

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

**May 25, 2010**

**Attending:**

Committee Members

Joe Hatfield, Chairman  
Earl Barrs  
Gene Bishop  
Bill Carruth  
Mabel Jenkins  
Ray Lambert  
Jenny Lynn Bradley, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

Bill Archer  
Dennis Billew  
Dwight Davis  
Walter Hudson  
Loyce Turner  
Jim Walters  
Tom Wheeler  
Steven Woodruff

Visitors

Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce  
Alice Howard, Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, SC  
Lt. Colonel Derek Richardson, Marine Corps  
Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company  
Joe Ferrero, Georgia Air National Guard  
David Wamer, National Wild Turkey Federation, Georgia  
Andy Ivey, National Wild Turkey Federation, Georgia  
Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund  
Michelle Cable, The Nature Conservancy  
Phil Zinsmeister, Sierra Club  
Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner & Associates

Staff Members

Chris Clark  
Allen Barnes  
Paul Burkhalter  
Todd Holbrook  
Emily Hitchcock  
Kyle Pearson  
Dave Crass  
Spud Woodward  
Becky Kelley  
Marlin Gottschalk  
Dan Forster  
Mark Smith  
Linda MacGregor  
Jac Capp  
Jim Ussery  
Doralyn Kirkland  
John Bowers  
Steve Friedman  
Bryan Alexander  
Homer Bryson  
Lon Revall  
Sarah Dearman  
Rashanda Carter  
Mary Ann Evans

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Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corporation

Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Association of Georgia

John Eberhart, Georgia Earth Alliance

David Word, Joe Tanner & Associates

R. Henry, Associated Press

Mike Giles, Georgia Poultry Federation

The May 25, 2010 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee was called to order by Board Chairman Jenny Lynn Bradley. Chairman Bradley called on Joe Hatfield, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee.

Mr. Hatfield stated that there was one action item to be presented, and called on John Bowers, Assistant Chief, Game Management, for presentation of the Proposed Amendment to Rule 391-4-1-.62, Alligators.

Mr. Bowers stated that the Committee and Board had been briefed at the March meeting regarding the proposed amendment to the alligator Rules. He further stated that the proposed change would expand alligator hunting opportunities by increasing the number of applicants selected to participate from 700 to 850. He added that the alligator population is estimated to be 200,000. He further added that harvest rates and average size of harvested alligators has remained stable.

Mr. Bowers stated that these efforts are consistent with the Department's objective of providing a quality hunting opportunity while maintaining a stable population. He further stated that these changes will have a minimal effect on the alligator population.

Mr. Bowers stated that the proposed change had gone out for public notice and that all comments were favorable. He further stated that he would like to request the Committee's approval.

Discussion ensued with Mr. Bowers briefing the Committee and Board on the Alligator Management Plan that is in the process of being developed.

A motion was made by Mr. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Carruth and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends that the Board approve the Proposed Amendment to Rule 391-4-2-.62, Alligators. (Proposed Amendment attached hereto and made a part hereof)

Mr. Hatfield called on Dan Forster, Director of Wildlife Resources Division, for comments.

Director Forster gave a briefing on fresh water turtle harvest regulations, training of bear dogs on national forest lands, white-nose syndrome that occurs in bats, meetings with shooting preserve operators, and the Archery in the School Program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.