

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 597  
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/16/19  
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H597-PCS40500-TQf-24

Short Title: Wildlife Resources Commission Amends.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 8, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO THE STATUTES GOVERNING THE  
3 WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5  
6 **REQUIRE PLACEMENT OF VALIDATION DECALS ON BOTH SIDES OF VESSELS**

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 75A-5 reads as rewritten:

8 "**§ 75A-5. Application for certificate of number; fees; reciprocity; change of ownership;**  
9 **conformity with federal regulations; records; award of certificates; renewal of**  
10 **certificates; transfer of partial interest; destroyed or junked vessels;**  
11 **abandonment; change of address; duplicate certificates; display.**

12 (a) Application for Certificate of Number. – The owner of each vessel requiring  
13 numbering by this State shall file an application for a certificate of number with the Commission.  
14 The Commission shall furnish application forms and shall prescribe the information contained in  
15 the application form. The application shall be signed by the owner of the vessel or the owner's  
16 agent and shall be accompanied by a fee, as set out in subsection (a1) of this section. The fee  
17 does not apply to vessels owned and operated by nonprofit rescue squads if they are operated  
18 exclusively for rescue purposes, including rescue training. The owner shall have the option of  
19 selecting a one-year numbering period or a three-year numbering period. Upon receipt of the  
20 application in approved form, the Commission shall enter the application in its records and issue  
21 the owner a certificate of number stating the identification number awarded to the vessel and the  
22 name and address of the owner, and a validation decal indicating the expiration date of the  
23 certificate of number. The owner shall paint on or attach to each side of the bow of the vessel the  
24 identification number and validation decals in such manner as may be prescribed by rules of the  
25 Commission in order that it may be clearly visible. The identification number shall be maintained  
26 in legible condition. ~~The validation decal shall be displayed on the starboard bow of the vessel~~  
27 ~~immediately following the number.~~ The certificate of number shall be pocket size and shall be  
28 available for inspection on the vessel for which the certificate is issued at all times the vessel is  
29 in operation. Any person charged with failing to so carry a certificate of number shall not be  
30 convicted if the person produces in court a certificate of number previously issued to the owner  
31 that was valid at the time of the alleged violation.

32 ...."

33  
34 **AMEND DEFINITIONS RELATED TO WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
35 **PROPERTY AND MOUNTAIN TROUT WATERS**



\* H 5 9 7 - P C S 4 0 5 0 0 - T Q F - 2 4 \*

1           **SECTION 2.** G.S. 113-129 reads as rewritten:

2   "**§ 113-129. Definitions relating to resources.**

3       The following definitions and their cognates apply in the description of the various marine  
4 and estuarine and wildlife resources:

5       ...

6       (1d)   Boating and Fishing Access Area. – An area ~~of land~~ providing access to public  
7 waters and which is owned, allocated to, leased, controlled, or managed by  
8 the Wildlife Resources Commission.

9       ...

10       (8a)   Game Lands. – Lands owned, allocated to, leased, controlled, or cooperatively  
11 managed by the Wildlife Resources ~~Commission for public hunting, trapping,~~  
12 ~~or fishing.~~Commission.

13       ...

14       (11d)   Mountain Heritage Trout Waters. – Those waters that run through or are  
15 adjacent to a city that has been designated by the Wildlife Resources  
16 Commission as a Mountain Heritage Trout City pursuant to G.S. 113-273(e).

17       ~~(11d)~~(11e) Nongame Animals. – All wild animals except game and fur-bearing  
18 animals.

19       ~~(11e)~~(11f) Nongame Birds. – All wild birds except game birds.

20       ...

21       (13c)   Public Mountain Trout Waters. – Those waters designated by the Wildlife  
22 Resources Commission that are managed and regulated to sustain a mountain  
23 trout fishery.

24       ~~(13e)~~(13d) Raptor. – A migratory bird of prey authorized under federal law and  
25 regulations for the taking of quarry by falconry.

26       ...

27       (18)   Wildlife Resources Commission Property. – All lands, game lands, wildlife  
28 refuges, artificial constructions in boating and fishing access areas, and all  
29 other property owned, allocated to, leased, controlled, or cooperatively  
30 managed and designated for public use by the Wildlife Resources  
31 Commission."

32  
33   **ALLOW SALE OF PERMANENTLY PRESERVED BEARS AND TURKEYS WITH A**  
34   **TROPHY SALE PERMIT**

35           **SECTION 3.** G.S. 113-291.3 reads as rewritten:

36   "**§ 113-291.3. Possession, sale, and transportation of wildlife.**

37       ...

38       (b)   With respect to dead wildlife:

39       ...

40       (3)   A licensed taxidermist or other licensed dealer taking temporary possession  
41 of wildlife of another may possess the wildlife that he is authorized to handle  
42 under his license in accordance with the rules of the Wildlife Resources  
43 Commission. A person not a dealer operating a preservation or processing  
44 facility, whether commercially or not, may possess the wildlife owned by  
45 another without any permit or license if he ascertains that the wildlife was  
46 lawfully taken within the State and keeps a written record of:

47       a.     The name and address of the owner of the wildlife and an adequate  
48 description of the wildlife left with him. If the description of the  
49 wildlife changes as the result of processing, the new description must  
50 be recorded.

- b. The date, ~~serial number,~~ authorization number, and type of the license under which the wildlife was taken or the applicable exemption from license requirements which the taker met.
- c. The date all wildlife left with him is received and returned to the owner. If the receiving or returning of possession is to an agent or common carrier or otherwise occurs under circumstances in which permit requirements may apply, the type and date of the permit which authorizes the transaction must also be recorded.

(4) The sale of rabbits and squirrels and their edible parts not for resale is permitted. If the Wildlife Resources Commission finds that affected game populations would not be endangered, it may authorize the sale of heads, antlers, horns, hides, skins, plumes, feet, and claws of one or more game animals or birds. In addition, it may authorize the sale of bobcats, opossums, and raccoons, and their parts, following their taking as game animals. No part of any bear or wild turkey may be sold under the above provisions, however, ~~and no permanently preserved bears or tanned bear hides and permanently preserved turkeys or turkey parts may be sold with a trophy sale permit.~~ No part of any fox taken in North Carolina may be sold except as provided in G.S. 113-291.4. In regulating sales, the Wildlife Resources Commission may impose necessary permit requirements.

...."

**UNIFIED LICENSE AMENDMENT**

**SECTION 4.** G.S. 113-351 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 113-351. Unified hunting and fishing licenses; subsistence license waiver.**

...

(c) Types of Unified Hunting and Fishing Licenses; Fees; Duration. – The Wildlife Resources Commission shall issue the following Unified Hunting and Fishing Licenses:

...

(3) Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses. – ~~Except as provided in sub-subdivision f. of this subdivision, a~~ A license issued under this subdivision is valid for the lifetime of the licensee. A license issued under this subdivision authorizes the licensee to take all wild animals and wild birds, including waterfowl, by all lawful methods in all open seasons, including the use of game lands; to fish with hook and line for all fish in all inland fishing waters and joint fishing waters, including public mountain trout waters; and to engage in recreational fishing in coastal fishing waters.

...

f. Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License. – \$110.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual who is a resident of the State and who is a fifty percent (50%) or more disabled veteran as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or as established by rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~This license remains valid for the lifetime of the licensee so long as the licensee remains fifty percent (50%) or more disabled.~~

...."

**WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND CHANGES**

**SECTION 5.** G.S. 143-250.1 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 143-250.1. Wildlife Endowment Fund.**

1 (a) Recognizing the inestimable importance to the State and its people of conserving the  
2 wildlife resources of North Carolina, and for the purpose of providing the opportunity for citizens  
3 and residents of the State to invest in the future of its wildlife resources, there is created the North  
4 Carolina Wildlife Endowment Fund, the income and principal of which shall be used only for  
5 the purpose of supporting wildlife conservation programs of the State in accordance with this  
6 section. This fund shall also be known as the Eddie Bridges Fund.

7 (b) There is created the Board of Trustees of the Wildlife Endowment Fund of the  
8 Wildlife Resources Commission, with full authority over the administration of the Wildlife  
9 Endowment Fund, whose ex officio chairman, vice-chairman, and members shall be the  
10 chairman, vice-chairman, and members of the Wildlife Resources Commission. The State  
11 Treasurer shall be the custodian of the Wildlife Endowment Fund and shall invest its assets in  
12 accordance with the provisions of G.S. 147-69.2 and 147-69.3.

13 (c) The assets of the Wildlife Endowment Fund shall be derived from the following:

14 (1) The proceeds of any gifts, grants and contributions to the State which are  
15 specifically designated for inclusion in the ~~fund~~; fund.

16 (2) The proceeds from the sale of lifetime sportsman combination licenses issued  
17 pursuant to ~~G.S. 113-270.1D~~; G.S. 113-270.1D.

18 (3) The proceeds from the sale of lifetime hunting and lifetime fishing licenses  
19 pursuant to ~~G.S. 113-270.2(e)(2) and G.S. 113-271(d)(3)~~; G.S. 113-270.2 and  
20 G.S. 113-271.

21 (3a) The proceeds from the sale of lifetime trapping licenses pursuant to  
22 G.S. 113-270.5(b).

23 (4) The proceeds of lifetime subscriptions to the magazine Wildlife in North  
24 Carolina at such rates as may be established from time to time by the Wildlife  
25 Resources ~~Commission~~; Commission.

26 (5) Any amount in excess of the statutory fee for a particular lifetime license or  
27 lifetime subscription shall become an asset of the fund and shall qualify as a  
28 tax exempt donation to the ~~State~~; State.

29 (5a) The proceeds from the sale of lifetime combination hunting and fishing  
30 licenses for disabled residents pursuant to  
31 ~~G.S. 113-270.1C(b)(4)~~; G.S. 113-270.1C.

