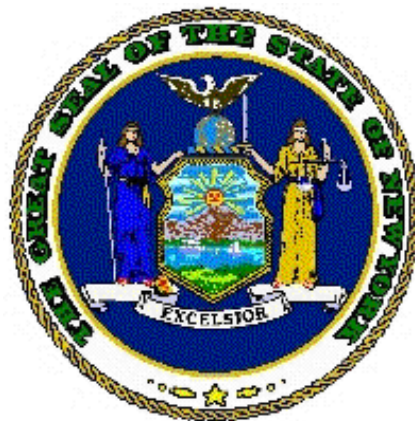


State of
New York

CONSERVATION FUND ADVISORY BOARD



Annual Report to the
Commissioner
and
Sportsmen and Sportswomen
April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004

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Executive Summary

- The Conservation Fund Advisory Board met eleven times in State Fiscal Year 2003-04 and adopted fourteen substantive resolutions (pages 8-23).
- The Board heard numerous presentations, received reports, and discussed topics including: Department of Environmental Conservation (Department) work plans and priorities for the Fish and Wildlife Program; the Department of Environmental Conservation Automated License System (DECALS); fish and wildlife law enforcement; oil and gas drilling on Wildlife Management Areas, chronic wasting disease; deer management, including discussion of moving the opening day of the Southern Zone deer season to a Saturday; The Department's information about educational programs including the conservation camps and "The Conservationist"; Department's staffing levels; sportsmen education; the new Habitat & Access Stamp; lowering the big game hunting age; requiring a visible fishing license; fish production at Department fish hatcheries; fish hatchery capital improvement needs, a proposed youth turkey hunt; and, most importantly, revenue to and expenditures from the Conservation Fund (pages 8-23).
- The Board analyzed income to and expenditures from the Conservation Fund and concluded the Conservation Fund enhancement package enacted into law in 2002 will keep the Conservation Fund healthy through State Fiscal Year 2004-05. No license fee changes are warranted at this time, but the Board recommends that other mechanisms to increase revenue to the Conservation Fund should be developed.
- The Board fulfilled its charge to review Department allocations and expenditures from the Conservation Fund and concluded expenditures from the Conservation Fund are consistent with the requirements of Section 83 of the State Finance Law.
- The Board expresses its appreciation that the Department has recently received some waivers to the statewide, all funds, hiring freeze imposed by the Division of the Budget and has been able to fill some critical positions in the fish hatchery system and in regional offices and in central office.
- The Department informed the Board that it will continue to identify critical vacant positions and petition the Division of the Budget for a waiver from the hiring freeze to fill these positions. The Board recommends the Department place a priority on filling vacant field positions.

1. A Message from the Chairperson

The Conservation Fund Advisory Board (Board) continued a busy schedule in the State Fiscal Year from April 1, 2003 through March 31, 2004

The Board continued to advocate for passage of the Governor's proposal to allow 14 and 15-year old hunters to hunt big game with rifle or shotgun and a Department of Environmental Conservation request to pass legislation to make the crossbow a legal hunting implement for disabled people and for all hunters in certain, regulated seasons. Unfortunately, yet again in 2004 the legislature did not act on either of these proposals. The Board will not give up on passing legislation to allow our well trained and safe young hunters to hunt big game in New York with rifle or shotgun and increasing hunting opportunity for disabled hunters and others by supporting legislation to make the crossbow a legal choice under regulated circumstances.

We continue to face difficult fiscal times in New York. The statewide, all funds, hiring freeze remains in place and limits the Department's ability to fill vacant positions that are critical to implementing fish and wildlife programs, anglers, hunters and trappers support. We advised the Department on filling priority staff vacancies and worked to help secure relief from the hiring freeze. We have enjoyed some success in this regard and several important positions in the fish hatchery system, in field offices and in the Department headquarters have been filled, helping to maintain program delivery. Your license dollars continue to be the mainstay of support for fish and wildlife conservation. Anglers, hunters and trappers should be proud of this legacy and the Board thanks each of you for helping to conserve our fish and wildlife heritage.

Recently, the Board has worked with the New York State Conservation Council and others to focus attention on the need to reinvest in our fish hatchery infrastructure. The Department's twelve fish hatcheries rear and stock about one million pounds of fish annually. These fish create wonderful fishing opportunities and help support an annual economic impact of \$1.3 billion. Several of the hatcheries are in need of major rebuilding. Total cost to meet this need will likely exceed \$20 million. The Board is working with the Department to identify strategies on how to fund rebuilding the hatchery system.

The Board has continued to work with the Department to access better information about the Conservation Fund and fish and wildlife programs. We have begun to make use of the data management capability of DECALS to track revenue from sporting license sales and provide even better service to sporting license buyers. This is the fifth annual report to be made available on the Web and represents our commitment to work with you to ensure the Conservation Fund remains healthy and that our resources fund fish and wildlife conservation.

Robert Monacchio
Chairperson

2. About This Report

The Conservation Fund Advisory Board is required to submit a report annually to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation (Department) by November 15th of each year. The primary purpose of this report to the Department is to advise the Commissioner regarding the Board's assessment of the extent to which expenditures and appropriations from the Conservation Fund are consistent with the requirements of state law.

The Board will make its annual report available to the public by posting it on the Department of Environmental Conservation's web site at: www.dec.state.ny.us. The Conservation Fund Advisory Board has no independent means to audit the report and relies upon the DEC for its accuracy and completeness.

3. What is the Conservation Fund Advisory Board?

The New York State Conservation Fund Advisory Council (CFAC) was established by Chapter Four of the Laws of 1982 as a branch of the State Executive Department. It provided the license buying public of the State of New York with information about expenditure of Conservation Fund monies, thereby ensuring that the Fund was spent in accordance with the Environmental Conservation Law, specifically for the care, management, protection and enlargement of the fish and game resources of the State and for the promotion of public fishing, hunting and trapping.

Under Chapter 308 of the Laws of 1994, the Council was reestablished as the Conservation Fund Advisory Board (CFAB) and removed from the jurisdiction of Executive Law, and placed under the Environmental Conservation Law. The change allowed the addition of ex-officio members to the Board (Senate and Assembly Environmental Conservation Committees, Senate Finance Committee, Assembly Ways and Means Committee, and DEC Commissioner, or their representatives), in an effort to speed up communications and give the panel the ability to make more timely decisions.

All CFAB members are volunteers serving without salaries and having a long standing interest, knowledge and experience in fish and wildlife management, including hunting, fishing, trapping and related conservation activities. The members represent each of the nine DEC Regions with two statutory members representing the New York State Conservation Council Inc., and the New York State Fish and Wildlife Management Act Board.

CFAB's function is to make recommendations to appropriate state agencies on plans, policies and programs affecting fish and wildlife. This is accomplished by CFAB review of the DEC's fish and wildlife program and the enforcement program (Titles 11 & 13 only). The Board submits an annual report to the DEC Commissioner.

Board members can be contacted by writing the Conservation Fund Advisory Board, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-4750.

The specific duties of the Board are:

- Review the allocations and expenditures of DEC for fish and wildlife programs.
- Periodically make reports and release information to sportsmen and women and the general public about the Conservation Fund and the Fish and Wildlife Program.
- Consult with fish and wildlife interests and report annually to the DEC Commissioner on fiscal needs and recommendation for meeting them.
- Assist DEC in expanding sources of income to the Conservation Fund.
- Provide recommendations on the needs of fish and wildlife programs.
- Evaluate expenditures of the Conservation Fund by reviewing current and proposed fish and wildlife programs.

Fulfillment of these responsibilities is aimed at ensuring that Conservation Fund expenditures are in accordance with New York State Finance Law. The Conservation Fund was created under that law in 1925 requiring one half of all monies collected from the sale of sporting licenses be spent exclusively for fish and game related purposes. In 1933, the law was amended to require that all the monies from license sales be used for these purposes. For over seven decades, sportsmen and women have purchased sporting licences - principal source of Conservation Fund revenue - and ensured the stewardship of New York's fish and wildlife.

4. Accounts in the Conservation Fund

The Conservation Fund consists of several accounts. The following is a list of those accounts and a general description of the funding source. The revenue figures reported below for each account were obtained from the records of the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) and are official figures.

Traditional Account

As the name implies, the "Traditional Account" generally consists of monies raised from hunting, fishing and trapping licenses. Other sources of funding for the Traditional Account include:

- Return a Gift to Wildlife;
- Deer management and other special permits;
- Fines from Title 11 & 13 violations;
- Certain rentals, royalties and miscellaneous sales; and
- Interest, including interest transferred from the life time license account.

During 2003/2004, the Traditional Account generated **\$39,542,628**.

Marine Resources Account

The Marine Resources Account generated monies from activities in the marine district of Long Island. Licenses and permits include the shellfish permits, tidal wetlands permits, charter boat permits, whelk permits, food fish/crustacean permits, fines and other revenues. During 2003/2004, the Marine Resources Account generated **\$1,921,112**.

Habitat Account

This account was newly created in 2002 and receives revenue from the sale of voluntary Habitat & Access Stamps. Funds from this account can only be used for habitat conservation and enhancing public access for fish and wildlife-related recreation. This account generated **\$34,073** in 2003/2004.

Migratory Bird Account

This is a relatively small account and funds are generated through the sale of collector stamps. During 2003/2004, this account generated **\$25,351**.

Guide License Account

Another very small account, the Guide License Account, generated **\$60,011** from the sale of guide licenses.

Surf Clam & Ocean Quahog Account

This account generated **\$62,175** from per bushel fees associated with clam harvest.

Life Time License Account

The sale of "life time" licenses generates the monies in this very important account. The principle may not be touched by law and interest is transferred from this account to the Traditional Account annually. The formula for the transfer is designed to replace money lost from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses when a life time license is purchased. The most important feature of the account is the fact that a person's life time license money continues to work long after the person has stopped hunting or fishing or has died. It is the ultimate long-term commitment that a sportsman or woman can make to his or her sport. During the year 2003/2004, the lifetime license account generated **\$1,250,844** and had a balance of **\$11,798,051**. Life to date interest has been transferred to the Traditional Account in the amount of **\$2,296,717**.

5. Members of the Board

Region 1: Charles A. Bevilacqua was born in Brooklyn and has been a resident of Nassau County since 1950. He is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and attended Nassau Community College and the American Management Institute. He has been active in community affairs as a former Scoutmaster, fund raiser and assistant coach for the Syosset Spartans Young Sports Program. He is an avid hunter, angler, competitive target shooter and Life Member of the National Rifle Association. Presently, Charlie serves on the Nassau County Forest Practices Board, the NYS Open Space Advisory committee for Region 1 and the NYS Conservation Council/NY Power Authority Joint Task Force on Energy and Natural Resources. He has been active with the Nassau County Fish and Game Association, holding offices as President, Vice-President and Director. He is a past president of the Manhasset Bay Sportsmen's Club. Charlie has held several offices with the NYS Conservation Council, including Vice-President, Regional Director and a member of several key committees. He is associated with Nassau Suffolk Realty. He has held various management positions with Lisa & Company, has been a Senior Field Engineer with TRW and a Sales Manager with Singer Business Machines. He was appointed in 1984 to serve as the representative of Region 1.

Region 2: John F. Matusiewicz, a hunter and angler for more than 50 years, was born and spent all his life in Staten Island, graduated from local public schools and served in the US Army from 1952-1954 during the Korean Conflict as a Helicopter Mechanic and Crew Chief. He is an Honorary Life member and past commander of the American Legion, a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the National Rifle Association (35 years), the Colonial rifle & Pistol Club (35 years), Co-Founder and Secretary of the Isle Wide Rifle&Pistol Shooting Club and a member and Past Exalted Ruler of the B.P.O. Elks, Lodge 841 serving as a State Trustee, National Foundation and Scholarship Chairman. He has also served as a DEC Hunter Education Instructor. In his professional life, John worked for the Food Machinery & Chemical Corporation (9 years), Procter & Gamble Manufacturing Company as an Analytical Chemist (35 years), retiring in 1990. He was the recipient of the Outstanding Conservationist Award 2000, presented by the New York Chapter of The Wildlife Society. In retirement he enjoys teaching his seven grandchildren the basic fundamentals of hunting, fishing, gun safety and conservation.

Region 3: Wallace H. John "Wally" was born in New York City and grew up in West Shokan, Ulster County in the Catskill Park where he currently resides. He has hiked,

camped, fished and hunted through out the Catskill Mountains, New York, Wyoming and Montana. Wally holds Bachelors and Masters degrees from SUNY New Paltz and did advance graduate work at the University of Iowa. He was a teacher before working in the New York State Assembly. He is a life member and legislative vice-president of the New York State Conservation Council and author of the "Albany Report" in Grassroots News. He is active in the elk restoration project as a life member, habitat partner, and Catskill Mt. Chapter chairman of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Wally is vice-president of the Bushkill Rod and Gun Club, a member of Trout Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, Nature Conservancy and other national conservation organizations. He has been a past chairman of the Town of Olive Conservation Advisory Council and a member of the Ulster County Environmental Management Council. In 1985 the NYS Wildlife Society honored him with their outstanding conservationist of the year award. Wally worked for the Assembly on the Program and Counsel Staff which included 16 years with the Environmental Conservation Committee and 8 years with the Agriculture Committee. He retired in 2000. In 2002 he was appointed to CFAB to represent Region 3.

Region 4: Mark J. Storti was born in Barre, Vermont in 1966. He has been a New York State resident for more than 21 years. As an avid hunter, trapper and fishing enthusiast, Mark has enjoyed the outdoors from the Adirondack Mountains to the western mountains of Maine. He is a graduate of SUNY at Plattsburgh with a B.A. in geography and a minor in land use planning. Presently, Mark is employed by Schenectady County as a Senior Geographic Information Specialist in the Planning Department. Nine years ago, Mark founded one of the largest youth fishing days in the Capital District Region. The Indian Kill Open House / Fishing Day has become one of the prominent outdoor educational and recreational experiences for Schenectady County Youths. As the president of the Schenectady County Conservation Council, Mark was instrumental in forming one of the first Adopt-A-Natural Resource programs with NYS DEC Region 4 at the Featherstonhaugh State Forest in the Town of Duanesburg. Mark is a member of the NRA, the New York State Trappers Association, the New York State Muzzle-loaders Association, Inc., the Schenectady County Water Quality Coordinating Committee, Scotia-Glenville Kiwanis and the Town of Glenville Park Planning Commission. He was appointed Region 4 representative to CFAB in 2001.

Region 5: Robert J. Monacchio, a New York State resident for more than 35 years, has fished and hunted in the state since the 1950s. He has been a camp owner and part time

resident of Adirondack Park for 25 years and a full time resident and property owner for more than 15 years. Bob spent six years in the Naval Reserve and received his formal education at Rockland Community College and the Center of Occupation Education, both in New York State. In his professional life, Bob has served as Treasurer of Mountain Home Consulting Group Inc. in Edinburg (NY), President of Coordinated Components Inc. in Tallman (NY), Vice President and General Manager of Production Services for Trans World Display Corporation in New York City and Project Director for Snyder Black & Schlegel in Hartsdale (NY). He has been a writer and board member and helped edit the Edinburg Newsletter. He also has been a member and past board member of the Great Sacandaga Lake Fisheries Federation Inc. and is involved in negotiations in FERC relicensing of hydro facilities on the Great Sacandaga Lake and the Hudson River. Bob has also been involved in stream stocking for DEC and has served on the Fulton County Water Quality Strategy Committee and the Saratoga County Water Quality Strategy Committee. He enjoys hunting, fishing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling, as well as restoring fishing rods, firearms and fly tying.

