

NCPARC Education and Outreach Working Group Meeting
Tuesday, January 25, 2010, 1-4PM
1751 Varsity Drive
Raleigh NC 27606
Contact: Kimberly Burge
Phone: 919-707-0204
Room 315

In Attendance:

Joanne St. Claire - Wake Co. Parks & Rec., Crowder Dist. & Yates Mill Park
Bonnie Eamick – NC Museum of Natural Sciences
Jackie Trickle - Wake Co. Parks & Rec., Crowder Dist. & Yates Mill Park
Jeff Hall - NCWRC
Kimberly Burge – NCWRC
Jessica Ball – Agape Center for Environmental Education

Jeff Hall gave updates from other working groups:

Jeff wanted everyone to know that a conference call line and webinar capabilities are now available for every working group meeting. Please consider attending meetings even if you can't attend in person.

- PR&T – A response to the USFWS request for feedback on its petition to list amphibians in trade as “injurious” under the Lacey Act unless certified free of chytrid fungus was passed onto the NCPARC Steering Committee who commented and approved the submission. They also submitted for review and approval by the Steering Committee recommendations to the NC Dept. of Marine Fisheries by the SE diamondback terrapin group on the crab fisheries law updates. These recommendations were related to bycatch of diamondback terrapins by recreational crabbers. They also assisted NCWRC in updating gameland regulations by submitting recommendations of rewording or clarification some of these laws dealing with herp collections on gamelands. Commissioners have to approve and then can go to public hearings for final comments and legislature has to give their stamp of approval. One of these recommendations was the official creation of a herp collection permit specific to gamelands.
- RIMM – This group is currently looking at all herps in NC trying to determine if there are species that are being overlooked with the end result being a master list of focal species that would assist researchers in determining what species to focus efforts on. They are accomplishing this by development of a ranking system which is now complete except for salamanders. This focal species list will be made available on NCPARC web site when complete.

Update on events since our last meeting.

March 2-3rd 9:30-2pm? – Dixie Deer Classic, Raleigh

We will not be attending this year's DDC event, although, we are invited to attend with the herp society in 2012. Instead, we will be running a reptile education booth during the Youth Day events preceding the DDC. Kim will not be able to help due to other Youth Day obligations. More information to follow but Jeff, Jackie, and Joanne volunteers to assist with staffing and with providing herps: Jackie – corn and cali king, box turtle, stinkpot, anole, treefrog, and toad; Jeff – tiger, marbles, and spotted; Kim – corn, tadpoles, laptop, projector, screen

March 12th 9-5pm – Reptile & Amphibian Day; NC Museum, Raleigh

Jodie Owen is organized NCWRC's table and asked us to combine with her efforts again this year. We agreed and discussed adding more specifics to our table on how to incorporate cover for herps into your yard. Jeff and Jodie will discuss specifics including new signage, posters, and volunteers. Kim will check on location from last year and request the same space.

March 18-20th 9-6pm, 9-6pm, 10-5pm – Cape Fear Wildlife Expo, Wilmington

Jodie is coordinating NCWRC's booth and Keith is planning on attending as representation for NCPARC. Jeff may be assisting him on Friday and will check to see if Jodie can help on Friday, too.

April 9th 11-3pm – Frog Fest; Crowder District Park, Raleigh

Jackie requested a greater frog focus by whoever attends this year's event. Kim will send out a request for volunteers.

May 7th 1-4pm – Turtle Fest

Jody volunteered to attend and both Joanne and Jackie volunteered to assist. Kim will touch base with everyone to confirm as event nears.

Current Initiatives & Updates

- Bonnie brought tax letters that Liz created to the meeting for all the donations made at last year's annual meeting. Jeff to distribute these by January 31st.
- NCPARC/NCTWS 2011 annual meeting – Jeff gave an overview of what's going on with this meeting. At this point, he doesn't need much help with logistics. Liz and Jackie once again volunteered to help with this year's auction but proceeds aren't going to NCPARC. Sites were discussed for the 2012 meeting with a preference for the coast. Jeff to also ask Steering Committee for their suggestions.
- Kim received the last revision of the live animal outreach protocols from the last meeting and will be emailing them out for the entire E&O group to comment on prior to the Steering Committee meeting in February.
- Web site update – Kim says the latest update has the new NCWRC website being rolled out in April/May. No mention was made about incorporating NCPARC or NCPIF in the new redesign even though it was discussed early on. Jeff or Kim will keep us posted on this. Mike Dorcas from Davidson is willing to continue updating and maintaining the site but does not have time for a redesign that this group feels is much needed. We will bring this subject up at the Steering Committee meeting for their input.
- E&O Participation and event volunteers – Grover has indicated to Kim that his civilian job is taking up too much of his time for much outreach representing NCPARC in the upcoming year. We have relied on him a lot and need to come up with another way to assist with herp outreach in the state. Kim will be rolling out a list of herp society educators on the herp society's web site willing to do programs and will include: name, contact info, region, program types as a test. Joanne will be assisting with this effort since she is the education chair for the society. We hope this will be a litmus test for something similar for NCPARC educators.

Agenda items not discussed or tabled until next meeting:

- Status of possible new NCPARC banner and banner stand – KB contacted NCHS about banner & banner stand costs
- Book Resource List: database status? Liz /Deborah
 - In need of review: any volunteers? Project SAVE, Wild & Aquatic Wild, PLT, WOW
- Profiles update – Kim
 - o Sent Cay green sally and rat snake. Jeff to add NCWRC stuff to some profiles.

CASP Info - Jeff has sent out packets for this year's CASP routes. Extended the first window again this year: Jan 15th – March 10th

Next meeting place, date and time?

Same location sometime in March:

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Room TBD

Dates to be sent out on Doodle Poll soon...