



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

Three Hundred Seventy Fifth Meeting – November 13, 2017
Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM.
Meeting Adjourned – The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 PM.

Roll Call: 9:02am

Voting Board Members Present

Vacant	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
Ray Merlotto	NYSCC

Voting Board Members Excused

Gordon Whiting	Region 2
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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:
Kathy Moser, Deputy Commissioner for Natural Resources

Voting Board Members Absent

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: Joseph Schneider, Director

Guests:

Erin Hovish, DMBS

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:

Finalize letter to NYS Senator Valesky and submit.

Minutes of Prior Meeting:

MOTION: Dale Dunkelberger motioned to accept October's minutes, Dave Corr Second, Motion passed.

Executive Report:

Kathy Moser, Deputy Commissioner for Natural Resources, provided Board members with updates:

- Update provided on 480A - optimistic
- Provided a brief summary of what to expect in the coming year.
- Regulatory Packages are on hold.
- Provided an update on Article 7 Budget Bill.

Division of Fish and Wildlife Report:

Anthony Wilkinson, Director:

- Tony provided an update on the Salmon River Hatchery "Grand Opening"
- Update provided on Reynolds Game Farm.
- Green Lakes State Park – coming up with a plan; Tony will circle back.
- Chuck Dente provided Board Members with an update on the Sportsman Education Program.
- Jill Trunko (NASP Program Coordinator), provided Board Members with a detailed summary of the program.

Doug Stang, Assistant Director provided the following updates:

- Update on the summary, including lifetime licenses, DECALs, reporting issues and status on Regulatory Packages.
- Hatchery staff and infrastructure upgrade efforts were provided.
- Conservationist will feature highlights on Hatcheries and WMAs
- Update provided on the Fish Culturist 1-6 Exams

Division of Law Enforcement Report:

Joseph Schneider, Director provided the following updates:

- Officer Davey returns to work November 27th
- Details were provided on the New York City Subway detail being conducted by DLE Staff
- Hunter Safety Videos are in the works
- Next academy possibly 2019
- HRSI Update: 11 Personal injuries; 3 property.

CFAB Business:

- CFAB rack card. Message from Board was passed out. All in attendance agreed, document will be finalized and sent back out for approval.
- CFAB passed a motion for Dave Corr to draft a comment letter: DOT/DEC Release Draft Management Plan for State Highways in the Adirondack Park.
- Discussion was held on CFAB Vacancies, no candidates as of yet.
- Discussion was held regarding the 2018 CFAB Meeting schedule; will stay at monthly.
- Brief discussion was held on West Mountain State Forest

Dave Core motioned to adjourn the meeting, Marc Osypian second – motion passed, Meeting Adjourned at 1:02 pm.

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

e-Licensing:

Status Summary and Activities Completed This Period

- DEC has requested a cost estimate and timeline for the DECALS citizen application (for purchase of licenses, tags, and associated privileges) to be converted to a responsive design (useable with all devices, including mobile devices). Ballpark estimate is less than \$200,000. Still awaiting timeline and firm estimate.
- DEC staff received detailed training from ITS staff regarding data inquiry to foster DEC's capacity to pull data and address various questions on license sales and license holder characteristics.
- DECALS experienced an outage (7.5 hours) on October 26th for agents and on-line customers. System had to be reset to an earlier date (data was preserved).

License Sales

- Daily sales reports continue (please see attached report from 11/9/2017)
- Calendar year 2017 sales to date (11/8): \$38.8 M, approximately 1.2% (\$452,804) less than the same period in 2016.
- License sales / purchase pattern mirrors 2016
- On November 13th, an e-mail reminder to purchase a 2017 hunting license will be sent to hunters who purchased a hunting license in 2016, but who had not, yet, purchased their 2017 hunting license.

Division of Fish and Wildlife items for Conservation Fund Advisory Board meeting
November 13, 2017

Filled Position report:

Division of Fish and Wildlife

<u>Account</u>	<u>Number of Staff</u>	<u>Change</u>
Access Land Acquisition	1	
Habitat Conservation and Access Account	8	
Hazardous Waste Cleanup Account	2.8	+0.05
State Purposes Account	4	
Federal Fish and Wildlife Grants Account	48.3	
Conservation Fund (Traditional Account)	234.9	
Environmental Regulatory Account	<u>5</u>	
Total	304	+0.05

Conservation Fund (Main Account)

<u>Division</u>	<u>Number of Staff</u>	<u>Change</u>
Fish and Wildlife	234.9	
General Counsel	1	
Law Enforcement	77	
Operations	4	
Management and Budget Services	1	
Office of Communication Services	1	
Regional Affairs	<u>2</u>	<u>-1.0</u>
Total	321.9	-1.0

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

Pending Proposals:

1) **6NYCRR Part 186 (new) 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 or 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. *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking prepared and undergoing internal review.*

2) **6NYCRR Part 180.1 Wildlife dangerous to health or welfare.** The proposed amendments include; expanding the list of wildlife considered to be dangerous; limiting possession to Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited facilities, circuses and research institution; allowing only DEC-licensed or USDA-permitted facilities to retain any dangerous animal currently held in legal possession for the life of the animal. *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking prepared and undergoing internal review.*

3) **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. *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking prepared and undergoing internal review.*

Proposals Filed: None

Pending Adoptions: None

Emergency Rules:

1) **6NYCRR Part 114 Public Use of Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area.** New Part that would prohibit target shooting (the discharge of a firearm is prohibited except in the course of legally harvesting wildlife or with written permission of the Regional Wildlife Manager) to alleviate safety concerns from current target shooting activities.

Division of Fish and Wildlife items for Conservation Fund Advisory Board meeting
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Notice of Emergency Adoption and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking prepared and undergoing internal review.

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:

- Bath Hatchery feed building floor and walls framed;
- Hydrogen peroxide storage (DHS compliance) at Rome, Caledonia, and Randolph hatcheries – installation of containers completed and security system install underway
- Salmon River Hatchery Visitor Center – new floor, new signs and interior displays completed with ribbon-cutting held on 11/3.

Hatchery Staffing Update:

Current number of permanent filled positions: 72

Recent transactions (fills):

- Program Aide – Central Office (filled 11/6/2017)
- Fish Culturist 1 – Adirondack (filled 11/6/2017)

Recent transactions (separations)

- Fish Culturist 1 – Salmon River (retired 10/19/2017)

Hiring process underway:

- Fish Culturist 1 (2 positions) – Salmon River
- Fish Culturist 1 – Van Hornesville
- Fish Culturist 1 – Catskill

Pending Retirement:

- Fish Culturist 1 – Chautauqua (12/30/2017)

Other vacancy(ies):

- Fish Culturist 3 – Rome
- Fish Culturist 3 – Salmon River