

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 339
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/30/22
Third Edition Engrossed 6/30/22

Short Title: 2022 WRC Amendments.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 24, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO THE STATUTES GOVERNING THE
3 WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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6 **INCREASE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF EMERGENCY POWERS OR RULES**
7 **EXERCISED TO RESPOND TO WILDLIFE DISEASE**

8 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 113-135.1(b) reads as rewritten:

9 "(b) The limitation upon penalty does not apply to any rule violation:

- 10 (1) Punishable under G.S. 113-294 or otherwise involving aggravating elements
11 that result in a greater punishment than provided by G.S. 113-135;
12 (2) That involves a defendant subject to the collection-license provisions of
13 G.S. 113-272.4 or who is a dealer as defined in G.S. 113-273; or
14 (3) Relating to seasons, bag limits, creel limits, taking fish other than with hook
15 and line, buying or selling wildlife, possessing or transporting live wildlife,
16 taking wildlife at night or with the aid of a conveyance, or falconry.
17 (4) Related to violation of emergency powers exercised to respond to a wildlife
18 disease that threatens irreparable injury to wildlife or the public pursuant to
19 G.S. 113-306(f)."

20 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 113-306 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

21 "(g) Any person who violates emergency powers or rules adopted pursuant to subsection
22 (f) of this section is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor for a first conviction or a Class 2
23 misdemeanor for a second or subsequent conviction within three years."

24 **SECTION 1.(c)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2022, and applies to
25 offenses committed on or after that date.

26
27 **FUR DEALER LICENSE CHANGES**

28 **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 113-273(f) reads as rewritten:

29 "(f) Fur-Dealer License. – Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any individual
30 in this State who deals in furs must obtain an appropriate fur-dealer license. For the purposes of
31 this subsection, "dealing in furs" ~~is engaging in the business of buying or selling fur bearing~~
32 ~~animals or other wild animals that may lawfully be sold,~~ refers to any individual who buys and
33 sells the raw furs, pelts, or skins of those animals, fur-bearing animals or other wild animals that
34 may lawfully be sold, or the raw furs, pelts, or skins of wild animals which may not themselves
35 be sold but whose fur, pelt, or skin may lawfully be sold. A hunter or trapper who has lawfully



1 taken wild animals whose fur, pelt, or skin is permitted to be sold under this subsection is not
 2 considered a fur dealer if ~~he~~ the hunter or trapper exclusively sells ~~the animals or the raw furs,~~
 3 pelts, and skins, as appropriate, to licensed fur dealers. All fur-dealer licenses are annual licenses
 4 issued beginning July 1 each year running until the following June 30. Fur-dealer licenses issued
 5 by the Wildlife Resources Commission are as follows:

- 6 (1) Resident fur-dealer license, ~~sixty dollars (\$60.00).~~ thirty dollars (\$30.00).
 7 Authorizes an individual resident of the State to deal in furs in accordance
 8 with the rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- 9 (2) Nonresident fur-dealer license, ~~three hundred dollars (\$300.00).~~ sixty dollars
 10 (\$60.00). Authorizes an individual within the State to deal in furs in
 11 accordance with the rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

12"

13 **SECTION 2.(b)** This section becomes effective August 1, 2022.

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 15 **INCLUDE PUBLIC MOUNTAIN TROUT WATERS IN RESIDENT SUBSISTENCE**
 16 **UNIFIED INLAND/COASTAL RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENSE WAIVER**

17 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 113-351(d) reads as rewritten:

18 "(d) Resident Subsistence Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License Waiver. –
 19 A county department of social services shall issue a Resident Subsistence Unified Inland/Coastal
 20 Recreational Fishing License Waiver to an individual who receives benefits from Medicaid, Food
 21 and Nutrition Services, or Work First Family Assistance through the county department of social
 22 services and who requests a waiver. This waiver shall be issued at no charge. This waiver is valid
 23 for a period of one year from the date of issuance. This waiver shall be issued only to an
 24 individual who is a resident of the State. This waiver authorizes the waiver holder to fish with
 25 hook and line for all fish in all inland fishing waters and joint fishing waters, ~~except for including~~
 26 public mountain trout waters, and to engage in recreational fishing in coastal fishing waters.
 27 County departments of social services shall supply the Wildlife Resources Commission with the
 28 name, mailing address, and telephone number of each individual who receives a waiver."
 29

30 **DEFINE "DOMESTICALLY RAISED WATERFOWL AND GAME BIRDS"**

31 **SECTION 6.** G.S. 113-129 reads as rewritten:

32 **"§ 113-129. Definitions relating to resources.**

33 The following definitions and their cognates apply in the description of the various marine
 34 and estuarine and wildlife resources:

35 ...

36 (5b) Domestically Raised Waterfowl and Game Birds. – Propagated mallard ducks
 37 in accordance with 50 C.F.R. § 21.13, bobwhite quail, ringed neck pheasants,
 38 chukar partridges, and Hungarian partridges.

39 (5c) Farmed Cervid. – Any member of the Cervidae family, other than white-tailed
 40 deer, elk, mule deer, or black-tailed deer, that is bought and sold for
 41 commercial purposes.

42 (5e)(5d) Feral Swine. – Free-ranging mammals of the species *Sus scrofa*.

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 45 **EFFECTIVE DATE**

46 **SECTION 7.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
 47 law.