

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 597
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40267-BRf-15

Short Title: Wildlife Resources Commission Amends. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Adams, Henson, Wray, and Yarborough (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

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**

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



* D R H 4 0 2 6 7 - B R F - 1 5 *

1 **"§ 113-129. Definitions relating to resources.**

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

- 4 ...
- 5 (1d) Boating and Fishing Access Area. – An area ~~of land~~ providing access to public
6 waters and which is owned, allocated to, leased, controlled, or managed by
7 the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- 8 ...
- 9 (8a) Game Lands. – Lands owned, allocated to, leased, controlled, or cooperatively
10 managed by the Wildlife Resources ~~Commission for public hunting, trapping,~~
11 ~~or fishing~~ Commission.
- 12 ...
- 13 (11d) Mountain Heritage Trout Waters. – Those waters that run through or are
14 adjacent to a city that has been designated by the Wildlife Resources
15 Commission as a Mountain Heritage Trout City pursuant to G.S. 113-273(e).
- 16 ~~(11d)~~(11e) Nongame Animals. – All wild animals except game and fur-bearing
17 animals.
- 18 ~~(11e)~~(11f) Nongame Birds. – All wild birds except game birds.
- 19 ...
- 20 (13c) Public Mountain Trout Waters. – Those waters designated by the Wildlife
21 Resources Commission that are managed and regulated to sustain a mountain
22 trout fishery.
- 23 ~~(13e)~~(13d) Raptor. – A migratory bird of prey authorized under federal law and
24 regulations for the taking of quarry by falconry.
- 25 ...
- 26 (18) Wildlife Resources Commission Property. – All lands, game lands, wildlife
27 refuges, artificial constructions in boating and fishing access areas, and all
28 other property owned, allocated to, leased, controlled, or cooperatively
29 managed and designated for public use by the Wildlife Resources
30 Commission."

31
32 **AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO MODIFY OR CLOSE ANY OPEN**
33 **WILDLIFE SEASON TO PREVENT OVERHARVEST**

34 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 113-291.2 reads as rewritten:

35 **"§ 113-291.2. Seasons and bag limits on wild animals and birds; including animals and**
36 **birds taken in bag; possession and transportation of wildlife after taking.**

37 ...

38 (f) The Commission is authorized to issue proclamations to set seasons, shooting hours,
39 bag limits, and possession limits that are congruent with the season framework established by the
40 United States Department of Interior or any successor agency. The Commission may delegate
41 this authority to the Executive Director. ~~Each proclamation shall state the hour and date upon~~
42 ~~which it becomes effective and shall be issued at least 48 hours prior to the effective date and~~
43 ~~time. A permanent file of the text of all proclamations shall be maintained in the office of the~~
44 ~~Executive Director. Certified copies of proclamations are entitled to judicial notice in any civil~~
45 ~~or criminal proceeding.~~

46 ~~The Executive Director shall make a reasonable effort to give notice of the terms of any~~
47 ~~proclamation to persons who may be affected by it. This effort shall include press releases to~~
48 ~~communications media, posting of notices at boating access areas and other places where persons~~
49 ~~affected may gather, personal communication by agents of the Wildlife Resources Commission,~~
50 ~~and other measures designed to reach persons who may be affected. Proclamations under this~~

1 subsection shall remain in force until rescinded following the same procedure established for
2 enactment.

3 (g) The Commission is authorized to issue proclamations to suspend, close, or modify
4 any open wildlife season, or to adjust creel and bag limits, in order to prevent overharvest of
5 wildlife. The Commission may delegate this authority to the Executive Director.

6 (h) Each proclamation made by the Commission pursuant to subsections (f) or (g) of this
7 section shall state the hour and date upon which it becomes effective and shall be issued at least
8 48 hours prior to the effective date and time. A permanent file of the text of all proclamations
9 shall be maintained in the office of the Executive Director. Certified copies of proclamations are
10 entitled to judicial notice in any civil or criminal proceeding. The Executive Director shall make
11 a reasonable effort to give notice of the terms of any proclamation to persons who may be affected
12 by it. This effort shall include press releases to communications media, personal communication
13 by agents of the Wildlife Resources Commission, and other measures designed to reach persons
14 who may be affected. Proclamations under this subsection shall remain in force until rescinded
15 following the same procedure established for enactment."

17 **ALLOW SALE OF PERMANENTLY PRESERVED BEARS AND TURKEYS WITH A** 18 **TROPHY SALE PERMIT**

19 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 113-291.3 reads as rewritten:

20 **"§ 113-291.3. Possession, sale, and transportation of wildlife.**

21 ...

22 (b) With respect to dead wildlife:

23 ...

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

31 a. The name and address of the owner of the wildlife and an adequate
32 description of the wildlife left with him. If the description of the
33 wildlife changes as the result of processing, the new description must
34 be recorded.

35 b. The date, ~~serial number,~~ authorization number, and type of the license
36 under which the wildlife was taken or the applicable exemption from
37 license requirements which the taker met.

38 c. The date all wildlife left with him is received and returned to the
39 owner. If the receiving or returning of possession is to an agent or
40 common carrier or otherwise occurs under circumstances in which
41 permit requirements may apply, the type and date of the permit which
42 authorizes the transaction must also be recorded.

43 (4) The sale of rabbits and squirrels and their edible parts not for resale is
44 permitted. If the Wildlife Resources Commission finds that affected game
45 populations would not be endangered, it may authorize the sale of heads,
46 antlers, horns, hides, skins, plumes, feet, and claws of one or more game
47 animals or birds. In addition, it may authorize the sale of bobcats, opossums,
48 and raccoons, and their parts, following their taking as game animals. No part
49 of any bear or wild turkey may be sold under the above provisions, however,
50 ~~and no permanently preserved bears or tanned bear hides and permanently~~
51 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 5. 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~~ 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 6. G.S. 143-250.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 143-250.1. Wildlife Endowment Fund.

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

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

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

- (1) The proceeds of any gifts, grants and contributions to the State which are specifically designated for inclusion in the ~~fund~~; fund.
- (2) The proceeds from the sale of lifetime sportsman combination licenses issued pursuant to ~~G.S. 113-270.1D~~; G.S. 113-270.1D.

