

NCPARC Education and Outreach Working Group Meeting
Thursday, Nov. 7th, 2013, 1-4:00 PM
Stevens Nature Center at Hemlock Bluffs Nature Preserve

A huge thank you to Jackie Trickel for covering the August Education and Outreach meeting for me while I was out on maternity leave!

In attendance:

Kimberly Burge

Jodie Owen, NCWRC

Jeff Hall, NCWRC

Mark Johns, Hemlock Bluffs

Deborah Robertson, Blue Jay Pt.

Joanne St Clair, Harris Lake Co. Park

Dave Woodward

Daniel Wheeler, Crabtree Co. Park

Updates from other working groups

- PR&T - Still working on permitting issues to fix the major exportation of snapping turtles and bullfrogs. One turtle farm permitting in the process with NCWRC. An informal interview of participants in bullfrog killing/capturing seems to be due to the increase in popularity of reality shows. NCWRC considering outlawing using firearms to hunt bullfrogs as one way to avoid bullfrogs being used for target practice rather than for consumption.
- RIMM – They haven't met as an entire group recently, but worked on PARCAs draft. These were passed on to Orianne Society to edit shapefiles. Next step for the PARCAs will be peer review process and then national PARC will be the keeper of these shapefiles. NCPARC & SEPARC will likely host them on their web sites. Also still working on the details of ranking taxa.

Updates on events since our last meeting

- Sept. 28th - National Hunting & Fishing Day in Raleigh and Wildlife Expo in Fayetteville at Pechmann Center - Keith Farmer and Mike Campbell said it went well but a lot fewer people than usual. Kim to find out from Beth Gunn about Raleigh's attendance and mention that we needed more shade for our area because Joanne had to get our extra tent to shade snakes the last half of the event. NCSU herp club assisted in Raleigh and brought their animals.
- October 5-6 - FOX 50's Family Fest and Great American Tobacco Trail Duck Race - Kim to check if anyone attended this for feedback in case we are asked to attend next year. Daniel to check with his friend about the Durham event.
- Upcoming events: Tattoos are popular at events and Jodie to look into getting more.

Please submit any herp related events you would like to be on our calendar for the year or if you would like to request NCPARC presence at an event. Send to kburge@nc.rr.com

- 2014 is Year of the Salamander
- Feb 28 - March 1-2, 2014 –Mike has confirmed with DDC staff that we will attend next year's event. Same location. Volunteers will be recruited in Jan. 2014; Jeff & Dave to do tag team public programs (possibly one on each day of the event);
- March 2014 in Wake Co. is salamander month – look for activities at each park.
- March 15, 2014 R&A Day
- March 14-16th - Cape Fear Wildlife Expo (Keith Farmer to do this event? – Jeff to confirm) 9-7, 9-7, 10-5
- March 26-27th NCPARC annual meeting at Crossnore (more meeting details available soon)
- April 12, 2014 – Longleaf Festival at Harris Lake County Park

- April 5th Frog Fest @ Crowder (liked having Casey there)
- April? Davidson Reptile Day
- May 10th? 1-4pm – TurtleFest @ Bass Lake
- July 4th weekend Festival at the Eno
- Sept 27th National Hunting & Fishing Day

Backyard habitat box needs to be recreated because it was stolen – Jodie to work on finding replacements of items and snakes, salamanders, treefrogs, and toads. Need to check with Jackie about painting critters again.

New events requested our help for 2014/2015.

- Elementary NC Science Olympiad teacher workshop and backyard biologist by region (Oct/Nov?) Jeff will get back in touch with Sam about the teacher training. Jeff suggested a box that can be passed around to different locations around the state that would include specimens and we would also like to come up with a new list of herp species for these events.
- Carolina Sportsman Spring Spectacular in Charlotte (www.sportsmanspectacular.com) probably early April 4-5 2015 - Send someone to this event in 2014 to scope it out - Jodie possibly to attend to talk about in May
- Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association (www.elerbecreek.org) preserves tour Sept 27, 2014 - Deborah Robertson will be the lead for NCPARC participation in this event.
- Hendersonville - Week of the Young Child April 12th Jeff might be attempting to assist Tanya Poole with this

New Initiative:

NCPARC annual member awards – Mark Johns talked about the PIF yearly awards and theirs included extra effort awards and new member award with plaques. No nomination form but brought before steering committee for discussion. Mark made initial suggestions and passed the winners on as national nominations for their education, research and monitoring, innovators awards. Jeff to bring a couple of suggestions to the steering committee and it will be discussed at the Jan meeting and award at the annual meeting. Member of the Year award only at this time.

Current Initiatives & Updates

- Outreach Protocols – All approved but need to be posted on web site and sent out to all members. Jeff to make final edits and email to Kim to put on the web site. Jeff will email to membership.
- Web site update – Kim will assist Jeff with updates until Jodie can take over. To do:
 - Jodie and Jeff to complete the venomous signs for display and download from our web site. Sean Bush might want to be added to the venomous template
 - Links to Article 55 need to be closely associated with or within the protocols posted on our web site.
 - CASP & calendar pages need to have footer added to them.

Annual Meeting Discussion - March 26-27th NCPARC annual meeting at Crossnore (NC Forest Service facility SW of Boone) http://www.ncforestservice.gov/education/corpening_facility.asp Meeting theme to be Year of the Salamander. Auction details to be discussed later.

CASP Update – Jeff reported that it went well this year. Report will come out soon to show some of interesting species detected and overall trends since inception.

Remember to mark your calendars for the upcoming E&O meetings!

Thursday Feb 6th, 2014
Location: Harris Lake

Thursday May 1st, 2014
Location: Lake Crabtree

Thursday Aug 7th, 2014
Location: Blue Jay Point

Thursday Nov 6th, 2014
Location: check into Bass Lake