



STATE OF NEW YORK CONSERVATION FUND ADVISORY BOARD  
*625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4750*  
Monthly Meeting Minutes

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**Three Hundred Seventy Ninth Meeting – May 14, 2018**  
**Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany**

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:06 AM.

**Meeting Adjourned** – The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 PM.

**Roll Call: 9:07am**

**Voting Board Members Present**

Tim Huss	Region 1
Vacant	Region 3
Tom Williams	Region 4
Jason Kemper	Region 5
Dave Corr	Region 6
Charles Pace	Region 7
Marc Osypian	Region 8
Dale Dunkelberger	Region 9
Bill Conners	FWMB

**Voting Board Members Excused**

Gordon Whiting	Region 2
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**Voting Board Members Absent**

Ray Merlotto	NYSCC
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**Abbreviations**

Ag. & Mkts = Department of Agriculture and Markets  
CFAB or the Board = Conservation Fund Advisory Board  
DEC or the Department = NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
DFW = Division of Fish and Wildlife  
DLE = Division of Law Enforcement

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

*DEC Commissioner represented by:*  
Ken Lynch, Executive Deputy Commissioner

**Ex-Officio Members Absent**

*Senate Finance Committee*  
*Senate EnCon Committee*  
*Assembly Ways and Means Committee*  
*Assembly EnCon Committee*

**DEC Personnel**

*Division of Fish and Wildlife:* Anthony Wilkinson, Director; Doug Stang, Assistant Director,  
*Division of Law Enforcement:* Bernard Rivers, Acting Director

**Guests:**

Jim Farquhar, DFW  
Jane McLaughlin, Director, Legislative Affairs  
Danielle Schittino, Legislative Affairs  
Ron Rausch, Director, EMB, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

DLF = Division of Lands and Forest  
DMBS = Division of Management and Budget Services  
OGC = DEC Office of General Counsel  
DOB = Division of the Budget  
DOP = Division of Operation Services  
DPAE = Division of Public Affairs & Education  
OSC = Office of State Comptroller

## **Correspondence:**

Dave Corr received update on the lifetime license account from the NYS Comptroller's Office.

## **Minutes of Prior Meeting:**

<p><b><i>MOTION: Dave Corr motioned to accept March's minutes, Charlie Pace, Second, Motion passed.</i></b></p>
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## **Executive Report:**

Ken Lynch, Executive Deputy Commissioner, provided Board members with the following:

- Staffing.
- Discussion on the Game Farm Trail.
- Discussion on the Proposed Spruce Grouse Regulation.
- CFAB Members expressed frustration with several issues that remain outstanding including: Civil Service Exam for Fish Culturist Positions, Lifetime License Account, staffing in the Hatchery system, climate in NYS pertaining to firearms, etc.

## **Division of Fish and Wildlife Report:**

Tony Wilkinson, Director and Doug Stang, Assistant Director:

- Tony informed Board Members that the Department is working on filling the Hunter Education Program Coordinator and the Outreach/Promotional positions.
- Press announcement being held this week in Binghamton regarding the Chronic Waste Disease Risk Minimization Plan.
- Update provided on license sales, DECALS system outages, additional features, etc. Discussion on the major outage.
- Update on Hatchery System improvements, water flow and fish collection channel at Salmon River Hatchery remain an issue.
- Update provided on the Fish Culturist 1-6 Exams and the Hatchery positions; board members raised concerns on the large number of provisional appointments that will be in place because of the delay in Civil Service issuing a test for the Fish Culturist 1-6 positions. Issue again raised with DEC Executive.
- Regulatory effort updates: Undergoing Internal Review.
- License Sales Summary.
- Conservation Fund Account.
- NASP update – CFAB members are reaching out to contacts to expand the program.

## **NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation**

Ron Rausch, Director, Division of Environmental Stewardship and Planning

- Mr. Rausch provided an update on the efforts by NYS Parks to streamline the hunting regulations across all state lands.
- Board members provided Mr. Rausch with suggestions on opportunities for more hunting activities at certain park facilities.

### **Division of Law Enforcement Report:**

Bernard Rivers, Acting Director provided the following updates:

- Interviews are being held to fill the Director's Position for DLE
- Academy possibly in 2019.
- NYC subway detail has been cut back.
- Overtime extremely high this year due to additional duties associated with NYS Subway detail.
- Board Members inquired about a back to back Academy
- Board Member Tim Huss inquired about the Joint Enforcement Activity with NOAA – tightening the “belt” on the funds.

### **CFAB Business:**

- The Board finalized the CFAB Brochure layout. Jason will reach out to figure out the process for getting them printed.
- Invasive Species Update
- Perkins Clearing RMP comments will be submitted.
- Lifetime license account update
- Otsego County DA letter.