32 (5b) The Wildlife Resources Commission's portion of the proceeds from the sale  
33 of lifetime unified licenses pursuant to G.S. 113-351.

34 (6) Such other sources as may be specified by law.

35 (d) The Wildlife Endowment Fund is declared to constitute a special trust derived from a  
36 contractual relationship between the State and the members of the public whose investments  
37 contribute to the fund. In recognition of such special trust, the following limitations and  
38 restrictions are placed on expenditures from the funds:

39 (1) Any limitations or restrictions specified by the donors on the uses of the  
40 income derived from gifts, grants and voluntary contributions shall be  
41 respected but shall not be binding.

42 (2) No expenditures or disbursements from the income from the proceeds derived  
43 from the sale of Infant Lifetime Sportsman or Youth Lifetime Sportsman  
44 Licenses pursuant to G.S. 113-270.1D(b)(1) or (2) shall be made for any  
45 purpose until the respective holders of such licenses attain the age of 16 years.  
46 The State Treasurer, as custodian of the fund, shall determine actuarially from  
47 time to time the amount of income within the fund which remains encumbered  
48 by and which is free of this restriction. For such purpose, the executive  
49 director shall cause deposits of proceeds and related investment income from  
50 Infant Lifetime Sportsman Licenses ~~to be distinguished and deposits of~~

1 ~~proceeds from~~ and Youth Lifetime Sportsman Licenses to be accompanied by  
2 information as to the ages of the license recipients.

3 (3) No expenditure or disbursement shall be made from the principal of the  
4 Wildlife Endowment Fund except as otherwise provided by law.

5 (4) The income received and accruing from the investments of the Wildlife  
6 Endowment Fund must be spent only in furthering the conservation of wildlife  
7 resources and the efficient operation of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources  
8 Commission in accomplishing the purposes of the agency as set forth in  
9 G.S. 143-239.

10 (e) The Board of Trustees of the Wildlife Endowment Fund may accumulate the  
11 investment income of the fund until the income, in the sole judgment of the trustees, can provide  
12 a significant supplement to the budget of the Wildlife Resources Commission. After that time the  
13 trustees, in their sole discretion and authority, may direct expenditures from the investment  
14 income of the fund for the purposes set out in division (4) of subsection (d).

15 (f) Expenditure of the investment income derived from the Wildlife Endowment Fund  
16 shall be made through the State budget accounts of the Wildlife Resources Commission in  
17 accordance with the provisions of the Executive Budget Act. The Wildlife Endowment Fund is  
18 subject to the oversight of the State Auditor pursuant to Article 5A of Chapter 147 of the General  
19 Statutes.

20 (f1) At all times during which the cash balance in the Wildlife Endowment Fund is equal  
21 to or greater than the sum of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000), the Wildlife Resources  
22 Commission shall budget at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the annual expendable ~~interest~~  
23 investment income from the Fund, as determined by the Board of Trustees of the Fund, to  
24 implement the conservation goals set forth in the Wildlife Resource Commission's strategic plan.

25 (g) The Wildlife Endowment Fund and the investment income therefrom shall not take  
26 the place of State appropriations or agency receipts placed in the Wildlife Resources Fund, or  
27 any part thereof, but any portion of the income of the Wildlife Endowment Fund available for  
28 the purpose set out in ~~division subdivision~~ (4) of subsection (d) shall be used to supplement other  
29 income of and appropriations to the Wildlife Resources Commission to the end that the  
30 Commission may improve and increase its services and become more useful to a greater number  
31 of people.

32 (h) In the event of a future dissolution of the Wildlife Resources Commission, such State  
33 agency as shall succeed to its budgetary authority shall, ex officio, assume the trusteeship of the  
34 Wildlife Endowment Fund and shall be bound by all the limitations and restrictions placed by  
35 this section on expenditures from the fund. No repeal or modification of this section or of  
36 G.S. 143-239 shall alter the fundamental purposes to which the Wildlife Endowment Fund may  
37 be applied. No future dissolution of the Wildlife Resources Commission or substitution of any  
38 agency in its stead shall invalidate any lifetime license issued in accordance with  
39 G.S. 113-270.1D(b), 113-270.2(c)(2), ~~or 113-271(d)(3)-113-271(d)(3), or 113-351(c).~~"

#### 40 41 VARIOUS LICENSE CHANGES

42 SECTION 6.(a) G.S. 113-270.1B reads as rewritten:

43 "§ 113-270.1B. License required to hunt, fish, or trap; fees set by Commission.

44 (a) Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, no person may hunt, fish, trap, or  
45 participate in any other activity regulated by the Wildlife Resources Commission for which a  
46 license is provided by law without having first procured a current and valid license authorizing  
47 the activity.

48 (b) Except as indicated otherwise, all ~~licenses are annual licenses~~ licenses, permits,  
49 stamps, and certifications are valid from the date of issue for a period of 12 months.

50 (c) As used in this section, the term "effective date" means the later of:

51 (1) The date of purchase of a new license.

(2) The first day after the expiration of a currently valid license of the same type held by the licensee.

(d) For those licenses sold directly through the Commission by telephone, mail, online, or at a service counter, the Commission may charge a fee of two dollars (\$2.00) per transaction. A fee may not be charged by the Commission for federal Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification, big game harvest report cards for lifetime license holders, exempt landowners, persons of less than 16 years of age, or for any other license or vessel transactions for which there is no charge.

(e) The Wildlife Resources Commission shall adopt rules to establish fees for ~~the hunting, fishing, trapping, and activity licenses~~ all licenses, permits, stamps, and certifications issued and administered by the Wildlife Resources ~~Commission.~~ Commission, except those specified in G.S. 113-173. No rule to increase fees above January 1, 2015, levels may increase a fee in excess of the total increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, rounded up to the next whole dollar, over the period of time since the last fee change.

The statutory fees for the hunting, fishing, trapping, and activity licenses issued and administered by the Wildlife Resources Commission shall expire when the rules adopted pursuant to this subsection become effective."

**SECTION 6.(b)** G.S. 113-270.1C reads as rewritten:

**"§ 113-270.1C. Combination hunting and inland fishing licenses.**

(a) The combination hunting and inland fishing licenses set forth in subsection (b) of this section entitle the licensee to ~~take, except on game lands, take~~ all wild birds and wild animals, other than big game and waterfowl, by all lawful ~~methods~~ methods, except trapping, and in all open seasons, and to fish with hook and line in all inland and joint fishing waters, ~~except and public mountain trout waters.~~ waters, but does not entitle the licensee to engage in fishing in coastal fishing waters. A combination hunting and inland fishing license issued under this section does not entitle the licensee to engage in recreational fishing in coastal fishing waters that are not joint fishing waters. entitles the licensee to access and use Wildlife Resources Commission Property.

(b) Combination hunting and inland fishing licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission are:

(1) Resident Annual Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License – ~~\$25.00.~~ \$35.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State.

(2), (3) Repealed by Session Laws 1997-326, s. 2.

(4) Repealed by Session Laws 2005-455, s. 1.6, effective January 1, 2007.

(5) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License – \$10.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual who is a resident of the State and who is a fifty percent (50%) or more disabled veteran as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. This license remains valid for the lifetime of the licensee ~~so long as the licensee remains fifty percent (50%) or more disabled. This license entitles the licensee to fish in public mountain trout waters as provided in G.S. 113-272(a).~~ licensee.

(6) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License – \$10.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual who is a resident of the State and who is totally and permanently disabled as determined by the Social Security Administration. This license remains valid for the lifetime of the licensee. ~~This license entitles the licensee to fish in public mountain trout waters as provided in G.S. 113-272(a)."~~

**SECTION 6.(c)** G.S. 113-270.1D reads as rewritten:

**"§ 113-270.1D. Sportsman licenses.**

1 (a) Annual Sportsman License – \$50.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual  
2 resident of the State and entitles the licensee to take all wild animals and wild birds, including  
3 waterfowl, by all lawful ~~methods~~ methods, except trapping, in all open seasons, ~~including the use~~  
4 ~~of game lands~~, and to fish with hook and line for all fish in all inland and joint fishing waters,  
5 including public mountain trout ~~waters~~ waters, but does not entitle the licensee to engage in  
6 fishing in coastal waters. An annual sportsman license issued under this subsection ~~does not~~  
7 ~~entitle the licensee to engage in recreational fishing in coastal fishing waters that are not joint~~  
8 ~~fishing waters~~ entitles the licensee to access and use Wildlife Resources Commission Property.

