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

> Tuesday, August 22, 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 Gary Vowell Dwight Davis, Board Chair, Ex-officio

Board Members

Nancy Addison Dan Garcia Penn Hodge Bill Jones Tim Lowe Paul Shailendra Harley Yancey

Guests

Debbie Phillips, GA Industry Environmental Coalition Josh Purdy, Georgia State Parks Melanie Reed, GA DNR Mark Woodall, Sierra Club Chris Manganiello, Chattahoochee Riverkeepers Brooks Varnell, DNR Law Enforcement Nic Matthew, Office of Planning and Budget David Anderson, Office of Planning and Budget Rick Dunn, Office of Planning and Budget Meris Lutz, Atlanta Journal and Constitution Anna Edmondson, Robbins Government Relations

Staff Members

Walter Rabon, Commissioner Kyle Pearson Kate Iannuzzi Donald Kirkland Cathy Barnette Thomas Barnard Steve Friedman Doug Haymans Angie Johnson Ted Will Jill Andrews Antoinette Norfleet Scott Robinson

Jeff Cown, Director James Boylan Chuck Mueller Anna Truszczynski Minutes – Wildlife Resources Committee August 22, 2023 Page 2

The August 22, 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 Management, for an update on the Proposed Amendment to Fishing Regulations, Chapter 391-4-3. Mr. Robinson stated that proposed changes to trout fishing regulations were presented to the Board at the June board meeting, primarily addressing comments from anglers and surveys regarding delayed harvest program. He further stated that delayed harvest is implemented in the winter and currently begins on November 1. He added the program implements catch and release regulations and artificial lure only regulations on trout streams. He further added that currently there are five (5) streams designated to the program, and anglers want to see more streams added. Mr. Robinson stated the proposal would add more streams, along with some date changes and adjustments on the beginning and end dates of the delayed harvest. He further stated there were many comments received during the public comment period and generally the majority were in favor of the proposed amendments. He added there were also many requests for different dates and more specialized regulations than what were proposed, so at this time he would like to withdraw the proposal and continue working with their partners to develop regulations that would likely be recommended next year for the delayed harvest program.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.