

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

April 28, 2020
9:00 a.m.
(Via Teleconference Call)

Attendees:

Committee Members

Joe Hatfield, Chair
Dwight Evans, Vice Chair
William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
Duncan Johnson
Ray Lambert
Tim Lowe
Billy New
Mike Phelps
Dee Yancey
Nancy Addison, Board Chairman, Ex-officio

Board Members

Bill Jones
Rob Leebern
Paul Shailendra
Bodine Sinyard
Brother Stewart
Miki Thomaston

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Josh Hildebrandt
Cathy Barnette
Amber Carter
Artica Gaston
Courtney Hall
Thomas Barnard
Jeff Cown
Steve Friedman
Rusty Garrison
Doug Haymans
Tina Johannsen
Mike Burgamy

Richard Dunn, Director
Lauren Curry
Jac Capp
Karen Hays
Chuck Mueller
Laura Williams

The April 28, 2020 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee was called to order by Chair Nancy Addison.

Chair Addison called on Mr. Joe Hatfield, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee. Mr. Hatfield called on Tina Johannsen, Assistant Chief, Game Management, Wildlife Resources Division (WRD).

Ms. Johannsen stated the proposed amendments to hunting regulations are relative to the federal waterfowl regulations. She further stated the USFWS establishes a framework for opening and closing dates, maximum season length, and maximum bag limits, within which each state must set their migratory bird hunting seasons. She added the season will be very much the same as last year.

Ms. Johannsen stated there are three notable changes to the migratory bird regulations this year. One change will allow the department to offer two additional days of duck hunting to active duty military and veterans. She further stated they have chosen to combine these two days with the current Youth Waterfowl Days. She stated the second change is a reduction in the scaup bag limit from 2 to 1 because of population declines. She further stated the third change is to add Lake Allatoona to the list of reservoirs with special regulations at the request of the Corps of Engineers.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagwell, seconded by Mr. Yancey, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend the Board approve the Proposed Amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, Pertaining to Migratory Bird Regulations, as presented.

Ms. Johannsen stated the second item is a briefing on a proposed amendment to the hunting regulations, specific to Mistletoe State Park. She further stated the date of the Masters Golf Tournament was changed and now created a conflict with the hunt at Mistletoe State Park. She added that changing the date would not be a problem for the department and would accommodate their need for the economic input from the Masters Tournament. She stated the proposal would move the dates from November 10-11, 2020 to December 1-2, 2020.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.