9 (b) Lifetime Sportsman Licenses. – ~~Except as provided in subdivision (7) of this~~  
10 ~~subsection, lifetime~~ Lifetime sportsman licenses are valid for the lifetime of the licensees.  
11 Lifetime sportsman licenses entitle the licensees to take all wild animals and wild birds by all  
12 lawful ~~methods~~ methods, except trapping, in all open seasons, ~~including the use of game lands~~,  
13 and to fish with hook and line for all fish in all inland and joint fishing waters, including public  
14 mountain trout ~~waters~~ waters, but does not entitle the licensee to engage in fishing in coastal  
15 fishing waters. A lifetime sportsman license issued under this subsection ~~does not entitle the~~  
16 ~~licensee to engage in recreational fishing in coastal fishing waters that are not joint fishing waters~~.  
17 entitles the licensee to access and use Wildlife Resources Commission Property. Lifetime  
18 sportsman licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission are:

- 19 (1) Infant Lifetime Sportsman License – \$200.00. This license shall be issued  
20 only to an individual under one year of age.
- 21 (2) Youth Lifetime Sportsman License – \$350.00. This license shall be issued  
22 only to an individual under 12 years of age.
- 23 (3) Adult Resident Lifetime Sportsman License – \$500.00. This license shall be  
24 issued only to an individual resident of the State who is 12 years of age or  
25 older but younger than 70 years of age.
- 26 (4) Nonresident Lifetime Sportsman License – \$1,200. This license shall be  
27 issued only to an individual nonresident of the State.
- 28 (5) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Sportsman License – \$15.00. This license shall be  
29 issued only to an individual resident of the State who is at least 70 years of  
30 age.
- 31 (6) Repealed by Session Laws 2005-455, s. 1.7. effective January 1, 2007.
- 32 (7) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Sportsman License – \$100.00. This  
33 license shall be issued only to an individual who is a resident of the State and  
34 who is a fifty percent (50%) or more disabled veteran as determined by the  
35 United States Department of Veterans Affairs or as established by rules of the  
36 Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~This license remains valid for the lifetime~~  
37 ~~of the licensee so long as the licensee remains fifty percent (50%) or more~~  
38 ~~disabled.~~
- 39 (8) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Sportsman License – \$100.00. This  
40 license shall be issued only to an individual who is a resident of the State and  
41 who is totally and permanently disabled as determined by the Social Security  
42 Administration or as established by rules of the Wildlife Resources  
43 Commission.
- 44 (9) **(Effective July 1, 2019)** Fallen Wildlife Officers Memorial Lifetime  
45 Sportsman License. – This license shall also be known as the John Oliver  
46 Edwards Memorial Lifetime Sportsman License and shall be issued free of  
47 charge only to a surviving spouse, child, grandchild, or great-grandchild of a  
48 wildlife enforcement officer killed in the line of duty."

49 **SECTION 6.(d)** G.S. 113-270.2 reads as rewritten:

50 **"§ 113-270.2. Hunting licenses.**

1 (a) The hunting licenses set forth in subdivisions (1), ~~(3), (2), (5), (6), and (6)-(7)~~ of  
2 subsection (c) of this section entitle the holder to ~~take, except on game lands, take~~ wild birds and  
3 wild animals, other than big game and waterfowl, by all lawful ~~methods—methods, except~~  
4 trapping, and in all open seasons. Unless otherwise specified, a hunting license issued under this  
5 subsection entitles the licensee to access and use Wildlife Resources Commission Property. The  
6 comprehensive hunting licenses of subdivisions (2) and (5) of subsection (c) of this section  
7 further entitle the holder to take big game and ~~waterfowl and to use game lands—waterfowl.~~

8 (b) Repealed by Session Laws 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 684, s. 2.

9 (c) The hunting licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission are as follows:

10 (1) Resident State Hunting License – ~~\$20.00—\$25.00.~~ This license shall be issued  
11 only to an individual resident of the State.

12 (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Hunting License – \$250.00. This license  
13 shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State and is valid for the  
14 lifetime of the holder.

15 (3) Repealed by Session Laws 2013-283, s. 3, effective August 1, 2014.

16 (4) Controlled Hunting Preserve Hunting License – \$20.00. This license shall be  
17 issued to an individual resident or nonresident to take only ~~foxes—foxes,~~  
18 coyotes, rabbits, and domestically raised chukars, Hungarian partridges, and  
19 game birds, other than wild turkey, only within a controlled hunting preserve  
20 licensed and operated in accordance with G.S. 113-273(g) and implementing  
21 rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission. This license does not authorize  
22 access to or use of Wildlife Resources Commission Property.

23 (5) Resident Annual Comprehensive Hunting License – \$36.00. This license shall  
24 be issued only to an individual resident of the State.

25 (6) Nonresident State Hunting License. This license shall be issued only to a  
26 nonresident. The nonresident State hunting licenses issued by the Wildlife  
27 Resources Commission are:

28 a. Season License – ~~\$80.00—\$100.00.~~

29 b. Ten-Day License – ~~\$60.00—\$80.00.~~ This license is valid for the 10  
30 consecutive dates indicated on the license.

31 (7) Falconry Hunting License – \$25.00. This license shall be issued to an  
32 individual resident or nonresident and authorizes taking wildlife by means of  
33 falconry. In addition to a falconry hunting license, the license holder shall also  
34 possess a valid falconry license as described in G.S. 113-270.3(b)(4). This  
35 license expires June 30.

36 (d) One dollar (\$1.00) of the proceeds received from the sale of each nonresident hunting  
37 license sold pursuant to subdivision (6) of subsection (c) of this section shall be set aside by the  
38 Wildlife Resources Commission and contributed to a proper agency or agencies in the United  
39 States for expenditure in Canada for the restoration and management of migratory waterfowl."

40 **SECTION 6.(e)** G.S. 113-270.3 reads as rewritten:

41 "**§ 113-270.3. Special activity licenses; big game kill reports.**

42 (a) In addition to any hunting, trapping, or fishing license that may be required pursuant  
43 to G.S. 113-270.1B(a), individuals engaging in specially regulated activities must have the  
44 appropriate special activity license and stamp prescribed in this section before engaging in the  
45 regulated activity.

46 (b) The special activity licenses and stamp issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission  
47 are as follows:

48 ...

49 (2) Nonresident Big Game Hunting License. This license shall be issued only to  
50 an individual nonresident of the State and entitles the holder to take big game



1 by all lawful methods and during all open seasons. The nonresident big game  
2 hunting licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission are:

- 3 a. Season License – ~~\$80.00~~ \$100.00.  
4 b. Ten-Day License – ~~\$60.00~~ \$80.00. This license is only valid for the  
5 10 consecutive dates indicated on the license.

6 ...  
7 (3) Game Land License – \$15.00. ~~This license shall be issued to an individual  
8 resident or nonresident of the State and entitles the holder to hunt and trap on  
9 game lands managed by the Wildlife Resources Commission.~~ The Wildlife  
10 Resources Commission may, pursuant to G.S. 113-264(a), designate in its  
11 rules ~~other~~ activities on game lands that require purchase of this license and  
12 may charge additional fees for use of specially developed facilities.

13 (4) Falconry License – \$10.00. This license shall be issued to an individual  
14 resident or nonresident of the State and must be procured before:  
15 a. Taking, importing, transporting, or possessing a raptor; or  
16 b. Taking wildlife by means of falconry.

17 In addition to a falconry license, license holders 16 years of age and older  
18 must also possess a hunting license as set forth in G.S. 113-270.1C,  
19 113-270.1D, and 113-270.2 when taking wildlife by means of falconry. The  
20 Wildlife Resources Commission may issue classes of falconry licenses  
21 necessary to participate in the federal/State permit system, require necessary  
22 examinations before issuing licenses or permits to engage in various  
23 authorized activities related to possession and maintenance of raptors and the  
24 sport of falconry, and regulate licenses as required by governing federal law  
25 and rules. To defray the costs of administering required examinations, the  
26 Wildlife Resources Commission may charge reasonable fees upon giving  
27 them. To meet minimum federal standards plus other State standards in the  
28 interests of conservation of wildlife resources, the Wildlife Resources  
29 Commission may impose all necessary controls, including those set out in the  
30 sections pertaining to collection licenses and captivity licenses, and may issue  
31 permits and require reports, but no collection license or captivity license is  
32 needed in addition to the falconry license.

33 ...."

34 **SECTION 6.(f)** G.S. 113-270.5 reads as rewritten:

35 "**§ 113-270.5. Trapping licenses.**

36 (a) Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, ~~no one may take fur-bearing~~  
37 ~~animals by trapping, or by any other authorized special method that preserves the pelt from~~  
38 ~~injury, without first having procured a current and valid trapping license. When the trapping~~  
39 ~~license is required, it serves in lieu of a hunting license in the taking of fur-bearing animals. If~~  
40 ~~fur-bearing animals are taken as game, at the times and by the hunting methods that may be~~  
41 ~~authorized, hunting license requirements apply.~~ no person may take wild animals by trapping  
42 during open trapping seasons without a valid trapping license.

43 (b) The trapping licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission are as  
44 ~~follows:~~ follows and entitle the licensee to access and use Wildlife Resource Commission  
45 Property:

- 46 (1) Resident State Trapping License – \$30.00. This license is valid only for use  
47 by an individual resident of the State.  
48 (1a) Resident Lifetime Trapping License – \$300.00. This license shall be issued  
49 only to an individual resident of the State and is valid for the lifetime of the  
50 licensee.  
51 (2) Repealed by Session Laws 2013-283, s. 6, effective August 1, 2014.

- (3) Nonresident State Trapping License – \$125.00. This license is valid for use by an individual within the State."

**SECTION 6.(g)** G.S. 113-271 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 113-271. Hook-and-line licenses in inland and joint fishing waters.**

(a) An inland hook-and-line fishing license issued under subdivisions (2), (3), (5), (6), (6a), (6b), and (6c) of subsection (d) of this section entitles the licensee to fish with hook and line in inland fishing ~~waters and waters, joint fishing waters, waters, and public mountain trout waters.~~ An inland hook-and-line fishing license issued under this section ~~does not entitle~~ entitles the licensee to engage in recreational fishing in coastal fishing waters that are not joint fishing waters. ~~An inland hook and line fishing license issued under subdivision (1), (3), (6a), (6b), (6c), or (9) of subsection (d) of this section entitles the licensee to fish with hook and line in public mountain trout waters.~~ access and use Wildlife Resources Commission Property, but does not entitle the licensee to engage in fishing in coastal fishing waters.

(b) Repealed by Session Laws 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 684, s. 4.

(c) Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 830, s. 1.

(d) The hook-and-line fishing licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission are as follows:

(1) ~~Resident Annual Comprehensive Inland Fishing License – \$25.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State.~~

(2) Resident State Inland Fishing License – ~~\$20.00.~~ \$25.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State.

(3) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Inland Fishing License – \$250.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State and is valid for the lifetime of the licensee.