***Dave Corr motioned to adjourn the meeting, Charlie Pace second – motion passed, Meeting Adjourned at 1:05 pm.***

Division of Fish and Wildlife items for Conservation Fund Advisory Board meeting  
May 14, 2018

**Update on DEC's E-Licensing system and sporting license sales:**

**e-Licensing:**

**Status Summary and Activities Completed This Period**

- ITS is moving forward with converting to a responsive design (useable with all devices, including mobile devices) for DECALS.
- Lifetime license batch process (where 2018-19 carcass tags are generated, placed into the holder's profile and sent to vendor for fulfillment) has been initiated and is going well to date.
- A series of untimely outages occurred with DECALS: 4/5 (1hr), 4/20 (1 hour and 2.15 hrs – day prior to youth turkey season), 4/30 (2.5 hrs – day prior to turkey season), 5/1 (4 hrs – opening day of turkey season), 5/2 (0.45 hr and 1 hr). Most issues were connectivity issues between CNSE front end and Accela back end.

**License Sales**

- Year-to-date revenues from license sales (\$4.44 million are approximately 1.8% less (\$81,855) compared to one year ago. In late April, 2018 revenues trailed license sales revenues by more than 10%, until the weather became more seasonable.
- April 2018 revenues were more than \$600,000 less than 2017.

[please see detailed report - attached]

**Filled Position report:**

**Division of Fish and Wildlife**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Number of Staff</u>	<u>Change</u>
Access Land Acquisition	0.9	-0.1
Habitat Conservation and Access Account	8	
Hazardous Waste Cleanup Account	2.8	
State Purposes Account	3	
Federal Fish and Wildlife Grants Account	46.3	-1.7
Conservation Fund (Traditional Account)	240.25	-1.0
Environmental Regulatory Account	5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>306.25</b>	<b>-2.8</b>

**Conservation Fund (Main Account)**

<u>Division</u>	<u>Number of Staff</u>	<u>Change</u>
Fish and Wildlife	240.25	-1.0
General Counsel	1	
Law Enforcement	7	-71.0
Operations	4	
Management and Budget Services	0	-2.0
Office of Communication Services	1	
Regional Affairs	3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>356.25</b>	<b>-74</b>

**Status of Regulations (changes from previous month in bold):**

Pending Proposals:

1) **6NYCRR Part 186 (new – Feeding of Wild White-tailed Deer and Moose) and Part 189 Chronic Wasting Disease.** This proposal will adopt a new regulation (6 NYCRR part 186) to prohibit the intentional feeding of wild deer and moose and the incidental feeding of wild deer and moose after warning from the Department, and require that products packaged to be sold as a food attractant for deer or moose carry a clear label stating that such use is illegal in New York. Existing sections of Part 189 (189.3 [b] and [c]) pertaining to the feeding of deer will be removed to avoid confusion with Part 186. Additionally, we propose to formally define the application procedures and conditions for issuance of a 4-Poster permit for the use of 4-Poster Tickicide. *Revised Notice of Proposed Rulemaking prepared and undergoing internal review.*

2) **6 NYCRR: Part 151 – Propagation and Sale of Fur-Bearing Animals, Part 153 - Preserve Licenses, Part 170 - Miscellaneous Licenses, Part 174 - Sale of Live Birds, and Part 182 - Endangered and Threatened Species of Fish and Wildlife; Species of Special Concern; Incidental Take Permits.** The proposed rulemaking would: render regulations current with recent changes to multiple sections of the ECL, clarify and simplify licensing processes; reduce fees associated with several license types; and reduce the burden on the regulated community through time and cost savings and paperwork submissions. *Revised Notice of Proposed Rulemaking prepared and undergoing internal review.*

3) **6NYCRR Part 2.25 Hunting Upland Game Birds.** This proposed rulemaking would close to grouse hunting the portions of Franklin and St. Lawrence counties (portions of Wildlife Management Unit 6F) that are included in the spruce grouse recovery zone. *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking prepared and undergoing internal review.*

Proposals Filed: None

Pending Adoptions: None

Emergency Rules: None

Recent Adoptions: None

## **Status of DEC Hatchery System Infrastructure Work:**

Updated table providing the status of DEC Hatchery projects funded via New York Works III, New York Works IV, and New York Works V, and New York Works VI is attached.

Highlights:

- \$3 million in New York Works funding received and projects identified (added to list)
- New generator for Salmon River Hatchery was installed
- Numerous site engineering site visits planned for May

## **Hatchery Staffing Update:**

Current number of permanent filled positions: 73

Recent transactions (fills):

- Fish Culturist 2 – Randolph – effective 5/3/2018 (internal promotion)

Recent transactions (separations)

- Fish Culturist 3 – Caledonia (retired 4/26/18)

Other vacancy(ies):

- Fish Culturist 3 – Rome
- Fish Culturist 3 – Salmon River
- Fish Culturist 3 – Caledonia
- Office Assistant 1 – Rome
- Fish Culturist 1 – Randolph