- 1 (3) The proceeds from the sale of lifetime hunting and lifetime fishing licenses
2 pursuant to ~~G.S. 113-270.2(e)(2) and G.S. 113-271(d)(3);~~ G.S. 113-270.2 and
3 G.S. 113-271.
- 4 (3a) The proceeds from the sale of lifetime trapping licenses pursuant to
5 G.S. 113-270.5(b).
- 6 (4) The proceeds of lifetime subscriptions to the magazine Wildlife in North
7 Carolina at such rates as may be established from time to time by the Wildlife
8 Resources ~~Commission;~~ Commission.
- 9 (5) Any amount in excess of the statutory fee for a particular lifetime license or
10 lifetime subscription shall become an asset of the fund and shall qualify as a
11 tax exempt donation to the ~~State;~~ State.
- 12 (5a) The proceeds from the sale of lifetime combination hunting and fishing
13 licenses for disabled residents pursuant to
14 ~~G.S. 113-270.1C(b)(4);~~ G.S. 113-270.1C.
- 15 (5b) The Wildlife Resources Commission's portion of the proceeds from the sale
16 of lifetime unified licenses pursuant to G.S. 113-351.
- 17 (6) Such other sources as may be specified by law.
- 18 (d) The Wildlife Endowment Fund is declared to constitute a special trust derived from a
19 contractual relationship between the State and the members of the public whose investments
20 contribute to the fund. In recognition of such special trust, the following limitations and
21 restrictions are placed on expenditures from the funds:
- 22 (1) Any limitations or restrictions specified by the donors on the uses of the
23 income derived from gifts, grants and voluntary contributions shall be
24 respected but shall not be binding.
- 25 (2) No expenditures or disbursements from the income from the proceeds derived
26 from the sale of Infant Lifetime Sportsman or Youth Lifetime Sportsman
27 Licenses pursuant to G.S. 113-270.1D(b)(1) or (2) shall be made for any
28 purpose until the respective holders of such licenses attain the age of 16 years.
29 The State Treasurer, as custodian of the fund, shall determine actuarially from
30 time to time the amount of income within the fund which remains encumbered
31 by and which is free of this restriction. For such purpose, the executive
32 director shall cause deposits of proceeds and related investment income from
33 Infant Lifetime Sportsman Licenses ~~to be distinguished and deposits of~~
34 ~~proceeds from~~ and Youth Lifetime Sportsman Licenses to be accompanied by
35 information as to the ages of the license recipients.
- 36 (3) No expenditure or disbursement shall be made from the principal of the
37 Wildlife Endowment Fund except as otherwise provided by law.
- 38 (4) The income received and accruing from the investments of the Wildlife
39 Endowment Fund must be spent only in furthering the conservation of wildlife
40 resources and the efficient operation of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources
41 Commission in accomplishing the purposes of the agency as set forth in
42 G.S. 143-239.
- 43 (e) The Board of Trustees of the Wildlife Endowment Fund may accumulate the
44 investment income of the fund until the income, in the sole judgment of the trustees, can provide
45 a significant supplement to the budget of the Wildlife Resources Commission. After that time the
46 trustees, in their sole discretion and authority, may direct expenditures from the investment
47 income of the fund for the purposes set out in division (4) of subsection (d).
- 48 (f) Expenditure of the investment income derived from the Wildlife Endowment Fund
49 shall be made through the State budget accounts of the Wildlife Resources Commission in
50 accordance with the provisions of the Executive Budget Act. The Wildlife Endowment Fund is

1 subject to the oversight of the State Auditor pursuant to Article 5A of Chapter 147 of the General
2 Statutes.

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

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

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

23 24 VARIOUS LICENSE CHANGES

25 SECTION 7.(a) G.S. 113-270.1B reads as rewritten:

26 "**§ 113-270.1B. License required to hunt, fish, or trap; fees set by Commission.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 **SECTION 7.(b)** G.S. 113-270.1C reads as rewritten:

2 "**§ 113-270.1C. Combination hunting and inland fishing licenses.**

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

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

14 (1) Resident Annual Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing License – ~~\$25.00.~~
15 \$35.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State.

16 (2), (3) Repealed by Session Laws 1997-326, s. 2.

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

18 (5) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Combination Hunting and Inland Fishing
19 License – \$10.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual who is a
20 resident of the State and who is a fifty percent (50%) or more disabled veteran
21 as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. This
22 license remains valid for the lifetime of the ~~licensee so long as the licensee~~
23 ~~remains fifty percent (50%) or more disabled.~~ This license entitles the licensee
24 to fish in public mountain trout waters as provided in G.S.
25 113-272(a).licensee.

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

32 **SECTION 7.(c)** G.S. 113-270.1D reads as rewritten:

33 "**§ 113-270.1D. Sportsman licenses.**

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

42 (b) Lifetime Sportsman Licenses. – Except as provided in subdivision (7) of this
43 subsection, lifetime sportsman licenses are valid for the lifetime of the licensees. Lifetime
44 sportsman licenses entitle the licensees to take all wild animals and wild birds by all lawful
45 ~~methods~~ methods, except trapping, in all open seasons, ~~including the use of game lands,~~ and to
46 fish with hook and line for all fish in all inland and joint fishing waters, including public mountain
47 trout ~~waters.~~ waters, but does not entitle the licensee to engage in fishing in coastal fishing waters.
48 A lifetime sportsman license issued under this subsection ~~does not entitle the licensee to engage~~
49 ~~in recreational fishing in coastal fishing waters that are not joint fishing waters.~~ entitles the
50 licensee to access and use Wildlife Resources Commission Property. Lifetime sportsman licenses
51 issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission are:

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

31 **SECTION 7.(d)** G.S. 113.270.2 reads as rewritten:

32 **"§ 113-270.2. Hunting licenses.**

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

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

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

- 42 (1) Resident State Hunting License – ~~\$20.00.~~ \$25.00. This license shall be issued
43 only to an individual resident of the State.
- 44 (2) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Hunting License – \$250.00. This license
45 shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State and is valid for the
46 lifetime of the holder.
- 47 (3) Repealed by Session Laws 2013-283, s. 3, effective August 1, 2014.
- 48 (4) Controlled Hunting Preserve Hunting License – \$20.00. This license shall be
49 issued to an individual resident or nonresident to take only ~~foxes—foxes,~~
50 coyotes, rabbits, and domestically raised game birds, other than wild turkey,
51 including chukars and Hungarian partridges, only within a controlled hunting

1 preserve licensed and operated in accordance with G.S. 113-273(g) and
 2 implementing rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission. This license does
 3 not authorize the taking of wild turkey or access to and use of Wildlife
 4 Resources Commission Property.

