258 bridge to Roanoke Rapids dam.
- (8) Tar-Pamlico River: Nash, Edgecombe, Pitt and Beaufort counties - N&S railroad at Washington upstream to Rocky Mount Mills Dam.
- (9) Neuse River: Wake, Johnston, Wayne, Lenoir, Pitt and Craven counties - Pitchkettle Creek upstream to Milburnie Dam.
- (10) Cape Fear River: Chatham, Lee, Harnett, Cumberland and Bladen counties - Lock and Dam No. 1 upstream to Buckhorn Dam.
- (11) Albemarle Sound: Peter Mashoes Creek – Dare County – Entire Stream.
- (12) Croatan Sound: Spencer Creek – Dare County – Entire Stream.
- (13) White Oak River: Onslow and Jones counties – Grants Creek upstream to Gibson Bridge Road (SR 1118).
- (14) Northeast Cape Fear River: Pender County – NC 210 bridge upstream to NC 53 bridge.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134;  
 Eff. August 1, 1990;  
 Amended Eff. May 1, 2008; November 1, 2007; August 1, 2004; July 1, 2000; July 1, 1993;  
 Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.

## **SECTION .0600 - ANADROMOUS FISH SPAWNING AREAS**

### **15A NCAC 10C .0601 SCOPE AND PURPOSE**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134;  
 Eff. May 1, 2008;  
 Repealed Eff. October 1, 2021.

### **15A NCAC 10C .0602 ANADROMOUS FISH SPAWNING AREAS DEFINED**

Anadromous fish spawning areas are those areas where evidence of spawning of anadromous fishes has been documented by direct observation of spawning, capture of running ripe females, or capture of eggs or early larvae.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134;  
 Eff. May 1, 2008;  
 Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.

### **15A NCAC 10C .0603 DESCRIPTIVE BOUNDARIES**

The following waters have been designated as anadromous spawning areas:

- (1) Currituck Sound Area:
  - (a) Northwest River including designated tributaries - main stem waters west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 30.8374' N – 76° 04.8770' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 30.7061' N – 76° 04.8916' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 33.0259' N – 76° 09.1609' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 33.0292' N – 76° 08.9488' W; including the following tributary from the confluence with Northwest River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Moyock Run (Shingle Landing Creek) - upstream (southwest) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 31.5252' N – 76° 10.7385' W; running easterly along US 168 (Caratoke Highway) to the east shore to a point 36° 31.5140' N – 76° 10.7239' W.
  - (b) Tull Creek - southwest of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 30.0991' N – 76° 04.8587' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 29.9599' N – 76° 04.7126' W;

including the following tributaries from their confluence with Tull Creek to the specified boundary:

- (i) Roland Creek - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 29.8274' N – 76° 08.1294' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 29.8120' N – 76° 08.1308' W; and east of a line beginning on the northwest shore of Guinea Mill Run Canal at a point 36° 28.9227' N – 76° 07.9126' W; running southerly along US 168 bridge (Caratoke Highway) to the southeast shore at a point 36° 28.9045' N – 76° 07.8956' W.
  - (ii) New Bridge Creek - upstream (south) to a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 28.0046' N – 76° 06.3312' W; running southeasterly along US 168 bridge (Caratoke Highway) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 27.9970' N – 76° 06.3243' W.
  - (iii) Cowells Creek - upstream (south) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 27.1571' N – 76° 04.5391' W; running easterly along US 168 bridge (Caratoke Highway) to the east shore to a point 36° 27.1542' N – 76° 04.5128' W.
  - (iv) Buckskin Creek - upstream (southeast) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 27.1925' N – 76° 04.1671' W; running easterly along US 168 bridge (Caratoke Highway) to the east shore to a point 36° 27.1989' N – 76° 04.1400' W.
  - (c) West Landing - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 30.9867' N – 76° 02.5868' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 31.0045' N – 76° 02.3780' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 31.5828' N – 76° 02.2977' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 31.5618' N – 76° 02.2870' W.
- (2) Albemarle Sound Area:
- (a) Big Flatty Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 09.3267' N – 76° 08.2562' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 08.9730' N – 76° 08.3175' W; including the following tributaries from the confluence with Big Flatty Creek in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
    - (i) Chapel Creek - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 09.6689' N – 76° 09.9595' W; running southerly along SSR 1103 (Esclip Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 09.6522' N – 76° 09.9612' W.
    - (ii) Mill Dam Creek - upstream (southwest) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 09.0094' N – 76° 10.1667' W; running southerly along SSR 1103 (Esclip Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 08.9931' N – 76° 10.1611' W.
  - (b) Salmon Creek - southwest of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 00.4648' N – 76° 42.3513' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 00.3373' N – 76° 42.1499' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 02.4783' N – 76° 45.8164' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 02.4807' N – 76° 45.7906' W.
  - (c) Mackeys (Kendrick) Creek - southeast of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 56.3806' N – 76° 36.4356' W; running southwesterly to the south shore to a point 35° 56.3122' N – 76° 36.4613' W; and northwest of a line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 35° 52.5564' N – 76° 37.0968' W; running northeasterly along SSR 1122 bridge (Buncombe Avenue) to the northeast shore to a point 35° 52.5470' N – 76° 37.1113' W; including the following tributary from its confluence with Mackeys Creek in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Main Canal - upstream (southeast) to a line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 35° 52.8229' N – 76° 36.6916' W; running northeasterly along SSR 1122 (Buncombe Avenue) to the northeast shore to a point 35° 52.8390' N – 76° 36.6708' W.
  - (d) Deep Creek (Washington County) - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 56.1291' N – 76° 23.1179' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 56.0744' N – 76° 23.1230' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 55.4610' N – 76° 25.3996' W; running southerly along SSR 1302 bridge (Pea Ridge Road) to the south shore to a point 35° 55.4323' N – 76° 25.3974' W; and east of line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 55.7173' N – 76° 25.3848' W; running southerly along SSR 1302 bridge (Pea Ridge Road) to the south shore to a point 35° 55.6863' N – 76° 25.3957' W.
  - (e) Banton (Bunton or Maybell) Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 56.0552' N – 76° 22.0664' W; running northeasterly to the east shore to a point 35° 56.1151' N –

- 76° 21.8760' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 55.6117' N – 76° 22.2463' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 55.6128' N – 76° 22.2126' W.
- (f) Tom Mann Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 58.5296' N – 75° 52.8982' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 58.5175' N – 75° 53.6851' W.
- (g) Peter Mashoes Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 57.2344' N – 75° 48.3087' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 56.7805' N – 75° 48.3563' W.
- (3) North River, including Indiantown Creek and other designated tributaries - main stem waters west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 18.7703' N – 75° 58.7384' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 18.4130' N – 75° 58.7228' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 21.7982' N – 76° 07.0726' W; running easterly along US 158 bridge to the east shore to a point 36° 21.8030' N – 76° 07.0612' W; including the following tributary from the confluence with North River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Crooked Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 18.7171' N – 76° 01.4361' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 18.7002' N – 76° 01.4296' W.
- (4) North River Area: Bump Landing Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 19.3757' N – 75° 57.9057' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 19.2496' N – 75° 57.9107' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 19.4049' N – 75° 57.4963' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 19.3830' N – 75° 57.5098' W.
- (a) Narrow Ridges Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 18.3249' N – 75° 57.8910' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 18.1388' N – 75° 57.9029' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 18.1566' N – 75° 57.4879' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 18.1221' N – 75° 57.5095' W.
- (b) Great Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 18.1045' N – 75° 58.4289' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 17.9882' N – 75° 58.4458' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 17.1310' N – 76° 00.3414' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 17.1163' N – 76° 00.3310' W. On the north shore of Great Creek within the fourth tributary: south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 18.1729' N – 75° 58.9137' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 18.1640' N – 75° 58.9022' W.
- (c) Deep Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 17.1576' N – 75° 56.7594' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 16.9846' N – 75° 56.6802' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 17.9515' N – 75° 56.5174' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 17.9523' N – 75° 56.5042' W.
- (d) Public Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 17.2462' N – 75° 58.2774' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 17.2121' N – 75° 58.2788' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 17.1661' N – 75° 58.6059' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 17.1574' N – 75° 58.6003' W.
- (5) Pasquotank River including designated tributaries - main stem waters north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 18.0769' N – 76° 13.0979' W; running easterly along the south side of the US 158 bridge to the east shore to a point 36° 18.0594' N – 76° 12.9620' W and south of a line at South Mills beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 26.7432' N – 76° 19.6666' W; running easterly along US 17 business (Main Street) to the east shore to a point 36° 26.7642' N – 76° 19.5932' W; and southeast of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 36° 26.1777' N – 76° 22.1079' W; running southwesterly to the southwest shore to a point 36° 26.1693' N – 76° 22.1257' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with the Pasquotank River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (a) Joyce Creek - upstream (northeast) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 26.8329' N – 76° 17.6174' W; running southwesterly along SSR 1224 bridge (Old Swamp Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 26.8103' N – 76° 17.6193' W.
- (b) Sawyers Creek - upstream (northeast) to a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 36° 21.7237' N – 76° 10.2841' W; running southwesterly along SSR 1203 bridge (Scotland Road) to the southwestern shore to a point 36° 21.7115' N – 76° 10.3041' W.
- (c) Knobbs Creek - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 18.5172' N – 76° 14.5920' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1309 bridge (Main Street Extended) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 18.4973' N – 76° 14.5729' W.
- (6) Pasquotank River Area:

- (a) Charles Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 17.8090' N – 76° 13.0732' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 17.8024' N – 76° 13.0407' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 17.4713' N – 76° 13.2227' W; running southeasterly along NC 34 (Road Street) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 17.4565' N – 76° 13.2140' W.
  - (b) Areneuse Creek and Mill Dam Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 17.3133' N – 76° 08.1655' W; running southeasterly along NC 343 bridge to the east shore to a point 36° 17.1328' N – 76° 07.6269' W; and southwest of a line beginning on the west shore of Mill Dam Creek at a point 36° 18.5994' N – 76° 07.8672' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 18.5991' N – 76° 07.8379' W; and southwest of a line beginning on the northwest shore of Areneuse Creek at a point 36° 18.0342' N – 76° 06.9433' W, running southeasterly along NC 343 bridge to the southeast shore to a point 36° 18.0196' N – 76° 06.9245' W.
  - (c) Portohonk Creek - northeast of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 15.0519' N – 76° 05.2793' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 15.0391' N – 76° 05.2532' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 16.2809' N – 76° 04.8223' W; running easterly along NC 343 bridge to the east shore to a point 36° 16.2794' N – 76° 04.8051' W.
  - (d) New Begun Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 13.3298' N – 76° 08.2878' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 13.0286' N – 76° 08.1820' W; and southeast of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 36° 12.5577' N – 76° 10.3998' W; running southwesterly along NC 34 bridge (Weeksville Road) to the southwest shore to a point 36° 12.5467' N – 76° 10.4186' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 36° 12.3280' N – 76° 10.4934' W; running northwesterly to the northwest shore to a point 36° 12.3067' N – 76° 10.5438' W.
- (7) Little River including designated tributaries - main stem waters northwest of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 12.2950' N – 76° 17.1405' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 12.5237' N – 76° 16.9418' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 16.9826' N – 76° 23.1763' W; running easterly along SSR 1223 (Five Bridges Road, Perquimans County) and SSR 1303 (Cherry Glade Road, Pasquotank County) bridge to the east shore to a point 36° 16.9840' N – 76° 23.1570' W; including the following tributary from the confluence with Little River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Halls Creek - upstream (northeast) to a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 13.2067' N – 76° 16.5769' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1140 (Halls Creek Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 13.1944' N – 76° 16.5523' W.
- (8) Little River Area:
- (a) Deep Creek - southwest of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 11.0945' N – 76° 16.6717' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 10.7510' N – 76° 16.2258' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 10.2553' N – 76° 18.7639' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 10.2633' N – 76° 18.7267' W.
  - (b) Symonds Creek - northeast of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 10.2898' N – 76° 14.1801' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 10.2042' N – 76° 14.0368' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 11.4843' N – 76° 13.7218' W; running easterly along SSR 1100 bridge (Nixonton Road) to the east shore to a point 36° 11.4839' N – 76° 13.7028' W.
- (9) Perquimans River including designated tributaries - main stem waters southwest of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 11.6569' N – 76° 28.0055' W; running southeasterly along the US 17 business bridge (Church Street) to the east shore to a point 36° 11.6123' N – 76° 27.9382' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 18.8942' N – 76° 31.1905' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 18.8723' N – 76° 31.1734' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 18.9514' N – 76° 32.6510' W; running easterly along SSR 1202 bridge (Perry Bridge Road) to the east shore to a point 36° 18.9361' N – 76° 32.6584' W; including the following tributary from the confluence with the Perquimans River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Goodwin Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 11.2807' N – 76° 33.6243' W; running southerly along SSR 1110 bridge (Center Hill Highway) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 11.2585' N – 76° 33.5755' W; and north to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 11.0494' N –

76° 32.3409' W; running easterly along SSR 1110 bridge (Center Hill Highway) to the east shore to a point 36° 11.0383' N – 76° 32.2780' W.

- (10) Perquimans River Area:
- (a) Mill Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 11.9757' N – 76° 27.5752' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 11.9766' N – 76° 27.2511' W; and southwest of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 13.2910' N – 76° 26.6778' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1214 bridge (Lake Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 13.2762' N – 76° 26.6580' W.
  - (b) Walter's Creek - southwest of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 11.1305' N – 76° 27.9185' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 11.0224' N – 76° 27.6626' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 36° 10.0498' N – 76° 28.4208' W; running southwesterly along US 17 to the southwest shore to a point 36° 10.0408' N – 76° 28.4354' W.
  - (c) Suttons Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 10.0394' N – 76° 23.7945' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 09.9325' N – 76° 23.5263' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 11.5101' N – 76° 23.6253' W; running easterly along SSR 1300 bridge (New Hope Road) to the east shore to a point 36° 11.5081' N – 76° 23.6060' W.
  - (d) Jackson (Cove) Creek - northeast of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 08.4642' N – 76° 20.3324' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 08.4159' N – 76° 20.2890' W; and southwest of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 08.6083' N – 76° 20.1512' W; running southeasterly to the southeast shore to a point 36° 08.6007' N – 76° 20.1312' W.
  - (e) Muddy Creek - northwest of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 07.0381' N – 76° 17.1350' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 07.0218' N – 76° 17.1226' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 07.5922' N – 76° 16.8153' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 07.5933' N – 76° 16.7757' W.
- (11) Yeopim River including designated tributaries - main stem waters west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 05.4526' N – 76° 27.7651' W; running southerly to the south shore to Norcum Point 36° 05.1029' N – 76° 27.7120' W; and southeast of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 05.1202' N – 76° 29.5050' W; running southwesterly to a point 36° 05.0644' N – 76° 29.5586' W; and running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 05.0571' N – 76° 29.4657' W; including the following tributaries from the confluence with Yeopim River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (a) Yeopim Creek - upstream (north) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 07.4416' N – 76° 26.4833' W; running easterly along SSR 1347 (Holiday Island Road) to the east shore to a point 36° 07.4409' N – 76° 26.4667' W.
  - (b) Bethel Creek - upstream (north) to a line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 36° 07.1208' N – 76° 29.3581' W; running northeasterly to the northeast shore to a point 36° 07.1724' N – 76° 29.2818' W.
  - (c) Burnt Mill Creek - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 36° 05.7727' N – 76° 32.6234' W; running southwesterly along US 17 to the southwest shore to a point 36° 05.7663' N – 76° 32.6374' W.
  - (d) Middleton Creek - upstream (southeast) to a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 04.2913' N – 76° 30.2613' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1100 bridge (Drummond Point Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 04.2813' N – 76° 30.2460' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 04.0714' N – 76° 29.5779' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1100 (Drummond Point Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 04.0639' N – 76° 29.5583' W.
- (12) Edenton Bay Area:
- (a) Pembroke Creek (Pollock Swamp) - northwest of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 03.2819' N – 76° 37.0138' W; running northeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 03.4185' N – 76° 36.6783' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 08.1216' N – 76° 37.7846' W; running southerly along SSR 1316 bridge (Greenhall Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 08.1035' N – 76° 37.7818' W.

- (b) Queen Anne Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 03.3757' N – 76° 36.3629' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 03.3551' N – 76° 36.3574' W; and southwest of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 03.5719' N – 76° 35.0968' W; running southeasterly along NC 32 bridge (Yeopim Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 03.5659' N – 76° 35.0796' W.
- (13) Chowan River Area:
- (a) Buckhorn Creek (Hertford County) - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 31.9519' N – 76° 55.2580' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 31.9628' N – 76° 55.2429' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 31.9443' N – 76° 55.8902' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 31.9099' N – 76° 55.8904' W.
- (b) Somerton Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 31.7177' N – 76° 54.8327' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 31.7143' N – 76° 54.7810' W; and south of the NC/VA state line.
- (c) Meherrin River Area:
- (i) Vaughan's Creek (Kirby's Creek) - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 28.3541' N – 77° 05.6259' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 28.3307' N – 77° 05.6369' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 28.7019' N – 77° 08.7566' W; running southerly along SSR 1362 bridge (Watson Mill Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 28.6834' N – 77° 08.7593' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 28.0921' N – 77° 08.5719' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1362 bridge (Watson Mill Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 28.0787' N – 77° 08.5557' W. Turkey Creek - from the confluence with Vaughan's Creek upstream; and northeast of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 27.8047' N – 77° 07.7316' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1363 (Turkey Branch Road, Northampton County) and SSR 1300 bridge (Wise Store Road, Hertford County) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 27.7957' N – 77° 07.7170' W.
- (ii) Potecasi Creek - southwest of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 26.1234' N – 76° 57.5262' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 26.1005' N – 76° 57.4960' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 22.1250' N – 77° 05.3109' W; running southerly along SSR 1160 bridge (Spring Avenue) to the south shore to a point 36° 22.1035' N – 77° 05.3220' W.
- (A) Old Tree Swamp - from the confluence with Potecasi Creek upstream to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 22.5909' N – 77° 04.0382' W; running easterly along SSR 1167 bridge (Beaver Dam Road) to the east shore to a point 36° 22.5895' N – 77° 04.0192' W.
- (B) Cutawhiskie Creek - from the confluence with Potecasi Creek upstream to a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 21.2751' N – 77° 04.3761' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1137 bridge (Liverman Mill Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 21.2583' N – 77° 04.3461' W.
- (d) Mud Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 23.5134' N – 76° 53.9131' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 23.5132' N – 76° 53.8815' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 23.6287' N – 76° 53.8782' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 23.5943' N – 76° 53.8784' W.
- (e) Catherine Creek (Hertford County) - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 22.9579' N – 76° 53.1994' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 22.9456' N – 76° 53.1742' W; and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 22.7142' N – 76° 53.1872' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 22.7209' N – 76° 53.1631' W.
- (f) Buckhorn Creek (Run Off Swamp)(Gates County) - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 22.9682' N – 76° 51.9172' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 22.9614' N – 76° 51.8870' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 23.3321' N – 76° 52.0233' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 23.3101' N – 76° 52.0244' W.
- (g) Spikes Creek - northwest of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 22.6515' N – 76° 50.8882' W; running northeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 22.6684' N – 76° 50.8493' W;

- and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 22.9574' N – 76° 51.4953' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 22.9419' N – 76° 51.4959' W.
- (h) Barnes Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 21.8820' N – 76° 48.6419' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 21.8978' N – 76° 48.5902' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 22.8208' N – 76° 50.0931' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 22.7839' N – 76° 50.0941' W.
- (i) Shingle (Island) Creek - north of a line beginning on the north shore of the western most entrance into Chowan River at a point 36° 21.8449' N – 76° 48.0940' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 21.7831' N – 76° 48.0427' W. At the eastern most entrance to the creek: north of a line beginning of the west shore at a point 36° 21.8469' N – 76° 47.2668' W; running northeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 21.9062' N – 76° 47.1862' W.
- (j) Sarem Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 21.7259' N – 76° 46.4085' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 21.6748' N – 76° 46.4392' W; and southeast of a line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 36° 25.0514' N – 76° 49.4791' W; running northeasterly along SSR 1118 bridge (Taylors Road) to the northeast shore to a point 36° 25.0710' N – 76° 49.4657' W; including the following tributary from the confluence with Sarem Creek in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Cole Creek - upstream (northeast) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 24.5075' N – 76° 47.0641' W; running easterly along NC 37 bridge to the east shore to a point 36° 24.5048' N – 76° 47.0397' W.
- (k) Hodges Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 21.2459' N – 76° 46.3421' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 21.1823' N – 76° 46.3243' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 21.1597' N – 76° 46.6073' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 21.1309' N – 76° 46.6084' W.
- (l) Wiccacon River including designated tributaries - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 20.5439' N – 76° 45.4550' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 20.4684' N – 76° 45.3392' W; and east of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 36° 19.0196' N – 76° 53.5596' W; running southwesterly to the southwest shore to a point 36° 18.9936' N – 76° 53.5751' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with Wiccacon River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (i) Ahoskie Creek - upstream (south) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 16.4860' N – 76° 54.1172' W; running easterly along NC 561 to the east shore to a point 36° 16.4796' N – 76° 54.0933' W.
- (ii) Chinkapin Creek - upstream (southwest) to a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 15.1763' N – 76° 50.9758' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1432 bridge (Big Mill Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 15.1671' N – 76° 50.9567' W.
- (m) Beef Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 20.3235' N – 76° 44.6401' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 20.3070' N – 76° 44.5797' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 20.9720' N – 76° 44.7930' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 21.0058' N – 76° 44.7931' W.
- (n) Goose Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 19.5838' N – 76° 44.5971' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 19.5375' N – 76° 44.5925' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 19.9806' N – 76° 45.2656' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 19.9799' N – 76° 45.2356' W.
- (o) Swain Mill (Taylor Pond) Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 18.5808' N – 76° 43.4729' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 18.5616' N – 76° 43.4706' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 18.5029' N – 76° 43.5882' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1441 bridge (Swain Mill Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 18.4906' N – 76° 43.5694' W.
- (p) Bennetts Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 18.3499' N – 76° 42.0286' W; running northeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 18.4057' N – 76° 41.6986' W; and southwest of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 25.9349' N – 76° 41.9859' W; running southeasterly along the Merchants Mill Pond Dam to the southeast shore to a point 36° 25.9154' N – 76° 41.9530' W.
- (q) Catherine Creek including designated tributaries - main stem waters northeast of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 18.1011' N – 76° 41.1286' W; running southeasterly to the east

- shore to a point 36° 17.9413' N – 76° 40.8627' W; including the following tributaries from the confluence with Catherine Creek in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (i) Trotman Creek - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 20.8213' N – 76° 38.1714' W; running southerly along NC 32 bridge to the south shore to a point 36° 20.7989' N – 76° 38.1646' W.
  - (ii) Warwick Creek - upstream (northeast) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 19.8212' N – 76° 38.0409' W; running southerly along NC 32 bridge to the south shore to a point 36° 19.7833' N – 76° 38.0235' W.
- (r) Stumpy Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 16.6440' N – 76° 40.4251' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 16.6255' N – 76° 40.4196' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 16.7331' N – 76° 39.9154' W; running southerly along SSR 1232 bridge (Cannon Ferry Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 16.7220' N – 76° 39.9220' W.
  - (s) Dillard (Indian) Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 14.2234' N – 76° 41.5901' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 14.2023' N – 76° 41.5855' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 13.7727' N – 76° 40.3878' W; running southerly along SSR 1226 (Dillards Mill Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 13.7592' N – 76° 40.3875' W.
  - (t) Keel (Currituck) Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 14.1245' N – 76° 44.1961' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 14.0899' N – 76° 43.8533' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 15.2755' N – 76° 43.5077' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 15.2746' N – 76° 43.4750' W.
  - (u) Rocky Hock Creek - east of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 06.5662' N – 76° 41.3108' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 36° 06.6406' N – 76° 41.4512' W; and southwest of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 08.3485' N – 76° 39.9790' W; running southeasterly along the face of Bennett Mill Pond Dam to the southeast shore to a point 36° 08.3353' N – 76° 39.9603' W.
- (14) Cashie River including designated tributaries - main stem waters west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 54.7865' N – 76° 49.0521' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 54.6691' N – 76° 49.0553' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 05.7521' N – 77° 04.0494' W; running southerly along SSR 1260 bridge (Republican Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 05.7171' N – 77° 04.0344' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with Cashie River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (a) Connarista Swamp - upstream (north) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 06.4489' N – 77° 02.4658' W; running easterly along SSR 1221 bridge (Charles Taylor Road) to the east shore to a point 36° 06.4501' N – 77° 02.4236' W.
  - (b) Whiteoak Swamp - upstream (northeast) to a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 04.6654' N – 76° 58.5841' W; running southeasterly along US 13 to the southeast shore to a point 36° 04.6480' N – 76° 58.5676' W.
  - (c) Chiska Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 02.5659' N – 77° 02.3636' W; running southerly along SSR 1112 bridge (Roquist Pocosin Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 02.5463' N – 77° 02.3730' W.
  - (d) Hoggard Mill Creek - upstream (north) to a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 01.5828' N – 76° 56.9799' W; running southeasterly along the Hoggard Mill Pond Dam to the southeast shore to a point 36° 01.5479' N – 76° 56.9556' W.
  - (e) Roquist Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 36° 00.6453' N – 77° 02.8441' W; running southwesterly along SSR 1112 bridge (Roquist Pocosin Road) to the southwest shore to a point 36° 00.6119' N – 77° 02.8719' W.
  - (f) Wading Place Creek - upstream (east) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 58.1755' N – 76° 53.0010' W; running easterly along NC 308 bridge (Cooper Hill Road) to the east shore to a point 35° 58.1631' N – 76° 52.9542' W.
- (15) Cashie River Area:
- (a) Broad Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 55.0568' N – 76° 45.2632' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 55.0543' N – 76° 45.1309' W.

- (b) Grennel Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35°55.3147' N – 76° 44.5010' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 55.2262' N – 76° 44.5495' W.
  - (c) Cashoke Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 56.2934' N – 76° 44.1769' W; running southwesterly to the south shore to a point 35° 56.2623' N – 76° 44.1993' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 56.3383' N – 76° 44.5958' W; running southerly along NC 45 bridge to the south shore to a point 35° 56.2839' N – 76° 44.5836' W.
- (16) Roanoke River including designated tributaries - main stem waters northwest of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 12.5264' N – 77° 23.0223' W; running northeasterly along the south side of the US 258 bridge to the east shore to a point 36° 12.5674' N – 77° 22.9724' W; to the base of the Roanoke Rapids Dam; including the following tributary from the confluence with Roanoke River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Bridgers Creek - upstream (northeast) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 15.0786' N – 77° 22.3766' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 15.0846' N – 77° 22.3083' W.
- (17) Roanoke River Area:
- (a) Kehukee Swamp - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 05.1942' N – 77° 18.9596' W; running southwesterly to the south shore to a point 36° 05.1670' N – 77° 18.9761' W; and south of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 36° 05.7019' N – 77° 19.3686' W; running southwesterly to the southwest shore to a point 36° 05.6909' N – 77° 19.3902' W.
  - (b) Wire Gut - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 00.9580' N – 77° 13.0755' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 00.9542' N – 77° 13.0320' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 01.4294' N – 77° 13.6239' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 01.3873' N – 77° 13.6270' W.
  - (c) Apple Tree Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 00.4174' N – 77° 12.3252' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 36° 00.3987' N – 77° 12.3088' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 36° 02.3508' N – 77° 13.6900' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 36° 02.3497' N – 77° 13.6055' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 01.9425' N – 77° 12.4225' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 36° 01.9066' N – 77° 12.4222' W.
  - (d) Indian Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 59.0794' N – 77° 11.4926' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 59.0597' N – 77° 11.4967' W; and southwest of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 36° 03.5103' N – 77° 10.6537' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1108 bridge (Indian Woods Road) to the southeast shore to a point 36° 03.4917' N – 77° 10.6402' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 02.3940' N – 77° 09.3722' W; running southerly along SSR 1108 bridge (Indian Woods Road) to the south shore to a point 36° 02.3787' N – 77° 09.3711' W.
  - (e) Prices Gut - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 57.3701' N – 77° 11.9815' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 57.3552' N – 77° 11.9796' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 57.4077' N – 77° 12.0401' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 57.3763' N – 77° 12.0135' W.
  - (f) Rainbow Gut - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 55.9334' N – 77° 11.3246' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 55.9275' N – 77° 11.3136' W.
  - (g) Coniott Creek including designated tributaries - main stem waters west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 56.6562' N – 77° 04.2860' W; running southwesterly to the south shore to a point 35° 56.6397' N – 77° 04.3066' W; and southeast of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 59.4139' N – 77° 08.2158' W; running southwesterly along SSR 1122 bridge (Broad Neck Road) to the southwest shore to a point 35° 59.3976' N – 77° 08.2491' W; including the following tributary from the confluence with Coniott Creek in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Frog Level Swamp - upstream to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 58.0087' N – 77° 06.3447' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 57.9223' N – 77° 06.3483' W.
  - (h) Conoho Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 52.5439' N – 77° 02.6673' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 52.5407' N – 77° 02.6280' W; and southeast of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 58.3271' N – 77° 17.6825' W;

- running southwesterly along NC 11 bridge to the southwest shore to a point 35° 58.3096' N – 77° 17.7006' W.
- (i) Sweetwater Creek including designated tributaries - main stem east of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 51.6464' N – 77° 00.5090' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 35° 51.6252' N – 77° 00.4879' W; and northwest of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 48.6186' N – 77° 02.0173' W; running southwesterly along SSR 1501 bridge (Big Mill Road) to the southwest shore to a point 35° 48.5968' N – 77° 02.0311' W; including the following tributary from the confluence with Sweetwater Creek in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Peter Swamp - upstream (southeast) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 49.0798' N – 77° 00.2510' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 49.0705' N – 77° 00.2118' W.
  - (j) Unnamed Tributary (upstream of Old Mill Creek) - northwest of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 53.9775' N – 76° 56.6431' W; running southwesterly to the southwest shore to a point 35° 53.9913' N – 76° 56.6238' W; and southeast of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 54.1143' N – 76° 56.8761' W; running southwesterly along SSR 1542 bridge (Bertie County) to the southwest shore to a point 35° 54.0927' N – 76° 56.8956' W.
  - (k) Old Mill Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 53.9483' N – 76° 55.3921' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 35° 53.9378' N – 76° 55.3710' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 54.3010' N – 76° 55.0492' W; running easterly along SSR 1518 bridge (Bertie County) to the east shore to a point 35° 54.3085' N – 76° 55.0164' W.
  - (l) Gardner Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 50.1599' N – 76° 56.0211' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 50.1633' N – 76° 55.9899' W; and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 48.4791' N – 76° 55.9768' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 48.4834' N – 76° 55.9378' W.
  - (m) Cut Cypress Creek - northeast of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 51.9465' N – 76° 53.5762' W; running southeasterly to the south shore to a point 35° 51.9229' N – 76° 53.5556' W.
  - (n) Roses Creek - southeast of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 50.1683' N – 76° 50.9664' W; running southwesterly to the south shore to a point 35° 50.1363' N – 76° 56.9907' W; and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 49.5501' N – 76° 50.7358' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 49.5649' N – 76° 50.6674' W.
  - (o) Broad Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 52.5191' N – 76° 50.4235' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 52.4262' N – 76° 50.3791' W.
  - (p) Welch Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 51.8458' N – 76° 45.8381' W; running easterly along the shoreline and across the mouths of the three creek entrances to the east shore to a point 35° 51.8840' N – 76° 45.6207' W; and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 49.7473' N – 76° 47.1058' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 49.7506' N – 76° 47.0778' W.
  - (q) Conaby Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 55.3779' N – 76° 42.4401' W; and running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 55.3752' N – 76° 42.3408' W; north of a line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 35° 51.6443' N – 76° 44.5188' W; running northeasterly to the northeast shore to a point 35° 51.6538' N – 76° 44.4926' W.
- (18) Scuppernong River including designated tributaries - main stem waters south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 54.0158' N – 76° 15.4605' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 54.0406' N – 76° 15.3007' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 51.6231' N – 76° 26.1210' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 51.5952' N – 76° 26.1178' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with Scuppernong River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (a) First Creek (Rider's Creek) - upstream (south) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 53.5116' N – 76° 14.0222' W; running southerly along NC 94 bridge to the south shore to a point 35° 53.4948' N – 76° 14.0125' W.
  - (b) Second Creek - upstream (south) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 53.0541' N – 76° 15.1132' W; running southerly along SSR 1105 (Bodwell Road) to the south shore to a point 35° 53.0286' N – 76° 15.1211' W.

- (c) Lake Phelps - all waters of Lake Phelps and the following main canals connecting to Scuppernong River:
  - (i) Moccasin Canal;
  - (ii) Western (Enoch) Canal;
  - (iii) Mountain Canal;
  - (iv) Thirty-foot Canal;
  - (v) Somerset (Old) Canal;
  - (vi) Batava (Minerva, Magnolia, Bonarva) Canal; and
  - (vii) Bee Tree Canal.
- (19) Alligator River Area:
  - (a) Little Alligator River - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 56.7640' N – 76° 01.0299' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 55.9362' N – 76° 01.2492' W; and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 56.4784' N – 76° 07.5433' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 56.4771' N – 76° 07.5076' W.
  - (b) East Lake - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 56.1676' N – 75° 55.2603' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 55.4727' N – 75° 55.5043' W; and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 58.6402' N – 75° 52.1855' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 58.5887' N – 75° 51.7080' W.
  - (c) Second Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 51.7616' N – 76° 03.5105' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 51.1317' N – 76° 03.8003' W.
  - (d) Milltail Creek - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 50.5192' N – 75° 58.6134' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 50.4956' N – 75° 58.6158' W; and northwest of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 47.7377' N – 75° 53.1295' W; running southwesterly to the southwest shore to a point 35° 47.7180' N – 75° 53.1295' W.
  - (e) Whipping Creek and Lake - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 41.3930' N – 76° 00.2481' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 41.3717' N – 76° 00.2554' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 42.1737' N – 75° 57.6728' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 42.1570' N – 75° 57.6732' W.
  - (f) Swan Creek and Lake - east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 40.2674' N – 76° 00.7360' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 40.2420' N – 76° 00.7548' W.
- (20) Alligator River including designated tributary - main stem waters west of a line beginning on the north shore at Cherry Ridge Landing at a point 35° 42.2172' N – 76° 08.4686' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 42.1327' N – 76° 08.5002' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 36.0502' N – 76° 13.9734' W; running southerly along NC 94 to the south shore to a point 35° 36.0300' N – 76° 13.9779' W; including the following tributary from the confluence with Alligator River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary: Northwest Fork - upstream (north) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 43.6826' N – 76° 11.9538' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 43.6495' N – 76° 11.9692' W.
- (21) Croatan Sound Area:
  - (a) Spencer Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 51.4205' N – 75° 45.0645' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 51.3876' N – 75° 45.0640' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore 35° 51.5597' N – 75° 45.0141' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 51.4624' N – 75° 45.0498' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 51.6783' N – 75° 44.9125' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 51.5693' N – 75° 45.0109' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 52.5133' N – 75° 46.3070' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 52.4635' N – 75° 46.3110' W.
  - (b) Callaghan Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 51.1312' N – 75° 45.1327' W; running southwesterly to the south shore to a point 35° 51.0953' N – 75° 45.1629' W; and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 50.0643' N – 75° 46.6041' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 50.0306' N – 75° 46.6034' W.
- (22) Pamlico River Area:
  - (a) Chocowinity Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 30.4778' N – 77° 04.4049' W; running southerly to the east shore at a point 35° 30.4692' N – 77° 04.3862' W; and

- north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 28.3423' N – 77° 05.0615' W; running easterly to the east shore at a point 35° 28.3413' N – 77° 05.0334' W.
- (b) Blounts Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 23.9524' N – 76° 58.0357' W; running easterly to the east shore at a point 35° 23.9565' N – 76° 57.9576' W; and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 22.3210' N – 76° 57.7210' W; running easterly along NC 33 to the east shore at a point 35° 22.3080' N – 76° 57.6706' W; on Nancy Run, north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 22.7132' N – 76° 59.0317' W; running easterly along NC 33 to the east shore at a point 35° 22.7064' N – 76° 59.0191' W; on Herring Run, north and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 22.5435' N – 76° 56.9969' W; running southerly along SSR 1100 (Core Point Road) to the south shore at a point 35° 22.5168' N – 76° 57.0063' W.
- (c) Durham Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 21.5669' N – 76° 51.9166' W; running easterly along the SSR 1955 bridge (Durham Creek Lane) to the east shore at a point 35° 21.5721' N – 76° 51.8621' W and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 19.1959' N – 76° 52.3278' W; running southeasterly along NC 33 to the east shore at a point 35° 19.1802' N – 76° 52.2947' W.
- (d) Little Goose Creek - north and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 28.7258' N – 76° 55.8667' W; running southeasterly to the south shore at a point 35° 28.5986' N – 76° 55.7922' W and west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 29.0329' N – 76° 54.2344' W; running southeasterly along SSR 1334 (Camp Leach Road) to the south shore at a point 35° 29.0283' N – 76° 54.2228' W; and the unnamed northwest branch, south of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 29.4589' N – 76° 55.0263' W; running southwesterly to the south shore at a point 35° 29.4492' N – 76° 55.0322' W.
- (e) Broad Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 30.0451' N – 76° 57.6152' W; running easterly to the east shore at a point 35° 30.0459' N – 76° 57.5318' W and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 32.1646' N – 76° 58.5193' W; running easterly along US 264 to the east shore at a point 35° 32.1588' N – 76° 58.5048' W.
- (f) Runyon Creek - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 32.1615' N – 77° 02.3606' W; running easterly along the NC 32 bridge (Park Drive) to the east shore at a point 35° 32.1340' N – 77° 02.3438' W and south of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 33.0407' N – 77° 01.1497' W; running southeasterly to the south shore at a point 35° 33.0260' N – 77° 01.1449' W.
- (23) Tar River including designated tributaries - main stem waters west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 33.1993' N – 77° 05.3977' W; running southerly to the south shore at a point 35° 32.9978' N – 77° 05.1529' W and east of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 57.6505' N – 77° 48.2537' W; running southeasterly along the Rocky Mount Mill Pond Dam to the south shore at a point 35° 57.5997' N – 77° 48.1412' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with Tar River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (a) Swift Creek - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 00.5829' N – 77° 39.9482' W; running southerly to the south shore at a point 36° 00.5413' N – 77° 39.9616' W.
- (b) Fishing Creek - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 36° 08.0430' N – 77° 43.2829' W; running southerly to the south shore at a point 36° 08.0173' N – 77° 43.2921' W; on Deep Creek, upstream (northeast) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 57.8688' N – 77° 27.2298' W; running southeasterly to the south shore at a point 35° 57.8403' N – 77° 27.1890' W.
- (c) Town Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 48.4135' N – 77° 36.7687' W; running southwesterly to the south shore at a point 35° 48.3728' N – 77° 36.7686' W.
- (d) Otter Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 43.2448' N – 77° 31.9013' W; running easterly to the east shore at a point 35° 43.2385' N – 77° 31.8735' W.
- (e) Tyson Creek - upstream (southwest) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 40.4470' N – 77° 30.7015' W; running easterly to the east shore at a point 35° 40.4107' N – 77° 30.6075' W.

- (f) Conetoe Creek - upstream (north and east) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 44.5315' N – 77° 29.1676' W; running southerly to the south shore at a point 35° 44.5071' N – 77° 29.1894' W.
  - (g) Hardee Creek - upstream (southwest) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 35.6842' N – 77° 19.3857' W; running easterly to the east shore at a point 35° 35.6781' N – 77° 19.3680' W.
  - (h) Chicod Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 34.6186' N – 77° 14.0233' W; running southerly to the east shore at a point 35° 34.5985' N – 77° 14.0169' W.
  - (i) Old Grindle Creek - upstream (north) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 35.3098' N – 77° 09.9461' W; running southerly along SSR 1565 (Grimesland Bridge Road) to the south shore at a point 35° 35.2891' N – 77° 09.9511' W.
  - (j) Bear Creek - upstream (southwest) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 32.4699' N – 77° 07.4185' W; running easterly to the east shore at a point 35° 32.4697' N – 77° 07.3758' W.
- (24) Tranters Creek including designated tributaries - main stem waters north and west of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 33.1993' N – 77° 05.3978' W; running easterly to the east shore at a point 35° 33.2408' N – 77° 05.0872' W and south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 45.7848' N – 77° 15.2294' W; running easterly to the east shore at a point 35° 45.7905' N – 77° 15.1931' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with Tranters Creek in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (a) Aggie Run - upstream (east) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 38.3433' N – 77° 05.5003' W; running southeasterly to the south shore at a point 35° 38.2633' N – 77° 05.4097' W.
  - (b) Cherry Run - upstream (northeast) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 35.1560' N – 77° 04.0436' W; running southerly along US 17 to the south shore at a point 35° 35.1404' N – 77° 04.0437' W.
- (25) Lake Mattamuskeet - all waters and all inland manmade tributaries of Lake Mattamuskeet.
- (26) Bay River Area: Trent Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 06.2738' N – 76° 43.1071' W; running easterly along the NC 55 bridge (Pamlico County) to the east shore to a point 35° 06.2603' N – 76° 43.0741' W; and north of a line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 35° 04.3545' N – 76° 42.8282' W; running northeasterly to the northeast shore to a point 35° 04.3686' N – 76° 42.8117' W.
- (27) Neuse River including designated tributaries - main stem waters south of a line beginning on the east shore at a point 35° 47.9955' N – 78° 32.2902' W; running westerly along Milburnie Dam (Bridges Lake Dam) to the west shore to a point 35° 48.0280' N – 78° 32.3989' W; and northwest of a line near Pitch Kettle Creek beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 16.9793' N – 77° 15.5529' W; running south to the south shore to a point 35° 16.9237' N – 77° 15.5461' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with Neuse River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (a) Middle Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 35° 30.4489' N – 78° 24.1072' W; running northeasterly along the NC 210 bridge (Johnston County) to the northeast shore to a point 35° 30.4767' N – 78° 24.0676' W.
  - (b) Mill Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 20.7619' N – 78° 20.0813' W; running southerly along the SSR 1185 bridge (Joyner Bridge Road) to the south shore to a point 35° 20.7262' N – 78° 20.0938' W.
  - (c) Little River - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 35° 40.0035' N – 78° 15.5262' W; running northeasterly along the NC 42 bridge (Johnston County) to the northeast shore to a point 35° 40.0142' N – 78° 15.5060' W.
  - (d) Walnut Creek - upstream (north) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 15.5439' N – 77° 52.5703' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 15.5407' N – 77° 52.5574' W.
  - (e) Bear Creek - upstream (north) to a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 21.1265' N – 77° 49.1500' W; running southwesterly to the southwest shore to a point 35° 21.1125' N – 77° 49.1605' W.
  - (f) Falling Creek - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 15.6635' N – 77° 41.5862' W; running easterly along the US 70 bridge (Banks School Road) to the east shore to a point 35° 15.6687' N – 77° 41.5540' W.

- (g) Contentnea Creek - upstream (northwest) to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 34.1707' N – 77° 47.5396' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 34.1704' N – 77° 47.4966' W.
  - (h) Halfmoon Creek - upstream (southwest) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 19.1578' N – 77° 20.2050' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 19.1335' N – 77° 20.2036' W.
  - (i) Village Creek - upstream (southwest) to a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 18.4795' N – 77° 18.1037' W; running southwesterly to the southwest shore to a point 35° 18.4603' N – 77° 18.1121' W.
  - (j) Kitten Creek - upstream (northwest) to include all waters.
  - (k) Core Creek - upstream (west) to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 10.7941' N – 77° 18.9102' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 10.7715' N – 77° 18.9012' W.
  - (l) Pitchkettle Creek - upstream (northwest) to include all waters.
- (28) Neuse River Area:
- (a) Turkey Quarter and Greens creeks - southeast of a line beginning on the west shore of Turkey Quarter Creek at a point 35° 15.6738' N – 77° 14.6823' W; running southeasterly to the southeast shore of Turkey Quarter Creek to a point 35° 15.6534' N – 77° 14.6470' W; and northwest of a line beginning on the north shore of Greens Creek at a point 35° 14.1883' N – 77° 11.8862' W; running southwesterly to the southwest shore of Greens Creek to a point 35° 14.1389' N – 77° 11.7535' W.
  - (b) Taylor Creek - northwest of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 14.3719' N – 77° 10.8050' W; running southwesterly to the south shore to a point 35° 14.3300' N – 77° 10.8352' W.
  - (c) Pine Tree Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 12.6663' N – 77° 07.4285' W; running southwesterly to the south shore to a point 35° 12.7033' N – 77° 07.3594' W and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 12.8553' N – 77° 07.8300' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 12.8372' N – 77° 07.7934' W and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 13.2012' N – 77° 08.7753' W; running southeasterly to the east shore to a point 35° 13.1714' N – 77° 08.7071' W.
  - (d) Swift and Little Swift creeks - north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 11.5972' N – 77° 06.0562' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 11.5816' N – 77° 05.9861' W for both creeks and south of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 17.8175' N – 77° 08.9421' W; running southwesterly along the SSR 1440 bridge (Streets Ferry Road) to the southwest shore to a point 35° 17.8027' N – 77° 08.9529' W for Swift Creek; and southwest of two lines, one beginning on the northwest shore of Fisher Swamp at a point 35° 14.6533' N – 77° 03.9072' W; running southeasterly to the southeast shore to a point 35° 14.6322' N – 77° 03.8983' W; and the other beginning on the northwest shore of Little Swift Creek at a point 35° 14.1315' N – 77° 03.6823' W; running southeasterly along the SR 1627 bridge (Craven County) to the southeast shore to a point 35° 14.1179' N – 77° 03.6676' W for Little Swift Creek.
  - (e) Bachelor Creek - west of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 09.0099' N – 77° 04.5858' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 08.9085' N – 77° 04.7172' W and east of a line at Rollover Creek beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 07.9194' N – 77° 11.9438' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 07.8931' N – 77° 11.9445' W.
  - (f) Trent River Area:
    - (i) Brice Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 02.1261' N – 77° 02.1243' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 02.1268' N – 77° 02.1015' W and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 59.7828' N – 77° 00.0710' W; running easterly along the SSR 1101 bridge (County Line Road) to the east shore to a point 34° 59.7789' N – 77° 00.0534' W.
    - (ii) Mill Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 00.4595' N – 77° 12.8427' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 35° 00.4593' N – 77° 12.8160' W; and north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 59.8881' N – 77° 12.8536' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 34° 59.8878' N – 77° 12.8368' W.

- (iii) Mill Run - southwest of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 35° 00.3766' N – 77° 16.8680' W; running southeasterly along the NC 58 bridge (Jones County) to the southeast shore to a point 35° 00.3654' N – 77° 16.8487' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 35° 00.0929' N – 77° 17.3282' W; running southeasterly to the southeast shore to a point 35° 00.0740' N – 77° 17.3024' W.
- (g) Trent River including all the waters of Jumping Creek - main stem waters southwest of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 01.9478' N – 77° 15.6377' W; running easterly along the SSR 1121 bridge (Oak Grove Road) to the east shore to a point 35° 01.9506' N – 77° 15.6095' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the northeast shore at a point 35° 04.0759' N – 77° 35.3891' W; running southwesterly along the SSR 1153 bridge (Vine Swamp Road) to the southwest shore to a point 35° 04.0624' N – 77° 35.4063' W; including all the waters of Jumping Creek.
- (h) Upper Broad Creek - northwest of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 06.8922' N – 76° 56.3911' W, running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 06.8623' N – 76° 56.3916' W and southeast of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 35° 08.3197' N – 76° 58.7314' W; running easterly along the NC 55 bridge at the Craven and Pamlico county line to the east shore to a point 35° 08.3209' N – 76° 58.6753' W.
- (i) Beard Creek - northwest of a line beginning on the north shore at a point 35° 02.6853' N – 76° 52.3346' W; running southerly to the south shore to a point 35° 02.6663' N – 76° 52.3351' W and southeast of line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 35° 03.7198' N – 76° 52.6024' W; running northeasterly along the SSR 1115 bridge (Pamlico County) to the northeast shore to a point 35° 03.7258' N – 76° 52.5942' W.
- (j) Dawson Creek - northwest of a line beginning on the southwest shore at a point 35° 01.8352' N – 76° 47.4672' W; running northeasterly to the northeast shore to a point 35° 01.8475' N – 76° 47.4283' W; and southeast of a line beginning on the southwest shore of Fork Run at a point 35° 02.1112' N – 76° 48.3083' W; running northeasterly along the SSR 1005 bridge (Pamlico County) to the northeast shore of Fork Run to a point 35° 02.1206' N – 76° 48.2922' W.
- (k) Slocum Creek:
  - (i) Southwest Prong - southwest of a line beginning on the northwest shore at a point 34° 53.1520' N – 76° 55.8540' W; running southeasterly along the SSR 1746 bridge (Greenfield Heights Boulevard) to the southeast shore to a point 34° 53.1369' N – 76° 55.8460' W; and northeast of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 51.5981' N – 76° 57.1687' W; running easterly to the east shore to a point 34° 51.5935' N – 76° 57.1229' W.
  - (ii) East Prong - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 52.9687' N – 76° 54.5195' W; running easterly along the NC 101 bridge (Fontana Boulevard) to the east shore to a point 34° 52.9680' N – 76° 54.5020' W.
- (l) Hancock Creek - south of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 52.1403' N – 76° 50.8518' W; running easterly along the NC 101 bridge (Craven County) to the east shore to a point 34° 52.1412' N – 76° 50.8382' W.
- (29) White Oak River - main stem waters north and west of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 48.1466' N – 77° 11.4711' W; running easterly to a point on the west shore 34° 48.1620' N – 77° 11.4244' W; and south and east of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 53.5120' N – 77° 51.4013' W; running easterly to a point on the east shore 34° 53.5009' N – 77° 14.0194' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with White Oak River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
  - (a) Holston Creek - east to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 49.6284' N – 77° 09.3783' W; running southerly to shore at a point 34° 49.6177' N – 77° 09.3670' W.
  - (b) Grant's Creek - west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 47.9302' N – 77° 12.8060' W; running southerly along SSR 1434 bridge (Belgrade-Swansboro Road) to a point on the south shore 34° 47.9185' N – 77° 12.7954' W.
- (30) New River - main stem waters north of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 45.1654' N – 77° 26.1222' W; running easterly along the US Highway 17 bridge to a point on the east shore 34° 45.2007' N – 77° 25.9790' W; and south of a line beginning at a point on the west shore 34° 50.5818' N – 77° 30.1735' W.

