



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

**Three Hundred Eighty Third Meeting – December 10, 2018**  
**Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany**

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM.

**Meeting Adjourned** – The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.

**Roll Call: 9:07am**

**Voting Board Members Present**

Tim Huss	Region 1
Gordon Whiting	Region 2
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
Raymond Merlotto	NYSCC

**Voting Board Members Excused**

**Voting Board Members Absent**

**Ex-Officio Members Absent**

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

**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:*  
Judy Drabicki, Acting Deputy Commissioner,  
Natural Resources

**Personnel**

*Division of Fish and Wildlife:* Anthony Wilkinson, Director; Doug Stang, Assistant Director,  
*Division of Law Enforcement:* Major Michael St. Jeanos

**Guests:**

Senator Elizabeth Little  
Dan MacEntee, Chief of Staff,  
Senator Elizabeth Little  
Member of Assembly Dan Stec  
Mark Luciano, Chief of Staff, Assemblywoman  
Carrie Woerner  
Jeremy Hurst, Bureau of Wildlife  
Mary Roy, Director of Strategic Planning  
Dave Nelson, Outreach and Promotion  
Kasey Robb, Excelsior Fellow  
Anthony Kordziel, Region 3 Candidate

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  
OSC = Office of State Comptroller

**Correspondence:**

**Minutes of Prior Meeting:**

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

**Executive Report:**

Judy Drabicki, Acting Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources; provided Board members updates on the following:

- Introduced Mary Roy, Director of Strategic Planning and Process Improvement (working on strategic planning for DEC and how to increase sporting (hunting, fishing, trapping numbers).
- Long Pond Conservation Easement – response to comments is being prepared.
- Meeting was held with DEC Region 7 Director, Executive Deputy Commissioner Ken Lynch, with Senator Ritchie and Assemblyman Barclay on allowable uses on WMA's. Ongoing enforcement issues discussed and brought to attention of DEC Executive.
- Board Members expressed concerns with 2019 Legislative Session.

**Division of Fish and Wildlife Report:**

Tony Wilkinson, Director; Doug Stang, Assistant Director;

- Provided update on license sales, trends, etc.
- Update on DEC hatchery system infrastructure improvements.
- License Sales Summary.
- Filled Positions
- Hatchery Update
- Habitat stamp and pin sale promotion discussed.
- Salmon River Egg Take Summary
- Jeremy Hurst – Update on Response to possible CWD (lessons learned, improvements to be made).
- Update on Northern and Southern Zone Preliminary Deer Harvest Numbers
- Update on Fish Culturist Vacancies and civil service exams.
- Dave Nelson (Biologist 3) introduced Kasey Robb (Excelsior Fellow) – Dave and Kasey will be working together on the DFW's outreach and communication efforts).

**Division of Law Enforcement Report:**

Major Michael St. Jeanos, Division of Law Enforcement provided the following updates:

- Next Academy possibly May 2019.
- Updated Board Members on current vacancies and transfers, retirements.
- Brief discussion on overtime and manpower associated with Tappan Zee Bridge Report.

- Brief update on Chemical Immobilization Team and working with Division of Fish and Wildlife; CWD checkpoint on Pennsylvania border.
- Provided Board Members with an HRSI update.

**CFAB Business:**

- Sportsman Initiative powerpoint presentation; lengthy discussion with Senator Little, Assemblyman Dan Stec and Mark Luciano, Chief of Staff, from Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner's office, Dan MacEntee, Chief of Staff, Senator Little's office on 2019 Legislative priorities and impact sporting community has on NYS Economy.
- CFAB Rack Card; Board discussed distribution, (hunter education courses, etc.).
- Appointment of Anthony Kordziel, Region 3 Candidate.