Region 6: **Linda S. Sicley** is a native New Yorker who has resided in the Town of Worth, Jefferson County, since 1979. She and her husband have two daughters and three sons and raise beef cattle on their farm on the Tug Hill Plateau. Her memberships include the Fur Harvesters Association of Jefferson County where she has been secretary since 1992, the New York State Trapper's Association, the National Rifle Association and the Black River Valley of the NRA Committee since 1996. She is a DEC Trapper Training Instructor and has participated in the Cornell Cooperative Extension Environmental Awareness Days since 1994 with a Furbearer Management Presentation. Linda is an active member of the United Methodist Church, teaching Sunday School and volunteering at church functions. She is a former Delegate and Secretary of the Jefferson County Sportsmen's Federation where she served on the Legislative and Education Committees. In 2002, she received the Lewis County Sportsmen's Federation Conservationist of the Year Award. Linda enjoys hunting, fishing and especially trapping with her family.

Region 7: **Craig L. Tryon** resides in Marietta, NY, was born in Cobleskill, NY, and is a lifelong resident of New York State. He holds AAS degree in Recreational Land Management from the SUNY College at Cobleskill and a BS degree in Business Administration from Columbia College. Craig is a decorated, combat wounded Viet Nam Veteran. He served in the US Army as a combat infantry unit radio operator in the 46th Infantry of the Americal Division based in Chu Lai, Republic of South Viet Nam. Craig has been employed for over 30 years by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. He is currently

the Operations Supervisor for all state parks and historic sites in the 10 county Central New York Park Region. Craig is a member of the National Rifle Association, NYS Conservation Council, Friends of Carpenters Brook Fish Hatchery, and the White Otter Fish and Game Club. He is a Director of the Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen Clubs and Chair of the DEC Region 7 Fish and Wildlife Management Board. Craig is a NYS Licensed Outdoor Guide and co-owner of Adirondack Wilderness Experiences Guide Service. He is Past President and currently the Treasurer of the New York State Outdoor Guide Association. Craig is the editor of the Guide Association's annual publication, [A Guide to the Licensed Guides of New York State](#). In his recreational time, Craig is a avid hunter, fisherman, and fly tier. He enjoys wilderness camping, canoeing, and kayaking, as well as snowshoeing, hiking, and nature photography. He is a volunteer First Aid and CPR Instructor for the American Red Cross. Craig was appointed as the Region 7 Representative to the NYS CFAB in 2002.

Region 8: **Dennis J. Money**, a lifelong resident of New York State, was born in Rome (NY) and now resides in Canandaigua. He has been active in hunting and trapping for more than 35 years. He has been a member of the Environmental, Health and Safety Group of the Rochester Gas & Electric corporation for more than 29 years where he is Principal Environmental Analyst and deals with wetlands and stream issues, environmental audits, asbestos management and wildlife initiatives. He is a former teacher at Clifton Springs High School and a Teacher-Demonstrator for the United States Atomic Energy Commission. He has a B.S. in Biology from Utica College of Syracuse University, a M.S. in Environmental Studies from the University of Rochester and a Certificate in Management and Labor Relations from Cornell University. He is the recipient of the Hugh E. Cummings Environmental Excellence Award for 1996, the 1998 Monroe County Environmental Management Council Career Professional Award, a member of the Ontario Sportsmen's Federation, a member of the American Wildlife Research Foundation, Project Manager for the Rochester Peregrine Falcon Project and President of the New York River Otter Project, Inc. He is on the Executive Board of the Central and Western New York State Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. He was appointed to the Board in 1996 to serve as the representative of Region 8.

Region 9: **Donald Kill** resides in Lackawanna. He has three daughters and one granddaughter. The oldest of seven children, Don took an interest in conservation and the environment at an early age. He has held numerous positions with conservation organizations. Presently, he is president of the Erie County Federation of Sportsman's Clubs and Treasurer to the Buffalo Bowhunters Club. Don takes an active interest in the Erie County Conservation Society, Southtown's Walleye Association, the Erie County

Environmental Council, and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parent/Teacher Guild. Don is also Vice-president of the local Frontier Central Employee Association and a member of the National Rifle Association and Safari Club International. Don works closely with the DEC, local and state politicians and conservation-minded organizations on issues that concern sportsmen and sportswomen and conservationists. He was appointed in 1998 to serve as representative from Region 9.

FWMA Representative: Harry C. "Bud" Woodfield was born in Tarrytown, Westchester County, NY in 1923. He currently resides in Binghamton, NY. He attended Cornell University and retired from State service after 35 years with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Bud is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Wyoming Conference and certified Lay Speaker of the United Methodist Church. He is also the President of the Broome County Federation of Sportsman's Clubs. Bud has been a hunter, angler and trapper all his life. He is a Life Member of the National Plott Hound Association and is a licensed UKC bench show judge. In 2000, He received the outstanding Conservationist Award from the N.Y. Chapter of the Wildlife Society. During 2001, he was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the NYS Conservation Council and an award for many years of service to the community from the Southern Tier Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. In

2002, he received an award for Outstanding Services from the FWMA and an outstanding Member of the Year award from the NYS Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation.

NYSCC Representative: John J. Long, Chairman, was born in Niagara Falls in 1933. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics from Niagara University and is Vice President of United Insurance Agency, Inc., an insurance agency where he has been employed since 1949. He is a veteran of the US Army. John has hunted and fished over most of North America and is president of Outdoor World Productions, Inc. He has been active in the NYS Conservation Council since 1955 and was presented the 1987 NYS Conservationist of the Year Award by the Council and the New York Power Authority. He is a past Chairman of the Fish and Wildlife Management Board in Region 9; Past president and life member of the NYS Outdoor Writers Association, and past president of the Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs. John is a Life Member of the National Rifle Association and a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and the Association of Great lakes Outdoor Writers. He recently constructed a walleye rearing facility on his property for the Niagara River Anglers Association to stock the Niagara River. He is Captain of the Niagara County Sheriff's Special Conservation Deputies. He was appointed to the Board in 1988 to serve as the representative of Region 9. He currently is the representative of the NYS Conservation Council.

6. Actions of the Board FY 2003/2004

The Conservation Fund Advisory Board fulfills its legislative mandate to recommend to the Department how Conservation Fund monies are spent and how to keep the Fund solvent. Usually, meetings are held monthly to discuss topics associated with issues affecting sportsmen and sportswomen and to formalize its recommendations. Robert's Rules of Order are followed when formalizing recommendations and other official business of the CFAB. Meetings are public and the activities of the Board are made the subject of official meeting minutes which are approved by the Board and distributed to interested parties. Actions which are formal recommendations are made in the form of a motion, which requires a second and a simple majority of the Board members present to adopt the motion.

During the fiscal year 2003-2004, the Conservation Fund Advisory Board adopted the following motions with a summary of the meeting minutes following:

**April 7, 2003
224th Meeting**

1. Resolution 04/03-01 Motion to approve the March 16, 2003 minutes was made by Bud Woodfield and seconded by John Matuszewicz. Motion Carried.
2. Resolution 04/03-02 Motion made to keep monthly meetings at the Best Western on Western Ave. By Bud Woodfield and seconded by John Matuszewicz. Motion Carried.
3. Resolution 04/03-03 Motion made to reimburse Board members for their expenses while attending the joint meeting between CFAB and the NYSCC Hunter Education Committee, at the April NYSCC Spring Meeting. Motion by Bud Woodfield and seconded by Bob Monacchio. Motion Carried.
4. Resolution 04/03-04 A motion to adjourn was made by Bud Woodfield, seconded by Craig Tryon. Motion Carried. Meeting Adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

Summary of Minutes

1. Chairman Long called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. All voting CFAB members present. DEC's Reps. Present. Gerry Barnhart, Director of DFWMR, Dave Egelston, Assistant Director, Division of Law Enforcement, Neil Satterly, Public Affairs, Tim Eidle, Legal, Jim Bertram, Recording Secretary. Guests Bill Hiltz, Reps. Senator Maziarz and sportsman, Bob Miller, Region 7 Sportsman Bill Magunski, Sportsman region 2. No Reps. From either Senate or Assembly Committees.
2. Correspondence, Return letters from Senator Bruno and Assemblyman Silver in regards to 14 & 15 year olds being able to hunt big game under super vision. This bill is under review in both houses. John Long passed out to Board Members the Draft Niagara County Survey on Public Land Use. John indicated that this form could be changed for use in each county.
3. Neil Satterly, reported that the Conservationist Magazine is now on schedule and they have been receiving good comments from the public on the magazine's improvements.
4. Neil Satterly, indicated that there is money to hire staff for the summer camp program and that work is being done on the cabins and the central house at Camp Colby. Neil also reported on the Empire State Outdoors. He indicated that they are working on a Memorandum of Understanding to move the project along. The program content will be decided by an Editorial Board made up of DEC staff. Mark Storti, asked if the sportsman would have a representative on the Board, Neil said not at this time.
5. Comparative Statements, Gerry Barnhart reported that

- they have been continuing working with Worldcom to generate reports that would give the basic information needed for a comparative statement. A report was received for March, which has a good dollar amount, but not for items sold. Gerry indicated that Doris McCarthy from DEC and Board member Bob Monacchio will be working on a final format. Gerry handed out a draft report of Conservation Fund revenue by month for 2001-2002 and 2002-2003. The report showed a total for 2001-2002 of \$32,680,259 and for 2002-2003 \$40,533,610. Gerry indicated that these numbers were slightly ahead of projected figures. He also reported that the uncommitted balance at the end of the FY will be between \$600,000 and \$800,000. The uncommitted balance should be higher next year.
6. New Member Information Packet, Craig Tryon handed out a draft to members. Discussion was held on articles that should be included in the packet.
 7. Voucher System, Charlie Bevilacqua reported that the Voucher System is not a fee, but instead a prepaid license. He also indicated that the Hunter Education Survey that was sent out by the NYSCC should have been held back until The Hunter Ed. Committees from CFAB and the NYSCC met to discuss it. Members from both groups will meet at the Spring Meeting of the NYSCC in April.
 8. Saturday Deer Opener for the Southern Zone, Garry Barnhart reported that there is some opposition from several different groups and that the Department will start working towards the 2004 big game season on this issue.
 9. Sportsman Education, Don Kill indicated that there was a shortage of supplies for instructors to conduct courses in Region 9. Jim Bertram indicated that there were no reports at Central Office of shortages of supplies except for bow manuals and that is being taken care of. Don reported the use of the wrong type of shotgun shells being used for training. This is being looked into.
 10. Farm Bureau Report, John Long read four of the Farm Bureau's 2003 Policies for consideration by the NYSFWMB.
 - 1-NYS should encourage an increase in the number and availability of hunter safety courses.
 - 2-Recommend that the age limit for big game licenses should be reduced from 16 to 14 years of age with a licensed parent or legal guardian's supervision until that person reaches 16 years old.
 - 3-Oppose the use of rifles for big game in the Western Zone.
 - 4-Recommend that the Conservation Fund Advisory Board, duly in place as a Conservation Fund watchdog,

report to the NY Farm Bureau, at least twice a year, on the status of the Conservation Fund and Federal revenues, and also status of any vacancies in the division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources.

After discussion number four, it was determined to have Bud Woodfield notify the Farm Bureau that they can get this information from the CFAB Monthly Minutes and Annual Reports that are on the web-site.

11. Law Enforcement, Dave Egelston reported that there has been a change to how the TIP DEC line is answered, now when you call TIP DEC the call goes to the Region Office or to the State Police, this way a caller always gets a dispatcher. Dave also reported on the ECO's work schedule. Their contract has expired. Now the ECO's are being scheduled for a specific eight hour period, this can be changed to meet the work demands of the Department. A new contract is presently being negotiated.
12. Update on Status of Replacement of Retirees. Gerry indicated that all of the 51 retirees that had indicated their desire to retire, did so. There is going to be a lot of moving around. But most will be internal promotions, which will have no effect on the net amount of new employees. When this all shakes out, there should be 406 filled positions. This process will probably take anywhere from six weeks to six months.
13. Discussion on Monthly Minutes, There was discussion on how the monthly minutes of the Board's future meetings would be handled subject to the Open Meeting Law.
14. Panfish, Bob Monacchio, reported that there was a tremendous amount of pan fish coming out of Lake George and Lake Champlain and being sold in Vermont. He indicated that as much as 5,000 pounds of pan fish per week are being taken out by one person. He wants something done before the fishery is ruined. Gerry stated that at this time there isn't enough documentation for the Department to do an emergency regulation. Bob indicated that more law enforcement was needed to catch those that are illegally catching and selling the fish.
15. Southern Zone Rifle Season, Western Region, John Long asked what the Department position is on rifle hunting for deer in the Southern zone. Gerry reported that department hasn't taken an official position. He than indicated that if the Department takes his recommendation, the unofficial position will be to recommend using rifles. Gerry said hunting coyotes with rifles is already legal as is hunting deer with pistols with 15 inch barrels. He also indicated that safety shouldn't be an issue.
16. Joint meeting between CFAB, NYSFWMB, NYSCC, with Commissioner Crotty. There was a joint meeting on March 17, 2003 in Albany. The group was asked to come up with several "Main

Topics" to discuss with the Commissioner. They are. 1- Crossbow Issue, 2-Governors Budget Proposal and Incentive Retirements, 3-Deer Feeding Ban, 4-Habitat Stamp, 5-Public Lands that are being lost to sportsmen and the Conservation Fund.