- W running easterly along the SSR 1316 bridge (Rhodestown Road) to a point on the east shore 34° 50.5951' N – 77° 30.1534' W.
- (31) Northeast and Little Northeast Creeks - north and east of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 44.0778' N – 77° 21.2640' W; running southeasterly along the railroad bridge to a point on the east shore 34° 44.0446' N – 77° 21.2126' W; and west of a line beginning on the north shore 34° 44.9055' N – 77° 19.7541' W; running southerly along SSR 1406 bridge (Piney Green Road) to a point on the south shore 34° 44.8881' N – 77° 19.7649' W.
- (32) Northeast Cape Fear River - main stem waters north of a line beginning at a point on the west shore 34° 26.5658' N – 77° 50.0871' W; running northeasterly along the NC 210 bridge to a point on the east shore 34° 26.6065' N – 77° 49.9955' W and south of a line beginning on the west shore 34° 38.7667' N – 77° 52.3417' W running easterly along SSR 1318 bridge (Croomsbridge Road) to a point on the east shore 34° 38.7744' N – 77° 52.3093' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with the Northeast Cape Fear River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (a) Burgaw Creek - west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 32.4670' N – 77° 51.1705' W; running southerly along SSR 1411 bridge (Stag Park Road) to a point on the south shore 34° 32.4567' N – 77° 51.1711' W.
- (b) Pike Creek - west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 28.7928' N – 77° 52.5148' W; running southerly along SSR 1411 bridge (Ashton Lake Road) to a point on the south shore 34° 28.7882' N – 77° 52.5261' W.
- (c) Merrick Creek - north and east to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 26.8264' N – 77° 48.1948' W; running southerly along NC 210 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 26.8028' N – 77° 48.1797' W.
- (d) Island Creek - south and east to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 22.0359' N – 77° 48.9107' W; running easterly along SSR 1002 bridge (Holly Shelter Road) to a point on the east shore 34° 22.0213' N – 77° 48.8854' W.
- (e) Prince George Creek - south and east to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 20.6773' N – 77° 54.2113' W; running southerly along NC 133 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 20.6659' N – 77° 54.2170' W.
- (f) Turkey Creek - north and east to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 23.8546' N – 77° 54.7872' W; running southerly along NC 133 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 23.8429' N – 77° 54.7772' W.
- (g) Long Creek - north and west to a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 26.3494' N – 78° 01.5716' W; running easterly along NC 210 bridge to a point on the east shore 34° 26.3500' N – 78° 01.5396' W.
- (33) Black River - north and west of a line beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 22.0783' N – 78° 04.4123' W; running easterly to a point on the east shore 34° 21.9950' N – 78° 04.2864' W and south and east of a line beginning at a point on the north shore 34° 42.5285' N – 78° 15.8178' W; running southerly to a point on the south shore 34° 42.5008' N – 78° 15.7972' W. South River - south and east of a line beginning at a point on the west shore 34° 38.4120' N – 78° 18.7075' W; running easterly along SSR 1007 bridge (Ennis Bridge Road) to a point on the east shore 34° 38.4080' N – 78° 18.6727' W.
- (34) Cape Fear River - main stem waters north and west of a line at Lock and Dam #1 beginning on the west shore at a point 34° 24.2628' N – 78° 17.6390' W; running easterly to a point on the east shore 34° 24.2958' N – 78° 17.5634' W and south and east of a line beginning at a point on the west shore 35° 24.8404' N – 78° 49.4267' W; running easterly to a point on the east shore 35° 24.8833' N – 78° 49.3288' W; including the following tributaries from their confluence with the Cape Fear River in the direction indicated to the specified boundary:
- (a) Brown's Creek - south and west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 36.8641' N – 78° 35.0917' W; running southerly along NC 87 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 36.8477' N – 78° 35.0731' W.
- (b) Hammond Creek - south and west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 34.032' N – 78° 30.3542' W; running southerly along NC 87 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 34.0142' N – 78° 30.3397' W.
- (c) Steep Run - south and west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 25.5019' N – 78° 20.9934' W; running southerly along NC 87 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 25.4742' N – 78° 20.9549' W.

- (d) Wayman's Creek - south and west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 22.4396' N – 78° 16.3904' W; running southerly along NC 87 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 22.4287' N – 78° 16.3723' W.
- (e) Livingston Creek - south to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 19.5405' N – 78° 12.9889' W; running southerly along NC 87 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 19.5128' N – 78° 12.9727' W.
- (f) Hood Creek - south and west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 18.6658' N – 78° 07.1988' W; running southerly along NC 87 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 18.6612' N – 78° 07.1741' W.
- (g) Indian Creek - west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 17.7383' N – 78° 02.6706' W; running southerly along SSR 1453 bridge (Brunswick County) to a point on the south shore 34° 17.7210' N – 78° 02.6697' W.
- (h) Sturgeon Creek - west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 14.6391' N – 78° 01.8154' W; running southerly to a point on the south shore 34° 14.5918' N – 78° 01.7941' W.
- (i) Mill Creek - north and west of Sturgeon Creek to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 15.2342' N – 78° 01.6370' W; running southerly to a point on the south shore 34° 15.2024' N – 78° 01.6525' W.
- (j) Alligator Creek - north of the Brunswick River to the origin of the Creek excluding the dredged portions of the Creek.
- (k) Jackeys Creek - west of the Brunswick River to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 11.9672' N – 77° 58.8303' W; running southerly along the NC 133 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 11.9544' N – 77° 58.8307' W.
- (l) Mallory Creek - west of the Brunswick River to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 10.0530' N – 77° 58.5927' W; running southerly along the NC Highway 133 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 10.0351' N – 77° 58.5942' W.
- (m) Town Creek - west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 09.4084' N – 78° 05.5059' W; running southerly along US 17 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 09.3731' N – 78° 05.5147' W.
- (n) Lilliput Creek - west to a line beginning on the north shore at a point 34° 04.5292' N – 77° 57.3187' W; running southerly along NC 133 bridge to a point on the south shore 34° 04.5137' N – 77° 57.3108' W.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134;  
Eff. May 1, 2008;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021.*

## **SECTION .0700 – GAME FISH IN COASTAL FISHING WATERS**

### **15A NCAC 10C .0701 INLAND GAME FISHES DESIGNATED IN COASTAL FISHING WATERS**

(a) For the purposes of this Rule, only the following fishes are classified and designated as inland game fishes in coastal fishing waters:

- (1) Alabama bass, largemouth bass, redeye bass, smallmouth bass, and spotted bass;
- (2) black crappie and white crappie;
- (3) chain pickerel (jack), muskellunge, and redbreast pickerel;
- (4) kokanee salmon;
- (5) mountain trout, all species including but not limited to brook trout, brown trout, and rainbow trout;
- (6) Roanoke bass and rock bass (redeye);
- (7) sauger and walleye; and
- (8) sunfish, including bluegill (bream), flier, pumpkinseed, redbreast (robin), redear (shellcracker), warmouth, and all other species of the sunfish family (Centrarchidae) not specifically listed in this Rule.

(b) Inland game fishes shall not be taken by any method other than with hook and line, except that landing nets may be used to land fishes caught on hook and line.

(c) Size, creel limits, and seasons for inland game fishes in coastal fishing waters shall be the same as those in inland waters designated in Section .0300 of this Subchapter.

- (d) Inland game fishes taken incidental to commercial fishing operations shall be immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- (e) Inland game fishes taken from coastal fishing waters shall not be sold.
- (f) Individuals shall only take up to the daily creel limit of those species of inland game fish having a specified creel limit.
- (g) Individuals shall only possess, on those waters being fished:
  - (1) the specified daily creel limit for the species;
  - (2) fish conforming to the size limit for the species; and
  - (3) the daily creel limit while fishing or afield.
- (h) Individuals shall only possess up to three days creel limit at any place.
- (i) No person, while fishing or afield, shall:
  - (1) unnecessarily destroy any inland game fish taken from public fishing waters;
  - (2) remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of any game fish having a size limit so to render it impracticable to measure its total original length; or
  - (3) change the appearance of any game fish having a daily creel limit so to obscure its identification or render it impracticable to count the number of fish in possession.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-135; 113-135.1; 113-292;  
 Temporary Adoption Eff. September 1, 2022;  
 Eff. March 15, 2023.

## **SECTION .0800 - JOINT FISHING WATERS**

### **15A NCAC 10C .0801 INLAND GAME FISHES DESIGNATED IN JOINT FISHING WATERS**

- (a) For the purposes of this Rule, the following fishes are classified and designated as inland game fishes in joint fishing waters:
  - (1) Alabama bass, largemouth bass, redeye bass, smallmouth bass, and spotted bass;
  - (2) black crappie and white crappie;
  - (3) chain pickerel (jack), muskellunge, and redbfin pickerel;
  - (4) kokanee salmon;
  - (5) mountain trout, including but not limited to brook trout, brown trout, and rainbow trout;
  - (6) Roanoke bass and rock bass (redeye);
  - (7) sauger and walleye; and
  - (8) sunfish, including bluegill (bream), flier, pumpkinseed, redbreast (robin), redear (shellcracker), warmouth, and the other species of the sunfish family (Centrarchidae) not specifically listed in this Rule.
- (b) Inland game fishes shall not be taken by methods other than with hook and line, except that landing nets may be used to land fishes caught on hook and line.
- (c) Size, creel limits, and seasons for inland game fishes in joint fishing waters shall be the same as those designated in Section .0300 of this Subchapter for inland fishing waters.
- (d) Inland game fishes taken incidental to commercial fishing operations shall be immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- (e) Inland game fishes taken from joint fishing waters shall not be sold.
- (f) Individuals may take up to the daily creel limit of those species of inland game fish having a specified creel limit.
- (g) On the waters being fished, individuals may possess:
  - (1) the specified daily creel limit for the species; and
  - (2) fish conforming to the size limit for the species.
- (h) Individuals may possess the daily creel limit while fishing or afield and up to three days creel limit at any other place.
- (i) No person, while fishing or afield, shall:
  - (1) unnecessarily destroy any inland game fish taken from public fishing waters;
  - (2) remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of a game fish having a size limit to render it impracticable to measure its total original length; or
  - (3) change the appearance of a game fish having a daily creel limit to obscure its identification or render it impracticable to count the number of fish in possession.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-135; 113-135.1; 113-292;  
 Eff. March, 24, 2025.

**15A NCAC 10C .0802 TAKING AND POSSESSION OF OTHER FISHES BY HOOK AND LINE IN JOINT FISHING WATERS**

- (a) This Rule applies to fish taken by hook and line in joint fishing waters, excluding the species listed in 15A NCAC 10C .0801.
- (b) Landing nets may be used to land fishes caught on hook and line.
- (c) Set hooks, jug hooks, and trotlines may be used as designated in 15A NCAC 10C .0206 to take fishes in joint fishing waters.
- (d) Size, creel limits, and seasons for fishes taken by hook and line in joint fishing waters shall be the same as those designated in Sections .0300 and .0400 of this Subchapter for inland fishing waters with the following exceptions:
- (1) In the joint fishing waters of the Tar-Pamlico River, Pungo River, and their tributaries, the daily creel limit for American and Hickory Shad is 10 in aggregate.
  - (2) In the joint fishing waters of the Cape Fear River and its tributaries, the daily creel limit for American and Hickory Shad is 10 in aggregate, five of which may be American Shad.
  - (3) In the joint fishing waters of the Central/Southern Management Area, as identified in 15A NCAC 03R .0201, size, creel limits, and seasons for striped bass and its hybrids are listed in 15A NCAC 10C .0107.
  - (4) In the joint fishing waters of the Roanoke River Striped Bass Management Area, as identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0110(a)(2), 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 in the daily creel limit.
  - (5) In designated inland and joint fishing waters of the Albemarle Sound Management Area, as identified in 15A NCAC 10C .0110(a)(1), 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.
- (e) Fishes taken by hook and line in joint fishing waters may be sold except those fishes for which the sale is prohibited in Sections .0300 and .0400 of this Subchapter for inland fishing waters.
- (f) For fishes taken by hook and line in joint fishing waters, individuals may take up to the daily creel limit of fish having a specified creel limit.
- (g) On the waters being fished, individuals may possess:
- (1) the specified daily creel limit for the species; and
  - (2) fish conforming to the size limit for the species.
- (h) Individuals may possess the daily creel limit while fishing or afield and up to three days creel limit at any other place.
- (i) No person, while fishing or afield, shall:
- (1) remove the head or tail or change the appearance of a fish taken by hook and line specified in Sections .0300 or .0400 of this Subchapter as having a size limit, to render it impractical to measure its total original length, except for American Eel as provided in 15A NCAC 10C .0410.
  - (2) change the appearance of a fish taken by hook and line that has a species-specific daily creel limit in Sections .0300 or .0400 of this Subchapter, to obscure its identification or render it impractical to count the number of fish in possession, except for American Eel as provided in 15A NCAC 10C .0410.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-135; 113-292;  
Eff. March 24, 2025.

**SUBCHAPTER 10D - GAME LANDS REGULATIONS**

**SECTION .0100 - GAME LANDS REGULATIONS**

**15A NCAC 10D .0101 DESIGNATION OF GAME LANDS**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-305; 113-306;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

**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 by calling 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 person shall discharge:

- (1) a weapon within 150 yards of a game land building or designated game land camping area, except where posted otherwise;
- (2) a weapon within 150 yards of a residence located on or adjacent to game 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 [www.ecfr.gov](http://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 (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 10H .1701, in a field trial using wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license, except non-residents may substitute hunting licenses from their 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 parent or legal guardian;
  - (B) on the game lands described in Rule .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. Dogs may not be trained or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on game lands located west of 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. 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.

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 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) 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) A hunting, fishing, 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. 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](http://ncwildlife.org). The Disabled Access Permit allows individuals to operate electric 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.org](http://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) 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) 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) 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. April 1, 2026; June 1, 2025; November 1, 2023.*

**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(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) 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 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:
- (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; 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 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 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 on which game may be taken 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 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 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, unless otherwise specified. Individuals may apply for available permits online at [ncwildlife.org](http://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 nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperater 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 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, 2024.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0104 FISHING ON GAME LANDS**

- (a) Game lands are open to public fishing except:
  - (1) restocked ponds when posted against fishing;
  - (2) Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge;
  - (3) Cedar Rock Creek, Grogan Creek, and John Rock Branch, in Transylvania County; and
  - (4) private ponds where fishing is prohibited by the owners.
- (b) No trotline, set-hook, net, trap, gig, or other special fishing device mentioned in 15A NCAC 10C .0404(b),(c),(d), and (f) may be used in impounded waters located entirely on game lands.
- (c) Archery equipment may be used to take nongame fishes in impounded waters located entirely on game lands except for those waters mentioned in 15A NCAC 10C .0404(a).
- (d) Waters located on the game lands listed in this Subparagraph are designated public mountain trout waters except as noted.
  - (1) Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County.
  - (2) DuPont State Forest Game Lands in Henderson and Transylvania counties, except:
    - (A) Little River from 100 yards downstream of Hooker Falls downstream to the DuPont State Forest boundary;
    - (B) Lake Imaging;
    - (C) Lake Dense;
    - (D) Lake Alfred;
    - (E) Lake Julia; and
    - (F) Fawn Lake.
  - (3) Green River Game Land in Henderson and Polk counties, except Green River downstream of the natural gas pipeline crossing.
  - (4) Headwaters Game Land in Transylvania County.
  - (5) Nantahala National Forest Game Lands in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania counties, except Cheoah River downstream of Santeetlah Reservoir and Cherokee Lake.
  - (6) Pisgah National Forest Game Lands in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey counties, except:
    - (A) Cedar Rock Creek, Grogan Creek, and John Rock Branch;
    - (B) North Fork Catawba River downstream of the mouth of Armstrong Creek;
    - (C) Big Laurel Creek downstream from the US 25-70 bridge to the French Broad River;
    - (D) Mill Ridge Pond;
    - (E) Nolichucky River;
    - (F) Pigeon River downstream of Waterville Reservoir to the Tennessee state line; and
    - (G) Spring Creek below US Forest Service road 223.
  - (7) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County.
  - (8) Little Fork State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County.
  - (9) South Mountains Game Land in Cleveland and Rutherford counties.
  - (10) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County.

- (11) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Wilkes County.
- (12) Toxaway Game Land in Transylvania County.
- (13) William H. Silvers Game Land in Haywood County.

(e) The designated public mountain trout waters located on the game lands listed in Paragraph (d) of this Rule are Wild Trout Waters unless classified otherwise in 15A NCAC 10C .0205(d).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-272; 113-292; 113-305; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; July 1, 1992; 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. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2015; August 1, 2014; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; August 1, 2004; Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0105 POSSESSION AND REMOVAL OF ANIMALS, PLANTS AND MATERIALS**

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

- (1) "Other materials" means metals, minerals, rocks, soil, organic debris, buildings, fences, archeological resources as defined in G.S. 70-12, and water.
- (2) "Commission lands" means State-owned game lands, hatcheries, depots, refuges, boating access areas and public fishing access areas, or parts thereof, allocated to the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- (3) "Written permission" means permits, sales agreements, agricultural agreements, and letters written by authorized Commission personnel. Written permissions shall specify the type of activity allowed, the Commission land(s) where the activity may occur, and the persons authorized to partake in the activity. Written permission shall be carried on their person during the activity. This requirement extends to an individual operating in conjunction with another's written permission.

(b) On Commission lands:

- (1) No wildlife resources, fungi, invertebrates, eggs, nests, animal parts, plants, plant materials, or other materials shall be possessed on or removed from Commission lands except:
  - (A) as allowed in this Rule;
  - (B) bullfrogs, as specified in 15A NCAC 10B .0226; or
  - (C) if written permission has been granted by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
 This restriction applies to both dead and living wildlife resources, fungi, invertebrates, eggs, animal parts, plants, and plant materials.
- (2) Game, fur-bearing animals, wildlife resources, fisheries resources, and nongame animals or birds, legally taken pursuant to a valid hunting, trapping, fishing, falconry, or other collection license that entitles the licensee to access and use Wildlife Resources Commission Property may be possessed on and removed from Commission lands.
- (3) Berries, fruit, nuts, mushrooms, ramps and other plants or plant materials for human consumption may be possessed on and removed from Commission lands without written permission for personal consumption only, except any fungi, plant or part thereof on a State or federal protected list shall not be possessed on or removed from Commission lands without written permission. Other fungi, plants and plant materials not for human consumption may not be possessed on or removed from Commission lands except with written permission. Crops or products thereof planted for the benefit of wildlife shall not be removed without written permission.
- (4) Insects, worms, or other invertebrates collected as fish bait may be possessed on and removed from Commission lands without written permission for personal use only, except species on a State or federal protected list may not be collected and may not be removed from Commission lands. Sale of these resources is prohibited.
- (5) Minimal amounts of animal parts, plant parts not removed from live plants, and other materials may be collected by hand and removed from Commission lands without written permission, except in violation of rules, general statutes, or federal law. Collection of animal parts, and plant parts not removed from live plants for commercial use or sale is prohibited. For purposes of this Subparagraph, "minimal amounts," are quantities that fit within a cubic foot of space, except for firewood to be used at posted camping areas.

Collection of firewood sufficient to build and maintain a fire during the game land user's stay at the campground is permitted.

- (6) Litter and road kill animals may be removed without written permission, except in violation of 15A NCAC 10B .0106.
  - (7) A collection license as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0119 does not qualify as written permission to collect or remove wildlife resources from Commission lands. Written permission shall be specific to the Commission land.
- (c) On the other lands enrolled in the game land program:
- (1) Game, fur-bearing animals, fisheries resources, and nongame animals or birds legally taken pursuant to a valid hunting, trapping, fishing, falconry, or collection license may be possessed on and removed from game lands.
  - (2) Possession and removal of other wildlife resources, fungi, invertebrates, eggs, nests, animals parts, plants, and plant materials is subject to the rules of the Commission and is at the discretion of the landowner, except where the landowner has ceded authority to the Commission. When the landowner has ceded authority to the Commission, the permissions and restrictions in Paragraph (b) of this Rule apply.
- (d) Except as referenced in Subparagraph (b)(5) of this Rule, other materials may be possessed or removed from Commission lands and other lands enrolled in the game land program with written permission from the Commission, except for archeological resources. To possess or remove archeological resources from Commission land or other lands enrolled in the game land program, an individual shall obtain and have on his or her person, written permission from the Commission and a permit issued by the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources as specified in G.S. 70-12.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291; 113-291.2; 113-305; 113-333;  
Eff. August 1, 2012;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2020;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023.*

#### **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 [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org), 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 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

Panther town – 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
- Panther town – 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.

*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. March 15, 2023.

## **SECTION .0200 - USE OF GAME LANDS**

### **15A NCAC 10D .0201 ALLIGATOR RIVER GAME LAND IN TYRELL COUNTY**

Alligator River 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 may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December Bear Season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0202 ANGOLA BAY GAME LAND IN DUPLIN AND PENDER COUNTIES**

Angola Bay 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0203 BACHELOR BAY GAME LAND IN BERTIE AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES**

(a) Bachelor Bay game land is a Seven Days per Week Area.

(b) In this game land, deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0204 BERTIE COUNTY GAME LAND IN BERTIE COUNTY**

Bertie County game land is a Six 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.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0205 BLADEN LAKES STATE FOREST GAME LAND IN BLADEN COUNTY**

Bladen Lakes State Forest 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) Except for blackpowder firearms, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.
- (3) On the Singletary Lake Tract, the use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited.
- (4) Wild turkey hunting on the Singletary Lake Tract is by permit only.
- (5) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (6) The use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes shall be prohibited from February 15 through August 1.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0206 BRINKLEYVILLE GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY**

Brinkleyville 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) 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0207 BUCKHORN GAME LAND IN ORANGE COUNTY**

- (a) Buckhorn game land is hunting by permit only.
- (b) On this game land horseback riding 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0208 BUCKRIDGE GAME LAND IN TYRELL COUNTY**

Buckridge 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) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December Bear Season.
- (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. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0209 BUFFALO COVE GAME LAND IN CALDWELL AND WILKES COUNTIES**

Buffalo Cove game land is a Seven Days per Week Area. The following shall apply:

- (1) The Deer With Visible Antlers Season begins on the Saturday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment beginning the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately preceding the Blackpowder Firearms Season described in this Rule. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with blackpowder firearms beginning two Saturdays preceding the first day of the open season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in this Rule through the second Friday thereafter.
- (2) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (3) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- (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;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 5, 2024;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2024.

**15A NCAC 10D .0210 BULLARD AND BRANCH HUNTING PRESERVE GAME LANDS IN ROBESON COUNTY**

Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0211 BUTNER-FALLS OF NEUSE GAME LAND IN DURHAM, GRANVILLE, AND WAKE COUNTIES**

Butner-Falls of Neuse 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 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 through August 31, and on Sundays only from September 1 through May 14.
- (8) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- (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.

*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, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0212 BUXTON WOODS GAME LAND IN DARE COUNTY**

Buxton Woods game land is a Six 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.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. November 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0213 CAPE FEAR RIVER WETLANDS GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY**

Cape Fear River Wetlands 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0214 CARTERET COUNTY GAME LAND IN CARTERET COUNTY**

Carteret County 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0215 R. WAYNE BAILEY-CASWELL GAME LAND IN CASWELL COUNTY**

(a) R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken from the first open day of the All Lawful Weapons Season for Deer With Visible Antlers through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- (2) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed seven days per week from May 16 through August 31, and on Sundays only, September 1 through May 15. Horseback riding is allowed on roads opened to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails that are posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license as required by G.S. 270.3(b)(3).
- (3) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit after November 1.
- (4) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- (5) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.

(b) Hunting shall be by permit for the following species in the area posted as the Caswell Small Game Focal Area:

- (1) quail and woodcock; and
- (2) rabbit and squirrel on days outside of the three days per week framework.

*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, 2024; August 1, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0216 CHATHAM GAME LAND IN CHATHAM COUNTY**

Chatham game land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- (2) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed seven days per week from May 16 through August 31, and on Sundays only September 1 through May 15.
- (3) The use of bicycles is restricted, except for hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the seasons for game birds and game animals.
- (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; Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0217 CHOWAN SWAMP GAME LAND**

Chowan 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 harvested on Sunday.

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

*Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0218 CHOWAN SWAMP GAME LAND IN BERTIE, CHOWAN, GATES, AND HERTFORD COUNTIES**

Chowan Swamp game land is a Six 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 hunting is restricted to the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the November bear season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December bear season except in that portion of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is east of Highway 158/13, south of Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of Catherine Creek and the Chowan River where the bear season is the same as the season dates for the Gates County bear season.
- (3) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (4) Horseback riding is prohibited except during May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- (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.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0219 COLD MOUNTAIN GAME LAND IN HAYWOOD COUNTY**

Cold Mountain game land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- (2) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (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. October 1, 2022; Amended Eff. August 1, 2025.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0220 COLUMBUS COUNTY GAME LAND IN COLUMBUS COUNTY**

Columbus County game land is a Four 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) Deer hunting on the Campbell Tract shall be by permit only.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0221 CROATAN GAME LAND IN CARTERET, CRAVEN, AND JONES COUNTIES**

Croatan 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 harvested on Sunday.

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

*Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0222 CURRITUCK BANKS GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY**

Currituck Banks 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) Deer of either sex may be taken on all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers season.
- (7) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0223 DAN RIVER GAME LAND IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY**

Dan River game land is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Deer hunting is by permit only.
- (2) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (3) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Lands license.
- (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. November 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0224 DARE GAME LAND IN DARE AND HYDE COUNTIES**

Dare 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) No hunting is allowed on posted parts of bombing range.
- (3) The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0225 DOVER BAY GAME LAND IN CRAVEN COUNTY**

- (a) Dover Bay game land is a Six Days per Week Area.
- (b) On this game land antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (c) Target 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; Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0226 DUPONT STATE FOREST GAME LANDS IN HENDERSON AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES**

Dupont State Forest game land is hunting by permit only. The following shall apply:

- (1) The training and use of dogs for hunting is prohibited except by special hunt permit holders during scheduled permit hunts.
- (2) 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0227 ELK KNOB GAME LAND IN WATAUGA COUNTY**

(a) Elk Knob game land is a Seven Days per Week Area.

(b) At this game land deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0228 EMBRO GAME LAND IN HALIFAX AND WARREN COUNTIES**

Embryo 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) 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0229 GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND PAMLICO COUNTIES**

Goose Creek 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 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 posted as camping areas.
- (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 harvested on 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, 2025.

**15A NCAC 10D .0230 GREEN RIVER GAME LAND IN HENDERSON AND POLK COUNTIES**

Green River is a Six Days per Week Area. The following shall apply:

- (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.
- (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. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0231 GREEN SWAMP GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY**

Green Swamp game land is a Six 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) On that portion north of Big Macedonia Road, east of Makatoka Road, south of Little Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road, hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- (3) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is prohibited on that portion of the game land that is north of Big Macedonia Road, east of Makatoka Road, south of Little Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0232 GULL ROCK GAME LAND IN HYDE COUNTY**

Gull Rock 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) Waterfowl on the E. Merle Edwards/Loop Road Impoundment 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 season.
- (3) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February, and March 31 through May 14, in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
- (4) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the November Bear Season, and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December Bear Season.
- (5) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments on the Willow Point tract is by permit only.

*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. December 1, 2022;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2025; June 1, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10D .0233 HARRIS GAME LAND IN CHATHAM, HARNETT, AND WAKE COUNTIES**

Harris game land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- (2) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments may be taken 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 season.
- (3) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds shall be prohibited.
- (4) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- (5) The use of bicycles is restricted, except for hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the seasons for game birds and game animals.
- (6) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (7) 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;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.

**15A NCAC 10D .0234 HEADWATERS STATE FOREST GAME LAND IN TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY**

(a) Headwaters State Forest game land is a Six Days per Week Area.

(b) On this game land, deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season .

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0235 HILL FARM GAME LAND IN STOKES COUNTY**

Hill Farm game land is hunting and trapping by permit only.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0236 HOLLY SHELTER GAME LAND IN PENDER COUNTY**

Holly Shelter game land is a Six 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 may 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) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
- (4) On that portion north of the Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, deer hunting and bear hunting are permit only.
- (5) The use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited:
  - (a) all open days on that portion of the game land that is south of Baby Branch extending west to Stag Park Road, west of Shaw Road, north of Meeks Road extending west to Stag Park Road and east of Stag Park Road; and
  - (b) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's days, and except for the area north of Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, where the use of dogs for deer and bear hunting is by permit only.
- (6) Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from September 1 to the last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting opportunity permits, unless otherwise authorized by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- (7) Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit may operate an All Terrain Vehicle on and within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access.
- (8) Target shooting is prohibited, except on the Holly Shelter Shooting Range.
- (9) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0237 HYCO GAME LAND IN PERSON COUNTY**

Hyco 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) 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0238 J. MORGAN FUTCH GAME LAND IN TYRRELL COUNTY**

J. Morgan Futch game land is hunting and trapping by permit only.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0239    JOHNS RIVER GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY**

Johns River 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.
- (4) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (5) During the open days of the seasons for game birds and game animals, 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, 2025; August 1, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0240    JORDAN GAME LAND IN CHATHAM, DURHAM, ORANGE, AND WAKE COUNTIES**

Jordan game land is a Six Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on open days of the All Lawful Weapons Season for Deer With Visible Antlers.
- (2) Waterfowl may be taken only on:
  - (a) Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
  - (b) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
  - (c) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (3) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed only on those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail and other areas posted for equestrian use. Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is permitted on posted portions of the American Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for use. On other trails posted for equestrian use, horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 through August 31, and on Sundays only from September 1 through May 15. People age 16 or older shall obtain a game land license prior to engaging in horseback riding on an area other than the American Tobacco Trail.
- (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 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 applicable seasons for game birds and game animals.
- (7) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. October 1, 2022;  
Eff. March 15, 2023;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0241    JUNIPER CREEK GAME LAND IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES**

(a) Juniper Creek 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 areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (3) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0242    KERR SCOTT GAME LAND IN WILKES COUNTY**

Kerr Scott game land is a Six Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- (2) Use of blackpowder firearms, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.

- (3) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.
- (4) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers season.
- (5) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- (6) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0243 KINGS CREEK GAME LAND IN CALDWELL AND WILKES COUNTIES**

Kings Creek game land is a Six Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) The Deer With Visible Antlers Season consists of the open hunting days from the Saturday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately preceding the Black powder Firearms Season described in the Rule. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning two Saturdays preceding the first day of the open season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in this Rule through the second Friday thereafter.
- (2) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

*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 5, 2024;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2024.

**15A NCAC 10D .0244 LANTERN ACRES GAME LAND IN TYRRELL AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES**

Lantern Acres game land is a Six 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) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (3) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.
- (4) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments from October 1 through February 14 is by permit only.

*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, 2025.

**15A NCAC 10D .0245 LEE GAME LAND IN LEE COUNTY**

Lee game land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- (2) The use of bicycles is restricted, except for hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the seasons for game birds and game animals.
- (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. October 1 2022;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.

**15A NCAC 10D .0246 LIGHT GROUND POCOSIN GAME LAND IN PAMLICO COUNTY**

Light Ground Pocosin 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0247 LINWOOD GAME LAND IN DAVIDSON COUNTY**

(a) Linwood game land is a Seven Days per Week Area.

(b) At this game land deer of either sex may be taken on all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0248 LOWER FISHING CREEK GAME LAND IN EDGECOMBE AND HALIFAX COUNTIES**

Lower Fishing Creek 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) 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.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0249 MAYO GAME LAND IN PERSON COUNTY**

Mayo 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) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
  - (a) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays applicable waterfowl seasons;
  - (b) Christmas and New Year's Days; and
  - (c) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (3) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (4) Placement of docks, piers, and personal property for more than 24 consecutive hours on the shoreline or lakebed of Mayo Lake 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; Amended Eff. January 1, 2026.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0250 MITCHELL RIVER GAME LAND IN ALLEGHANY AND SURRY COUNTY**

Mitchell River game land is a Four 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 Tuesday thereafter.
- (2) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0251 NANTAHALA GAME LAND IN CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, JACKSON, MACON, SWAIN, AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES**

(a) Nantahala game land is a Seven Days per Week Area.

(b) 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) 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, 2024.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0252 NEEDMORE GAME LAND IN MACON AND SWAIN COUNTIES**

Needmore Game Land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- (2) On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit only.
- (3) No antlerless deer shall be taken during the Deer With Visible Antler season.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-305;*  
*Eff. October 1, 2022;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. August 8, 2024;*  
*Amended Eff. February 1, 2025.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0253 NEUSE RIVER GAME LAND IN CRAVEN COUNTY**

Neuse River game land is a Six 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) Camping is allowed any time within 100 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the game land that lies west of NC-43.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
*Eff. November 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0254 NEW LAKE GAME LAND IN HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES**

New Lake 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
*Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0255 NICHOLSON CREEK GAME LAND IN HOKE COUNTY**

Nicholson Creek game land is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- (2) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter.
- (3) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- (4) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (5) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- (6) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (7) On Lake Upchurch, the following activities are prohibited:
  - (a) Operating any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine; and
  - (b) Swimming.
- (8) 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.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0256 NORTH RIVER GAME LAND IN CAMDEN AND CURRITUCK COUNTIES**

North River 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.
- (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 harvested on 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, 2024.

**15A NCAC 10D .0257 NORTHWEST RIVER MARSH GAME LAND IN CURRITUCK COUNTY**

Northwest River Marsh 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0258 PEE DEE RIVER GAME LAND IN ANSON, MONTGOMERY, RICHMOND, AND STANLY COUNTIES**

Pee Dee River game land is a Seven 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) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (3) Horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 through August 31, and on Sundays only September 1 through May 15 only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- (4) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for training or hunting shall be prohibited on that portion south of US-74.

*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, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10D .0259 PERKINS GAME LAND IN DAVIE COUNTY**

Perkins game land is a Four 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 through the second Tuesday thereafter.
- (2) Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.
- (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. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0260 PISGAH GAME LAND IN AVERY, BUNCOMBE, BURKE, CALDWELL, HAYWOOD, HENDERSON, MADISON, MCDOWELL, MITCHELL, TRANSYLVANIA, WATAUGA, AND YANCEY COUNTIES**

Pisgah Game Land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (2) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).

- (3) The use of bicycles shall be restricted to designated trails on the Linville River Tract (Burke County). Persons engaged in the act of hunting on the Linville River Tract during any open day of an applicable season for game birds or game animals shall be exempt from this restriction.
- (4) Alcohol and fires are prohibited on the Lutz Tract (Caldwell County).
- (5) Target shooting is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).
- (6) Entry on the Lutz Tract (Caldwell County) for purposes other than hunting, fishing, trapping, and posted use of trails and parking areas is prohibited.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
 Eff. October 1, 2022;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. July 7, 2025;  
 Amended Eff. January 1, 2026.

**15A NCAC 10D .0261 POND MOUNTAIN GAME LAND IN ASHE COUNTY**

Pond Mountain 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) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through August 31 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through May 15.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
 Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0262 PUNGO RIVER GAME LAND IN HYDE COUNTY**

(a) Pungo River game land is a Six Days per Week Area.

(b) On this game land deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
 Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0263 LITTLE FORK STATE FOREST GAME LAND IN WILKES COUNTY**

Little Fork State Forest game land is a Six 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) Bear hunting 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, 2025; August 1, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10D .0264 RHODES POND GAME LAND IN CUMBERLAND AND HARNETT COUNTIES**

(a) Rhodes Pond game land is hunting by permit only.

(b) On this game land swimming 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0265 ROANOKE RIVER WETLANDS IN BERTIE, HALIFAX, MARTIN, AND NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES**

Roanoke River Wetlands is hunting and trapping by Permit only, in which the following applies:

- (1) Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission business or by permit holders.

- (2) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided, however, that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the game land.
- (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. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0266 ROANOKE ISLAND MARSHES GAME LAND IN DARE COUNTY**

Roanoke Island Marshes game land is hunting by Permit only.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0267 ROBESON GAME LAND IN ROBESON COUNTY**

Robeson 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0268 ROCKFISH CREEK GAME LAND IN HOKE COUNTY**

Rockfish Creek game land is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- (2) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter.
- (3) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- (4) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (5) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- (6) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (7) Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
- (8) Target 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0269 ROCKY RUN GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY**

- (a) Rocky Run game land is hunting by permit only.
- (b) Target 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;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10D .0270 SAMPSON GAME LAND IN SAMPSON COUNTY**

Sampson 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0271 SANDHILLS GAME LAND IN HOKE, MOORE, RICHMOND, AND SCOTLAND COUNTIES**

Sandhills game land is a Three Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from the Wednesday on or nearest October 18 through March 31 except as follows:
  - (a) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment on the open days of the archery season through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day; with blackpowder firearms and archery equipment the open days of the blackpowder firearms season through the third Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day; and only deer with visible antlers may be taken with all lawful weapons from the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
  - (b) dove may be taken on open days from the opening day of the dove season through the third Saturday thereafter;
  - (c) gray and fox squirrel may be taken on open days from the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
  - (d) rabbit may be taken on open days from the second Saturday preceding Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
  - (e) waterfowl may be taken on open days during waterfowl season;
  - (f) wild animals and wild birds may be taken as part of a Disabled Sportsmen Program Permit Hunt; and
  - (g) raccoon and opossum may be taken on open days from sunrise Monday on or nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- (2) The Deer With Visible Antlers season is the open hunting days from the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds.
- (3) The archery season is on open days from the Saturday on or nearest to September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day and, except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days during the archery season, by permit during the Deer with Visible antlers season, and the blackpowder firearms season as stated in this Subparagraph. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- (4) Blackpowder firearms season is the open days from the fourth Saturday preceding Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter and, except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days during the blackpowder firearms season. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- (5) Antlered and antlerless deer hunting during the All Lawful Weapons Season for Deer With Visible Antlers is by permit only.
- (6) In addition to the regular hunting days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (7) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (8) Horseback riding on field trial grounds from the Wednesday on or nearest October 18 through March 31 is prohibited unless participating in authorized field trials. Horseback riding is allowed on the remainder of the Sandhills Game Land seven days per week on roads that are open to vehicular traffic and gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- (9) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- (10) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex.
- (11) Swimming is prohibited in the lakes.

*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, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0272 SANDY CREEK GAME LAND IN NASH AND FRANKLIN COUNTIES**

Sandy Creek 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) 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.

#### **15A NCAC 10D .0273 SANDY MUSH GAME LAND IN BUNCOMBE AND MADISON COUNTIES**

Sandy Mush game land is a Three 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 except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- (3) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as allowed in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(f).
- (4) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of dove season.
- (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. November 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10D .0274 SECOND CREEK GAME LAND IN ROWAN COUNTY**

Second Creek game land is hunting by permit only.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10D .0275 SHOCCO CREEK GAME LAND IN FRANKLIN, HALIFAX, NASH, AND WARREN COUNTIES**

Shocco Creek 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) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (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.

#### **15A NCAC 10D .0276 SOUTH MOUNTAINS GAME LAND IN BURKE, CLEVELAND, MCDOWELL, AND RUTHERFORD COUNTIES**

South Mountains game land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) The Deer With Visible Antlers Season begins on the Saturday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with archery equipment beginning the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the day immediately preceding the Blackpowder Firearms Season described in this Rule. Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken with blackpowder firearms beginning two Saturdays preceding the first day of the open season for Deer With Visible Antlers described in this Rule through the second Friday thereafter.
- (2) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (3) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails during the following dates:
  - (a) January 2 through March 31;

- (b) May 16 through August 31;
- (c) Sundays only - April 1 through May 15; and
- (d) Sundays only - September 1 through January 1.
- (4) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (5) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (6) The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any posted and designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period.

*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 5, 2024; Amended Eff. October 1, 2024.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0277 STONES CREEK GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY**

Stones Creek game land is a Six 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 use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- (3) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.
- (4) Waterfowl may 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.
- (5) Target shooting is prohibited.
- (6) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. October 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0278 SUGGS MILL POND GAME LAND IN BLADEN AND CUMBERLAND COUNTIES**

Suggs Mill Pond game land is hunting and trapping by permit only, in which the following applies:

- (1) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (2) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:
  - (a) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and
  - (b) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.
- (3) During the period of November 1 through January 31, except on Sundays, the use of vessels on Suggs Mill Pond Lake and Little Singletary Lake is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).
- (4) During the period of November 1 through March 15, the use of vessels on managed waterfowl impoundments is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305; Eff. November 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 10D .0279 SUGGS SUTTON LAKE GAME LAND IN NEW HANOVER AND BRUNSWICK COUNTIES**

Suggs Sutton Lake 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 harvested on Sunday.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0280 TAR RIVER GAME LAND IN EDGECOMBE COUNTY**

- (a) Tar River game land is hunting by permit only.
- (b) On this game land Target 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0281 TEXAS PLANTATION GAME LAND IN TYRRELL COUNTY**

Texas Plantation game land is hunting and trapping by permit only.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0282 THREE TOP MOUNTAIN GAME LAND IN ASHE COUNTY**

Three Top Mountain 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) Horseback riding 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0283 THURMOND CHATHAM GAME LAND IN ALLEGHANY AND WILKES COUNTIES**

Thurmond Chatham game land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Antlered or antlerless deer 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 except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license as required by G.S. 270.3(b)(3).
- (3) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.

*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, 2024.

**15A NCAC 10D .0284 TILLERY GAME LAND IN HALIFAX COUNTY**

Tillery 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 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0285 TOXAWAY GAME LAND IN JACKSON AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES**

Toxaway 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 except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0286 UWHARRIE GAME LAND IN DAVIDSON, MONTGOMERY, AND RANDOLPH COUNTIES**

Uwharrie 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) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may 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) Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- (3) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the Flintlock Valley Shooting Range.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0287 VANCE GAME LAND IN VANCE COUNTY**

Vance game land is a Six 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 use of dogs, centerfire rifles, and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the Nutbush Peninsula tract.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0288 VAN SWAMP GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES**

Van Swamp 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 may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December Bear Season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0289 VOICE OF AMERICA GAME LAND IN BEAUFORT COUNTY**

- (a) Voice of America game land is hunting and trapping by permit only.
- (b) On this game land Target 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0290 WHITE OAK RIVER GAME LAND IN ONSLOW COUNTY**

White Oak River 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) 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) The Huggins Tract and Morton 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) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- (6) Target 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.

**15A NCAC 10D .0291 WHITEHALL PLANTATION GAME LAND IN BLADEN AND PENDER COUNTIES**

Whitehall Plantation game land is hunting and trapping by permit only, in which the following applies:

- (1) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- (2) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is prohibited on the Long Ridge Tract.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. November 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0292 WILLIAM H. SILVER GAME LAND IN HAYWOOD COUNTY**

- (a) William H. Silver game land is a Seven Days per Week Area.
- (b) In this game land deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10D .0293 YADKIN RIVER GAME LAND IN DAVIDSON, DAVIE, MONTGOMERY, ROWAN, AND STANLY COUNTIES**

Yadkin River game land is a Seven Days per Week Area, in which the following applies:

- (1) Antlered or antlerless deer may be taken on the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- (2) On the Lick Creek Tract, deer and bear hunting is archery only.

*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, 2024.

**15A NCAC 10D .0294 NORTH BEND GAME LAND IN BURKE COUNTY**

North Bend game land is hunting by permit only. The following shall apply:

- (1) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated trails, except for hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the seasons for game birds and game animals.
- (2) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- (3) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- (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. August 1, 2024.

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

Paynes Branch Game Land is a Three 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 Wednesday thereafter.
- (2) Target shooting is prohibited.

- (3) Horseback riding is prohibited.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;  
Eff. February 1, 2026.

## **SUBCHAPTER 10E – PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS**

### **15A NCAC 10E .0101 DEFINITION**

For the purpose of this Subchapter, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) "Boating Access Area" means property which is owned, leased, cooperatively managed, or controlled by the Commission, and developed and maintained for the purpose of providing the following types of vessels ingress to and egress from public waters:
  - (a) motorboats, as defined in G.S. 75A-2(1e); and
  - (b) non-motorized vessels that use an electric motor or manual means as the principal source of propulsion.
- (2) "Public Fishing Area" means property which is owned, leased, cooperatively managed, or controlled by the Commission, and developed and maintained to provide public fishing opportunities. These areas include Community Fishing Program waters.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-305;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2010;  
Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024.

### **15A NCAC 10E .0102 REGULATIONS POSTED**

### **15A NCAC 10E .0103 SIGNS AND MARKERS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; April 15, 1979;  
Repealed Eff. May 1, 2024.

### **15A NCAC 10E .0104 USE OF PUBLIC FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS**

- (a) Individuals using public fishing areas and boating access areas shall adhere to posted signs and markings regulating use of the area.
- (b) Except where facilities are provided or where otherwise posted, use of public fishing areas for purposes other than fishing is prohibited.
- (c) Except where facilities are provided or permits are issued, use of boating access areas for purposes other than launching and retrieving vessels and parking vehicles with vessel trailers is prohibited.
- (d) Operating concessions is prohibited on public fishing areas and boating access areas.
- (e) Organized activities and events on boating access areas require a permit from the Commission. Individuals may apply for a permit at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) by providing the following information:
  - (1) organization name, if applicable;
  - (2) contact name, address, phone number, and email;
  - (3) public fishing area or boating access area name and body of water;
  - (4) description of activity or event;
  - (5) dates and time of activity or event; and
  - (6) number of individuals and or boats expected.

Permits shall be available for inspection by wildlife enforcement officers when the activity is taking place.

- (f) Vehicles, boat trailers, and other objects that obstruct, prevent, or impede use of ramps or facilities constructed for the purpose of launching or landing boats, or fishing, shall not be left in a location, position or condition, on any public fishing area or boating access area that prevents or impedes the use by others.

(g) Vehicles, boats, boat trailers, and other objects shall be parked in designated parking zones. When designated parking zones are at capacity, individuals may still enter and use the areas or facilities.

(h) No person shall operate a vehicle at a public fishing area or boating access area in a manner that endangers life, limb, or property.

(i) No person shall possess a loaded firearm on a public fishing area or boating access area, except that individuals with a valid concealed handgun permit may possess a handgun where allowed. Individuals carrying a handgun shall adhere to the requirements of G.S. 14-415.11. Individuals shall not carry a handgun on public fishing and boating access areas at the following game lands:

- (1) Bladen Lakes State Forest
- (2) Buckhorn
- (3) Butner-Falls of Neuse
- (4) Chatham
- (5) DuPont State Forest
- (6) Harris
- (7) Hyco
- (8) Jordan
- (9) Kerr Scott
- (10) Lee
- (11) Mayo
- (12) Pee Dee River north of U.S 74
- (13) Sutton Lake
- (14) Vance
- (15) the portion of R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell located north of U.S. 158 and east of N.C. 119

(j) No person, shall deposit debris or refuse on the grounds of a public fishing area or boating access area.

(k) No person shall operate a vessel within 50 yards of a Commission-owned or managed boating access area at greater than "no wake speed", as defined in 15A NCAC 10F .0301 unless otherwise posted.

(l) It is unlawful to feed or release wild, domesticated, or feral animals or birds on public fishing areas or boating access areas without prior written authorization from the Commission. Authorization may be granted to individuals acting on behalf of the Commission, those conducting scientific investigations or surveys, or for release of rehabilitated wildlife. As applied in this Paragraph, "domesticated animals" does not include pets under the control of the owner and raptors or hunting dogs where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2022; August 1, 2019; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; July 1, 1995; February 1, 1994; September 1, 1992; July 1, 1991;  
Readopted Eff. May 1, 2024.

## **15A NCAC 10E .0105 DESIGNATED FISHING AND BOATING ACCESS AREAS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-305; 113-306;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. April 15, 1979; January 1, 1978; January 1, 1977;  
Repealed Eff. February 1, 1982.

## **SUBCHAPTER 10F - MOTORBOATS AND WATER SAFETY**

### **SECTION .0100 - MOTORBOAT REGISTRATION**

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0101 MOTORBOAT IDENTIFICATION**

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

*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0102 APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF VESSEL NUMBER**

(a) Definitions. The definitions in G.S. 75A-2 shall apply throughout this Subchapter and to the forms prescribed pursuant to this Subchapter. As used in this Subchapter, the following definitions shall also apply:

- (1) "Boating Accident" means a collision, accident, casualty, or occurrence involving a vessel or its equipment and resulting in:
  - (A) damage by or to the vessel, its equipment, or other property;
  - (B) injury or loss of life to a person; or
  - (C) the disappearance of a person from a vessel under circumstances that indicate the possibility of death or injury.A "boating accident" includes capsizing, collision, foundering, flooding, fire, explosion, and the disappearance of a vessel other than by theft.
- (2) "Certificate of Title" means a document that serves as evidence of ownership of a vessel.
- (3) "Charter Fishing Vessel" means a vessel carrying passengers for hire who are engaged in recreational fishing.
- (4) "Dealer" means a person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of offering vessels for sale at retail or wholesale from an established location.
- (5) "Government Agency Vessel" means a vessel owned and operated by the United States or a federal agency, a state, or a subdivision of a state.
- (6) "Rent or Lease Vessel" means a vessel that is rented or leased by the owners to an individual for a defined period of time.
- (7) "Manufacturer" means a person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of manufacturing vessels either upon commission or for sale after manufacture.
- (8) "Nonprofit Rescue Squad Vessel" means a vessel owned and operated by a nonprofit rescue squad exclusively for rescue purposes, including rescue training.
- (9) "Proof of Ownership Document" means a document that provides evidence of ownership, including a Certificate of Number or a Certificate of Title issued by the Commission or a similar document issued by another state or country, an affidavit, a bill of sale, a manufacturer's statement of origin, or another document that establishes ownership.
- (10) "Vessel Agent" means an individual or business authorized by the Commission to conduct vessel transactions for certificate of number and certificate of titling requirements in G.S. 75A.

(b) General. The certificate of numbering and certificate of titling requirements of G.S. 75A-4, 75A-7, 75A-34, and 75A-35 shall apply to vessels operated on the public waters of North Carolina, including rented and leased vessels, commercial fishing vessels, and commercial passenger vessels. Vessels operated pursuant to a dealer's or manufacturer's certificate of number for demonstration or testing purposes, government agency vessels, and non-profit rescue squad vessels shall not be subject to the titling requirements of G.S. 75A-34 and G.S. 75A-35 but shall remain subject to the certificate of numbering requirements of G.S. 75A-4 and G.S. 75A-7. An owner applying for a certificate of number and certificate of title of a vessel, shall apply to the Commission or to one of its vessel agents using an application available on the Commission website at [www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com](http://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com). The application shall include the following information:

- (1) the name of the owners;
- (2) the address, telephone number, date of birth, and North Carolina driver license number of the owners;
- (3) the current or previous certificate of number, if applicable;
- (4) the desired period of certificate of number, either one or three years;
- (5) the primary operation of the vessel:
  - (A) pleasure;
  - (B) rent or lease;
  - (C) dealer or manufacturer demonstration;
  - (D) commercial fishing;
  - (E) commercial passenger;
  - (F) other commercial;
  - (G) charter fishing; or
  - (H) other.
- (6) the model, if known;

- (7) the manufacturer, if known;
- (8) the year of manufacture or model year, if known;
- (9) the manufacturer's hull identification number, if any;
- (10) the overall length of the vessel in feet and inches;
- (11) the type of vessel:
  - (A) open motorboat;
  - (B) cabin motorboat;
  - (C) houseboat;
  - (D) personal watercraft;
  - (E) pontoon;
  - (F) air boat;
  - (G) auxiliary sail;
  - (H) inflatable;
  - (I) paddlecraft/canoe;
  - (J) paddlecraft/kayak;
  - (K) rowboat;
  - (L) sail only; or
  - (M) other.
- (12) the hull material:
  - (A) wood;
  - (B) aluminum;
  - (C) steel;
  - (D) fiberglass;
  - (E) rubber/vinyl/canvas;
  - (F) plastic; or
  - (G) other.
- (13) the type of propulsion:
  - (A) propeller;
  - (B) sail;
  - (C) water jet;
  - (D) manual;
  - (E) air thrust; or
  - (F) other.
- (14) the type of fuel:
  - (A) gasoline;
  - (B) diesel;
  - (C) electric; or
  - (D) other.
- (15) the engine drive type:
  - (A) inboard;
  - (B) outboard;
  - (C) stern drive;
  - (D) pod drive;
  - (E) other; or
  - (F) none.
- (16) a proof of ownership document;
- (17) the signature of the owners;
- (18) the make of motor if over 25 horsepower, including serial number and purchase price of motor, if known;
- (19) the lien holder name, address, and telephone number, if applicable;
- (20) the effective lien date, if applicable;
- (21) the county where vessel is taxed; and
- (22) proof of United States Coast Guard documentation, if applicable.