***Dave Corr motioned to adjourn the meeting, Marc Osypian second – motion passed, Meeting Adjourned at 1:35 pm.***

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

**e-Licensing:**

**Status Summary and Activities Completed This Period**

- No system outages were experienced since the most recent CFAB meeting (and none since 10/18).
- In preparation of a RFP for a new automated licensing system, DEC and ITS are developing the technical system requirements and have met with DEC staff in law Enforcement, Management and Budget (Revenue Accounting), and Fish and Wildlife (Wildlife).

**License Sales**

[please see detailed report – attached]

- Year-to-date revenues from license sales (\$41.2 million) are less than last year at this time (less by \$107,216).
- November and December (to date) sales are less than in 2017 (by \$388,124).
- Monthly email reminders continue to be sent to previous license holders that have expiring or expired licenses (hunters and anglers) that have not, yet purchased a license for the new year.
- To foster sales of habitat / access stamps, DEC is running a promotion whereby purchasers will receive a barred owl lapel pin for each stamp purchased and purchasers of 7 habitat / access stamps will receive a set of the entire collector series of pins (barred owl, white-tailed deer, beaver, woodcock, bluebird, wood duck, wild turkey) – please see attached.

Division of Fish and Wildlife items for Conservation Fund Advisory Board meeting  
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**Filled Position report:**

**Division of Fish and Wildlife**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Number of Staff</u>	<u>Change</u>
Access Land Acquisition	0.7	
Habitat Conservation and Access Account	8	
Hazardous Waste Cleanup Account	1.8	
State Purposes Account	15.8	+2.0
Federal Fish and Wildlife Grants Account	63.6	+2.5
Conservation Fund (Traditional Account)	240.5	-1.7
Environmental Regulatory Account	4.8	
Natural Resources Damages Account	<u>0.8</u>	<u>+0.8</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>333.2</b>	<b>+2.8</b>

**Conservation Fund (Main Account)**

<u>Division</u>	<u>Number of Staff</u>	<u>Change</u>
Fish and Wildlife	240.5	-1.7
General Counsel	1	
Operations	4	
Regional Affairs	<u>3</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>248.5</b>	<b>-1.7</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 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. *Revised Notice of Proposed Rulemaking prepared and undergoing internal review.*

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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.*

4) **6 NYCRR Part 1.31 Hunting black bear.** This proposed rulemaking would allow for early bear season in Wildlife Management Unit 4W to foster increased bear harvest in this management unit. *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking prepared and undergoing internal review.*

Proposals Filed: None

Pending Adoptions: None

Emergency Rules:

1) **6NYCRR Part 189.3 Chronic Wasting Disease.** This emergency rule would prohibit importation of CWD-susceptible cervids from Quebec due to positive finding of CWD on captive facility in Quebec. *Notice of Emergency Rulemaking undergoing final review and awaiting publication.*

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, New York Works V, New York Works VI and New York Works VII is attached.

Highlights:

- Bid for Caledonia Hatchery building rehabilitation, garage construction, and installation of fiberglass raceway projects received (\$1,198,000) – undergoing OSC review.
- Base coat of paving completed at South Otselic Hatchery.
- Pond walls caulked and backfilled at Catskill Hatchery.
- South Otselic Hatchery dam repair estimate received (\$1,400,000).
- Bid received for alarms, meters and associated electronics at Adirondack Hatchery (\$114,675)
- Adirondack residence demolished and basement plans under design.

**Hatchery Staffing Update:**

Current number of permanent filled positions: 72

Recent transactions (fills):

- Fish Culturist 3 – Salmon River
- Fish Culturist 1 – Chateauguay (transfer)

Recent transactions (separations):

- Fish Culturist 1 – Rome (due to transfer to Chateauguay)

Vacancy(ies):

- Fish Culturist 4 - Rome
- Fish Culturist 3 - Caledonia
- Fish Culturist 2 – Chateauguay
- Fish Culturist 2 – Chautauqua
- Fish Culturist 2 – Salmon River
- Fish Culturist 1 - Rome
- Office Assistant 1 – Rome