

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

**April 29, 2013**

**Attending:**

Committee Members

Philip Wilheit, Chairman  
Mark Mobley, Vice Chairman  
William Bagwell  
Duncan Johnson  
Phyllis Johnson  
Aaron McWhorter  
Bodine Sinyard  
Philip Watt  
Dee Yancey  
Rob Leebern, Board Chair, ex-officio

Board Members

Nancy Addison  
Dwight Davis  
Bill Jones  
Ray Lambert  
Mike Phelps  
Paul Shailendra  
Mark Smith

Visitors

Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Michael Pisciotta, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Mark Woodall, Sierra Club  
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network  
April Ingle, Georgia River Network  
Gordon Rogers, Flint Riverkeeper  
Aaron Mitchell, Georgia Power  
Max Zygmunt, MZCZ Law  
Lauren Joy, SELC  
Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power  
David Ward, JTA  
Dave Williams, Metro Atlanta Chamber  
Matt Harper, GEFA  
Gary Kelly, Baker County Land Owner  
Ashton Bailey, GreenLaw  
Ronnie Just, Georgia Power  
Lauren George, Southern Environmental Law Center

Staff Members

Mark Williams  
Jud Turner  
Homer Bryson  
Spud Woodward  
Dan Forster  
Becky Kelley  
Dave Crass  
Steve Friedman  
Jac Capp  
Keith Bentley  
Lauren Curry  
Mark Whitney  
John Bowers  
Eddie Henderson  
Kyle Pearson  
John Martin  
Michael Chadwell  
Mary Ann Evans  
Cathy Barnette  
Taylor Brown  
Nap Caldwell  
Doralyn Kirkland  
Wally Woods  
Lon Revall

The April 29, 2013 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee was called to order by Board Chairman Rob Leebern.

Chairman Leebern called on Philip Wilheit, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee, who called on John Bowers, Assistant Chief of Game Management.

Mr. Bowers stated the item for consideration was a briefing on proposed Rule 391-4-9-.07, "Falconry Permits."

Mr. Bowers stated the purpose of the proposed rule was to facilitate Georgia's compliance with federal parameters and ensure Georgia's falconers continue to practice falconry. He further stated Georgia's General Assembly recently adopted HB 274, which authorizes DNR's Board to adopt rules to bring Georgia in compliance with federal falconry regulations. He added that the falconry community was supportive of these changes.

Mr. Bowers stated WRD plans to present the proposed rule to the Board at the May 21, 2013 meeting.

Chairman Wilheit called on Mark Whitney, Chief of Game Management, to present "The Science Behind Wildlife Management."

Mr. Whitney informed the Board of the science used to study populations and the characteristics of populations. He further informed the Board of the education requirements, responsibilities, and duties of a DNR wildlife biologist. He added that that WRD uses long-range management planning when creating Wildlife Action Plans.

Chairman Wilheit called on Dan Forster, Director of WRD, for a division update.

Director Forster updated the Board on the bidding for license and boat registration contract; the TVA trout stocking efforts at Lake Blue Ridge; the availability and purchase price of the new wildlife license plates; the revision process of the State Wildlife Action Plan; and "Natural Communities of Georgia" co-authored by WRD biologist John Ambrose.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.