(c) Application for certificate of number and certificate of title. The owners shall complete and submit an application for a certificate of number, proof of ownership documents, and required fees to the Commission or one of its vessel agents for processing within 15 days of the date of sale. A new certificate of number shall be issued for new or never-before registered

vessels. For a period of 60 days following the date of sale, the new owners may use a copy of the proof of ownership document as a temporary certificate of number pending receipt of the original certificate, provided it contains the date of sale. If required, a certificate of title shall be issued and the reported liens shall be recorded.

(d) Rented or Leased Vessel Owners. Upon receipt of a completed application and a copy of the lease or rental agreement form and fee, the Commission shall issue to the applicant a certificate of number and, if applicable, a certificate of title.

(e) Dealers and Manufacturers of Vessels. Upon receipt of a completed application and fee, the Commission shall issue to the applicant a certificate of number that may be used in connection with the operation of a vessel in the possession of the dealer or manufacturer when the vessel is being demonstrated. Dealer and manufacturer certificates of number shall not be transferred. A new certificate of number shall be issued upon sale or transfer. Demonstration vessels shall not be titled so long as the vessel is owned by the dealer or manufacturer. Vessels owned or possessed by dealers or manufacturers for personal use or for a use other than for demonstration and testing purposes shall be individually registered in the name of the dealer or manufacturer in accordance with the certificate of number requirements of Paragraph (b) of this Rule. Additional dealer or manufacturer certificates of number may be obtained by making application in the manner prescribed for the initial certificate with payment of a fee for each additional certificate. Dealers and manufacturers may register individual vessels in accordance with Rule .0104(a) of this Section.

(f) Government Agency and Nonprofit Rescue Squad Vessels. Upon receipt of a completed application and proof of ownership documents from a government agency or non-profit rescue squad, the Commission shall issue to the applicant a permanent certificate of number. There shall be no fee for a permanent government agency or non-profit rescue squad certificate of number and the certificate shall be valid until the vessel is transferred to another government agency, an individual, a business, or a dealer. Government agency and nonprofit rescue squad registered vessels shall not be titled.

(g) Commercial Fishing Vessel. The standard application for a certificate of number shall be used for commercial fishing vessels with the term "commercial fishing" marked in the section designated for "primary operation of the vessel." Upon receipt of a completed application, proof of ownership document, and fee, the Commission shall issue to the applicant a certificate of number and, if applicable, a certificate of title.

(h) Commercial Passenger Vessel. Upon receipt of a completed application, proof of ownership document, and fee, the Commission shall issue to the applicant a certificate of number and, if applicable, a certificate of title.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5; 75A-7; 75A-19; 75A-34; 75A-35; 33 CFR 174.17; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. August 31, 1980; Legislative Objection Lodged Eff. December 16, 1980; Amended Eff. July 1, 1988 at ARRC request to cure referenced Legislative Objection; Amended Eff. August 1, 2014; May 1, 2007; July 1, 1998; April 1, 1997; November 1, 1993; August 1, 1988; July 1, 1988; Readopted Eff. November 1, 2018; Amended Eff. September 1, 2023.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0103 TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP**

(a) Transfer of previously registered and titled vessels.

(1) Transfer of previously registered and titled vessels from one individual owners to another.

(A) When the ownership of a titled vessel is transferred, the owners listed on the face of the certificate of title shall complete the Assignment of Title section on the reverse side of the certificate of title and surrender the title to the new owners. All outstanding liens shall be satisfied before the title is surrendered. If the ownership of a titled vessel is transferred by court order, will, settlement agreement, separation agreement, judgment, or other document and the original title is not available, the previous owners or estate representative shall provide the new owners with documents establishing ownership.

(B) The new owners shall submit an application for a certificate of number and certificate of title, along with the properly assigned certificate of title and applicable fees, within 15 days of the date of sale to the Commission or one of its vessel agents for processing. The new owners shall indicate on the application whether or not any liens exist on the vessel. If applicable, a new certificate of title shall be issued and all reported liens shall be recorded. The original certificate of number shall be retained when a vessel that was previously registered in North Carolina is transferred to a new owner. A new certificate of number shall be issued to a vessel that was previously registered in another state or never before registered.

- (C) For 60 days following the transfer of ownership of a previously titled vessel, the new owner may use a copy of the properly assigned certificate of title as a temporary certificate of number pending receipt of his or her own certificate provided the certificate is validated in accordance with Part (b)(1)(A) of this Rule.
- (2) Transfer of previously registered and titled vessels through a dealer.
  - (A) When the ownership of a titled vessel is transferred to a dealer, the owners listed on the face of the certificate of title shall complete the Assignment of Title section on the reverse side of the certificate of title and surrender the title to the dealer. All outstanding liens shall be satisfied before the certificate of title is surrendered to the dealer.
  - (B) When the vessel is subsequently sold, the dealer shall, on the day of the sale, provide the new owners the original certificate of title completed by the previous owners and a dealer bill of sale. The dealer bill of sale shall include the dealer's name; the name of the new owners; the date of sale; the certificate of number; the manufacturer's hull identification number; and the model, year, and length of the vessel. The dealer bill of sale shall be signed by both the dealer and the new owners.
  - (C) The new owners shall complete and submit an application for a certificate of number and certificate of title, along with the properly assigned certificate of title, dealer bill of Sale, and applicable fees, within 15 days of the date of sale to the Commission or one of its vessel agents for processing. If applicable, a new certificate of title shall be issued and all reported liens shall be recorded. The original certificate of number shall be retained when a vessel that was previously registered in North Carolina is transferred to a new owners. A new certificate of number shall be issued to a vessel that was previously registered in another state or never before registered.
  - (D) For a period of 60 days following the transfer of ownership of a previously registered vessel, the new owner may use a copy of the dealer bill of sale as a temporary certificate of number pending receipt of his or her own certificate provided the certificate is validated in accordance with Part (b)(1)(A) of this Rule.
- (b) Transfer of previously registered, non-titled vessels.
  - (1) Transfer of a previously registered, non-titled vessel from one individual owner to another.
    - (A) If the ownership of a previously registered vessel is transferred by sale or gift, the previous owners shall complete a notarized bill of sale. The bill of sale shall be given to the new owners and shall include the previous owners' names; the new owners' names; the date of sale or gift; the certificate of number; the manufacturer's hull identification number; and the model, year, and length of the vessel. The previous owner's signature shall be notarized. If the ownership of a previously registered vessel is transferred by a court order, will, settlement agreement, separation agreement, judgment, or other document, the previous owners or representative of the estate shall provide the new owners with documents establishing ownership.
    - (B) The new owner shall complete and submit an application for a certificate of number and certificate of title, along with the proof of ownership document and applicable fees, within 15 days of the date of sale to the Commission or one of its vessel agents for processing. If applicable, a new certificate of title shall be issued and all reported liens shall be recorded. The original certificate of number shall be retained when a vessel previously registered in North Carolina is transferred to a new owner. A new certificate of number shall be issued to vessels previously registered in another State or never before registered.
    - (C) For 60 days following the transfer of ownership of a previously registered vessel, the new owner may use a copy of the proof of ownership document as a temporary certificate of number pending receipt of his or her own certificate provided the certificate is validated in accordance with Part (b)(1)(A) of this Rule.
  - (2) Transfer of a previously registered, non-titled vessel through a dealer.
    - (A) The owners selling or transferring a previously registered vessel to a dealer shall complete a notarized bill of sale naming the dealer as the new owner. The bill of sale shall be given to the dealer and shall include the previous owners' names; the dealers name; the date of sale; the certificate of number; the manufacturer's hull identification number; and the model, year, and length of the vessel. The signature of the previous owners shall be notarized.
    - (B) When the vessel is sold, the dealer shall provide the new owners a dealer bill of sale on the day of the sale. The dealer bill of sale shall include the dealer's name; the new owners' names; the date of

sale; the certificate of number; the manufacturer's hull identification number; and the model, year, and length of the vessel. The dealer bill of sale shall be signed by both the dealer and the new owners.

- (C) The new owners shall complete and submit an application for a certificate of number and Certificate of Title, along with the proof of ownership document and applicable fees, within 15 days of the date of sale to the Commission or one of its vessel agents for processing. If applicable, a new certificate of title shall be issued and all reported liens shall be recorded. The original certificate of number shall be retained when a vessel, previously registered in North Carolina, is transferred to a new owners. A new certificate of number shall be issued to vessels previously registered in another state or vessels never before registered.
  - (D) For a period of 60 days following the transfer of ownership of a previously registered vessel, the new owner may use a copy of the dealer bill of sale as a temporary certificate of number pending receipt of his or her own certificate provided the certificate is validated in accordance with Part (b)(1)(A) of this Rule.
- (3) Transfer of a vessel individually-registered to a dealer or manufacturer. Vessels that have been individually numbered by dealers or manufacturers shall upon transfer of ownership be governed by the provisions of Subparagraph (b)(1) of this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5; 75A-19; 75A-37; 33 C.F.R. 174.21; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. August 1, 2014; May 1, 2007; July 1, 1998; April 1, 1997; February 1, 1995; November 1, 1993; July 1, 1988; April 19, 1981; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0104 CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER**

(a) General. A completed application, a proof of ownership document, and the required fees as provided in G.S. 75A-5(a1) and G.S. 75A-5.2(c), are necessary for the Commission to issue a certificate of number authorizing the operation of a vessel. The certificate of number shall be carried by the individual operating the vessel and shall be available for inspection by a law enforcement officer when requested. The certificate of number shall be signed by the owners.

(b) Dealers and Manufacturers. A dealer or manufacturer demonstrating or testing a vessel may use a set of dealer numbers and the corresponding dealer certificate of number to operate a vessel held for sale for demonstration or testing purposes. Vessels owned or possessed by dealers or manufacturers for personal use or for a use other than for demonstration and testing purposes shall be individually registered in the name of the dealer in accordance with Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5; 75A-5.2; 75A-7; 75A-19; 33 CFR 174.19; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. August 31, 1980; January 1, 1980; Legislative Objection Lodged Eff. December 16, 1980; Amended Eff. May 1, 2007; July 1, 1998; April 1, 1997; July 1, 1988; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. September 1, 2023; November 1, 2018.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0105 NUMBERING PATTERN**

(a) General. A certificate of number assigned by the Commission shall consist of the abbreviation "NC" followed by a number consisting of not more than four Arabic numerals and a space or hyphen followed by not more than two capital letters, in accordance with the serials, numerically and alphabetically.

(b) Prohibited Letters. The Letters "I", "O", and "Q" shall not be used in any certificate of number letter sequence. Letters or letters and numbers forming words or combinations shall not be used.

(c) Government Agency. The single letter "P" shall be used following the numerals of vessels owned by governmental entities.

(d) Dealers and Manufacturers. The single letter "X" shall be used following the numerals of vessels numbered for demonstration purposes by dealers and manufacturers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5; 75A-7; 75A-19; 33 C.F.R. 174.23;

*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2007; July 1, 1998; April 1, 1997; September 1, 1996; August 31, 1980;*  
*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*  
*Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0106 DISPLAY OF VESSEL NUMBERS**

- (a) The vessel numbers shall be painted on or attached to each side of the forward half of the vessel for which the number was issued in a position that is visible and legible. The numbers shall read from left to right and shall be in block characters not less than three inches in height. The numbers shall be of a solid color that contrasts with the color of the background and maintained to be visible and legible.
- (b) No other number, except the year date of the validation decal described in Rule .0107 of this Section, shall be carried on the bow of a numbered vessel.
- (c) Manufacturers or dealers may have the vessel number printed upon or attached to a removable sign or signs to be temporarily attached to a vessel being demonstrated, so long as the display meets the requirements of Paragraph (a) of this Rule. If a currently or previously-numbered vessel is being demonstrated with dealer numbers, all permanent numbers painted on or attached to the bow shall be covered.
- (d) A vessel registered to a governmental entity and bearing the letter "P" shall continue to display the assigned numbers for so long as the vessel belongs to a governmental entity. Upon transfer of ownership of a vessel registered to a government entity to a private individual or business, the new owner shall apply to the Commission for a new certificate of number as provided in 15A NCAC 10F .0104.
- (e) A United States Coast Guard documented vessel registered in North Carolina shall not display the State vessel numbers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5; 75A-19;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2014; May 1, 2007; April 1, 1997;*  
*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*  
*Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0107 VALIDATION DECAL**

- (a) In addition to the certificate of number, the Commission shall supply to the owner of a numbered vessel two validation decals indicating the certificate's year of expiration. The owner shall affix one validation decal in a position that is visible and legible on each side of the bow following and within six inches of the vessel number.
- (b) A United States Coast Guard documented vessel shall affix one validation decal in a position that is visible and legible on the forward half of the starboard bow and one validation decal on the forward half of the port side bow.
- (c) A validation decal issued for a numbered vessel owned by a governmental entity shall contain no expiration date, shall bear the letter "P", and shall not be subject to renewal so long as the vessel remains the property of a governmental entity. When a vessel is transferred to private ownership, the decals shall be removed or destroyed by the transferring agency.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5; 75A-7; 33 C.F.R. 174.15;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. January 1, 2015; May 1, 2007; April 1, 1997; August 31, 1980; January 1, 1980;*  
*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*  
*Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0108 RECIPROCITY**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0109 TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER**

When a vessel owner completes a transaction to renew, or replace a certificate of number, or initiates a transaction for a new or transfer certificate of number, the owner shall be issued a temporary certificate of number. For up to 60 days following the date of the transaction, the vessel may be operated with the temporary certificate of number. The temporary certificate of number shall be signed by the owners.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5; 33 CFR 174.21;  
Eff. April 1, 1997;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2007; July 1, 1998;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. September 1, 2023; November 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0110 ABANDONED VESSELS**

(a) Any person may apply to the Commission to become the registered and titled owner of an abandoned vessel. The applicant shall:

- (1) send a certified letter with return receipt requested to the last registered owners. The applicant shall provide proof to the Commission that this letter was not deliverable or that the last registered owners failed to acknowledge or respond;
- (2) provide a written police report to the Commission stating that the abandoned vessel has not been reported missing or stolen in the area where it is listed as being moored; and
- (3) complete and submit to the Commission an application for a certificate of number and certificate of title and shall submit:
  - (A) a notarized statement summarizing when and where the vessel was found;
  - (B) documentation of all attempts to locate the owners;
  - (C) all available evidence that the vessel is abandoned;
  - (D) statements from any other persons knowledgeable about the history of the vessel; and
  - (E) all applicable fees.

(b) The Commission shall consider the evidence and documentation presented when determining if a vessel has been abandoned. If the Commission determines that the vessel has been abandoned, the Commission shall issue a certificate of number and certificate of title to the applicant.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-5(i2);  
Eff. May 1, 2007;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.*

### **SECTION .0200 - SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND ACCIDENT REPORTS**

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0201 SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

(a) All vessels subject to the rules of this Section shall meet the vessel equipment requirements set forth in G.S. 75A-6(n), 46 CFR 25, and 33 CFR 175. 46 CFR 25 and 33 CFR 175 are incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions, and can be found free of charge online at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov). Notwithstanding the federal regulations incorporated in this Paragraph, Paragraphs (b) through (g) shall apply to vessels operating in State waters. To the extent these vessel equipment requirements conflict with the incorporated federal regulations, federal regulations shall supersede any and all State laws or regulations.

(b) Personal flotation devices (PFDs) shall be required as follows:

- (1) No person may operate a vessel unless, for each person on the vessel, at least one U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable PFD as defined in 33 CFR 175.13 is on board and readily accessible. Any U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable PFD may be carried to meet the requirement, provided:
  - (A) the approved label for the PFD indicates that the device is approved for the activity for which the vessel is being used; or
  - (B) the PFD is used in accordance with the requirements on the approval label and with the requirements in its owner's manual.
- (2) No person shall operate a vessel 16 feet or more in length unless one U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable PFD as defined in 33 CFR 175.13 is on board and, readily accessible, in addition to the total number of PFDs required in Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph.
- (3) No person shall operate a vessel while the vessel is underway with any child under 13 years old aboard unless each child is:
  - (A) wearing an appropriate PFD approved by the U.S. Coast Guard;
  - (B) below decks; or

(C) in an enclosed cabin.

This Subparagraph shall not apply to a vessel that is registered as a commercial vessel.

- (4) No person shall operate a vessel unless each required PFD is:
- (A) in a condition allowing it to work as intended;
  - (B) of appropriate size and fit for the intended wearer;
  - (C) U.S. Coast Guard approved; and
  - (D) legibly marked with its approval number, as specified in 46 CFR 25 Uninspected Vessels, Requirements, and 33 CFR 175 Personal Flotation Devices.
- (5) Exemptions shall apply as follows:
- (A) Canoes and kayaks 16 feet in length and over shall be exempted from the requirements for carriage of the additional U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable PFD as specified in Subparagraph (b)(2) of this Rule.
  - (B) Sailboards, surfboards, tubes, swimming rafts, inflatable toys, and similar devices used as water toys or swimming aids shall be exempted from the requirements for carriage of any PFD required under this Paragraph.
  - (C) Manually propelled vessels such as racing shells, rowing sculls, racing canoes, and racing kayaks that are recognized by national and international racing associations for use in competitive racing, that are not designed to carry any equipment not solely for competitive racing, and in which all occupants with the exception of a coxswain, if one is present, row, scull, or paddle, shall be exempted from the requirements for carriage of any type PFD required under this Paragraph.

(c) U.S. Coast Guard marine approved and labeled fire extinguishers shall be required as follows:

- (1) All motorboats shall carry at least the minimum number of U.S. Coast Guard approved hand portable fire extinguishers specified in this Rule if:
- (A) the motorboat has closed compartments under thwarts and seats in which portable fuel tanks may be stored;
  - (B) the motorboat has double bottoms that are not sealed to the hull or that are not completely filled with flotation material;
  - (C) the motorboat has closed living spaces;
  - (D) the motorboat has closed stowage compartments in which combustible or flammable materials are stowed;
  - (E) the motorboat has permanently installed fuel tanks; or
  - (F) the motorboat is Class 2 or longer.
- (2) Class A and Class 1 Motorboats less than 26 feet in length shall carry one Type B-I extinguisher.
- (3) Class 2 Motorboats shall carry two Type B-I extinguishers.
- (4) Class 3 Motorboats shall carry three Type B-I extinguishers.
- (5) One Type B-II hand held fire extinguisher may be substituted for two B-I hand portable fire extinguishers. A fixed fire extinguishing system installed in the engine compartment shall be deemed equal to one Type B-I hand portable fire extinguisher.

Open Vessels. Vessels less than 26 feet in length, propelled by outboard motors and not carrying passengers for hire, shall not be required to carry portable fire extinguishers if the construction of the vessels will not permit the entrapment of explosive or flammable gases or vapors.

(d) Every engine, except outboard motors, using gasoline as fuel and installed in a vessel shall be equipped with an acceptable means of backfire flame control that meets the requirements of 46 CFR 25 and 33 CFR 175.

(e) Every vessel, except open vessels using liquid of a volatile nature, including gasoline or diesel, as fuel, shall be equipped with an operable ventilation system as required by 33 CFR 175.201 and to remove any explosive or flammable gases from the bilges of the engine and fuel tank compartments that meets the requirements of 46 CFR 25 and 33 CFR 175.

(f) Sound devices shall be required as follows:

- (1) Vessels less than 12 meters or 39.4 feet in length shall be equipped with some means of making an audible sound signal; and
- (2) Vessels equal to or greater than 12 meters or 39.4 feet in length shall be equipped with a whistle and a bell that comply with 33 USC 2033.

(g) Lights. The lights prescribed by this Paragraph shall be exhibited from sunset to sunrise and in fog, mist, falling snow, heavy rainstorms, sandstorms, or any other similar circumstances of restricted visibility. They may be exhibited in all other circumstances when deemed necessary by the operator of the vessel. During such times no other lights shall be exhibited,

except those that cannot be mistaken for the required navigation lights, which impair their visibility or distinctive character, or interfere with keeping a proper lookout as defined in 33 CFR 83.20(b). Lights shall be required as follows:

- (1) Vessels, other than those vessels described in Subparagraphs (g)(3)-(7) of this Rule, equal to or greater than 12 meters or 39.4 feet but less than 20 meters or 65.6 feet in length shall exhibit:
  - (A) a masthead light forward visible for three miles;
  - (B) sidelights, green to starboard and red to port, visible for two miles; and
  - (C) a stern light visible for two miles.
- (2) Vessels, other than those vessels described in Subparagraphs (g)(3)-(7) of this Rule, less than 12 meters or 39.4 feet in length shall exhibit:
  - (A) an all-round white light visible for two miles; and
  - (B) sidelights, green to starboard and red to port, visible for 1 mile.
- (3) Sailing vessels underway that are seven meters or 23 feet in length or greater shall exhibit:
  - (A) a stern light visible for two miles; and
  - (B) sidelights, green to starboard and red to port, visible for two miles.
- (4) In a sailing vessel less than 20 meters or 65.6 feet in length, the lights prescribed in Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph may be combined in one lantern carried at or near the top of the mast where it can be best seen.
- (5) A sailing vessel of less than seven meters or 23 feet in length shall, if practicable, exhibit the lights prescribed in Subparagraph (3) or (4) of this Paragraph; if not practicable the vessel shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light that shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent a collision.
- (6) A vessel under oars shall either:
  - (A) exhibit the lights prescribed in Subparagraph (g)(5) of this Rule for sailing vessels; or
  - (B) have an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light readily available to be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent a collision.
- (7) On public waters not subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, vessels propelled by machinery of 10 horsepower or less, in lieu of the foregoing requirements in this Paragraph, may carry from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise a white light in the stern or have on board a hand flashlight in good working condition which shall be ready at hand and shall be temporarily displayed in sufficient time to prevent collision. This Subparagraph shall not apply to vessels in waters of this State that are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-6; 113-307;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 2013; April 1, 2009; March 1, 2008; April 1, 1999; August 1, 1988; May 1, 1976;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. March 1, 2023; November 1, 2018.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0202 ACCIDENT REPORTS**

- (a) Federal Regulations Incorporated. Reporting boating accidents and notification of death or disappearance of persons from vessels operating on the waters of this State shall be governed by 33 CFR 173 Subpart C, which is incorporated by reference including subsequent amendments and editions. These federal regulations can be found free of charge online at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).
- (b) Use of Report. The accident reports required by Paragraph (a) of this Rule shall be used in developing statistical data as to the causes and frequency of boating accidents and in transmittal of information as required by G.S. 75A-12.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-11; 113-307; 33 C.F.R. 174.101 et seq.;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 1999; August 1, 1988; May 1, 1976;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.

### **SECTION .0300 - LOCAL WATER SAFETY REGULATIONS**

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0301 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

(a) Definitions. The definitions used in G.S. 75A-2 shall apply in this Subchapter. In addition, the following definitions shall apply to all rules in this Section:

- (1) "Designated agency" means a subdivision of the State that the Commission designates for the purchase and placement of markers that conform to USATONS standards;
- (2) "Executive Director" means the Executive Director of the Commission;
- (3) "Mooring area" means an area on the water delineated by speed zone markers where vessels may be tied to objects anchored on the seabed;
- (4) "Placement of markers" means putting regulatory and information markers in areas specified by the Rules of this Section and includes the re-placement of dislocated markers and the replacement of missing markers.
- (5) "Regulatory Marker" and "Information Marker" means markers with an orange geometric shape against a white background, used to alert a mariner to warnings or regulatory matters, as defined in 33 CFR 62.33;
- (6) "Restricted area" means an area on the water that is marked to limit recreational activity and vessel speed;
- (7) "Safety Zone" means a water area or shore area where, for safety or environmental purposes, access is limited to authorized persons and vessels, as defined in 33 CFR 165.20, which is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions and can be found free of charge online at <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-33/section-165.20>.
- (8) "Swimming area" means an enclosed area on the water for swimming that is marked against entry by vessels; and
- (9) "USATONS" means the U. S. Aids to Navigation System, which prescribes regulatory markers and aids to navigation that mark navigable waters of the United States. The rules governing USATONS in 33 CFR 62, are hereby incorporated by reference including all subsequent amendments and editions and can be found free of charge online at <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-33/part-62>.

(b) Formal application for water safety rulemaking. Any subdivision of the State may, after public notice, apply to the Commission for rules on waters within the subdivision's territorial limits on an application provided by the Commission at [www.ncwildlife.gov](http://www.ncwildlife.gov). The completed application and supporting documents shall be mailed to the No Wake Zone Coordinator at North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, 1701 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1701 or submitted via email to [nowakezonecoordinator@ncwildlife.gov](mailto:nowakezonecoordinator@ncwildlife.gov). The application shall contain the following information:

- (1) the name of the subdivision of the State applying for water safety rulemaking;
- (2) the date of the application;
- (3) the contact person's name, telephone number, and mailing address;
- (4) descriptive information for the body of water;
- (5) location of the proposed no wake zone, marked swimming area, or other regulated area;
- (6) a statement that the subdivision of the State has given public notice of its intention to apply for rulemaking on waters within its territorial limits;
- (7) a resolution from the subdivision of the State requesting water safety rulemaking; and
- (8) an affirmation that the subdivision of the State or its designee will bear the cost for purchase and placement of markers that conform to USATONS standards.

(c) Swimming Areas. No vessel entry shall be permitted in the waters of marked swimming areas. Marked swimming areas shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) the enclosed swimming area in the water shall not exceed 5,000 square feet;
- (2) the enclosed area shall be marked with float lines that, in conjunction with the shoreline, form an enclosed area;
- (3) the swimming area shall not extend into a navigational channel or interfere with navigation of vessels;
- (4) float lines shall have white, international orange, or alternating white and international orange floats along their length at intervals of not less than one every 10 feet;
- (5) floats shall be buoyant enough to float at the surface of the water while attached to the float line, and no float shall exceed a size of 18 inches in length or diameter;
- (6) buoys or floating signs bearing the USATONS "boat exclusion area" symbol shall be attached to float lines to give warning to vessels approaching the swimming area from all directions; and
- (7) float lines and warning markers shall be anchored.

(d) Safety Zones. Markers prohibiting entry or use by vessels and swimmers in waters surrounding impoundment structures and powerhouses associated with hydroelectric generating facilities shall be buoys or floating signs placed in the water. Markers shall meet USATONS standards in number and size to give warning of the restriction to vessels approaching from all directions.

(e) Enforcement. If an agent of the Commission discovers markers and navigational aids that do not conform to USATONS standards, that are placed without lawful authority or permission, or that fail to mark the defined regulated area, written notice shall be served upon the individuals responsible for the improper placement of the markers or navigational aids. Individuals served a written notice of violation shall have 10 days to correct any deficiency before the Commission issues a citation.

(f) Restrictions.

- (1) Except for mooring buoys or markers that are specifically permitted by State or federal law, it shall be unlawful to tie a vessel to any waterway marker, as specified in 33 CFR 70.05.
- (2) It shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person to move, remove, damage, block, paint over, or tamper with any marker lawfully placed in the waters of North Carolina in conformity with these rules or USATONS standards.
- (3) Except where done by supervening federal authority, it shall be unlawful for anyone to place regulatory markers or navigational aids without authorization from the Commission; or to place information markers without permission from the Executive Director or his or her designee.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 1993; March 25, 1978;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1999;  
Readopted Eff. November 1, 2018;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2026; February 1, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0302 ATLANTIC BEACH**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Atlantic Beach in Carteret County:

- (1) the canals east of the Atlantic Beach Bridge in Sound View Isles subdivision, including the waters of Money Island Slough from its east entrance at 34.70187 N, 76.72941 W to its west entrance at 34.70237 N, 76.73271 W, and all canals west of the bridge including the canal west of North Shore 1 Drive;
- (2) the waters of Bogue Sound within 55 yards of the north shore of Channel Bay Mobile Home Park and North Shore Mobile Home Park;
- (3) the waters of Bogue Sound from a point approximately 50 yards north of the entrance to Hoop Pole Creek Bay at 34.70319 N, 76.76904 W, to a line approximately 150 yards south of the entrance to Hoop Pole Creek Bay, shore to shore from a point on the east shore at 34.70178 N, 76.76757 W, to a point on the west shore at 34.70167 N, 76.76973 W, and within 50 yards of all boat ramps in Hoop Pole Creek Bay; and
- (4) the waters of Bogue Sound beginning at green day marker 3 and red day marker 4 near the entrance of the 8 ½ Marina Channel and extending within the channel to a point 50 yards west of the boat ramp at 8 ½ Marina Village.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The Town of Atlantic Beach shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0303 BEAUFORT COUNTY**

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

- (1) Aurora.
  - (A) the waters within 50 yards of Smith Creek Boating Access Area on Smith Creek, 3484 NC Highway 33 E; and
  - (B) the waters within 50 yards of Aurora Boating Access Area on South Creek, 1 Main Street.
- (2) Belhaven.

- (A) the waters within 50 yards of Belhaven Boating Access Area on Pantego Creek, 135 West Water Street; and
- (B) the waters within 50 yards of Wrights Creek Boating Access Area on Pungo Creek, 1922 Wilkins Road.
- (3) Chocowinity.
  - (A) the portion of Blounts Creek north of a line 35 yards south-southeast of the Mouth of the Creek Bridge from a point on the east shore at 35.43333 N, 76.96985 W to a point on the west shore at 35.43267 N, 76.97196 W and south of a line 350 yards north-northeast of the Mouth of the Creek Bridge from a point on the east shore at 35.43553 N, 76.96962 W to a point on the west shore at 35.43679 N, 76.97011 W;
  - (B) the canals at the eastern end of the peninsula between Chocowinity Bay and the Pamlico River at Fork Point and Whichard Beach, beginning at the canal entrance off Chocowinity Bay at a point at 35.50296 N, 77.03043 W and beginning at the canal entrance off the Pamlico River at a point at 35.50340 N, 77.02364 W; and
  - (C) Blounts Creek south of a line 100 yards north of the Blounts Creek Boating Access Area at 350 Crisp Landing Road, from a point on the east shore at 35.40846 N, 76.96091 W to a point on the west shore at 35.40834 N, 76.96355 W, and north of a line 100 yards south of Cotton Patch Landing, from a point on the east shore at 35.40211 N, 76.96573 W to a point on the west shore at 35.40231 N, 76.96702 W.
- (4) Washington.
  - (A) the portion of Broad Creek south of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.49472 N, 76.95693 W to a point on the west shore at 35.49477 N, 76.96014 W and north of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.48894 N, 76.95052 W to a point on the west shore at 35.48660 N, 76.95879 W;
  - (B) the waters within 50 yards of Masons Landing Boating Access Area on Tranters Creek, 625 Clarks Neck Road; and
  - (C) the waters within 50 yards of Havens Garden Boating Access Area on Runyon Creek, 1053 East Main Street.
- (5) the navigable portion of Nevil Creek extending upstream from its mouth at the Pamlico River;
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement of Markers.
  - (1) the Board of Commissioners of Beaufort County shall be the designated agency implementing the portion of Parts (a)(3)(C) south of the Blounts Creek Boating Access Area; and Parts (a)(2)(A) and (B), (a)(3)(A) and (B), and (a)(5) of this Rule;
  - (2) the City of Washington shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(4)(A) through (a)(4)(C) of this Rule; and
  - (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency implementing the portion of Part (a)(3)(C), the waters of Blounts Creek shore to shore from 100 yards north of the Blounts Creek Boating Access Area to 100 yards south of the Boating Access Area; and Parts (a)(1)(A) and (B) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. September 1, 2013; September 1, 2010; June 1, 1998; April 1, 1997; June 1, 1989; March 1, 1987; April 1, 1986; March 4, 1979; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. April 1, 2026; May 1, 2019; October 1, 2018; November 1, 2017.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0304 BLADEN COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule applies to the following waters in Bladen County:
  - (1) White Lake. The water between the shoreline and regulatory markers 500 feet from the shoreline is a Restricted Area.
  - (2) Cape Fear River:
    - (A) the waters shore to shore between a point 100 yards east and 100 yards west of the ferry cable at Elwell Ferry and Elwells Ferry Boating Access Area, 2702 Elwell Ferry Road, Council;

- (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Tar Heel Boating Access Area, 1000 Wildlife Landing Drive, Tar Heel; and
  - (C) the waters within 50 yards of the Tory Hole Boating Access Area, 335 N. Poplar Street, Elizabethtown.
- (3) Black River. The waters within 50 yards of the Hunts Bluff Boating Access Area, 351 Hunts Bluff Road, Kelly.
- (b) Restricted Area. Motorboats, as defined in G.S. 75A-2(1e), shall not be operated on a course parallel to the shoreline in the area described in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule.
- (c) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a motorboat at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a).
- (d) Placement and Maintenance of Markers.
- (1) the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of State Parks shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers implementing the regulated area designated in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule.
  - (2) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers implementing the regulated areas designated in Parts (a)(2)(A) through (C), and Subparagraph (a)(3) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Amended Eff. April 1, 1990; August 1, 1988; June 17, 1979;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. June 1, 2024; October 1, 2018;  
 Emergency Amendment Eff. August 5, 2024;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. November 8, 2024;  
 Amended Eff. April 1, 2025.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0305 BRUNSWICK COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule applies to the following waters in Brunswick County:
- (1) Varnamtown. Lockwood Folly River in the Town of Varnamtown from a point at 33.94966 N, 78.22587 W, 500 yards northwest of the boat ramp at the end of S.R. 1123 otherwise known as Fisherman Road, to a point at 33.94498 N, 78.22206 W, 180 yards southeast of the boat ramp, and including the portion of the river otherwise known as Mill Creek where it meets Lockwood Folly River directly across from the boat ramp, to a point 100 feet northeast at 33.94687 N, 78.22235 W;
  - (2) Calabash. Calabash River in the Town of Calabash, from a point in the water at the end of Marina Drive at 33.88638 N, 78.56254 W to a point 650 yards southwest at the southern end of the deep-sea fishing docks at 33.88344 N, 78.56751 W;
  - (3) Southport. Morningstar Marinas Southport, shore to shore beginning at its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91685 N, 78.02865 W;
  - (4) Town Creek Township. Town Creek east of S.R. 1609, otherwise known as Clearview Lane in Town Creek Township, shore to shore from a point at 34.16788 N, 78.07139 W, north and east around a bend in the creek to a point at 34.16910 N, 78.07030 W;
  - (5) Shallotte:
    - (A) Shallotte River east of S.R. 1233, otherwise known as Village Point Road SW south of the Town of Shallotte, shore to shore from its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91477 N, 78.37103 W to point 500 feet north at 33.91613 N, 78.37126 W;
    - (B) Lockwood Folly River at Rourk's Landing Subdivision, beginning at a point south of the subdivision at 33.95338 N, 78.22553 W, north and west around two sharp bends in the channel and ending north at a point at 33.95539 N, 78.22900 W; and
    - (C) within 20 yards of the shoreline and 50 yards east and 50 yards west of the Brick Landing Boating Access Area on the Intracoastal Waterway at 1921 Brick Landing Road SW in Shallotte.
  - (6) Ocean Isle Beach:

- (A) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach in the vicinity of the N.C. Highway 904 Odell Williamson Bridge and Ocean Isle Beach Boating Access Area at 67 Causeway Drive, shore to shore from a point 100 yards east of the N.C. Highway 904 Odell Williamson Bridge at 33.89578 N, 78.43870 W, to a point 100 yards west of the Bridge at 33.89551 N, 78.44077 W; and
  - (B) the waters in the natural and concrete canals located on the south side of the Intracoastal Waterway, east of N.C. Highway 904 in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach.
- (7) Oak Island:
- (A) Montgomery Slough, otherwise known as Davis Creek, within 100 yards of the hotel and marina at the northern end of 57th Place West in the Town of Oak Island;
  - (B) Montgomery Slough, otherwise known as Davis Creek, shore to shore from its entrance at the Intracoastal Waterway west of SW Yacht Drive at a point at 33.92145 N, 78.19408 W, to the canal end at NE 40th Street in the Town of Oak Island;
  - (C) Intracoastal Waterway, within 50 yards of the Oak Island Boating Access Area at 4950 Fish Factory Road SE in Oak Island; and
  - (D) Intracoastal Waterway 50 yards east and 50 yards west of the G.V. Barbee Bridge otherwise known as the Oak Island Bridge, in Oak Island.
- (8) Sunset Beach. Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Sunset Beach in the vicinity of the S.R. 1172 Sunset Beach Bridge and Sunset Beach Boating Access Area at 101 Sunset Boulevard, shore to shore from a point 150 yards east of the Sunset Beach Bridge at 33.88173 N, 78.50995 W, to a point 50 yards west of the bridge at 33.88111 N, 78.51194 W;
- (9) Bolivia. The waters within 50 yards of the Sunset Harbor Boating Access Area adjacent to the Intracoastal Waterway at 356 Riverview Drive SE in Bolivia;
- (10) Holden Beach. Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Holden Beach, N.C. Highway 130 Holden Beach Bridge and Holden Beach Boating Access Area at 99 S. Shore Drive, shore to shore between a point 250 feet west and a point 100 feet east of the Holden Beach Bridge;
- (11) Winnabow. The waters within 50 yards of Rices Creek Boating Access Area on Rice Creek at 797 Gordon Lewis Drive SE in Winnabow; and
- (12) Ash. The waters within 50 yards of the Pireway Boating Access Area on Waccamaw River at 9739 Pireway Road NW in Ash.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement of Markers.
- (1) the Board of Aldermen of Varnamtown shall be the designated agency implementing Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule ;
  - (2) the Board of Commissioners of Brunswick County shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(2) through (4), Parts (a)(5)(A) and (B), (a)(6)(B), and (a)(7)(A), (B), and (D) of this Rule;
  - (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency implementing Subparagraphs (a)(5)(C), (a)(6)(A), (a)(7)(C), and Subparagraphs (a)(8) through (12) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. February 1, 1976;  
 Amended Eff. April 1, 1997; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; January 1, 1989; January 1, 1987;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. March 1, 1998;  
 Amended Eff. April 1, 2009; April 1, 1999;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. May 1, 2021; July 1, 2018;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. August 15, 2023; October 1, 2022;  
 Amended Eff. February 1, 2024;  
 Temporary Amendment Exp. Eff. May 11, 2024;  
 Amended Eff. June 1, 2026; February 1, 2025.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0306 CAROLINA BEACH**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule applies to the following waters in the Town of Carolina Beach:

- (1) Carolina Beach Yacht Basin shore to shore, south of a line from a point on the east shore at 34.05723 N, 77.88894 W to a point on the west shore at 34.05700 N, 77.89089 W; and
  - (2) a portion of the Intracoastal Waterway in Myrtle Grove Sound within approximately 50 yards of the community pier and docks surrounding marinas at the Oceana Marina and Carolina Beach Yacht Club, but not extending into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers channel setback, and extending south of the marinas within approximately 50 yards of the shoreline, but not extending into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers channel setback, to the intersection with the no-wake zone at the Carolina Beach Yacht Basin.
- (b) Speed Limit. It is unlawful to operate any vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement of Markers. The Carolina Beach Town Council shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. March 1, 1983;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2020.*

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

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to Lake Norman in Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg counties:
- (1) within 50 yards of the shoreline at Jetton Park in Mecklenburg County, from a point on the west side of the park at 35.47082 N, 80.90427 W, south and around the point at 35.46703 N, 80.90360 W, then northeast to a point at 35.47262 N, 80.89727 W;
  - (2) Bluff Point Cove in Cornelius shore to shore, east of a line from a point 50 yards west of the south shore of the cove mouth at 35.45327 N, 80.89520 W to a point 50 yards west of the north shore of the cove mouth at 35.45487 N, 80.89440 W; and
  - (3) the cove immediately north of the inlet of Hager Creek in Iredell County, north of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.55760 N, 80.94730 W southwest to a point on the island at the inlet of Hager Creek at 35.55695 N, 80.94971 W, and east of a line from the same point on the island northwest to a point on the north shore at 35.55754 N, 80.95029 W.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule and as set forth in G.S. 75A-14.1.
- (c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Lake Norman Marine Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of navigational aids and regulatory markers on the waters of Lake Norman.
- (d) Vessel Liveries. Vessel liveries, as used in G.S. 75A-8, operating on Lake Norman shall conduct the following activities with each vessel renter prior to relinquishing control of the vessel:
- (1) a pre-rental vessel inspection to ensure that safety equipment required by Rule .0201 of this Subchapter is on board and accessible; and
  - (2) provide and review instruction on safe operation of the vessel rented including review of navigation rules in G.S. 75A-6.1, operating restrictions in G.S. 75A-10, an electronic or waterproof navigational map of Lake Norman, and the U.S. Coast Guard's U.S. Aids to Navigation System pamphlet.

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

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; October 1, 1992; May 1, 1989; March 25, 1978;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2019; October 1, 2018;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. March 7, 2025;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2026.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0308 CLAY COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Chatuge Lake:

- (1) the waters shore to shore within 150 yards of the boat ramp at Ho Hum Campground at 47 Ho Hum Loop, Hayesville;
- (2) the waters of Shooting Creek, from a line shore to shore 50 yards west of the High Bridge on NC Highway 175, to a line at the southeast end of Shooting Creek shore to shore, from a point at 35.01960 N, 83.72752 W; to a point at 35.01979 N, 83.72638 W;
- (3) the waters of Gibson Cove, south of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.01005 N, 83.79750 W to a point on the west shore at 35.01099 N, 83.79929 W, southwest to the end of Gibson Cove at 3279 Myers Chapel Road in Hayesville;
- (4) within 50 yards of the Chatuge Cove Marina at 2397 Highway 175 in Hayesville;
- (5) the portion of the cove shore to shore, west of Cottage Court off of NC Highway 175, northeast of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.02576 N, 83.73784 W; to a point on the northwest shore at 35.02609 N, 83.73945 W;
- (6) within 50 yards of the Chatuge Dam Spillway access area in the vicinity of 1407 Chatuge Dam Road in Hayesville; and
- (7) within 50 yards of the peninsula at Clay County Recreational Park, from a point on the north shore at 35.00850 N, 83.79254 W, east to a point in the water at 35.00874 N, 83.79187 W, south to a point in the water at 35.00782 N, 83.79119 W, southwest to a point in the water at 35.00672 N, 83.79211 W, west to a point on the shore at 35.00696 N, 83.79259 W.

(b) Speed Limit. It shall be unlawful to operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall allow it to enter the waters of the Clay County Recreational Park Swimming Area at Clay County Recreational Park, 47 Clay Recreation Park Road, Hayesville.

(d) Restricted Area. It shall be unlawful to operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the no-wake zone at the Jack Rabbit Mountain Swim Area on Jack Rabbit Road in Hayesville. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall allow it to enter the roped swim beach within the no-wake zone at Jack Rabbit Mountain Swim Area.

(e) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Clay County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2005; July 1, 1998; February 1, 1990; July 1, 1986; March 25, 1978;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2023; February 1, 2021; October 1, 2018; June 1, 2017.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0309 COLUMBUS COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Lake Waccamaw.

(b) Restricted Area. The waters of Lake Waccamaw between the shoreline and the offshore marker poles are designated as the restricted area.

(c) Swimming. Swimming shall not be allowed outside any marked public swimming areas.

(d) No person shall operate a vessel within a marked public swimming area.

(e) Skiing. No skiing shall be permitted in the restricted area except to leave from within or return into that area. All vessels pulling skiers shall leave from within the restricted area on a course perpendicular to the nearest shoreline. Upon returning, all vessels pulling skiers shall reduce to no-wake speed when the skiers have entered the restricted area.

(f) Speed Limit. Within the restricted area all vessels, except those engaged in skiing as regulated by Paragraph (e) of this Rule, shall be operated at a no-wake speed. Operation of a vessel on a course parallel to the shoreline is prohibited in the restricted area.

(g) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, the Town of Lake Waccamaw, and State Parks Division shall be the designated agencies for placement and maintenance of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;*

*Amended Eff. April 1, 1990;*  
*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*  
*Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0310 DARE COUNTY**

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

- (1) Manteo:
  - (A) the waters of Doughs Creek off Shallowbag Bay and the canals off Shallowbag Bay; and
  - (B) within 50 yards of the Bowsertown Boating Access Area on Croatan Sound at 35.89810 N, 75.67710 W.
- (2) Hatteras:
  - (A) the waters of Pamlico Sound otherwise known as Hatteras Harbor and Muddy Creek bounded on the north and south by the high-water mark, on the west by a straight line between channel markers number 20 and 17 at the entrance to Hatteras Harbor, and on the east by the mouth of Muddy Creek at Sandy Bay at a point at 35.22801 N, 75.68050 W; and
  - (B) Hatteras Ferry Terminal and United States Coast Guard basins ending at Coast Guard Beacon Number One in the Hatteras Channel.
- (3) Manns Harbor:
  - (A) Old Ferry Dock Road Canal, beginning at a point at 35.90654 N, 75.76916 W;
  - (B) within 50 yards of the Manns Harbor Boating Access Area on Croatan Sound at 35.91020 N, 75.77150 W; and
  - (C) within 50 yards of the Mashoes Boating Access Area on East Lake at 35.92820 N, 75.81470 W.
- (4) Nags Head:
  - (A) the canals of Old Nags Head Cove where the canal entrance meets Roanoke Sound beginning at a point at 35.94192 N, 75.62571 W; and
  - (B) the Roanoke Sound inlets at Pond Island on either side of W. Marina Drive extending north from U.S. Highway 64-264.
- (5) Wanchese:
  - (A) Wanchese Harbor otherwise known as Mill Landing Creek, beginning at its entrance from Roanoke Sound at a point at 35.84006 N, 75.61726 W; and
  - (B) the canal from its beginning where it connects with Roanoke Sound south of the dead-end road S.R. 1141 otherwise known as Thicket Lump Drive, extending northwest roughly parallel to S.R. 1141, S.R. 1142 otherwise known as The Lane, and S.R. 1143 otherwise known as Tink Tillet Road, then westward roughly parallel to N.C. Highway 345, and finally curving to the southwest roughly parallel to S.R. 1289 otherwise known as C B Daniels S.R. Road to its end.
- (6) Stumpy Point:
  - (A) Stumpy Point Canal shore to shore on Pamlico Sound, beginning 50 yards east of the Stumpy Point Boating Access Area, 321 Bayview Drive;
  - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Stumpy Point Boating Access Area, 321 Bay View Drive, Stumpy Point; and
  - (C) Stumpy Point Basin off Stumpy Point Bay, east of U.S. Highway 264 where it intersects Stumpy Point Bay at a point at 35.69591 N, 75.77264 W.
- (7) Rodanthe. Within 50 yards of the Rodanthe Boating Access Area in Roanoke Sound, 23170 Myrna Peters Road;
- (8) Town of Southern Shores. The canals and lagoons within the Town of Southern Shores north of U.S. Highway 158;
- (9) Colington Harbour. The waters in the canals of Colington Harbour Subdivision on Albemarle Sound;
- (10) Kitty Hawk. The waters in the canals of Kitty Hawk Landing Subdivision;
- (11) Washington Baum Bridge Boating Access Area. The waters within 150 yards north and south and 300 yards east of the Washington Baum Boating Access Area in Roanoke Sound, at 35.89380 N, 75.63710 W;
- (12) Kill Devil Hills:
  - (A) Baum Bay Harbor, beginning at a point at 36.00572 N, 75.68105 W; and
  - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Avalon Beach Boating Access Area in Kitty Hawk Bay, 2025 Bay Drive.

- (13) Avon. The waters of Pamlico Sound shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on the east shore of Big Island at 35.36653 N, 75.50770 W westward to a point on the mainland at 35.36653 N, 75.50556 W, south to include the waters of the cove between North Albacore Lane and South Albacore Lane and the waters of Mill Creek, and ending east of a line from a point on the south shore of Big Island at 35.36500 N, 75.50820 W southward to a point on the mainland at 35.36358 N, 75.50826 W;
- (14) Jean Guite Creek. The waters of Jean Guite Creek from where it meets Kitty Hawk Bay at 36.04887 N, 75.72754 W, north to a line from a point on the east shore in Southern Shores at 36.10460 N, 75.74192 W to a point on the west shore in Martin's Point Subdivision at 36.10452 N, 75.73948 W;
- (15) Frisco. The waters of the marina canal and boat basin at Palmetto Shores Subdivision, shore to shore beginning at the canal's entrance at Pamlico Sound at a point at 35.25427 N, 75.60301 W; and
- (16) Cape Hatteras National Seashore. The waters of Motts Creek in Roanoke Sound, shore to shore at a line from a point on the north shore where the Oregon Inlet U.S. Coast Guard Station is located, to a point near the south shore of Motts Creek at 35.79270 N, 75.54903 W, then northward to include the waters at the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center and Marina, Oregon Inlet Public Boat Ramp, kayak launch area, and U. S. Coast Guard Station and Launch Area.

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

(c) Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the marked swimming area at Colington Island on the west shore, from a point where the canal enters the harbor at 36.01797 N, 75.72681 W, north 600 feet to a point at 36.01964 N, 75.72683 W and extending 300 feet west into Albemarle Sound.

(d) Placement of Markers.