17. Report on NYSFWMB Spring Meeting. Bud Woodfield gave a report on the three day spring meeting that was held in Albany on April 3,4 and 5, 2003. There were many speakers which included Steve Schassler, Region 4 Director, Howie Cushing, President NYSCC, Patricia Arnold and Dan Stockton presentation on trapping, John Potter from the NYC Watershed, Jeff Williams, Assistant Director of Public Safety, NYS Farm Bureau, Carmella Mantello, Executive Director Greenway Council, Lynette Stark, Deputy Commissioner, Natural Resources and Water Quality, Gerry Barnhart, Director DFWMR, Richard Henry, DEC, Jeff Loukmas, DEC, David Egelston, Assistant Director, Division of Law Enforcement. Bud also indicated that new officers were elected. Chairman Robert Banks, Vice-Chairman, Kelly Dickenson, Directors Emory Green, Joe Molinaro and Walt Hallbauer, Secretary, Jim Bertram.
18. Election of Officers, Bud Woodfield, Chairman of Nomination Committee, conducted the election of officers for the following year elected were the following.
Chairman, John Long
Vice-Chairman, Robert Monacchio
Secretary, Dennis Money

**May 5, 2003
225th Meeting**

1. Resolution 05/03-01 A Motion to approve the April 7, 2003 Minutes was made by Don Kill and seconded by John Matusiewicz. Motion Carried
2. Resolution 05/03-02 A motion by Bob Monacchio that the \$6000,000 from Gas Drilling not be put in the Habitat Account and seconded by Don Kill. Motion Carried.
3. Resolution 05/03-03 A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Don Kill and seconded by Dennis Money. Motion and it carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Summary of Minutes

1. Howie Cushing, President of the NYSCC, handed out notes from the joint meeting between CFAB, NYSFWMB, NYSCC and DEC, Commissioner Erin Crotty. He than spoke on a couple of current issues facing Sportsmen. The crossbow issue: Howie stated that this issue has to be settled because too much time is being wasted on it.
The deer feeding ban: he suggested that DEC should carefully look at permitting some feeding, in some areas of the state. The state budget problems: CFAB should keep a close eye on Conservation Fund to make sure

- that money is being spent where it should be.
2. Wally John, reported he has a letter from the NYS Comptroller relating to the Fish & Game Trust Account (Life-Time License Account) cash balance. The Cash balance as of March 31, 2003 was \$9,035,545.82. Bob Monacchio asked if the Board could have a complete breakdown of the Life-Time license account.
 3. Bob Monacchio, reported that Doris McCarthy, Hank Hamilton, John Long and he would be working on a new format, which should be finalized by the June meeting.
 4. Hunter Education Voucher System, Bob Monacchio discussed how the NYSCC sent out a survey regarding the voucher system and that there was supposed to be a meeting between CFAB and the Council's sportsman education committee to discuss this proposal before any survey went out. Bob Monacchio and Linda Sicley met with the Council's committee but not much was accomplished at that meeting. It was recommended that Charlie Bevilacqua should develop more detail on how the voucher system is proposed to work. It was noted that this may require a change in the law as well as changes in the DECAL system.
 5. Senator Betty Little, District 45 spoke to the Board on the following issues. First of all she thanked the Board for all the good work that the Board does for their conservation efforts in the state. Some of the issues the Senator spoke on were:
 - 1-Money that was put into the DEC's budget for the Water Chestnut problem.
 - 2-The Deer Feeding Ban regulations, she stated that she was in favor of some type of permitting system in some areas of the state.
 - 3-The Senator also stated that she was in favor of a Trail Stamp for hiking and trail maintenance.
 - 4-The proposed 14 & 15 year old hunting big game bill, she stated that there are negative feelings in the legislature on this issue.
 6. Assemblyman Chris Ortloff, 114 District, The Assemblyman also reported in regard to the proposed 14 & 15 year olds hunting big game bill, that this is an anti-gun state and that his colleagues need to be educated on this issue. He stated that the sentiment is just not there for this proposed bill. On the Deer Feeding Ban, the Assemblyman indicated that if feeding is allowed in some areas that there should be no registration fees. He then went on to say that if there is a permanent ban imposed and that if there isn't an exception for feeding in the Adirondacks, the Department is going to have to ship deer in, because there won't be any deer left in the Adirondacks. The Assemblyman also reported that there will be reciprocity between New York and Vermont for fishing licenses. This could go into effect as early as this summer.
 7. (CWD), Utah is the latest State to report cases of (CWD). There has been a series of Temporary Regulation since October 2002. The Emergency Regulations that are in place are the same Regulations that were discussed at the state wide public meetings. The Proposed Permanent Regulations are also the same as the Emergency Regulations that were discussed at the state wide public meetings. That does not mean that they are the ones that will be adopted. Gerry Barnhart indicated that he is almost sure that one change will be relaxed is the importation of carcasses from adjoining states. The only way that will change is if one of the adjoining states comes up with a positive finding for (CWD) in that state and then we go back the way we were. Before the Proposed Permanent Regulations are finalized, the Department will invite the Board, FWMB and the NYSCC in for discussions. Gerry also indicated that another 1000 deer will be tested statewide for (CWD) this year and results will be available before the Fall hunting season. He also indicated that the Department of Agriculture and Markets have a proposed regulation, that any deer found dead on a game farm will be tested for (CWD)
 8. Travel Restrictions, No out of state travel is allowed unless someone else picks up the tab. Within NYS, there is an effort to reduce meetings and conference attendance including federation meetings. These are Department of Budget rules and they apply to all state agencies, not just DEC.
 9. \$600,000 from gas drilling on state management areas can go into the CF. Bob Monacchio made a motion to leave this money in the CF and not put it into the Habitat special fund. Don Kill seconded the motion. Motion was carried.
 10. Sale of Pan Fish was discussed, Bob Monacchio reported that there have been thousand's of panfish taken illegally from Lake George and Lake Champlain. Gerry Barnhart indicated that new restrictions would be considered and a possible 50 fish per day limit would be considered if CFAB, NYSCC and the Adirondack Conservation Council support such a change. The Board agreed to support such a change. Gene Terry from the Adirondack Conservation Council asked the Department to do a study to see what has happened to the walleye shortage in Lake Champlain.
 11. Laurel Remus from DEC Public Affairs reported that there was still some openings left in the summer camp program.
 12. Larry Johnson, Director of Law Enforcement, reported that he has 23 vacancies at the current time and that he was still hopeful that there would be a new academy before the end of the year. He also discussed a new ECO work schedule and a 800 numbered phone line for complaints. Larry also discussed that if the pay scale

isn't raised for ECO's that more officers would be leaving for higher paying jobs with other law enforcement agencies.

13. Wayne Jones, Sportsman Education Administrator discussed a report of a shortage of instructor supplies. Wayne indicated that there should be no shortage. He also discussed the procedure instructors should use to get supplies. They should go to their county coordinator first and if unsuccessful go to their Regional Coordinator. If there still is a problem call Wayne's office in Albany, all instructors have the toll free number on the back of their instructor cards. He also discussed that he is looking into different ways of warehousing and shipping supplies.
14. Dick Henry from the DEC's Deer Management Unit reported that a record 308,000 white tails were taken of which 179,000 were does. Of the 771,000 DMP,s issued 148,000 were filled. Muzzleloaders took about 14,000 deer and bowhunters 33,000 deer. When asked what he saw for the future of deer management in NYS, he indicated that QDM, the expansion of the archery season and legalization of crossbows in the gun season are high on the priority list of considerations to keep the herd healthy and hunting alive in our state.
15. Dennis Money stated the same thing that Howie Cushing brought up earlier, that the bowhunters and the crossbow advocates have to sit down and get this issue ironed out between themselves.
16. Discussion was held between Board members about following printed agenda and procedure for guests. The Board members decided that they will follow the procedure that is printed on the agenda.
17. Visitors are welcome and encouraged to attend CFAB meetings. CFAB has adopted the following procedure:
 1. General discussion will be limited to Board Members and DEC's Advisory Staff;
 2. Visitors may be granted the privilege of the floor if requested by a Member of the Board and approved by the Board;
 3. Guests are usually granted time after the regular business meeting to make a presentation on a subject relevant to our proceedings, Generally, guests are limited to a 5 minute presentation. This time frame may be expanded or rescheduled at the discretion of the Chairman.

**June 2, 2003
226th Meeting**

1. Resolution 06/03-01 Motion to approve the May 5, 2003 minutes was made by John Matuszewicz and seconded by Don Kill. Motion Carried.
2. Resolution 06/03-02 Motion to table voting on the Comparative Statement until the September 2003 meeting made by Bud Woodfield and seconded by Linda Sicley. Motion Carried.
3. Resolution 06/03-03 Motion to adjourn by Bud

Woodfield and seconded by John Matuszewicz. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Summary of Minutes

1. Correspondence -Dennis Money handed out two articles written by Len Lisenbee, Outdoor writer, Canandaigua Messenger, relating to the current dilemma between The Environmental Conservation Officers and their administration and his recommendations for resolving those issues. Bud Woodfield passed around an article from the Binghamton paper on what a typical day for an ECO consists of. Mark Storti passed around an article from the Schenectady Daily Gazette in regard to the Youth Bow Hunting debate. The article describes the Youth Bow Hunting Debate as an upstate-downstate split . The bill is to let 12 & 13 year olds hunt for deer and bear with a bow and arrow. Linda Sicley also passed around a newspaper article from her local newspaper on the Youth Archery Bill. Chairman Long asked Wally John to draft a letter of support for the bill to be sent to the leadership in the legislature.
2. New Comparative Statement- John Long commended Bob Monacchio on the unbelievable amount of time and effort he spent preparing the new comparative statement. John also had high praise for Hank Hamilton, Doris McCarthy and other DEC staff that helped with the work. Bob Monacchio presented a new format of the comparative statement and explained the statement page by page. It was obvious that it contained valuable information on the status of the Conservation Fund. It was agreed to look at another update before actually approving the new format and to give members time to review the New Comparative Statement. The good news for the Conservation Fund was that in FY 02/03, the total amount of money was \$42,400,000 which was about a \$9,000,000 increase from the previous FY.
3. New Member Packets- Gerry Barnhart indicated that he had most of the items requested. He stated that most of the items on the list, members were already getting and that other items can be found on the DEC Web-Site
4. Annual CFAB Field Trip- The annual Field trip will be held in Region 9 on August 3,4, & 5 2003 the location is the Holiday Valley Resort in the Town of Ellicottville, John Long and Don Kill are working with Russ Bliss from the Region 9 Dec Office, planning the trip.
5. Proposed Big game Hunting for 14 & 15 year olds- Wally John indicated that there has been movement on this bill.
6. Loss of State Parkland to Sportsman- Chairman Long reported that he has received several of the surveys back from Sportsman groups and that there was a general consciences that the Board should check on lost land for the past 30 years. Lynette Stark requested that

she would like to be updated when more surveys come in.

7. Hunting Licenses- John O'Pezio handed out the new 2003-2004 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Guide and the revised license formats for the coming sales year which have incorporated some of the suggestions that were previously made for improvement. John indicated that most improvements in DECALS will be invisible to most people. He also indicated that the major problems from last year will be gone and that full testing of the system will occur in July, prior to the start of license sales in August.
8. Law Enforcement- Jim Tuffey, Assistant Commissioner, Public Safety, indicated that he wanted to update the Board on the Division of Law Enforcement staffing. Jim indicated that he knew that some officers contacted Board members and that rumors were being passed around. Jim started by going back to when 55 Officers brought a law suit against the State of New York for a violation of the FSLA. He went on to say that the MOU that they had been working under ran out March 26, 2003 and the current negotiated contract would have to be followed. He then indicated that under the current contract there should be more officers available to answer complaints from the public. Since the new hours went into effect, there were no complaint from the public in regard too not being able to get an officer. Jim also discussed how the new toll-free system worked. Jim then discussed rumors about a quota system, Jim stated that there never was a quota system and never will be. A question was asked about salaries that officers were making compared to other law enforcement agencies. Jim stated that the Department had given the union facts and figures to help them in negotiations and that it was up to the union to negotiate for higher salaries. Jim also talked about the current staffing level and that a new academy should be started by the end of the year.
9. Sale of pan fish- Gerry Barnhart indicated that the Senate has no interest in offering a bill to ban the sale of panfish. DEC, however can put into effect, a new regulation to place a 50- panfish limit in Lake Champlain. Dave Egelston indicated that as law enforcement receives good information, they act upon it and some arrests are made in regards to the illegal taking of panfish.
10. Public Affairs- Neil Satterly indicated that Mike Cavanaugh will be in charge of promoting the second year of the Habitat Stamp. This year the Habitat Stamp will feature a picture of a trout. Part of the promotion will be via Tip Strips, Press Releases, Outdoor writers and correspondence to County Sportsman Federations.
11. Staffing and Funding since 1980- Gerry Barnhart passed out charts showing the staffing levels of the division since 1980. The peak year for staffing of the division

was 1993 when 518 items were filled. The lowest staffing year was 1980 when 374 items were filled. The goal for this year is 406.

12. Cape Vincent Staffing and operation- Gerry Barnhart indicated that Cape Vincent will continue to operate and that a new Captain for the research vessel will be named soon. Two biologists will not be filled soon, even though one is federally funded and the other is CF money funded. Gerry will hire temporary seasonal help to staff the boat.
13. ATV's- Dave Egelston reported that a group called Trailpaths has approached law enforcement and is trying to organize ATV owners to only run their machines at sanctioned clubs. The ATV's would have to be registered (most currently are not), and trails would have to be clearly marked. Dave said to look for some kind of announcement on an agreement by the end of June.
14. Chairman Long reported that former member, Attorney Bart Wu, has offered free legal advice for the Board and would be agreeable to attend monthly meetings at no cost. His offer was accepted.

**July 2003
No Meeting**

**August 3, 2003
227th Meeting**

1. Resolution 08/03-01 Motion to approve the June 2, 2003 minutes was made by Don Kill and seconded by Bud Woodfield. Motion Carried
2. Resolution 08/03-02 Charlie Bevilacqua moved and Bud Woodfield seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Summary of Minutes

1. 9 voting members present, 2 voting members excused, plus twenty-nine other people attended either all or parts of the annual field trip. This included Dec personnel, guests and legislators.
2. Chairman Long opened the meeting with a moment of silence for Assemblyman Jake Guether.
3. Chairman Long thanked CFAB member Don Kill and Region 9 Supervisor of Natural Resources Russ Biss for all the time and hard work that they put into organizing this years annual field trip.
4. Russ Biss, Natural Resources Supervisor, Region 9 welcomed and thanked the members of the Conservation Fun Advisory Board and guests for visiting Region 9. Region 9 is comprised of the six western-most counties of our state, totaling 3, 605,700 acres. Region 9 DEC headquarters is located in Buffalo, with sub-offices in Allegany, Belmont and Falconer. Region 9 is home to two of the States fish hatcheries, two environmental education centers- Camp Rushford

- and Dr. Victor Reinstein Woods Natural Preserve and the State's only urban canoe route, the Buffalo River Urban Canoe Trail.
5. Correspondence,- A letter was received from Fred Neff, regarding the transfer of \$600,000 of gas drilling income that he felt should go into the Habitat/Access account. CFAB has voted to leave it in the Conservation fund.
 6. Assemblywoman Nancy Calhoun from the 96th district spoke in regard to the State budget cuts. She also stated that the sportsman groups have to do a better job meeting and informing their elected legislators about sportsman issues, especially the downstate legislators. She said that she would be interested in setting up a meeting with CFAB members and legislators in Albany to discuss sportsman issues.
 4. Assemblyman Dick Smith from 146th district spoke about the license fee increase and this year's budget cuts. He also stated that the sportsmen have to talk to the legislators and to inform them on sportsman issues. He said that the legislators have to hear from the sportsman on issues that are important, the anti's call all the time and the legislators only hear one side of the issue.
 5. Safari Club International, Bob Keicher, spoke on many of the different programs provided by Safari Club International. One of the programs provided is over 20,000 Blue Bird boxes and 11,000 Bat boxes. He also discussed the shooting training program that is run frequently. They also provide several other outstanding conservation related programs such as, corn programs for farmers, pheasant programs and rabies program at Attica.
 6. Old Business- Bob Monacchio reported that for the first quarter of this year, \$6 million was taken in compared to \$4.5 million last year for the first quarter. Bob also noted that he was having a hard time getting information for the Comparative Statement. Gerry Barnhart stated that MCI has enhanced their performance for the past 3 months.
 7. Department Reports:
DECALS
1-Regular meetings have been ongoing with MCI
2-Training for license issuing agents and making sure issuing agents have needed supplies. Physical changes to tags.
Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)
1- Permanent Regulations have been filed by DEC, they are similar to the present Emergency Regulations. Hunters may bring deer into the State from Eastern states that don't have (CWD). Deer feeding ban stays the same as emergency regulations.
2-More deer samples will be taken before this years deer season.
 8. Gerry Barnhart stated, meetings were held with sportsman groups before the final regulations were filed.
 9. Lake Ontario Fisheries meetings being held with stake holders.
 10. Cape Vincent Captains position should be filled shortly.
 11. Habitat Stamp advertising is being done in the Conservationist and new posters are printed for advertising.
 12. Delmar Lab updates will assist the State's efforts to study wildlife mortality. The new updates will enable it to handle a much larger volume of wildlife cases and carry out a wider array of diagnostic procedures. It will be able to monitor for more wildlife diseases and toxicant problems, further protecting the state's wildlife, domestic animals and human health.
 13. Law Enforcement- Dave Egeleston, Assistant Director, Division of Law Enforcement, reported that the DECALS system has been an effective tool for law enforcement by keeping people with revocations and people that have outstanding ECL tickets from obtaining a hunting license until these issues are corrected. The Division is also preparing for a new ECO Academy of thirty to thirty-five recruits. The final approval hasn't been given yet. The Law Enforcement Annual Reports for 2000, 2001 and 2002 will be made available to CFAB members. ECO's have been checking different lakes for un-licensed fishermen and have been issuing tickets. Four new vessels, called safe boats have been purchased, two of these boats were paid for with federal funds and two with state funds. Training to operate these vessels have been completed by the ECO Marine teams and the MORE teams. The national guard had agreed to tow these boats in emergencies until new vehicles can be purchased.
 14. New Business- Dennis Money reported that the Army is looking to get rid of the Seneca Army Depot by October 2003. Dennis said they are looking for some organization to come forward to operate the depot or it will be auctioned off by the Army. Tom Flaitz, DEC Law Enforcement Officer, representing Environmental Conservation Police Local 1873 and Tom Koss, DEC Forest Ranger, representing Council 82 gave the unions point of view on current contract negotiations and the past memorandum of understanding. They asked CFAB to get involved by asking Commissioner Crotty to sit down with the unions to help settle the contract. They stated that their officers couldn't serve the public under present working conditions the way that they were served in the past.
 15. Monday, CFAB members and guests toured Spooner Creek Fish Ladder and Stream Improvement Project, Carton Hill MUA. Silver Lake Boat Launch, Springdale Farm Cooperative Stream Improvement Project and Harwood Lake MUA.
 16. Tuesday- Tour included Hanging Bog WMA and Camp

Rushmore Environmental Facility-Upland Habitat Management, Woodland and Grassland Habitats. The group finished up with lunch at Camp Rushmore.

