Office of State Budget and Management Establish New, Receipt-Supported Positions

(G.S. 143-34.1)

Agency: NC Wildlife Resources Commission **Division**: Division of Conservation Education

Budget Code: 24350

Center Title: Centennial Campus Center for Wildlife Education - Habitat Conservation Section-

Center Number: 2133<u>& 2141E</u>

*** Position Information ***

Proposed Classification: -Processing Assistant IV Proposed Salary Grade: 59

Salary Range: __\$30,451 19,626 - \$30,839_______Proposed Effective Date: __01_03/01/04

Number of Positions: 3—1

	Center Authorized Budget	Current Request
Total Budget	\$198,967	\$30,839
Receipts	\$198,967	\$30,839
Appropriation	\$0	\$ 0

Funding Source(s): State Wildlife Grant (2 positions) & The Wildlife Fund

Justification for Position (including description of duties and responsibilities):

The purpose of this position is to serve as the information desk receptionist at the Centennial Campus Center for Wildlife Education. To accomplish this task, this position must work closely with the Visitor Services Coordinator, center and other agency personnel, educational institutions, private industry and the general public to do the following: orient visitors to the center layout; direct visitors to programming locations; answer questions regarding the center and its programs; answer general questions about the agency; direct visitors of center staff to staff offices; and read and interpret the on-line center calendar. This position will also provide staff support to the N.C. Wild Store gift shop including assisting with processing of cash register receipts. This position will also provide administrative staff support to the Visitor Services Coordinator including answering center telephone calls not intercepted by voice mail; assisting with N.C. Wild Store inventory control; and assisting with other office assignments as designated by the Visitor Services Coordinator.

Due to recent division expansions and upcoming hydropower relicensing projects, these additional positions are essential in order to be capable to fulfill the objectives of the Habitat Conservation Section. One position will add to our hydropower relicensing program due to upcoming project negotiations in addition to existing projects. This position will be responsible for developing guidelines, leading in the development of agency policy and coordinating agency involvement in all Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hydropower license renewals. The second position, which will add to our technical guidance program, which routinely will reviews Triangle area construction projects and attends statewide related permitting, environmental, and policy issue meetings. In addition, this position will conduct literature reviews and suggest on-site research needs. The third position will add to the game fish research and survey program. The employee who previously occupied this position was promoted to the research and survey program supervisor position in order to provide a statewide approach to division research efforts. With this promotion, the piedmont region of the state was left without a game fish research coordinator. The re-establishment of this position is badly needed to provide support for management and stocking related issues and several other public concerns.

Statutory Reference for Request

The Wildlife Resources Commission is charged by General Statute 113-132 with the management, regulation, protection, and conservation of wildlife resources and inland fisheries in North Carolina. The Division of Conservation Education is responsible for implementing the requirements of G.S. 113-132 by providing formal and informal education to the citizens of the state.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) is charged by General Statute 113 132 with the management, regulation, protection, and conservation of wildlife resources, and inland fisheries in North Carolina. The habitat conservation program allows the Commission to protect, enhance, and restore fisheries habitat and aquatic resources, which results in increased recreational opportunities for sport fishermen and protection for listed species. Land and water disturbing activities such as channelization, riparian area clearing, flow alteration, poor forestry and agricultural practices, hydropower projects, and land development have acted in concert to degrade the environment of sport and nongame aquatic resources.

Tommy Clark	
Presentation to be made by	Agency Head Signature
Chief Fiscal Officer	
Title	State Budget Officer Signature