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Manteo shall be the designated agency implementing Part (a)(1)(A) of this Rule;
- (2) the Board of Commissioners of Dare County shall be the designated agency implementing Paragraph (c), Subparagraphs (a)(2); Parts (a)(4)(A) and (B); Subparagraph (a)(5); (a)(9); (a)(13) through (15); and Parts (a)(3)(A); (a)(6)(A) and (C); and (a)(12)(A) of this Rule;
- (3) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Southern Shores shall be the designated agency implementing Subparagraph (a)(8) of this Rule;
- (4) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Kitty Hawk shall be the designated agency implementing Subparagraph (a)(10) of this Rule;
- (5) the National Park Service shall be the designated agency implementing Subparagraph (a)(16) of this Rule; and
- (6) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency implementing Subparagraphs (a)(7) and (a)(11); and Parts (a)(1)(B); (a)(3)(B) and (C); (a)(6)(B) and (a)(12)(B) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;*

*Amended Eff. April 1, 1997; December 1, 1994; May 1, 1994; March 1, 1993; May 1, 1988;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 1, 1999; July 1, 1998;*

*Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; April 1, 1999;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2026; June 1, 2024; September 1, 2023; October 1, 2022; October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0311 GRANVILLE, VANCE AND WARREN COUNTIES**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters of John H. Kerr Reservoir in Granville, Vance and Warren Counties:

- (1) Kimball Point, Warren County - Within 50 yards of the shoreline in the northernmost cove of the Kimball Point Recreation Area located at the western end of SR 1204, from the northern end of the cove at 36.54362 N, 78.31753 W, to the southern end of the cove at 36.53984 N, 78.31371 W;
- (2) Camp Kerr Lake, Vance County - The waters of the cove where the Camp Kerr Lake boat ramp is located, shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on the eastern shore at the mouth of the cove at 36.440345 N, 78.34970 W to a point on the northwest shore of the cove at 36.44167 N, 78.35129 W;

- (3) Mill Creek, Vance County - The waters of Mill Creek shore to shore from its headwaters to where it intersects the North Carolina - Virginia state boundary at a line from a point on the east side of the creek at 36.54311 N, 78.39514 W; to a point on the west side of the creek at 36.54309 N, 78.39626 W;
- (4) Flat Creek at N.C. Highway 39 bridge, Vance County - Within 50 yards east and west of the N.C. Highway 39 bridge; and
- (5) Satterwhite Point State Recreation Area, Vance County, including the waters in the vicinity of Satterwhite Point Marina docks at the end Satterwhite Point Marina Road, and the waters of the marked swimming area in the cove west of the end of SR 1319 otherwise known as Satterwhite Point Road, beginning at a line at the mouth of the cove from a point on the north shore at 36.44572 N, 78.37356 W, to a point on the south shore at 36.44442 N, 78.37359 W.

(b) Speed Limit Near Ramps. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any concrete boat launching ramp located on the reservoir.

(c) Speed Limit in Mooring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while within a designated mooring area established by or with the approval of the US Army Corps of Engineers on the waters of the reservoir.

(d) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any regulated area of the reservoir described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(e) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter a designated swimming area established by or with the approval of the US Army Corps of Engineers on the waters of the reservoir.

(f) Placement of Markers. Each of the Boards of Commissioners of the above-named counties shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule for regulated areas within their territorial jurisdiction, subject to the approval of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. December 1, 1994; March 25, 1978;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 1998; January 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2013; May 1, 2005; April 1, 1999; July 1, 1998;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0312 HENDERSON COUNTY**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Repealed Eff. June 1, 2022.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0313 HYDE COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Hyde County:

- (1) Swan Quarter Canal near the Town of Swan Quarter beginning at its entrance at point at 35.40215 N, 76.34033 W in Swanquarter Bay and extending the entire length of the canal;
- (2) Carawan Canal near the Town of Swan Quarter beginning at its entrance at a point at 35.39758 N, 76.33312 W in Swanquarter Bay and extending the entire length of the canal;
- (3) the waters within 50 yards of all public boat launching areas providing access to Pamlico Sound;
- (4) the portion of Far Creek in the Town of Engelhard shore to shore, beginning at a point at 35.51051 N, 75.98693 W and ending at the Roper Lane bridge at 35.50869 N, 76.00229 W;
- (5) Fodrey Canal. the portion of Fodrey Canal shore to shore, beginning in Swanquarter Bay at a point at 35.40345 N, 76.34175 W and extending inland 300 yards ending at a point at 35.40469 N, 76.33944 W;
- (6) Silver Lake in Ocracoke, harbor-wide;
- (7) the entire waters of the Hydeland Canal beginning at the Hydeland Canal Access Area at 35.42131 N, 76.20915 W and ending at the end of SR 1122 at 35.40873 N, 76.21185 W;
- (8) the waters of Gray Ditch beginning north of the SR 1110 bridge at the intersection of Great Ditch Road and Nebraska Road, at 35.45926 N, 76.07527 W and ending at 35.45027 N, 76.06862 W; and
- (9) the portion of Outfall Canal, otherwise known as Main Canal off of Mattamuskeet Lake in the vicinity of Mattamuskeet Lodge, beginning in East Main Canal at 35.45226 N, 76.17359 W, and extending to a point

in West Main Canal at 35.45174 N, 76.18132 W, and that portion of Central Canal beginning at its intersection with Outfall Canal and extending northward to 35.45687 N, 76.1751 W.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Hyde County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2014; January 1, 2012; December 1, 2010; October 1, 1995; March 1, 1993;  
January 1, 1989; March 29, 1981;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0314 NEW HANOVER COUNTY**

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

- (1) the area bounded on the north by the U.S. Highway 74-76 bridge crossing the Intracoastal Waterway, on the south by a line shore to shore intersecting Intracoastal Waterway channel marker number 127, on the west by the shore of Wrightsville Sound, and on the east by a line perpendicular to U.S. Highway 74-76 and intersecting channel marker number 25 in Motts Channel;
- (2) the area of Motts Channel between channel marker number 25 at the Intracoastal Waterway on the west and channel marker number 16 at the entrance from Banks Channel on the east;
- (3) Wilmington. The waters shore to shore in that portion of Bradley Creek in the City of Wilmington between the U.S. Highway 76 bridge crossing Bradley Creek and a point at 34.20794 N, 77.82158 W, near the mouth of Bradley Creek;
- (4) Lee's Cut from its western intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at 34.21979 N, 77.80965 W, to its eastern intersection with Banks Channel at 34.21906 N, 77.79645 W;
- (5) Town of Wrightsville Beach. The unnamed channel lying between the shore west of Bahama Drive in the Town of Wrightsville Beach and an unnamed island located approximately 500 feet northeast of the U.S. Highway 74 bridge over Banks Channel; and
- (6) Castle Hayne. The waters of the Northeast Cape Fear River between the U.S. Highway 117 bridge and the railroad trestle 60 yards east of the Castle Hayne Boating Access Area, 6418 Orange Street, Castle Hayne.
- (7) the waters of the Cape Fear River in Wilmington shore to shore, 160 yards southwest of the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge on Business US Hwy 17, north of a line from a point on the west shore at 34.22675 N, 77.95400 W, to a point on the east shore at 34.22567 N, 77.95109 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of New Hanover County shall place the no-wake markers implementing Subparagraphs (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), and (a)(5) of this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

(d) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Wildlife Resources Commission shall place and maintain markers for the area designated in Subparagraph (a)(6) of this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

(e) Placement of Markers. The North Carolina Department of Transportation shall be the designated agency implementing Subparagraph (a)(7) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; May 1, 1989; June 1, 1987; May 1, 1987;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2023; February 1, 2023; October 1, 2018; April 1, 2017;  
Amended Eff. March 24, 2025;  
Emergency Amendment Effective December 29, 2025.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0315 POLK COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to Lake Adger in the cove south of the Lake Adger Boating Access Area, west of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.33578 N, 82.22780 W to a point on the south shore at 35.33422 N, 82.22774 W.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Polk County shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0316 FORSYTH, ROCKINGHAM, AND STOKES COUNTIES**

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Forsyth, Rockingham, and Stokes counties:
  - (1) Belews Lake within 50 yards of a public boat launching ramp on the lake, and within 50 yards of a bridge crossing on the lake;
  - (2) Belews Lake at Humphrey's Ridge Marina and Grill at 473-499 Humphrey Ridge Drive in Stokesdale, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 36.27962 N, 80.03507 W to a point on the south shore at 36.27804 N, 80.03565 W; and
  - (3) Belews Lake at Carolina Marina at 548 Shelton Road in Stokesdale, beginning at a line from a point on the shore south of the fuel dock at 36.30303 N, 80.01403 W, to a point 50 yards west from the shore into the channel, then to the northwest 50 yards west of the shore of the marina at 36.30394 N, 80.01522 W, then to a point on the north shore of the cove at 36.30521 N, 80.01416 W, to include the waters east of the line at the mouth of the cove, where the boat ramp, Dry Stack, and outdoor boat storage facilities are located.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Boards of Commissioners of Forsyth County, Rockingham County and Stokes County shall place and maintain markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 1976;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2024; June 1, 2023; October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0317 STANLY COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters described as follows:
  - (1) Badin Lake.
    - (A) within 50 yards northeast and southwest of the section of the railroad trestle designed for vessel traffic, northwest of the Old Whitney Boating Access Area near the Stanly-Montgomery County line;
    - (B) Old Whitney Boating Access Area on Old Whitney Road in New London; and
    - (C) Badin Lake Boat Ramp, 293 NC Highway 740 in Badin.
  - (2) Lake Tillery.
    - (A) Turner Beach Cove shore to shore, south of a point at 35.22529 N, 80.09318 W;
    - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the fuel docks at the Boathouse and Marina at 712 Berry Hill Drive in Norwood;
    - (C) the waters within 50 yards of the shoreline at Morrow Mountain State Park, from a point north of the Morrow Mountain Boathouse at a point at 35.38256 N, 80.06221 W, to a point south of the Morrow Mountain Boat Launch at 35.37919 N, 80.06114 W;
    - (D) Norwood Boating Access Area, 307-A Lakeshore Drive in Norwood; and
    - (E) Stony Mountain Boating Access Area, 22682-A Lake Tillery Road in Albemarle.
  - (3) Tuckertown Reservoir, within 50 yards of the NC Highway 49 Boat Ramp at 36824 NC Highway 49 in New London.

(b) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the waters of the Badin Swim Area.

(c) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(d) Placement of Markers.

- (1) The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (a)(2)(D), (E), and Subparagraph (a)(3) of this Rule.
- (2) The Board of Commissioners of Stanly County shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing Parts (a)(2)(A), (B) and Paragraph (b) of this Rule.
- (3) Morrow Mountain State Park shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing Part (a)(2)(C) of this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1995; March 25, 1978; November 1, 1977;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; April 1, 1999; July 1, 1998;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018;  
Emergency Amendment Eff. July 30, 2019;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2020; October 1, 2019;  
Temporary Amendment Expired February 26, 2021;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2022; October 1, 2021; February 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0318 WARREN COUNTY**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 1992; March 25, 1978;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 17, 2002;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2004 (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on February 20, 2003);  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2013;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018;  
Repealed Eff. June 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0319 WASHINGTON COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters and portions of waters:

- (1) the portion of Mackey's Creek, otherwise known as Kendrick Creek, shore to shore, from a point at 35.93253 N, 76.60875 W to a point at 35.93401 N, 76.60637 W; and
- (2) the portion of Conaby Creek shore to shore, from a point east of the N.C. 45 Bridge at 35.89613 N, 76.70603 W, east northeast to a point at 35.89757 N, 76.70413 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Washington County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1995;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0320 ONSLOW COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Onslow County:

- (1) the canals in Old Settlers Beach subdivision in the Town of Surf City, east of the Onslow-Pender County line, and the waters of the approach canal from the Intracoastal Waterway between markers 53 and 57, extending south-southwest to the Onslow-Pender County line;
- (2) New River in the City of Jacksonville shore to shore, north from a line at a point on the east shore at 34.74356 N, 77.43775 W to a point on the west shore at 34.74358 N, 77.43924 W; and south from a line at a point on the east shore at 34.74695 N, 77.43719 W, to a point on the west shore at 34.74562 N, 77.44114 W; and the waters shore to shore north of the SR 1402 bridge otherwise known as the Old Bridge Street bridge and south of the U.S. Highway 17 Business bridge otherwise known as Marine Boulevard bridge; and within 50 yards of the shoreline at the Marina Café and Marina, from the U.S. Highway 17 Business bridge otherwise known as Marine Boulevard bridge to a point on the west shore at 34.75461 N, 77.43819 W;
- (3) Queens Creek near the boating access area at the north end of SR 1688, otherwise known as Sussex Lane in Hubert, shore to shore west of a line from a point on the south shore at 34.69881 N, 77.18884 W to a point on the north shore at 34.69949 N, 77.18880 W and south-southeast of a line from a point on the west shore at 34.70103 N, 77.19287 W to a point on the east shore at 34.70101 N, 77.19216 W; and
- (4) Intracoastal Waterway at Hammocks Beach State Park in Swansboro, from a line at a point on the north shore west of the passenger ferry dock at 34.66967 N, 77.14454 W, south to a point on an unnamed island at 34.66823 N, 77.14459 W, eastward 520 yards to a line from a point on the north shore east of the public boat ramp and maintenance area at 34.67023 N, 77.13934 W, south to a point on an unnamed island at 34.66916 N, 77.13962 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a motorboat at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Onslow County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; June 1, 1989; October 1, 1984; May 1, 1982;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2019.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0321 PENDER COUNTY**

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

- (1) Hampstead:
  - (A) the canal adjoining Olde Point Subdivision adjacent to the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) near 2019 Kings Landing Road; and
  - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Hampstead Boating Access Area adjacent to the ICW at 613 Lewis Road.
- (2) Town of Topsail Beach:
  - (A) the First Finger Canal northeast of Godwin Avenue adjacent to Banks Channel; and
  - (B) the waters on the eastern side of Banks Channel within 100 yards of the shoreline beginning 155 yards west of Bush's Marina, extending northeast ending 75 yards from the shoreline perpendicular to Haywood Avenue.
- (3) Castle Hayne. The waters of the Northeast Cape Fear River between the U.S. Highway 117 bridge and the railroad trestle 60 yards east of the Castle Hayne Boating Access Area.
- (4) Town of Surf City:
  - (A) the waters of the channel in Topsail Sound known as Deep Creek, from near its mouth at a point at 34.43208 N, 77.54808 W to its end west of Goldsboro Avenue;
  - (B) the waters of Topsail Sound and Topsail Creek northeast of the channel setback of the ICW, beginning north of the channel setback east of the N.C. Highway 210 Surf City Bridge at a point at 34.42975 N, 77.55213 W, then 550 yards northeastward to a line from the point north of the

channel setback at 34.43294 N, 77.54837 W to a point on the island at 34.43327 N, 77.54873 W, then northward including waters of Topsail Sound and a portion known as Topsail Creek to a line from a point on the town shoreline at 34.43425 N, 77.55069 W, to a point on the island at 34.43378 N, 77.55017 W; and

- (C) the waters of Topsail Sound southeast of the channel setback of the ICW, beginning south of the channel setback and east of the N.C. Highway 210 Surf City Bridge at a point at 34.42902 N, 77.55200 W including the waters where the Surf City Boating Access Area and Soundside Park are located at 517 Roland Avenue, then 480 yards northeastward to a point south of the channel setback at 34.43167 N, 77.54848 W, adjacent to the mouth of Deep Creek.

(5) Burgaw:

- (A) the waters within 50 yards of the Shelter Creek Boating Access Area on Shelter Creek, at 12380 Shaw Highway.
- (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Sawpit Landing Boating Access Area on the Northeast Cape Fear River, at 527 Whitestocking Road Extension; and
- (C) the waters within 50 yards of the Holly Shelter Boating Access Area on the Northeast Cape Fear River, at 7271 Shaw Highway.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The following agencies shall place markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of Pender County for the regulated areas designated in Part (a)(1)(A) and (a)(2)(A) of this Rule; and
- (2) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Topsail Beach for the regulated area designated in Part (a)(2)(B) of this Rule.

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

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Surf City for the markers for the regulated areas designated in Parts (a)(4)(A), (B), and (C) of this Rule; and
- (2) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the markers for the regulated areas designated in Parts (a)(1)(B), and (a)(5)(A), (B) and (C) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; December 1, 1991; May 1, 1989; October 1, 1985;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. April 1, 1999;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2017; July 1, 2000; October 1, 2024  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2024.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0322 UNION COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to Cane Creek Lake in Union County.

(b) Speed Limit Near Ramps. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any public boat launching ramp or within 50 yards of the boat ramp at the Cane Creek Campground, at a point at 34.83485 N, 80.68605 W.

(c) Speed Limit in Congested Area. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 75 yards of the waters that separate Cane Creek Park from Cane Creek Campground, shore to shore from at a point at 34.83838 N, 80.68174 W, northwest to a point at 34.83875 N, 80.68233 W.

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

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

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. March 1, 1987; March 25, 1978;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0323 BURKE COUNTY**

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

- (1) Lake Hickory.
- (2) Lake James at the following locations:
  - (A) Holiday Shores Subdivision;
  - (B) Lake James Campground;
  - (C) Laurel Pointe Subdivision;
  - (D) the waters of Boyd Moore Cove shore to shore, north of a line from a point on the northwest shore at 35.76667 N, 81.82337 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.76558 N, 81.82245 W;
  - (E) East Shores development;
  - (F) Mallard Cove shore to shore, southwest of a point at 35.74437 N, 81.87053 W;
  - (G) the portion of Lake James shore to shore, beginning 385 yards northeast of the NC Highway 126 bridge at a line from a point on the north shore at 35.74652 N, 81.88231 W to a point on the south shore at 35.74440 N, 81.88017 W, and ending at a line 550 yards southwest of the NC Highway 126 bridge and 50 yards south of the Canal Bridge Boating Access Area dock from a point on the northwest shore at 35.74163 N, 81.88943 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.73869 N, 81.88652 W;
  - (H) the waters within 50 yards of the end of the South Pointe Subdivision peninsula from a point east of the peninsula at 35.76399 N, 81.83768 W, and surrounding the peninsula from a point east of the peninsula at 35.76399 N, 81.83768 W, and surrounding the peninsula to a point west of the peninsula at 35.76307 N, 81.83648 W;
  - (I) the waters of Sherman's Hollow Cove shore to shore, and contiguous with those waters beginning at a point on the west shore of the mouth of Sherman's Hollow Cove at 35.76423 N, 81.82748 W, extending northeast within 50 yards of Linville Point to a point on the northeast shore of Linville Point at 35.76596 N, 81.82432 W; and
  - (J) the waters of Mills Creek at Lake James State Park, shore to shore from a point 50 yards northwest of the Cove bridge at 35.76469 N, 81.87703 W to a point 50 yards southeast of the bridge at 35.76406 N, 81.87637 W.
- (3) Lake Rhodhiss.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this rule.

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

(d) Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the waters of Paddy's Creek Swim Area at Lake James State Park Road in Nebo.

(e) Placement of Markers. The following agencies shall be responsible for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of Burke County, for the regulated areas designated in Parts (a)(2)(A) through (I) of this Rule; and
- (2) Lake James State Park for the regulated areas designated in Part (a)(2)(J) and Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. July 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. December 1, 1995; December 1, 1994; December 1, 1992; March 1, 1992;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. April 1, 1999;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 15, 2001;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2009; May 1, 2009; August 1, 2002;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 2017;  
Emergency Amendment Eff. November 2, 2020;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. December 30, 2020; Temporary Amendment Expired September 26, 2021;*

*Amended Eff. June 1, 2022; February 1, 2021.*

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

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

- (1) High Rock Lake:
  - (A) the waters of the cove shore to shore in Abbotts Creek between North Shore Drive and South Shore Drive, east of a point at 35.64752 N, 80.24875 W;
  - (B) the waters shore to shore from a point 50 yards north of the docks at Camp Walter Johnson at 35.67130 N, 80.16592 W to a point 100 yards south of the docks at 35.66993 N, 80.16582 W, on Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake;
  - (C) the waters within 50 yards of the High Rock Boat Dock Marina pier north of Abbotts Creek Cove on High Rock Lake in Lexington, at 35.64992 N, 80.24802 W;
  - (D) the waters shore to shore in the cove at Skip Jack Harbor Marina and the Raven Point Boy Scout Camp dock, from a line at a point 50 yards south of the Raven Point Boy Scout Camp dock on the east shore of the cove at 35.63722 N, 80.27054 W, to a point on the west shore of the cove at 35.63788 N, 80.27212 W, northward ending 50 yards north of the Skipjack Harbor Marina dock at a line from a point on the east shore at 35.64070 N, 80.26864 W to a point on the west shore at 35.64064 N, 80.27050 W;
  - (E) the waters within 50 yards of the High Rock Marina and Campground and fuel dock in Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point on the southwest shore at 35.68274 N, 80.25228 W, around the peninsula to a point on the north shore at 35.68439 N, 80.25052 W;
  - (F) the waters 50 yards northeast and 50 yards southwest of the N.C. Highway 8 Bridge on Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point northeast of the bridge at 35.64564 N, 80.18493 W to a point southwest of the bridge at 35.64488 N, 80.18559 W;
  - (G) the waters 50 yards east and 50 yards west of the railroad trestle over Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point east of the trestle at 35.61161 N, 80.23434 W, to a point west of the trestle at 35.61151 N, 80.23535 W;
  - (H) the waters shore to shore 50 yards northeast and 50 yards southwest of the SR 1396 bridge, otherwise known as the Linwood-Southmont Road Bridge on Swearing Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point northeast of the bridge at 35.69185 N, 80.30139 W to a point southwest of the bridge at 35.69135 N, 80.30218 W;
  - (I) the waters within 50 yards northwest and 50 yards southeast of SR 2294 bridge otherwise known as the Holloway Church Road Bridge on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point east of the bridge at 35.67612 N, 80.25005 W, to a point west of the bridge at 35.67663 N, 80.25097 W;
  - (J) the waters within 50 yards northeast and 50 yards southwest of the N.C. Highway 8 bridge and railroad trestle on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point southeast of the railroad trestle at 35.64235 N, 80.25508 W, to a point northeast of the bridge at 35.64292 N, 80.25396 W;
  - (K) the waters 50 yards north and 50 yards south of the N.C. Highway 47 bridge on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, from a point north of the bridge at 35.74835 N, 80.24164 W, to a point south of the bridge at 35.74759 N, 80.24163 W;
  - (L) the waters within 50 yards of the dock and ramp at the Southmont Boat Ramp on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake at Wildlife Recreation Area Access Road, at 35.64694 N, 80.25990 W;
  - (M) the waters within 50 yards of the dock and ramp at Buddle Creek Swim Area Boat Ramp on Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake, on Holloway Church Road, at 35.68212 N, 80.22924 W;
  - (N) the waters within 50 yards of the dock and ramp at the Pebble Beach Boat Ramp on Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake off N.C. Highway 8, south of the N.C. Highway 8 Bridge, at 35.64356 N, 80.18570 W;
- (2) Badin Lake:
  - (A) the waters of Beaverdam Creek Cove on Badin Lake shore to shore, north of a point at 35.50710 N, 80.10036 W in New London; and
  - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Circle Drive Boating Access Area on Badin Lake, at 724 Shoreline Drive, New London.
- (3) Tuckertown Reservoir. The waters 50 yards east and 50 yards west of the railroad trestle at Ellis Creek on Tuckertown Reservoir, from a point east of the trestle at 35.52983 N, 80.18650 W, to a point west of the trestle at 35.52966 N, 80.18749 W; and

- (4) Yadkin River:
  - (A) the waters 50 yards north and 50 yards south of the N.C. Highway 29/70 bridge, otherwise known as the Wil-Cox Bridge, and the railroad trestle near Yadkin River Park on the Yadkin River in Linwood, from a point north of the bridge at 35.72328 N, 80.391137 W, to a point south of the railroad trestle at 35.72263 N, 80.39137 W; and
  - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the York Hill Yadkin River (YRST) boat ramp on the Yadkin River at 35.72398 N, 80.39116 W, west of SR 1147 in Linwood.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while on the waters of the regulated areas designated in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Swimming Areas. No vessel shall enter the waters of the following swimming areas:
  - (1) Buddle Creek Swimming Area at Abbotts Creek on High Rock Lake in Lexington, east of the ropes from a point at 35.68124 N, 80.22895 W; and
  - (2) Pebble Beach Swimming Area at Flat Swamp Creek on High Rock Lake in Denton, west of the ropes from a point at 35.64403 N, 80.18557 W to the shore at the N.C. Highway 8 bridge.
- (d) Placement of Markers.
  - (1) the Board of Commissioners of Davidson County shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(A) through (E), (a)(2)(A), and (a)(4)(A) and (B) of this Rule;
  - (2) Cube Hydro Carolinas shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(L) through (N); and Subparagraph (c)(1) and (2) of this Rule; and
  - (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(F) through (K), (a)(2)(B); and (a)(3) of this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. July 1, 1976;  
 Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; May 1, 2004; December 1, 1995; December 1, 1991; August 1, 1991;  
 September 1, 1982;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. February 1, 2026; October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0325 CHOWAN COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Chowan County:
  - (1) the waters contained within the entrance canals and docking areas of Edenton Marina and Pembroke Marina;
  - (2) Pembroke Creek in Edenton, from a line 50 yards north of the W. Queen Street bridge on SR 1204 shore to shore, from a point on the east shore at 36.05861 N, 76.62584 W, to a point on the west shore at 36.051813 N, 76.62735 W, to a line 200 yards southeast of the bridge, shore to shore from a point on the east shore at 36.05739 N, 76.62382 W to a point on the west shore at 36.05626 N, 76.62569 W;
  - (3) the boat basin and all canals within Cape Colony Subdivision in Edenton; and
  - (4) the swimming area located in Albemarle Sound adjacent to the Cape Colony Subdivision Recreation Area.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate any vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas described in Subparagraphs (a)(1), (2), and (3) of this Rule.
- (c) Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of any vessel, surfboard, or water skis shall permit it to enter the swimming area described in Subparagraph (a)(4) of this Rule.
- (d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Chowan County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. May 1, 1977;  
 Amended Eff. May 1, 2013; June 1, 1983;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0326 PAMLICO COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters or portions of waters in Pamlico County:

- (1) Silverthorn Bay off Burton Creek in Merritt, north of a line at a point on the east shore at 35.09531 N, 76.60791 W to a point on the west shore at 35.09572 N, 76.60883 W.
  - (2) Alligator Gut Basin and its access channel extending 30 yards beyond the outermost rock jetties in Neuse River, east of Neuse River Drive, Minnesott Beach.
  - (3) Within 50 yards of Lee's Landing Boating Access Area on Upper Broad Creek, at 3337 Lee Landing Road, Reelsboro.
  - (4) Within 50 yards of the Vandemere Waterfront Park and Boat Ramp's eastern end at the concrete walkway, at 86 Griffin Road, Vandemere.
  - (5) Within 50 yards of the Dawson Creek Boating Access Area on Dawson Creek, at 303 Creek Place Road, Oriental.
  - (6) Within 50 yards of the Oriental Boating Access Area on Smith Creek, at 100 Midyette Street, Oriental.
- (b) **Speed Limit.** No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) **Placement of Markers.** The following agencies shall be the designated agencies for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:
- (1) The Board of Commissioners of Pamlico County for the regulated areas designated in Subparagraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this Rule; and
  - (2) The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the regulated areas designated in Subparagraphs (a)(3) through (6) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. May 1, 1977;  
 Amended Eff. December 1, 1985; November 1, 1977;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. March 15, 2003;  
 Temporary Amendment Expired October 12, 2003;  
 Amended Eff. May 1, 2014; May 1, 2004;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0327 MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

(a) **Regulated Areas.** This Rule shall apply to the waters and portions of waters described as follows:

- (1) **Badin Lake:**
  - (A) Lake Forest Drive Cove shore to shore, west of a point 50 yards east of the fueling site at the marina at 35.48739 N, 80.10918 W;
  - (B) Garr Creek shore to shore, north of a line beginning at a point on the east shore at 35.47952 N, 80.13633 W to a point on the west shore at 35.47946 N, 80.13932 W;
  - (C) the channel between Beyer's Island and the mainland, shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on Beyer's Island at 35.49102 N, 80.10221 W to a point on the mainland at 35.49230 N, 80.10241 W, ending at a line westward, from a point on Beyer's Island at 35.48988 N, 80.10573 W to a point on the mainland at 35.49077 N, 80.10702 W;
  - (D) within 50 yards of the fueling station at the Old North State Marina at the entrance to a cove within the Uwharrie Point community at 139 Marina Lane in New London;
  - (E) within 50 yards of the Circle Drive Boating Access Area, at 724 Shoreline Drive in New London;
  - (F) within 50 yards of Lakemont Boating Access Area, at 241 Lakemont Road in New London; and
  - (G) within 50 yards of the Cove Boat Ramp at 400 Cove Road in New London.
- (2) **Lake Tillery:**
  - (A) the waters within 50 yards of the boat ramp in the south end of Woodrun Cove at 35.33113 N, 80.06277 W;
  - (B) Carolina Forest Cove shore to shore and the waters within 50 yards of the boat ramps and boat slips at the end of Arroyo Drive in Carolina Forest Community, from a point on the south shore at 35.36276 N, 80.05386 W, northeast to a point on the north shore at 35.36405 N, 80.05304 W;
  - (C) Lilly's Bridge Boating Access Area shore to shore, from line 25 feet north of the SR 1110 bridge otherwise known as Lillys Bridge Road at a point on the east shore at 35.23223 N, 80.06166 W, to a point on the west shore at 35.23289 N, 80.06318 W, to a line 200 feet southwest of the Lilly's

Bridge Boating Access Area, from a point on the east shore at 35.23067 N; 80.06262 W, to a point on the west shore at 35.23156 N; 80.06437 W; and

(D) within 50 yards of Swift Island Boating Access Area at 4917 NC Highway 24/27 in Mount Gilead.

(3) Tuckertown Reservoir. Pee Dee River, within 50 yards of the Clarks Creek Boating Access Area at 177 Tillery Dam Road in Mount Gilead.

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

(c) Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the marked swimming area on Badin Lake at the Pinehaven Village beach area at 370 Pinehaven Drive in New London, within 50 feet of the shoreline between points at 35.49927 N, 80.11428 W; and 35.49934 N, 80.11437 W.

(d) Placement of Markers. The following agencies shall be responsible for placement or placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and United States Army Corps of Engineers:

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of Montgomery County for placement of the markers implementing Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (D), and (a)(2)(A), and (B) of this Rule;
- (2) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing Parts (a)(1)(E), (F), (a)(2)(C), (D), and Subparagraph (a)(3) of this Rule;
- (3) the Board of Commissioners of Montgomery County shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of the ropes and markers implementing Paragraph (c) of this Rule; and
- (4) the U.S. Forest Service for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing Part (a)(1)(G) of this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. November 1, 1977;  
Amended Eff. December 1, 1990; May 1, 1989; March 25, 1978;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1999; July 1, 1998;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; April 1, 2003;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018; April 1, 2017;  
Emergency Amendment Eff. July 30, 2019;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 2019;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2020;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2020;  
Temporary Amendment Expired March 12, 2021;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; June 1, 2022; October 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0328 MARTIN COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to those waters of Gardner's Creek located in Martin County.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any public boat launching ramp while on the waters of the regulated area designated in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Martin County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. June 18, 1978;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0329 ROWAN COUNTY**

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

- (1) High Rock Lake:

- (A) the waters within 50 yards of Tamarac Marina on Second Creek in Salisbury, extending northeast of the marina 50 yards from the shore northward, including the cove west of a point on the shore at 35.61116 N, 80.30701 W;
  - (B) the waters 50 yards southeast and 50 yards northwest of the SR 2168 bridge, otherwise known as the Goodman Lake Road Bridge at Crane Creek in Salisbury, from a point southeast of the bridge at 35.66349 N, 80.35347 W to a point northeast of the bridge 35.66411 N, 80.35431 W;
  - (C) the waters 50 yards northeast and 50 yards southwest of the SR 1002 bridge, otherwise known as the Bringle Ferry Road Bridge at Second Creek in Salisbury, from a point northeast of the bridge at 35.60917 N, 80.30626 W, to a point southwest of the bridge at 35.60840 N, 80.30701 W; and
  - (D) the waters within 50 yards of the Rowan Shrine Club dock in Salisbury, at 6480 Long Ferry Road, Salisbury.
- (2) Tuckertown Reservoir:
    - (A) the waters 50 yards north and 50 yards south of SR 1004 bridge otherwise known as the Stokes Ferry Road Bridge at Riles Creek, from a point north of the bridge at 35.50535 N, 80.21680 W, to a point south of the bridge at 35.50452 N, 80.21720 W;
    - (B) the waters 50 yards north and 50 yards south of the N.C. Highway 8-49 bridge, from a point north of the bridge at 35.50617 N, 80.18466 W, to a point south of the bridge at 35.50501 N, 80.18433 W; and
    - (C) the waters within 50 yards of the Flat Creek Boating Access Area, 450 Wildlife Access Road, Richfield.
  - (3) Yadkin River. The waters 50 yards southeast and 50 yards northwest of the I-85 bridge over Yadkin River, from a point southeast of the bridge at 35.71930 N, 80.38873 W, to a point northwest of the bridge at 35.72015 N, 80.39001 W; and
  - (4) South Yadkin River. The waters within 50 yards of the Crowther Boating Access Area, 965 Hannah Ferry Road, Salisbury.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement of Markers.
- (1) the Board of Commissioners of Rowan County shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(A) and (D) of this Rule.
  - (2) Cube Hydro Carolinas shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(B) and (C), (a)(2)(A) and (B), and Subparagraph (a)(3) of this Rule.
  - (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency implementing Part (a)(2)(C) and Subparagraph (a)(4) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15; Eff. June 18, 1978; Amended Eff. December 1, 2010; December 1, 1985; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. April 1, 2026; October 1, 2021; October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0330 CARTERET COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule applies to the following waters in Carteret County:
- (1) the waters of Money Island Slough in Atlantic Beach, beginning at the east end of Money Island near the Anchorage Marina Basin at a point at 34.70187 N, 76.72938 W and ending at the west end of Money Island where Brooks Avenue dead ends at a point at 34.70235 N, 76.73271 W;
  - (2) the waters of Taylor Creek in Beaufort, shore to shore from its intersection with the Newport River at the western end, to a line at the eastern end between a point on the north shore at 34.70762 N, 76.61784 W, south-southwest to the eastern tip of Carrot Island;
  - (3) the waters of Peletier Creek in Morehead City, beginning at the entrance to Peletier Creek at the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 34.72543 N, 76.78044 W and ending at U.S. Highway 70;
  - (4) the waters of Bogue Sound Harbor Channel in Morehead City, between Sugarloaf Island and the seawall on the south side of Evans, Shepard, and Shackelford Streets, from the east at the State Ports Authority, west to a point at 34.71848 N, 76.72015 W at the southern end of South 13<sup>th</sup> Street;

- (5) the waters of Gallants Channel in Beaufort, from the U.S. 70 Grayden Paul Bridge at a point at 34.72248 N, 76.66936 W, south to Taylor Creek at a point at 34.71775 N, 76.66950 W;
- (6) the waters of Cedar Island Bay and Harbor in the Town of Cedar Island, from N.C. Highway 12 to Cedar Island Bay Channel Light 8;
- (7) the waters of the small cove on the west side of Radio Island in Beaufort south of Old Causeway Road;
- (8) the waters of the Newport River in Beaufort, from a point north of the U.S. 70 Grayden Paul Bridge at 34.72265 N, 76.66930 W, north northwest to marker # 6;
- (9) the waters of Spooner Creek in Morehead City, north of a point where it enters the Intracoastal Waterway at 34.72570 N, 76.80294 W;
- (10) the waters of the Newport River at Bogue Sound in Morehead City, including all waters surrounding the Port of Morehead City to Goat Island as delineated by markers;
- (11) the waters of Newport River, known as Morgan Creek in Beaufort, west northwest of a point at the mouth at 34.71611 N, 76.67814 W;
- (12) the waters of Cannonsgate Marina and the Cannonsgate Marina Channel in Newport, beginning at its intersection with Bogue Sound at 34.70163 N, 76.98157 W, as delineated by markers;
- (13) the waters of Newport River within 200 yards of the Newport River Beach Access Boat Ramp, 301 U.S. Highway 70 East, Morehead City, beginning at the shore north of the U.S. Highway 70 Newport River Bridge at a point at 34.72141 N, 76.68707 W, west to a point at 34.72128 N, 76.68893 W, north to a point at 34.72376 N, 76.68911 N, then east to the shore at 34.72371 N, 76.68631 W;
- (14) the waters of Palmetto Drive Canal on the White Oak River in the Town of Cedar Point, beginning at a point on the western shore at 34.67903 N, 77.10142 W to a point on the eastern shore at 34.67899 N, 77.10098 W and extending the entire length of the canal;
- (15) the portion of the canal at Dolphin Bay Estates on the White Oak River in the Town of Cedar Point, beginning 30 yards inside the entrance to the canal and extending the entire length of the canal;
- (16) the waters within approximately 50 yards of the Gordon S. Myers Boating Access Area at Cedar Point Boating Access Area, but not extending into the Intracoastal Waterway channel setback, at 144 Cedar Point Boulevard, Cedar Point;
- (17) the waters of the navigation channel from a point in Bogue Sound at 34.67392 N, 77.00725 W to the Emerald Isle Boating Access Area, a distance of 345 yards, at 6800 Emerald Drive, Emerald Isle;
- (18) the waters within 50 yards of the Newport Boating Access Area on Newport River, at 333 E. Chatham Street, Newport;
- (19) the waters within 50 yards of the Morehead City Boating Access Area on the Intracoastal Waterway, 3407 Arendell Street, Morehead City;
- (20) the waters within 50 yards of the West Beaufort Boating Access Area on Newport River, 298 West Beaufort Road, Beaufort;
- (21) the waters within 50 yards of the Taylors Creek Boating Access Area on Taylors Creek, 2370 Lennoxville Road, Beaufort;
- (22) the waters within 50 yards of the Straits Landing Boating Access Area on North River, 1648 Harkers Island Road, Straits;
- (23) the waters within 50 yards of the Oyster Creek Boating Access Area on Oyster Creek, 1300 U.S. Highway 70, Davis;
- (24) the waters within 50 yards of the Salters Creek Boating Access Area on Salters Creek, 200 Wildlife Ramp Road, Sealevel; and
- (25) the waters within 50 yards of the Cedar Island Boating Access Area on Pamlico Sound, 115 Driftwood Drive, Cedar Island.

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

(c) **Placement of Markers.** The following agencies shall place the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of Carteret County, for the regulated areas designated in Subparagraphs (a)(1), (3), (5) through (8), (11), and (12) of this Rule;
- (2) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Beaufort, for the regulated area designated in Subparagraph (a)(2) of this Rule;
- (3) the Board of Commissioners of Morehead City, for the regulated areas designated in Subparagraphs (a)(4), (9), and (13) of this Rule;

- (4) the North Carolina State Ports Authority, for the regulated area designated in Subparagraph (a)(10) of this Rule;
- (5) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Cedar Point for the regulated areas designated in Subparagraphs (a)(14) and (15) of this Rule; and
- (6) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall place and maintain markers for the areas designated in Subparagraphs (a)(16) through (25) of this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. March 4, 1979;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 1997; May 1, 1995; June 1, 1994; February 1, 1994; July 1, 1993;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. February 1, 1998;  
 Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. March 1, 1999; November 1, 1998;  
 Amended Eff. May 1, 2016; July 1, 2012; September 1, 2010; July 1, 2000;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. April 1, 2017;  
 Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018.  
 Amended Eff. February 1, 2025.

**15A NCAC 10F .0331 WAKE COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Lake Wheeler located in Wake County.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any public boat launching ramp while on the waters of the regulated area designated in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement of Markers. The Raleigh City Council shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. March 4, 1979;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0332 ALEXANDER COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule applies to the waters of Lake Hickory.
  - (1) Taylorsville:
    - (A) the waters shore to shore from the Rink Dam at 35.83035 N, 81.26670 W, east-southeast to a point that is 195 yards southeast of the S.R. 1137 bridge known as the Rink Dam Road bridge, and 50 yards southeast of the Sandbar Marina and Grill docks;
    - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Lake Hickory Scuba and Marina and docks, located at 420 Taylorsville Beach Court; and
    - (C) the waters within 50 yards of the Dusty Ridge Boating Access Area, 508 Dusty Ridge Access Road.
  - (2) Hickory:
    - (A) the waters within 50 yards of Rivers Edge Marina and docks, located at 5803 Icard Ridge Road; and
    - (B) the waters within 50 yards of the Lakeside Marina and docks, located at 81 Marina Drive.
  - (3) Bethlehem. The waters within 50 yards of the Wittenburg Boating Access Area, located at 175 Wildlife Access Road.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated areas described in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), (C), (a)(2)(A) and (B), and Subparagraph (a)(3) of this Rule.
- (c) Wittenburg Access Area Restricted Area, Bethlehem. Vessel entry is prohibited in the waters of the cove south of the Wittenburg Access Area where the marked swim beach is located, west of a line from a point at 35.80480 N, 81.31101 W to a point at 35.80437 N, 81.31100 W.
- (d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Alexander County shall place markers implementing the regulated areas designated in Part (a)(1)(A) and (B), and Part (a)(2)(A) and (B) of this Rule.

(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The following agencies shall place and maintain markers implementing the regulated areas designated in this Rule:

- (1) The Wildlife Resources Commission for the regulated areas designated in Part (a)(1)(C) and Subparagraph (a)(3) of this Rule; and
- (2) Duke Energy, LLC for the regulated area designated in Paragraph (c) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. March 25, 1979;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1995; February 1, 1987;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. April 1, 2000;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2010; July 1, 2000;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2025; October 1, 2018.*

### **15A NCAC 10F .0333 MECKLENBURG AND GASTON COUNTIES**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule applies to the following waters of Lake Wylie in Mecklenburg and Gaston counties:

- (1) McDowell Park. The waters of the coves adjoining McDowell Park and the Southwest Nature Preserve in Mecklenburg County shore to shore, east of the mouth of the cove at a line from a point on the south shore at 35.10272 N, 81.03026 W to a point on the north shore at 35.10556 N, 80.02964 W;
- (2) Gaston County Wildlife Club Cove. The waters of the cove west of the Gaston County Wildlife Club on South Point Road in Belmont, north of a line at the mouth of the cove from a point on the east shore at 35.15628 N, 81.01427 W to a point on the west shore at 35.15628 N, 81.01615 W;
- (3) Buster Boyd Bridge. The waters from a point 250 feet east of the Buster Boyd Bridge on N.C. Highway 49 in Mecklenburg County at 35.10187 N, 81.03913 W to a point 150 feet west of the Buster Boyd Bridge at 35.10165 N, 81.04070 W;
- (4) N.C. Highway 27 Bridge. The waters shore to shore, from a point 50 yards north of the N.C. Highway 27 bridge in Mecklenburg and Gaston counties at 35.29849 N, 81.00346 W to a point 190 yards south of the N.C. Highway 27 bridge at 35.29635 N, 81.00424 W;
- (5) Brown's Cove. The area beginning at the mouth of Brown's Cove in Mecklenburg County shore to shore, at a point at 35.16453 N, 81.00474 W, west to a point at 35.16480 N, 81.00309 W;
- (6) Paradise Point Cove. The waters of Paradise Point Cove in Gaston County between Paradise Circle and Lake Front Drive, west of a line from a point on the south shore at 35.18853 N, 81.04036 W to a point on the north shore at 35.18991 N, 81.04136 W;
- (7) Withers Cove. The waters of Withers Cove in Mecklenburg County, shore to shore, beginning at a line north of the Mecklenburg Charlotte Fire Department and Police Department Boathouse from a point on the west shore at 35.14632 N, 81.00383 W to a point on the east shore at 35.14713 N, 81.00173 W, and ending at a point 50 feet southeast of the Withers Bridge on S.R. 1116, otherwise known as Shopton Road, at 35.14576 N, 81.00187 W;
- (8) Sadler Island. The waters shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on the west shore of Lake Wylie in Gaston County at 35.27481 N, 81.0138 W east to a point on the east shore of the Lake in Mecklenburg County at 35.27423 N, 81.01111 W, extending south on the Lake west of Sadler Island to a line from a point on the west shore of the Lake in Gaston County at 35.27079 N, 81.01525 W, east to a point on the west side of Sadler Island in Mecklenburg County at 35.27051 N, 81.01396 W, and the waters shore to shore east of Sadler Island in Mecklenburg County from a point at 35.27441 N, 81.01185 W, south-southwest to a line from a point on the south shore of Sadler Island at 35.26635 N, 81.01432 W, south to a point on the Lake shore at 35.26494 N, 81.01368 W;
- (9) Other Bridges. The waters within 50 feet of a bridge in North Carolina that crosses the waters of Lake Wylie that is not otherwise specifically mentioned in this Paragraph;
- (10) Yachtsman on Lake Wylie Community. The waters within 50 yards of the community piers near the terminus of Waterside Drive in Mecklenburg County, and northward to include the waters east of the island that is west of Point Lookout Road, ending at a line from a point on the northern end of the island at 35.12226 N, 81.03306 W, east to a point on the shore at 35.12253 N, 81.03190 W;
- (11) Brown's Cove. The waters of Brown's Cove in Mecklenburg County, beginning at a line from a point on the east shore at 35.16892 N, 80.99702 W to a point on the west shore at 35.16948 N, 80.99783 W, northeast

to a line from a point on the south shore at 35.16913 N, 80.99556 W to a point on the north shore at 35.17043 N, 80.99684 W;

- (12) South Point Boating Access Area. The waters within 50 yards of the South Point Boating Access Area in Gaston County, 199 Boat Launch Road in Belmont; and
- (13) the waters within 50 yards of the docks at Joyner's Marina, 16310 York Road in Charlotte, and including the cove southeast of the docks to a point on the shore at 35.10084 N, 81.03610 W.

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

(c) Restricted Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall allow it to enter the waters of the restricted area with swim beach at the South Point Access Area in Gaston County, at 199 Boat Launch Road in Belmont, north of the rope in the cove east of the South Point Boating Access Area.

(d) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The following agencies are the designated agencies for placement and maintenance of markers implementing this Rule:

- (1) the Lake Wylie Marine Commission for the regulated areas designated in Subparagraphs (a)(1) through (11), and (13);
- (2) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the regulated area designated in Subparagraph (a)(12); and
- (3) Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for the restricted area designated in Paragraph (c).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. July 1, 1980;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1994; June 1, 1985; June 1, 1984; March 1, 1983;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. January 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 4, 2000;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2009; June 1, 2004; July 1, 2000;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 2015;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2015;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2025; January 1, 2024; June 1, 2023; June 1, 2022; May 1, 2019.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0334 GUILFORD COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Oak Hollow Lake, also known as High Point Reservoir, in Guilford County.

(b) Speed Limit Near Ramps. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed within 50 yards of any public boat launching ramp.

(c) Speed Limit Near Piers. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any pier operated by the City of High Point for public use.

(d) Placement of Markers. The City Council of High Point shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. August 31, 1980;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0335 SWAIN COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Fontana Lake within 50 yards of Almond Boat and RV Park at 1165 Almond Boat Park Road in Bryson City.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Swain County shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. August 31, 1980;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0336 NORTHAMPTON AND WARREN COUNTIES**

(a) No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the following waters of Lake Gaston and the Roanoke River in Northampton and Warren counties.

(1) Lake Gaston:

- (A) the cove on the north shore of Lake Gaston in Northampton County east of SR 1252 otherwise known as Vincent Lane, shore to shore from a point on the north shore at 36.51660 N, 77.82226 W to a point on the south shore at 36.51578 N, 77.82269 W;
- (B) Jimmies Creek in Northampton County shore to shore, north of a line from a point on the east shore at 36.52450 N, 77.82600 W to a point on the west shore at 36.52445 N, 77.82810 W;
- (C) within 50 yards of the Henrico Boating Access Area in Northampton County, 142 Wildlife Landing Road, Henrico, N.C.;
- (D) within 50 yards of the Vulture Boating Access Area in Northampton County, 773 Old Gaston Road, Gaston, N.C.;
- (E) within 50 yards east and west of the N.C. Highway 903 Eaton Ferry Road Bridge in Warren County;
- (F) within 50 yards of the Hawtree Creek Boating Access Area in Warren County, 1200 Peete Farm Road, Warrenton, N.C.;
- (G) within 50 yards of the Salmons Landing Boating Access area in Warren County, 129 Salmon Landing Road, Littleton, N.C.;
- (H) within 50 yards of the Wildwood Point boat ramp in Warren County, 184 N. Oak Drive, Littleton, N.C.;
- (I) within 50 yards of the Lizard Creek boat ramp in Warren County, 417 Lizard Creek Road, Littleton, N.C.;
- (J) Songbird Creek in Warren County within 50 yards of the culvert under N.C. Highway 903 at 36.53260 N, 77.97330 W; and
- (K) Sixpound Creek in Warren County within 50 yards of the culvert under SR 1704 otherwise known as Nocarva Road at 36.52950 N, 78.07283 W;
- (L) Lizard Creek in Warren County within 50 yards of the culvert under SR 1362 otherwise known as Lizard Creek Road at 36.52501 N, 77.91187 W;
- (M) within 50 yards of the Waters View Restaurant adjacent to the northwest end of the N.C. Highway 903 bridge in Warren County;
- (N) the cove west of the Pointe at Lake Gaston at the southwest end of the N.C. Highway 903 bridge in Warren County, south of a point at 36.50937 N, 77.96644 W;
- (O) Camp Willow Run Canoe and Sail Cove in Warren County, beginning at a line shore to shore from a point on the southwest shore at 36.49355 N, 77.91795 W, to a point on the north shore at 36.49534 N, 77.91508 W;
- (P) the cove on Hubquarter Creek in Warren County, shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on the northeast shore at 36.50030 N, 78.00474 W to a point on the southwest shore at 36.49947 N, 78.00553 W; and
- (Q) the waters of the cove east of the Stonehouse Timber Lodge Marina, 154 Stonehouse Lodge Drive, Littleton, N.C., shore to shore south of a point at 36.49206 N, 77.94085 W.

(2) Roanoke River:

- (A) within 50 yards of the Gaston Boating Access Area, 601 Roanoke Rapids Road, Gaston, N.C.; and
- (B) within 50 yards of the Odom Boating Access Area, 1017 Striper Lane, Jackson, N.C.

(b) Speed Limit in Mooring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while within a marked mooring area on the waters of Lake Gaston within Northampton and Warren counties.

