



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

Four Hundred and First Meeting – March 15, 2021
Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway,
Albany

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:13AM.

Meeting Adjourned – The meeting was adjourned at 12:25PM.

Roll Call: 9:14 AM

Ex-Officio Members Present

Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources:
Katie Petronis
Jane McLaughlin

Voting Board Members Present

Tim Huss	Region 1
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

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: Tony Wilkinson,
Division of Law Enforcement: Bernard Rivers,

Voting Board Members Excused

Raymond Merlotto	NYS CC
Gordon J Whiting	NYS CC
Carrie Gallagher	NYS DEC
Sean Mahar	NYS DEC

Guests

Jim Farquhar, Chief – Bureau of Wildlife
Steve Hurst, Chief – Bureau of Fisheries
Chuck Nieder, Chief – Bureau of Habitat
Marcello DelPuerto – Bureau of Wildlife
Mike Schiavone – Bureau of Wildlife

Voting Board Members Absent

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

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
FWMB = Fish and Wildlife Management Board

Correspondence: None

Minutes of Prior Meeting:

MOTION: None

Executive Report:

Katie Petronis, Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources
Jane McLaughlin, Legislative Affairs

- Jane gave updates regarding the assembly not including Article 7 Bills, and that negotiations are anticipated in the following weeks. While this issue may primarily affect upstate NY residents, downstate NY residents will be welcomed to weigh in. Tom inquired if the formal position for the sportsman agenda was included or approved, Jane answered that the position was not included or approved.
- Tom inquired about the negotiation process and asked for examples of other Article 7 items that were not included by assembly. Jane explained that correspondence is a back and forth between the agency and folks at the table, and that plastic bags clarification, changes to bay parks language, and brownfield clean up were also not included or approved by assembly.
- Katie gave updates regarding Little John. The trail will need to be rerouted in 18 months or civil penalties will be imposed. Charlie inquired if this would be enough time, Katie responded that 18 months should be enough time. Bill expressed concern about when the window closes, and if these civil penalties are enough of a deterrent, Katie said there would possibly be additional penalties if they don't comply.
- Updates were given regarding the Deer Management Plan, which will include a 9 day special season Mid-September, Norther Zone muzzleloader season 3 units allowance to take deer of either sex, and could include requirements for fluorescent orange while big game hunting. The Public Comment Period was successful, and it is in the final review and has gone through the first round of approvals.

Division of Fish and Wildlife Report:

Tony Wilkinson, Director; Jim Farquhar, Chief, Bureau of Wildlife; Steven Hurst, Chief, Bureau of Fisheries; Chuck Nieder, Chief, Bureau of Habitat

- Mike gave updates regarding the non-lead working group, looking at the impacts of lead ammunition on humans and deer, as well as taking into consideration the perspectives of manufacturers, retailers, and the public.

Bill inquired about the makeup of the group and expressed concern that there are no CFAB or FWMB members in this group. Tom expressed concerns with CFAB being left out.

- Marcello gave updates regarding the Wildlife Management Areas Young Forest Initiative. The fiscal plan for 2021-2022 is being completed, and a review of this year's plan reflects that 85-90% of the work that this group sets out to do is accomplished. Marcello explained that some projects roll over due to flooding, equipment breaks, and the pandemic.
- Marcello gave updates on the drafting of the Habitat Management Plan, overviewing: how WMAs will be managed, the holding of public meetings, and explaining the what/when/where/how of what they will do. Marcello explained if commercial cutting is necessary it will be restricted to wintertime, and that the main obstacles for projects are bats and weather.
- Steve gave updates regarding the Rome hatchery which is now a zebra mussel stocking facility after multiple experiment test wells produces unsatisfactory results.
- Steve provided updates on the Fishing Guide, mentioning it is in the final throws of completion, the vendor is just having some issues we are waiting to be cleared up. The guide has gone from a magazine, to a bare bones guide with larger font. Steve also spoke about increasing Fisheries web presence with a social media campaign as well as a video explaining regulations and the guide.

Division of Law Enforcement Report:

Bernard Rivers, Director

- Bernie was absent

CFAB BUSINESS:

- Dave Corr motioned to propose a comment to change hunting hours to 15 minutes before/15minutes after sunrise/sunset. With 2 in favor, and 5 opposed, the motion did not pass.
- Motion to request DLE provide HRSI over the course of 10 years passed unanimously.

Motioned to adjourn the meeting passed.