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

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

10 a. Season License – ~~\$80.00~~ \$100.00.

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

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

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

22 **SECTION 7.(e)** G.S. 113-270.3 reads as rewritten:

23 **"§ 113-270.3. Special activity licenses; big game kill reports.**

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

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

30 ...

31 (2) Nonresident Big Game Hunting License. This license shall be issued only to
 32 an individual nonresident of the State and entitles the holder to take big game
 33 by all lawful methods and during all open seasons. The nonresident big game
 34 hunting licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission are:

35 a. Season License – ~~\$80.00~~ \$100.00.

36 b. Ten-Day License – ~~\$60.00~~ \$80.00. This license is only valid for the
 37 10 consecutive dates indicated on the license.

38 ...

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

45 (4) Falconry License – \$10.00. This license shall be issued to an individual
 46 resident or nonresident of the State and must be procured before:

47 a. Taking, importing, transporting, or possessing a raptor; or

48 b. Taking wildlife by means of falconry.

49 In addition to a falconry license, license holders 16 years of age and older
 50 must also possess a hunting license as set forth in G.S. 113-270.1C,
 51 113-270.1D, and 113-270.2 when taking wildlife by means of falconry. The

1 Wildlife Resources Commission may issue classes of falconry licenses
 2 necessary to participate in the federal/State permit system, require necessary
 3 examinations before issuing licenses or permits to engage in various
 4 authorized activities related to possession and maintenance of raptors and the
 5 sport of falconry, and regulate licenses as required by governing federal law
 6 and rules. To defray the costs of administering required examinations, the
 7 Wildlife Resources Commission may charge reasonable fees upon giving
 8 them. To meet minimum federal standards plus other State standards in the
 9 interests of conservation of wildlife resources, the Wildlife Resources
 10 Commission may impose all necessary controls, including those set out in the
 11 sections pertaining to collection licenses and captivity licenses, and may issue
 12 permits and require reports, but no collection license or captivity license is
 13 needed in addition to the falconry license.

14"

15 **SECTION 7.(f)** G.S. 113-270.4 reads as rewritten:

16 **"§ 113-270.4. Hunting guide and fishing guide license.**

17 (a) No one may serve for hire as a hunting guide or fishing guide without having first
 18 procured a current and valid hunting ~~and~~ or fishing license and the appropriate guide license.
 19 ~~This license is~~ The guide licenses are valid only for use by an individual meeting the criteria set
 20 by the Wildlife Resources Commission for issuance of the license subject to the limitations set
 21 forth in this section. Possession of the hunting ~~and~~ guide license or fishing guide license does not
 22 relieve the guide from meeting other applicable license requirements.

23 (b) The hunting and fishing guide licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission
 24 are:

- 25 (1) Resident Hunting ~~and~~ Guide or Fishing Guide License — ~~\$15.00. License~~ —
 26 ~~This license is valid for use only by~~ shall be issued to an individual resident
 27 ~~of the State.~~ State who engages in hunting guide or fishing guide activities for
 28 any compensation.
 29 a. Hunting Guide License – \$50.00.
 30 b. Fishing Guide License – \$50.00.
- 31 (2) Nonresident Hunting ~~and~~ Guide or Fishing Guide License — ~~\$150.00. License~~
 32 ~~— This license is valid for use by a~~ shall be issued to an individual nonresident
 33 ~~individual in of the State.~~ State who engages in hunting guide or fishing guide
 34 activities in North Carolina for any compensation.
 35 a. Hunting Guide License – \$200.00.
 36 b. Fishing Guide License – \$200.00.
- 37 (3) Resident Hunting Guide or Fishing Guide Outfitter License – This license
 38 shall be issued to a North Carolina business that engages in hunting guide or
 39 fishing guide activities for any compensation and shall serve in lieu of
 40 individual guide licenses for all employees engaging in hunting guide or
 41 fishing guide activities for the business.
 42 a. Hunting Guide Outfitter License – \$250.00.
 43 b. Fishing Guide Outfitter License – \$250.00.
- 44 (4) Nonresident Hunting Guide or Fishing Guide Outfitter License – This license
 45 shall be issued to a business from another state that engages in hunting guide
 46 or fishing guide activities in North Carolina for any compensation and shall
 47 serve in lieu of individual guide licenses for all employees engaging in hunting
 48 guide or fishing guide activities for the business.
 49 a. Hunting Guide Outfitter License – \$1,000.00.
 50 b. Fishing Guide Outfitter License – \$1,000.00.

1 (c) The Wildlife Resources Commission may by rule provide for the qualifications and
 2 duties of hunting and fishing guides. In implementing this section, the Wildlife Resources
 3 Commission may delegate to the Executive Director ~~and his subordinates~~ administrative
 4 responsibilities concerning the selection and supervision of hunting and fishing guides, except
 5 that provisions relating to revocation of hunting and fishing guide licenses must be substantially
 6 set out in the rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission."

7 **SECTION 7.(g)** G.S. 113-270.5 reads as rewritten:

8 "**§ 113-270.5. Trapping licenses.**

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

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

- 19 (1) Resident State Trapping License – \$30.00. This license is valid only for use
 20 by an individual resident of the State.
 21 (1a) Resident Lifetime Trapping License – \$300.00. This license shall be issued
 22 only to an individual resident of the State and is valid for the lifetime of the
 23 licensee.
 24 (2) Repealed by Session Laws 2013-283, s. 6, effective August 1, 2014.
 25 (3) Nonresident State Trapping License – \$125.00. This license is valid for use
 26 by an individual within the State."

27 **SECTION 7.(h)** G.S. 113-271 reads as rewritten:

28 "**§ 113-271. Hook-and-line licenses in inland and joint fishing waters.**

29 (a) An inland hook-and-line fishing license issued under subdivisions (2), (3), (5), (6),
 30 (6a), (6b), and (6c) of subsection (d) of this section entitles the licensee to fish with hook and line
 31 in inland fishing waters and waters, joint fishing waters, waters, and public mountain trout waters.
 32 An inland hook-and-line fishing license issued under this section ~~does not entitle~~ entitles the
 33 licensee to ~~engage in recreational fishing in coastal fishing waters that are not joint fishing waters.~~
 34 ~~An inland hook-and-line fishing license issued under subdivision (1), (3), (6a), (6b), (6c), or (9)~~
 35 ~~of subsection (d) of this section entitles the licensee to fish with hook and line in public mountain~~
 36 ~~trout waters.~~ access and use Wildlife Resources Commission Property, but does not entitle the
 37 licensee to engage in fishing in coastal fishing waters.