(c) Placement of Markers. The following agencies shall be the designated agencies for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

- (1) The Boards of Commissioners of Northampton County and Warren County shall be responsible for placement of markers for the regulated areas designated in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), and (H) through (Q) of this Rule; and
- (2) The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be responsible for placement of markers for the regulated areas designated in Parts (a)(1)(C) through (G) and Subparagraph (a)(2)(A) and (B) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. March 29, 1981;  
 Amended Eff. June 1, 1994; March 1, 1993; September 1, 1989;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. March 15, 2003;  
 Temporary Amendment Expired October 12, 2003;  
 Amended Eff. May 1, 2014; May 1, 2004;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; June 1, 2022; February 1, 2020; October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0337 FRANKLIN COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to Lake Royale in Franklin County.
- (b) Speed Limit Near Ramps. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any public boat launching ramp while on the waters of Lake Royale.
- (c) Speed Limit in Mooring Areas. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while within a marked mooring area on the waters of Lake Royale.
- (d) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any marked public swimming area on the waters of Lake Royale.
- (e) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Franklin County shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. August 23, 1981;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

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

- (a) Regulated Areas. This Rule applies to the following waters in Caldwell County:
  - (1) Lake Rhodhiss:
    - (A) within 50 yards of the marina facilities at Castle Bridge Marina, 6131 Castle Bridge Drive in Granite Falls;
    - (B) within 50 yards of the Castle Bridge Boating Access Area, 6131 Connelly Springs Road in Granite Falls; and
    - (C) within 50 yards of the Conley Creek Boating Access Area, 5475 Waterworks Road in Granite Falls; and
  - (2) Lake Hickory:
    - (A) the waters shore to shore beginning 50 yards southwest of the U.S. Highway 321 Bridge, from a line at a point on the east shore of Lake Hickory at 35.75636 N, 81.37646 W to a point on the west shore at 35.75820 N, 81.37843 W, northeast past River Walk on the east shore and Lake Hickory Pub and Marina on the west shore, ending at a line from a point on the east shore at 35.76041 N, 81.37425 W to a point on the west shore at 35.76054 N, 81.37713 W in the City of Hickory;
    - (B) within 50 yards of the Gunpowder Boating Access Area, at 5450 Hurricane Hill Road in Granite Falls;
    - (C) within 50 yards of the Lovelady Boating Access Area, at 5682 Rocky Mount Road in Granite Falls; and
    - (D) the waters of Gunpowder Creek shore to shore, within 50 yards northeast and 50 yards southwest of the Adam W. Klutz Bridge on Grace Chapel Road in Granite Falls.
- (b) Speed limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers.

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of Caldwell County shall be the designated agency implementing Subparagraph (a)(1)(A) of this Rule;
- (2) the City of Hickory shall be the designated agency implementing Part (a)(2)(A) of this Rule; and
- (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency implementing Parts (a)(1)(B) and (C) and (a)(2)(B) through (D) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. August 23, 1981;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2026; February 1, 2024; July 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0339 MCDOWELL COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters on Lake James in McDowell County:

- (1) the cove east of Old Wildlife Club Road, beginning at a line from a point on the northwest shore at 35.73649 N, 81.92296 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.73595 N, 81.92194 W;
- (2) the waters including coves, shore to shore in the vicinity of the Marion Moose Club property, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.72026 N, 81.97292 W, to a point on the south shore at 35.71908 N, 81.97257 W, and south of a line from a point on the west shore at 35.72214 N, 81.96807 W to a point on the east shore at 35.72305 N, 81.96642 W;
- (3) Morgan Cove, west and south of a line at the mouth from a point on the north shore at 35.74220 N, 81.94189 W to a point on the south shore at 35.74142 N, 81.94155 W;
- (4) within 50 yards of the shoreline at the New Manna Baptist Youth Camp at 880 Marina Drive in Nebo;
- (5) within 50 yards of the shoreline at Burnette's Landing at 3385 Hankins Road in Marion;
- (6) the coves adjacent to Lake James State Park swimming area southeast of a line from a point on the northeast shore at 35.73402 N, 81.90450 W to a point on the southwest shore at 35.73268 N, 81.90614 W;
- (7) within 50 yards of camping areas in the Lake James State Park;
- (8) the cove between Waterglyn Subdivision and Lakeview Shores Subdivision, contiguous with the waters within 50 yards of the shoreline of Lakeview Point Subdivision, and within 50 yards of the boat launching ramp at the Marion Lake Club at the end of Lake Club Lane;
- (9) Plantation Point Cove southwest of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.71672 N, 81.98065 W to a point on the south shore at 35.71616 N, 81.98010 W;
- (10) Waterglyn Subdivision Cove, west of Lentz Landing Lane;
- (11) within 50 yards of the boat ramp at Lake James Landing on Lake James Landing Drive, near the mouth of the North Fork of the Catawba River;
- (12) within 50 yards of the Bear Creek Marina at 608 Marina Drive in Nebo;
- (13) within 50 yards of the peninsula at Waterglyn Subdivision at the end of Waterglyn Way, from the point on land east of the cove east of Old Wildlife Club Road at 35.73600 N, 81.92185 W to a point on land west of Waterglyn Subdivision Cove at 35.73549 N, 81.91900 W;
- (14) within 50 yards of the Hidden Cove Public Boat Access at 3657 NC-126 in Nebo; and
- (15) within 50 yards of the peninsula at Old Wildlife Club Subdivision at the end of Hunt Camp Drive and Screech Owl Drive, from a point on land at 35.75171 N, 81.92186 W, southeast to a point on land at 35.74914 N, 81.91782 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Restricted Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of any vessel shall permit it to enter any marked swimming area located on the waters of Lake James in McDowell County.

(d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of McDowell County is the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. August 23, 1981;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1996; December 1, 1993; March 1, 1992; April 1, 1991;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 1, 1998;*

*Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. February 4, 2000; April 1, 1999;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 2001;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2010; July 1, 2008; July 18, 2002;*  
*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*  
*Amended Eff. October 1, 2019; November 1, 2017.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0340 CURRITUCK COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the waters described as follows:

- (1) Bell Island. All canals on Bell Island.
- (2) Walnut Island. All canals in the Walnut Island subdivision in the Village of Grandy.
- (3) Waterview Shores subdivision. All canals in the Waterview Shores subdivision in the Village of Grandy.
- (4) Neal's Creek Landing. The waters of Neal's Creek within 50 yards of Neal's Creek Landing at the end of SR 1133, otherwise known as Neals Creek Road.
- (5) Tull Bay.
  - (A) The waters of the canal off of Tull Bay from its mouth to its end at Tulls Bay Marina, downstream and within the canal leading to Tull's Bay Marina.
  - (B) The canals of the Tulls Bay Colony subdivision in Moyock including the waters 50 yards north along the Mississippi Canal from its intersection with Elizabeth Canal.
- (6) Carova Beach. The canals at Carova Beach, east of a line in the northern canal from a point on the north shore at 36.51418 N, 75.87622 W to a point on the south shore at 36.51357 N, 75.87644 W; and east of a line in the southern canal from a point on the east shore at 36.51299 N, 75.87687 W to a point on the west shore at 36.51260 N, 75.87765 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Currituck County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*  
*Eff. May 1, 1982;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2015; July 1, 1993; January 1, 1991; December 1, 1990; January 1, 1989;*  
*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*  
*Amended Eff. May 1, 2020; October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0341 TOWN OF LAKE LURE**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Lake Lure in the Town of Lake Lure, in Rutherford County.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any boat launching area, dock, pier, marina, boat storage structure, boat service area, swimming area, cove or dam in the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any marked swimming area in the regulated area described by Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(d) Water skiers. On the regulated area described by Paragraph (a) of this Rule:

- (1) no more than two skiers shall be towed at once by any boat;
- (2) each skier is required to wear a ski belt or a personal flotation device; and
- (3) the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Lake Lure may issue special permission for towing more than two skiers, with or without flotation devices, to persons or groups practicing for or participating in skiing exhibitions or shows.

(e) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Lake Lure shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;*  
*Eff. May 1, 1982;*  
*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;*

*Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0342 CATAWBA COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters of Lake Hickory:

- (1) the area within 50 yards of the Moore's Ferry Boat Marina and Boathouse in the City of Hickory at 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue Circle, NW; and
- (2) the cove entering the Lake Hickory RV Resort boating access area, south of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.80767 N, 81.22795 W, to a point on the west shore at 35.80818 N, 81.22899 W, and the waters of the cove west and south of the Lake Hickory RV Resort shore to shore, south-southeast of a line from a point on the west shore of the cove mouth at 35.80675 N, 81.23275 W to a point on the east shore of the cove mouth at 35.80722 N, 81.23145 W.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The governing board of the City of Hickory and the Catawba County Board of Commissioners shall be the designated agencies for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. September 1, 1982;  
Amended Eff. March 1, 1992; May 1, 1989;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 1, 1999;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0343 CHATHAM COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the portion of the B. Everette Jordan Reservoir otherwise known as Jordan Lake in Chatham County.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed on the regulated area as follows:

- (1) within 50 yards of any public boat launching ramp;
- (2) within 100 yards of the piers and boat slips adjacent to the Crosswinds Boating Center located at 565 Farrington Road in Apex;
- (3) within 100 feet of all bridges.

(c) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of any vessel, surfboard or water skis shall permit it to enter any marked swimming area located on the regulated area.

(d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Chatham County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. March 1, 1983;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2004; September 1, 1989; April 1, 1984; June 1, 1983;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0344 TOWN OF RIVER BEND**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters located in the Town of River Bend in Craven County:

- (1) the waters of Plantation Canal shore to shore, beginning at its entrance from the Trent River at a line from a point on the northeast shore at 35.07226 N, 77.13303 W, to a point on the south shore at 35.07187 N, 77.13335 W, and including the waters of the River Bend Yacht Club Marina Basin; and
- (2) the waters of Island Lake shore to shore, and its access waters off of the Trent River beginning at points at 35.06508 N, 77.13600 W and at 35.06653 N, 77.13716 W.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The Town Council of the Town of River Bend shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. June 1, 1983;  
Amended Eff. December 1, 1985;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0345 CHATHAM AND WAKE COUNTIES**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters of the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant Reservoir, otherwise known as Harris Reservoir, in Chatham and Wake counties:

- (1) all waters within 50 yards of any marked boat launching ramp, pier, dock, mooring area, boat storage structure, bridge, or service area;
- (2) in Chatham County, a portion of the waters of the cove at the Cross Point Landing Boating Access Area on SR 1914 otherwise known as Cross Point Road, shore to shore beginning at a line west of a point on the north shore at 35.57351 N, 78.97411 W to a point on the south shore at 35.57187 N, 78.97384 W; and a
- (3) in Wake County, the waters within 150 yards of the Holleman's Boating Access Area located at 4420 Bartley Holleman Road in Holly Springs at 35.60861 N, 78.93899 W.

(b) Exclusionary Zones. Except for authorized personnel of the power company, no person shall operate a vessel in any exclusionary zone which is marked to prevent entry by boats.

(c) Mast Height. No person shall place or operate on the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule a sailboat or other vessel having a mast or any superstructure extending vertically above water level a distance of 35 feet or more.

(d) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(e) Swimming Areas. No person shall operate a vessel or water skis within a marked public swimming area.

(f) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Chatham County and the Board of Commissioners of Wake County shall be the designated agencies for placement of markers implementing this Rule within their respective counties.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. August 1, 1983;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1990;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. April 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2013; July 1, 1998;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0346 ARROWHEAD BEACH SUBDIVISION**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters or portions of waters in Chowan County:

- (1) Chowan River. The waters within 350 feet of the shoreline of the Arrowhead Beach Subdivision Park pier and swim area, from a point in the water southwest of the pier at 36.22691 N, 76.70711 W, to a point in the water northeast at 36.22838 N, 76.70637 W;
- (2) Indian Creek. The portion adjoining the Arrowhead Beach Subdivision shore to shore from a point at 36.23615 N, 76.69494 W to a point at 36.23084 N, 76.69231 W; and
- (3) Chowan River. The waters of an unnamed canal in Arrowhead Beach Subdivision, shore to shore at its intersection with the Chowan River at 36.22508 N, 76.70787 W.

(b) Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the swimming area described in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule.

(c) Obstruction of Swimmers or Boats. No person shall place or maintain within the recreational area described in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule any poles, cables, lines, nets, trotlines, fish traps or other obstructions or hazards to swimmers or boats, excepting those necessary to mark the area pursuant to this Rule.

(d) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the area described in Subparagraphs (a)(2) and (a)(3) of this Rule.

(e) Placement of Markers. The board of Commissioners of Chowan County shall be the designated agency for the placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3: 75A-15;  
Eff. August 1, 1983;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018; January 1, 2017.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0347 CRAVEN COUNTY**

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

- (1) New Bern:
  - (A) the portion of Northwest Creek from the entrance buoys at Northwest Creek Marina, north of a line from a point on the east shore at 35.06357 N, 76.96934 W to a point on the west shore at 35.06343 N, 76.97106 W, to south of a line from a point on the east shore of Northwest Creek at 35.06903 N, 76.97030 W to a point on the west shore at 35.06779 N, 76.97225 W, northeast to include all waters, shore to shore, of the bulkheaded area of Fairfield Harbour otherwise known as Spring Creek;
  - (B) Olde Towne Lake, shore to shore from its intersection with the Trent River west of a point at 35.08098 N, 77.05833 W;
  - (C) within 50 yards of the Spring Garden Boating Access Area on Neuse River, 585 NW Craven Middle School Road, New Bern;
  - (D) within 50 yards of Cool Springs Boating Access Area on Swift Creek, 1065 Cool Springs Road, New Bern;
  - (E) within 50 yards of Brices Creek Boating Access Area on Brice Creek, 953 Perrytown Road, New Bern; and
  - (F) the portion of Brice Creek beginning 50 yards north of the Brices Creek Bridge shore to shore, south-southwest around Merchant's Grocery, docking facilities, fuel dock, and a public boat ramp, then southeastward, south of the peninsula and sharp curve on the east side of Brice Creek to a line from a point on the west shore at 35.06587 N, 77.07078 W to a point on the east shore at 35.06638 N, 77.06893 W.
- (2) Havelock:
  - (A) the triangular area in the waters at the end of the Bishops Marina main pier located at the confluence of Clubfoot and Mitchell Creeks off of Neuse River, between a point 300 feet east of the pier at 34.90619 N, 76.76490 W, and a point 300 feet west of the pier at 34.90610 N, 76.76262 W, and a point 150 feet south of the pier at 34.90571 N, 76.76377 W;
  - (B) the portion of Southwest Prong Slocum Creek, shore to shore east of a line from a point on the north shore at 34.89122 N 76.92302 W to a point on the south shore at 34.89102 N, 76.92304 W and extending northeast, shore to shore to a line from a point on the north shore at 34.89370 N, 76.92109 W to a point on the southeast shore at 34.89358 N, 76.92089 W;
  - (C) within 50 yards of the Slocum Creek Boating Access Area on Slocum Creek, 99 U.S. Highway 70 W, Havelock; and
  - (D) within 50 yards of the Hancock Creek Boating Access Area on Hancock Creek, 1100 Cahoogue Creek Road, Havelock.
- (3) Trent Woods. The waters within 50 yards of the fuel dock at Eastern Carolina Yacht Club on Trent River at 4005 Trent Pines Drive, Trent Woods.
- (4) Bridgeton. The waters within 50 yards of the Bridgeton Boating Access Area on Neuse River, 880 Wildlife Road, Bridgeton.
- (5) Grifton. The waters within 50 yards of the Maple Cypress Boating Access Area on Neuse River, 360 Maple Cypress Road, Grifton.
- (6) Vanceboro. The waters within 50 yards of the Cow Pen Landing Boating Access Area on Neuse River, 1199 Cow Pen Landing Road, Vanceboro.

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

(c) Placement of Markers.

- (1) the Board of Commissioners of Craven County shall be the designated agency for placement in regulated areas indicated in Parts (a)(1)(A), (B), and (F), Part (a)(2)(A); and Subparagraph (a)(3) of this Rule;
- (2) the City of Havelock shall be the designated agency for placement in the regulated area indicated in Part (a)(2)(B) of this Rule; and
- (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers in the regulated areas in Parts (a)(1)(C), (D), and (E), Parts (a)(2)(C) and (D), and Subparagraphs (a)(4) through (6) of this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. August 1, 1984;  
 Amended Eff. December 1, 1990; October 1, 1989; June 1, 1989;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. April 1, 1998;  
 Amended Eff. July 1, 2016; July 1, 1998;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. June 1, 2025; October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0348 PERSON COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the Mayo Electric Generating Plant Reservoir, otherwise known as Mayo Reservoir, in Person County.
- (b) Restricted Zones. Except for authorized personnel of the power company, no person shall operate a vessel in any restricted zone which is marked to prevent entry by boats.
- (c) Mast Height. No person shall place or operate on the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule a sailboat or other vessel having a mast or any superstructure extending vertically above water level a distance of 35 feet or more.
- (d) Speed Limit. Except as provided in Paragraph (e) of this Rule, no person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any marked bridge, boat launching ramp, pier, boat storage structure, or boat service area on the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (e) Skiing. Except to leave or return to the shore or a boat launching ramp, no skiing is permitted within any speed zone described in Paragraph (d) of this Rule. In leaving or returning to the shore or boat ramp, all vessels pulling skiers shall be operated on a course perpendicular to the shore line. Upon returning, all vessels pulling skiers shall reduce to no-wake speed when the skiers have entered the restricted area.
- (f) Swimming Areas. No person shall operate a vessel or water skis within a marked public swimming area.
- (g) Boating Access. No vessel shall be placed on the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule from any point other than the Triple Springs Boating Access Area on SR 1515.
- (h) No Wake Zone. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed within the waters of the channel on Mayo Reservoir beginning north of the Triple Springs Boating Access Area, shore to shore from 36.48054 N, 78.87754 W to 36.47992 N, 78.87972 W, southward ending at an area below the Mayo Park ADA Fishing Pier shore to shore from 36.48054 N, 78.87754 W to 36.47718 N, 78.87836 W.
- (i) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Person County shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. August 1, 1984;  
 Amended Eff. December 1, 2010; April 1, 1997;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0349 JOHN H. MOSS LAKE**

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the Kings Mountain water supply reservoir known as John H. Moss Lake, in Cleveland County.
- (b) Speed Limit Near Boat Facilities. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of any boat launching area, dock, pier, marina, boat storage structure or boat service area located on the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Swimming Areas. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter any marked swimming area on the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of the City of Kings Mountain shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. August 1, 1984;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0350 DURHAM AND WAKE COUNTIES**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Falls Lake in Durham and Wake counties.

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

- (1) while within a designated mooring area established on the regulated area by or with the approval of the Corps and State Parks;
- (2) within 50 yards of any public boat launching ramp or boat service facility, including docks used for fueling or boat repair, located on the regulated area;
- (3) within 50 yards of any state road bridge crossing over the portion of Falls Lake located within Wake County;
- (4) the waters of the Holly Point Recreation Swim and boat launch area shore to shore, from a line at a point on the southwest shore at 35.99751 N, 78.66075 W to a point on the north shore at 36.00030 N, 78.65963 W, east to a line from a point on the southeast shore at 35.99941 N, 78.65520 W to a point on the northwest shore at 36.00087 N, 78.65731 W; and
- (5) within 50 yards east and 50 yards west of the New Light Road bridge.

(c) Restricted Zones. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel, surfboard or water skis shall enter:

- (1) any marked swimming area located on the regulated area;
- (2) any areas near the dam structures located on the regulated area that is marked against entry by vessels by or with the approval of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

(d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Durham County, the Board of Commissioners of Wake County, and North Carolina State Parks shall be the designated agencies for placement of markers implementing this Rule in their respective counties, subject to the approval of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. December 1, 1984;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2007; August 1, 1990; April 1, 1990;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0351 NEW BERN**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to that part of the Trent River that is located within the city limits of New Bern in Craven County.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed on the Trent River between the Trent River Railroad Bridge and the Trent River Bridge on East Front Street.

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Alderman of the City of New Bern shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. October 1, 1986;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0352 CAMDEN COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the waters described below:

- (1) the waters of Edgewater Canal, beginning at a point at 36.17539 N, 75.97945 W, parallel with and along the south shore of Camden Point and the connecting channels to Albemarle Sound in Camden County;

- (2) the portion of Turners Cut, otherwise known as South Mills Shore Canal, for a distance of approximately 1000 feet, south of a line from a point on the east shore at 36.41129 N, 76.30598 W to a point on the west shore at 36.41096 N, 76.30654 W and north of a line from a point on the east shore at 36.40912 N, 76.30402 W to a point on the west shore at 36.40880 N, 76.30462 W;
- (3) the canals of Whitehall Shores subdivision on the Pasquotank River; and
- (4) the cove south of Sawyers Creek on the east side of the Pasquotank River in the town of Camden, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 36.32353 N, 76.18054 W to a point on the south shore at 36.32254 N, 76.18017 W.

(b) **Speed Limit.** No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) **Placement of Markers.** The Board of Commissioners of Camden County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. June 1, 1987;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 1989;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. March 15, 2003;  
Temporary Amendment Expired October 12, 2003;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2014; May 1, 2013; May 1, 2004;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0353 MOUNTAIN ISLAND LAKE - MECKLENBURG, GASTON AND LINCOLN COUNTIES**

(a) **Regulated Area.** This Rule shall apply to Mountain Island Lake in Mecklenburg, Gaston, and Lincoln counties:

- (1) the cove lying north of Historic Latta Plantation Park in Mecklenburg County, southeast of a line from a point on the southwest shore at 35.35772 N, 80.92474 W to a point on the northeast shore at 35.36019 N, 80.91935 W;
- (2) Duck Cove in Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge in Mecklenburg County, beginning at the mouth of the cove at 35.38097 N, 80.97894 W;
- (3) a portion of the south prong of Nance Cove in Mecklenburg County, south of a line from a point on the west shore at 35.33982 N, 80.95313 W to a point on the east shore at 35.34010 N, 80.95185 W, and the waters of the west prong of Nance Cove between SR 2253, otherwise known as Nance Cove Road, and SR 5510 otherwise known as Haymarket Road, south of a line at the mouth of the cove's west prong from a point on the west shore at 35.34547 N, 80.955677 W to a point on the east shore at 35.34506 N, 80.95578 W;
- (4) the area within 50 yards shore to shore, northeast and southwest of the N.C. Highway 16 bridge, otherwise known as Brookshire Boulevard bridge, in Mecklenburg and Gaston counties;
- (5) Neck Cove in Mecklenburg County shore to shore, north of a line from a point on the west shore at 35.36706 N, 80.93263 W to a point on the east shore at 35.36708 N, 80.93113 W;
- (6) Gar Creek in Mecklenburg County, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.34885 N, 80.92746 W to a point on the south shore at 35.34804 N, 80.92774 W, and west of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.34887 N, 80.92686 W to a point on the south shore at 35.34840 N, 80.92585 W;
- (7) Whispering Cove in Mecklenburg County, south of a line from a point on the west shore at 35.34119 N, 80.97570 W to a point on the east shore at 35.34079 N, 80.97477 W; and
- (8) shore to shore within 50 yards north and south of the N.C. Highway 73 bridge in Mecklenburg and Gaston counties.

(b) **Speed Limit.** No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) **Placement of Markers.** The Boards of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, of Gaston County, and of Lincoln County shall be the designated agencies for placement of markers implementing this Rule for regulated areas within their territorial jurisdictions.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 1988;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. April 1, 2000;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2015; July 1, 2000;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0354 PITT COUNTY**

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

- (1) the waters of Hardee Creek in the City of Greenville, surrounding the waters within 50 yards of the Greenville Boating Access Area at 940 Port Terminal Road, shore to shore, west of a line at its confluence with the main course of Tar River from a point on the north shore at 35.59878 N, 77.31168 W to a point on the south shore at 35.59813 N, 77.31157 W;
- (2) the waters of Barber Creek at Wildwood Park in the City of Greenville shore to shore, north of its confluence with Tar River at a point at 35.60719 N, 77.32890 W;
- (3) the waters within 50 yards of the Falkland Boating Access Area on Tar River, 3013 NC Highway 222, Falkland; and
- (4) the waters within 50 yards of the Contentnea Creek Boating Access Area on Contentnea Creek, 510 Water Street, Grifton.

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

(c) Placement of Markers.

- (1) the City Council of the City of Greenville shall be the designated agency implementing the portion of Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule excluding the Greenville Boating Access Area, and Subparagraph (a)(2) of this Rule; and
- (2) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency implementing the portion of Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule the waters of Hardee Creek surrounding the Greenville Boating Access Area, and Subparagraphs (a)(3) and (4) of this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 1988;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2014; September 1, 2010; July 1, 1995; April 1, 1992;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2026; June 1, 2022; October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0355 PERQUIMANS COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters:

- (1) Perquimans River:
  - (A) the canals of Holiday Island subdivision at Albemarle Sound; and
  - (B) Town of Hertford: 550 yards southwest of the Perquimans River Bridge on U.S. Highway 17 Business, otherwise known as the Hertford S - Bridge, at a line from a point on the north shore at 36.19305 N, 76.46957 W to a point on the south shore at 36.19150 N, 76.47099 W, and 190 yards northeast of the bridge at a line from a point in the Perquimans River at 36.19530 N, 76.46518 W, eastward to Day Marker #11, then southeast to a point on the shore at 36.19337 N, 76.46367 W.
- (2) Yeopim River:
  - (A) the canal between Navaho Trail and Cherokee Trail beginning at a point at 36.07893 N, 76.42278 W;
  - (B) the canal between Cherokee Trail and Ashe Street beginning at a point at 36.07865 N, 76.42603 W;
  - (C) within 50 yards of the boat ramp at Ashe and Pine Street;
  - (D) the canal between Pine Street and Linden Street beginning at a point at 36.07951 N, 76.43402 W;
  - (E) the canal between Willow Street and Evergreen Drive beginning at a point at 36.08005 N, 76.43735 W;
  - (F) the canal between Sago Street and Alder Street beginning at a point at 36.07986 N, 76.44063 W; and

- (G) Bethel Creek north of a line from a point on the west shore at 36.09566 N, 76.47928 W to a point on the east shore at 36.09534 N, 76.47738 W to a line from a point on the west shore at 36.10532 N, 76.48080 W to a point on the east shore at 36.10516 N, 76.48047 W.
  - (3) Yeopim Creek:
    - (A) the canal between Mohave Trail and Iowa Trail beginning at a point at 36.08521 N, 76.41802 W;
    - (B) the canal between Iowa Trail and Shawnee Trail beginning at a point at 36.08511 N, 76.41763 W;
    - (C) the area within 75 yards of the Albemarle Plantation Marina Piers;
    - (D) the area of the cove known as Beaver Cove, shore to shore beginning at a point at 36.08767 N, 76.42151 W; and
    - (E) the waters of Yeopim Creek adjacent to Heritage Shores North, shore to shore, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 36.11356 N, 76.43138 W to a point on the south shore at 36.11288 N, 76.43173 W, to a line northwest from a point on the east shore at 36.11219 N, 76.42445 W to a point on the west shore at 36.11178 N, 76.42596 W.
  - (4) Little River: the entrance to the cove known as Muddy Gut Canal that extends from the waters known as Deep Creek, shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on the east shore at 36.17729 N, 76.28011 W to a point on the west shore at 36.17667 N, 76.28331 W.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the swimming area at the Snug Harbor Park and Beach on the Yeopim River.
- (d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Perquimans County is the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. November 1, 1988;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 1992;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1997;  
 Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. February 4, 2000;  
 Amended Eff. January 1, 2015; September 1, 2013; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; July 1, 2000;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. June 1, 2023; October 1, 2018; June 1, 2017.

**15A NCAC 10F .0356 PASQUOTANK COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Area. This area shall apply to the canals of the Glen Cove Subdivision in Pasquotank County.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed while on the waters of the regulated area designated in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement of Markers. The Board of County Commissioners of Pasquotank County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. December 1, 1988;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0357 NASH COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the following waters of the Tar River Reservoir near the City of Rocky Mount in Nash County:
  - (1) beginning 50 yards northwest of the bridge located on SR 1745, otherwise known as Bend of the River Road, from a line northwest of the bridge at a point on the south shore at 35.88347 N, 77.89666 W, northeast to a point in the water at 35.88395 N, 77.89576 W, and ending southeast of the bridge at a point within 50 yards of the Bend of the River boat ramp located at 35.88224 N, 77.89605 W.

- (2) beginning 185 yards northwest of the Sapony Creek bridge and boat ramp located on SR 1603, otherwise known as S. Old Carriage Road at 35.88545 N, 77.91154 W, shore to shore at a line from a point on the south shore at 35.88540 N, 77.91365 W to a point on the north shore at 35.88643 N, 77.91309 W, and ending at a line east of the bridge from a point on the south shore at 35.88479 N, 77.91148 W to a point on the northeast shore at 35.88565 N, 77.91085 W; and
- (3) the waters 50 yards southwest of the Low Bridge on SR 1603 otherwise known as S. Old Carriage Road from a point in the water at 35.85446 N, 77.90760 W to a line northeast of the bridge shore to shore, from a point on the southeast shore at 35.85590 N, 77.90545 W to a point on the northwest shore at 35.85718 N, 77.90757 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The City of Rocky Mount shall be the designated agency for the placement of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 1989;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0358 JONES COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of the Trent River shore to shore in Pollocksville, from a line 25 yards west of the U.S. Highway 17 bridge from a point on the north shore at 35.01023 N, 77.21938 W to a point on the south shore at 35.00979 N, 77.21942 W, eastward to a line 100 yards east of the Pollocksville Public Fishing and Boating Access Area, from a point on the north shore at 35.00967 N, 77.21696 W to a point on the south shore at 35.00931 N, 77.21718 W.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The Jones County Board of Commissioners shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 1989;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0359 CHEROKEE COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters of Hiwassee Lake:

- (1) Dukes Hideaway Marina cove shore to shore, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.11989 N, 84.10420 W to a point on the south shore at 35.11902 N, 84.10386 W;
- (2) Shooks Marina cove shore to shore, south of a line from a point on the northwest shore at 35.15458 N, 84.14425 W to a point on the southeast shore at 35.15462 N, 84.14291 W;
- (3) Mountain View Marina cove, shore to shore, west of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.15270 N, 84.16471 W to a point on the south shore at 35.15120 N, 84.16313 W;
- (4) within 50 yards of the Tennessee Valley Authority boat launch at Micken Branch Ramp at 35.11890 N, 84.16806 W;
- (5) Harbor Cove Marina cove, shore to shore, west of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.13899 N, 84.17592 W to a point on the south shore at 35.13771 N, 84.17593 W;

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The Cherokee County Board of Commissioners shall be the designated agency for the placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the authority of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 1989;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 2007; May 1, 2006;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0360 GRAHAM COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Graham County:

- (1) Santeetlah Marina cove on Santeetlah Lake, shore to shore north of a line from a point on the west shore at 35.36435 N, 83.85841 W to a point on the northeast shore at 35.36532 N, 83.85529 W;
- (2) Fontana Village Resort Marina cove on Fontana Lake, shore to shore west of a line from a point on the north shore at 35.44294 N, 83.78900 W to a point on the south shore at 35.44077 N, 83.78936 W;
- (3) within 50 yards of the Prince Boat Dock Marina at 237 Prince Boat Dock Road in Almond, and its docks and mooring areas on Fontana Lake;
- (4) within 50 yards of the Crisp Boat Dock on Town Branch off of Panther Creek on Fontana Lake, near the northern end of SR 1234 otherwise known as Lower Panther Creek Road in Robbinsville;
- (5) within 50 yards of the Deyton Camp Boat Dock on Santeetlah Lake at 270 Deyton Camp Road otherwise known as SR 1153, in Robbinsville; and
- (6) east of the mouth of Cheoah Point Cove on Santeetlah Lake, beginning at a point at 35.37246 N, 83.87081 W.

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

(c) Cheoah Point Swimming Area, Lake Santeetlah - No person shall operate a vessel within the Cheoah Point Swimming Area which begins at the head of Cheoah Point Cove.

(d) Placement of Markers. The Graham County Board of Commissioners shall be the designated agency for the placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the authority of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 1989;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1996; February 1, 1994; September 1, 1989;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. January 1, 1998;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2004; July 1, 1998;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0361 WILKES COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters on W. Kerr Scott Reservoir in Wilkes County:

- (1) the waters of Dam Site Park Cove at Dam Site Shelter, 499 Reservoir Road, Wilkesboro, south of a line at the mouth of the cove from a point on the east shore at 36.13090 N, 81.22955 W to a point on the west shore at 36.13040 N, 81.23122;
- (2) the waters of the cove at Skyline Marina, 4008 W. N.C. Hwy 268, Wilkesboro, south of a line at the mouth of the cove from a point on the east shore at 36.12738 N, 81.23530 W to a point on the west shore at 36.12608 N, 81.23847 W;
- (3) the waters of the cove north and west of Berry Mountain Park, 4732 W. N.C. Hwy 268, Wilkesboro, south of a line at the mouth of the cove from a point on the east shore at 36.12558 N, 81.24025 W to a point on the west shore at 36.12545 N, 81.24245 W, surrounding the Berry Mountain swim beach, and to the southwest to the end of the cove;
- (4) within 50 yards of the Boomer Park boat ramp, 400 Boomer Road, Boomer;
- (5) within 50 yards of the Keowee boat ramp, 7659 N.C. Hwy 268, Boomer;
- (6) the waters of the cove where Smithey's Creek boat ramp and Fort Hamby boat ramp are located, northwest of a line at the mouth of the cove from a point on the east shore at 36.12612 N, 81.26129 W to a point on the west shore at 36.12361 N, 81.26404 W;
- (7) the waters within 50 yards north and 50 yards south of the N.C. Hwy 268 Bridge, at 36.09902 N, 81.28070 W;
- (8) the waters within 50 yards surrounding the Boomer Park Beach Swim Area located at 400 Boomer Road, Boomer;

- (9) the waters within 50 yards surrounding the Fort Hamby Swim Area located at 36.12314 N, 81.26870 W, near 1534 S. Recreation Road, Wilkesboro; and
  - (10) the waters of the cove where the Warrior Creek Swim Area is located, southwest of a line at the mouth of the cove from a point on the south shore at 36.10494 N, 81.28304 W to a point on the north shore at 36.10591 N, 81.28412 W.
- (b) **Swimming Areas.** No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the waters of the following swim areas:
- (1) the waters of the Fort Hamby Swim Area located at 36.12314 N, 81.26870 W, near 1534 S. Recreation Road, Wilkesboro;
  - (2) the waters of Warrior Creek Swim Area located at 36.10367 N, 81.28664 W, at 7659 W. Hwy 268, Boomer;
  - (3) the waters of Boomer Park Beach Swim Area located at 36.09271 N, 81.27967 W, 400 Boomer Road, Boomer;
  - (4) the waters of the Berry Mountain Park Swim Beach located at 36.12498 N, 81.24010 W, 4732 W. N.C. Hwy 268, Wilkesboro; and
  - (5) the waters of the Bandit's Roost Park Swim Area located at 36.12425 N, 81.25172 W, 667 Jess Walsh Road, Wilkesboro.
- (c) **Safety Zone.** Except for authorized persons and vessels, no entry shall be allowed in the waters 50 yards downstream from the W. Kerr Scott Dam and Intake Tower.
- (d) **Speed Limit.** No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (e) **Placement of Markers.** The Wilkes County Board of Commissioners and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shall be the designated agencies for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the authority of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. September 1, 1989;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0362 HARNETT COUNTY**

- (a) **Regulated Area.** This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Harnett County:
- (1) the waters of Lake Carolina within 50 yards of any marked boat launching ramp, boat service area, boat pier, boat dock, boat mooring area, boat storage structure, or bridge; and
  - (2) the canal between Lake Carolina and Ski Lake from its west end at Lake Carolina at a point at 35.28164 N, 79.03218 W to its east end where it enters Ski Lake at a point at 35.28038 N, 79.02662 W.
- (b) **Restricted Zones.** Except for authorized personnel of State, County, and Municipal governments and emergency response personnel, no person shall operate a vessel in any restricted zone marked to prevent entry by boats, including designated swimming areas and danger zones near dams and spillways.
- (c) **Speed Limit.** No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas delineated in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (d) **Placement of Markers.** The Board of Commissioners of Harnett County shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
 Eff. August 1, 1990;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0363 CASWELL AND PERSON COUNTIES**

- (a) **Regulated Areas.** This Rule applies to the waters of Hyco Lake in Caswell and Person counties.
- (b) **Speed Limit Near Bridges.** No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within 50 yards of a bridge that crosses the waters of Hyco Lake.
- (c) **Speed Limit in Canals.** No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within canals on Hyco Lake.

(d) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Boards of Commissioners of Caswell and Person Counties are the designated agencies for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. November 1, 1990;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2025; October 1, 2018.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0364 GREENSBORO**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Lake Brandt, Lake Higgins, and Lake Townsend, otherwise known as Greensboro Municipal Reservoirs, within the city limits of Greensboro in Guilford County.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no wake speed within 50 yards of any marked public boat launching ramp, bridge, dock, marina, boat storage structure, boat service area or pier operated by the City of Greensboro for public use.

(c) Restricted Zones. No person operating or responsible for the operation of any vessel shall permit it to enter any restricted zone marked to prevent entry by vessels.

(d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Guilford County shall be the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. August 1, 1991;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0365 TYRRELL COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Tyrrell County:

- (1) the portion of the Scuppernong River from 300 yards north-northwest of the U.S. Highway 64 bridge to 100 yards south-southwest of the U.S. Highway 64 bridge.
- (2) the portion of the Scuppernong River from the point where the canal to the Columbia Boating Access Areas intersects the river and extending 200 feet into the river.
- (3) the waters of the canal that leads to the marina at Taylor's Beach on Albemarle Sound in Columbia, beginning at a point at 35.95559 N, 76.30219 W.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Tyrrell County shall be the designated agency for the placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. December 1, 1993;  
Amended Eff. September 1, 2011; December 1, 1994;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0366 MACON COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the following waters of Nantahala Lake:

- (1) Lakes End Cove west of SR 1310 otherwise known as Wayah Road in Topton, shore to shore north of a line from a point on the west shore at 35.19602 N, 83.64184 W to a point on the east shore at 35.19544 N, 83.64053 W; and
- (2) the area within 100 yards of a point at 35.16570 N, 83.64686 W at the end of the Mountain Shadows Community dock, in Topton.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Macon County shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. June 1, 1994;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2016; June 1, 2005;  
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0367 HOKE COUNTY**

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of Rockfish Creek at Camp Rockfish shore to shore, from a line at a point on the north shore at 34.95415 N, 79.03833 W to a point on the south shore at 34.95372 N, 79.03865 W, eastward to a line from a point on the north shore at 34.95439 N, 79.03660 W to a point on the south shore at 34.95351 N, 79.03773 W.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Hoke County Board of Commissioners shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. April 1, 1999;  
Eff. July 1, 2000;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0368 TOWN OF NAGS HEAD**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 71A-15; 72A-3;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2002;  
Eff. April 1, 2003;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018;  
Repealed Eff. April 1, 2026.

**15A NCAC 10F .0369 TOWN OF SWANSBORO**

- (a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the waters of the White Oak River within approximately 50 yards of the shoreline of the Swansboro Town Limits in Onslow County and outside the United States Army Corps of Engineers Swansboro Channel setback, as marked by no-wake buoys, beginning at the N.C. Highway 24 bridge and ending at a point 50 yards southwest of the Casper's Marina pier at 34.68495 N, 77.12195 W.
- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Placement of Markers. The Town of Swansboro shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 71A-15; 72A-3;  
Eff. October 1, 2004;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2005;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0370 CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT – ROCKY MOUNT MILLPOND DAM SAFETY ZONE**

- (a) Regulated Area. The waters of the Tar River shore to shore, beginning west of the Falls Road bridge on N.C. Highway 48/43 Business at a point at 35.96016 N, 77.80447 W, extending eastward and ending at the Rocky Mount Millpond Dam and associated abutments and structures, shall be a designated safety zone. Access by swimming or entry of a person in or upon a vessel or any floating object shall be prohibited within the safety zone.
- (b) Paragraph (a) of this Rule shall not apply to persons who, with consent of the City of Rocky Mount, require access for maintaining or repairing facilities associated with the Rocky Mount Millpond Dam, abutments and structures or the Rocky Mount Mills.

(c) Placement of Markers. The City of Rocky Mount shall be the designated entity for placement and maintenance of buoys and other signs implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 2004;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2019; October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0371 BELEWS LAKE IN STOKES COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the areas described in Paragraphs (b) and (c) in Belews Lake in Stokes County.  
(b) No swimming or boating in exclusionary zone. No swimming or other entry of a person in or upon a boat, raft, or other floating object shall be permitted in the exclusionary zone in the cove containing the power station's plant intake on the western side of Belews Lake, approximately 1,000 feet northeast of Belews Creek Steam Station, as marked by warning buoys and signs.

(c) No swimming or boating in evacuation area in event of alarm. In the event of a siren or audible alarm generated by the Belews Creek Steam Station, all persons swimming, boating, or occupying a raft or other floating object on the lake shall evacuate the area on the western side of Belews Lake approximately 4,000 feet northeast of Belews Creek Station as marked by warning buoys and signs.

(d) Paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Rule shall not apply to persons who, with consent of Duke Energy Corporation, access the area for the purpose of responding to an emergency or maintaining or repairing facilities of Duke Energy Corporation.

(e) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Duke Energy Corporation shall be the designated entity for placement and maintenance of buoys, barriers and other signs implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Emergency Adoption Eff. August 1, 2005;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. November 1, 2005;  
Eff. February 1, 2006;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0372 HERTFORD COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the portion of the Chowan River at Tuscarora Beach within 65 yards of the shoreline, from a point on the south shore at 36.39028 N, 76.91214 W to a point on the south shore at 36.38820 N, 76.90726 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The County of Hertford shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 2006;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.

**15A NCAC 10F .0373 TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to Lake Toxaway.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the Lake Toxaway Country Club Marina cove, south of a line from a point on the west shore at 35.14136 N, 82.95424 W to a point on the east shore at 35.14126 N, 82.95303 W.

(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Transylvania County shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. November 1, 2007;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;

*Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0374 CUBE HYDRO CAROLINAS SAFETY ZONES AND RESTRICTED ZONES AREAS**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following hydroelectric stations, dams, associated structures, abutments, and equipment:

- (1) High Rock Hydroelectric Station on the Yadkin River in Rowan and Davidson counties;
- (2) Tuckertown Hydroelectric Station on the Yadkin River in Stanly and Montgomery counties;
- (3) Narrows Hydroelectric Station on the Yadkin River in Stanly and Montgomery counties; and
- (4) Falls Hydroelectric Station on the Yadkin River in Stanly and Montgomery counties.

(b) Safety Zones. Except for Cube Hydro Carolinas and Commission personnel, no entry shall be allowed in the waters listed below unless authorized by Cube Hydro Carolinas:

- (1) Yadkin River in Rowan and Davidson counties, 200 feet downstream from the powerhouse, turbines, or generator discharge that mechanically propels or accelerates the flow of water at the High Rock Hydroelectric Station;
- (2) Yadkin River in Stanly and Montgomery counties, 200 feet downstream from the powerhouse, turbines, or generator discharge that mechanically propels or accelerates the flow of water at the Tuckertown Hydroelectric Station;
- (3) Yadkin River in Stanly and Montgomery counties, one hundred feet directly in front of the powerhouse, turbines, or generator discharge that mechanically propels or accelerates the flow of water at the Narrows Hydroelectric Station; and
- (4) Yadkin River in Stanly and Montgomery counties, 100 feet downstream from the powerhouse, turbines, or generator discharge that mechanically propels or accelerates the flow of water at the Falls Hydroelectric Station.

(c) Restricted Areas. Restricted Areas shall be located 200 feet upstream and 200 feet downstream from the hydroelectric stations described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule. Individuals in or upon a vessel in a restricted area shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device as described in Rule .0201 of this Subchapter.

(d) Swimming. Swimming shall be prohibited in restricted areas.

(e) Firearms. No person shall discharge a firearm within a restricted area.

(f) No vessel shall tie off to the hydroelectric station structure or the accessory structures, anchor, or secure a vessel in the restricted areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(g) Paragraph (f) of this Rule shall not apply to persons who enter with consent of Cube Hydro Carolinas to maintain, repair, or evaluate facilities of Cube Hydro Carolinas; law enforcement or emergency personnel; or State employees acting in an official capacity.

(h) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. Cube Hydro Carolinas shall place and maintain buoys and other signs implementing this Rule.

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

*Eff. January 1, 2008;*

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

*Amended Eff. September 1, 2023; October 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10F .0375 DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION HYDROELECTRIC STATION SAFETY ZONES**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the area one hundred feet upstream or downstream from the stations and dams, and associated structures, abutments and equipment of the Duke Energy Corporation hydroelectric stations and dams listed in Paragraph (f) of this Rule.

(b) Fishing. Except as otherwise provided in this Paragraph or in Paragraph (c) of this Rule, no person shall enter the waters within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule. Persons engaged in fishing within the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule may enter these waters in connection with such fishing activities and shall wear a United States Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device in serviceable condition and of appropriate size for the wearer.

(c) Boating. Any person in or upon a boat, raft or other floating object that enters the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule shall wear a United States Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device in serviceable condition and of appropriate size for the wearer. No vessel shall tie off to any part of the dam structure or the accessory portions, nor anchor or otherwise secure a vessel within regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(d) Paragraph (c) of this Rule shall not apply to persons who enter with consent of Duke Energy Corporation for the purpose of maintaining, repairing or evaluating facilities of Duke Energy Corporation; law enforcement or emergency personnel; or North Carolina state employees acting in an official capacity.

(e) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. Duke Energy Corporation shall be the designated entity for placement and maintenance of buoys and other signs implementing this Rule.

(f) Duke Energy Corporation hydroelectric stations and dams affected by this Rule:

- (1) Bridgewater Hydroelectric Station including Paddy Creek Dam, Linville Dam and Catawba Dam in the Catawba River in Burke and McDowell counties;
- (2) Cowans Ford Hydroelectric Station including Cowans Ford Dam in the Catawba River in Lincoln and Mecklenburg counties;
- (3) Lookout Hydroelectric Station including Lookout Dam in the Catawba River in Catawba and Iredell counties;
- (4) Mountain Island Hydroelectric Station including Mountain Island Dam in the Catawba River in Gaston and Mecklenburg counties;
- (5) Oxford Hydroelectric Station including Oxford Dam in the Catawba River in Alexander and Catawba counties;
- (6) Rhodhiss Hydroelectric Station including Rhodhiss Dam in the Catawba River in Burke and Caldwell counties; and
- (7) Tuxedo Hydroelectric Station including Tuxedo Dam in the Green River in Henderson County.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. January 1, 2008;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0376 TOWN OF EMERALD ISLE**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule shall apply to the following waters located in the Town of Emerald Isle in Carteret County:

- (1) Bogue Sound Drive Channel shore to shore, roughly parallel to the shoreline in the vicinity of Bogue Sound Drive, from a point where the channel meets Bogue Sound in the west at 34.67471 N, 76.98684 W to a point where it meets Bogue Sound in the east at 34.67588 N, 76.97760 W;
- (2) Coast Guard Channel shore to shore from the north entrance of the channel where it intersects Bogue Sound near 419 Channel Drive, south from a point in the water at 34.65348 N, 77.09560 W, to the west end of the channel where it intersects Bogue Sound, near 116 Bogue Court, east-northeast from a point in the water at 34.64820 N, 77.09731 W; and
- (3) the waters within approximately 100 yards of the shoreline of Bogue Sound adjacent to Archer Point, south of and including a portion of the Emerald Isle channel, bounded on the west side by a line running north from 34.67553 N, 77.01535 W to the northern side of the channel, and on the east side by a line running northeast from 34.67519 N, 77.01279 W to the northern side of the channel.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The Town of Emerald Isle shall be the designated agency for placement of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. September 1, 2008;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2011; April 1, 2009;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0377 JACKSON COUNTY**

(a) This Rule applies to the public swimming area known as the Pines Recreation Swim Area on Lake Glenville. The public swimming area shall be marked with four no-boats buoys set at the following locations: 35.19789 N, 83.16094 W; 35.19758 N, 83.16064 W; 35.19742 N, 83.16031 W; and 35.19742 N, 83.15983 W.

(b) No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the marked public swimming area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Jackson County or Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC shall be designated as suitable entities for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. May 1, 2016.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0378 HALIFAX COUNTY**

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters in Halifax County:

- (1) Roanoke Rapids Lake.
  - (A) within 50 yards north and south of the abandoned railroad trestle at the location where Deep Creek meets Roanoke Raids Lake in Roanoke Rapids, northwest of Windsong Drive;
  - (B) within 50 yards of the Thelma Boating Access Area, 1011 Van Warren Road, Roanoke Rapids; and
  - (C) within 50 yards of the Fifth Street Landing Boating Access Area, 1919 W. Fifth Street, Roanoke Rapids.
- (2) Roanoke River.
  - (A) Within 50 yards of the Weldon Boating Access Area, 1090 Rockfish Lane, Weldon; and
  - (B) within 50 yards of the Edwards Ferry Boating Access Area, 89 U.S. Highway 258, Scotland Neck.
- (3) Lake Gaston within 50 yards of Summit Boating Access Area at 432 Bluebird Lane, Littleton.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. June 1, 2022.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0379 CITY OF ROXBORO**

(a) Regulated Area. This Rule applies to the waters of Lake Roxboro, located near Frogsboro in Person and Caswell counties, in the channel between a line shore to shore from 36.32069 N, 79.15373 W, and a line shore to shore at 36.31651 N, 79.15165 W.

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

(c) Placement of Markers. The City of Roxboro is the designated agency for placement and maintenance of the markers implementing this Rule.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. June 1, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10F .0380 TOWN OF RHODHISS**

(a) Regulated Area. This rule applies to the waters of Lake Hickory in the Town of Rhodhiss in Burke and Caldwell counties, shore to shore, beginning west of a line 165 yards east of the S.R. 1611 Bridge from a point on the north shore at 35.77322 N, 81.42891 W to a point on the south shore at 35.77179 N, 81.42910 W, westward ending at the Rhodhiss Dam.

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

(c) Placement and Maintenance of Markers. The Town of Rhodhiss shall place and maintain the markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15;  
Eff. February 1, 2024.

**SUBCHAPTER 10G - DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF HUNTING: FISHING: AND TRAPPING LICENSE**

**SECTION .0100 - LICENSE AGENTS**

**15A NCAC 10G .0101 APPOINTMENT OF LICENSE AGENTS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1982;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

**15A NCAC 10G .0102 QUALIFICATIONS OF LICENSE AGENT  
15A NCAC 10G .0103 CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR LOCATION**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 1988; June 1, 1983; February 1, 1982;  
Repealed Eff. April 1, 1997.

**15A NCAC 10G .0104 LICENSE HANDLING PROCEDURE  
15A NCAC 10G .0105 CREDIT FOR LOST LICENSE**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1; 113-270.3; 113-275; 113-305;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1982; November 1, 1981; April 15, 1979;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

**SECTION .0200 - BOAT REGISTRATION AGENTS**

**15A NCAC 10G .0201 APPOINTMENT OF AGENTS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5;  
Eff. January 1, 1980;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

**15A NCAC 10G .0202 QUALIFICATIONS OF AGENTS  
15A NCAC 10G .0203 CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR LOCATION**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5;  
Eff. January 1, 1980;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 1983; February 1, 1982;  
Repealed Eff. April 1, 1997.

**15A NCAC 10G .0204 BOAT REGISTRATION PROCEDURE  
15A NCAC 10G .0205 CREDIT FOR VALIDATION DECALS LOST**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5;  
Eff. January 1, 1980;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1982;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

**15A NCAC 10G .0206 AUTHORITY OF BOAT REGISTRATION AGENTS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-5;  
Eff. February 1, 1995;  
Repealed Eff. March 2, 1997.

