

Minutes
Wildlife Resources Committee
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S. E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

Tuesday, June 27, 2023
9:00 a.m.

Committee Members

Patrick Denney, Chair
Kevin Jackson, Vice Chair
Charles DePriest
Randy Dellinger
Joe Hatfield
Mark Hennessy
Duncan Johnson
Ray Lambert
Bodine Sinyard
Dwight Davis, Board Chair, Ex-officio

Board Members

Nancy Addison
Nick Ayers
Dan Garcia
Bill Jones
Tim Lowe
Paul Shailendra
Harley Yancey

Guests

Mark Osterhaus, Coral Hospitality
Danielle Torres, Coral Hospitality
John Eberhart, GA Earth Alliance
Brent Churchwell, Senate Budget & Evaluation Office
Reaganne Hart, Governor's Office
Will Bentley, Georgia Agribusiness Council

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Kate Iannuzzi
Donald Kirkland
Cathy Barnette
Thomas Barnard
Jeff Cown
Steve Friedman
Doug Haymans
Ted Will
Angie Johnson
Tina Johannsen
Scott Robinson
Richie Golden
Thom Little

Richard Dunn, Director
James Boylan
Chuck Mueller
Anna Truszczynski

The June 27, 2023 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee was called to order by Chairman Dwight Davis.

Chairman Davis called on Patrick Denney, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee. Mr. Denney called on Scott Robinson, Chief of Fisheries, for a briefing on the proposed amendments to Fishing Regulations, Rule 391-4-3.

Mr. Robinson stated the department often receives requests from trout anglers to delay harvesting opportunities in Georgia. He further stated that these proposed amendments to the fishing regulations would remove the size limits for trout in Waters Creek, modify the duration of the delayed harvest season, and adds two new stream reaches to the list of delayed harvest waters: Waters Creek upstream of its junction with Dick's Creek, and Raccoon Creek from Norfolk Southern railway crossing upstream to the Silver Comet Trail. He added that the proposed amendments would change the dates of the delay of harvest season to October 15 to April 14.

Mr. Denny called on Dr. Tina Johannsen, Assistant Chief, to present the proposed amendment to Rule 391-4-2-.47, pertaining to Ducks.

Dr. Johannsen stated that under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is the primary authority for regulating migratory birds. She further stated the USFWS establishes the opening and closing dates, maximum season length, and maximum bag limits within which the stated must set their migratory bird hunting seasons. She added the proposed change to bag limits for ducks maximizes opportunity within the established federal framework. She further added that the request is to reduce the bag limit on Seaducks from four to three.

A motion was made by Mr. Dellinger, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the proposed amendment to Rule 391-4-2-.47, pertaining to Ducks.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.