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

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

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

- 42 (1) ~~Resident Annual Comprehensive Inland Fishing License — \$25.00. This~~
 43 ~~license shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State.~~
 44 (2) Resident State Inland Fishing License – ~~\$20.00.~~ \$25.00. This license shall be
 45 issued only to an individual resident of the State.
 46 (3) Lifetime Resident Comprehensive Inland Fishing License – \$250.00. This
 47 license shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State and is valid
 48 for the lifetime of the licensee.
 49 (4) Repealed by Session Laws 2013-283, s. 7, effective August 1, 2014.
 50 (5) Nonresident State Inland Fishing License – ~~\$36.00.~~ \$45.00. This license shall
 51 be issued to an individual nonresident of the State.

- 1 (6) Short-Term Inland Fishing Licenses. Short-term inland fishing licenses are
 2 valid only for the date or consecutive dates indicated on the licenses.
 3 Short-term inland fishing licenses issued by the Wildlife Resources
 4 Commission are:
- 5 a. Resident 10-day Inland Fishing License – ~~\$7.00-~~\$9.00. This license
 6 shall be issued only to a resident of the State.
- 7 b. Nonresident 10-day Inland Fishing License – ~~\$18.00-~~\$23.00. This
 8 license shall be issued only to a nonresident of the State.
- 9 c. Repealed by Session Laws 2005-455, s. 1.8, effective January 1, 2007.
- 10 (6a) Age 70 Resident Lifetime Inland Fishing License – \$15.00. This license shall
 11 be issued only to an individual resident of the State who is at least 70 years of
 12 age.
- 13 (6b) Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Inland Fishing License – \$10.00. This
 14 license shall be issued only to an individual who is a resident of the State and
 15 who is a fifty percent (50%) or more disabled veteran as determined by the
 16 United States Department of Veterans Affairs or as established by rules of the
 17 Wildlife Resources Commission. This license remains valid for the lifetime
 18 of the licensee ~~so long as the licensee remains fifty percent (50%) or more~~
 19 ~~disabled.~~licensee.
- 20 (6c) Resident Totally Disabled Lifetime Inland Fishing License – \$10.00. This
 21 license shall be issued only to an individual who is a resident of the State and
 22 who is totally and permanently disabled as determined by the Social Security
 23 Administration or as established by rules of the Wildlife Resources
 24 Commission. This license remains valid for the lifetime of the licensee.
- 25 ...
- 26 (10) Mountain Heritage Trout Waters Three-Day Fishing License – \$8.00. This
 27 license shall be issued to an individual resident or nonresident of the State and
 28 shall entitle the holder to fish in waters designated by the Wildlife Resources
 29 Commission as Mountain Heritage Trout Waters for the three consecutive
 30 days indicated on the license. An individual who holds a Mountain Heritage
 31 Trout Waters three-day fishing license does not need to hold any other
 32 hook-and-line fishing license issued pursuant to this subsection in order to fish
 33 in Mountain Heritage Trout Waters."

34 SECTION 7.(i) G.S. 113-272 is repealed.

35 SECTION 7.(j) G.S. 113-272.3 reads as rewritten:

36 **"§ 113-272.3. Special provisions respecting fishing licenses; grabbling; taking bait fish; use**
 37 **of landing nets; lifetime licenses issued from Wildlife Resources Commission**
 38 **headquarters; personalized lifetime sportsman combination licenses.**

39 ...

40 (c) **(Effective until July 1, 2019)** Lifetime licenses are issued from the Wildlife
 41 Resources Commission ~~headquarters.~~headquarters to facilitate compliance with 50 C.F.R.
 42 § 80.31. Each application for ~~an any~~ Infant Lifetime Sportsman ~~or Sportsman,~~ Youth Lifetime
 43 Sportsman ~~Sportsman,~~ or Age 70 Resident Lifetime License must be accompanied by a ~~certified~~
 44 copy of the birth certificate, adoption order containing the date of birth, or other proof of age
 45 satisfactory to the Commission, of the individual to be named as the licensee.

46 ...

47 (e) Mountain Heritage Trout Waters Program. – The Wildlife Resources Commission
 48 shall establish and implement a Mountain Heritage Trout Waters Program to promote trout
 49 fishing as a heritage tourism activity. The Commission shall develop criteria for participation in
 50 the Program by cities and prepare a management plan for mountain heritage trout waters. A city

1 that meets the criteria for participation in the Program shall be designated by the Commission as
2 a Mountain Heritage Trout City."

3 **SECTION 7.(k)** G.S. 113-272.4 reads as rewritten:

4 **"§ 113-272.4. Collection licenses.**

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

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

21 (c) When a more limited duration period is not set by the Executive ~~Director in~~
22 ~~implementing the rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission, Director,~~ collection licenses are
23 valid from January 1 through December 31 in any year. This license is issued upon payment of
24 ~~five dollars (\$5.00), but the Wildlife Resources Commission may provide for issuance without~~
25 ~~charge to licensees who represent educational or scientific institutions or some governmental~~
26 ~~agency ten dollars (\$10.00). The Wildlife Resources Commission may adopt rules to utilize~~
27 ~~replacement costs of wildlife resources to offset the impact of collection or possession activities.~~

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

36 (e) If the Executive Director deems it administratively appropriate and convenient to do
37 so, in the interests of simplifying the administration of licensing requirements, ~~he~~ the Executive
38 Director may grant particular licensees under this section the privilege of utilizing assistants in
39 taking, transporting, or possessing wildlife resources who themselves are not licensed. Any
40 assistants so taking, transporting, or possessing wildlife resources ~~must~~ shall have readily
41 available for inspection a written authorization from the licensee to engage in the activity in
42 question. The written authorization ~~must~~ shall contain information administratively required by
43 the Executive Director, and a copy of the authorization must be ~~placed in the mail addressed to~~
44 ~~the Executive Director or his designated agent~~ submitted to the Wildlife Resources Commission
45 before any assistant acts under the authorization. In his discretion the ~~The~~ Executive Director
46 may refuse to issue, refuse to renew, or revoke the privilege conferred in this subsection. If this
47 is done, each individual engaged in taking, transporting, or possessing wildlife resources under
48 this section ~~must~~ shall meet all applicable licensing and permit requirements."