(4) Repealed by Session Laws 2013-283, s. 7, effective August 1, 2014.

(5) Nonresident State Inland Fishing License – ~~\$36.00.~~ \$45.00. This license shall be issued to an individual nonresident of the State.

(6) Short-Term Inland Fishing Licenses. Short-term inland fishing licenses are valid only for the date or consecutive dates indicated on the licenses. Short-term inland fishing licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission are:

a. Resident 10-day Inland Fishing License – ~~\$7.00.~~ \$9.00. This license shall be issued only to a resident of the State.

b. Nonresident 10-day Inland Fishing License – ~~\$18.00.~~ \$23.00. This license shall be issued only to a nonresident of the State.

c. Repealed by Session Laws 2005-455, s. 1.8, effective January 1, 2007.

(6a) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Inland Fishing License – \$15.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State who is at least 70 years of age.

(6b) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Inland Fishing License – \$10.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual who is a resident of the State and who is a fifty percent (50%) or more disabled veteran as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or as established by rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission. This license remains valid for the lifetime of the ~~licensee so long as the licensee remains fifty percent (50%) or more disabled.~~ licensee.

(6c) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Inland Fishing License – \$10.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual who is a resident of the State and who is totally and permanently disabled as determined by the Social Security Administration or as established by rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission. This license remains valid for the lifetime of the licensee.

1 ...  
2 (10) Mountain Heritage Trout Waters Three-Day Fishing License – \$8.00. This  
3 license shall be issued to an individual resident or nonresident of the State and  
4 shall entitle the holder to fish in waters designated by the Wildlife Resources  
5 Commission as mountain heritage trout waters for the three consecutive days  
6 indicated on the license. An individual who holds a mountain heritage trout  
7 waters three-day fishing license does not need to hold any other hook-and-line  
8 fishing license issued pursuant to this subsection in order to fish in mountain  
9 heritage trout waters."

10 **SECTION 6.(h)** G.S. 113-272 is repealed.

11 **SECTION 6.(i)** G.S. 113-272.3 reads as rewritten:

12 **"§ 113-272.3. Special provisions respecting fishing licenses; grabbling; taking bait fish; use**  
13 **of landing nets; lifetime licenses issued from Wildlife Resources Commission**  
14 **headquarters; personalized lifetime sportsman combination licenses.**

15 ...  
16 (c) **(Effective until July 1, 2019)** Lifetime licenses are issued from the Wildlife  
17 Resources Commission ~~headquarters.~~ headquarters to facilitate compliance with 50 C.F.R. §  
18 80.31. Each application for an ~~any~~ Infant Lifetime ~~Sportsman or Sportsman,~~ Youth Lifetime  
19 ~~Sportsman Sportsman,~~ or Age 70 Resident Lifetime License must be accompanied by a certified  
20 copy of the birth certificate, adoption order containing the date of birth, or other proof of age  
21 satisfactory to the Commission, of the individual to be named as the licensee.

22 ...  
23 (e) Mountain Heritage Trout Waters Program. – The Wildlife Resources Commission  
24 shall establish and implement a Mountain Heritage Trout Waters Program to promote trout  
25 fishing as a heritage tourism activity. The Commission shall develop criteria for participation in  
26 the Program by cities and prepare a management plan for mountain heritage trout waters. A city  
27 that meets the criteria for participation in the Program shall be designated by the Commission as  
28 a Mountain Heritage Trout City."

29 **SECTION 6.(j)** G.S. 113-272.4 reads as rewritten:

30 **"§ 113-272.4. Collection licenses.**

31 (a) In the interest of the orderly and efficient conservation of wildlife resources, the  
32 Wildlife Resources Commission may provide for the licensing of ~~qualified~~ individuals to take  
33 any of the wildlife resources of the State under a collection license that may serve in lieu of any  
34 other license required in this Article. This license authorizes incidental transportation and  
35 possession of the wildlife resources necessary to implement the authorized purposes of the taking,  
36 but the Wildlife Resources Commission in its discretion may additionally impose permit  
37 requirements under subsection (d) below and G.S. 113-274.

38 (b) The Wildlife Resources Commission may delegate to the Executive Director the  
39 authority to impose time limits during which the license is valid and restrictions as to what may  
40 be taken and method of taking and possession, in the interests of conservation objectives. ~~The~~  
41 ~~Executive Director through his responsible agents must determine whether a particular license~~  
42 ~~applicant meets the standards and qualifications for licensees set by the Wildlife Resources~~  
43 ~~Commission.~~ Methods of taking under a collection license need not be restricted to those  
44 applicable to ordinary hunting, trapping, or fishing, but the licensee ~~must~~ shall observe the  
45 restrictions as to taking, transportation, and possession imposed by the Executive Director upon  
46 the granting of the license.

47 (c) When a more limited duration period is not set by the Executive ~~Director in~~  
48 ~~implementing the rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission, Director,~~ collection licenses are  
49 valid from January 1 through December 31 in any year. This license is issued upon payment of  
50 ~~five dollars (\$5.00), but the Wildlife Resources Commission may provide for issuance without~~  
51 ~~charge to licensees who represent educational or scientific institutions or some governmental~~

1 ~~agency-ten dollars (\$10.00). The Wildlife Resources Commission may adopt rules to utilize~~  
2 ~~replacement costs of wildlife resources to offset the impact of collection or possession activities.~~

3 (d) As necessary, the Executive Director may administratively impose on licensees under  
4 this section restrictions upon individuals taking, transporting, or possessing under the license  
5 which will permit ready identification and control of those involved in the interest of efficient  
6 administration of laws pertaining to wildlife resources. Restrictions may include requirements as  
7 to record keeping, tagging, marking packages, cages, or containers and exhibition of additional  
8 limited-purpose and limited-time permits that may be issued without charge to cover particular  
9 activities and other actions that may be administratively required in the reasonable  
10 implementation of the objectives of this Subchapter.

11 (e) If the Executive Director deems it administratively appropriate and convenient to do  
12 so, in the interests of simplifying the administration of licensing requirements, ~~he the Executive~~  
13 ~~Director~~ may grant particular licensees under this section the privilege of utilizing assistants in  
14 taking, transporting, or possessing wildlife resources who themselves are not licensed. Any  
15 assistants so taking, transporting, or possessing wildlife resources ~~must-shall~~ have readily  
16 available for inspection a written authorization from the licensee to engage in the activity in  
17 question. The written authorization ~~must-shall~~ contain information administratively required by  
18 the Executive Director, and a copy of the authorization must be ~~placed in the mail addressed to~~  
19 ~~the Executive Director or his designated agent~~ submitted to the Wildlife Resources Commission  
20 before any assistant acts under the authorization. ~~In his discretion the~~ The Executive Director  
21 may refuse to issue, refuse to renew, or revoke the privilege conferred in this subsection. If this  
22 is done, each individual engaged in taking, transporting, or possessing wildlife resources under  
23 this section ~~must-shall~~ meet all applicable licensing and permit requirements."

24 **SECTION 6.(k)** G.S. 113-272.5 reads as rewritten:

25 "**§ 113-272.5. Captivity license.**

26 (a) ~~In the interests of humane treatment of wild animals and wild birds that are lawfully~~  
27 ~~taken, crippled, tame, or unfit for immediate release into their natural habitat, the~~ The Wildlife  
28 Resources Commission may license ~~qualified~~ individuals to hold at a specified ~~location~~ location  
29 ~~wild animals and wild birds that are lawfully taken, crippled, tame, or unfit for immediate release~~  
30 ~~into their natural habitat, or one or more of any particular species of wild animal or wild bird~~  
31 alive in captivity for scientific, educational, exhibition, or other purposes. Before issuing this  
32 license, the Executive Director must ~~satisfy himself~~ determine that issuance of the license is  
33 appropriate under the objectives of this Subchapter, and that the wild animal or wild bird was not  
34 acquired unlawfully or merely as a pet. Upon refusing to issue the captivity license, the Executive  
35 Director may either take possession of the wild animal or wild bird for appropriate disposition or  
36 issue a captivity permit under G.S. 113-274(c)(1b) for a limited period until the holder makes  
37 proper disposition of the wild animal or wild bird.

38 (b) Unless a shorter time is set for a license upon its issuance under the provisions of  
39 subsection (c), captivity licenses are annual licenses issued beginning January 1 each year and  
40 running until the following December 31. ~~This license is issued upon payment of five dollars~~  
41 ~~(\$5.00) The captivity license for holding shall be issued upon payment of fifty dollars (\$50.00)~~  
42 ~~and the captivity license for rehabilitation shall be issued upon payment of ten dollars (\$10.00)~~  
43 to the Wildlife Resources Commission.

44 (c) The Wildlife Resources Commission may require standards of caging and care and  
45 reports to and supervision by employees of the Wildlife Resources Commission ~~as necessary to~~  
46 ~~insure humane treatment and~~ in furtherance of the objectives of this Subchapter. The Executive  
47 Director in implementing the provisions of this section may administratively impose ~~through~~  
48 ~~responsible agents and employees~~ restrictions upon the mode of captivity ~~that he deems deemed~~  
49 necessary, including prescribing methods of treatment and ~~handling designed, if possible, to~~  
50 ~~enable the wild animal or wild bird to become self-sufficient and requiring that the wild animal~~  
51 ~~or wild bird be set free when self-sufficiency is attained.~~ handling. To this end, the Executive

1 Director may issue the captivity license with an expiration date earlier than December 31 and  
 2 may also act to terminate any captivity license earlier than the expiration date for good cause.

3 ...."