September 8, 2003

228th Meeting

1. Resolution 09/03-01 "John Matuszewicz made a motion to accept the August 3, 2003 Minutes." The motion was seconded by Bud Woodfield and carried.
2. Resolution 09/03-02 " John Matuszewicz made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 P.M." The Motion was seconded by Don Kill and Carried.

Summary of Minutes

1. 8 voting members present. 3 voting members were excused.
2. Vice-Chairman Robert Monacchio conducted the meeting due to Chairman Long's excused absence. Bob thanked region 9 CFAB member Don Kill for the work that he did on setting up the Annual trip along with Russ Biss and all the other Region 9 staff that worked on the Annual Trip. He stated that the CFAB members were very happy with the Annual Field Trip, it was very informative and interesting.
3. Correspondence- Letter from Fred Neff read, no further action.
4. Bob Monacchio handed out yearly Comparative Statement from 1996 to present. He then handed out the Comparative Statements for the months of April, May and June, he requested that Board members carefully review them.
5. New CFAB Brochure- Still waiting for the brochure to be printed.
6. New Member Package- Bob Monacchio reported that some members still are waiting for ID cards and name tags.
7. Proposed Big Game Hunting for 14 & 15 year olds, Wally John indicated that nothing is happening on this bill now due to the fact that the Legislators are in recess. Gerry Barnhart indicated that this issue will be given a high priority on the Department's Legislative Agenda next year.
8. Cross Bow Issue- Wally John reported that very little progress has been made on this issue. Gerry Barnhart indicated that this issue may also be on the Department's Legislative Agenda, but he isn't sure. Gerry stated that he will get a copy of new proposed crossbow hunting regulations from Maryland to Board members.
9. Visible Fishing License, Bob Monacchio reported that law enforcement did a sweep on the Great Sacandaga Lake in August, to see how many fishermen were fishing without a fishing license. Law Enforcement reported that 10% of the fishermen checked were fishing without a fishing license. Bob indicated at this rate, there could be up to 1.5 million dollars a year being lost to license sales. Wally John was asked to bring this up at the NYSCC, Fisheries committee at their fall meeting.
10. Sale of Pan Fish, There is a concern that too many pan fish are being taken out of Lake George and Lake Champlain and Yellow Perch from the Finger Lake Region. It is felt by many sportsmen and sportswomen that if this issue is left unattended, the fisheries in these lakes would be damaged. Gerry Barnhart stated that this issue would need legislative action to change. This issue may possibly be settled by the Regions. Gerry indicated that the Regions are aware of the problem and have discussed it.
11. Misc. Items, Bob Monacchio stated that he was happy that Jim Bertram, Secretary to the Board was still with the board, his job with DEC is still pending. He stated Jim was doing a good job. Bob stated that there has been a yearly turn over of secretaries. Bud Woodfield indicated that Jim was also secretary to the NYS Fish and Wildlife Management Board and having Jim do both, works out good. Bob also indicated that he wanted to thank Doris McCarthy for all of the dedicated work she has helped the Board with over the years and he isn't looking forward to the day that she leaves DEC.
12. Dennis Money requested that Board member Mark Storti replace him on the Bird Conservation Committee. Mark agreed to take the committee position.
13. Mark Storti was reappointed by Governor Pataki to the CFAB for another term.
14. Wally John reported that Governor Pataki vetoed the Canned Hunt Bill even after receiving extreme pressure from the animal right groups. Wally also indicated that the governor was putting forward a Governors Program Bill, Number 65 that would put tighter controls on the hunting preserves to enforce the regulations that they are put under. Wally was asked by the Board to write Governor Pataki, thanking him for vetoing the Canned Hunt Bill on behalf of the CFAB.
15. Charlie Bevilacqua indicated that there was a serious problem in Mt. Sinai Harbor. The local municipality closed an area of the harbor to hunting, because of complaints of noise from shooting, trespass and safety issues by a couple of landowners. Charlie stated that there were no safety issues the landowners just didn't want hunting there. Charlie asked the Department to look closely at this issue before more land is closed to hunting. Charlie also wanted to know why the sportsmen weren't made aware of these meetings to look at the issue before lands were closed.
16. Neil Slattery, from public affairs reported that the DEC summer camps were well attended. Neil reported that they sold around 2000 subscriptions to the Conservationist Magazine at the State Fair. Neil indicated that the Empire Outdoors program was

coming along and should have a pilot program ready for next fall.

17. Gerry Barnhart reported on the status of DECALS. Gerry indicated that the system has been running very well so far, with only minor problems that are being taken care of. Sales are a little slower than this time last year, but they are steady.
18. Gerry Barnhart gave a power point presentation on staffing and budget for the DFWMR. Gerry indicated that we're beyond the point of doing more with less. Its time to sharpen our focus on the most important programs and use our limited resources to do those well.
19. Promoting the Habitat Stamp. It was discussed that many of the license issuing agents aren't promoting or displaying the Habitat Poster. Gerry indicated that the Habitat stamp was one of the topics that was covered during this year's refresher workshop for license issuing agents. Wally John stated that two resolutions were being drafted for the fall meeting of the NYSCC to make the Habitat stamp mandatory. Most board members were opposed to making it mandatory.
20. Union representatives from both DEC's Law Enforcement and Forest Rangers made a presentation that was a follow up to their presentation at the August meeting. They spoke about problems between union members and management. One problem was ECO's being brought up on department charges when they weren't warranted, another about a ECO trainee that was going to be terminated without the chance to first resign. Another problem that they spoke about was being without a contract and management wouldn't sit down and negotiate with the union. They state that there were between 50-60 grievances and 10 improper practice suits pending.
21. Annual Report, hopefully there would be a draft ready for next month's Board meeting.
22. Discussion was held on the Board meeting in Albany with Legislators sometime in February, 2004. It was suggested that the Board have specific items that they plan to discuss or the meeting would be counter-productive.
23. Charlie Bevilacqua requested a list of all Sportsmen Education instructors and a list of all Sportsman Education courses statewide for a year.

**October 6, 2003
229th Meeting**

1. Resolution 10/03-01 Bud Woodfield made a Motion to accept the September 13, 2002 Minutes. The motion was seconded by Bob Monacchio and Carried.
2. Resolution 10/03-02 Motion by Bob Monacchio and seconded by Dennis Money proposing that the Department look into a regulation that would require a Visible Fishing License. The Board asked the

Department to provide facts and figures that could be taken to the Regions via public meeting to gather public input by late January or early February 2004 and be ready for implementation for the 2004-2005 license year. Motion Carried.

3. Resolution 10/03-03 Motion to adjourn was made by Dennis Money and seconded by Charlie Bevilacqua. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Summary of Meeting

1. 7 Voting members present. 4 voting members were excused.
2. Correspondence, Letter from a non-residence who owns property and pays tax's in NYS. He requests the Department look into changing the law so that property owners can buy a residence license.
3. Comparative Statement was handed out by Bob Monacchio and discussed.
4. Visible Fishing License was discussed at length, with a motion by Bob Monacchio, proposing that the Department look into a regulation change that would require a visible Fishing License. The Board asked the Department to provide facts and figures that could be taken to the Regions via public meetings to gather public input by late January or early February 2004 and be ready for implementation for the 2004-2005 license year. Motion was seconded by Dennis Money. Motion Carried.
5. Annual CFAB Report to the Commissioner and Sportsman and Sportswomen for April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003 was handed out by Bob Monacchio.
6. Gerry Barnhart handed out a report showing gross license sales for the first 45 days. Sales lagged at the beginning of the sales year, however they are now selling at a rate comparable to last years. Gerry also stated that the DECALS is functioning correctly with very few complaints. Gerry also reported that 40,000 Deer Management Permits will be issued to unsuccessful applicants from the first draw, they will be automatically sent.
7. Public affairs, Laurel Remus gave a report that subscriptions are around 100,000. This is a dip in sales from last year. This dip is due to less promotion because of State Budget crunch. Mike Matthews, reported that all camps were nearly full for this summers camping season. Mike also handed out information for Pack Forest, Colby, DeBruce and Camp Rushford.
8. Cross Bow, Gerry Barnhart reported that the Cross Bow Issue will go in as a Program Bill from the Department. The language will be for the most part the same as last year.
9. Gerry Barnhart indicated that there will be a 5% (100,000) reduction in brown trout this year. This is due to a reduction in staff at the hatcheries. Gerry indicated that there will be a 10% (160,000) increase in

Chinook Salmon. Gerry stated that the Department is prioritizing work that needs to be done at the hatcheries.

10. Tom Flaitz, President, Encon Police Local 1873 and Toni Dragoota, Vice President Encon police Local 1873 handed out copies of newspaper articles and a letter to former DEC Commission John Cahill. They asked if any Board member had questions in regard to the handouts .
11. Habitat Stamp, Gerry Barnhart reported that a set of draft criteria for habitat projects and another set of criteria for access projects are in the works. They are in the process of merging these two projects. A draft will be presented at the fall NYSFWMB meeting on October 23th and 24th, this will be finalized shortly after that. Projects will be solicited from within the agency and from outside. The revenue from the Habitat stamp is the only money going into the habitat account. All of that money is going to be spent on the Habitat and Access projects according to the criteria that is going to be decided by the NYSFWMB. The only exception is the revenue coming from a lease from one marina.
12. Gerry handed out 2004-2005 work plan for review by Board for discussion at next months Board Meeting
13. Invasive Exotic Species, The Governor is sponsoring a new bill to set up a task force to look into Invasive Exotic Species.

**November 3, 2003
230th Meeting**

1. Resolution 11/03-01 Bud Woodfield moved and John Matuszewicz seconded to approve the October 6, 2003 Minutes. The motion Carried.
2. Resolution 11/03-02 A motion was made by John Matuszewicz and seconded by Bud Woodfield that a cover sheet showing the monthly attendance should be attached to the Annual Report. Motion Carried.
3. Resolution 11/03-03 A motion was made by Bob Monacchio and seconded by John Matuszewicz that a letter should be written from the Board to the Executive Department and the Division of Budget, asking job waivers be given to fill vacant positions that are funded by the Conservation Fund, so that programs can be maintained. Motion Carried.
4. Resolution 11/03-04 A motion was made by Wally John and seconded by John Matuszewicz to approve the Annual Report with the minor changes that were discussed. Motion Carried.
5. Resolution 11/03-05 Bud Woodfield moved and John Matuszewicz seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Summary of Meeting

1. 9 Voting Members present, 2 Voting Members excused. All Ex-Official Members present except for Senate

Finance Committee. Bart Wu, new Chief Counsel to CFAB was introduced to the Board.

2. Comparative Statement was handed out by Bob Monacchio. He noted that total sales are slightly down from last year at this time.
3. Annual Report was presented by Bob Monacchio, the report was reviewed page by page by members. With minor changes, the Annual Report was adopted.
4. Visible Fishing License, A draft of the Proposed Visible Fishing License will be presented at the December meeting. DEC neither supports or opposes the Visible Fishing License. Much discussion followed on this issue. Some Regions totally are against this proposal, with other Regions supporting it. It was suggested that a fact sheet be made up informing the public of the benefits of a Visible Fishing License.
5. Dave Nelson reported that the Conservationist Magazine is in good shape with 104,000 subscribers. It was also reported that the Conservationist received a second place award at the NYS Outdoors Writers Association Annual Banquet. February 14, 2004 is the first date that applications for the DEC, Summer camps will be accepted.
6. Former DEC Commissioner Mike Zagata was a Guest and spoke briefly to the Board. He stated that Sportsmen had to step up and be counted as a group of 1.8 million votes to be heard. He also stated that because something has been done the same way for the past 20 years, doesn't mean that it has to be done the same way for the next 20 years and that sportsmen don't have to stand for status quo. It's time to move ahead.
7. It was indicated that the Conservation Fund was in good shape. It was also indicated that with money in the Conservation Fund, The State Executive Department and Division of Budget should give waivers to DEC to fill vacant Conservation Fund positions to keep conservation programs maintained.
8. New CFAB brochures are now available.
9. Larry Johnson, Director of Law Enforcement reported that the new ECO Academy has been put on hold due to the fiscal problems with the State Budget.
10. Jim Bertram briefed the board that DEC is participating in a new Statewide Firearm Safety Initiative launched in NYS called Project Child Safe. It is a program that features a Gun Lock with Firearms Safety Educational Material that will be distributed statewide.

**December 1, 2003
231st Meeting**

1. Resolution 12/03-01 Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 3, 2003 meeting with minor changes. Motion by Charlie Bevilacqua and seconded by Bud Woodfield. Motion Carried.
2. Resolution 12/03-02 A motion was made by Mark

Storti and seconded by John Matuszewicz for the Department to have as it's goal for 2005 to provide an additional \$5 million annually for hatchery infrastructure maintenance and improvement which will provide an increase of trout production from 1.8 million to 2 million annually and increase the size from 8 inches to 10 inches. Charlie Bevilacqua introduced an amendment to the above motion to reflect that this motion is the recommendation of the Board. The Amendment was seconded by Bud Woodfield. Amendment voted on and carried. The motion was then voted on and carried.