49 **SECTION 7.(l)** G.S. 113-272.5 reads as rewritten:

50 **"§ 113-272.5. Captivity license.**

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

13 (b) Unless a shorter time is set for a license upon its issuance under the provisions of
 14 subsection (c), captivity licenses are annual licenses issued beginning January 1 each year and
 15 running until the following December 31. ~~This license is issued upon payment of five dollars~~
 16 ~~(\$5.00)~~ The captivity license for holding shall be issued upon payment of fifty dollars (\$50.00)
 17 and the captivity license for rehabilitation shall be issued upon payment of ten dollars (\$10.00)
 18 to the Wildlife Resources Commission.

19 (c) The Wildlife Resources Commission may require standards of caging and care and
 20 reports to and supervision by employees of the Wildlife Resources Commission ~~as necessary to~~
 21 ~~insure humane treatment and in~~ furtherance of the objectives of this Subchapter. The Executive
 22 Director in implementing the provisions of this section may administratively impose ~~through~~
 23 ~~responsible agents and employees~~ restrictions upon the mode of captivity ~~that he deems deemed~~
 24 necessary, including prescribing methods of treatment and ~~handling designed, if possible, to~~
 25 ~~enable the wild animal or wild bird to become self-sufficient and requiring that the wild animal~~
 26 ~~or wild bird be set free when self-sufficiency is attained.~~ handling. To this end, the Executive
 27 Director may issue the captivity license with an expiration date earlier than December 31 and
 28 may also act to terminate any captivity license earlier than the expiration date for good cause.

29"

30 **SECTION 7.(m)** G.S. 113-273 reads as rewritten:

31 "**§ 113-273. Dealer licenses.**Other Licenses.

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

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

- 42 (1) Implement a system of tagging or otherwise identifying and controlling
 43 species regulated under the license and pay a reasonable fee, ~~not to exceed~~
 44 ~~two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25),~~ for each tag furnished by the
 45 Wildlife Resources ~~Commission;~~ Commission to defray costs;
- 46 (2) Keep records and statistics in record books furnished by the Wildlife
 47 Resources Commission, and pay a reasonable charge to defray the cost of
 48 furnishing the books;
- 49 (3) Be subject to inspection at reasonable hours and audit of wildlife resources
 50 and pertinent records and equipment;
- 51 (4) Make periodic reports;

- 1 (5) Post performance bonds payable to the Wildlife Resources Commission
 2 conditioned upon faithful compliance with provisions of law; and
 3 (6) Otherwise comply with reasonable rules and administrative requirements that
 4 may be imposed under the authority of this section.

5 ...

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

17 ...

- 18 (3) Fur-dealer station license, one hundred twenty dollars (\$120.00). Authorizes
 19 a person or individual to deal in furs at an established location where fur
 20 dealings occur under the supervision of a responsible individual manager
 21 named in the license. Individual employees of the business dealing in furs
 22 solely at the established location under the supervision of the manager need
 23 not acquire an individual license. Any employee who also deals in furs outside
 24 the established location ~~must~~shall obtain the appropriate individual license.
 25 Individuals dealing in furs at an established location may elect to do so under
 26 their individual licenses.

27 The Executive Director may administratively provide for reissuance of a
 28 station license without charge for the remainder of the year when either a
 29 business continues at an established location under a new supervising manager
 30 or the business changes to a new location. Before reissuing the license,
 31 however, the Executive Director ~~must satisfy himself~~shall determine that
 32 there is a continuation of essentially the same business previously licensed
 33 and that any new supervising manager meets the qualifications imposed by
 34 rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission. The supervising manager ~~must~~
 35 shall file the names of all employees of the business covered by a fur-dealer
 36 station license, whether temporary or permanent, including employees who
 37 process or skin the animals.

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

43 (g) Controlled Hunting Preserve Operator License. – The Wildlife Resources
 44 Commission is authorized by rule to set standards for and to license the operation of controlled
 45 hunting preserves operated by private persons. Controlled hunting preserves are of ~~two~~three
 46 types: one is an area marked with appropriate signs along the outside boundaries on which only
 47 domestically raised game birds other than wild ~~turkeys~~turkeys, including chukars and Hungarian
 48 partridges are taken; ~~the other~~one is an area enclosed with a dog-proof fence on which rabbits
 49 may be hunted with dogs only; and one is an area enclosed with a dog-proof fence on which
 50 foxes and coyotes may be hunted with dogs only. A controlled fox and coyote hunting preserve
 51 operated for private use may be of any size; a controlled hunting preserve operated for

1 commercial purposes shall be an area of not less than 500 acres or of such size as set by regulation
2 of the Wildlife Resources Commission, which shall take into account differences in terrain and
3 topography, as well as the welfare of the wildlife.

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

10 (h) Game Bird Propagation License. – No person may propagate game birds in captivity
11 or possess game birds for propagation without first procuring a license under this subsection. The
12 Wildlife Resources Commission may by rule prescribe the activities to be covered by the
13 propagation license, which species of game birds may be propagated, and the manner of keeping
14 and raising the birds, in accordance with the overall objectives of conservation of wildlife
15 resources. Except as limited by this subsection, propagated game birds may be raised and sold
16 for purposes of propagation, stocking, food, or taking in connection with dog training as
17 authorized in G.S. 113-291.1(d). Migratory game bird operations authorized under this
18 subsection must also comply with any applicable provisions of federal law and rules. The
19 Wildlife Resources Commission may impose requirements as to shipping, marking packages,
20 banding, tagging, or wrapping the propagated birds and other restrictions designed to reduce the
21 change of illicit game birds being disposed of under the cover of licensed operations. The
22 Wildlife Resources Commission may make a reasonable charge for any bands, tags, or wrappers
23 furnished propagators. The game bird propagation license is issued by the Wildlife Resources
24 Commission upon payment of a fee of ~~five dollars (\$5.00),~~ ten dollars (\$10.00). It authorizes a
25 person or individual to propagate and sell game birds designated in the license, in accordance
26 with the rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission, except:

27 (1) Wild turkey and ruffed grouse may not be sold for food.