## **SECTION .0300 - FUR TAG AGENTS**

### **15A NCAC 10G .0301 APPOINTMENT OF AGENTS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276.1; 113-291.3; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 1980;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

### **15A NCAC 10G .0302 QUALIFICATIONS OF AGENTS 15A NCAC 10G .0303 CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR LOCATION**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-143; 113-273; 113-276.1; 113-291.2; 113-291.3; 113-305;  
Eff. October 1, 1980;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 1983; February 1, 1982;  
Repealed Eff. April 1, 1997.

### **15A NCAC 10G .0304 FUR TAG DISTRIBUTION PROCEDURE 15A NCAC 10G .0305 CREDIT FOR FUR TAG LOSSES 15A NCAC 10G .0306 TERMINATION OF AGENCY**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276.1; 113-291.3;  
Eff. October 1, 1980;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 1982;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

## **SECTION .0400 - WILDLIFE SERVICE AGENTS**

### **15A NCAC 10G .0401 PURPOSE OF WILDLIFE SERVICE AGENTS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;  
Eff. April 1, 1997;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2007;  
Repealed Eff. February 1, 2026.

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

(a) Wildlife Service Agents are official license and vessel agents of the Commission who are authorized, pursuant to individual Wildlife Service Agent Agreements, to issue hunting, fishing, and other licenses, permits, applications, vessel registrations, and other items authorized by the Commission.

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

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

(c) Business owners shall meet the following requirements to qualify as a Wildlife Service Agent unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee to maintain adequate service to the public in a geographic area:

- (1) one year's experience in operating the business for which the application is made or equivalent business experience;
- (2) a bank account for transferring net proceeds from Agent transactions to the Commission; and
- (3) no criminal convictions, for any offenses in Subchapter V of Chapter 14 of the North Carolina General Statutes, within the five years prior to application.

- (d) Upon approval of the application by the Commission, Wildlife Service Agents shall:
- (1) have a computer, printer, and internet access at their business location;
  - (2) provide a voided check or withdrawal slip for the bank account to be used to transfer funds to the Commission;
  - (3) complete online training provided by the Commission or a contracted third-party vendor; and
  - (4) sign and submit the Wildlife Service Agent Agreement.
- (e) Wildlife Service Agent Agreements and appointments are non-transferable and valid only for the owner and business named on the executed agreement.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;  
Eff. April 1, 1997;  
Amended Eff. September 1, 2011; May 1, 2007; July 1, 1998;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2026.

#### **15A NCAC 10G .0403 WILDLIFE SERVICE AGENT AGREEMENT**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;  
Eff. April 1, 1997;  
Amended Eff. September 1, 2011; June 1, 2007; July 1, 1998;  
Repealed Eff. February 1, 2026.

#### **15A NCAC 10G .0404 CUSTOMER SUPPORT SYSTEM REPEALED**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;  
Eff. April 1, 1997;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1999;  
Repealed Eff. May 1, 2007.

#### **15A NCAC 10G .0405 WILDLIFE SERVICE AGENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- (a) A Wildlife Service Agent shall comply with the following conditions:
- (1) serve individuals seeking assistance with matters related to the duties of a Wildlife Service Agent during regular business hours.
  - (2) transfer funds and records to the Commission as specified in the Wildlife Service Agent Agreement;
  - (3) notify the Commission of changes to the original application for appointment within five business days of the change.
  - (4) provide written notice of a change in business ownership, location, or management at least 10 business days prior to the change along with an application for a new Wildlife Service Agreement, if desired.
  - (5) maintain five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in Agent transaction sales at the business location annually.
- (b) A Wildlife Service Agent may cancel the Agreement by sending written notice to the Commission. Consigned equipment and supplies shall be returned to the Commission and the financial account shall be settled within 10 business days of the date of resignation letter receipt.
- (c) A Wildlife Service Agent shall not use or disclose customer identifying information specified in G.S. 143-254.5 without written authorization from the Commission.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;  
Eff. June 1, 2007;  
Amended Eff. September 1, 2011;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2026.

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

- (a) The Commission may audit Wildlife Service Agent transactions. Agents shall comply with Commission requests for records and information within 10 business days of the request.
- (b) The Commission may suspend or terminate a Wildlife Service Agent appointment for violation of G.S. 113-270.1, the rules of this Section, or the Wildlife Service Agent Agreement. The determination of whether to suspend or revoke appointment shall be based on the severity and frequency of the violation.

(c) Upon termination of appointment, a Wildlife Service Agent shall return consigned equipment and supplies to the Commission and settle the agent financial account within 10 business days of receipt of written termination notice from the Commission.

(d) Individuals denied appointment or whose appointment is terminated shall not reapply for appointment for two years from the date of receiving written notice from the Commission.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1;  
Eff. February 1, 2026.

## **SECTION .0500 - LICENSEE REQUIREMENTS**

### **15A NCAC 10G .0501 LICENSEE REQUIREMENTS**

An individual exercising the privilege of a license issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission shall carry on their person and show to a Wildlife Enforcement Officer, upon request, the following documents:

- (1) an electronic or physical license that entitles the individual to that privilege; and
- (2) a valid picture identification card that includes the license holder's correct name, address, and date of birth.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1; 113-275;  
Eff. April 1, 1997.  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2025

## **SECTION .0600 – LICENSE ELIGIBILITY**

### **15A NCAC 10G .0601 TOTALLY DISABLED LICENSE ELIGIBILITY**

(a) North Carolina residents that are totally and permanently disabled shall be eligible for the totally disabled lifetime licenses described in G.S. 113-270.1C, 113-270.1D, 113-271, and 113-351.

(b) Written certification of a resident's total and permanent disability as specified in Paragraphs (c) and (d) of this Rule shall be required and submitted to the Wildlife Resources Commission prior to the issuance of a totally disabled lifetime license.

(c) Written certification of a resident's total and permanent disability from the following institutions shall be accepted for the purposes of qualifying for the totally disabled lifetime licenses specified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule:

- (1) The Social Security Administration;
- (2) The Civil Service Retirement System;
- (3) The Railroad Retirement Board; and
- (4) The North Carolina State Retirement System.

(d) Residents not receiving or qualifying for benefits from the institutions specified in Paragraph (c) of this Rule may submit written certification from a licensed physician, licensed physician assistant, or certified nurse practitioner that the resident's impairment qualifies under the categories set forth by the Social Security Administration in 20 C.F.R. 416.934 for presumptive disability or presumptive blindness, excluding the impairment categories specifically applying to infants. 20 C.F.R. 416.934 is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This regulation may be accessed free of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1C; 113-270.1D; 113-271; 113-351;  
Eff. August 1, 2014;  
Amended Eff. October 1, 2020.

## **SUBCHAPTER 10H – REGULATED ACTIVITIES**

### **SECTION .0100 - CONTROLLED HUNTING PRESERVES FOR DOMESTICALLY RAISED WATERFOWL AND GAME BIRDS**

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0101 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

(a) It shall be unlawful to operate a controlled hunting preserve without first obtaining a controlled hunting operator's license from the Commission.

(b) A licensed controlled hunting preserve operator may purchase, possess, propagate, sell, transport, and release domestically raised waterfowl and game birds, as defined in G.S. 113-129(5b), and their eggs, subject to limitations in Section .0900 of this Subchapter.

(c) The following conditions shall apply to the take of domestically raised waterfowl and game birds on a controlled hunting preserve:

- (1) take shall be by shooting, which may include the use of dogs;
- (2) there shall be no bag limits or sex restrictions;
- (3) take shall be authorized from October 1 through March 31, except that no domestically raised mallard ducks shall be taken on Sundays; and
- (4) domestically raised mallard ducks shall be marked by one of the methods provided in 50 CFR 21.45.

(d) Application for a controlled hunting preserve operator license shall be made online at [www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com](http://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com) or at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576. The application shall include the following information:

- (1) the preserve name and address;
- (2) GPS coordinates of preserve entrance;
- (3) a property map;
- (4) the total preserve acres owned or leased;
- (5) The type of preserve;
- (6) The species of domestically raised waterfowl and game birds to be offered for hunting; and
- (7) proof of ownership or lease of the land for the license period.

(e) Representatives of the Commission shall be permitted to enter the premises upon request or during business hours for inspection, enforcement, or scientific purposes.

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

*Eff. February 1, 1976;*

*Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; May 1, 2008; July 1, 1994; November 1, 1990; July 1, 1988; July 1, 1987;*

*Readopted Eff. April 1, 2020;*

*Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; February 1, 2023.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0102 ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION**

(a) Controlled hunting preserves shall be at least 50 acres and shall be one contiguous block of land.

(b) The boundary of each controlled hunting preserve shall be posted with printed signs that face both outward and inward from the preserve boundary.

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

*Eff. February 1, 1976;*

*Amended Eff. June 1, 2009; January 1, 1992; November 1, 1990;*

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

*Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; April 1, 2020.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0103 LABELING OF HARVESTED BIRDS**

(a) It shall be unlawful to remove harvested birds from the hunting preserve or to possess harvested birds unless the birds are packaged and marked with a label provided by the preserve. The label shall contain the following information:

- (1) the name and address of the hunting preserve;
- (2) the name and address of the possessor of the harvested birds;
- (3) the number of harvested birds contained in the package;
- (4) a statement that the package may be opened for inspection by an enforcement officer; and
- (5) the signature of the licensed operator or his or her designee.

(b) The packaged and marked harvested birds shall be accompanied at all times by the hunter's receipt, which shall be completed and signed by the operator or his or her designee as described in Rule .0105 of this Section.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;

*Eff. February 1, 1976;*

*Amended Eff. November 1, 1990;*

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

*Amended Eff. April 1, 2020.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0104 QUALITY OF BIRDS RELEASED**

All birds purchased or raised for release on controlled hunting preserves shall be free from disease. Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission in G.S. 113-276.2, possession of diseased birds may be grounds for the suspension, revocation, or denial of a controlled hunting preserve license.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276.2;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; June 1, 2005; November 1, 1990;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2020.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0105 RECORDS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

(a) The controlled hunting preserve operator shall maintain a written record of each hunter using the controlled hunting preserve. This record shall contain the following information:

- (1) name, address, and license number of the preserve;
- (2) the name, address, and state hunting license number of each hunter using the preserve;
- (3) the date(s) of the hunt;
- (4) the number and species of each bird harvested by the hunter on the preserve; and
- (5) the signature of the operator.

This record shall be executed in duplicate. The original record shall be given to the hunter to serve as a receipt for birds harvested on the preserve as required in Rule .0103 of this Section. The duplicate record shall be retained by the operator for 12 months after the date(s) of the hunt. It shall be unlawful for a person to possess game birds harvested on controlled hunting preserves without a receipt as described in this Rule.

(b) The operator shall maintain a written record of each bird species released on the preserve. This record shall include the number and species of each bird released and the date of the release.

(c) The records required by this Rule shall be available for inspection at the request of the Commission.

(d) Licensed operators that release birds shall report the number released, the species of the birds released, and the county where the release occurred to renew their operator's license. This reporting requirement shall be limited to those birds released during the time period of the operator's current valid license or last valid license and shall be reported on the Controlled Hunting Preserve Game Birds Report Form found online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) or at the Commission headquarters.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 1990; April 15, 1979;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; April 1, 2020.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0106 HUNTING LICENSE REQUIRED**

A valid North Carolina hunting license or controlled hunting preserve hunting license shall be required of all persons hunting domestically raised birds on controlled hunting preserves.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.2; 113-273;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 1990;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2020.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0107 REVOCATION OF LICENSE TO OPERATE**

(a) As authorized in G.S. 113-276.2, the Executive Director of the Commission may revoke, suspend, or deny the renewal of the license of any controlled hunting preserve operator upon violation of the rules in this Section.

(b) The determination whether to revoke, suspend, or deny a controlled hunting preserve operator license shall be based upon the seriousness of the violation and any previous violations.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276.2;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 1990; January 1, 1981;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amendment Eff. April 1, 2020.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0108 FEEDING OF STOCKED BIRDS**

- (a) Types of Feeders. Bird feeders used on controlled hunting preserves shall meet the following conditions:
- (1) not disperse grain or other food on the ground around the feeders; and
  - (2) be sheltered to protect the grain or other food from dampness and precipitation.
- (b) Location of Feeders. No bird feeder shall be placed within 100 yards of any boundary of a controlled hunting preserve.
- (c) Supplemental feeding. Licensed operators shall be authorized to broadcast supplemental feed on the preserve. It shall be lawful for licensed hunters to take all birds authorized in 15A NCAC 10H .0101(b) in supplemented areas. Wild birds may not be taken with the use or aid of bait, including in supplemental feeding areas.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. September 30, 1979;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2009; November 1, 1990;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2020.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0109 QUAIL CALL-PEN TRAPS**

Licensed controlled hunting preserve operators that release pen-raised quail for hunting or dog training shall be authorized to use quail call-pen traps, between September 1 and April 30, to recover released domestically raised quail, subject to the following requirements:

- (1) traps shall have a weather-resistant permanent tag attached with the operator's name and address written legibly; and
- (2) traps shall not be located within 100 yards of any boundary of the hunting preserve.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-291.1;  
Eff. September 1, 1980;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2009; December 1, 1993; November 1, 1990; July 1, 1987;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; April 1, 2020.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0110 SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. May 1, 2007;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Repealed Eff. April 1, 2020.

### **SECTION .0200 - SALE OF QUAIL FOR FOOD PURPOSES**

- 15A NCAC 10H .0201 DEFINITIONS**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0202 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0203 DISPLAY OF PERMIT**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0204 TERM OF PERMIT: REVOCATION**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0205 PERMIT NOT TRANSFERABLE**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0206 ADVERTISING**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0207 POSSESSION: SALE AND PURCHASE**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0208 PROCESSING QUAIL FOR SALE**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0209 TRANSPORTATION**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0210 RECORDS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-105.2;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Repealed Eff. March 10, 1978.

## **SECTION .0300 - HOLDING WILDLIFE IN CAPTIVITY**

### **15A NCAC 10H .0301 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 106-549.97(b); 113-134; 113-272.5; 113-272.6; 113-274;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1991; September 1, 1990; June 1, 1990; July 1, 1988;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 8, 2002; May 17, 2002(this temporary rule replaced the permanent rule approved by RRC on June 21, 2001 to become effective in July 2002); July 1, 2001;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2010; May 1, 2008; December 1, 2005; August 1, 2004;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. December 2, 2014;  
Temporary Amendment Expired September 11, 2015;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;  
Temporary Amendment Expired December 11, 2015;  
Repealed Eff. January 1, 2020.

### **15A NCAC 10H .0302 MINIMUM STANDARDS**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 19A-11; 106-549.97(b); 113-134; 113-272.5, 113-272.6;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. December 1, 1990; June 1, 1990; July 1, 1988; November 9, 1980;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 8, 2002;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2010; December 1, 2005; August 1, 2004;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;  
Temporary Amendment Expired December 11, 2015;  
Repealed Eff. January 1, 2020.

### **15A NCAC 10H .0303 FORFEITURE**

*History Note:* G.S. 106-549.97(b); 113-131; 113-134; 113-272.5; 113-276.2; 113-292; 150B-3;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Amended Eff. February 7, 1979;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. October 8, 2002;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2004;  
Repealed Eff. January 1, 2020.

### **15A NCAC 10H .0304 CAPTIVE CERVID HERD CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 106-549.97(b); 113-134; 113-272.5; 113-272.6; 113-274; 113-292;  
Eff. May 1, 2010;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;  
Temporary Amendment Expired December 11, 2015;  
Repealed Eff. January 1, 2020.

## **SECTION .0400 - COMMERCIAL TROUT PONDS**

### **15A NCAC 10H .0401 LICENSE REQUIRED**

### **15A NCAC 10H .0402 APPLICATION FOR LICENSE: TERM**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. February 1, 1976;

*Amended Eff. January 1, 1981;*  
*Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

**15A NCAC 10H .0403 COMMERCIAL TROUT FISHING PONDS**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0404 SEASON AND CREEL LIMIT**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0405 QUALITY OF FISH RELEASED IN POND**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0406 RECORDS KEPT BY POND OWNER**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0407 COMMERCIAL TROUT HOLDING PONDS**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 1988; September 1, 1983; August 1, 1983; January 1, 1981;*  
*Repealed Eff. September 1, 1994.*

**15A NCAC 10H .0408 REVOCATION OF LICENSE**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276.2;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Amended Eff. January 1, 1981;*  
*Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

#### **SECTION .0500 - SALE OF GAME FISH OTHER THAN TROUT FROM PRIVATE PONDS**

**15A NCAC 10H .0501 LICENSE REQUIRED**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0502 APPLICATION FOR LICENSE**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0503 TERMS OF LICENSE**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0504 RESPONSIBILITIES OF LICENSEE**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0505 RESPONSIBILITIES OF PURCHASER**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
*Repealed Eff. January 1, 1981.*

#### **SECTION .0600 - PRIVATELY OWNED PUBLIC HUNTING GROUNDS**

**15A NCAC 10H .0601 RENEW**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0602 DEFINITIONS**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0603 PURPOSE**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0604 REQUIREMENTS**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0605 COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0606 POSTING**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0607 HUNTING PERMITS: FORMS**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0608 APPLICATION OF STATE LAW**  
**15A NCAC 10H .0609 RESPONSIBILITY OF HUNTERS**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-305; 113-306;*  
*Eff. September 25, 1976;*  
*Repealed Eff. February 1, 1987.*

#### **SECTION .0700 - FISH PROPAGATION**

**15A NCAC 10H .0701 LICENSE REQUIRED**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;*  
*Eff. January 1, 1979;*

*Amended Eff. August 1, 1988;*  
*Repealed Eff. January 1, 1996.*

**15A NCAC 10H .0702 APPLICATION FOR AND TERM OF LICENSE**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;*  
*Eff. January 1, 1979;*  
*Amended Eff. January 1, 1981;*  
*Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

- 15A NCAC 10H .0703 TYPE OF FACILITY**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0704 DISPLAY OF LICENSE**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0705 ACQUISITION OF FISH OR EGGS**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0706 INSPECTION OF FACILITIES**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0707 SALE OF FISH OR EGGS**
- 15A NCAC 10H .0708 RECORDS**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;*  
*Eff. January 1, 1979;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1988; August 1, 1983;*  
*Repealed Eff. January 1, 1996.*

**15A NCAC 10H .0709 REVOCATION AND NONRENEWAL OF LICENSE**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276.2;*  
*Eff. January 1, 1979;*  
*Amended Eff. January 1, 1981;*  
*Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.*

**SECTION .0800 - FALCONRY**

**15A NCAC 10H .0801 DEFINITIONS**

(a) In addition to the definitions contained in G.S. 113-130, as used in 15A NCAC 10B .0216 and in this Section, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Falconry permit" or "permit" means a falconry permit or license issued by another state, tribe, or territory that has been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as meeting the federal falconry standards in 50 CFR 21.82.
- (2) "Falconry license" means the annual special purpose falconry license required by G.S. 113-270.3(b)(4) and referenced in the rules of this Section.
- (3) "State" means the State of North Carolina, except when the context indicates reference to another state of the United States.
- (4) "Commission" means the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.
- (5) "Executive Director" means the Executive Director of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.
- (6) "Bred in captivity" or "captive-bred" means raptors hatched in captivity from parents that mated or otherwise transferred gametes in captivity.
- (7) "Raptor" means a live migratory bird of the Order Accipitriformes, Order Falconiformes, or the Order Strigiformes, other than a bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*).
- (8) "Wild-caught" and "wild" raptors means any free-ranging wild raptor held in captivity regardless of its length of captivity or ownership changes in accordance with 50 CFR 21.82(f)(1).

(b) For this Section, 50 CFR 21.82. is hereby incorporated by reference, including all subsequent amendments and editions. 50 CFR 21.82. may be found free of charge at: [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29;*  
*Eff. September 1, 1979;*  
*Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; May 1, 2007; May 1, 1995; August 1, 1988; February 1, 1985;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0802 PERMIT AND LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

(a) Non-residents of this State shall not take, possess, transport, or import a raptor for falconry purposes or practice falconry in this State without first obtaining the following:

- (1) a falconry license or permit from a state, tribe, or territory that has been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as meeting federal falconry standards; and
- (2) a North Carolina falconry license as required by G.S. 113-270.3(b)(4), unless traveling through North Carolina with no intention of practicing falconry while in North Carolina.

(b) Residents of this State shall not take, possess, transport, or import a raptor for falconry purposes or practice falconry in this State without having first obtained a North Carolina falconry license.

(c) A North Carolina resident who holds a falconry license issued by the Commission may transport his or her raptors into or through other states, tribal lands, and territories for use in falconry, and shall observe all laws and regulations of such states governing the possession and transportation of raptors and the practice of falconry.

(d) In addition to criminal penalties for violation provided by federal law and state statute, licenses shall be subject to suspension or revocation in accordance with applicable state and federal law.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29; 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. February 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0803 APPLICATION FOR LICENSE**

(a) Any individual who wishes to take raptors or to practice falconry in this State shall apply for a falconry license from the Commission, at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org), by providing the following information: applicant's name, residence address, date of birth, and facility address, if applicable. Applicants shall either have passed the examination as described in Rule .0804 of this Section, or provide proof of a valid falconry permit or license from another state, provided the state that issued the falconry permit or license has been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

(b) Individuals who have relocated to North Carolina have 60 days from the date of relocation to apply for a North Carolina falconry license. Until his or her license is issued by the Commission, the individual may keep any lawfully obtained raptors in facilities described in Rule .0808 of this Section, and may practice falconry provided he or she has a permit or license from a state, tribe, or territory that has been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

(c) Apprentice license applications shall include a letter from a sponsor as described in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(2)(i)(C).

(d) General license applications shall include a letter from a General or Master falconer as described in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(2)(ii)(C).

(e) Any application submitted by an individual less than 18 years of age shall be co-signed by that individual's parent or legal guardian. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for the underage falconer's activities.

(f) A falconer with an expired license may apply for a new license at his or her previous level, provided the license has not been expired for more than five years, and the falconer can show he or she has previously met the requirements for the level of license sought. A falconer whose license has been expired for more than five years may apply for a new license, but he or she shall pass the examination described in Rule .0804 of this Section and pass a facility inspection described in Rule .0808 of this Section, in order to be reinstated at his or her previous level. He or she shall provide records showing the requirements for the level of license sought have been previously met.

(g) Applications shall be accompanied by a fee in the amount of ten dollars (\$10.00).

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

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0804 EXAMINATION**

- (a) Prior to applying for a falconry license, an applicant shall successfully pass, with a score of at least 80 percent, a falconry examination administered by the Commission, as detailed in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(3).
- (b) The examination is not required of any applicant who holds a valid permit from another state, tribe, or territory that has been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- (c) The examination shall not be required for license renewal, provided the license has not been expired for more than five years.
- (d) The cost for taking the examination is ten dollars (\$10.00).

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

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0805 DURATION OF LICENSE**

A falconry license shall be valid upon issuance and expires on June 30 of each year.

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

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0806 ACQUISITION, SALE AND STATUS CHANGE**

- (a) A licensee may transfer a wild-caught raptor to another licensee if no money, goods, or services are exchanged. A licensee may purchase, sell, trade, or barter any lawfully possessed raptor that is bred in captivity under a federal raptor propagation permit and banded with a numbered seamless marker issued by the Commission, provided that the parties involved in the transaction are authorized to possess the raptor under this Section, 50 CFR 21, or the foreign country of his or her residence or domicile, in accordance with 50 CFR 21.82(f)(15).
- (b) A licensee may acquire a raptor from a permitted rehabilitator subject to the restrictions and conditions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(e)(7).
- (c) A licensee shall not take, possess, or transport a raptor in violation of the restrictions, conditions, and requirements of 50 CFR 21.82, G.S. 113-270.3, and this Section.
- (d) Upon the death of a licensee, any lawfully held raptors shall be transferred in accordance with 50 CFR 21.82(f)(21).
- (e) Any status change of a raptor, including death of the raptor or the licensee, loss due to theft, acquisition, sale, transfer, intentional release, and rebanding shall be reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(e)(6).
- (f) Dead birds shall be disposed of in a manner described in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(13).

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29;  
 Eff. September 1, 1979;  
 Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; February 1, 1994; April 1, 1991; February 1, 1985;  
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
 Amended Eff. June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0807 LEVELS OF LICENSES**

- (a) Falconry licenses shall be issued at three levels based upon the age and experience of the falconer.
- (b) Apprentice level falconry licenses shall be subject to the conditions, requirements, and limitations set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(2)(i). In addition to the requirements of 50 CFR 21.82(c)(2)(i), the following conditions apply:
  - (1) the apprentice's sponsor shall live within 200 miles of the apprentice;
  - (2) a sponsor shall not have more than three apprentices at any one time; and
  - (3) a sponsor shall provide written notification to the Commission when he or she decides to stop sponsoring an apprentice. The Commission shall notify the apprentice, who must obtain another sponsor and notify the Commission within 90 days.

- (A) If after the 90-day period, the apprentice fails to obtain another sponsor, the disposition of the raptor(s) shall be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Commission and may include release or transfer to another licensed falconer, and the apprentice's license shall be suspended.
  - (B) If after 180 days, the apprentice fails to obtain another sponsor, the Commission shall revoke his or her license and he or she shall be required to reapply for an apprentice license.
- (c) General level falconry licenses shall be subject to the conditions, requirements, and limitations set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(2)(ii).
- (d) Master level falconry licenses shall be subject to conditions, requirements, and limitations set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(2)(iii).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29; Eff. September 1, 1979; Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; May 1, 1995; May 1, 1991; February 1, 1985; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .0808 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT**

(a) Prior to initial issuance of a North Carolina falconry license to a resident of North Carolina, the applicant's raptor housing facilities and falconry equipment shall be inspected and approved by a representative of the Commission as meeting the standards set forth in this Rule. Applicants shall have indoor or outdoor holding facilities as described in Paragraph (b) of the Rule. Applicants may have both types of facilities.

(b) The applicant shall have holding facilities meeting the following standards, regardless of whether the facilities are located on property owned by the licensee or owned by another:

- (1) All facilities shall conform to the standards in 50 CFR 21.82(d)(1)(ii)(A).
- (2) Indoor facilities shall conform to the standards in 50 CFR 21.82(d)(1)(ii)(B). In addition to the incorporated CFR, the mew shall have a door that allows access for maintenance, that is securable inside and outside, and closes automatically. Mews shall be located away from disturbance and shade shall be provided. The floor of the mew shall allow for cleaning and drainage. The interior of the mew shall be free of obstructions that could be injurious to the raptor. Any lighting fixtures shall be shielded or otherwise protected.
- (3) Outdoor facilities shall conform to the standards in 50 CFR 21.82(d)(1)(ii)(D). In addition to the incorporated CFR, covers or roofs shall not be less than seven feet high. The enclosed area shall be large enough to ensure the raptor cannot strike the sides, cover, or roof of the enclosure when flying from the perch. The floor of the weathering area shall allow for drainage to prevent standing water. At least two perches shall be provided for the raptor.
- (4) Raptors may be brought inside a human dwelling as needed to address health, training, and safety issues. The residence shall conform to the standards in 50 CFR 21.82(d)(1)(ii)(C).

A licensee may have his or her raptors outside in the open under the conditions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(d)(1)(iii).

(c) Licensees shall possess the equipment listed in 50 CFR 21.82(d)(3).

(d) All facilities and equipment shall be maintained at or above the standards contained in Paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Rule at all times.

(e) A raptor may be transported or held in temporary facilities as described in 50 CFR 21.82(d)(4) and (5).

(f) A licensee may leave his or her raptors in the care of another person subject to the restrictions in 50 CFR 21.82(d)(6) and (7).

(g) A licensee shall inform the Commission within five business days if he or she moves his or her facilities.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29; Eff. September 1, 1979; Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; May 1, 1995; April 1, 1991; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .0809 BANDING AND MARKING**

- (a) All peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*), gyrfalcons (*Falco rusticolus*), Harris's hawks (*Parabuteo unicinctus*), and goshawks removed from the wild or acquired from a falconer or rehabilitator for falconry purposes shall be banded as set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(6)(i).
- (b) Raptors bred in captivity shall be banded as set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(6)(ii).
- (c) Loss or removal of any band shall be reported to the Commission within five days of the loss and shall be replaced as described in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(6)(iii).
- (d) No person shall counterfeit, alter, or deface any band required by this Rule, except that licensees may remove the rear tabs on bands and may smooth any surface imperfections, provided the integrity of the bands and numbering are not affected.
- (e) A raptor removed from the wild shall not be marked with a seamless numbered band.
- (f) A falconer may request and receive a band exemption from the Commission for a raptor with documented health problems or injuries caused by a band, but shall adhere to the restrictions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(6)(v).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29; Eff. September 1, 1979; Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; April 1, 1991; July 1, 1988; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.*

### **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, 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 from the wild except for those species specified in 50 CFR 21.82(c)(2)(i)(E).
- (d) Any 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 holding General or Master level falconry licenses may take nestlings. Nestlings may only be taken from May 1 through 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) 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) 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 except box-type traps shall be attended and visible to the trapper at all times when in use. Box-type traps must be checked every 24 hours. Traps must 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 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 CFR 21.82(e)(5).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(4); 50 C.F.R. 21.29; 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. June 1, 2022; February 1, 2018.*

**15A NCAC 10H .0811 OTHER RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS**

- (a) Every falconer shall carry his or her license on his or her person when conducting any falconry activities away from approved facilities as described in Rule .0808 of this Section.
- (b) Visitors to the United States may practice falconry under the conditions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(14).
- (c) A licensee may take his or her raptors to another country to practice falconry under the conditions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(15).
- (d) A licensee who practices falconry in the vicinity of a federally listed species shall avoid take of the listed species as described in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(17).
- (e) If a licensee's raptor unintentionally takes a species, the licensee may allow his or her bird to feed on the prey, but shall not take the species into his or her possession.
- (f) Feathers that are molted may be retained and exchanged by falconry licensees only for imping purposes or otherwise disposed of as set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(12).

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

**15A NCAC 10H .0812 INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION**

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

**15A NCAC 10H .0813 RAPTOR PROPAGATION PERMIT**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.3(b)(5); 50 C.F.R. 21.29;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1994;*  
*Amended Eff. July 1, 1994;*  
*Repealed Eff. January 1, 2012.*

**15A NCAC 10H .0814 RELEASE OF RAPTORS AND MOVING RAPTORS TO ANOTHER LICENSE OR PERMIT**

- (a) Non-native and hybrid raptors shall not be released into the wild. Native, captive-bred birds may only be released upon written request and approval from the Commission and under the conditions set forth in . 50 CFR 21.82(e)(9)(ii).
- (b) Native wild birds may be released into the wild under the conditions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(e)(9)(iii).
- (c) Wild-caught birds may be transferred to another type of license or permit under the conditions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(5).
- (d) Captive-bred birds may be transferred to another type of license or permit under the conditions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(6).
- (e) Hacking and other training and conditioning techniques are allowed under conditions set for in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(2) and (3).

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

### **15A NCAC 10H .0815 OTHER USES AND ALLOWED ACTIVITIES**

- (a) Raptors may be used in captive propagation as allowed under 50 CFR 21.82(f)(7).
- (b) General and Master falconers may use raptors in conservation education programs as set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(8). Other educational uses of raptors are restricted to those allowed in . 50 CFR 21.82(f)(9).
- (c) General and Master falconers may use raptors in abatement activities under the conditions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(11).
- (d) General and Master falconers may assist in raptor rehabilitation under the conditions set forth in 50 CFR 21.82(f)(10).
- (e) Licensees may take bird species for which there is a federal depredation order by means of falconry in accordance with 50 CFR 21.82(f)(20).

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

## **SECTION .0900 – GAME BIRD PROPAGATORS**

### **15A NCAC 10H .0901 GAME BIRD PROPAGATION LICENSE**

- (a) The game bird propagation license is required for the propagation and sale, of domestically raised waterfowl and game birds and their eggs, subject to the following limitations and conditions:
  - (1) the sale of dead pen-raised quail for food is governed by the regulations of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and
  - (2) the purchase, possession, sale, transportation, and transfer of migratory game birds and their eggs is subject to additional requirements in 50 CFR 21, which is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. 50 CFR 21 may be found free of charge at: [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).
- (b) Individuals may obtain a game bird propagation license at [www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com](http://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com) or at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576.
- (c) The game bird propagation license shall be posted and displayed at the propagation facility so that it is visible to visitors and patrons.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 106-549.94; 113-134; 113-273; 50 C.F.R., Part 21;  
Eff. January 1, 1981;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 1988; July 1, 1987;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2001;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2005; July 18, 2002;  
Readopted Eff. November 1 2019;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.

### **15A NCAC 10H .0902 APPLICATION FOR AND TERM OF LICENSE**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. January 1, 1981;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

### **15A NCAC 10H .0903 ACQUISITION OF GAME BIRDS OR GAME BIRD EGGS**

- (a) A game bird propagation license holder shall not take game birds or game bird eggs from the wild for the purpose of propagation or sale.
- (b) License holders may purchase or acquire live game birds or game bird eggs from other licensed game bird propagators.
- (c) The license holder shall obtain a receipt of the transaction showing the date, names, and license numbers of both parties, as well as the species and quantity of the game birds or game bird eggs acquired. This receipt shall be retained by the license holder as provided by Rule .0906 of this Section.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. January 1, 1981;  
Readopted Eff. November 1, 2019.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0904 DISPOSITION OF GAME BIRDS OR GAME BIRD EGGS**

(a) It shall be unlawful for a game bird propagation license holder to knowingly sell or transfer possession of a live game bird that shows evidence of a communicable disease, except for transfers to a veterinarian or pathologist for examination and diagnostic purposes. Disposition of any game bird with a communicable disease not likely to infect wild game bird populations shall be the responsibility of the license holder.

(b) Subject to the limitations set forth in Rule .0901 of this Section, game birds that are authorized to be propagated under this Section, or their eggs, may be sold or transferred alive by a licensed game bird propagator to another licensed game bird propagator or licensed controlled hunting preserve operator or to a person that holds a valid license or permit that authorizes possession.

(c) Upon sale or transfer, a written receipt of the transaction shall be prepared in duplicate showing the date, the names and license or permit numbers of both parties, and the species and quantity of the game birds or game bird eggs transferred. A copy of the receipt shall be retained by the parties as provided by Rule .0906 of this Section.

(d) Live migratory waterfowl sold or transferred to a person for use in training retrievers or conducting retriever trials shall be marked by one of the methods provided by 50 CFR 21.45, which is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document may be found free of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).

(e) Subject to Rule .0901 of this Section and to applicable laws and regulations relating to pure foods, public health, and advertising, domestically raised waterfowl and game birds produced by licensed game bird propagators shall not be killed by shooting during the closed season. Dead game birds, except for dead pen-raised quail, and game bird eggs may be sold for food purposes as follows:

- (1) Sale Direct to Consumer. Unprocessed dead domestically raised waterfowl and game birds may be sold directly to a consumer when accompanied by a receipt showing the name of the consumer, the name and license number of the propagator, and the quantity and species of the birds sold. A copy of the receipt shall be retained by the propagator for one year after the transaction. It shall be unlawful for the consumer to resell unprocessed dead domestically raised waterfowl and game birds.
- (2) Sale to or Through a Processor.
  - (A) Unprocessed dead domestically raised waterfowl and game birds may be sold to a commercial food processor that holds a permit to possess them or transferred to a commercial food processor for processing and packaging prior to sale. Sale or transfer shall be evidenced by written receipt retained by each party for a year after the sale or transfer, that includes the following information:
    - (i) the processor's name and permit number;
    - (ii) the propagator's name and license number; and
    - (iii) the number and species of birds sold or transferred.
  - (B) Domestically raised waterfowl and game bird carcasses processed by a commercial food processor for wholesale or retail sale shall be enclosed in a wrapper or container marked with the following:
    - (i) the number and species of birds contained;
    - (ii) the license number of the propagator; and
    - (iii) the words "domestically raised."
- (3) Domestically raised waterfowl and game bird eggs shall not be sold for food.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 50 CFR 21.45;  
Eff. January 1, 1981;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; May 1, 2008; June 1, 2005;  
Readopted Eff. November 1, 2019;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; February 1, 2023.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .0905 TRANSPORTATION**

(a) Live Domestically Raised Waterfowl and Game Birds or Eggs

- (1) Private Carriers. Live domestically raised waterfowl and game birds or eggs may be transported by private carrier when accompanied by a copy of the receipt specified in Rules .0903 or .0904 of this Section.
- (2) Common Carriers. When live domestically raised waterfowl and game birds or eggs are transported by common carrier, each separate container shall be tagged or labeled with the following information:
  - (A) the name, address, and license number of the shipping propagator;
  - (B) the name, address, and license or permit number of the consignee; and

- (C) the number and species of domestically raised waterfowl or game birds or eggs contained therein.
- (b) Dead Domestically Raised Waterfowl and Game Birds
- (1) Private Consumers. Unprocessed dead domestically raised waterfowl and game birds may be transported by consumers or hunters when accompanied by a receipt from a licensed game bird propagator required by Rule .0904(e)(1) of this Section or by a copy of the receipt from a controlled hunting preserve operator as required by 15A NCAC 10H .0105.
  - (2) Processed Domestically Raised Waterfowl and Game Birds. The carcasses of processed domestically raised game birds other than quail may be transported in any manner when packaged in a wrapper or container marked as required by Rule .0904(e)(2) of this Section.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. January 1, 1981;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; November 1, 2019.

### **15A NCAC 10H .0906 RECORDS**

- (a) Licensed game bird propagators that sell domestically raised waterfowl and game birds shall maintain a file of receipts by calendar year with the following information:
- (1) the dates and sources of acquisition of domestically raised waterfowl and game birds and eggs;
  - (2) the species and quantities of the domestically raised waterfowl and game birds and eggs, as required by Rule .0903 of this Section; and
  - (3) receipts showing transfers of domestically raised waterfowl and game birds, except dead quail sold for food purposes, and eggs as required by Rule .0904 of this Section.
- (b) Records shall be made available for inspection at the request of the Commission.
- (c) Records shall be retained for at least one year following the license year to which they pertain.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. January 1, 1981;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; November 1, 2019.

### **15A NCAC 10H .0907 QUAIL CALL-PEN TRAPS**

Licensed game bird propagators that raise and release pen-raised quail on his or her property for dog training shall be authorized to use quail call-pen traps to recover released quail, subject to the following requirements:

- (1) All traps shall be marked with an attached, weather-resistant permanent tag that includes the propagator's name and address written legibly on it;
- (2) No trap shall be located within 100 yards of any boundary of the property; and
- (3) No trapped, unbanded quail shall be retained.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-291.1;  
Eff. January 1, 1981;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2009; July 1, 1987;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 2019.

## **SECTION .1000 - TAXIDERMY**

### **15A NCAC 10H .1001 TAXIDERMY LICENSE**

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. March 1, 1981;  
Repealed Eff. July 1, 1988.

### **15A NCAC 10H .1002 DUTY OF A TAXIDERMIST**

(a) Prior to a taxidermist accepting delivery of wildlife that has been taken in North Carolina or in any other state, he or she shall make a reasonable effort to determine that the wildlife was lawfully taken. The taxidermist may rely upon the statement of the person delivering the wildlife or upon any applicable license or permit that provides verification of entitlement to take or possess the wildlife in question.

(b) A taxidermist may accept delivery of wildlife resources killed accidentally or found dead of natural causes as specified by 15A NCAC 10B .0127 for taxidermy purposes.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. March 1, 1981;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2018.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .1003 RECORDS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

(a) Licensed taxidermists shall keep records of each wildlife specimen delivered and contained within his or her place of business. Records shall include:

- (1) the species and sex of the specimen;
- (2) the date the specimen was delivered;
- (3) the name and address of the person delivering the specimen;
- (4) the name and address of the person responsible for take of the specimen, if different;
- (5) the date and location of the take;
- (6) the big game harvest authorization number, if applicable; and
- (7) the date and disposition of the mounted specimen.

Records shall be maintained chronologically by the date the specimen was delivered. Records shall be retained by the taxidermist for one year following expiration of the taxidermy license and shall be made available for inspection by any agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(b) The records required by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service under its taxidermy permit regulations for migratory game birds, as set forth in 50 CFR 21.63 which is incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document may be accessed at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov) at no cost.

(c) Licensed taxidermists required by G.S. 113-273(k) to obtain the taxidermy cervid certification shall report the following information of each wildlife specimen of the family Cervidae delivered and contained within his or her place of business to the Wildlife Resources Commission on a form available at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org):

- (1) the county or parish, state, Canadian province, or foreign country where the take occurred;
- (2) the big game harvest authorization number or equivalent out-of-state number; and
- (3) the species of each cervid.

(d) The information required to be reported in Paragraph (c) of this Rule shall be received by the Commission prior to the renewal of a taxidermy cervid certification.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. March 1, 1981;  
Amended Eff. September 1, 1989;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2023; January 1, 2023; November 1, 2020; February 1, 2018.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .1004 PURCHASE AND SALE OF WILDLIFE**

(a) Except as provided in this Rule, it shall be unlawful for any taxidermist to purchase or sell wildlife.

(b) Wildlife resources that have been lawfully killed and that may be lawfully bought, sold, and possessed may be purchased and sold by a taxidermist without any restriction other than the records required by Rule .1003 of this Section.

(c) Lawfully acquired specimens of fur-bearing animals, bobcats, opossum, and raccoon taken by hunting, may be purchased for taxidermy purposes and sold as mounted specimens. A Fur-Dealer License, as specified in G.S. 113-273, shall be required to purchase furs for resale.

(d) No game or game fish that has been mounted, other than bobcats, opossum, and raccoon taken by hunting, may be purchased or sold, except that a mounted specimen of game or game fish, for which a taxidermist has acquired a possessory lien by reason of labor or materials furnished in the mounting thereof, may be sold in satisfaction of the lien as provided by Article 1 of 44A of the General Statutes of North Carolina. Upon the sale of a mounted specimen authorized by this Paragraph, the taxidermist shall prepare a receipt showing the name and address of the purchaser. The receipt shall be

provided to the purchaser as evidence of the transaction and right to possess the specimen, and a copy shall be retained by the taxidermist for his or her records in accordance with Rule .1003 of this Section.

(e) Nothing in this Rule shall prevent a taxidermist from obtaining parts of lawfully acquired game by gift, trade, or purchase from any other taxidermist or person, provided that a record is maintained of all such exchanges that identifies the article and includes the name and address of the taxidermist or person from whom the article was obtained. No part of any black bear shall be bought or sold under this Paragraph. Parts of game acquired under this Paragraph shall be used only for taxidermy purposes and shall not be resold.

(f) The mounted specimens of commercially-raised game fish or pen-raised game birds may be sold under authority of the taxidermy license, provided that records are maintained by the taxidermist showing the source of all commercially-raised game fish or pen-raised game birds that are to be mounted, including the name, address, and propagation license number of the supplier. Upon sale of a mounted specimen of a commercially-raised game fish or pen-raised game bird, the taxidermist shall prepare a receipt for the purchaser's records, as evidence of the transaction and right to possess the specimen. A copy of the receipt shall be maintained as a part of the taxidermist's records.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-291.3(b); 113-292;  
Eff. March 1, 1981;  
Amended Eff. December 1, 1983;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2018.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1005 TAXIDERMY PRESERVATION FACILITY**

(a) A taxidermist may utilize an off-site preservation facility to provide storage for wildlife specimens accepted for taxidermy purposes.

(b) Individuals operating a preservation facility for a licensed taxidermist shall be listed on the taxidermist's annual license. The taxidermist shall provide the operator of each listed preservation facility with a copy of the annual taxidermy license to serve as a permit authorizing the facility to possess wildlife owned by another.

(c) Preservation facility operators shall not be authorized to process, skin, or conduct any taxidermy activities.

(d) Before a taxidermist delivers and stores wildlife in a preservation facility, he or she shall ascertain that the wildlife was lawfully taken in accordance with Rule .1002 of this Section and shall keep written records as specified in Rule .1003 of this Section.

(e) The preservation facility and its records shall be accessible for inspection by any agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(f) It shall be the responsibility of the taxidermist to ensure that each preservation facility listed on his or her license is operated in compliance with this Section.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. September 1, 1989;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2018.*

### **SECTION .1100 - FURBEARER PROPAGATION**

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1101 FURBEARER PROPAGATION LICENSE**

(a) The furbearer propagation license shall authorize the propagation of furbearing animals and red foxes, including all color phases, for use as fur.

(b) Furbearer propagation license holders may conduct the following activities with species designated on their license:

- (1) breed the species for the production of marketable fur;
- (2) raise live specimens for the production of marketable fur;
- (3) sell domestically produced fur to a licensed fur dealer; and
- (4) acquire, buy, and sell live specimens from or to another furbearer propagation license holder, a captivity license holder, or a licensed non-resident producer of ranch-raised breeding stock. Live specimens shall not be sourced from the wild.

(c) Application for a furbearer propagation license shall be made on a form available at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576. Information required from the applicant shall include:

- (1) name;
- (2) residence or mailing address;

- (3) physical address of the propagation facility;
  - (4) telephone number;
  - (5) date of birth;
  - (6) species of furbearing animal or fox to be propagated; and
  - (7) certification of up-to-date rabies pre-exposure prophylaxis, if applicable.
- (d) The furbearer propagation license shall be posted at the propagation facility and be provided, upon request, to a representative of the Commission.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. April 1, 1986;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2026; November 1, 2019.*

## **SECTION .1100 – FURBEARER PROPAGATION**

### **15A NCAC 10H .1102 LICENSE AUTHORIZATION** **15A NCAC 10H .1103 POSTING AND DISPLAY OF LICENSE**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. April 1, 1986;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Repealed Eff. November 1, 2019.*

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

- (a) General Cage Requirements.
- (1) Cages shall be constructed of non-toxic, corrosion-resistant materials sufficient to retain animals without tethers or chains;
  - (2) Cages shall contain a den area large enough for all the animals in that cage to turn around and lie down;
  - (3) Cages shall be housed in an area that provides protection from direct sunlight, precipitation, wind, and other weather conditions;
  - (4) Cages shall minimize heat build-up and provide sufficient light to maintain the animal's circadian rhythms;
  - (5) Cages shall be ventilated to sufficiently provide fresh air circulation;
  - (6) Cages shall be securely anchored and elevated two feet above ground or floor level to facilitate cleaning;
  - (7) Cages shall be arranged in rows to allow for visual and physical inspection and to allow space for cleaning; and
  - (8) Cages shall be surrounded by a four foot perimeter fence with a one foot below ground dig barrier designed to prevent ingress and egress by domestic and wild animals. The fence shall have a top electrified wire three feet above the ground and a bottom electrified wire one foot above the ground. The fence shall be free from structures or vegetation.
- (b) A pair of animals held for breeding or a female and her litter from the time the litter is born until weaning shall be held in a breeder cage.
- (c) A single animal or two mink may be held in a pelter cage.
- (d) Mink.
- (1) cages shall have a height of 12 inches.
  - (2) breeder cages shall be 4,300 cubic inches.
  - (3) pelter cages shall be 2,500 cubic inches for one mink, and 3,800 cubic inches for two mink.
  - (4) shall be acquired from a furbearer propagation license holder, a captivity license holder, or a licensed non-resident producer of ranch-raised breeding stock that is free from Aleutian Disease, and shall be tested and vaccinated for Aleutian Disease.
- (e) Fox.
- (1) cages shall have a height of 24 inches.
  - (2) breeder cages shall be 13 cubic feet.
  - (3) pelter cages shall be 16 cubic feet.
- (f) The following cage dimension requirements in depth (d), width (w), and height (h), measured in feet, shall apply:

SPECIES	BREEDER CAGE (d x w x h)	PELTER CAGE (d x w x h)
Beaver	3 x 6 x 2.5	3 x 4 x 2.5
Bobcat	3 x 6 x 2.5	3 x 4 x 2.5
Nutria	3 x 3 x 2.0	3 x 2 x 2.0
Opossum	3 x 3 x 2.0	3 x 2 x 2.0
Otter	3 x 5 x 1.5	3 x 3 x 1.5
Raccoon	3 x 4 x 2.0	3 x 2 x 2.0
Skunk	3 x 3 x 1.5	3 x 2 x 1.5
Weasel	2 x 2 x 1.5	1 x 2 x 1.5

(g) General Sanitation and Food Requirements.

- (1) Clean drinking water shall be provided daily. All pools, tanks, water areas, and water containers provided for swimming, wading, or drinking shall be clean. Enclosures shall provide drainage for surface water and runoff;
- (2) Water and waste shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable local, State, and federal laws;
- (3) Food shall be of a type and quantity that is appropriate for the particular species and in an unspoiled and uncontaminated condition. Food shall be stored to prevent vermin infestation and spoilage;
- (4) Fecal and food waste shall be removed daily from inside, under, and around enclosures and disposed of in a manner that prevents seepage into groundwater, noxious odors, or pests;
- (5) Effective measures shall be implemented to control ectoparasites, insects, and vermin. These measures shall be documented and provided, upon request, by a representative of the Commission. EPA-approved insecticides may be used. Biological pest control methods may be used;
- (6) Acquired or purchased animals shall be quarantined for 30 days. The quarantine area shall have dedicated coveralls, boots, gloves, and footbath; and
- (7) Carcasses shall be disposed of in an incinerator, landfill, or buried 3 feet below ground and 300 feet from a waterbody. Carcasses shall be temporarily stored in a sealed container prior to final disposal.

(h) License holders who are authorized to propagate furbearing animals that are rabies species, as defined in Rule .1401(d)(19) of this Subchapter and red foxes, shall:

- (1) certify 12 hours of rabies or rabies species-specific training, or a combination thereof, for their initial application;
- (2) certify up-to-date rabies pre-exposure prophylaxis in accordance with current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.CDC.gov](http://www.CDC.gov) for themselves and staff members who may contact rabies species;
- (3) provide the name and contact information of a North Carolina licensed veterinarian with whom the licensee has consulted and who agrees to provide necessary medical treatment to the rabies species;
- (4) certify notification to the appropriate animal control authority and local health department prior to making application to the Commission, to inform them of their anticipated activities and location, and to coordinate future rabies testing activities;
- (5) post the following information at the license holder's facility and be provided, upon request, by an authorized representative of the Commission:
  - (A) proof of immunization or titer checks for individuals who have contact with rabies species;
  - (B) contact information for the veterinarian who agrees to provide medical treatment to the rabies species;
  - (C) contact information for the local animal control authority and local health department; and
  - (D) a written protocol for euthanasia and rabies testing.
- (6) consider rabies species to be potentially infected with the rabies virus. If a human or domestic animal has been scratched, bitten, or exposed to saliva, the fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord, or brain or spinal cord material from a rabies species, the license holder shall contact the local health department immediately to report the incident. License holders shall abide by requests from public health department personnel, animal control, and Commission personnel regarding disposition of the animal. Rabies species that have scratched or bitten a human or domestic animal or die in captivity shall not be released or disposed of until the local health department investigates the situation to determine if testing is necessary.

Positive rabies test results shall be reported to the Commission within five business days of receipt from the health department.