3. Resolution 12/03-03 Motion was made by Bud Woodfield and seconded by Charles Bevilacqua to set dates, time and places for the January, February, March and April 2004 meeting. Motion Carried.
4. Resolution 12/03-04 John Matuszewicz moved and Charlie Bevilacqua seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Summary of Meeting

1. 8- Voting members present, 2- voting members excused, 1- voting member absent, Chief Counsel to CFAB present. Assembly EnCon Comm. Present, Assembly Ways and Means Comm, absent, Senate Finance Comm., absent. Senate EnCon Comm., absent. Quorum of voting members present.
2. Moment of silence was held in memory of Arthur Eugene "DOC" Wager. He was past President of the NYS Conservation Council, past President of the Dutchess County Fish and Game Club and past President of the Manchester Hunt Club. He was a dedicated conservationist and will be missed by all.
3. Minutes were received from NYSFWMB and NYSCC.
4. Bob Monacchio had mailed out to all Board members a copy of the October License Sales figures. Bob indicated that the report showed license sales are down about 300,000 licenses, amounting to between \$7and 8 million dollars lost to the Conservation Fund. Mr. Monacchio stated that he is waiting for the November report to see if the numbers have increased. Gerry Barnhart handed out two graphs to help bring the Board up to date on license sales. One graph showed total sales through November 17, 2003 and the other graph showed resident license sales through November 23, 2003 vs. all of 01/02 and 02/03. Both graphs showed license sales slightly down.
5. The Board went into executive session to discuss a personnel matter.
6. Gerry Barnhart reported that there was a record bear take in the Adirondacks and the Catskill Regions and when the numbers are in the Allegany region should also have a record bear take. The overall deer take looks like it will be down.
7. The Bureau of Fisheries, Bureau of Habitat and the

Bureau of Wildlife Bureau Chiefs gave a power point presentation of their 2004-2005 work plans. Hard copies of the presentations will be given to all Board members.

8. A draft proposal for the proposed Visible Fishing License is being worked on and should be finished shortly.
9. The Annual Report was presented on time and Board members will be getting a hard copy and it will also be posted on the DEC web-site.
10. Law Enforcement, Director Larry Johnson reported that the ECO Recruit Academy started December 1, 2003 with 35 recruits. NYS Park Police are also starting a class of 50 at the same time at the Academy. Mr. Johnson also reported that the three acting Captains have been appointed permanently and that candidates for the vacancies created by these promotions are being interviewed. Recently promoted Lt. Col. Robert Lucas was introduced to the Board.
11. Setting Meeting dates for 2004:
Motion was made by Bud Woodfield and seconded by Charles Bevilacqua to set the dates, time and places for the January, February, March and April, meetings in 2004.
Jan. 5, 2004 9:00AM Best Western Hotel, Albany
Feb. 9,2004 9:00AM Best Western Hotel, Albany
March 14, 2004 1:00PM Quality Inn, Albany
April 5, 2004 9:00AM Best Western Hotel, Albany
12. Annual Field Trip-Discussion among Board members to which region would host the field trip. It was decided that Region 8 would be the first choice, then Region 1. It was decided that the final decision would be made at the January meeting.
13. On notice from the Chair the need to conduct an executive session to discuss a matter relating to a personnel issue. Motion made by Wally John and seconded by Bud Woodfield was, by unanimous vote approved by the Board in the open meeting and in Executive Session. The Board went into Executive Session. Following the executive session, upon a motion made by Mr. Wallace John and seconded by John Matuszewicz, the Board resumed its monthly meeting.

**January 5, 2004
232nd Meeting**

1. Resolution 01/04-01 John Matuszewicz moved and Craig Tryon seconded a motion to approve the December 1, 2003 minutes. Motion Carried.
2. Resolution 01/04-02 Motion was made by John Matuszewicz and seconded by Bud Woodfield to approve the proposed regulation requiring a visible fishing license.
3. Resolution 01/04-03 Motion was made by Bud Woodfield and seconded by Wally John to table above

4. motion until after the March meeting. Motion Carried. Resolution 01/04-04 Bud Woodfield moved and John Matuszewicz seconded that the Meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Summary of Meeting

1. 9 - voting members present, 2- voting members excused. Chief Counsel to CFAB present. Assembly Encon. Comm. Absent. Assembly Ways and Means Comm. Absent. Senate Finance Comm. Absent, Senate Encon. Comm. Absent. Quorum of voting members present.
2. Craig Tryon, Region 7 CFAB Member was reappointed to the Board by Governor George Pataki for a term that expires February 16, 2006.
3. The February CFAB Board meeting will be held in Northville and a field trip will follow the regular Board meeting at the DEC Hale Creek Station.
4. In reference to Board meetings, the rules of the meetings, with respect to public comments at the meetings, was read into the record to be followed at future Board meetings.
5. A letter from the Chairman to be sent to the State Executive Department requesting help in getting waivers from the State hiring freeze to fill vacant positions in the Department necessary to sustain fish and wildlife conservation programs was read to the Board. These positions are paid for out of the Conservation Fund.
6. 4A draft of the proposed regulation requiring a visible fishing license was presented to the Board. A motion to approve the draft regulation was made and tabled until after the March meeting of the Board.
7. CFAB committee assignments were brought up to date and will be posted on the DEC website,
8. Bob Monacchio went over the latest Comparative Statement and noted that the license sales are down The Board asked the Department to supply the Board with a break down of license sales by Region and County. The December report will be mailed to Board members.
9. In regards to the fish hatchery system, it was brought up that both Federal funds and money from the State General Fund should be used to make capital improvements to the hatchery infrastructure. Gerry Barnhart indicated that Department staff is working on a plan to determine the needs in the hatchery system and how to pay for them. Mr Barnhart also indicated that the reduction of staff at the hatcheries has had a direct impact on the production of fish and also on the stocking of the fish into the streams and lakes.
10. In regard to the DEC Summer Educational Camp Program, all registration material has been mailed to previous sponsors. Sponsor application can be postmarked on or after February 14, 2004. The applications can be mailed on or after March 1, 2004 by

the general public. The cost for the camp is \$225 per camper.

11. Law Enforcement Director Larry Johnson reported that 35 ECO recruits started the ECO Academy in December 2003 and at this time they are down to 29. With these numbers and other expected vacancies there will be enough open positions to start another ECO class when the current Academy finishes.
12. Mr Barnhart reported that there was a record bear kill this year. The deer kill numbers are not final yet but it appears that the deer take will be down. Gerry Barnhart reported that the deer feeding ban is still in effect and is now a permanent regulation. Persons that were given a warning last year for feeding deer and caught this year will be charged. The feeding ban regulation will be strongly enforced this year.
13. Chairman Long introduced the topic, suggested by Mr. Barnhart, of reducing the number of CFAB meetings. It was brought up that members could receive more comprehensive information beforehand and have more structured agendas. It was decided to discuss the proposal at next months meeting.

**February 9, 2004
233rd Meeting**

1. Resolution 02/04-01 John Matuszewicz made a motion to approve the January 5, 2004 minutes. Seconded by Bob Monacchio. Motion Carried.
2. Resolution 02/04-02 Motion by Bob Monacchio and seconded by Charlie Bevilacqua to go into an executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Motion Carried.
3. Resolution 02/04-03 Motion was made by John Matuszewicz and seconded by Wally John to come out of an executive session. Motion carried
4. Resolution 02/04-04 Motion by Bob Monacchio and seconded by Charlie Bevilacqua to go back into Regular Session. Motion Carried.
5. Resolution 02/04-05 Motion by Wally John and seconded by Mark Storti to table discussion on the issue of the \$ 600,000 oil and gas revenue until the March meeting. Motion Carried with one dissent.

Summary of Meeting

1. 8-Voting Members present, 3 Voting Members excused.
Assembly Encon. Comm. Absent
Assembly Ways and Means Comm. Absent
Senate Finance Comm. Absent
Senate Encon. Comm. Absent
2. Correspondence- Letter from Fred Neff raised three issues:
1-Lack of action by CFAB of resolution on licence fee increase. In response, Chairman Long referred to letter he sent to John Cahill, Secretary to the Governor, requesting the full utilization of the Conservation Fund

money which would include filling “items” now vacant.
2-The potential infusion of \$600,000 from oil and gas lease money into the Habitat account. The question of what the best use of the \$600,000 will be addressed at the March Meeting.

3-Million of dollars needed to increase trout size and production. Mark Storti indicated that he had talked to Fred and that Fred had misunderstood the CFAB minutes and this was no longer an issue.

3. Letter received seeking support for the legal use of crossbows in NYS.

4. It was indicated that the NYSCC had met with the NYS bow hunters and that the bow hunters would agree to go along with a law that would allow the use of crossbows during the gun only season.

5. It was mentioned that there is another version the blaze orange issue being pushed this year.

6. The Annual Field Trip will be held in Region 8, on August 1,2,3, 2004. Region 8 CFAB member Dennis Money will be coordinating the field trip.

7. License Sales - Robert Monacchio presented information on license sales to date. Bob reported that sales are down by about 96,000 licenses this year while, according to Director Barnhart, the number of participants are actually higher than last year. He also stated that you have to look at the full year instead of the figures that you have now. Reasons for less licenses being sold is the reduction 100,000 DMP statewide, another reason could be the change in the Northern zone of limiting the shooting to bucks only during the muzzleloading season.

8. Director Barnhart handed out the FY 04/05 budget and asked all Board members to review the information and the budget will be further discussed at the March meeting, after Board members have had a chance to look it over. Gerry also indicated that the reduction of \$880,000 in the budget is primarily geared at the DECALS program and wouldn't be a significant effect upon the Conservation Fund activities.

9. Gerry also indicated the proposed Youth Turkey Hunt for this Spring turkey season is going to happen. This will be held the Saturday and Sunday preceding the regular turkey season. This will be for 12-15 year olds accompanied by an adult. They will need a small game license and turkey permit. A one bearded turkey limit will be in effect and count towards the two turkey Spring limit. The adult can assist in calling, but cannot carry a gun or bow. Gerry stated that there is a proposal being considered for a Youth Deer Hunt for this Fall. There will be no Saturday opener for the Southern zone this year.

10. Although still in it's infancy, a group from Long Island is looking at establishing Marine Fishing licenses. Director Barnhart had been invited to attend the meeting and he indicated that DEC didn't call for the

meeting and was providing information only. This has been an issue that has been brought up in the past.

11. Dave Nelson, Editor for the Conservationist magazine indicated that applications for the DEC summer camps were being accepted as of February 14, 2004 for sponsoring organizations. He also indicated that a contractor has been named, R. Huges Productions, to develop the Empire Outdoors program slated to begin this Fall.

12. Lunch Speaker, Chris Pace from the NYS Division of Budget discussed the State Budget process.

13. Field trip to Hale Creek Station, Bureau of Habitat, NYDEC.- This Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources facility is located on Approximately 80 acres of land in Gloversville, NY. The Field Station, run by the Bureau of Habitat, has sample preparation and analytical laboratories, offices, walk-cooler and freezer, chemical and waste storage, workshop and an outdoor hatchery, ponds and raceways. Projects focus on chemical contamination and in fish and wildlife statewide. The Hale Creek Field station currently employs 13 professionals (biologists, ecologists, chemists and a bio-statistician), three technical staff and two maintenance workers in six different units. Timothy Preddice, Hale Creek station chief and aquatic biologist led the tour. The facility has high quality state of the art laboratory equipment but not enough trained staff to use the equipment. Therefore, many samples are contracted out at higher cost and taking much longer periods of time to get results back. Tim Preddice said that they are one of the best at what they do. He said that he hoped to impress upon CFAB that they are short staffed.

March 14, 2004

234th Meeting

1. Resolution 03/04-01 Motion was made Bob Monacchio and seconded by Bud Woodfield to table approving the February 2004 minutes until the April meeting due to the fact the members received the minutes late. Motion Carried.

2. Resolution 03/04-02 Motion by Bud Woodfield and seconded by John Matuszewicz to table review of budget until the April meeting. Motion Carried.

3. Resolution 03/04-03 Motion by Charlie Bevilacqua and seconded by Wally John to have e-mail addresses, home addresses and phone numbers of all Board members that have same, to be put on the CFAB page of the DEC's web-site. Motion Carried.

4. Resolution 03/04-04 Motion by Bob Monacchio and seconded by Bud Woodfield to have Dennis Money draft a letter to Governor Pataki and the Division of Budget, thanking them for approving the waiver request to fill the vacant positions and for the money in the hatchery system. Motion Carried.

5. Resolution 03/04-05 Motion by Mark Storti and seconded by Bud Woodfield to direct the Department to pursue a Youth Pheasant Hunt under guidelines of a TRP process similar to the way the Youth Hunt is handled. Motion Carried
6. Resolution 03/04-06 Motion by John Long and seconded by Bud Woodfield that the Board work with the Department and other conservation groups to develop new sources of funding that will enhance the Conservation Fund in the future. The source of funding could come from natural resources by businesses such as gas and oil drilling, salt mining and exploring the pros and cons of sources to secure matching funds. Motion Carried.
7. Resolution 03/04-07 Mark Storti made a motion to adjourn. Charles Bevilacqua seconded the motion. It carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.

Summary of Meeting

1. 9- voting members present, 1- voting member excused, 1- voting member absent.
Assembly EnCon Comm. Absent
Assembly Ways and Means Comm. Absent Senate Finance Comm. Absent
Senate EnCon Comm. Absent
Quorum of Voting Members Present.
2. Correspondence- Letter requesting support to lengthen the Carp season. No action taken. Letter regarding a possible Salt Water Fishing License and request to write letters of opposition to Legislators. No action taken.
3. Comparative Statement- Bob Monacchio reported on the February Comparative Statement, indicating that 10,780 licenses were sold bringing in \$214,863. With February's sales, the total as of February 29, 2004 are 1,563,521 licenses sold for a total of \$38,832,815.64. This puts sales behind as of the February date, totaling 85,661 licenses for a total dollar value of \$2,010,983.91. Bob indicated that sales for March will not bring the total up to last years sales total. He then stated that he was going to ask the Department to provide figures on the number of people buying licenses. Gerry Barnhart indicated that the Department tabulates these figures for a report to the Federal Fish & Wildlife agency and he will make these figures available to the Board. Bob Monacchio stated that there is a meeting planned with the Department to get these figures and that they will be broken down by Region, County and Zip Code. Gerry indicated that Doris McCarthy was not going to retire at this time. Two of the major reasons given for the reduction of license sales for 2003 were, the reduction of 100,000 less DMP being issued and the limiting muzzle loaders in the Northern zone to antlered deer only.
4. Gerry Barnhart indicated that there is going to be a Youth Turkey Hunt this Spring with the dates being

- April 24,25, 2004. There will be a press release as soon as the regulation is adopted through the Department of State and published in the State Register. The outdoor writers have already been made aware of this Youth Turkey Hunt.
5. Use of money from Oil and Gas Lease- Chairman Long noted that the Board voted on the possible transfer of Oil & Gas revenue from the Conservation Fund to the Habitat Stamp account previously and voted 10 to 1 in favor of leaving the money in the Conservation Fund.
 6. Director Barnhart reported that he got approval to fill nine positions in the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources. This was done with waivers from the hiring freeze.
 7. It was reported that there is money in the FY 03-04 and FY 04-05 budget for hatchery modifications. Director Barnhart also indicated that there is a draft of a long term capital improvement work plan. This plan will be around \$20 million. This draft is available to the Board. Gerry indicated that a presentation on the entire hatchery system could be done at the May or June meeting. It was also suggested to have a breakdown of the 12 hatcheries in regard to production and what would be needed to raise the current production added to the presentation on the hatchery system. Director Barnhart responded to a question about fall stocking of trout, he stated that there is a better survival and a reproduction rate and the cost are lower for a fall stocking. Director Barnhart thanked the Board and the leadership of the New York State Conservation Council for their support in getting waivers approved to fill vacant positions.
 8. 2003 Deer Harvest Numbers- There was a total of 253,000 deer taken statewide, this includes 107,000 bucks and 146,000 antlerless deer. This was a modest decline in all major zones except for Long Island, where a slight increase was noted.
 9. Proposed Saturday Deer Opener in Southern Zone- A Saturday opener definitely won't take place this year. The Department is writing a draft of how the Department would do it, if they were going to do it. So far the Department hasn't seen a clear consensus from the input that it has gotten back. There are a lot of questions whether the normal southern opener should be moved from a Monday to a Saturday and how the change would affect the archery season and which Saturday would it be. The Department is not getting the comments that are needed to make a decision. So in an attempt to do that, the Department is spelling it out, saying if we were doing it, here is how it would look. This draft is about complete. Director Barnhart also reported on a proposed Big Game Youth Hunt for this fall, Saturday and Sunday November 13-14, 2004. The Department will actively solicit public reaction to this proposal including, the public formal comment process

during the regulatory process. The Department believes this is a reasonable opportunity for the youth to hunt big game. This will be for 16 and 17 year olds under current law. It would be 14,15,16 and 17 year olds if the current law is lowered to include 14 and 15 year olds.

