



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

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**Four Hundred and Thirteenth Meeting – January 9, 2024**  
**Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway,**  
**Albany, NY**

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:35 AM.

**Meeting Adjourned** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

**Roll Call: 9:10am**

**Voting Board Members Present**

Timothy Huss	Region 1
Vacant	Region 3
Nate Galimore	Region 4
Jason Kemper	Region 5
Scott L. Faulkner	Region 6
Shari Dann	Region 7
Marc Osypian	Region 8
Vacant	Region 9
Bill Connors	FWMB
Anthony Kordziel	NYSCC

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

None.

**Ex-Officio Members Absent**

None.

**DEC Personnel**

None.

**Guests**

None.

**Voting Board Members**

**Excused**

Brandon Dale

**Voting Board Members**

**Absent**

None.

**Abbreviations**

CFAB or the Board = Conservation  
Fund Advisory Board

FWMB = Fish and Wildlife  
Management Board

DEC or the Department = NYS  
Department of Environmental  
Conservation

DFW = Division of Fish and  
Wildlife

DLE = Division of Law  
Enforcement

**Correspondence:** (PDFs at the end of the minutes)

NYS CC Youth Weekend Tags Memo

[Report to Legislature:](#) 12/13 yo Deer Hunting

**Minutes of Prior Meeting:**

*The December 2023 minutes were not provided to the Board prior to the meeting for review.*

This meeting was convened using Zoom. No DEC staff were requested to be present for the meeting.

Primary focus of the meeting was the 2022-2023 annual report. A copy of the previous report was discussed and each section of the report was reviewed with members. Several members commented on the possibility of working throughout the year on sections of the report. New CFAB members volunteered for sections moving forward.

In addition to the annual report, members commented on topics for a future CFAB meeting including: communication and outreach and response to youth deer hunting memo.

**January 2024 CFAB Report**

**Update on DEC’s E-Licensing system and sporting license sales:**

No system outages or issues were reported since our last update. The system has been performing well with sales and harvest reporting functionality working as expected.

Overall sales for the period remain approximately 1.5% lower than 2022-2023 sales during the same period.

Work continues on several fronts in preparation for the transition from Valeron to plain paper licenses and tags for the 2024-25 license year. Initial drafts of Q&As, license issuing agent messages and a news release have been prepared for release later this month. Gordon Darby’s app developer, Timmons, presented staff with design documents for the new DLE field check app, which were well received by DLE staff. DFW staff are also in the process of finalizing new plain paper license and tag designs.

**License Year Sales by Item Comparison**

**Overall Sales:**

<b><u>Begin</u></b>	<b><u>End</u></b>	<b><u>Sales</u></b>	<b><u>Revenue</u></b>	<b><u>% Change</u></b>
August 1, 2023	January 1, 2024	1,969,723	30,482,016	-1.5%
August 1, 2022	January 1, 2023	1,984,825	30,925,410	-4.5%
August 2, 2021	January 1, 2022	2,055,648	32,391,711	

**I Support Conservation Fund:**

August 1, 2023	January 1, 2024	5,829	\$24,198	-17%
August 1, 2022	January 1, 2023	6,575	\$29,002	-6%
August 2, 2021	January 1, 2022	6,855	\$30,890	

**Venison Donation:**

August 1, 2023	January 1, 2024	4,361	\$14,883	-14%
August 1, 2022	January 1, 2023	4,210	\$17,305	-4%
August 2, 2021	January 1, 2022	4,644	\$17,976	

**Habitat & Access Stamp:**

August 1, 2023	January 1, 2024	32,618	\$163,090	32%
August 1, 2022	January 1, 2023	22,009	\$110,045	1%
August 2, 2021	January 1, 2022	21,912	\$109,560	

**Filled Position report as of 12/20/2023:**

<b>Division of Fish and Wildlife</b>		
<b>Account</b>	<b>December 2023</b>	<b>November 2023</b>
Access / Land Acquisition	1	1
Habitat Conservation & Access Account	6	6
Hazardous Waste Cleanup Account	1	1
State Purposes Account (GF)	61.4	63.4
Fish & Wildlife CLCPA	3	0
Federal Fish & Wildlife Grants Account	48.8	46.8
Conservation Fund (Main Account)	205.55	207.75
Environmental Regulatory Account	2	2
Natural Resources Damages Account	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>328.75</b>	<b>327.95</b>