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

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

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

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. April 1, 1986;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2026; November 1, 2019.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .1105 SANITATION AND CARE**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. April 1, 1986;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Repealed Eff. November 1, 2019.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .1106 HUMANE TREATMENT**

Animals shall be observed daily for signs of poor health or injury. Animals that are visibly sick, injured, in pain, or suffering shall be provided medical care or euthanized as soon as possible. The euthanization of the animal shall be by a method designed to cause minimal distress and pain as well as rapid, irreversible loss of consciousness and cardiac arrest. The license holder shall confirm death by ensuring respiration has ceased.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. April 1, 1986;  
Readopted Eff. November 1, 2019.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .1107 RECORDS AND INSPECTIONS**

(a) Furbearer propagation license holders shall record the following information:

- (1) the numbers and species of furbearing animals or foxes acquired;
- (2) the dates and sources of acquisition;
- (3) the numbers of animals produced by breeding
- (4) the numbers of animals raised for market; and
- (5) the numbers of animals sold, transferred, died, or euthanized, the dates of disposition, and the license numbers of the recipients, if applicable.

(b) The records required by this Rule shall be submitted to the Commission within 15 days of license expiration and shall be retained for 12 months following license expiration. Records shall be available for inspection upon request by a representative of the Commission.

(c) Representatives of the Commission shall be permitted to enter the premises of a license holder's facility upon request or during the facility's business hours for inspection, enforcement, or scientific purposes.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. April 1, 1986;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2026; November 1, 2019.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .1108 INSPECTIONS**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. April 1, 1986;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Repealed Eff. November 1, 2019.*

## **SECTION .1200 - CONTROLLED FOX HUNTING PRESERVES**

### **15A NCAC 10H .1201 DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- (a) The rules in this Section apply to all controlled hunting preserve operator licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission (Commission) in accordance with G.S. 113-273(g) for controlled fox hunting preserves.
- (b) The following definitions shall apply to all rules in this Section:
- (1) "Acclimation" means an adjustment period to allow foxes and coyotes to become accustomed to the controlled fox hunting preserve.
  - (2) "Controlled fox hunting preserve" means an enclosed area where foxes and coyotes are pursued with dogs.
  - (3) "Escape den" means a stationary manmade structure that provides refuge for foxes and coyotes from dogs.
  - (4) "Dog proof fence" means a perimeter fence designed to prevent the ingress or egress of dogs, foxes, or coyotes over, under, or through the fence.
  - (5) "Fox" means red fox and gray fox, including their color morphs.
- (c) Any individual wanting to operate a controlled fox hunting preserve shall first obtain a controlled hunting preserve operator license from the Commission.
- (d) Applicants for a controlled hunting preserve operator license shall show proof of ownership or lease of the land contained in the proposed controlled fox hunting preserve.
- (e) Application for a controlled hunting preserve operator license shall be made online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) or at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606. Information required from the applicant shall include:
- (1) the applicant's name, address, telephone number, date of birth;
  - (2) the preserve name, address, county, acreage, and GPS coordinates of preserve entrance; and
  - (3) species within the preserve.
- (f) Controlled hunting preserve operator licenses shall not be transferable, either by transferring the license to another operator or by relocating the site of the preserve.
- (g) Upon receipt of an application accompanied by the license fee, the Commission shall issue a controlled fox hunting preserve operator license, provided the rules in this Section regarding establishment of such areas have been complied with.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);  
Eff. August 1, 1990;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .1202 ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION**

- (a) Boundary of Preserve. Unless otherwise approved by the Commission based upon the topography and hydrology of the preserve, a controlled fox hunting preserve shall be enclosed with a dog-proof fence that meets the following requirements:
- (1) is at least four feet high;
  - (2) has a top electrified wire at least three feet above the ground surface;
  - (3) has a bottom electrified wire no more than one foot above the ground surface; and
  - (4) is free from structures or vegetation purposely placed or allowed to exist that enables wild animals to enter or exit the preserve.
- (b) Escape Dens. Controlled fox hunting preserves less than 106 acres shall have a minimum of three escape dens. Those preserves equal to or greater than 106 acres shall have one additional escape den per 1-35 acre interval thereafter.
- (c) Stocking Preserve with Game. The following shall apply to foxes and coyotes released into a preserve:
- (1) only foxes and coyotes may be released onto controlled fox hunting preserves;
  - (2) operators may purchase live foxes and coyotes from:
    - (A) licensed trappers in accordance with G.S. 113-273(g);
    - (B) other licensed controlled fox hunting preserves;
    - (C) licensed fur propagators; or
    - (D) persons holding foxes or coyotes legally under a captivity license;
  - (3) licensed controlled fox hunting preserve operators may hold legally obtained foxes and coyotes in accordance with food, sanitation, and enclosure requirements in 15A NCAC 10H .1404;

- (4) licensed controlled fox hunting preserve operators may transport legally acquired foxes and coyotes from the place of purchase to the controlled fox hunting preserve;
  - (5) foxes and coyotes shall not be imported into North Carolina for release into controlled fox hunting preserves;
  - (6) individuals transporting live foxes and coyotes to or from a licensed operator shall have a current and valid transportation permit; and
  - (7) individuals transporting live foxes and coyotes on behalf of a licensed operator shall have a current and valid transportation permit or a copy of the operator's current controlled fox hunting preserve operator's license.
- (d) Dog Density. Each controlled fox hunting preserve shall have an upper limit for dog density rounded to the nearest dog as follows:
- (1) fox only preserve: .5 dog per 1 acre;
  - (2) fox and coyote preserve: .75 dog per 1 acre; and
  - (3) coyote only preserve: 1 dog per 1 acre.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);  
Eff. August 1, 1990;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1203 QUALITY OF FOXES AND COYOTES RELEASED**

- (a) All foxes and coyotes purchased, acquired, transferred, released, sold, or raised for release on controlled fox hunting preserves shall appear visibly healthy and free from disease.
- (b) All dead foxes and coyotes, except those taken by lawful method(s) shall be reported to the Commission within 48 hours of discovery.
- (c) The Commission may quarantine any controlled fox hunting preserve where contagious diseases are identified, depending on the type and severity of the disease and the risk to other wildlife or humans. Quarantine may include:
  - (1) temporarily prohibiting removal or introduction of foxes and coyotes except as provided by written permit issued by the Commission.
  - (2) notification to the county health department;
  - (3) cleaning or disinfection of the facility; or
  - (4) temporary license suspension.
- (d) A quarantine shall not be lifted or cancelled until the Commission determines that there is no longer a threat of disease exposure to humans, foxes, coyotes, domestic dogs, or other animals.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);  
Eff. August 1, 1990;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1204 RECORDS REQUIRED**

- (a) License holders shall keep an accurate record, on a form provided by the Commission, for all foxes and coyotes released into or removed from the preserve from licensed trappers, other licensed controlled fox hunting preserves, licensed fur propagators, or persons holding foxes or coyotes legally under a captivity license. Records shall contain the following information:
  - (1) preserve operator license, propagator license, or captivity license number, if applicable;
  - (2) trapper identification number or name and address, if applicable;
  - (3) transportation permit number, if applicable;
  - (4) species and quantity of each;
  - (5) date of purchase or transfer; and
  - (6) county of origin.
- (b) Records shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request and during normal operating hours.
- (c) Records shall be submitted to the Commission prior to the reissuance of the license.
- (d) Records shall be retained by the license holder for 12 months following expiration of the license.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. August 1, 1990;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2004;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1205 HUNTING LICENSE REQUIRED**

(a) Every person participating in the pursuit of wildlife on a controlled fox hunting preserve shall have a valid resident or nonresident hunting license or controlled hunting preserve hunting license in his or her possession, in accordance with 15A NCAC 10H .1701.

(b) Nonresidents participating in a Commission-sanctioned field trial, as defined in 15A NCAC 10H .1701, are exempt from licensing requirements in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, provided they have a valid hunting license from their state of residence in their possession.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);  
Eff. August 1, 1990;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021;  
Amended April 1, 2026.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1206 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CARE OF FOXES AND COYOTES**

(a) Food and water shall be provided to foxes and coyotes as follows:

- (1) food shall be of a type and quantity that is appropriate for the species; and
- (2) a constant supply of drinking water shall be available.

(b) The following conditions shall apply to the acclimation of newly introduced foxes and coyotes:

- (1) the acclimation period shall be at least seven days;
- (2) food and water meeting the requirements in Paragraph (a) of this Rule shall be provided in the area used for acclimation; and
- (3) chase by dogs during the acclimation period shall be prohibited.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g);  
Eff. August 1, 1990;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1207 LICENSE REVOCATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

(a) Representatives of the Commission shall be permitted to enter the premises of any licensed controlled fox hunting preserve upon request to the license holder or during the preserve's operating hours for inspection, enforcement, or scientific purposes.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission or his or her designee may warn, cite, suspend, or revoke a license holder's controlled hunting preserve operator license if the license holder violates applicable provisions of Subchapter IV of Chapter 113 of the North Carolina General Statutes, applicable provisions of G.S. 14-360, the rules of this Section, or any condition of the license. The determination whether to warn, cite, suspend, or revoke a license shall be based upon the seriousness of the violation, which may include:

- (1) felony animal abuse as specified in G.S. 14-360(a1) and (b);
- (2) purposefully releasing foxes and coyotes into the wild;
- (3) falsifying records; or
- (4) failing to notify the appropriate agencies after a potential disease exposure or outbreak.

(c) The Commission shall give the license holder written notice in accordance with G.S. 113-276.2(e) before revoking a license.

(d) If a fox or coyote is unlawfully possessed, the Commission may determine disposition of the unlawfully possessed animal(s), through seizure, release, relocation, or euthanasia.

(e) If the Commission revokes a controlled hunting preserve operator license, the Commission may determine disposition of the animals, through seizure, release, relocation, or euthanasia.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273;  
Eff. August 1, 1990;

*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2021.*

## **SECTION .1300 – REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**

### **15A NCAC 10H .1301 SALE OF NATIVE TURTLES**

- (a) Buying or selling any native turtle species is prohibited except for snapping turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*) with a curved carapace length of 13 inches or greater as authorized by 15A NCAC 10B .0119.
- (b) Violators shall be subject to a replacement cost per individual turtle that shall equal the replacement cost for "species with no open season" as set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0117(c).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-333(a)(6);  
Eff. May 1, 2007;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2022; November 1, 2019.*

### **15A NCAC 10H .1302 POSSESSION OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**

- (a) Possession permits are required for the possession, importation, transportation, purchase, and sale of:
  - (1) 25 or more individuals of any combination of native amphibian species; or
  - (2) five or more individuals of native reptile species.
- (b) Possession permits are required for the rehabilitation of native reptiles and amphibians.
- (c) Nothing in this Rule shall be construed to authorize the collection of any wildlife resources from the wild or the taking, possession, transportation, sale, purchase, or release to the wild of any wildlife resources or their parts in violation of State or federal laws or regulations.
- (d) At no time shall permitted animals be released to the wild, except under situations of research or rehabilitation with written permission from the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- (e) A possession permit shall not be issued for:
  - (1) holding reptiles and amphibians that were acquired unlawfully;
  - (2) holding reptiles and amphibians for unlawful sale or trade;
  - (3) individuals collecting snapping turtles under the collection license set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0119;
  - (4) collection of native reptiles and amphibians from the wild;
  - (5) individuals in violation of the requirements of a collection license, as set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0119, an endangered species permit, as set forth in 15A NCAC 10I .0100, or a possession permit as set forth in this Section; or
  - (6) individuals who do not first obtain possession permits prior to acquiring the following wildlife resources in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (f) Unless a more limited duration is designated on the permit, possession permits shall be valid from January 1 through December 31 of the applicable year.
- (g) Individuals permitted under this Rule shall submit a report to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 15 days following the date of permit expiration. The report shall contain the numbers of each species held under the permit and the use or disposition thereof.
- (h) Any individual engaged in the purchased transportation and sale of more than 100 snapping turtles is required to have a possession permit. Permitted individuals shall submit the numbers of snapping turtles taken under the permit and the use or disposition thereof to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 15 days of permit expiration.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-274(c)(1c);  
Eff. May 1, 2007;  
Amended Eff. May 1, 2009;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2022; November 1, 2019; August 1, 2017.*

## **SECTION .1400 – WILDLIFE CAPTIVITY AND REHABILITATION**

### **15A NCAC 10H .1401 DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CAPTIVITY LICENSES**

- (a) The rules in this Section apply to all captivity licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(b) The possession of native wild animals or wild birds is unlawful, unless the individual obtains a captivity license from the Commission as provided by this Rule. This Rule shall not apply to farmed cervids as defined by G.S. 106-549.97.

(c) Captivity licenses may be issued by the Commission to individuals meeting the requirements detailed in this Section for holding wild animals or wild birds alive in captivity for purposes specified in G.S. 113-272.5.

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

- (1) "Apprentice" means an individual applying for a captivity license for rehabilitation that has not held this license in North Carolina or a similar license in another state.
- (2) "Animal" means a wild animal and wild bird, as defined in this Rule.
- (3) "Category" means a designation on a captivity license for rehabilitation that defines a species or subset of species.
- (4) "Educational institution" or "scientific research institution" means any public or private school, facility, organization, or institution of vocational, professional, or higher education that uses live animals as part of a course of training, or for research, or other experiments, and is at least 50 percent funded by grants, awards, loans, or contracts from a department, agency, or instrumentality of federal, State, or local government. These terms do not include elementary or secondary schools.
- (5) "Education" or "educational purposes" means providing instruction or information to the public about wild animals or wild birds.
- (6) "Enclosure" means a structure housing captive wild animals or wild birds that prevents escape, protects the animal from injury, and is equipped with structural barriers to prevent any physical contact between the animal and the public.
- (7) "Exhibition" means any display of wild animals or wild birds for the public, whether for-profit or not-for-profit.
- (8) "Facility" means a designated location in North Carolina where wild animals or wild birds are held for rehabilitation or holding purposes. This includes enclosures, rooms, and buildings.
- (9) "Farmed cervid" means the term as defined in G.S. 106-549.97.
- (10) "Foster" or "surrogate" means a wild animal, or a wild bird held under a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service federal migratory bird rehabilitation permit, used to rear wild animals or wild birds being held under a captivity license for rehabilitation.
- (11) "Habituation" means causing a wild animal or wild bird to temporarily lose fear of humans, pets, or objects that impacts its ability to survive in the wild unassisted.
- (12) "Imprinting" means causing a wild animal or wild bird to permanently lose fear of humans, pets, or objects that impacts its ability to survive in the wild unassisted, and is a non-reversible condition.
- (13) "Migratory birds" means the term as defined in G.S. 113-129.
- (14) "Native" means a wild animal or wild bird that currently maintains, or historically maintained, populations naturally in North Carolina and whose range expansion was not solely dependent on human introduction.
- (15) "Nest box" or "den" means a structure that provides a retreat area that is within, attached to, or adjacent to an enclosure.
- (16) "Non-farmed cervid" means the term as defined in G.S. 106-549.97.
- (17) "Pet" means an animal kept or used for amusement or companionship.
- (18) "Publicly operated zoo" means a park or facility where living animals are kept and exhibited to the public, and that is operated by a federal, State, or local government agency.
- (19) "Rabies species" are raccoon, skunk, fox, bat, bobcat, and coyote.
- (20) "Residence" means a private home, dwelling unit in a multiple family structure, hotel, motel, camp, manufactured home, or any other place where people reside.
- (21) "Shelter" means a structure or feature that protects captive wild animals or wild birds from direct sunlight and precipitation.
- (22) "Scientific use" and "scientific purpose" means the use of wild animals or wild birds for application of the scientific method to investigate any relationships amongst natural phenomena or to solve a biological or medical problem. This definition applies only to educational or scientific research institutions unless otherwise approved by the Commission.
- (23) "Unfit" means wild animals or wild birds that are:
  - (A) incapacitated by injury or other means to the extent that they cannot feed or care for themselves without human assistance;
  - (B) rendered imprinted by proximity to humans, pets, or objects; or
  - (C) a non-native species.

- (24) "Wild animal" means game animals, fur-bearing animals, and all other wild mammals except feral swine or marine mammals found in coastal fishing waters.
  - (25) "Wild bird" means the term as defined in G.S. 113-129.(15a), excluding the species listed in 15A NCAC 10B .0121.
- (e) Individuals interested in obtaining a captivity license for rehabilitation or a captivity license for holding shall apply for the license by completing and submitting the appropriate forms set forth in Rule .1406 of this Section.
- (f) Applicants for either license shall meet the following requirements:
- (1) be 18 years of age at the time of application;
  - (2) have no convictions for violations of the Rules of this Section in the previous three years;
  - (3) have no criminal convictions under G.S. 113-294 or G.S. 14, Article 47 within 10 years of the date of application; and
  - (4) have no criminal convictions under the federal Animal Welfare Act within 10 years of the date of application.
- (g) A captivity license shall not be transferable either by license holder or by site of holding facility.
- (h) Captivity licenses are annual licenses and shall terminate no later than December 31 of the year the license is issued.
- (i) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, a transportation permit is not required to move wild animals or wild birds held under a captivity license within the State. A person transporting an animal held under a captivity license shall have the captivity license or a copy of the license in their possession.
- (j) An exportation or importation permit as defined in G.S. 113-274(c)(3) is required to transport wild animals or wild birds into or out of the State.
- (k) Individuals holding a captivity license shall comply with North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services requirements for disclosing reportable diseases. A list of current reportable diseases as determined by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is available at no cost at [www.ncagr.gov](http://www.ncagr.gov), and is incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 106-549.97(b); 113-134; 113-272.5; 113-274;  
Eff. January 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2026.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1402 CAPTIVITY LICENSE FOR REHABILITATION**

- (a) A captivity license for rehabilitation authorizes the lawful possession of injured, crippled, or orphaned native wild animals or wild birds for the purpose of providing short term care and eventual release into the animal's natural habitat. Possession of endangered, threatened, or special concern species specified in Rules 10I .0103 through .0105 of this Chapter also requires an endangered species permit from the Commission.
- (b) A captivity license for rehabilitation shall not be issued for:
- (1) domestic animals;
  - (2) feral swine;
  - (3) nutria;
  - (4) coyote;
  - (5) adult black bear;
  - (6) adult white-tailed deer;
  - (7) elk; or
  - (8) eggs of upland game birds.
- (c) A captivity license for rehabilitation shall not be issued for the purpose of holding wild animals or wild birds:
- (1) as pets;
  - (2) for education, exhibition, or scientific purposes;
  - (3) for dog training;
  - (4) for hunting; or
  - (5) acquired unlawfully.
- (d) Individuals who do not possess a captivity license for rehabilitation may take temporary possession of injured, crippled, or orphaned wild animals or wild birds, except rabies species and black bear cubs, provided they are surrendered to a North Carolina licensed veterinarian or an individual licensed under this Rule within 24 hours of taking possession of such animals.
- (e) North Carolina licensed veterinarians providing medical care to sick, injured, or crippled wild animals or wild birds are not required to have a license for rehabilitation from the Commission. North Carolina licensed veterinarians without a captivity license for rehabilitation may treat wild animals or wild birds until the animal is medically stable. Once medically

stable, the wild animal or wild bird shall be transferred to an individual with a valid captivity license for rehabilitation with the appropriate category for the given species.

(f) **Apprenticeship.** Individuals shall designate a rehabilitation mentor with a valid captivity license for rehabilitation in North Carolina on their application for a captivity license for rehabilitation and submit the Wildlife Rehabilitation Mentor Apprenticeship Agreement Form described in Rule .1406 of this Section. The following conditions apply to apprentices:

- (1) An apprentice may possess at their own facility squirrels, rabbits, opossums, and chipmunks approved by their mentor if the mentor is authorized to rehabilitate small mammals.
- (2) An apprentice shall keep records of small mammals at their facility. Records shall contain the following information:
  - (A) species;
  - (B) quantity;
  - (C) date acquired; and
  - (D) final disposition and date.

To remove the apprentice conditions from a captivity license for rehabilitation, an apprentice shall complete 12 months of supervised rehabilitation activities under a licensed rehabilitator and submit a completed Wildlife Rehabilitation Apprenticeship Upgrade Form described in Rule .1406 of this Section.

(g) **Mentorship.** Individuals who have held a valid captivity license for rehabilitation in North Carolina for two years may serve as a rehabilitation mentor to apprentices. Mentors shall:

- (1) have no convictions for violations of the Rules of this Section in the previous three years; and
- (2) keep records of the small mammals assigned to their apprentices for rehabilitation, if applicable. Records shall contain the following information:
  - (A) species;
  - (B) quantity;
  - (D) date acquired; and
  - (C) final disposition and date.

(h) Individuals seeking to rehabilitate migratory birds shall provide proof of a valid and concurrent U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Migratory Bird Rehabilitation permit for each category of migratory birds to be rehabilitated.

(i) **Required facilities.**

- (1) Individuals with a captivity license for rehabilitation shall conduct their rehabilitation activities at the facility designated on their license that meets the minimum standards set forth in the "Miller, E.A. 2000. Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation, 3rd edition. National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, St. Cloud, MN. 116 pages. ISBN 1-931439-00-1." This publication is hereby incorporated by reference, excluding subsequent amendments and editions, and is available free of charge at [www.ncwildlife.gov](http://www.ncwildlife.gov).
- (2) Wild animals and wild birds undergoing rehabilitation shall be separated from pets, domestic animals, livestock, and non-native animals.
- (3) Wild animals shall be kept in separate enclosures by species.
- (4) Rehabilitation in a residence shall have designated, separate rooms used only for housing, treatment, and rehabilitation.
- (5) Handling of wild animals and wild birds shall be for treatment only.

(j) **Release of rehabilitated wild animals and wild birds.**

- (1) Wild animals and wild birds showing symptoms of or believed to be infected with a zoonotic disease shall be euthanized or treated prior to release.
- (2) Rehabilitated wild animals and wild birds shall be released when the animal can be expected to survive in the wild or has attained full recovery from illness or injury.
- (3) Wild animals and wild birds may remain in a rehabilitation facility for 180 days. If a longer rehabilitation period is needed, the license holder shall notify the Commission in writing. The Commission shall consider extended rehabilitation on a case-by-case basis by evaluation, which may include the nature of the animal's condition and recommended treatment plan.
- (4) Wild animals and wild birds shall not be released on the property of another unless the rehabilitator has written permission dated within the last 12 months from the landowner.

(k) **Transfer of Animals.**

- (1) Wild animals originating outside the State shall not be accepted for the purpose of rehabilitation unless written authorization is obtained from the Commission.

- (2) Wild animals received for rehabilitation shall not be exported outside the State for the purpose of rehabilitation or release unless written authorization is obtained from both the Commission and the state where the wild animal will be exported to or released from.
  - (3) Wild animals and wild birds being held under a captivity license for rehabilitation shall not be sold.
  - (4) Wild animals and wild birds may be transferred to another individual who possesses a valid captivity license for rehabilitation with the appropriate category for the given species.
  - (5) Wild animals and wild birds that are unfit for release shall be humanely euthanized, except that the Commission may consider transfer of wild animals and wild birds upon written request from the rehabilitator. The wild animal or wild bird unfit for release may be transferred to an individual or facility with a valid captivity license for holding as set forth in Rule .1403 of this Section after written authorization is obtained from the Commission.
- (l) White-tailed Deer Fawns.
- (1) Only individuals holding a captivity license for rehabilitation with the white-tailed deer fawn category may possess and rehabilitate white-tailed deer fawns.
  - (2) White-tailed deer fawns shall not be possessed until the applicant has constructed or acquired an enclosure for keeping fawns that complies with the standards set forth in Paragraph (i) of this Rule, and the facility has been verified by a representative of the Commission.
  - (3) White-tailed deer fawns held for more than 48 hours shall be permanently tagged using Commission-provided tags.
  - (4) Orphaned white-tailed deer fawns shall be held no longer than 90 days. Injured white-tailed deer fawns shall be held no longer than 180 days. No white-tailed deer fawns shall be possessed after December 31. Upon written request from the rehabilitator, the Commission may consider extended rehabilitation depending on the likelihood of rehabilitation success as determined by the Commission.
  - (5) Records of white-tailed deer fawn rehabilitation shall be submitted to the Commission on the Annual White-tailed Deer Fawn Rehabilitation Activity Form specified in Rule .1406 of this Section within 15 days of license expiration.
  - (6) White-tailed deer fawns shall not be rehabilitated on properties licensed for farmed cervids.
- (m) Black Bear Cubs.
- (1) Only individuals under a signed cooperative agreement with the Commission to meet conservation objectives shall be authorized to rehabilitate black bear cubs.
  - (2) Individuals in a cooperative agreement with the Commission shall obtain a captivity license for rehabilitation with the black bear cub category.
  - (3) No black bear cub shall be possessed until the applicant has constructed or acquired an enclosure for keeping black bear cubs that complies with the standards set forth in Paragraph (i) of this Rule, and the facility has been verified by a representative of the Commission.
- (n) Rabies Species.
- (1) Only individuals holding a captivity license for rehabilitation with the rabies species category may rehabilitate rabies species. In addition to the general captivity license for rehabilitation requirements, individuals requesting to rehabilitate rabies species shall:
    - (A) have held an active rehabilitation license within or outside of the State for the previous three years and have rehabilitated wild animals during that time;
    - (B) certify 12 hours of rabies or rabies species-specific training, or a combination thereof, for their initial application;
    - (C) certify up-to-date rabies pre-exposure prophylaxis in accordance with current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.CDC.gov](http://www.CDC.gov) for themselves, staff members, and volunteers who may contact rabies species;
    - (D) provide the name and contact information of a North Carolina licensed veterinarian with whom the rehabilitator has consulted and who agrees to provide necessary medical treatment to the rabies species;
    - (E) certify notification to the appropriate animal control authority and local health department prior to making application to the Commission, to inform them of their anticipated activities and location, and to coordinate future rabies testing activities;
    - (F) have separate enclosures from non-rabies species adequate for the species being rehabilitated, that are locked to prevent egress of the animal, and ingress of other wild mammals; and

- (G) have a secondary barrier surrounding the rabies species enclosure that restricts contact with people other than those identified in Part (n)(2)(A) of this Rule, pets, and livestock.
- (2) The following information shall be posted at the license holder's facility and be provided, upon request, by an authorized representative of the Commission:
  - (A) proof of immunization or titer checks for individuals who have contact with rabies species;
  - (B) contact information for the veterinarian who agrees to provide medical treatment to the rabies species;
  - (C) contact information for the local animal control authority and local health department; and
  - (D) a written protocol for euthanasia and rabies testing.
- (3) Except for bats, rehabilitation and release of rabies species is not authorized in counties where the United States Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Oral Rabies Vaccination (ORV) program is conducted, as specified by the United States Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service at [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov).
- (4) Except as otherwise specified in this Section, rabies species shall not be removed from their containment except for treatment, release, maintenance of the enclosure, or euthanasia.
- (5) Rehabilitated rabies species shall be released in the county where they were rehabilitated or the county where they were found.
- (6) All rabies species shall be considered potentially infected with the rabies virus. If a human or domestic animal has been scratched, bitten, or exposed to saliva, the fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord, or brain or spinal cord material from a rabies species, the license holder shall contact the local health department immediately to report the incident. Rehabilitators shall abide by requests from public health department personnel, animal control, and Commission personnel regarding disposition of the animal. Rabies species that have scratched or bitten a human or domestic animal or die in captivity shall not be released or disposed of until the local health department investigates the situation to determine if testing is necessary. Positive rabies test results shall be reported to the Commission within five business days of receipt from the health department.
- (7) Records of rabies species rehabilitation shall be submitted to the Commission on the Annual Rabies Vector Species Rehabilitation Activity Report specified in Rule .1406 of this Section within 15 days of license expiration.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 106-549.97(b); 113-134; 113-272.5; 113-274;  
 Eff. January 1, 2020;  
 Amended Eff. January 1, 2026; May 1, 2022.

**15A NCAC 10H .1403 CAPTIVITY LICENSE FOR HOLDING**

- (a) The purpose of a captivity license for holding is to authorize the possession of lawfully taken or acquired native wild animals or wild birds for education, exhibition, or scientific purposes. Possession of endangered, threatened, or special concern species specified in Rules 10I .0103 through .0105 of this Chapter also requires an endangered species permit from the Commission.
- (b) A captivity license for holding shall not be issued for holding wild animals or wild birds:
  - (1) as pets;
  - (2) for breeding unless approved by the Commission;
  - (3) for dog training;
  - (4) for hunting; or
  - (5) acquired unlawfully.
- (c) Individuals seeking to obtain a captivity license for holding migratory birds shall possess and provide proof of a valid, concurrent, and applicable federal permit from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, if required.
- (d) Individuals seeking to hold wild animals for education, exhibition, or scientific purposes that require a license from the U.S. Department of Agriculture shall obtain a captivity permit as defined by G.S. 113-274 prior to obtaining the animal.
- (e) Wild animals and wild birds shall not be possessed until an individual has an enclosure for keeping a wild animal or wild bird in captivity that complies with the standards set forth in Rule .1404 of this Section, and the individual has a valid, concurrent, and applicable U.S. Department of Agriculture license or exemption from licensing requirements, both verified by a representative of the Commission.
- (f) Changes to an animal's enclosure after verification shall be reported to the Commission in writing within 10 business days.
- (g) The following conditions apply to captivity licenses for holding wild animals and wild birds:

- (1) Wild animals and wild birds shall not comingle with pets, non-native animals, livestock, or wild animals or wild birds held under a captivity license for rehabilitation, except for surrogate wild animals or wild birds used to foster other wild animals and wild birds;
  - (2) Rabies species outside of their enclosure shall be kept restrained so the license holder or their designee is in control of the animal and it does not have physical contact with the public, domestic animals, non-native animals, livestock, or other wild animals or wild birds; and
  - (3) Wild animals outside their enclosure shall be kept restrained so the license holder or their designee is in control of the animal and it presents no danger to the public.
- (h) License holders with wild animals or wild birds used for education or exhibition outside of their facility shall maintain records of all education and exhibition activities. Records shall be submitted to the Commission on the Captivity License for Holding Education and Exhibition Activity Form specified in Rule .1406 of this Section within 15 days of license expiration, and shall be retained for a period of 12 months following expiration of the license.
- (i) Sale, transfer, and release of a wild animal or wild bird held under a captivity license for holding is prohibited, except that the wild animal or wild bird may be surrendered to an agent of the Commission or transferred to another individual who has obtained a license to hold the wild animal or wild bird in captivity. Upon transfer, the transferor shall create a record for the wild animal or wild bird showing the transferor's name, address, tag number if available, license number, date of transfer, and transferor's signature, verifying that the information contained in the record is true and correct. A copy of the record shall be retained by the transferee for three years from the date of transfer.
- (j) Non-releasable animals lawfully held under a captivity license for rehabilitation pursuant to Rule .1402 of this Section, except for white-tailed deer fawns, may be transferred to a captivity license for holding under the following conditions:
- (1) a North Carolina licensed veterinarian submits a written recommendation stating the reason why the wild animal or wild bird cannot be released into the wild. The explanation shall include a description of the incapacitation of the animal and a detailed explanation of why the animal will not experience chronic pain from its condition or injuries;
  - (2) the Commission authorizes the transfer or continued possession of the wild animal or wild bird; and
  - (3) for an imprinted animal, the individual with the captivity license for holding shall not be the same individual that rehabilitated the animal.
- (k) Rabies Species.
- (1) License holders with rabies species shall:
    - (A) certify up-to-date rabies pre-exposure prophylaxis in accordance with current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.CDC.gov](http://www.CDC.gov) for themselves, staff members and volunteers who may contact rabies species;
    - (B) provide the name and contact information of a North Carolina licensed veterinarian with whom the license holder has consulted and who agrees to provide necessary medical treatment to the rabies species;
    - (C) certify notification to the appropriate animal control authority and local health department prior to making application to the Commission, to inform them of their anticipated activities and location, and to coordinate future rabies testing activities;
    - (D) have separate enclosures from non-rabies species that are locked to prevent egress of the animal and ingress of other wild mammals; and
    - (E) have a secondary barrier surrounding the rabies species enclosure that restricts contact with people other than those identified in Part (k)(2)(A) of this Rule, pets, and livestock.
  - (2) The following information shall be posted at the license holder's facility and be provided, upon request, by an authorized representative of the Commission:
    - (A) proof of immunization or titer checks for individuals who have contact with rabies species;
    - (B) contact information for the veterinarian who agrees to provide medical treatment to the rabies species;
    - (C) contact information for the local animal control authority and local health department; and
    - (D) a written protocol for euthanasia and rabies testing.
  - (3) Rabies species shall be considered potentially infected with the rabies virus. If a human or domestic animal has been scratched, bitten, or exposed to saliva, the fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord, or brain or spinal cord material from a rabies species, the license holder shall immediately contact the local health department to report the incident. License holders shall abide by requests from public health department personnel, animal control, and Commission personnel regarding disposition of the animal. Rabies species that have scratched or bitten a human or domestic animal or die in captivity shall not be disposed of until

the local health department investigates the situation to determine if testing is necessary. Positive rabies test results shall be reported to the Commission within 5 business days of receipt from the health department.

(l) Black Bear.

- (1) In accordance with G.S. 19A-10 and G.S. 19A-11, captivity licenses for black bear may be issued to:
  - (A) a publicly operated zoo;
  - (B) an educational institution; or
  - (C) a facility holding a black bear under conditions simulating natural habitat pursuant to Rule .1404(d) of this Section.
- (2) Except for emergency transport to a North Carolina licensed veterinarian, no individual shall transport black bear without first obtaining a transportation permit from the Commission.

(m) Cougar.

- (1) In accordance with G.S. 113-272.5, captivity licenses for cougars may be issued to:
  - (A) a publicly operated zoo;
  - (B) an educational or scientific institution; or
  - (C) a facility holding a cougar under conditions simulating a natural habitat pursuant to Rule .1404(e) of this Section.
- (2) Except for emergency transport to a North Carolina licensed veterinarian, no individual shall transport cougar without first obtaining a transportation permit from the Commission.

(n) Non-Farmed Cervids.

- (1) No captivity licenses for holding shall be issued for cervids.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 106-549.97(b); 113-134; 113-272.5; 113-274;  
Eff. January 1, 2020;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2026.

**15A NCAC 10H .1404 MINIMUM STANDARDS CAPTIVITY LICENSE FOR HOLDING**

(a) The following minimum standards shall apply to wild animals and wild birds held under a captivity license for holding. Each license holder shall comply with the following general requirements in addition to requirements specified by species.

- (1) General Sanitation and Food Requirements.
  - (A) Clean drinking water shall be provided. All pools, tanks, water areas, and water containers provided for swimming, wading, or drinking shall be clean. Enclosures shall provide drainage for surface water and runoff.
  - (B) Water disposal and waste disposal shall be in accordance with all applicable local, State, and federal laws.
  - (C) Food shall be of a type and quantity that is appropriate for the species and shall be provided in an unspoiled and uncontaminated condition.
  - (D) Fecal and food waste shall be removed from inside, under, and around enclosures and disposed of in a manner that prevents noxious odors or pests.
- (2) General Enclosure Requirements.
  - (A) Enclosures constructed of chain link or other approved materials shall be braced and securely anchored.
  - (B) Enclosures shall be ventilated.
  - (C) Enclosures with a natural substrate shall have a dig barrier that prevents escape.
  - (D) The young of an animal may be kept with the parent or foster animal of the same species in a single-animal enclosure until weaned. After weaning, if the animals are kept together, the requirements for multiple-animal enclosures shall apply.
  - (E) Chains or tethers shall not be used as a method of confinement for wild animals inside an enclosure.
  - (F) Enclosures shall be equipped with one shelter, nest box, or den large enough to accommodate all animals in the enclosure at the same time.
  - (G) Enclosures shall have one elevated area large enough to accommodate all animals in the enclosure at the same time.
- (3) Single animal enclosures shall have the following minimum dimensions and horizontal areas, or dimensional equivalents:

Animal	Length (ft.)	Width (ft.)	Height (ft.)	Total Square Footage
Wild Turkey	6	4	8	24
Coyote	8	8	6	64
Fox (Red and Gray)	8	4	4	32
Raccoon	8	4	4	32
Bobcat	10	5	5	50
Otter	10	5	5	50
Squirrel	4	2	2	8
Groundhog	8	4	4	32
Rabbit	6	3	3	18
Opossum	6	3	3	18
Skunk	6	3	3	18
Armadillo	8	6	4	48

For animals not mentioned elsewhere in this Rule, a single animal enclosure shall be a cage with one horizontal dimension being four times the nose-rump length of the animal and the other horizontal dimension being two times the nose-rump length of the animal. The vertical dimensions shall be two times the nose-rump length of the animal. No cages shall be less than four feet by two feet by two feet, or less than eight square feet.

- (4) The minimum square footage for a multiple animal enclosure shall be determined by multiplying the required square footage for a single animal enclosure by a factor of 1.5 for one additional animal and that result by the same factor, successively, for each additional animal. Vertical dimensions may remain the same as for single animal enclosures.

(b) Alligators.

- (1) The minimum land area of the enclosure shall be based upon the length of the longest animal. Land area with both horizontal dimensions as long as the longest animal shall be provided. In case of more than one animal, the combined area covered by all their bodies while aligned parallel without overlap shall not exceed 50 percent of the land area.
- (2) The enclosure shall contain a pool of water large enough for all the animals in the enclosure to completely submerge themselves at the same time. Steps shall be taken to prevent the surface of the water from freezing solid.
- (3) The enclosure shall have a structural barrier of sufficient strength to contain the animals, and shall prevent contact between an observer and the alligators.
- (4) Enclosures shall be equipped with a shelter or shelters large enough to accommodate all alligators in the enclosure at the same time.
- (5) The facility shall have a perimeter boundary eight feet in height, located three feet from the primary enclosure, and constructed of 11.5 gauge chain link or equivalent.

(c) Wild Birds. Enclosures for wild birds may house more than one animal, provided that the enclosure is permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- (1) Enclosures for wild birds shall be designed using the standards established by the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association's "Wildlife in Education: A Guide for the Care and Use of Program Animals," which is hereby incorporated by reference, excluding subsequent amendments and editions, and is available for a fee at <https://national-wildlife-rehabilitators-association.myshopify.com/>.
- (2) Enclosures for raptors shall be built to standards detailed in the University of Minnesota's "Raptors in Captivity: Guidelines for Care and Management," which is hereby incorporated by reference, excluding subsequent amendments and editions, and is available for a fee at <https://www.hancockhouse.com/>.

(d) Black Bear. Black bears held in captivity at facilities other than publicly operated zoos or educational institutions shall be held in enclosures simulating a natural habitat, developed in accordance with the requirements of G.S. 19A-11.

(e) Cougar. Cougars held in captivity at facilities other than publicly operated zoos, educational, or scientific research institutions shall be held in enclosures simulating a natural habitat, developed in accordance with the requirements of G.S. 113-272.5(e)(4).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 106-549.97(b); 113-134; 113-272.5; 113-274;*

*Eff. January 1, 2020;*  
*Amended Eff. January 1, 2026.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1405 CAPTIVITY LICENSE REVOCATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

(a) Representatives of the Commission may enter the premises of a license holder's facility upon request or during the facility's business hours for inspection or scientific purposes.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission or his or her designee may warn, cite, or revoke a license holder's captivity license if the license holder violates a provision of G.S. 14, Article 47, or G.S. 113, Subchapter IV, rules promulgated by the Commission in this Chapter, or any conditions of the license. The determination whether to warn, cite, suspend, or revoke a captivity license for rehabilitation or holding shall be based upon the seriousness of the violation, and may include:

- (1) failure to provide required facilities for the housing of wild animals and wild birds as specified in Rule .1402(i) and Rule .1404 of this Section;
- (2) providing false or inaccurate information on license applications or reports submitted to the Commission;
- (3) possessing wild animals or wild birds not permitted by the captivity license for rehabilitation, or the captivity license for holding;
- (4) using animals undergoing rehabilitation for education, exhibition, profit, or science;
- (5) allowing wild animals undergoing rehabilitation to have contact with or proximity to the public;
- (6) failure to comply with monitoring or record-keeping requirements;
- (7) taming, imprinting, or otherwise improperly handling animals held for rehabilitation;
- (8) failure to treat conditions that warrant medical attention;
- (9) failure to notify the appropriate agencies after a rabies exposure as described in Rules .1402 and .1403 this Section; or
- (10) allowing a wild animal held under a captivity license for holding to roam free unrestrained outside of its enclosure.

(c) An individual holding a captivity license for rehabilitation with apprenticeship conditions shall notify the Commission within 10 business days if he or she no longer has a mentor and provide a list of animals in their possession by species and quantity. The apprentice shall obtain another mentor within 30 days and notify the Commission with that individual's information. If the apprentice fails to obtain another mentor the Commission shall revoke their license and he or she shall be required to reapply for a license with apprenticeship conditions.

(d) If a wild animal or wild bird is unlawfully possessed or the Commission revokes a captivity license for rehabilitation or holding, the Commission may seize and determine future treatment of the wild animal or wild bird, to include release, relocation, or euthanasia.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 106-549.97(b); 113-134; 113-272.5; 113-274;*  
*Eff. January 1, 2020;*  
*Amended Eff. January 1, 2026.*

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1406 FORMS FOR CAPTIVITY LICENSES**

(a) Individuals interested in obtaining a captivity license shall apply at [www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com](http://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com).

(b) Information required from the applicant for a captivity license for rehabilitation shall include:

- (1) name, mailing address, residence address, telephone number, and date of birth;
- (2) facility site address;
- (3) organizational affiliation, if applicable;
- (4) categories of wild animals and wild birds to be rehabilitated;
- (5) a copy of a valid Federal Migratory Bird Permit, if applicable;
- (6) name of mentor, if applicable;
- (7) a completed Wildlife Rehabilitation Mentor-Apprentice Agreement Form or Wildlife Rehabilitation Apprentice Upgrade Form, if applicable;
- (8) certification of 12 hours of rehabilitation related training for rabies species application, if applicable; and
- (9) certification of up-to-date rabies pre-exposure prophylaxis, if applicable.

(c) Information required from the applicant for a captivity license for holding shall include:

- (1) name, mailing address, residence address, telephone number, and date of birth;
- (2) facility site address;
- (3) organizational affiliation, if applicable;
- (4) species information including quantity and source for all animals to be held;

- (5) purpose for holding animals in captivity; and
  - (6) a copy of a valid Federal Migratory Bird Permit and USDA License, if applicable.
- (d) Individuals rehabilitating white-tailed deer fawns shall record their name, license number, and the following information for each cervid on the Annual White-tailed Deer Fawn Rehabilitation Activity Form available at [www.ncwildlife.gov](http://www.ncwildlife.gov):
- (1) date received;
  - (2) sex;
  - (3) tag number;
  - (4) disposition and date;
  - (5) name and license number of transferee, if applicable; and
  - (6) county of release, if applicable.
- (e) Individuals rehabilitating rabies species shall record their name, license number, and the following information for each animal on the Annual Rabies Vector Species Rehabilitation Activity Report available at [www.ncwildlife.gov](http://www.ncwildlife.gov):
- (1) date received;
  - (2) species;
  - (3) county of origin, if known;
  - (4) sex;
  - (5) estimated age;
  - (6) disposition and date;
  - (7) name and license number of transferee, if applicable; and
  - (8) county of release, if applicable.
- (f) Individuals holding species under a captivity license for holding for educational and exhibition purposes shall record the following information on the Captivity License for Holding Education and Exhibition Form available at [www.ncwildlife.gov](http://www.ncwildlife.gov):
- (1) captivity license number;
  - (2) date of educational or exhibition activity;
  - (3) species and numbers of wild animals or wild birds used in the educational or exhibition activity;
  - (4) organization or group involved in the educational or exhibition activity; and
  - (5) description of educational or exhibition activity, if applicable.
- (g) Information required from an apprentice on the Wildlife Rehabilitation Mentor-Apprentice Agreement Form, available at [www.ncwildlife.gov](http://www.ncwildlife.gov) shall include:
- (1) apprentice's name, facility address, phone number, and signature;
  - (2) mentor's name, address, WRC number, rehabilitation license number, and signature.
- (h) Wildlife rehabilitation mentors shall provide the following information on the Wildlife Rehabilitation Apprentice Upgrade Form, available at [www.ncwildlife.gov](http://www.ncwildlife.gov), to certify compliance with requirements of Rule .1402(f) of this Section:
- (1) name, address, phone number, captivity license number, and signature;
  - (2) apprentice name, address, phone number, and captivity license number; and
  - (3) dates of mentorship.
- (i) Reports and forms shall be submitted to [raps@ncwildlife.gov](mailto:raps@ncwildlife.gov), 1707 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1700, or through [www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com](http://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com) upon application or within 15 days of license expiration, as required by the Rules of this Section.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 106-549.97(b); 113-134; 113-272.5; 113-274;  
Eff. January 1, 2020;  
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## **SECTION .1500 – WILDLIFE AND ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENTS**

### **15A NCAC 10H .1501 WILDLIFE CONTROL AGENT LICENSE ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

- (a) The following definitions shall apply in this Section:
- (1) "Wildlife control agent" or "WCA" means an individual that holds a current and valid wildlife control agent license issued by the Commission.
  - (2) "Wildlife control agent license" or "WCA license" means a license issued by the Commission that authorizes an individual to engage in wildlife damage control or wildlife removal activities by means of a depredation permit.
- (b) It shall be unlawful to engage in wildlife damage control or wildlife removal activities for compensation, including eviction or exclusion activities, without first obtaining a wildlife control agent (WCA) license from the Commission, except

that licensed trappers taking wild animals during the applicable open trapping season for that species shall not be required to obtain a WCA license.

(c) Individuals meeting the following requirements shall qualify for a WCA license:

- (1) completion of a Commission-approved, WCA training course, that reviews the following:
  - (A) wildlife laws and rules, including methods of take, trapping, and depredation; and
  - (B) safe, humane wildlife handling techniques.
- (2) a passing score of at least 80 percent on the WCA examination as specified in Paragraph (e) of this Rule.
- (3) no wildlife misdemeanor convictions, as specified in G.S. 113-294 or G.S. 14, Article 47, that resulted in a license suspension or revocation within the five years preceding completion of the WCA training course.

(d) Individuals may register for a Commission-approved training course at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca). Required information shall include the following:

- (1) the applicant's name, mailing address, email address, residence address, telephone number, driver's license number, and date of birth; and
- (2) organizational affiliation, if applicable.

(e) Individuals scoring at least an 80 percent on the WCA examination provided by the Commission shall be deemed to have received a passing score and to have successfully demonstrated knowledge of wildlife laws and safe, humane wildlife handling techniques. Individuals failing to obtain a passing score on the WCA examination shall receive one opportunity to re-take the examination and receive a passing score without being required to retake the WCA training course.

(f) A WCA license shall not be transferable between individuals.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. May 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1502 DEPREDATION PERMITS ISSUED BY WILDLIFE CONTROL AGENTS**

(a) WCAs may issue depredation permits to landholders and may be listed as a second party on the permit to provide wildlife damage control or wildlife removal services. Depredation permits shall be issued and administered in accordance with the applicable provisions and requirements of 15A NCAC 10B .0106.

(b) WCAs shall not issue depredation permits for the following:

- (1) any endangered, threatened, or special concern species listed in 15A NCAC 10I .0103 - .0105;
- (2) coyotes in Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, or Washington counties;
- (3) big game animals, including Black Bear, White-tail Deer, and Wild Turkey;
- (4) elk; and
- (5) bats.

(c) WCAs shall be authorized to issue depredation permits for the taking of wildlife not prohibited in Paragraph (b) of this Rule, provided there is evidence that the wildlife is or has been damaging or destroying property.

(d) Depredation permits shall not be issued for the taking of migratory birds unless a corresponding, valid U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service depredation permit, as required by 50 CFR 21.100 has been obtained, if required.

(e) WCAs shall not receive compensation for the issuance of depredation permits; however, nothing in this Section shall be construed to limit the ability of a WCA to receive compensation for investigations or wildlife damage control and removal services.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. May 1, 2021;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1503 MANNER OF TAKE**

(a) WCAs shall comply with applicable manner of taking and disposition of wildlife requirements specified in 15A NCAC 10B .0106.

(b) A WCA license number shall be equivalent to a trapper identification number for the purpose of meeting trap identification requirements specified in G.S. 113-291.6(b)(4) for all trap types used.

