

Minutes
Wildlife Resources Committee
Go Fish Education Center Theater
1255 Perry Parkway
Perry, Georgia 31069

Tuesday, May 24, 2022
9:00 a.m.

Committee Members

Patrick Denney, Chair
Dee Yancey, Vice Chair
Nick Ayers
William Bagwell
Dwight Evans
Joe Hatfield
Duncan Johnson
Ray Lambert
Rob Leebern
Billy New
Bodine Sinyard
Miki Thomaston
Bill Jones, Board Chair, Ex-officio

Board Members

Dwight Davis
Randy Dellinger
Tim Lowe
Gary Vowell

Guests

Rena Ann Peck, Georgia River Network

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Donald Kirkland
Cathy Barnette
Artica Gaston
Alexandrea Solomon
Thomas Barnard
Jeff Cown
Steve Friedman
Ted Will
Doug Haymans
Tina Johannsen
Kara Nitschke
Meghan Angelina
Eric Bentley

Richard Dunn, Director
John Eunice
Karen Hays

The May 24, 2022 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee was called to order by Bill Jones, Chairman of the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Jones called on Mr. Patrick Denney, Chairman of the Wildlife Resources Committee.

Mr. Denney called on Dr. Tina Johannsen, Assistant Chief of Game Management, and Dr. Johannsen called on Kara Nitschke to present the proposed amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, Pertaining to Migratory Bird Regulations.

Ms. Nitschke stated under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the primary authority for regulating migratory birds. She further stated the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service annually establishes the framework, which includes opening and closing dates, maximum season lengths, and maximum bag limits, within which the states must set their migratory bird hunting seasons. She added that these frameworks are developed with the input of state wildlife agencies and are informed using biological population, harvest, and habitat parameters.

Ms. Nitschke stated that the proposed waterfowl hunting seasons maximize weekend hunting opportunities within the approved federal frameworks. She further stated that there are two notable changes this season: The third segment of the waterfowl season opens on a Saturday and ends on a Sunday; and the Hooded Merganser bag limit changes from no more than two to six.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Mr. Denney, seconded by Mr. Hatfield, and carried unanimously, that the Committee recommends the Board approve the proposed amendments to Hunting Regulations, Chapter 391-4-2, Pertaining to Migratory Bird Regulations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.