28 (2) Production and sale of pen-raised quail for food purposes is under the
29 exclusive control of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
30 The Wildlife Resources Commission, however, may regulate the possession,
31 propagation, and transportation of live pen-raised quail.

32 ...

33 (k) Taxidermy License. – Any individual who engages in ~~taxidermy~~ taxidermy, including
34 the tanning of hides, involving wildlife for any compensation, including reimbursement for the
35 cost of materials, must first procure a taxidermy license. This license is an annual license issued
36 by the Wildlife Resources Commission for ~~ten dollars (\$10.00).~~ The Wildlife Resources
37 Commission must require a licensee to keep records concerning any wildlife taken or possessed
38 by him; to keep records of the names and addresses of persons bringing him wildlife, the names
39 and addresses of persons taking the wildlife if different, and other information concerning the
40 origin of the wildlife; to inspect any applicable licenses or permits pertaining to the taking and
41 possession of wildlife brought to him; to restrict him to taxidermy upon lawfully acquired
42 wildlife; and to keep other pertinent records. ~~fifty dollars (\$50.00).~~ In addition to a taxidermy
43 license, license holders engaging in taxidermy of any species of the family Cervidae must also
44 obtain a taxidermy cervid certification issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission for five
45 dollars (\$5.00). The Wildlife Resources Commission is authorized by rule to set standards and
46 reporting requirements for taxidermy licenses and certifications. No taxidermist subject to license
47 requirements may sell any game or game fish in which he deals except that a taxidermist may
48 acquire a valid possessory lien upon game or game fish under the terms of Chapter 44A of the
49 General Statutes and, with a trophy sale permit from the ~~Executive Director,~~ Wildlife Resources
50 Commission, may sell the game or game fish under the procedure authorized in Chapter 44A.

1 Wildlife acquired by a taxidermist is deemed "personal property" for the purposes of Chapter
2 44A.

3 (l) Wildlife Control Agent License. – Any individual who engages in wildlife damage
4 control or wildlife removal activities, including bat eviction, for compensation, including
5 reimbursement for the cost of materials, shall first procure a wildlife control agent license. This
6 is an annual license issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission for fifty dollars (\$50.00). The
7 Wildlife Resources Commission is authorized by rule to set standards for and to license wildlife
8 control agents.

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

17 **SECTION 7.(n)** G.S. 113-274 reads as rewritten:

18 **"§ 113-274. Permits.**

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

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

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

29 ...

30 (1c) ~~Possession Permit. – Permit - (\$10.00).~~ Authorizes the possession of dead
31 wildlife or other wildlife resources lawfully acquired. The Wildlife Resources
32 Commission may by rule implement the issuance and supervision of this
33 permit, in accordance with governing laws and rules respecting the possession
34 of wildlife. Any substantial deviation from reasonable requirements imposed
35 by rule or administratively under the authority of this section renders the
36 possession of the wildlife unlawful.

37 ...

38 (3) ~~Exportation or Importation Permit. – Permit – (\$10.00).~~ Authorizes the
39 exportation or importation of wildlife resources from or into the State or from
40 county to county. The Wildlife Resources Commission may by rule
41 implement the issuance and supervision of this permit, in accordance with
42 governing laws and rules respecting the exportation and importation of
43 wildlife resources. Any substantial deviation from reasonable requirements
44 imposed by rule or administratively under the authority of this section renders
45 the importation or exportation of the wildlife resources unlawful.

46 (3a) ~~Trophy Wildlife Sale Permit. – Permit – (\$10.00).~~ Authorizes the owner of
47 lawfully taken and possessed dead wildlife specimens or their parts that are
48 mounted, stuffed, or otherwise permanently preserved to sell identified
49 individual specimens that may lawfully be sold under applicable laws and
50 rules.

51 ...

1 (3d) Endangered Species Permit – (\$10.00). Authorizes the collection, possession,
 2 or survey of endangered species. The Wildlife Resources Commission may
 3 by rule set standards and requirements for this permit. The Wildlife Resources
 4 Commission may enact rules utilizing replacement costs of wildlife resources
 5 to offset the impact of collection, possession, or survey activities.

6 (3e) Field Trial Permit – (\$10.00). Authorizes an individual to hold a
 7 Commission-sanctioned field trial for dogs in accordance with governing laws
 8 and rules adopted and implemented by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

9 "

10 **SECTION 7.(o)** G.S. 113-275 reads as rewritten:

11 **"§ 113-275. General provisions respecting licenses and permits.**

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

15 (a1) Notwithstanding the fees specified for nonresident individuals by G.S. 113-270.2,
 16 113-270.3, 113-270.4, 113-270.5, 113-271, ~~113-272,~~ 113-272.2, ~~and 113-273,~~ 113-273, or
 17 Wildlife Resources Commission rules, if the Wildlife Resources Commission finds that a state
 18 has a nonresident license fee related to wildlife resources that exceeds the fee for a comparable
 19 nonresident license in North Carolina, the Wildlife Resources Commission may, by resolution in
 20 official session, increase the nonresident license fee applicable to citizens of that state to an
 21 amount equal to the fee a North Carolina resident is required to pay in that state.

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

26 ...

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

- 31 (1) All of the combination hunting and fishing licenses issued pursuant to
- 32 G.S. 113-270.1C;
- 33 (2) All of the sportsman licenses issued pursuant to G.S. 113-270.1D;
- 34 (3) The hunting licenses issued pursuant to G.S. 113- 270.2(c)(1), (2), (3), (5),
- 35 and (6);
- 36 (4) The hook-and-line fishing licenses issued pursuant to ~~G.S. 113-271(d)(1),(2),~~
- 37 G.S. 113-271(d)(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (8), and (9); and
- 38 (5) All of the special device fishing licenses issued pursuant to G.S. 113-272.2."

39 **SECTION 7.(p)** G.S. 113-276 reads as rewritten:

40 **"§ 113-276. Exemptions and exceptions to license and permit requirements.**

41 ...