4 **SECTION 6.(I)** G.S. 113-273 reads as rewritten:

5 "**§ 113-273. Dealer licenses. Other licenses.**

6 (a) ~~"Dealer" Defined; All Licenses Annual.~~—As used in this section, the word "dealer"  
 7 ~~includes all persons or individuals required to be licensed under the terms of this section.~~ Except  
 8 when indicated otherwise, ~~dealer otherwise indicated,~~ licenses in this section are annual licenses  
 9 issued beginning January 1 each year running until the following December 31.

10 (b) ~~License Required; Rules Governing Licensee.~~—Except as otherwise provided, no  
 11 person may engage in any activity for which a ~~dealer~~ license is provided under this section  
 12 without first having procured a current and valid ~~dealer~~ license for that activity. In implementing  
 13 the provisions of this section, the Wildlife Resources Commission may by rule govern every  
 14 aspect of the licensee's dealings in wildlife resources. Specifically, these rules may require  
 15 ~~dealers~~ licensees to:

- 16 (1) Implement a system of tagging or otherwise identifying and controlling  
 17 species regulated under the license and pay a reasonable fee, ~~not to exceed~~  
 18 ~~two dollars and twenty five cents (\$2.25),~~ for each tag furnished by the  
 19 Wildlife Resources Commission; Commission to defray costs;
- 20 (2) Keep records and statistics in record books furnished by the Wildlife  
 21 Resources Commission, and pay a reasonable charge to defray the cost of  
 22 furnishing the books;
- 23 (3) Be subject to inspection at reasonable hours and audit of wildlife resources  
 24 and pertinent records and equipment;
- 25 (4) Make periodic reports;
- 26 (5) Post performance bonds payable to the Wildlife Resources Commission  
 27 conditioned upon faithful compliance with provisions of law; and
- 28 (6) Otherwise comply with reasonable rules and administrative requirements that  
 29 may be imposed under the authority of this section.

30 ...

31 (f) **Fur-Dealer License.** – Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any individual  
 32 in this State who deals in furs must obtain an appropriate fur-dealer license. For the purposes of  
 33 this subsection, "dealing in furs" is engaging in the business of buying or selling fur-bearing  
 34 animals or other wild animals that may lawfully be sold, the raw furs, pelts, or skins of those  
 35 animals, or the furs, pelts, or skins of wild animals which may not themselves be sold but whose  
 36 fur, pelt, or skin may lawfully be sold. A hunter or trapper who has lawfully taken wild animals  
 37 whose fur, pelt, or skin is permitted to be sold under this subsection is not considered a fur dealer  
 38 if he exclusively sells the animals or the furs, pelts, and skins, as appropriate, to licensed fur  
 39 dealers. All fur-dealer licenses are annual licenses issued beginning July 1 each year running  
 40 until the following June 30. Fur-dealer licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission  
 41 are as follows:

42 ...

- 43 (3) Fur-dealer station license, one hundred twenty dollars (\$120.00). Authorizes  
 44 a person or individual to deal in furs at an established location where fur  
 45 dealings occur under the supervision of a responsible individual manager  
 46 named in the license. Individual employees of the business dealing in furs  
 47 solely at the established location under the supervision of the manager need  
 48 not acquire an individual license. Any employee who also deals in furs outside  
 49 the established location ~~must~~ shall obtain the appropriate individual license.  
 50 Individuals dealing in furs at an established location may elect to do so under  
 51 their individual licenses.

1           The Executive Director may administratively provide for reissuance of a  
2           station license without charge for the remainder of the year when either a  
3           business continues at an established location under a new supervising manager  
4           or the business changes to a new location. Before reissuing the license,  
5           however, the Executive Director ~~must satisfy himself~~ shall determine that  
6           there is a continuation of essentially the same business previously licensed  
7           and that any new supervising manager meets the qualifications imposed by  
8           rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission. The supervising manager ~~must~~  
9           shall file the names of all employees of the business covered by a fur-dealer  
10          station license, whether temporary or permanent, including employees who  
11          process or skin the animals.

12       The Executive Director ~~must~~ shall furnish supervising managers and individual licensees with  
13       forms or record books for recording required information as to purchase, sale, importation,  
14       exportation, and other dealings, and make a reasonable charge to cover the costs of any record  
15       books furnished. It is unlawful for anyone dealing in furs to fail to submit reports required by  
16       rules or reasonable administrative directives.

17       (g)   Controlled Hunting Preserve Operator License. – The Wildlife Resources  
18       Commission is authorized by rule to set standards for and to license the operation of controlled  
19       hunting preserves operated by private persons. Controlled hunting preserves are of ~~two~~ three  
20       types: one is an area marked with appropriate signs along the outside boundaries on which only  
21       domestically raised chukars, Hungarian partridges, and game birds other than wild turkeys are  
22       taken; the other one is an area enclosed with a dog-proof fence on which rabbits may be hunted  
23       with dogs only; and one is an area enclosed with a dog-proof fence on which foxes and coyotes  
24       may be hunted with dogs only. A controlled fox and coyote hunting preserve operated for private  
25       use may be of any size; a controlled hunting preserve operated for commercial purposes shall be  
26       an area of not less than 500 acres or of such size as set by regulation of the Wildlife Resources  
27       Commission, which shall take into account differences in terrain and topography, as well as the  
28       welfare of the wildlife.

29       Operators of controlled fox hunting preserves may purchase live foxes and coyotes from  
30       licensed trappers who live-trap foxes and coyotes during any open season for trapping them and  
31       may, at any time, take live foxes from their preserves for sale to other licensed operators. The  
32       controlled hunting preserve operator license may be purchased for a fee of ~~fifty dollars (\$50.00),~~  
33       one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and is an annual license issued beginning 1 July each year running  
34       until the following 30 June.

35       (h)   Game Bird Propagation License. – No person may propagate game birds in captivity  
36       or possess game birds for propagation without first procuring a license under this subsection. The  
37       Wildlife Resources Commission may by rule prescribe the activities to be covered by the  
38       propagation license, which species of game birds may be propagated, and the manner of keeping  
39       and raising the birds, in accordance with the overall objectives of conservation of wildlife  
40       resources. Except as limited by this subsection, propagated game birds may be raised and sold  
41       for purposes of propagation, stocking, food, or taking in connection with dog training as  
42       authorized in G.S. 113-291.1(d). Migratory game bird operations authorized under this  
43       subsection must also comply with any applicable provisions of federal law and rules. The  
44       Wildlife Resources Commission may impose requirements as to shipping, marking packages,  
45       banding, tagging, or wrapping the propagated birds and other restrictions designed to reduce the  
46       change of illicit game birds being disposed of under the cover of licensed operations. The  
47       Wildlife Resources Commission may make a reasonable charge for any bands, tags, or wrappers  
48       furnished propagators. The game bird propagation license is issued by the Wildlife Resources  
49       Commission upon payment of a fee of ~~five dollars (\$5.00),~~ ten dollars (\$10.00). It authorizes a  
50       person or individual to propagate and sell game birds designated in the license, in accordance  
51       with the rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission, except:

- 1 (1) Wild turkey and ruffed grouse may not be sold for food.  
2 (2) Production and sale of pen-raised quail for food purposes is under the  
3 exclusive control of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.  
4 The Wildlife Resources Commission, however, may regulate the possession,  
5 propagation, and transportation of live pen-raised quail.  
6 ...

7 (k) Taxidermy License. – Any individual who engages in ~~taxidermy~~ taxidermy, including  
8 the tanning of hides, involving wildlife for any compensation, including reimbursement for the  
9 cost of materials, must first procure a taxidermy license. This license is an annual license issued  
10 by the Wildlife Resources Commission for ~~ten dollars (\$10.00).~~ The Wildlife Resources  
11 Commission must require a licensee to keep records concerning any wildlife taken or possessed  
12 by him; to keep records of the names and addresses of persons bringing him wildlife, the names  
13 and addresses of persons taking the wildlife if different, and other information concerning the  
14 origin of the wildlife; to inspect any applicable licenses or permits pertaining to the taking and  
15 possession of wildlife brought to him; to restrict him to taxidermy upon lawfully acquired  
16 wildlife; and to keep other pertinent records. ~~fifty dollars (\$50.00).~~ In addition to a taxidermy  
17 license, license holders engaging in taxidermy of any species of the family Cervidae must also  
18 obtain a taxidermy cervid certification issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission for five  
19 dollars (\$5.00), the proceeds of which shall be used to fund the Cervid Health Cooperator  
20 Program and for other chronic wasting disease surveillance. The Wildlife Resources Commission  
21 is authorized by rule to set standards and reporting requirements for taxidermy licenses and  
22 certifications. No taxidermist subject to license requirements may sell any game or game fish in  
23 which he deals except that a taxidermist may acquire a valid possessory lien upon game or game  
24 fish under the terms of Chapter 44A of the General Statutes and, with a trophy sale permit from  
25 the ~~Executive Director, Wildlife Resources Commission,~~ may sell the game or game fish under  
26 the procedure authorized in Chapter 44A. Wildlife acquired by a taxidermist is deemed "personal  
27 property" for the purposes of Chapter 44A.

28 (l) Wildlife Control Agent License. – Any individual who engages in wildlife damage  
29 control or wildlife removal activities, including bat eviction, for compensation, including  
30 reimbursement for the cost of materials, shall first procure a wildlife control agent license. This  
31 is an annual license issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission for fifty dollars (\$50.00). This  
32 license shall not be required for licensed trappers taking wild animals during the established  
33 trapping season for that species. The Wildlife Resources Commission is authorized by rule to set  
34 standards for and to license wildlife control agents.

35 (m) Alligator Control Agent Certification. – In addition to the wildlife control agent  
36 license, any individual who engages in alligator damage control or removal activities for  
37 compensation, including reimbursement for the cost of materials, shall first procure an alligator  
38 control agent certification. This is an annual certification issued by the Wildlife Resources  
39 Commission for twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). The Wildlife Resources Commission is authorized  
40 by rule to set standards for and to certify alligator control agents. This certification does not  
41 include privileges conveyed with an endangered species permit. The endangered species permit  
42 shall be obtained prior to conducting activities under the authorization of this certification."

