

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&2141E

***** Position Information *****

Proposed Classification: Natural Science Curator **Proposed Salary Grade:** 65
Salary Range: \$30,451 - \$39,789 **Proposed Effective Date:** 04-03/01/04
Number of Positions: 3-3

	<u>Center Authorized Budget</u>	<u>Current Request</u>
Total Budget	\$198,967	\$119,367
Receipts	<u>\$198,967</u>	<u>\$119,367</u>
Appropriation	\$0	\$ 0

Funding Source(s): State Wildlife Grant (2 positions) & DOR - Sales Tax Transfer

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

The purpose of this position is to serve as an education specialist at the Centennial Campus Center for Wildlife Education in order to facilitate the education of North Carolina's citizens about the state's wildlife and other natural resources and the relationship of humans and the environment. To accomplish this task, this position must work closely with the program coordinator to do the following:

- Assist with developing and implementing the center's educational materials and programs which support the center and the Commission;
- Facilitate educational programming using traditional and high tech methods such as Distance Learning, the application and use of Geographic Information System and ArcView software programs, Global Positioning System applications, laboratory experiments, Logger Pros, student teach handheld computers and other technologies which may be utilized for wildlife education in workshops, classes and presentations with K-12 students, teachers, university students and faculty, and the general public;
- Develop and facilitate Distance Learning programs and operate Distance Learning equipment;
- Assist other agency employees and university faculty in developing and presenting Distance Learning programs;
- Assist with partnering programming with university faculty and K-12 teachers including development, coordination and implementation of fishing events, fishing instruction classes, aquatic studies, habitat development, habitat monitoring and habitat maintenance, orienteering classes and other specialty programs;
- Maintain lab and classroom equipment and supplies;
- Assist the program coordinator in promoting the center;
- Assist with staffing the center information counter and N.C. Wild Store when needed.

~~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