42 (d) Except as otherwise provided in this Subchapter, individuals under 16 years of age
 43 are exempt from the hunting and trapping license requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B(a) and
 44 ~~G.S. 113-270.3(a),~~ G.S. 113-270.3, except that such individuals are not exempt from the
 45 American alligator licenses established in G.S. 113-270.3(b)(6) and G.S. 113-270.3(b)(7), elk
 46 licenses established in G.S. 113-270.3(b)(8) and G.S. 113-270.3(b)(9), and the falconry license
 47 described in G.S. 113-270.3(b)(4). Individuals under 16 may hunt under this exemption, provided
 48 that the hunter is accompanied by an adult of at least 18 years of age who is licensed to hunt in
 49 this State. For purposes of this section, "accompanied" means that the licensed adult maintains a
 50 proximity that enables the adult to monitor the activities of the hunter by remaining within sight
 51 and hearing distance at all times without use of electronic devices. Upon successfully obtaining

1 the hunter education certificate of competency required by G.S. 113-270.1A(a), a hunter may
2 hunt under the license exemption until age 16 without adult accompaniment. Individuals under
3 16 years of age are exempt from the fishing license requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B(a),
4 113-272, and 113-271.

5 ...

6 (l2) A resident of this State who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States
7 serving outside the State, or who is serving on full-time active military duty outside the State in
8 a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States as defined in 10 U.S.C. 10101, is
9 exempt from the hunting and fishing license requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B,
10 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,~~
11 G.S. 113-272.2(c)(1), and the Coastal Recreational Fishing License requirements of
12 G.S. 113-174.2 while that person is on leave in this State for 30 days or less. In order to qualify
13 for the exemption provided under this subsection, the person shall have on his or her person at
14 all times during the hunting or fishing activity the person's military identification card and a copy
15 of the official document issued by the person's service unit confirming that the person is on
16 authorized leave from a duty station outside this State.

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

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

25 (n) The Wildlife Resources Commission may adopt rules to exempt individuals from the
26 hunting and fishing license requirements of G.S. 113-270.1B, 113-270.3(b)(1),
27 113-270.3(b)(1a), 113-270.3(b)(1b), 113-270.3(b)(2), 113-270.3(b)(3), 113-270.3(b)(5),
28 113-271, ~~113-272,~~ and 113-272.2(c)(1) who participate in organized hunting and fishing events
29 for the specified time and place of the event when the purpose of the event is consistent with the
30 conservation objectives of the Commission. A person exempted from licensing requirements
31 under this subsection is responsible for complying with any reporting requirements prescribed
32 by rule of the Wildlife Resources Commission, purchasing any federal migratory waterfowl
33 stamps as a result of waterfowl hunting activity, and complying with any other requirements that
34 the holder of a North Carolina license is subject to. Those exempted persons shall comply with
35 the hunter safety requirements of G.S. 113-270.1A or shall be accompanied by a properly
36 licensed adult who maintains a proximity to the license exempt individual which enables the
37 adult to monitor the activities of, and communicate with, the individual at all times."

38 **SECTION 7.(q)** G.S. 113-276.1 reads as rewritten:

39 **"§ 113-276.1. Regulatory authority of Wildlife Resources Commission as to license**
40 **requirements and exemptions.**

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

- 44 (1) [Reserved.]
- 45 (2) Regulate license requirements and exemptions applying to the taking of
46 wildlife on particular waters forming or lying across a county boundary where
47 there may be confusion as to the location of the boundary, hardship imposed
48 as to the location of the boundary, or difficulty of administering or enforcing
49 the law with respect to the actual boundary location.
- 50 (3) Require persons subject to license requirements, and persons exempt from
51 license requirements, to carry, display, or produce identification that may be

necessary to substantiate the person's entitlement to a particular license or to a particular exemption from license requirements.

(4) Require individuals aboard vessels or carrying weapons or other gear that may be used to take wildlife resources, and in an area at a time wildlife resources may be taken, to exhibit identification that includes the individual's name and current address. More than one piece of identification, including a vehicle driver license, may be required to be exhibited, if available.

(5) Implement a system of tagging and reporting fur-bearing animals and big game. Upon the implementation of a tagging system for any species of fur-bearing animal, the Wildlife Resources Commission may charge a reasonable fee to defray its costs, ~~not to exceed two dollars twenty five cents (\$2.25) per tag,~~ costs for each tag furnished. The price of the big game hunting license includes the cost of big game tags."

SECTION 7.(r) G.S. 113-276.2 reads as rewritten:

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

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

- (1) Persons, other than individual hunters and fishermen taking wildlife as sportsmen, holding permits under this Article;
- (2) Individuals holding special device licenses under G.S. 113-272.2(c)(1), (1a), (2), and (2a);
- (3) Individuals holding collection licenses under G.S. 113-272.4;
- (4) Individuals holding captivity licenses under G.S. 113-272.5 and G.S. 113-272.6; and
- (5) Persons holding ~~dealer~~ licenses under G.S. 113-273.

...."

TRAPPER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

SECTION 8.(a) G.S. 113-291.6(b) reads as rewritten:

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

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

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

SECTION 8.(b) This section becomes effective October 1, 2019.

ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY FOR WRC INSPECTORS AND PROTECTORS

SECTION 9.(a) G.S. 106-206.15 reads as rewritten:

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

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

1 ...

2 (10) To cooperate or enter into formal agreements with any agency of this State or
 3 of any other state or of the federal government for the purpose of enforcing
 4 any of the provisions of this Article.

5"

6 **SECTION 9.(b)** G.S. 113-136 reads as rewritten:

7 "**§ 113-136. Enforcement authority of inspectors and protectors; refusal to obey or allow**
 8 **inspection by inspectors and protectors.**

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

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

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

23 (1) Boating and water safety;

24 (2) Hunting and trapping;

25 (3) Fishing, exclusive of fishing under the jurisdiction of the Marine Fisheries
 26 Commission; and

27 (4) Activities in woodlands and on inland waters governed by G.S. 106-908 to
 28 G.S. 106-910.

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

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

37"

38 **BEAVER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CHANGES**

39 **SECTION 10.** G.S. 113-291.10 reads as rewritten:

40 "**§ 113-291.10. Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board.**

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

43 (1) The Executive Director of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources
 44 Commission, or his designee, who shall serve as chair;

45 (2) The Commissioner of Agriculture, or a designee;

46 (3) The Assistant Commissioner of the North Carolina Forest Service of the
 47 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a designee;

48 (4) The Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the
 49 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a designee;
 50

- 1 (5) ~~The Director of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, or a~~
 2 ~~designee;~~A representative of the North Carolina Association of County
 3 Commissioners;
 4 (6) The Secretary of Transportation, or a designee;
 5 (7) The State Director of the Wildlife Services Division of the Animal and Plant
 6 Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or a designee;
 7 (8) The President of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, Inc., or a
 8 designee, representing private landowners; and
 9 (9) A representative of the North Carolina Forestry Association.

