

Minutes from North Carolina Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (NCPARC)
Policy, Regulation, and Trade (PRT) Working Group Meeting October 3, 2008
1-4pm North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) Centennial Campus

Chair: Dave Davenport- Ecoquest Travel, Inc.
Jeff Hall- NCWRC
John Groves- NC Zoological Park
Kendrick Weeks- NCWRC
Ann Somers- UNCG (conference call)
Tanith Tyrre- Cape Fear Serpentarium
Phil Bradley- NC Museum of Natural Sciences
Keith Farmer- NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher
Andrew Wyatt- NCARK

Dave Davenport opened the meeting with agenda items:

1. Boa/Python issues in Everglades
2. Review rules and regulation of herptiles in NC for streamlining NCWRC policy

Dave mentioned that he and Jeff are still working on Asian markets stuff and meeting with Carl Williams, NCDA veterinarian. Dave asked about 10A NCAC 41A .0302 language concerning “retail” vs. “wholesale” in relation to selling turtles either inside or outside of NC. Ann mentioned that she might be able to look into it. Jeff agreed to send Ann the document. Jeff also agreed to ask Dr. Williams and others about this as well.

Andrew discussed Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act [[H.R.6311.IH](#)]. Andrew suggested that importation of exotic *Python*, *Boa*, and *Eunectes* species is only applicable to the state of Florida and that Federal action is not necessary. He also expressed concern that this is just a part of the animal rights agenda to ban all exotic animal importation. Dave agreed that this should be a state issue, not one dealt with by the Federal government. Others were not familiar with the bill.

Andrew also gave a quick update on the rewrite of Article 55 and noted that Senator Jones is still planning to introduce this in the 2009 session. It was also noted that this would likely not be a high priority due to the current economic climate.

Group discussed absence of pet stores being involved in any policy, regulation, and trade issues. In particular, the education of pet stores on current regulations is lacking. Several ideas were discussed related to achieving pet store involvement/education:

1. Policy posters
2. Workshop or seminar for employees
3. Invite regional manager of PetSmart, etc. to PRT meeting.
4. Contacting National Pet Shop Association

BREAK

Began reviewing rules for streamlining policy.

15 NCAC 10B .0119 WILDLIFE COLLECTORS: Removal of spotted turtle language was discussed because they are now sufficiently protected by the turtle rule (15A NCAC 10H .1301). This has already been proposed. No other changes were suggested.

Keith asked about clarifying where collecting can occur. It is not well known where you can collect and where you cannot. In general, it should be stated that any collection of wildlife resources should only occur with the landowner's permission. This would include any public or private entity. There is no collection whatsoever allowed on NC Parks and Recreation property without a permit specifically from NC Parks. No live animals may be removed from Wildlife Resources Commission Gamelands without a special permit from WRC.

15A NCAC 10B .0123 POSSESSION OF CERAIN SPECIES OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES: There was some discussion of red-eared sliders (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) in relation to a no release into the wild rule.

ADJOURNED