43 **SECTION 6.(m)** G.S. 113-274 reads as rewritten:

44 **"§ 113-274. Permits.**

45 (a) As used in this Article, the word "permit" refers to a written authorization issued  
46 ~~without charge~~ by an employee or agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission to an individual  
47 ~~or a person~~ to conduct some activity over which the Wildlife Resources Commission has  
48 jurisdiction. Unless otherwise specified, permits are issued at no cost. When a more limited  
49 duration period is not set by the Executive Director, permits are valid through December 31 in  
50 any calendar year. When sale of wildlife resources is permitted, rules or the directives of the  
51 Executive Director may require the retention of invoices or copies of invoices in lieu of a permit.

1 (b) Except as otherwise specifically provided, no one may engage in any activity for  
2 which a permit is required without having first procured a current and valid permit.

3 (c) The Wildlife Resources Commission may issue the following permits:

4 ...  
5 (1c) ~~Possession Permit. Permit – (\$10.00).~~ Authorizes the possession of dead  
6 wildlife or other wildlife resources lawfully acquired. The Wildlife Resources  
7 Commission may by rule implement the issuance and supervision of this  
8 permit, in accordance with governing laws and rules respecting the possession  
9 of wildlife. Any substantial deviation from reasonable requirements imposed  
10 by rule or administratively under the authority of this section renders the  
11 possession of the wildlife unlawful.

12 ...  
13 (3) ~~Exportation or Importation Permit. Permit – (\$10.00).~~ Authorizes the  
14 exportation or importation of wildlife resources from or into the State or from  
15 county to county. The Wildlife Resources Commission may by rule  
16 implement the issuance and supervision of this permit, in accordance with  
17 governing laws and rules respecting the exportation and importation of  
18 wildlife resources. Any substantial deviation from reasonable requirements  
19 imposed by rule or administratively under the authority of this section renders  
20 the importation or exportation of the wildlife resources unlawful.

21 (3a) ~~Trophy Wildlife Sale Permit. Permit – (\$10.00).~~ Authorizes the owner of  
22 lawfully taken and possessed dead wildlife specimens or their parts that are  
23 mounted, stuffed, or otherwise permanently preserved to sell identified  
24 individual specimens that may lawfully be sold under applicable laws and  
25 rules.

26 ...  
27 (3d) Endangered Species Permit – (\$10.00). Authorizes the collection, possession,  
28 or survey of endangered species. The Wildlife Resources Commission may  
29 by rule set standards and requirements for this permit. The Wildlife Resources  
30 Commission may enact rules utilizing replacement costs of wildlife resources  
31 to offset the impact of collection, possession, or survey activities.

32 (3e) Field Trial Permit – (\$10.00). Authorizes an individual to hold a  
33 Commission-sanctioned field trial for dogs in accordance with governing laws  
34 and rules adopted and implemented by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

35 ...."

36 **SECTION 6.(n)** G.S. 113-275 reads as rewritten:

37 "**§ 113-275. General provisions respecting licenses and permits.**

38 (a) The Wildlife Resources Commission is authorized to make agreements with other  
39 jurisdictions as to reciprocal honoring of licenses in the best interests of the conservation of  
40 wildlife resources.

41 (a1) Notwithstanding the fees specified for nonresident individuals by G.S. 113-270.2,  
42 113-270.3, 113-270.4, 113-270.5, 113-271, ~~113-272,~~ 113-272.2, ~~and 113-273,~~ 113-273, or  
43 Wildlife Resources Commission rules, if the Wildlife Resources Commission finds that a state  
44 has a nonresident license fee related to wildlife resources that exceeds the fee for a comparable  
45 nonresident license in North Carolina, the Wildlife Resources Commission may, by resolution in  
46 official session, increase the nonresident license fee applicable to citizens of that state to an  
47 amount equal to the fee a North Carolina resident is required to pay in that state.

48 The action of the Wildlife Resources Commission to increase a fee pursuant to this subsection  
49 is not subject to the provisions of Article 2A of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes. The action  
50 of the Wildlife Resources Commission to increase a fee pursuant to this subsection becomes  
51 effective on the date specified by the Wildlife Resources Commission.



1 ...  
2 (k) A person may use a bow and arrow to take nongame fish in inland and joint fishing  
3 waters subject to any applicable rule of the Wildlife Resources Commission regarding seasons,  
4 creel limits, type of weapon or subsidiary gear, or any other restriction necessary for the  
5 conservation of wildlife under the authority of the following licenses:

- 6 (1) All of the combination hunting and fishing licenses issued pursuant to  
7 G.S. 113-270.1C;
- 8 (2) All of the sportsman licenses issued pursuant to G.S. 113-270.1D;
- 9 (3) The hunting licenses issued pursuant to G.S. 113- 270.2(c)(1), (2), (3), (5),  
10 and (6);
- 11 (4) The hook-and-line fishing licenses issued pursuant to ~~G.S. 113-271(d)(1),(2),~~  
12 G.S. 113-271(d)(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (8), and (9); and
- 13 (5) All of the special device fishing licenses issued pursuant to G.S. 113-272.2."

14 **SECTION 6.(o)** G.S. 113-276 reads as rewritten:

15 **"§ 113-276. Exemptions and exceptions to license and permit requirements.**

16 ...  
17 (d) Except as otherwise provided in this Subchapter, individuals under 16 years of age  
18 are exempt from the hunting and trapping license requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B(a) and  
19 ~~G.S. 113-270.3(a),~~ G.S. 113-270.3, except that such individuals are not exempt from the  
20 American alligator licenses established in G.S. 113-270.3(b)(6) and G.S. 113-270.3(b)(7), elk  
21 licenses established in G.S. 113-270.3(b)(8) and G.S. 113-270.3(b)(9), and the falconry license  
22 described in G.S. 113-270.3(b)(4). Individuals under 16 may hunt under this exemption, provided  
23 that the hunter is accompanied by an adult of at least 18 years of age who is licensed to hunt in  
24 this State. For purposes of this section, "accompanied" means that the licensed adult maintains a  
25 proximity that enables the adult to monitor the activities of the hunter by remaining within sight  
26 and hearing distance at all times without use of electronic devices. Upon successfully obtaining  
27 the hunter education certificate of competency required by G.S. 113-270.1A(a), a hunter may  
28 hunt under the license exemption until age 16 without adult accompaniment. Individuals under  
29 16 years of age are exempt from the fishing license requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B(a),  
30 113-272, and 113-271.

31 ...  
32 (l2) A resident of this State who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States  
33 serving outside the State, or who is serving on full-time active military duty outside the State in  
34 a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States as defined in 10 U.S.C. 10101, is  
35 exempt from the hunting and fishing license requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B,  
36 G.S. 113-270.3(b)(1), G.S. 113-270.3(b)(3), G.S. 113-270.3(b)(5), G.S. 113-271, ~~G.S. 113-272,~~  
37 G.S. 113-272.2(c)(1), and the Coastal Recreational Fishing License requirements of  
38 G.S. 113-174.2 while that person is on leave in this State for 30 days or less. In order to qualify  
39 for the exemption provided under this subsection, the person shall have on his or her person at  
40 all times during the hunting or fishing activity the person's military identification card and a copy  
41 of the official document issued by the person's service unit confirming that the person is on  
42 authorized leave from a duty station outside this State.

43 A person exempted from licensing requirements under this subsection is responsible for  
44 complying with any reporting requirements prescribed by rule of the Wildlife Resources  
45 Commission, complying with the hunter education requirements of G.S. 113-270.1A, purchasing  
46 any federal migratory waterfowl stamps as a result of waterfowl hunting activity, and complying  
47 with any other requirements that the holder of a North Carolina license is subject to.

48 (m) The fourth day of July of each year is declared a free fishing day to promote the sport  
49 of fishing and no hook-and-line fishing license is required to fish in any of the public waters of  
50 the State on that day. All other laws and rules pertaining to hook-and-line fishing apply.

1 (n) The Wildlife Resources Commission may adopt rules to exempt individuals from the  
2 hunting and fishing license requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B, 113-270.3(b)(1),  
3 113-270.3(b)(1a), 113-270.3(b)(1b), 113-270.3(b)(2), 113-270.3(b)(3), 113-270.3(b)(5),  
4 113-271, ~~113-272~~, and 113-272.2(c)(1) who participate in organized hunting and fishing events  
5 for the specified time and place of the event when the purpose of the event is consistent with the  
6 conservation objectives of the Commission. A person exempted from licensing requirements  
7 under this subsection is responsible for complying with any reporting requirements prescribed  
8 by rule of the Wildlife Resources Commission, purchasing any federal migratory waterfowl  
9 stamps as a result of waterfowl hunting activity, and complying with any other requirements that  
10 the holder of a North Carolina license is subject to. Those exempted persons shall comply with  
11 the hunter safety requirements of G.S. 113-270.1A or shall be accompanied by a properly  
12 licensed adult who maintains a proximity to the license exempt individual which enables the  
13 adult to monitor the activities of, and communicate with, the individual at all times."