10. Fishing Regulations Package- The proposed freshwater fishing regulations are to help enhance fishing opportunities statewide. DEC will be accepting public comment on the proposals until April 12, 2004. These proposals have been on the Department website for months.
11. Law Enforcement- Assistant Director of Law Enforcement Davis Egelston informed the Board that the current Law Enforcement Academy will be graduating in June. At that time the Division will still be short of the needed personnel and will be looking to having another academy as soon as possible. The Assistant Director also indicated that the division has received a federal grant to help pay for another 31-foot Safe Boat, which will be used on the Great Lakes. He also indicated that ECO will be handing out gun locks to the youth they encounter during the Youth Turkey Hunt this spring. It was also reported that the Division is purchasing 160 new vehicles. This is a double order, due to the fact that they weren't able to order new vehicles last year. This order includes three heavy duty vehicles used to haul the Safe Boats. Law Enforcement is canvassing for three new K-9 handlers, which after being trained will be assigned to Regions 3, 7 and 9. Dave also reported that the new toll-free phone number

that will be used for dispatch of ECO after regular work hours will go into effect shortly. This arrangement with the State Police will see calls coming into the State Police that are of an Encon. Nature to be turned over to an ECO.

12. An upgrade package for ECO has been approved by Director Johnson and Commissioner Crotty and is working its way through the system at State Division of Budget and Civil Service.
13. Howard Cushing, President , New York State Conservation Council, stated that a long term plan is needed to get matching funds from federal and other sources to match dollars in the Conservation Fund to continue habitat and access programs. He stated that millions of dollars have been lost from the Conservation Fund to the General Fund. Many personnel positions have been transferred from the General Fund to the Conservation Fund. If this trend continues, the stakeholders will suffer a decline in their use of the outdoors. Alternative planning must be instituted to find matching funds. One manner of alternative funding that was discussed was increased gas exploration royalties and monies from leases on wildlife management areas to the Conservation Fund. This steady stream of cash could be used as matching funds for federal funds for habitat and access. President Cushing asked the Board to support the Council in finding future funding mechanisms for habitat and access that would go into the Conservation Fund for matching funding programs.

The complete minutes of any of the meetings are available upon request from CFAB and may be viewed at:

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/cfabbios.hym>

7. License Fee Recommendation

In Spring 2002, the legislature passed and Governor Pataki signed a comprehensive Conservation Fund enhancement package that include a sporting license fee increase. A summary of the provisions of this legislation can be found in the Boards 2001-2002 annual report at:

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/cfab/CFABanrpt02.pdf>

New fees went into effect for the license year beginning October 1, 2002 and licenses reflecting the increased costs went on sale on August 22, 2002 at the New York State Fair and at all other license outlets on August 26, 2002. The Board is not recommending any further adjustments in sporting license fees at this time. The sporting license fee schedule is as follows:

LICENSE TYPE	FEE
New York Resident	
Senior Sportsman	\$5
Seven-day Fishing	\$12
Fishing	\$19
Small & Big Game	\$19
Small Game	\$16
Trapping	\$16
Jr. Trapping	\$6
Sportsman	\$37
Bowhunting	\$16
Muzzleloading	\$16
Super Sportsman ¹	\$68
Turkey Permit	\$5
Conservation Legacy ²	\$76

Nonresident

Fishing	\$40
Hunting	\$55
Big Game	\$110
Seven-day Fishing	\$25
Muzzleloading	\$110
Bowhunting	\$110
Bear Tag	\$30
Turkey Permit	\$30
Super Sportsman	\$250
Trapping	\$255

Resident & Nonresident

Jr. Small Game	\$5
Jr. Archery	\$9
One-day Fishing	\$15
Conservation Patron ³	\$12
Habitat & Access Stamp	\$5

Resident Lifetime Licenses

Sportsman⁴

child under 5 yrs old	\$300
child 5-11 yrs old	\$420
12-64 yrs old	\$600
65 yrs and older	\$50

Small and Big Game	\$350
Fishing	\$350
Trapping	\$300
Bowhunting	\$180
Muzzleloading	\$180

Notes:

¹Allows the bearer to hunt small game and big game, bow hunt, muzzle-loader hunt, hunt turkeys and fish.

²Includes super sportsman license, habitat and access stamp and "The Conservationist."

³Includes "The Conservationist" and a habitat and access stamp.

⁴Lifetime turkey permit included with lifetime sportsman license.

This current fee package will keep the Conservation Fund solvent through FY 2004-05, sustain critical conservation programs, increase opportunities for resident deer hunters and junior hunters, create new opportunities to manage habitat and increase public access, and make life simpler for license issuing agents. The Conservation Fund Advisory Board, New York State Conservation Council and many other conservation organizations strongly supported this package. The following table shows New York's sporting license fees remain very competitive with our neighboring states.

**A SIMPLE COMPARISON OF NEW YORK RESIDENT SPORTING LICENSE FEES
WITH FIVE NEIGHBORING STATES**

FISHING*

NY	CT	VT	PA	MA	NJ	AVG.
\$19.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$22.50	\$27.50	\$33.00	\$23.66

HUNTING**

MA	NY	VT	PA	CT	NJ	AVG.
\$52.60	\$55.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$122.00	\$140.00	\$84.93

TRAPPING

NY	PA	VT	CT	NJ	MA	AVG.
\$16.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$32.50	\$35.50	\$24.83

*Includes fees required to fish for all species of freshwater fish.

**Includes all fees required to hunt for small game, including waterfowl and pheasants; turkey; deer, with firearm and bow; and bear. Cost of mandatory federal migratory bird stamp (\$15) included in each state fee total.

All fees are as published on state fish and wildlife agency web sites as of October 2004.

The Board congratulates and thanks the Governor and the Legislature for enacting this landmark legislation. However, we are disappointed that the Legislature failed to enact provisions of the package that would have authorized 14 and 15-year old junior hunters to hunt big game with a rifle or shotgun. Every other state in the United States provides this type of hunting opportunity for junior hunters. We will continue to work with the Governor and the Legislature to enact legislation that will allow 14 and 15-year old junior hunters to hunt big game.

8. Projected Health of Conservation Fund

The table below reflects the projected status of the Conservation Fund.

Fiscal Year	Actual Cash Balance 4/1	Projected Carry-In	Uncommitted Balance	Projected Receipts	Total Available	Projected Disbursements	Cash Balance 3/31	Projected Carryout	Uncommitted Balance
2002-03 ¹	\$2.23	\$3.50	\$-1.27	\$42.92	\$41.65	\$37.17	\$4.48	\$3.99	\$0.49
2003-04	\$4.48	\$3.99	\$0.49	\$39.54	\$40.03	\$36.97	\$3.06	\$2.99	\$0.07
2004-05	\$3.06	\$2.99	\$0.07	\$42.00	\$42.07	\$40.03	\$2.04	\$3.00	\$-0.96
2005-06	\$2.04	\$3.00	\$-0.96	\$42.00	\$41.04	\$41.20	\$-0.16	\$3.00	\$-3.16
2006-07	\$-0.16	\$3.00	\$-3.16	\$42.00	\$38.84	\$42.00	\$-3.16	\$3.00	\$-6.16

1. Actual FY 02-03 Receipts and Expenditures
2. Note - includes 2.3 million dollars infused by the Legislature on 4/18/02
3. Actual FY 03-04 Carry-In

9. Conclusions and Recommendations

The Board has fulfilled its charge to review allocations and expenditures of the Department and to advise the Department with respect to the needs of various fish and wildlife programs. We have reviewed estimates of projected income to and expenditures from the Conservation Fund that were provided by the Department and are shown in the table above. We conclude that the expenditures from the Conservation Fund are consistent with Section 83 of the State Finance Law. The Conservation Fund enhancement package enacted into law in the 2002-2003 budget has not generated as much revenue as was previously projected by the Department. At the same time, projected expenditures have also been somewhat lower than previously projected primarily because the Department has fewer employees than it did a year ago. Increased costs for employee fringe benefits (health insurance, retirement) partially offset the decreased expenditures for staff salaries. The lower expenditures were not sufficient to offset the lower revenue and as a result, the 2002 sporting license fee increase will generate sufficient revenue to keep the Fund solvent only through State Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

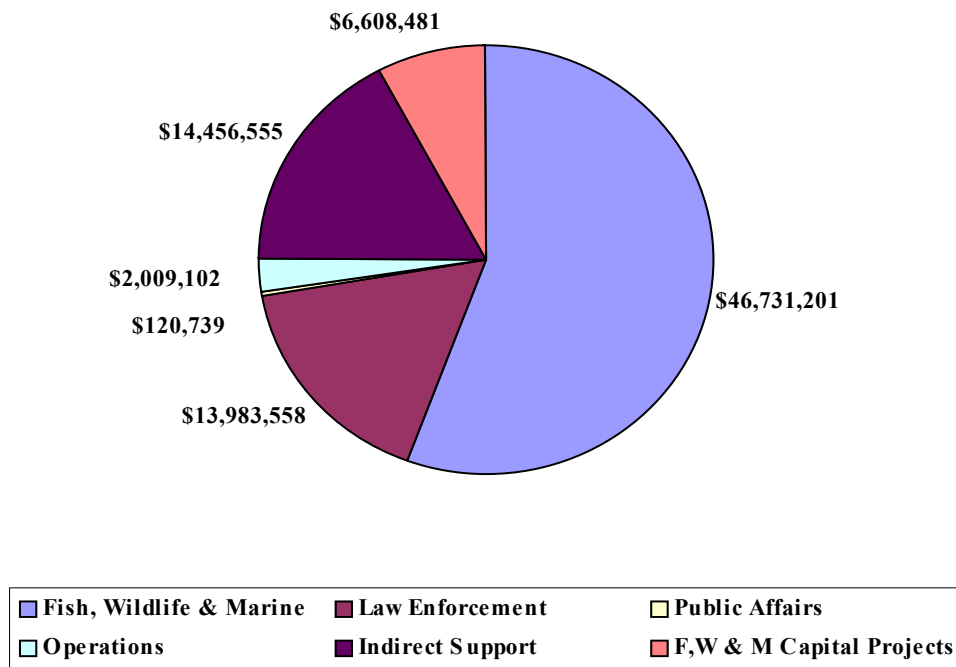
The Board is working with the Department to identify alternatives for increasing revenue to the Conservation Fund and increasing support for the fish and wildlife program from other funding sources. At the same time, the Board continues to strongly advise the Department to identify its most critical vacant positions and seek waivers to the statewide, all funds hiring freeze to fill those positions.

10. Fiscal Report

The total level of expenditure for the 2002-03 program was \$83,909,673. This level reflects a decrease of \$8,164,098 over the amount reported in 2001-02. An explanation of the expenditures is contained in the appropriate summary below.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES OF FUNDS			
PROGRAM	2001-02	2002-03	CHANGE
Fish, Wildlife & Marine	\$40,806,748	\$46,731,201	\$5,924,453
Law Enforcement	\$18,110,762	\$13,983,558	(\$4,127,204)
Public Affairs	\$63,337	\$120,739	\$57,402
Operations	\$2,269,953	\$2,009,102	(\$260,851)
Indirect Support	\$15,189,555	\$14,456,555	(\$732,999)
FW&M Capital Projects	\$15,633,380	\$6,608,481	(\$9,024,899)
TOTAL	\$92,073,735	\$83,909,635	(\$8,164,098)

Fish and Wildlife Program Expenditures Fiscal Year 2002-2003



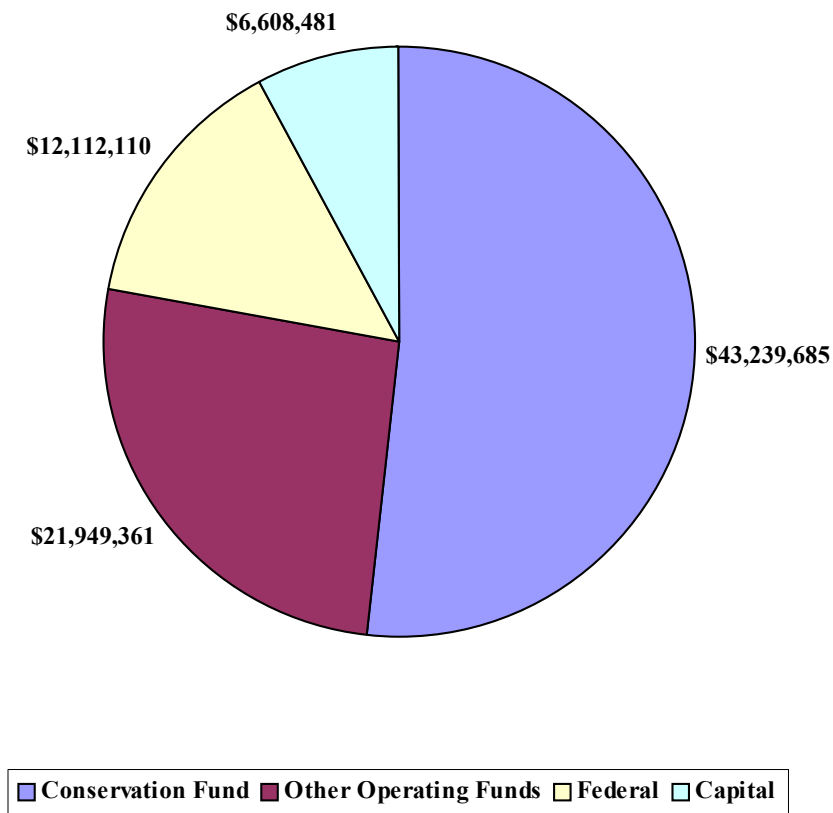
In 2002-03, the Conservation Fund paid \$40,501,603; Federal aid paid \$12,036,556; Capital paid \$15,633,380; and the balance of \$23,902,196 was paid by other operating funds, including the General Fund.