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

- 14 (1) Orient the program primarily toward public health and safety and toward
 15 landowner assistance, providing some relief to landowners through beaver
 16 control and management rather than eradication;
 17 (2) Develop a priority system for responding to complaints about beaver damage;
 18 (3) Develop a system for documenting all activities associated with beaver
 19 damage control, so as to facilitate evaluation of the program;
 20 (4) Provide educational activities as a part of the program, such as printed
 21 materials, on-site instructions, and local workshops; and
 22 (5) Provide for the hiring of personnel necessary to implement beaver damage
 23 control activities, administer the program, and set salaries of personnel.

24 No later than ~~March 15~~December 1 of each year, the Board shall issue a report to the Wildlife
 25 Resources Commission, the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Natural and
 26 Economic Resources, and the Fiscal Research Division on the results of the program during the
 27 preceding year.

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

31 (d) Notwithstanding G.S. 113-291.6(d) or any other law, it is lawful to use snares when
 32 trapping beaver pursuant to the beaver damage control program developed pursuant to this
 33 section. The provisions of Chapter 218 of the 1975 Session Laws; Chapter 492 of the 1951
 34 Session Laws, as amended by Chapter 506 of the 1955 Session Laws; and Chapter 1011 of the
 35 1983 Session Laws do not apply to trapping carried out in implementing the beaver damage
 36 control program developed pursuant to this section.

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

39 (f) Each county that ~~volunteers wishes~~ to participate in this program for a given State
 40 fiscal year shall provide written notification of its wish to participate no later than ~~September 30~~
 41 ~~of that year~~May 1 of the preceding fiscal year and shall ~~commit~~remit the sum of ~~four six~~
 42 ~~thousand dollars (\$4,000)-(\$6,000)~~ in local funds no later than ~~September 30 of that year~~July
 43 31 of the fiscal year for which enrollment is sought. Funds, as appropriated for this program each
 44 fiscal year of the biennium, shall be paid from funds available to the Wildlife Resources
 45 Commission to provide the State share necessary to support this program, provided the sum of at
 46 least twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in federal funds is available each fiscal year of the
 47 biennium to provide the federal share."

49 **CHANGES TO REGULATION OF CERTAIN REPTILES**

50 **SECTION 11.(a)** G.S. 14-417 reads as rewritten:

51 "**§ 14-417. Regulation of ownership or use of venomous reptiles.**

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

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

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

13 **SECTION 11.(b)** G.S. 14-417.1 reads as rewritten:

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

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

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

23 (c) Each enclosure shall be labeled clearly and visibly with the scientific name, common
24 name, number of specimens, and owner's identifying information. A written safety protocol and
25 escape recovery plan shall be within sight of permanent housing, and a copy shall accompany
26 the transport of any of the large constricting snakes. The safety protocol shall include emergency
27 contact information, identification of the local animal control office, and first aid procedures.

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

30 **SECTION 11.(c)** G.S. 14-417.2 reads as rewritten:

31 **"§ 14-417.2. Regulation of ownership or use of crocodilians.**

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

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

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

42 **SECTION 11.(d)** G.S. 14-419 reads as rewritten:

43 **"§ 14-419. Investigation of suspected violations; seizure and examination of reptiles;
44 disposition of reptiles.**

45 (a) In any case in which ~~any a~~ law-enforcement officer or animal control officer has
46 probable cause to believe that any of the provisions of this Article have been or are about to be
47 violated, ~~it shall be the duty of the officer and the officer is authorized, empowered, and directed~~
48 authorized and empowered to immediately investigate the violation or impending violation and
49 to consult with representatives of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences or the North
50 Carolina Zoological Park or a designated representative of ~~either the Museum or Zoological Park~~
51 the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to identify the species, assist

1 ~~with determining interim disposition, and recommend appropriate and safe methods to handle~~
2 ~~and seize the reptile or reptiles involved, to seize the reptile or reptiles involved, and the officer~~
3 ~~is authorized and directed to deliver: (i) a reptile believed to be venomous to the North Carolina~~
4 ~~State Museum of Natural Sciences or to its designated representative for examination for the~~
5 ~~purpose of ascertaining whether the reptile is regulated under this Article; and, (ii) a reptile~~
6 ~~believed to be a large constricting snake or crocodylian to the North Carolina Zoological Park or~~
7 ~~to its designated representative for the purpose of ascertaining whether the reptile is regulated~~
8 ~~under this Article. In any case in which a law enforcement officer or animal control officer~~
9 ~~involved. In the case of escape, or if an officer, with probable cause to believe that reptile is being~~
10 ~~owned, possessed, used, transported, or trafficked in violation of this Article, determines that~~
11 ~~there is an immediate risk to officer safety or public safety, the officer shall not be required to~~
12 ~~consult with representatives of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences or the North~~
13 ~~Carolina Zoological Park as provided by this subsection and may kill the reptile.~~

14 (b) ~~If~~ If, based on available information, the officer, the Museum or Museum, the
15 Zoological Park or their designated representatives find a designated representative of the
16 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources finds that a seized reptile is a venomous reptile,
17 large constricting snake, or crocodylian regulated under this Article, the Museum or the
18 Zoological Park or ~~their designated representative~~ a designated representative of the Department
19 of Natural and Cultural Resources shall determine ~~assist the officer with determining~~ an interim
20 disposition of the reptile in a manner consistent with the safety of the public, until a final
21 disposition is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction. In the case of a venomous reptile
22 for which antivenin approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration is not readily
23 available, the reptile may be euthanized unless the species is protected under the federal
24 Endangered Species Act of 1973. Where ~~the Museum or the Zoological Park or their designated~~
25 ~~representative determines~~ euthanasia is determined to be the appropriate interim disposition, or
26 where a reptile seized pursuant to this Article dies of natural or unintended causes, the ~~Museum,~~
27 ~~the Zoological Park, or their designated representatives~~ parties involved shall not be liable to the
28 reptile's owner.

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

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

41 **SECTION 11.(e)** G.S. 14-420 is repealed.

42 43 **EFFECTIVE DATE**

44 **SECTION 12.** Sections 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 of this act become effective August 1,
45 2019. Section 10 of this act becomes effective January 1, 2020. The remainder of this act is
46 effective when it becomes law.