14 **SECTION 6.(p)** G.S. 113-276.1 reads as rewritten:

15 **"§ 113-276.1. Regulatory authority of Wildlife Resources Commission as to license**  
16 **requirements and exemptions.**

17 In its discretion and in accordance with the best interests of the conservation of wildlife  
18 resources, the Wildlife Resources Commission may implement the provisions of this Article with  
19 rules that:

- 20 (1) [Reserved.]
- 21 (2) Regulate license requirements and exemptions applying to the taking of  
22 wildlife on particular waters forming or lying across a county boundary where  
23 there may be confusion as to the location of the boundary, hardship imposed  
24 as to the location of the boundary, or difficulty of administering or enforcing  
25 the law with respect to the actual boundary location.
- 26 (3) Require persons subject to license requirements, and persons exempt from  
27 license requirements, to carry, display, or produce identification that may be  
28 necessary to substantiate the person's entitlement to a particular license or to  
29 a particular exemption from license requirements.
- 30 (4) Require individuals aboard vessels or carrying weapons or other gear that may  
31 be used to take wildlife resources, and in an area at a time wildlife resources  
32 may be taken, to exhibit identification that includes the individual's name and  
33 current address. More than one piece of identification, including a vehicle  
34 driver license, may be required to be exhibited, if available.
- 35 (5) Implement a system of tagging and reporting fur-bearing animals and big  
36 game. Upon the implementation of a tagging system for any species of  
37 fur-bearing animal, the Wildlife Resources Commission may charge a  
38 reasonable fee to defray its costs, ~~not to exceed two dollars twenty five cents~~  
39 ~~(\$2.25) per tag~~, costs for each tag furnished. The price of the big game hunting  
40 license includes the cost of big game tags."

41 **SECTION 6.(q)** G.S. 113-276.2 reads as rewritten:

42 **"§ 113-276.2. Licensees and permittees subject to administrative control; refusal to issue**  
43 **or reissue, suspension, and revocation of their licenses and permits; court orders**  
44 **of suspension.**

45 (a) This section applies to the administrative control of:

- 46 (1) Persons, other than individual hunters and fishermen taking wildlife as  
47 sportsmen, holding permits under this Article;
- 48 (2) Individuals holding special device licenses under G.S. 113-272.2(c)(1), (1a),  
49 (2), and (2a);
- 50 (3) Individuals holding collection licenses under G.S. 113-272.4;

- 1 (4) Individuals holding captivity licenses under G.S. 113-272.5 and  
 2 G.S. 113-272.6; and  
 3 (5) Persons holding ~~dealer~~ licenses under G.S. 113-273.  
 4 ...."

## 6 TRAPPER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

7 **SECTION 7.** G.S. 113-291.6(b) reads as rewritten:

8 "(b) No one may take wild animals by trapping with any steel-jaw, leghold, or conibear  
 9 trap unless it:

- 10 (1) Has a jaw spread of not more than seven and one-half inches.  
 11 (2) Is horizontally offset with closed jaw spread of at least three sixteenths of an  
 12 inch for a trap with a jaw spread of more than five and one-half inches. This  
 13 subdivision does not apply if the trap is set in the water with quick-drown type  
 14 of set.  
 15 (3) Is smooth edged and without teeth or spikes.  
 16 (4) Has a weather-resistant permanent tag attached legibly giving the trapper's  
 17 name and ~~address~~-address or the trapper's trapper identification number  
 18 provided by the Wildlife Resources Commission and the Wildlife Resources  
 19 Commission telephone number to report wildlife violations.

20 A steel-jaw or leghold trap set on dry land with solid anchor may not have a trap chain longer  
 21 than eight inches from trap to anchor unless fitted with a shock-absorbing device approved by  
 22 the Wildlife Resources Commission."  
 23

## 24 ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY FOR WRC INSPECTORS AND PROTECTORS

25 **SECTION 8.(a)** G.S. 106-206.15 reads as rewritten:

### 26 "§ 106-202.15. Powers and duties of the Board.

27 The Board shall have all of the following powers and duties:

- 28 ...  
 29 (10) To cooperate or enter into formal agreements with any agency of this State or  
 30 of any other state or of the federal government for the purpose of enforcing  
 31 any of the provisions of this Article.  
 32 ...."

33 **SECTION 8.(b)** G.S. 113-136 reads as rewritten:

### 34 "§ 113-136. Enforcement authority of inspectors and protectors; refusal to obey or allow 35 inspection by inspectors and protectors.

36 (a) Inspectors and protectors are granted the powers of peace officers anywhere in this  
 37 State, and beyond its boundaries to the extent provided by law, in enforcing all matters within  
 38 their respective subject-matter jurisdiction as set out in this section.

39 (b) The jurisdiction of inspectors extends to all matters within the jurisdiction of the  
 40 Department set out in this Subchapter, Part 5D of Article 7 of Chapter 143B of the General  
 41 Statutes, Article 5 of Chapter 76 of the General Statutes, and Article 2 of Chapter 77 of the  
 42 General Statutes, and to all other matters within the jurisdiction of the Department which it directs  
 43 inspectors to enforce. In addition, inspectors have jurisdiction over all offenses involving  
 44 property of or leased to or managed by the Department in connection with the conservation of  
 45 marine and estuarine resources.

46 (c) The jurisdiction of protectors extends to all matters within the jurisdiction of the  
 47 Wildlife Resources Commission, whether set out in this Chapter, Chapter 75A, Chapter 143,  
 48 Chapter 143B, or elsewhere. The Wildlife Resources Commission is specifically granted  
 49 jurisdiction over all aspects of:

- 50 (1) Boating and water safety;  
 51 (2) Hunting and trapping;

- 1 (3) Fishing, exclusive of fishing under the jurisdiction of the Marine Fisheries  
2 Commission; and  
3 (4) Activities in woodlands and on inland waters governed by G.S. 106-908 to  
4 G.S. 106-910.

5 In addition, protectors have jurisdiction over all offenses involving property of or leased by the  
6 Wildlife Resources Commission or occurring on wildlife refuges, game lands, or boating and  
7 fishing access areas managed by the Wildlife Resources Commission. The authority of protectors  
8 over offenses on public hunting grounds is governed by the jurisdiction granted the Commission  
9 in G.S. 113-264(c).

10 (c1) Inspectors and protectors have jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of Article 19B of  
11 Chapter 106 of the General Statutes pursuant to and within the parameters of a formal agreement  
12 entered into under G.S. 106-202.15(10).

13 ...."

## 15 BEAVER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CHANGES

16 SECTION 9. G.S. 113-291.10 reads as rewritten:

### 17 "§ 113-291.10. Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board.

18 (a) There is established the Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board. The Board shall  
19 consist of nine members, as follows:

- 20 (1) The Executive Director of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources  
21 Commission, or his designee, who shall serve as chair;  
22 (2) The Commissioner of Agriculture, or a designee;  
23 (3) The Assistant Commissioner of the North Carolina Forest Service of the  
24 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a designee;  
25 (4) The Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the  
26 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a designee;  
27 (5) ~~The Director of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, or a~~  
28 ~~designee;~~A representative of the North Carolina Association of County  
29 Commissioners;  
30 (6) The Secretary of Transportation, or a designee;  
31 (7) The State Director of the Wildlife Services Division of the Animal and Plant  
32 Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or a designee;  
33 (8) The President of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, Inc., or a  
34 designee, representing private landowners; and  
35 (9) A representative of the North Carolina Forestry Association.

36 (b) The Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board shall develop a statewide program to  
37 control beaver damage on private and public lands. The Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board  
38 shall act in an advisory capacity to the Wildlife Resources Commission in the implementation of  
39 the program. In developing the program, the Board shall:

- 40 (1) Orient the program primarily toward public health and safety and toward  
41 landowner assistance, providing some relief to landowners through beaver  
42 control and management rather than eradication;  
43 (2) Develop a priority system for responding to complaints about beaver damage;  
44 (3) Develop a system for documenting all activities associated with beaver  
45 damage control, so as to facilitate evaluation of the program;  
46 (4) Provide educational activities as a part of the program, such as printed  
47 materials, on-site instructions, and local workshops; and  
48 (5) Provide for the hiring of personnel necessary to implement beaver damage  
49 control activities, administer the program, and set salaries of personnel.

50 No later than ~~March 15~~ December 1 of each year, the Board shall issue a report to the Wildlife  
51 Resources Commission, the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Natural and

1 Economic Resources, and the Fiscal Research Division on the results of the program during the  
2 preceding year.

3 (c) The Wildlife Resources Commission shall implement the program, and may enter a  
4 cooperative agreement with the Wildlife Services Division of the Animal and Plant Health  
5 Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, to accomplish the program.

6 (d) Notwithstanding G.S. 113-291.6(d) or any other law, it is lawful to use snares when  
7 trapping beaver pursuant to the beaver damage control program developed pursuant to this  
8 section. The provisions of Chapter 218 of the 1975 Session Laws; Chapter 492 of the 1951  
9 Session Laws, as amended by Chapter 506 of the 1955 Session Laws; and Chapter 1011 of the  
10 1983 Session Laws do not apply to trapping carried out in implementing the beaver damage  
11 control program developed pursuant to this section.

12 (e) In case of any conflict between G.S. 113-291.6(a) and G.S. 113-291.6(b) and this  
13 section, this section prevails.

14 (f) Each county that ~~volunteers-wishes~~ to participate in this program for a given State  
15 fiscal year shall provide written notification of its wish to participate no later than September 30  
16 of that year-May 1 of the preceding fiscal year and shall ~~commit-remit~~ the sum of ~~four-six~~  
17 ~~thousand dollars (\$4,000)-(\$6,000)~~ in local funds no later than ~~September 30 of that year-July~~  
18 31 of the fiscal year for which enrollment is sought. Funds, as appropriated for this program each  
19 fiscal year of the biennium, shall be paid from funds available to the Wildlife Resources  
20 Commission to provide the State share necessary to support this program, provided the sum of at  
21 least twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in federal funds is available each fiscal year of the  
22 biennium to provide the federal share."  
23

## 24 CHANGES TO REGULATION OF CERTAIN REPTILES

25 SECTION 10.(a) G.S. 14-417 reads as rewritten:

### 26 "§ 14-417. Regulation of ownership or use of venomous reptiles.

27 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, use, transport, or traffic in any  
28 venomous reptile that is not housed in a sturdy and secure enclosure. ~~Permanent enclosures~~  
29 Enclosures shall be designed to be escape-proof, bite-proof, and have an operable lock. ~~Transport~~  
30 ~~containers shall be designed to be escape-proof and bite-proof.~~

31 (b) Each enclosure shall be clearly and visibly labeled "Venomous Reptile Inside" with  
32 scientific name, common name, appropriate antivenin, and owner's identifying information noted  
33 on the container. A written bite protocol that includes emergency contact information, local  
34 animal control office, the name and location of suitable antivenin, first aid procedures, and  
35 treatment guidelines, as well as an escape recovery plan must be within sight of permanent  
36 housing, and a copy must accompany the transport of any venomous reptile.