(c) WCAs shall only engage in bat eviction and exclusion activities from August 1 through April 30 of the next calendar year unless otherwise approved by the Commission, on a case-by-case basis, for reasons of public health and safety, species conservation, or animal health.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;

*Eff. May 1, 2021.*

**15A NCAC 10H .1504 RECORDS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

- (a) WCAs shall maintain the following records:
- (1) a copy of each depredation permit issued; and
  - (2) the species, number, and disposition of each animal taken, organized by county.
- (b) WCAs shall submit the following information to the Commission each calendar quarter for each animal taken pursuant to a depredation permit:
- (1) depredation permit number and date of issue of the permit that authorized take;
  - (2) WCA license number;
  - (3) county where permit issued;
  - (4) type of damage;
  - (5) species;
  - (6) number of animals estimated to be taken;
  - (7) number of animals taken;
  - (8) method of take; and
  - (9) disposition of animal.
- (c) Records shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request or during the Commission's business hours.
- (d) Records shall be retained by the WCA for 12 months following expiration of the WCA license.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. May 1, 2021.*

**15A NCAC 10H .1505 WILDLIFE CONTROL AGENT LICENSE RENEWAL AND REVOCATION**

- (a) A WCA may renew his or her WCA license by completing at least one Commission-approved continuing education course within the previous year. A list of Commission-approved continuing education courses may be found at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca).
- (b) WCAs that do not renew their license for two consecutive calendar years shall be ineligible for renewal and shall be required to repeat the requirements specified in 15A NCAC 10H .1501, prior to obtaining a new WCA license.
- (c) The Executive Director or his or her designee may warn, cite, or revoke a WCA's license, if the WCA violates any provision of G.S. 14, Article 47; G.S. 113, Subchapter IV; any rules promulgated by the Commission; conditions of the WCA license; or standards taught in a Commission-approved WCA training course. The determination whether to warn, cite, or revoke a WCA's wildlife control agent license shall be based upon the seriousness of the violation.
- (d) An individual whose WCA license is suspended or revoked shall not be eligible for the Wildlife Control Technician certification.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. May 1 2021;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

**15A NCAC 10H .1506 ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENT CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

- (a) The following definitions shall apply in this Section:
- (1) "Alligator control agent" or "ACA" means a licensed WCA that holds a current and valid alligator control agent certification issued by the Commission.
  - (2) "Alligator control agent certification" or "ACA certification" means a certification issued by the Commission that authorizes a WCA to engage in alligator damage control or alligator removal activities with a Commission-issued depredation permit.
- (b) It shall be unlawful to engage in alligator damage control or alligator removal activities for compensation without first obtaining an ACA certification from the Commission.
- (c) Only individuals with a valid WCA license shall be eligible for ACA certification.
- (d) WCAs meeting the following requirements shall qualify for ACA certification:
- (1) completion of a Commission-approved ACA training course that reviews the following:
    - (A) alligator rules;

- (B) procedures for alligator data collection activities; and
  - (C) safe, humane alligator capture, handling, and transporting techniques.
- (2) a passing score on the ACA written examination as specified in Paragraph (f) of this Rule.
  - (3) possession of equipment to safely and humanely capture and relocate alligators, including ropes, cables, snares, poles, passive integrated transponder (PIT) tag reader, and an alligator transport device, as verified through inspection by the Commission.
- (e) WCAs may register for a Commission-approved ACA training course at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca)
- (f) WCAs shall score a minimum of 80 percent on the ACA examination provided by the Commission. WCAs failing to obtain a passing score on the examination shall receive one opportunity to re-take the examination and receive a passing score without being required to retake the ACA training course.
- (g) An ACA certification shall not be transferable between individuals.
- (h) All equipment used in captive facilities or on captive alligators shall not be used for ACA operations.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. May 1, 2021;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2023.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1507 ADDITIONAL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENTS**

- (a) ACAs shall obtain an endangered species permit from the Commission each calendar year prior to conducting any alligator handling and relocation activities.
- (b) ACAs shall only handle alligators after a separate depredation permit for each alligator has been issued by the Executive Director or his or her designee.
- (c) In emergency situations, where an alligator must be moved without delay due to a current or imminent threat to human safety, the safety of the alligator, or disruption of traffic, ACAs shall obtain an authorization code from a representative of the Commission prior to conducting any alligator handling and relocation activities. Authorization codes may be obtained from Commission District Biologists or by contacting the Commission's communications center at 1-800-662-7137 to be directed to an appropriate Commission representative.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. May 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1508 ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENT RECORDS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

- (a) ACAs shall maintain alligator datasheets for each alligator handled or relocated, which shall include the following information:
  - (1) dates and times of capture and release;
  - (2) the GPS locations of the capture and release sites;
  - (3) PIT tag number inserted or found upon scanning;
  - (4) scute numbers removed;
  - (5) total length and snout-to-vent length measurements;
  - (6) gender as determined by cloacal examination;
  - (7) general observations on physical condition including any injuries observed; and
  - (8) the Commission-issued depredation permit number or authorization code.
- (b) ACAs shall follow the reporting requirements on the endangered species permit.
- (c) Records shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request or during the Commission's business hours.
- (d) Records shall be retained by the ACA for 12 months following expiration of the ACA certification.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. May 1, 2021.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1509 ALLIGATOR CONTROL AGENT CERTIFICATION RENEWAL AND REVOCATION**

- (a) An ACA may renew his or her alligator control agent certification by certifying proof of attending at least one Commission-approved alligator-specific continuing education course within the previous year. A list of Commission-approved renewal courses may be found at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).
- (b) ACAs shall maintain a valid WCA license at all times.

(c) The Executive Director or his or her designee may warn, cite, suspend, or revoke an ACA's certification, if the ACA violates any provision of G.S. 14, Article 47, or G.S. 113, Subchapter IV, or any rules promulgated by the Commission; conditions of the certification; or standards taught in a Commission-approved ACA training course. The determination whether to warn, cite, suspend, or revoke an ACA's certification shall be based upon the seriousness of the violation.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. May 1, 2021.*

## **15A NCAC 10H .1510 WILDLIFE CONTROL TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

(a) The following definitions shall apply in this Section:

- (1) "Wildlife Control Technician" or "WCT" means an individual that holds a current and valid "Wildlife Control Technician" certification issued by the Commission.
- (2) "Wildlife Control Technician certification" or "WCT certification" means a certification issued by the Commission that authorizes an individual to engage in wildlife control or wildlife removal activities, for compensation, including reimbursement for the cost of materials, under the supervision of a licensed wildlife control agent.
- (3) "Direct supervision" means to physically be within one's presence while maintaining visual and verbal contact.
- (4) "Wildlife damage control" and "wildlife removal activities" means and includes:
  - (A) bat eviction and alligator damage control or removal activities;
  - (B) setting and moving traps;
  - (C) euthanasia; and
  - (D) issuing depredation permits in accordance with the applicable provision and requirements of 15A NCAC 10H .1502.

(b) It shall be unlawful to engage in wildlife damage control or wildlife removal activities for compensation, without first obtaining a WCT certification from the Commission, except that licensed trappers taking wild animals during the applicable open trapping season for that species shall not be required to obtain a WCT certification.

(c) Wildlife Control Technicians may perform the following wildlife control or removal activities under direct supervision of a licensed WCA, or certified Alligator Control Agent if applicable:

- (1) placement of traps;
- (2) euthanasia of wildlife;
- (3) bat evictions; and
- (4) alligator removal or relocation.

(d) Wildlife Control Technicians shall not issue depredation permits.

(e) Individuals shall complete a Commission-approved, WCT training course, that reviews wildlife laws and rules, including methods for trapping, capture, and safe and humane wildlife handling to qualify for a WCT certification.

(f) Individuals may register for a Commission-approved training course at [www.ncwildlife.org/wca](http://www.ncwildlife.org/wca). Required information shall include the following:

- (1) the applicant's name, mailing address, email address, residence address, telephone number, driver's license number, and date of birth; and
- (2) organizational affiliation, if applicable.

(g) A WCT certification shall not be transferable between individuals.

(h) An individual whose WCA license is suspended or revoked shall not be eligible for a WCT certification.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-274;  
Eff. October 1, 2022;  
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024.*

## **SECTION .1600 - CONTROLLED RABBIT HUNTING PRESERVES**

### **15A NCAC 10H .1601 CONTROLLED RABBIT HUNTING PRESERVES**

(a) For the purposes of this Rule, a controlled rabbit hunting preserve ("preserve") shall mean an area of any size that is completely and permanently enclosed with a fence designed to prevent the escape or entry of wild rabbits at any time, where wild rabbits are pursued with dogs.

- (b) For the purpose of this Rule, "wild rabbits" means eastern cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), Appalachian cottontail (*Sylvilagus obscurus*), marsh rabbits (*Sylvilagus palustris*), and species indistinguishable from these species.
- (c) The following conditions shall apply to the take of wild rabbits on controlled rabbit hunting preserves:
- (1) take of wild rabbits shall be authorized year-round;
  - (2) dogs shall be the only authorized manner of take; and
  - (3) unless otherwise exempt from license requirements, every person participating in the pursuit of rabbits on a controlled rabbit hunting preserve shall have a valid resident or nonresident hunting license or a controlled hunting preserve hunting license in his or her possession, in accordance with 15A NCAC 10H .1701.
- (d) Any individual wanting to operate a controlled rabbit hunting preserve shall first obtain a controlled rabbit hunting preserve operator license from the Commission.
- (e) One controlled hunting preserve operator license is required for each enclosure, except that one license is permitted for the same operator on properties not greater than 100 acres of contiguous acres of land regardless of the number of enclosures.
- (f) Applicants for a controlled hunting preserve operator license shall show proof of ownership or lease of the land contained in the proposed controlled rabbit hunting preserve.
- (g) Application for a controlled rabbit hunting preserve operator license shall be made online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) or at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576. Information required from the applicant shall include:
- (1) the applicant's name, address, telephone number, date of birth; and
  - (2) the preserve name, address, county, acreage, and number of enclosures.
- (h) License holders shall keep an accurate record of all rabbits released into or removed from the preserve on a form provided by the Commission. Records shall contain the following information:
- (1) the number of rabbits released into the preserve;
  - (2) the county of origin; and
  - (3) name, address, and applicable hunting license number of the individual that provided the rabbits to the preserve.
- (i) Records required in Paragraph (h) of this Rule shall be:
- (1) available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request; and
  - (2) submitted to and received by the Commission annually by May 1.
- (j) In accordance with season and bag limits in 15A NCAC 10B .0207, rabbits may be box trapped inside an enclosure and moved between enclosures with a valid controlled rabbit hunting preserve operator license or valid hunting license.
- (k) Controlled hunting preserve operator licenses shall not be transferable, either by transferring the license or by relocating the site of the preserve.
- (l) Upon receipt of an application accompanied by the license fee, the Commission shall issue a controlled rabbit hunting preserve operator license, provided the rules in this Section regarding establishment of such areas have been complied with.
- (m) Representatives of the Commission shall be permitted to enter the premises of any licensed controlled rabbit hunting preserve upon request or during the preserve's operating hours for inspection, enforcement, or scientific purposes.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273(g); 113-276(k);  
Eff. February 1, 2022;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2026.*

## **SECTION .1700 - FIELD TRAILS AND DOG TRAINING**

### **15A NCAC 10H .1701 FIELD TRIALS**

- (a) The following definitions shall apply to the rules in Subchapters 10H and 10D of this Chapter:
- (1) "Commission-sanctioned field trial" means a field trial that has been authorized by the Wildlife Resources Commission and for which a Field Trial Permit has been issued.
  - (2) "Active participant" means an individual participating in a field trial who handles dogs or uses a firearm.
  - (3) "Field Trial Permit" means the permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission that authorizes an individual to hold a commission-sanctioned field trial for dogs.
- (b) Individuals may apply for a Field Trial Permit from the Commission at [www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com](http://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com) or at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606 by submitting the following information:
- (1) field trial dates;
  - (2) business affiliation;
  - (3) species of animal or game bird;

- (4) fox preserve permit number, if applicable;
  - (5) county, if species is an animal; and
  - (6) address, if species is a gamebird.
- (c) An individual serving as a judge of a commission-sanctioned field trial shall be exempt from license requirements. An individual who is serving as a judge of a non-sanctioned field trial using wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license.
- (d) The following license requirements shall apply to active participants in field trials:
- (1) North Carolina residents participating in a field trial that uses wildlife shall have a North Carolina hunting license;
  - (2) non-residents participating in a commission-sanctioned field trial that uses wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license or a hunting license from his or her state of residence; and
  - (3) non-residents participating in other types of field trials that use wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license.
- (e) Notwithstanding Paragraph (d) of this Rule, an individual without a license may participate in commission-sanctioned field trials for beagles conducted without firearms on private field trial areas that meet the fencing requirements specified in G.S. 113-276(k).
- (f) Individuals shall not carry axes, saws, or climbing irons while training or running dogs during closed seasons for game animals.
- (g) The following conditions shall apply to commission-sanctioned field trials for retrievers or bird dogs:
- (1) shotguns containing live ammunition or firearms using only blank ammunition shall be prohibited unless specifically authorized by a Field Trial Permit;
  - (2) wild waterfowl, wild quail, or wild pheasant shall not be used in field trials when shotguns with live ammunition are permitted;
  - (3) domestically raised waterfowl and game birds, lawfully obtained from a licensed game bird propagator may be used in field trials where shotguns with live ammunition are permitted;
  - (4) waterfowl obtained from licensed game bird propagators for use in field trials when shotguns with live ammunition are authorized shall be marked by one of the methods specified in 50 CFR 21.45, including subsequent amendments and editions, found free of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov); and
  - (5) when domestically raised game birds are obtained from licensed game bird propagators for use in field trials where shotguns with live ammunition are authorized, the purchaser of the birds shall obtain a copy of the receipt from the propagator showing the date, number of birds purchased, propagator license number, and species of birds purchased. A copy of the receipt shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission during the time and at the place where the trial is being held.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276; 113-291.1; 113-291.5; 50 CFR 21.45; Eff. August 1, 2024.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1702 DOG TRAINING**

- (a) Individuals using wildlife to train or run dogs shall possess a valid North Carolina hunting license.
- (b) The following conditions shall apply during the closed season for waterfowl and game birds when training dogs with domestically raised waterfowl and game birds:
- (1) shotguns with number four size shot or smaller shall be used;
  - (2) nontoxic shot shall be used when training dogs with domestically raised waterfowl;
  - (3) domestically raised waterfowl shall be marked by one of the methods specified in 50 CFR 21.45, including subsequent amendments and editions, found free of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov);
  - (4) when obtained from a licensed game bird propagator for use in dog training, the purchaser of the birds shall obtain a copy of the receipt from the propagator showing the date, number of birds purchased, propagator license number, and species of birds purchased. A copy of the receipt shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission; and
  - (5) individuals may release no more than 6 domestically raised game birds daily.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276; 113-291.1; 113-291.5; 50 CFR 21.45; Eff. August 1, 2024.

### **SECTION .1800 – COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY PERMITTING**

## **15A NCAC 10H .1801 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND FEES**

- (a) The rules in this Section apply to commercial permits issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- (b) The use of Wildlife Resources Commission property, as defined by G.S. 113-129, by an individual or business for profit or benefit is unlawful, unless the individual or business using the property for an unlicensed activity first obtains a commercial permit as provided by this Rule.
- (c) The following definitions shall apply to all rules in this Section:
- (1) "Benefit" means the exchange of money, goods, services, or the growth or promotion of a business or organization.
  - (2) "Commercial activity" means an unlicensed activity for which individuals pay to participate or use equipment and that takes individuals or groups to Commission property for participation in the unlicensed activity, the purpose of which is financial gain or benefit of the commercial business.
  - (3) "Commercial business" means any individual or business using Commission property for financial gain or benefit.
  - (4) "Commercial permit" means either a commercial use permit or event permit for otherwise unlicensed activities.
  - (5) "Commission property" means Wildlife Resources Commission property as defined in G.S. 113-129(18).
  - (6) "Commercial use" means the use of Commission property for financial gain or benefit.
  - (7) "Commercial use permit" means a permit that allows for the commercial use of Wildlife Resources Commission property.
  - (8) "Event" means an organized gathering of more than 10 people on Commission property where money is exchanged for participation in an unlicensed activity.
  - (9) "Event permit" means a permit that allows for the use of Commission property for a one-time event.
  - (10) "Unlicensed activity" means any outdoor activity that the Commission does not regulate through a Commission-issued license or permit.
- (d) Application for a commercial permit shall be made online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) or at Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-2576. Information required from the applicant shall include:
- (1) the applicant's name, address, telephone number;
  - (2) name of business, company, or organization;
  - (3) type of commercial activity or event;
  - (4) dates of activity or event;
  - (5) locations of commercial activity or event;
  - (6) certificate of insurance; and
  - (7) for event permits, the number of individuals anticipated to partake in the event.
- (e) The fee for a commercial use permit shall be one hundred and two dollars (\$102.00). The fee for an event permit shall be based on the number individuals participating in the event, including event participants, volunteers, staff, and spectators. The event permit fee schedule is as follows:
- (1) ten to 100 individuals - \$51;
  - (2) one hundred and one to 250 individuals - \$102;
  - (3) two hundred and fifty-one to 500 individuals - \$153;
  - (4) five hundred and one to 1000 individuals - \$204; and
  - (5) over 1000 individuals - \$255.
- (f) In addition to the commercial permit fee, a fee of three dollars (\$3.00) per individual participating in the permitted activity on Commission property shall be required and remitted to the Commission no more than 30 days after the event for which the permit was acquired or every quarter during the year for which the commercial use permit is valid.
- (g) Unless authorized by the Commission, commercial permit holders and their patrons shall not block access or prevent others from entering or exiting any Commission property.
- (h) Commercial permits are non-transferable between individuals, businesses, or companies and a separate permit is required for each commercial activity or event.
- (i) The Commission may deny permits or issue permit requirements for use of its property based on the time of year, holidays, safety concerns, biological impacts, compatibility of requested activity with intended use of an area or property, failure to adhere to the conditions set forth in these Rules and Commission planned or sponsored events.
- (j) Unless a more limited duration is designated on the permit, a commercial use permit shall be valid from January 1 through December 31 of the same year. An event permit shall be valid for the duration of the event and expires at its conclusion.

(k) Records of commercial activities shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission upon request and during normal operating hours.

(l) The Executive Director of the Commission or his or her designee may warn, cite, or revoke a permit holder's commercial permit, if the permit holder violates any rules set forth by the Commission in this Subchapter or any conditions of the permit.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264;  
Eff. January 1, 2025;  
Amended Eff. July 1, 2026.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1802 COMMERCIAL USE PERMITS**

(a) A commercial use permit shall be required for commercial activities on Commission property, including but not limited to:

- (1) providing registered and unregistered rental vessels to individuals for use on Commission property;
- (2) leading tours or excursions for unlicensed activities on Commission property;
- (3) dropping off or picking up individuals on Commission property; or
- (4) using Commission property to stage patrons or recreational equipment in preparation for an activity on Commission property.

(b) Individuals holding a commercial use permit shall submit a report to the Commission online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) by the last day of every other month of the year in which their permit is valid. The report shall contain the following information:

- (1) individual's name and name of business, company, or organization;
- (2) permit number; and
- (3) number of individuals participating in activity.

(c) Individuals applying for a commercial use permit as described in Rule .1801 of this Section shall verify liability insurance in the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in aggregate for commercial activities conducted on Commission property.

(d) Commercial use permittees shall be responsible for removing litter and trash left on Commission property by individuals covered by their permit.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264;  
Eff. January 1, 2025.

#### **15A NCAC 10H .1803 EVENT PERMITS**

(a) An event permit is required for a commercial business conducting an event on Commission property.

(b) Individuals holding an event permit shall submit a report for the event within 30 days of the conclusion of the event, to the Commission online at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) with the following information:

- (1) individual's name and name of business, company, or organization;
- (2) permit number; and
- (3) total number of participants.

(c) Individuals applying for an event permit as described in Rule .1801 of this Section shall verify one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in aggregate of liability insurance for commercial events to be conducted on Commission property.

(d) Event permit holders shall be responsible for removing all litter and trash left on Commission property by individuals participating in the event.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264;  
Eff. January 1, 2025.

### **SUBCHAPTER 10I - ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES**

#### **SECTION .0100 - ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES**

##### **15A NCAC 10I .0101 DEFINITIONS AND PROCEDURES**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 113-331; 113-333; 113-334; 113-336; 143-239; Eff. June 11, 1977; Amended Eff. August 1, 1988; RRC Objection due to lack of statutory authority Eff. August 18, 1994; Amended Eff. October 1, 1994; Repealed Eff. April 1, 1997.*

**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, 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 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. is available free of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).

(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 and state listed endangered, threatened, or special concern species 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, 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, transportation, stocking, and release of endangered, threatened, or special concern species.

(f) An individual may apply for an endangered species permit online at [www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com](http://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com) by providing the following information:

- (1) name, address, phone number, and email 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 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.
  - (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 C.F.R. 17.84(c), hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions, available free of charge at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov).
  - (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.

### **15A NCAC 10I .0103 ENDANGERED SPECIES LISTED**

- (a) The following species of resident wildlife shall be designated as federally listed endangered species:
- (1) Amphibians: None listed.
  - (2) Birds:
    - (A) Bachman's warbler (*Vermivora bachmanii*);
    - (B) Ivory-billed woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*);
    - (C) Piping plover (*Charadrius melodus circumcinctus*);
    - (D) Red-cockaded woodpecker (*Dryobates borealis*); and
    - (E) Roseate tern (*Sterna dougallii dougallii*).
  - (3) Crustacea: None listed.
  - (4) Fish:
    - (A) Cape Fear shiner (*Miniellus mekistocholas*);
    - (B) Carolina madtom (*Noturus furiosus*);
    - (C) Roanoke logperch (*Percina rex*);
    - (D) Shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), when found in inland fishing waters as defined in G.S. 113-129(9); and
    - (E) Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*), when found in inland fishing waters as defined in G.S. 113-129(9).
  - (5) Mammals:

- (A) Carolina northern flying squirrel (*Glaucomys sabrinus coloratus*);
  - (B) Eastern cougar (*Puma concolor*);
  - (C) Gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*);
  - (D) Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*);
  - (E) Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*); and
  - (F) Virginia big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus*).
- (6) Mollusks:
- (A) Appalachian elktoe (*Alasmidonta raveneliana*);
  - (B) Carolina heelsplitter (*Lasmigona decorata*);
  - (C) Dwarf wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*);
  - (D) James spinymussel (*Parvaspina collina*);
  - (E) Littlewing pearlymussel (*Pegias fabula*);
  - (F) Tan riffleshell (*Epioblasma florentina walkeri*); and
  - (G) Tar River spinymussel (*Parvaspina steinstansana*).
- (7) Reptiles:
- (A) Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*);
  - (B) Hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*); and
  - (C) Leatherback sea turtle (*Dermodochelys coriacea*).
- (b) The following species of resident wildlife shall be designated as State-listed endangered species:
- (1) Amphibians:
- (A) Gopher frog (*Rana [=Lithobates] capito*);
  - (B) Hickory Nut Gorge green salamander (*Aneides caryaensis*);
  - (C) Ornate chorus frog (*Pseudacris ornata*); and
  - (D) River frog (*Rana [=Lithobates] heckscheri*).
- (2) Birds:
- (A) American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*);
  - (B) Common tern (*Sterna hirundo*);
  - (C) Henslow's sparrow (*Centronyx henslowii*); and
  - (D) Wayne's black-throated green warbler (*Setophaga virens waynei*).
- (3) Crustacea:
- (A) Bennett's Mill cave water slater (*Caecidotea carolinensis*); and
  - (B) Waccamaw crayfish (*Procambarus braswelli*).
- (4) Fish:
- (A) Blotchsided logperch (*Percina burtoni*);
  - (B) Bridle shiner (*Notropis bifrenatus*);
  - (C) Orangefin madtom (*Noturus gilberti*);
  - (D) Paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*);
  - (E) Robust redhorse (*Moxostoma robustum*);
  - (F) Rustyside sucker (*Thoburnia hamiltoni*);
  - (G) Sharpnose darter (*Percina oxyrhynchus*); and
  - (H) Stonecat (*Noturus flavus*).
- (5) Mammals:
- (A) Little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*); and
  - (B) Tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*).
- (6) Mollusks:
- (A) Barrel floater (*Utterbackiana couperiana*);
  - (B) Brook floater (*Alasmidonta varicosa*);
  - (C) Carolina creekshell (*Sagittunio vaughanianus*);
  - (D) Fragile glyph (*Pilsbryna clingmani*);
  - (E) Green floater (*Lasmigona subviridis*);
  - (F) Greenfield ramshorn (*Helisoma eucosmium*);
  - (G) Knotty elimia (*Elimia christyi*);
  - (H) Longsolid (*Fusconaia subrotunda*);
  - (I) Magnificent ramshorn (*Planorbella magnifica*);
  - (J) Purple wartyback (*Cyclonaias tuberculata*);

- (K) Savannah lilliput (*Toxolasma pullus*);
  - (L) Slippershell mussel (*Alasmidonta viridis*);
  - (M) Tennessee clubshell (*Pleurobema oviforme*);
  - (N) Tennessee heelsplitter (*Lasmigona holstonia*);
  - (O) Tennessee pigtoe (*Pleuronaia barnesiana*); and
  - (P) Yellow lampmussel (*Lampsilis cariosa*).
- (7) Reptiles:
- (A) Eastern coral snake (*Micrurus fulvius fulvius*);
  - (B) Eastern diamondback rattlesnake (*Crotalus adamanteus*); and
  - (C) Mimic glass lizard (*Ophisaurus mimicus*).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-333;*  
*Eff. June 11, 1977;*  
*Amended Eff. October 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2008; April 1, 2001; February 1, 1994; November 1, 1991; April 1, 1991; June 1, 1990;*  
*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021;*  
*Amended Eff. October 1, 2024; February 1, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10I .0104 THREATENED SPECIES LISTED**

(a) The following species of resident wildlife shall be designated as federally listed threatened species:

- (1) Amphibians: Neuse River waterdog (*Necturus lewisi*).
- (2) Birds:
  - (A) Eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis*);
  - (B) Piping plover (*Charadrius melodus melodus*);
  - (C) Red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*); and
  - (D) Wood stork (*Mycteria americana*).
- (3) Crustacea: None listed.
- (4) Fish:
  - (A) Spotfin chub (*Erimonax monachus*); and
  - (B) Waccamaw silverside (*Menidia extensa*).
- (5) Mammals: West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*), when found in inland fishing waters as defined in G.S. 113-129(9).
- (6) Mollusks:
  - (A) Atlantic pigtoe (*Fusconaia masoni*);
  - (B) Longsolid (*Fusconaia subrotunda*);
  - (C) Noonday globe (*Patera nantahala*); and
  - (D) Yellow lance (*Elliptio lanceolata*).
- (7) Reptiles:
  - (A) Bog turtle (*Glyptemys mhlenbergii*);
  - (B) American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*);
  - (C) Green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*); and
  - (D) Loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*).

(b) The following species of resident wildlife are designated as State listed threatened species:

- (1) Amphibians:
  - (A) Eastern tiger salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum tigrinum*);
  - (B) Green salamander (*Aneides aeneus*);
  - (C) Junaluska salamander (*Eurycea junaluska*);
  - (D) Eastern long-tailed salamander (*Eurycea longicauda longicauda*);
  - (E) Mabee's salamander (*Ambystoma mabeei*);
  - (F) Pine Barrens tree frog (*Hyla andersonii*); and
  - (G) Wehrle's salamander (*Plethodon wehrlei*).
- (2) Birds:
  - (A) Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*);
  - (B) Black skimmer (*Rynchops niger*);
  - (C) Caspian tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*);

- (D) Gull-billed tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica aranea*);
  - (E) Northern saw-whet owl (*Aegolius acadicus*); and
  - (F) Rusty blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*).
- (3) Crustacea:
- (A) Broad River spiny crayfish (*Cambarus spicatus*);
  - (B) French Broad crayfish (*Cambarus reburus*);
  - (C) Pamlico crayfish (*Procambarus medialis*);
  - (D) Sandhills crayfish (*Procambarus pearsei*); and
  - (E) South Mountains crayfish (*Cambarus franklini*).
- (4) Fish:
- (A) Bigeye jumprock (*Moxostoma ariommum*);
  - (B) Blotched chub (*Erimystax insignis*);
  - (C) Carolina pygmy sunfish (*Elassoma boehlkei*);
  - (D) Carolina redhorse (*Moxostoma sp.*);
  - (E) Ironcolor shiner (*Alburnops chalybaeus*);
  - (F) Least brook lamprey (*Lampetra aepyptera*);
  - (G) Logperch (*Percina caprodes*);
  - (H) Mimic shiner (*Paranotropis volucellus*);
  - (I) Rosyface chub (*Hybopsis rubrifrons*);
  - (J) Sharphead darter (*Nothonotus acuticeps*);
  - (K) Santee chub (*Cyprinella zanema*);
  - (L) Sicklefin redhorse (*Moxostoma sp.*);
  - (M) Thicklip chub (*Cyprinella labrosa*);
  - (N) Turquoise darter (*Etheostoma inscriptum*); and
  - (O) Waccamaw darter (*Etheostoma perlongum*).
- (5) Mammals:
- (A) Eastern woodrat (*Neotoma floridana floridana*);
  - (B) Rafinesque's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii rafinesquii*); and
  - (C) Red wolf (*Canis rufus*).
- (6) Mollusks:
- (A) Alewife floater (*Utterbackiana implicata*);
  - (B) Big-tooth covert (*Fumonelix jonesiana*);
  - (C) Cape Fear threetooth (*Triodopsis soelneri*);
  - (D) Eastern lampmussel (*Lampsilis radiata*);
  - (E) Eastern pondmussel (*Sagittunio nasutus*);
  - (F) Engraved covert (*Fumonelix orestes*);
  - (G) Mountain creekshell (*Leaunio vanuxemensis*);
  - (H) Notched rainbow (*Venustaconcha constricta*);
  - (I) Rainbow (*Cambarunio iris*);
  - (J) Roan supercoil (*Paravitrea varidens*);
  - (K) Sculpted supercoil (*Paravitrea ternaria*);
  - (L) Smoky Mountain covert (*Inflectarius ferrissi*);
  - (M) Creeper (*Strophitus undulatus*);
  - (N) Tidewater mucket (*Atlanticoncha ochracea*);
  - (O) Triangle floater (*Alasmidonta undulata*); and
  - (P) Waccamaw ambersnail (*Catinella waccamawensis*).
- (7) Reptiles:
- (A) Northern pine snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus*); and
  - (B) Southern hognose snake (*Heterodon simus*).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-333;  
 Eff. March 17, 1978;  
 Amended Eff. June 1, 2008; April 1, 2001; November 1, 1991; April 1, 1991; June 1, 1990; September 1,  
 1989;  
 Temporary Amendment Eff. February 27, 2015;*

*Amended Eff. October 1, 2017; July 1, 2016; August 1, 2016;*  
*Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021;*  
*Amended Eff. October 1, 2024; February 1, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10I .0105 SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES LISTED**

The following species of resident wildlife shall be designated as State listed special concern species:

- (1) Amphibians:
  - (a) Collinse's mountain chorus frog (*Pseudacris collinorum*);
  - (b) Crevice salamander (*Plethodon longicrus*);
  - (c) Dwarf salamander (*Eurycea quadridigitata*);
  - (d) Dwarf black-bellied salamander (*Desmognathus folkertsi*);
  - (e) Eastern hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*);
  - (f) Four-toed salamander (*Hemidactylium scutatum*);
  - (g) Gray treefrog (*Hyla versicolor*);
  - (h) Mole salamander (*Ambystoma talpoideum*);
  - (i) Mudpuppy (*Necturus maculosus*);
  - (j) Southern chorus frog (*Pseudacris nigrita*);
  - (k) Southern zigzag salamander (*Plethodon ventralis*); and
  - (l) Weller's salamander (*Plethodon welleri*).
- (2) Birds:
  - (a) American oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*);
  - (b) Bachman's sparrow (*Peucaea aestivalis*);
  - (c) Barn owl (*Tyto alba*);
  - (d) Black-capped chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*);
  - (e) Brown creeper (*Certhia americana nigrescens*);
  - (f) Cerulean warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*);
  - (g) Glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*);
  - (h) Golden-winged warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*);
  - (i) Least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*);
  - (j) Least tern (*Sternula antillarum*);
  - (k) Little blue heron (*Egretta caerulea*);
  - (l) Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*);
  - (m) Painted bunting (*Passerina ciris*);
  - (n) Red crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*);
  - (o) Snowy egret (*Egretta thula*);
  - (p) Swallow-tailed kite (*Elanoides forficatus*);
  - (q) Tricolored heron (*Egretta tricolor*);
  - (r) Vesper sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus*); and
  - (s) Wilson's plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*).
- (3) Crustacea:
  - (a) Carolina skistodiaptomus (*Skistodiaptomus carolinensis*);
  - (b) Carolina well diacyclops (*Diacyclops jeanneli putei*);
  - (c) Chowanoke crayfish (*Faxonius virginienensis*);
  - (d) Graceful clam shrimp (*Lynceus gracilicornis*);
  - (e) Greensboro burrowing crayfish (*Cambarus catagius*);
  - (f) Hiwassee headwaters crayfish (*Cambarus parrishi*);
  - (g) Little Tennessee River crayfish (*Cambarus georgiae*);
  - (h) North Carolina spiny crayfish (*Faxonius carolinensis*); and
  - (i) Oconee stream crayfish (*Cambarus chaugaensis*).
- (4) Fish:
  - (a) American brook lamprey (*Lethenteron appendix*);
  - (b) "Atlantic" Highfin carpsucker (*Carpionodes sp. cf. velifer*);
  - (c) Banded sculpin (*Cottus carolinae*);
  - (d) Blue Ridge sculpin (*Cottus caeruleomentum*);
  - (e) Blueside darter (*Etheostoma jessiae*);

- (f) Broadtail madtom (*Noturus sp.*);
  - (g) Carolina darter (*Etheostoma collis*);
  - (h) Cutlip minnow (*Exoglossum maxillingua*);
  - (i) Freshwater drum (*Aplodinotus grunniens*);
  - (j) Kanawha minnow (*Phenacobius teretulus*);
  - (k) Lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*);
  - (l) Least killifish (*Heterandria formosa*);
  - (m) Mooneye (*Hiodon tergisus*);
  - (n) Mountain madtom (*Noturus eleutherus*);
  - (o) Ohio lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon bdellium*);
  - (p) Olive darter (*Percina squamata*);
  - (q) Pinewoods darter (*Etheostoma mariae*);
  - (r) River carpsucker (*Carpoides carpio*);
  - (s) Sandhills chub (*Semotilus lumbee*);
  - (t) Seagreen darter (*Etheostoma thalassinum*);
  - (u) Sickie darter (*Percina williamsi*);
  - (v) Smoky dace (*Clinostomus sp.*);
  - (w) Sooty-banded darter (*Percina westfalli*);
  - (x) Striped shiner (*Luxilus chrysocephalus*);
  - (y) Snubnose darter (*Etheostoma simoterum*);
  - (z) "Thinlip" chub (*Cyprinella sp. cf. zanema*);
  - (aa) Waccamaw killifish (*Fundulus waccamensis*);
  - (bb) Wounded darter (*Nothonotus vulneratus*); and
  - (cc) Yellowfin shiner (*Hydrophlox lutipinnis*).
- (5) Mammals:
- (a) Allegheny woodrat (*Neotoma magister*);
  - (b) Buxton Woods white-footed mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus buxtoni*);
  - (c) Coleman's oldfield mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus colemani*);
  - (d) Eastern big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii macrotis*);
  - (e) Eastern small-footed bat (*Myotis leibii leibii*);
  - (f) Florida yellow bat (*Lasiurus intermedius floridanus*);
  - (g) Southeastern bat (*Myotis austroriparius*);
  - (h) Southern rock vole (*Microtus chrotorrhinus carolinensis*); and
  - (i) Star-nosed mole (*Condylura cristata parva*).
- (6) Mollusks:
- (a) Appalachian gloss (*Zonitoides patuloides*);
  - (b) Bidentate dome (*Ventridens coelaxis*);
  - (c) Black mantleslug (*Pallifera hemphilli*);
  - (d) Blackwater ancyliid (*Ferrissia hendersoni*);
  - (e) Blue-foot lancetooth (*Haplotrema kendeighi*);
  - (f) Cape Fear spike (*Elliptio marsupiobesa*);
  - (g) Clingman covert (*Fumonelix wheatleyi clingmanicus*);
  - (h) Dark glyph (*Glyphyalinia junaluskana*);
  - (i) Dwarf proud globe (*Patera clarki clarki*);
  - (j) Dwarf threetooth (*Triodopsis fulciden*);
  - (k) Fringed coil (*Helicodiscus fimbriatus*);
  - (l) Glossy supercoil (*Paravitrea placentula*);
  - (m) Great Smoky slitmouth (*Stenotrema depilatum*);
  - (n) High mountain supercoil (*Paravitrea andrewsae*);
  - (o) Honey glyph (*Glyphyalinia vanattai*);
  - (p) Lamellate supercoil (*Paravitrea lamellidens*);
  - (q) Mirey Ridge supercoil (*Paravitrea clappi*);
  - (r) Open supercoil (*Paravitrea umbilicaris*);
  - (s) Pink glyph (*Glyphyalinia pentadelphia*);
  - (t) Pink heelsplitter (*Potamilus alatus*);

- (u) Pod lance (*Elliptio folliculata*);
  - (v) Queen crater (*Appalachina chilhoweensis*);
  - (w) Ramp Cove supercoil (*Paravitrea lacteodens*);
  - (x) Ridged lioplax (*Lioplax subcarinata*);
  - (y) Roanoke slabshell (*Elliptio roanokensis*);
  - (z) Saw-tooth disc (*Discus bryanti*);
  - (aa) Seep mudalia (*Leptoxis dilatata*);
  - (bb) Spike (*Euryntia dilatata*);
  - (cc) Spiral coil (*Helicodiscus bonamicus*);
  - (dd) Velvet covert (*Inflectarius subpalliatu*);
  - (ee) Waccamaw amnicola (*Amnicola* sp.);
  - (ff) Waccamaw siltsnail (*Cincinnati* sp.); and
  - (gg) Wavy-rayed lampmussel (*Lampsilis fasciola*).
- (7) Reptiles:
- (a) Carolina pigmy rattlesnake (*Sistrurus miliarius miliarius*);
  - (b) Carolina swamp snake (*Liodytes pygaea paludis*);
  - (c) Carolina watersnake (*Nerodia sipedon williamengelsi*);
  - (d) Cumberland slider (*Trachemys scripta troostii*);
  - (e) Diamondback terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*);
  - (f) Eastern chicken turtle (*Deirochelys reticularia reticularia*);
  - (g) Eastern coachwhip (*Coluber [=Masticophis] flagellum flagellum*);
  - (h) Eastern slender glass lizard (*Ophisaurus attenuatus longicaudus*);
  - (i) Eastern spiny softshell (*Apalone spinifera spinifera*);
  - (j) Northern map turtle (*Graptemys geographica*);
  - (k) Outer Banks kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getula sticticeps*);
  - (l) Stripeneck musk turtle (*Sternotherus peltifer*); and
  - (m) Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-333;  
 Eff. September 1, 1989;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2008; July 18, 2002; April 1, 2001; November 1, 1991; April 1, 1991; June 1, 1990;  
 Readopted Eff. October 1, 2021;  
 Amended Eff. October 1, 2024; February 1, 2023.*

## **SUBCHAPTER 10J - WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREA REGULATIONS**

### **15A NCAC 10J .0101 DESIGNATION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

- (a) For purposes of this Subchapter, the following definitions shall apply:
- (1) "Wildlife Conservation Area" means lands owned, leased, controlled, or cooperatively managed by the Wildlife Resources Commission primarily for the conservation of nongame wildlife resources including those areas designated and posted as Wildlife Conservation Areas and those designated and posted as Waterbird Nesting Areas.
  - (2) "Other materials" means metals, minerals, rocks, soil, organic debris, buildings, fences, archeological resources as defined in G.S. 70-12, and water.
- (b) The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified and posted the following areas on Wildlife Conservation Areas that have additional restrictions on entry or usage:
- (1) "Safety Zones" are areas where hunting is prohibited. No person shall hunt or discharge a firearm or archery equipment as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0116 within, into, or across a posted safety zone on any Wildlife Conservation Area. Falconry is exempt from this provision.
  - (2) "Restricted Zones" are areas closed to use by the public, and entry upon such an area 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 can

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 activities in the public interest.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-305; 113-306;  
Eff. February 1, 1990;  
Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023.

**15A NCAC 10J .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE OF CONSERVATION AREAS**

(a) Entry on areas posted as Wildlife Conservation Areas for purposes other than wildlife observation, hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the landowner.

(b) Entry is prohibited above the high tide waterline from March 1 through September 15 on areas designated and posted as Waterbird Nesting Areas.

(c) No person shall deposit litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse on a Wildlife Conservation Area. No garbage dumps or sanitary landfills shall be established on a Wildlife Conservation Area by a person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality, except as permitted by the landowner.

(d) No person shall discharge:

- (1) a weapon from a vehicle;
- (2) a weapon within 200 yards of any building or designated camping areas;
- (3) a weapon within, into, or across a posted "safety zone;" or
- (4) a weapon within, into, or across a posted "restricted zone."

No person shall hunt with or have in their possession a shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting waterfowl on an area designated as a Wildlife Conservation Area, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer hunting.

(e) Dogs shall not enter a Wildlife Conservation Area designated and posted as a Waterbird Nesting Area from March 1 through September 15 above the high tide waterline.

(f) Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0302, .0303, and .0306 trapping of fur-bearing animals is permitted on an area designated and posted as a Wildlife Conservation Area during the applicable open seasons, except that trapping is prohibited:

- (1) on the Nona Pitt Hinson Cohen Wildlife Conservation Area in Richmond County; and
- (2) in posted "safety zones" located on a Wildlife Conservation Area.

(g) The following is prohibited on areas designated as Wildlife Conservation Areas or on waters within their boundaries:

- (1) driving a motorized vehicle on an area posted against vehicular traffic;
- (2) camping, unless designated by the landowner. On the coastal islands designated Wildlife Conservation Areas, camping is allowed except on areas designated and posted as Waterbird Nesting Areas;
- (3) swimming, except for the waters adjacent to coastal island Wildlife Conservation Areas;
- (4) operating a vessel powered by internal combustion engine; and
- (5) operating motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use, except that persons who have obtained a permit issued pursuant to G.S. 113-297 shall comply with permit conditions;
- (6) open fires.

(h) Releasing animals or birds, domesticated animals, or feral animals on Wildlife Conservation Areas is prohibited except for:

- (1) hunting dogs and raptors when permitted for hunting and training purposes; or
- (2) with prior written authorization of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(i) No living or dead nongame wildlife, fungi, invertebrates, eggs, nests, animal parts, plants, plant materials, or other materials may be possessed on or removed from Wildlife Conservation Areas without written permission from the Commission. Minimal amounts of animal parts, plant parts not removed from live plants, and other materials may be collected by hand and removed from Commission lands without written permission, except in violation of rules, general statutes, or federal law. Collection of animal parts and plant parts not removed from live plants for commercial use or sale is prohibited. For purposes of this Subparagraph, "minimal amounts," are quantities that fit within a cubic foot of space, except for firewood to be used at posted camping areas. Collection of firewood sufficient to build and maintain a fire during the Wildlife Conservation Area user's stay at the campground is permitted.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-270.3; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-297; 113-305; 113-306;

*Eff. February 1, 1990;*  
*Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005;*  
*Readopted Eff. August 1, 2023.*

**15A NCAC 10J .0103 HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

- (a) No person shall be under the influence of an impairing substance, as defined by G.S. 20-4.01(48b), while hunting on a designated Wildlife Conservation Area.
- (b) Erecting or occupying a tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree for the purpose of hunting on a designated Wildlife Conservation Area is prohibited. This prohibition shall not apply to lag-screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal left remaining in or attached to the tree.
- (c) Hunting on designated Wildlife Conservation Areas during the open season for game or furbearing species is permitted, except where the area is closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by the rules of this Chapter.
- (1) waterfowl hunters shall not enter Wildlife Conservation Areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates, and hunting is prohibited after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates; decoys may not be set out prior to 4:00 a.m. and must be removed by 3:00 p.m. on each date.
  - (2) game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.
  - (3) deer may be taken with archery equipment, as specified in 15A NCAC 10B .0116, on the opening day of the archery season.
- (d) The following shall be prohibited while hunting on Wildlife Conservation Areas:
- (1) operating a vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine;
  - (2) attempting to obscure the sex or age of a game bird or game animal taken by severing the head or other part thereof, or possess a bird or animal that has been mutilated;
  - (3) placing salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written authorization of the Commission or its agent; or attempting to take game birds or game animals attracted to such foods;
  - (4) using an electronic calling device for the purpose of attracting wild birds or wild animals; and
  - (5) removing live wild animals or wild birds, except with the written permission of the landowner.
- (e) The Nona Pitt Hinson Cohen Wildlife Conservation Area - Richmond County is closed to hunting.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-136; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-305;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1990;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 2021; October 1, 1994.*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2025.*

**15A NCAC 10J .0104 FISHING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

- (a) Designated Wildlife Conservation Areas are open to public fishing except restocked ponds posted against fishing.
- (b) No special device specified in 15A NCAC 10C .0404, except archery equipment, may be used in the impounded waters or free-running streams on designated Wildlife Conservation Areas.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-272; 113-292; 113-305;*  
*Eff. February 1, 1990;*  
*Amended Eff. October 1, 1994.*  
*Readopted Eff. February 1, 2025*

**SUBCHAPTER 10K – HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE**

**15A NCAC 10K .0101 COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- (a) Commission-approved basic hunter education courses include either an instructor-led course with a minimum of six hours of instruction or a self-paced, independent study course that instructs on the topics identified in G.S. 113-270.1A(b). Information on Commission-approved courses and registration can be found at [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org).
- (b) The following requirements must be satisfied by the course participant to successfully complete a basic hunter education course and be entitled a Certificate of Competency:

- (1) complete six hours of instruction in the instructor-led course or the material contained in the independent study course; and
- (2) score a minimum of 70 percent on the final examination.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1A;  
Eff. October 1, 1991;  
Amended Eff. June 1, 2014, April 1, 2003; April 1, 1996;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2024.

#### **15A NCAC 10K .0102 ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY**

- (a) Upon successful completion of a basic hunter education course, in accordance with Rule .0101 of this Section, a certificate of competency shall be issued by the Commission.
- (b) Duplicate certificates may be obtained from the Commission free of charge upon request.
- (c) The Commission shall recognize a certificate of competency from another state or province so long as the hunter education course met or exceeded the standards of the International Hunter Education Association, which is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. The standards may be accessed at [ihea-usa.org/resources/#Standards](http://ihea-usa.org/resources/#Standards) at no charge.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1A;  
Eff. September 1, 1991;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2003; May 1, 1995;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2024.

#### **15A NCAC 10K .0103 INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION**

- (a) Hunter Education Instructors shall be certified by the Commission prior to delivering basic hunter education courses.
- (b) To be eligible for Hunter Education Instructor Certification an individual shall:
  - (1) be at least 21 years of age at the time of application;
  - (2) possess a certificate of competency from a Commission-approved basic hunter education course.
  - (3) complete and submit to the Commission, the North Carolina Hunter Education Instructors application, available at [ncwildlife.org](http://ncwildlife.org), with the following information:
    - (A) name, address, email, phone number; and
    - (B) date of birth.
  - (4) complete the Commission-led Hunter Education Instructors course and score 80 percent or higher on the written examination.
  - (5) submit to a background investigation including a records check with none of the following disqualifying convictions identified:
    - (A) a felony;
    - (B) a crime or unlawful act defined as a "Class 1" misdemeanor within the five-year period prior to the date of application; or
    - (C) any conviction of game and fish law which would require a mandatory suspension and or revocation of a license as indicated in G.S. 113-276.3 within the three-year period prior to the date of application.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-270.1A;  
Eff. May 1, 1996;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2003;  
Readopted Eff. February 1, 2024.

### **SUBCHAPTER 10L – WILDLIFE CONSERVATION LAND PROGRAM**

#### **15A NCAC 10L .0101 WILDLIFE CONSERVATION LAND**

- (a) Wildlife Conservation Land is a classification of land that meets the size and ownership requirements specified in G.S. 105-277.15 and on which one or more of the use requirements in Subparagraphs (b)(1) through (b)(3) of this Rule are met and

maintained by the owner under a written Wildlife Habitat Conservation Agreement with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission that is submitted by the landowner to the county where an application for reduced property tax assessment is requested.

(b) Use Requirements of Wildlife Conservation Land shall include the following:

- (1) Protection of species on the protected animal list;
- (2) Conservation of priority wildlife habitats; or
- (3) Land managed and actively used as a wildlife reserve.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 105-277.15;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. December 3, 2019;  
Eff. October 1, 2020.

#### **15A NCAC 10L .0102 PROTECTION OF SPECIES ON THE PROTECTED ANIMAL LIST**

(a) As specified in G.S. 105-277.15(c) and Rule .0101 of this Section the protection of species on the protected animal list shall be a qualifying land use for Wildlife Conservation Land. Eligible species shall be those designated by the Commission in Section 15A NCAC 10I .0100 as endangered, threatened, or special concern.

(b) The following conditions shall apply to the qualification of land as Wildlife Conservation Land under the protection of species on the protected animal list use requirement:

- (1) at least one protected wildlife species shall have been identified on the land;
- (2) the landowner shall be required to manage the land to protect the species through established strategies identified in the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Agreement; and
- (3) the land shall meet the prior use requirements specified in G.S. 105-277.15(c)(3)(b).

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 105-277.15;  
Eff. October 1, 2020.

#### **15A NCAC 10L .0103 CONSERVATION OF PRIORITY WILDLIFE HABITATS**

(a) As specified in G.S. 105-277.15(c)(3) and Rule .0101 of this Section, the conservation of priority wildlife habitats shall be a qualifying land use for Wildlife Conservation Land. Priority wildlife habitats shall mean those habitats specified in G.S. 105-277.15(c)(3)(a)(2).

(b) The following conditions shall apply to the qualification of land as Wildlife Conservation Land under the conservation of priority wildlife habitat land use requirement:

- (1) at least one of the priority wildlife habitats specified in G.S. 105-277.15(c)(3)(a)(2) shall have been identified on the land or planned for establishment;
- (2) the management strategies identified for the continued existence of the priority wildlife habitat shall be in place or planned for as specified in the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Agreement; and
- (3) the land shall meet the prior use requirements specified in G.S. 105-277.15(c)(3)(b).

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 105-277.15;  
Eff. October 1, 2020.

#### **15A NCAC 10L .0104 WILDLIFE RESERVE**

(a) As specified in G.S. 105-277.15(c) and Rule .0101 of this Section, land that is managed and actively used as a wildlife reserve shall be a qualifying land use for Wildlife Conservation Land. Wildlife reserve shall mean a type of wildlife conservation land that meets the requirements set forth in G.S. 105-277.15(c)3.a. Land managed and maintained primarily for human uses such as large lawns, golf courses, horse pastures, production agricultural fields, monoculture hayfields, solar energy, and commercial timber stands shall not qualify as wildlife reserve land.

(b) As specified in G.S. 105-277.15(c)(3)a.3., to qualify as Wildlife Conservation Land under the wildlife reserve land use requirement, at least three of the following activities shall be maintained on the land as agreed upon in the written Wildlife Habitat Conservation Agreement:

- (1) "supplemental food" shall mean annual or perennial noninvasive plantings that provide a direct or indirect source of food or nutrition for wildlife resources.
- (2) "supplemental water" shall mean artificial water features or sources that are created or installed for the benefit of wildlife resources.

- (3) "supplemental shelter" shall mean natural or artificial structures that are created or installed to provide shelter from the weather, nesting sites, or escape cover from predators. Supplemental shelter may include the addition of natural or artificial structures into aquatic habitats.
  - (4) "habitat control" shall mean the implementation of practices to establish, restore, enhance, or maintain upland, wetland, riparian, or aquatic vegetation or physical aquatic habitat.
  - (5) "erosion control" shall mean the implementation of practices to prevent, reduce, or minimize soil erosion. Practices may include streambank and in-stream channel stabilization. Practices established for erosion control shall not be known to harm wildlife or include invasive plant species.
  - (6) "predator control" shall mean a practice implemented to reduce the abundance of a species or suite of species that preys on any life stage of wildlife species for which the land is managed. Predator control includes removal of invasive animal species to manage or protect wildlife or wildlife habitats.
  - (7) "census of animal population on the land" shall mean conducting or participating in periodic surveys and inventories to determine the presence, number, composition, biological condition, or human use of wildlife.
- (c) Qualifying land shall be inspected at least once every five years following the date that the conservation agreement is signed to ensure that at least three of the seven activities specified in Subparagraphs (b)(1) through (b)(7) of this Rule are maintained. The following conditions shall apply to the required inspection:
- (1) a wildlife biologist employed by a state or federal agency, a Certified Wildlife Biologist® credentialed by the Wildlife Society, or a Certified Fisheries Professional credentialed by the American Fisheries Society shall perform the inspection of qualifying land; and
  - (2) inspections shall be recorded by the wildlife biologist on a form provided by the Commission. The landowner shall submit the completed form to the county tax assessor's office during the open enrollment period for the year that the inspection is due.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 105-277.15;  
Eff. October 1, 2020.