SUMMARY OF SOURCES OF FUNDS

FUND	2001-02	2002-03	CHANGE
Conservation Fund*	\$40,501,603	\$43,239,685	\$2,738,082
Other Operating Funds	\$23,902,196	\$21,949,361	(\$1,952,835)
Federal	\$12,036,556	\$12,112,110	\$75,554
Capital	\$15,633,380	\$6,608,481	(\$9,024,899)
TOTAL	\$92,073,735	\$83,909,637	(\$8,164,098)

*Includes sub-accounts: RAGTW, Migratory Bird & Marine Resources; excludes Licensed Guides.

Sources of Funds for Fish and Wildlife Fiscal Year 2002-2003



**2002-03 FISH, WILDLIFE & MARINE LEVEL OF SUPPORT ANALYSIS
EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS**

Category	Personal Service	Fringe Benefits	Subtotal	Nonpersonal Service	Total
DIRECT PROGRAM COST					
Fish, Wildlife & Marine	\$19,595,149	\$6,654,513	\$26,249,662	\$10,499,257	\$36,748,919
Federal Aid (F,W&M)	\$5,075,920	\$1,744,594	\$6,820,514	\$3,161,768	\$9,982,282
Subtotal Direct Programs	\$24,671,070	\$8,399,106	\$33,070,176	\$13,661,025	\$46,731,201
DIRECT SUPPORT COST					
Law Enforcement	\$8,876,966	\$3,014,618	\$11,891,584	\$2,091,974	\$13,983,558
Public Affairs & Education	\$38,981	\$13,238	\$52,219	\$68,520	\$120,739
Operations:	\$1,469,248	\$490,584	\$1,959,832	\$49,270	\$2,009,102
Design & Const.	\$101,942	\$34,619	\$136,561	\$9,892	\$146,453
Field Operations	\$891,861	\$302,876	\$1,194,737	\$39,378	\$1,234,115
Transportation	\$475,445	\$153,089	\$628,534	\$0	\$628,534
Subtotal Direct Support	\$10,385,195	\$3,518,440	\$13,903,635	\$2,209,764	\$16,113,399
TOTAL DIRECT COST	\$35,056,265	\$11,917,546	\$46,973,811	\$15,870,789	\$62,844,600
INDIRECT SUPPORT					
TOTAL INDIRECT COST					\$14,465,556
CAPITAL PROJECTS					
Construction, Reconstruction., Improvements					\$1,634,859
Rehabilitation & Improvements					\$637,178
Natural Resource Damages					\$169,333
Environmental Protection Fund					\$3,558,137
Stream Rights/Wetlands					\$0
96 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act					\$238,532
Federal Projects					\$370,442
Subtotal Capital					\$6,608,481
TOTAL	\$35,056,265	\$11,917,546	\$46,973,811	\$15,870,789	\$83,909,63

**2002-03 FISH, WILDLIFE & MARINE LEVEL OF SUPPORT ANALYSIS
SOURCE OF FUNDS**

Category	Conservation Fund	Other Operation Fund	Federal	Capital	Total
DIRECT PROGRAM COST					
Fish, Wildlife & Marine	\$24,943,399	\$11,805,521			\$36,748,919
Federal Aid (F,W&M)			\$9,982,282		\$9,982,282
Subtotal Direct Programs	\$24,943,399	\$11,805,521	\$9,982,282		\$46,731,201
DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS					
Law Enforcement	\$10,948,615	\$2,998,331	\$36,612		\$13,983,558
Public Affairs & Education		\$120,739			\$120,739
Operations	\$2,200,016	(\$190,914)			\$2,009,102
Subtotal Dir Support	\$13,148,631	\$2,928,156	\$36,612		\$16,113,399
TOTAL DIRECT COST	\$38,092,030	\$14,733,676	\$10,018,894		\$62,844,600
INDIRECT SUPPORT					
TOTAL INDIRECT COST	\$5,147,655	\$7,215,685	\$2,093,216		\$14,465,556
CAPITAL PROJECTS					
Construction, Reconstruction., Improvements				\$1,634,859	\$1,634,859
Rehabilitation & Improvements				\$637,178	\$637,178
Natural Resource Damages				\$169,333	\$169,333
Environmental Protection Fund				\$3,558,137	\$3,558,137
Stream Rights/Wetlands				\$0	\$0
96 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act				\$238,532	\$238,532
Federal Projects				\$370,442	\$370,442
Subtotal Capital				\$6,608,481	\$6,608,481
TOTAL	\$43,239,685	\$21,949,361	\$12,112,110	\$6,608,481	\$83,909,637

REVENUE TO THE TRADITIONAL ACCOUNT OF THE CONSERVATION FUND

The Tables below depicts the revenue for fiscal years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 to the traditional account to the Conservation Fund. The figures reported here were compiled from the monthly comparative statements issued by the Department and may differ slightly from the official figures maintained by the Office of the State Comptroller due to delays in reporting deposits and audit adjustments. The comparative statements do provide useful information for monitoring trends in sales of specific license types.

NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION CONSERVATION FUND - TRADITIONAL ACCOUNT COMPARATIVE STATEMENT						
TYPE OF REVENUE	4/01/02 - 3/31/03		4/01/03 - 3/31/04		CHANGE IN SALES	CHANGE IN RECEIPTS
	SALES	RECEIPTS	SALES	RECEIPTS		
Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Licenses						
Res. Senior	26541	\$106,298.00	643	\$2,572.00	-25898	(\$103,726.00)
Res. 3-Day Fishing	21580	\$114,044.00	736	\$3,680.00	-20844	(\$110,364.00)
Res. Fishing	379743	\$5,416,203.00	335679	\$6,257,401.00	-44064	\$841,198.00
Res. Fishing-Sr/Dis.	12168	\$60,839.00	36125	\$180,356.00	23957	\$119,517.00
Junior Hunting	2799	\$11,196.00	265	\$1,060.00	-2534	(\$10,136.00)
Res. Big Game	1669	\$20,141.00	15	\$178.00	-1654	(\$19,963.00)
Res. Small & Big Game	94515	\$1,796,247.00	101300	\$1,848,552.05	6785	\$52,305.05
Res. Junior Small Game	17905	\$89,510.00	19852	\$99,225.00	1947	\$9,715.00
Res. Trapping	10714	\$143,189.00	10093	\$132,688.00	-621	(\$10,501.00)
Res. Trapping-Sr/Dis.	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Res. Junior Trapping	481	\$2,833.00	475	\$2,791.00	-8	(\$42.00)
Res. Junior Archery	4279	\$38,426.00	4259	\$38,295.00	-20	(\$131.00)
Res. Sportsmen	262698	\$9,663,579.00	243460	\$8,982,272.00	-19238	(\$681,306.04)
Res. Super sportsmen	120573	\$8,193,166.45	115255	\$7,820,447.55	-5318	(\$372,718.00)
Res. Sportsman-Senior/Dis.	76621	\$383,104.00	77645	\$388,325.00	1024	\$5,221.00
Res. Conservation Legacy	3435	\$13,975.42	2483	\$10,077.98	-952	(\$3,897.44)
Res. Hunting	10901	\$139,436.00	6664	\$105,618.00	-4237	(\$33,818.00)
Bowhunting	77118	\$1,109,964.00	75197	\$1,080,549.00	-1921	(\$29,415.00)
Bowhunting-Sr/Dis.	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00

**NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
CONSERVATION FUND - TRADITIONAL ACCOUNT
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT**

TYPE OF REVENUE	4/01/02 - 3/31/03		4/01/03 - 3/31/04		CHANGE IN SALES	CHANGE IN RECEIPTS
	SALES	RECEIPTS	SALES	RECEIPTS		
Muzzleloading	74077	\$996,381.00	73089	\$959,103.00	-988	(\$37,278.00)
Muzzleloading-Senior/Dis.	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Res. Second Deer	763	\$7,630.00	10	\$100.00	-753	(\$7,530.00)
Resident Turkey	180915	\$824,051.50	158297	\$788,057.50	-22618	(\$35,994.00)
Res. Habitat Stamp	6064	\$30,581.28	4777	\$23,193.00	-1287	(\$7,388.28)
Res. Conservation Patron	185	\$119.46	118	\$76.56	-67	(\$42.90)
Res. Fishing 7 - Day	755	\$9,060.00	16712	\$200,412.00	15957	\$191,352.00
Subtotal - Resident	1386499	\$29,169,974.11	1283149	\$28,925,030.60	-103350	(\$244,943.51)
Non-Res. Fishing	69498	\$2,524,696.00	59510	\$2,372,872.00	-9988	(\$151,824.00)
Non-Res. 5-Day Fishing	58204	\$1,118,780.00	1214	\$23,066.00	-56990	(\$1,095,714.00)
Non-Res. 1-Day Fishing	8172	\$106,220.00	25260	\$377,095.00	17088	\$270,875.00
Non-Res. Hunting	9630	\$510,403.00	9045	\$496,844.00	-585	(\$13,559.00)
Non-Res. Junior Small Game	386	\$1,930.00	483	\$2,415.00	97	\$485.00
Non-Res. Junior Hunting	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Non-Res 5 Day Hunting	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Non-Res. Big Game	31601	\$3,472,559.00	30930	\$3,403,155.00	-671	(\$69,404.00)
Non-Res. Trapping	29	\$7,400.00	27	\$6,885.00	-2	(\$515.00)
Non-Res. Combination	109	\$24,416.00	1	\$224.00	-108	(\$24,192.00)
Non-Res. Super Sportsman	7120	\$1,781,715.00	7219	\$1,804,910.00	99	\$23,195.00
Non-Res. Muzzleloading	1401	\$152,446.00	1182	\$130,056.00	481	(\$22,390.00)
Non-Res. Bowhunting	2605	\$286,115.00	2397	\$263,985.00	-208	(\$22,130.00)
Non-Res. Junior Archery	111	\$999.00	84	\$756.00	-27	(\$274.24)
Non-Res. Bear Tag	1913	\$56,869.00	2039	\$61,170.00	126	\$4,301.00
Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Licenses						
Non-Res. Turkey	6461	\$173,651.00	5376	\$160,477.50	-1085	(\$13,174.00)
Non-Res. Fishing 7-Day	15474	\$386,870.00	70165	\$1,753,560.00	54691	\$1,366,390.00
Non-Res. Habitat Stamp	231	\$1,153.88	178	\$879.64	-53	(\$274.24)

**NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
CONSERVATION FUND - TRADITIONAL ACCOUNT
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT**

TYPE OF REVENUE	4/01/02 - 3/31/03		4/01/03 - 3/31/04		CHANGE IN SALES	CHANGE IN RECEIPTS
	SALES	RECEIPTS	SALES	RECEIPTS		
Non-Res. Conservation Patron	63	\$40.26	38	\$24.42	-25	(\$15.84)
Subtotal - Non Res.	213008	\$10,606,263.64	215848	\$10,858,374.56	2840	\$252,110.92
Subtotal of Res. & Non-Res.	1599507	\$39,776,237.75	1498997	\$39,783405.16	-100510	\$7,167.41
One Day Fishing	17121	\$172,084.00	1312	\$16,710.00	-15809	(\$155,374.00)
Replacement Turkey	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Lost License Certificates	32554	\$197,463.50	31563	\$171,304.00	-991	(\$26,159.50)
Attorney General Adj.	0	(\$765.72)	0	\$4,225.45	0	\$4,991.17
Suspense Adjustments	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
License Refunds	0	(\$250.00)	0	(\$9,962.48)	0	(\$9,712.48)
Revenue Account Audit Adj.	0	\$57,769.98	0	\$0.00	0	\$57,769.98
Transfer from Lifetime Account	0	\$756,800.00	0	\$0.00	0	(\$756,800.00)
TOTAL	1649182	\$40,843,799.88	1531872	\$39,965,682.13	-117310	(\$878,117.42)

**NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
CONSERVATION FUND TRADITIONAL ACCOUNT
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT**

(4/01/02 - 3/31/03) (4/01/03 - 3/31/04)

TYPE OF REVENUE	RECEIPTS	RECEIPTS	CHANGE
Special Licenses & Permits			
Deer Management Permits	\$480,390.00	\$414,115.00	(\$66,275.00)
Habitat License Sales			
Special Licenses	\$94,188.81	\$133,765.60	\$39,646.79
TOTAL	\$574,508.81	\$547,880.60	(\$26,628.21)
Miscellaneous Receipts & Federal Reimbursement			
Fees	\$625.00	(\$30,571.76)	(\$31,196.76)
Refund of Expenses	\$180.00	\$75.00	(\$105.00)
*Fines - Court Administration and Justice Court	\$359,700.70	\$424,405.43	\$64,704.73
Fines - Article 11	\$0.00	\$11,200.00	\$11,200.00
Fines - Article 13	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Fines - Other	\$23,665.00	\$93,729.30	\$70,064.30
Assessments	0	0	0
Rentals & Royalties	\$12,041.88	\$608,762.30	\$596,720.42
Miscellaneous Sales	\$29,220.88	\$53,797.74	\$24,576.86
Gifts & Donations	\$1,588.96	\$1,765.00	\$176.04
Sundry General	\$9,520.72	\$1.00	(\$9,519.72)
TOTAL	\$436,543.14	\$1,163,264.01	\$726,720.87
Other Revenue & Adjustments			
Interest	\$12,071.23	\$85,796.72	\$73,725.49
Gifts to Wildlife	\$562,865.77	\$506,631.85	(\$56,233.92)
TOTAL	\$574,937.00	\$592,428.57	\$17,491.57
Unidentified Funds			
TOTAL TRADITIONAL ACCOUNT	\$42,429,788.50	\$42,269,255.31	(\$160,533.19)

*Justice Court fines are received in May, August, November and February.

Highlights of Programs Expenditures

This report covers expenditures occurring between April 1, 2002 and March 31, 2003. This period includes expenditures from FY 2002-03 appropriations and FY 2001-02 appropriations for the carry-out period April-June 2002, as well as expenditures from various fiscal year Capital appropriations. The methodology for preparing this report is detailed in **Appendix A**.

FISH, WILDLIFE & MARINE

Total direct expenditures for the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine increased by 13% from \$40,806,748 in 2001-02 to \$46,731,201 in 2002-03. This is due primarily to negotiated salary increases and concomitant fringe benefits.

Fish, Wildlife & Marine expenditures funded by the Conservation Fund increased from a FY 2001-02 total of \$22,645,302 to a FY 2002-03 total of \$24,943,399. This increase, as noted above, was due to an increase in negotiated salary increases and fringe costs. Other Operating Funds, including the General Fund, contributed \$11,805,521 in support of the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine compared to the FY 2001-02 total of \$8,256,526. Expenditures from Federal Aid, excluding indirect support and Capital, increased from \$9,904,920 to \$9,982,282. Primary sources of Federal Aid include Wildlife Restoration grants, Fisheries and Marine Restoration grants, Section 6 (Endangered Species Act) grants and other grants from such federal agencies as Environmental Protection, Commerce, and Interior. Much more information about the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources program can be found at:

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/index.html>

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Division of Law Enforcement provided approximately 285,867 hours of time and activity in support of Fish, Wildlife and Marine activities. This figure equates to 44.66% of the total law enforcement hours worked (640,048). This is lower than the rate in 2001-02 which equated to 50.76% of the total hours worked by Law Enforcement. The difference can be attributed to the Training Academy held in 2002-03.