37 (c) In the event of an escape of a venomous reptile, the owner or possessor of the  
38 venomous reptile shall immediately notify local law enforcement."

39 SECTION 10.(b) G.S. 14-417.1 reads as rewritten:

### 40 "§ 14-417.1. Regulation of ownership or use of large constricting snakes.

41 (a) As used in this Article, large constricting snakes shall mean: Reticulated Python,  
42 Python reticulatus; Burmese Python, Python molurus; African Rock Python, Python sebae;  
43 Amethystine Python, Morelia amethystina; and Green Anaconda, Eunectes murinus; or any of  
44 their subspecies or hybrids.

45 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, use, transport, or traffic in any of  
46 the large constricting snakes that are not housed in a sturdy and secure enclosure. ~~Permanent~~  
47 enclosures-Enclosures shall be designed to be escape-proof and shall have an operable lock.  
48 ~~Transport containers shall be designed to be escape-proof.~~

49 (c) Each enclosure shall be labeled clearly and visibly with the scientific name, common  
50 name, number of specimens, and owner's identifying information. A written safety protocol and  
51 escape recovery plan shall be within sight of permanent housing, and a copy shall accompany

1 the transport of any of the large constricting snakes. The safety protocol shall include emergency  
2 contact information, identification of the local animal control office, and first aid procedures.

3 (d) In the event of an escape of a large constricting snake, the owner or possessor shall  
4 immediately notify local law enforcement."

5 **SECTION 10.(c)** G.S. 14-417.2 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 14-417.2. Regulation of ownership or use of crocodilians.**

7 (a) All crocodilians, excluding the American alligator, shall be regulated under this  
8 Article. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, use, transport, or traffic in any  
9 crocodilian that is not housed in a sturdy and secure enclosure. Permanent enclosures shall be  
10 designed to be escape-proof and have a fence of sufficient strength to prevent contact between  
11 an observer and the crocodilian and shall have an operable lock. Transport containers shall be  
12 designed to be ~~escape-proof~~ escape-proof and shall be locked.

13 (b) A written safety protocol and escape recovery plan shall be within sight of permanent  
14 housing, and a copy must accompany the transport of any crocodilian.

15 (c) In the event of the escape of a crocodilian, the owner or possessor shall immediately  
16 notify local law enforcement."

17 **SECTION 10.(d)** G.S. 14-419 reads as rewritten:

18 "**§ 14-419. Investigation of suspected violations; seizure and examination of reptiles;  
19 disposition of reptiles.**

20 (a) In any case in which ~~any a~~ law-enforcement officer or animal control officer has  
21 probable cause to believe that any of the provisions of this Article have been or are about to be  
22 violated, ~~it shall be the duty of the officer and the officer is authorized, empowered, and directed~~  
23 authorized and empowered to immediately investigate the violation or impending violation and  
24 to consult with representatives of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences or the North  
25 Carolina Zoological Park or a designated representative of ~~either the Museum or Zoological Park~~  
26 the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to identify the species, assist  
27 with determining interim disposition, and recommend appropriate and safe methods to handle  
28 and seize the reptile or reptiles involved, to seize the reptile or reptiles involved, and the officer  
29 ~~is authorized and directed to deliver: (i) a reptile believed to be venomous to the North Carolina~~  
30 ~~State Museum of Natural Sciences or to its designated representative for examination for the~~  
31 ~~purpose of ascertaining whether the reptile is regulated under this Article; and, (ii) a reptile~~  
32 ~~believed to be a large constricting snake or crocodilian to the North Carolina Zoological Park or~~  
33 ~~to its designated representative for the purpose of ascertaining whether the reptile is regulated~~  
34 ~~under this Article. In any case in which a law enforcement officer or animal control officer~~  
35 involved. In the case of escape, or if an officer, with probable cause to believe that reptile is being  
36 owned, possessed, used, transported, or trafficked in violation of this Article, determines that  
37 there is an immediate risk to officer safety or public safety, the officer shall not be required to  
38 consult with representatives of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences or the North  
39 Carolina Zoological Park as provided by this subsection and may kill the reptile.

40 (b) ~~If~~ If, based on available information, the officer, the Museum or Museum, the  
41 Zoological Park or their designated representatives find a designated representative of the  
42 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources finds that a seized reptile is a venomous reptile,  
43 large constricting snake, or crocodilian regulated under this Article, the Museum or the  
44 Zoological Park or ~~their designated representative~~ a designated representative of the Department  
45 of Natural and Cultural Resources shall determine ~~assist the officer with determining~~ an interim  
46 disposition of the reptile in a manner consistent with the safety of the public, until a final  
47 disposition is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction. In the case of a venomous reptile  
48 for which antivenin approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration is not readily  
49 available, the reptile may be euthanized unless the species is protected under the federal  
50 Endangered Species Act of 1973. Where ~~the Museum or the Zoological Park or their designated~~  
51 ~~representative determines~~ euthanasia is determined to be the appropriate interim disposition, or

1 where a reptile seized pursuant to this Article dies of natural or unintended causes, the ~~Museum,~~  
2 ~~the Zoological Park, or their designated representatives parties involved~~ shall not be liable to the  
3 reptile's owner.

4 (b1) Upon conviction of any offense contained in this Article, the court shall order a final  
5 disposition of the confiscated venomous reptiles, large constricting snakes, or crocodilians,  
6 which may include the transfer of title to the State of North Carolina and shall include  
7 reimbursement by the owner for the ~~necessary~~ expenses incurred in the seizure, delivery, and  
8 storage thereof.

9 (c) ~~If the Museum or the Zoological Park or their designated representatives find that the~~  
10 ~~reptile is not a venomous reptile, large constricting snake, or crocodilian regulated under this~~  
11 ~~Article, and either no ~~criminal warrants~~ criminal citations, warrants, or indictments are initiated~~  
12 ~~against the owner~~ in connection with the reptile within 10 days of initial seizure, or a court of  
13 law determines that the reptile is not being owned, possessed, used, transported, or trafficked in  
14 violation of this Article, then it shall be the duty of the law enforcement officer to return the  
15 reptile or reptiles to the person from whom they were seized within 15 ~~days~~ days of the seizure."

16 **SECTION 10.(e)** G.S. 14-420 is repealed.

## 17 18 **DEFINE BAITED AREA FOR PURPOSES OF WILD TURKEY HUNTING**

19 **SECTION 11.** G.S. 113-291.1 reads as rewritten:

20 **"§ 113-291.1. Manner of taking wild animals and wild birds.**

21 ...

22 (b) No wild animals or wild birds may be taken:

23 ...

24 (2) With the use or aid of any artificial light, net, trap, snare, electronic or recorded  
25 animal or bird call, or fire, except as may be otherwise provided by statute[;]  
26 provided, however, that the Wildlife Resources Commission may adopt rules  
27 prescribing seasons and the manner of taking of wild animals and wild birds  
28 with the use of artificial light and electronic calls. No wild birds may be taken  
29 with the use or aid of salt, grain, fruit, or other bait. No black bear may be  
30 taken with the use or aid of any salt, salt lick, grain, fruit, honey, sugar-based  
31 material, animal parts or products, or other bait, except as provided by the  
32 rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission. However, no rule established by  
33 the Wildlife Resources Commission shall allow for the taking of a black bear  
34 with the use and aid of bear bait attractants, including scented sprays, aerosols,  
35 scent balls, and scent powders, and no rule established by the Wildlife  
36 Resources Commission shall allow for the taking of a black bear while it is  
37 consuming bait. No wild turkey may knowingly be taken from ~~an area within~~  
38 300 yards of any place in which bait has been placed until the expiration of 10  
39 days after the bait has been consumed or otherwise removed. The taking of  
40 wild animals and wild birds with poisons, drugs, explosives, and electricity is  
41 governed by G.S. 113-261, G.S. 113-262, and Article 22A of this Subchapter.

42 Upon finding that the placement of processed food products in areas  
43 frequented by black bears is detrimental to the health of individual black bears  
44 or is attracting and holding black bears in an area to the extent that the natural  
45 pattern of movement and distribution of black bears is disrupted and bears'  
46 vulnerability to mortality factors, including hunting, is increased to a level that  
47 causes concern for the population, the Wildlife Resources Commission may  
48 adopt rules to regulate, restrict, or prohibit the placement of those products  
49 and prescribe time limits during which hunting is prohibited in areas where  
50 those products have been placed.

1                                   Any person who is convicted of unlawfully taking bear with the use or aid  
2                                   of any type of bait as provided by this subsection or by rules adopted pursuant  
3                                   to this subsection is punishable as provided by G.S. 113-294(c1).  
4                   ...."

5  
6   **EFFECTIVE DATE**

7                   **SECTION 12.** Sections 1 through 6 of this act become effective August 1, 2019.  
8   Section 7 of this act becomes effective October 1, 2019. Section 9 of this act becomes effective  
9   January 1, 2020. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.