

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

February 27, 2024
9:00 a.m.

Committee Members

Bodine Sinyard, Acting Chair
Randy Dellinger
Patrick Denney
Mark Hennessy
Penn Hodge
Kevin Jackson
Duncan Johnson
Brent Layton
Lesley Reynolds
Joe Hatfield, Board Chair, Ex-officio

Board Members

Nancy Addison
Ray Lambert
Gary Vowell

Guests

Bryan Tolar, GA Urban Ag Council
Alice Keyes, One Hundred Miles
Trust for Public Land Board
Aldon Ortega, Samsara

Staff Members

Walter Rabon, Commissioner
Thomas Barnard
Trevor Santos
Kyle Pearson
Kate Iannuzzi
Artica Gaston
Cathy Barnette
Alexus Thompson
Mike England
Steve Friedman
Doug Haymans
Angie Johnson
Ted Will
Lyndy Rogers
Jill Andrews
Tina Johannsen

Jeff Cown, Director
John Eunice
James Boylan
Chuck Mueller
Anna Truszczynski
Katie Hegarty

The February 27, 2024 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee was called to order by Chairman Joe Hatfield.

Chairman Hatfield called on Bodine Sinyard, Acting Chair of the Wildlife Resources Committee. Mr. Sinyard called on Tina Johanssen, Assistant Chief of Game Management, for a briefing on the proposed amendments to Chapter 391-4-1, Hunting Regulations, pertaining to Quail Season, Special Hunting Opportunities, and Cochrans Creek and Featherfield Wildlife Management Areas.

Ms. Johanssen stated the complete hunting regulation proposals are developed on a 2-year cycle and occasionally proposed regulations are presented to establish hunting seasons on newly acquired properties, for housekeeping changes, and for high impact, special critical issues with significant Board and public input. She further stated the hunting regulation proposals being presented will adjust the opening day of quail season to the 2nd Saturday in November; establish hunting seasons on two newly acquired wildlife management areas beginning with the 2024 turkey season at Featherfield WMA in Seminole County and Cochrans Creek WMA in Dawson County; and provides for department sponsored specialty hunts on department-managed lands to be scheduled, planned, and implemented by working closely with volunteers on an impromptu or short-term timeframe that is not allowed by the current process. She added that this proposal will be publicly noticed for public review and comment and will be presented to the Board for consideration and adoption at the April 24, 2024 board meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.