In terms of funding, this level of effort was worth \$13,983,558. Funding from the Conservation Fund increased from \$10,815,786 to \$10,948,615. Other operating funds, including the General Fund, provided \$2,998,331. There was a significant decrease in Law Enforcement expenditures in FY 2002-03 over that which had occurred in FY 2000-01. This reduction is largely the result of program operating below its authorized fill level for all of the fiscal year.

Services provided by the Division of Law Enforcement for the Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources program include enforcing fish and wildlife laws, conducting special investigations regarding license issuing officers and hunting accidents and hunter safety instruction.

AVIATION

As of April 1, 1997, the Division of Aviation was transferred to the New York State Police. At that time, the State Police became responsible for the entire Aviation operation, including conducting activities for the DEC Fish, Wildlife and Marine programs.

Services provided to Fish, Wildlife and Marine by the Aviation program include fish stocking, pond reclamation in the Adirondacks, water sampling, aerial surveys/photography and wildlife/waterfowl surveys and census. No direct support from the Conservation Fund is provided to the State Police.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS and EDUCATION

The Division of Public Affairs and Education is a support division to all agency programs at DEC, including Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources. Methods used to calculate program efforts and specifically the level of effort devoted to F & W activities, are not compatible with the Division of Public Affairs and Education (DP&E) time and activity reporting structure. Additionally, multiple funding sources utilized by the division are not directed at any single program activity and costs are distributed across program lines to take advantage of greatest efficiencies. A direct correlation of the Division's level of efforts to F & W based solely on T & A codes and funding sources vastly understates actual level of effort. For example, eight of DPA & E's full time seasonal employees, who do not use T & A codes in time sheet reporting, devote well over 50% of their collective time to F & W matters. This effort is not reflected in this report.

In May of 2000, an internal audit of the division's level of effort was conducted using work reports of the previous 12 months of the five bureaus at that time. It was determined that 35.37% of the division's actual work was in support of F & W. That amount can be expected to deviate from year to year.

Services provided by Public Affairs and Education toward Fish & Wildlife efforts include: Producing agency publications; Writing and design of reports; Design and production of interpretive signs and displays; Design and maintenance of the DEC public website; publishing the *Conservationist* magazine; Providing information to the public through various outreach services including public participation meetings, fairs, outdoor shows, festivals, clinics, etc.; providing photographic services; providing environmental education to the public on F & W issues; and stewardship of natural resources through four education centers and four youth summer camps.

In summary, it should be realized that many more hours and dollars are devoted to activities on behalf of F & W, both direct and indirect, than can be accounted for using the methods employed to create this report.

Of the Division of Public Affairs and Education's total time and activity in support of all agency programs, the percentage devoted to Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources totaled \$120,739, all paid for by "Other Operating Funds".

OPERATIONS

Total expenditures by the Division of Operations in direct support of Fish, Wildlife and Marine activities for fiscal year 2002-03 totaled \$2,009,102 which is \$260,851 less than what was spent in 2001-02. The Conservation Fund contributed \$2,200,016 of the \$2,009,102, which is about 110% of the total expenditures incurred by Operations in support of Fish, Wildlife and Marine activities during this time period. Other Operating Funds paid the balance of \$190,914. In viewing the 2001-02 and 2002-03 Level of Effort report, Conservation Fund paid \$4,075,000 or approximately 95% of the \$4,270,000 for Operations. Due to cash restraints in 2001-02 approximately \$200,000 was reflected in the carry-out period. This accounts for the Conservation Fund paying over 100% in 2002-03.

Services provided by the Division of Operations for Fish, Wildlife and Marine include:

- Design and Construction which is responsible for the planning and coordination of the engineering and architectural design program as it relates to the development, rehabilitation, and maintenance of Department facilities such as dams, boat launch sites, fish hatcheries, and wildlife management areas.
- Field Operations which covers a range of services including the construction permitting, construction quality control and maintenance of a very diverse and expanding range of Department assets which include, dams, bridges, laboratories, boat launch sites, wildlife management areas, game farms and fish hatcheries.
- Transportation Services which involves responsibility for the Departments automotive equipment management program on a statewide basis. In support of all Department programs, Transportation Services assists in the acquisition and assignment of automotive equipment, plus provides cost and use analysis, maintenance and disposal of all automotive equipment, i.e., cars, vans, pickup trucks, dump trucks, construction equipment, boats (large inboards to small outboards), etc.

Indirect support costs provided by this Division are addressed in the Indirect portion of this narrative.

CAPITAL

Capital expenditures total \$6,608,481. This is an decrease of \$9,024,899 from the 2001-02 amount of \$15,633,380. Of the Capital expenditures, \$3,558,137 was from the Environmental Protection Fund including projects related to the Hudson River Estuary Management Plan.

There were also Federal capital project expenditures of \$370,442 which include grants to private marinas.

INDIRECT SUPPORT

Indirect support service includes the Divisions of Executive, Management and Budget, Public Affairs and Education, Operations, Regional Affairs, Environmental Permits and Office of General Counsel activities (see methodology section for details). Indirect support service expenditures total

\$14,456,556 for 2002-03, which is a decrease of \$732,999 from 2001-02. Indirect is calculated as a percentage of direct personal service and fringe benefits. Therefore, the decreases mentioned above resulted in an decrease in indirect costs.

Of the total, the Conservation Fund contributed \$5,147,655 toward indirect support services; Federal aid contributed \$2,042,462; and the balance of \$7,215,685 was paid by other operating funds, including the General Fund. Contributions from the Conservation Fund decreased from 2001-02 by \$17,282. Federal aid contributions decreased by \$50,754. Contributions from Other Operating Funds decreased by \$766,870.

Appendix A

**Methodology for Fish, Wildlife & Marine
Sources and Uses of Funds
FY 2002-03**

1. Methodology was developed to determine the full cost of the Fish, Wildlife & Marine program during fiscal year 2002-03. Costs were classified as either direct or indirect in nature.
 - a. If direct, various methods and formulae were used to ascertain the cost of fish wildlife & marine activities.
 - b. If indirect, the Department's federally approved indirect rate of 30.69% of direct personal service and fringe benefits for 2002-03 was applied to account for indirect expenditures.
2. The following programs expended effort for fish, wildlife & marine activities and were classified accordingly:

<u>Direct</u>	<u>Direct Support</u>	<u>Indirect Support</u>
Fish, Wildlife & Marine	Law Enforcement Aviation Public Affairs & Ed (in part) Operations (in part)	Executive Office of Mgt. & Budget Public Affairs & Ed (in part) Operations (in part) Regional Affairs Office of General Counsel Environmental Permits

Cost allocation recovery charges for cost incurred by central service agencies, such as the Division of Budget, the Department of Civil Service, the Office of the State Comptroller, and the Office of General Services, which provide indirect support services to all state agencies, were included as indirect support.

3. The direct and direct support components include:
 - a. **Fish, Wildlife & Marine** - All cost attributable to the program including costs for the Return a Gift to Wildlife, Migratory Bird, Freshwater Wetlands Appeals Board, Delmar Lab, Marine district cost, the Hudson River Estuary programs are considered as fish, wildlife and marine.
 - b. **Law Enforcement** - A study of the time and activity codes was used to determine a percentage of time spent by Law Enforcement personnel on fish and wildlife activities. Time & activity data was pulled by item number blocks. All titles, sworn and civilian, were used, as were all activities related to Fish, Wildlife & Marine resources. Administrative codes were excluded. The percentage developed was 50.76%. This percentage was applied to Law Enforcement expenditures of personal service, fringe benefits and non-personal service.
 - c. **Aviation** - In FY1997-98, the Aviation Division, including pilots and aircraft, was

transferred to the State Police. That Agency became responsible for aviation efforts required to support the fish, wildlife and marine programs of DEC.

The State Police provided DEC with the air time hours which supported the fish, wildlife and marine activities. The total flight hours compared to the number of flight hours spent on fish, wildlife and marine activities were identified by aircraft used.

- d. **Public Affairs and Education** - As with Law Enforcement, a study of time and activity, pulled by item numbers, was used to determine a percentage of time spent on fish, wildlife and marine activities. Administrative codes were excluded. The percentage developed was 2.55%. It was applied to the expenditures of Public Affairs and Education's personal service, fringe benefits and non-personal service.
- e. **Operations** - The following portions were considered as direct:

Design and Construction
Field Operations
Transportation Services

A study of the time and activity codes was used to determine the percentage of time spent on fish, wildlife and marine activities by design and construction and field operations sections. The time and activity was pulled by item number blocks. Field operations also spent a percentage of time on law enforcement activities. Administrative codes were excluded. The percentage developed were applied to the direct cost expenditures of personal service, fringe benefits and non-personal service for those sections. The percentages are as follows:

Design and Construction	23.06%	for fish and wildlife
Field Operations	10.45%	for fish and wildlife
Field Operations	.07%	for law enforcement

Since 44.66% of Law Enforcement's effort is devoted to fish, wildlife and marine activities, field operations level of effort was calculated at 44.66% of Operations percent of effort for Law Enforcement.

The time and activity methodology was not used for transportation services due to the availability of charge back data. The Division of Operations does not fund equipment management cost for programs. All costs are recovered by Operations through a charge back system. A ratio from the charge backs gives the percentage of time spent on fish, wildlife and marine activities. The percentage was 14.35%. This percentage was applied to direct cost expenditures of personal service and fringe benefits. Since cost are charged back to programs, the percentage is not applied to non-personal service. Non-personal service consists of only those purchases, if any, made by Operations for the fish, wildlife and marine program.

As with field operations, transportation services supports both Fish, Wildlife & Marine and

Law Enforcement. The percentage of time spent on Law Enforcement efforts by Operations was developed from the charge back system. As with field operations, transportation services level of effort on behalf of Fish, Wildlife & Marine was calculated at 44.66% of Operations percent of effort for Law Enforcement.

4. Indirect Support was based on the federally approved indirect rate of 30.69% applied to total direct personal service cost of the agency, plus fringe benefit costs. The portion of indirect support funded by the Conservation Fund includes personal service and associated fringe benefits for Executive, Management and Budget, Public Affairs and Education, Operations, Regional Affairs, Environmental Permits and Office of General Counsel.

Support costs from DEC for Fish, Wildlife & Marine activities:

- a. **Executive** - Fish & Wildlife's proportionate share of Executive Office efforts, including Deputy Commissioner for Natural Resources, Legislative Affairs office which works on legislation, and the Bond Act office.
- b. **Management and Budget** - includes staff which process personnel transactions, pay vendors, approve travel advances, process travel reimbursement, recoup funding from Federal grants, prepare spending authorizations for State Operations and Capital funds. This report also includes Fish, Wildlife & Marine's proportionate share of Departmental leases for regional and sub-regional offices, as well as central offices. Telephone service, hunting & fishing license accounting, payroll processing and contract approval are other essential services provided.
- c. **Public Affairs and Education** - audio-visual is the part of PA & E that is considered indirect and includes displays for state fair, etc.
- d. **Operations** - electronics is indirect.
- e. **Regional Affairs** - includes regional directors and secretarial/clerical staff throughout the regions which provide a proportionate share of support to regional Fish, Wildlife & Marine activities.
- f. **Office of General Counsel** - includes Division of Legal Affairs direct part for such activities as natural resource damages, counsel for rules, regulations, statutes, and contracts.
- g. **Environmental Permits** - permitting.

Cost allocation recovery charges for central agencies for programs funded by Conservation Fund are also reflected as indirect support.

5. Cost paid for by the Conservation Fund were deducted from the total costs and the balance was determined to be funded either by Federal, Capital, or Other Operating Funds.

Appendix B

STATE OF NEW YORK CONSERVATION FUND ADVISORY BOARD VOTING MEMBER LIST	
NOMINATING AUTHORITY	REPRESENTATIVE
GOVERNOR	JOHN MATUSEWICZ Residence - Region 2
	MARK STORTI Residence - Region 4
	CRAIG TRYON Residence - Region 7
SENATE	CHARLES BEVILACQUA, Secretary Residence - Region 1 Majority (R)
	LINDA SICLEY Residence - Region 6 Minority (D)
	DENNIS J. MONEY Residence - Region 8 Majority (R)
ASSEMBLY	WALLY JOHN Residence - Region 3 Majority (D)
	ROBERT J. MONACCHIO, Chairman Residence - Region 5 Minority (R)
	FRED LANGDON Residence - Region 9 Majority (D)
STATUTORY	JOHN J. LONG, SR., Vice Chairman NYS Conservation Council Residence - Region 9
	BUD WOODFIELD NYS Fish & Wildlife Mgmt. Board Residence - Region 7

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Assembly Ways & Means Committee	Senate Environmental Conservation Committee
Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee	Commissioner of NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Senate Finance Committee	
P.Bartlett Wu, Chief Counsel to CFAB	

Appendix C

STATE OF NEW YORK CONSERVATION FUND ADVISORY BOARD COMMITTEES	
COMMITTEES	MEMBERS
Bylaws, Rules & Procedures	Charles Bevilacqua, Chair Craig Tryon
Computer Licensing	Charles Bevilacqua, Chair Robert Monacchio John Long, Sr.
Fiscal/Fiscal Distribution	Robert Monacchio, Chair Charles Bevilacqua John Long Sr. Shawn Keeler/Ann Harrison (DEC)
Fish	Mark Storti, Chair Craig Tryon Wally John
Hunting	John Long Sr., Chair Bud Woodfield
Legislation	Wally John, Chair John Matusiewicz Charles Bevilacqua
Marine District	John Matusiewicz, Chair Charles Bevilacqua Wally John
Open Space	Bud Woodfield, Chair Mark Storti Charles Bavalacqua
Sportsman Education	Linda Sicley, Chair Mark Storti Charles Bevilacqua
Nominating	John Matusiewicz, Chair Bud Woodfield Linda Sicley

Appendix D

CFAB MEMBERS ATTENDANCE AT MONTHLY MEETING

(P=Present) (E=Excused) (A=Absent)

VOTING MEMBERS	04/07 2003	05/05 2003	06/02 2003	08/03 2003	09/08 2003	10/06 2003	11/03 2003	12/01 2003	01/05 2004	02/09 2004	03/14 2004
Charles Bevilacqua Region 1	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
John Matusewice Region 2	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Wally John Region 3	P	P	P	E	P	E	P	P	P	P	P
Mark Storti Region 4	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P
Robert Monacchio Region 5	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Linda Sicley Region 6	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P
Craig Tryon Region 7	P	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	E	E
Dennis Money Region 8	P	P	P	E	E	P	E	E	E	P	P
Don Kill Region 9	P	P	P	P	P	E	E	P	E	E	A
John Long Sr. NYSCC	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P
Bud Woodfield NYSFWMB	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P

CFAB MEMBERS ATTENDANCE AT MONTHLY MEETING

(P=Present) (E=Excused) (A=Absent)

VOTING MEMBERS	04/07 2003	05/05 2003	06/02 2003	08/03 2003	09/08 2003	10/06 2003	11/03 2003	12/01 2003	01/05 2004	02/09 2004	03/14 2004
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS											
DEC Commissioner											
Represented by Gerald Barnhart	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Senate Finance Committee	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Senate EnCon Committee	A	A	A	A	A	A	P	A	A	A	A
Assembly Ways & Means	A	A	A	A	A	A	P	A	A	A	A
Assembly EnCon Committee	A	A	E	A	P	P	P	P	A	A	A

Appendix E

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Executive**