<b>Conservation Fund (Main Account)</b>		
<b>Division</b>	<b>December 2023</b>	<b>November 2023</b>
Fish and Wildlife	205.55	207.75
General Counsel	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0
Operations	3	3
Management & Budget Services	0	0
Communication, Education, & Engagement	0	0
Regional Affairs	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>211.55</b>	<b>213.75</b>

## **Status of Regulations:**

### **Notice of Proposed Rule Making(s):**

**6 NYCRR Part 182, Endangered and Threatened Species Mitigation Bank Fund.** The Endangered and Threatened Species Mitigation Fund (Fund) Package is required to implement the new laws that created the Fund to be an alternate method for large scale renewable energy projects to use to meet their mitigation requirements if they take listed species. The regulation package outlines the intent of the fund, the process for the Department to develop a cost basis for evaluating appropriate payments into the fund, and the general approach on how the Department may utilize the Fund to provide a Net Conservation Benefit to listed species.

- NOPR Drafted and briefed Governor's office on 1/3/24

**6 NYCRR Part 182, Endangered and Threatened Species Repromulgation Package.** The Part 182 Repromulgation Package is required due to a legal decision stating that the rule change adopted in 2010 did not include a public hearing, and therefore needs to be re-noticed, with a public hearing, to be officially adopted. This package would repost the 2010 language, along with the changes legally adopted in 2021, to ensure that Part 182 in its entirety was adopted correctly.

- NOPR Drafted and briefed Governor's office on 1/3/24

**6 NYCRR Part 182, Endangered and Threatened Species.** The List Revision Package begins the process of updating the list of endangered and threatened species, a process that has not been done since 1999. The first step in the process is focused on updating the freshwater fish species based on expert review and ensuring that all species listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act are also captured in the regulatory list. The rest of the species will be addressed in subsequent rules over the next three years, with reptile, amphibians, marine species, invertebrates, mammals, and birds to all be addressed by the end of 2025.

- NOPR Drafted and briefed Governor's office on 1/3/24

**6 NYCRR Part 664, Freshwater Wetlands Maps and Classification.** The legislation contains three fundamental changes to the Freshwater Wetlands Act that will need to be reflected in regulation. First, beginning in January 2025, maps depicting freshwater wetlands will no longer be relied upon to determine DEC's permitting jurisdiction. Under the new legislation, freshwater wetlands maps will continue to be maintained by DEC but will be used for educational purposes. Second, smaller wetlands (less than 12.4 acres) of "unusual importance" will be regulated if they meet one of 11 newly established statutory criteria. Third, the acreage threshold for regulated wetlands will decrease from 12.4 acres to 7.4 acres (3 hectares) in 2028.

- Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published in State Register on 1/3/24; public comment period ends 2/19/24.

**6 NYCRR Part 10, Trout Stream Sportfishing Regulations Changes.** These regulation changes are proposed on several stream reaches to update and align management consistent with the criteria documented in the Trout Stream Management Plan (TSMP). They include clarification of trout fishing seasons in tidal and inland waters of Nassau and Suffolk counties. Additionally, in response to new biosurvey and angler use information, management category changes are proposed as follows: Camden Creek (Region 5) from *Wild* to *Wild-Quality* and Goose Creek (Region 9) from *Stocked-Extended* to *Stocked*.

- NOPR Drafted and with Greg Kozlowski for edits as of 11/29/2023

**6 NYCRR Part 10, Fishing Tournament Permit and Reporting System.** This proposal related

to registration and reporting of sportfishing (freshwater) tournaments. The Department may propose the creation of a sportfishing (freshwater) tournament registry and reporting system for select fish species. These amendments may require a Regulatory Flexibility Analysis for Small Businesses or a Rural Area Flexibility Analysis.

- NOPR Drafted and with Katharine Petronis for review as of 11/29/2023

**6 NYCRR Part 177, Sporting License Issuance and Use.** This rulemaking would give DEC the authority to allow License Issuing Agents (LIAs) to charge a small fee to cover the cost of printing plain paper hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses and associated carcass tags on their own printers, using their own paper and printer ink. ECL 11-0715 specifies that issuing clerks may charge a fee in addition to the cost of the license. This regulation will specify the conditions under which such a fee may be charged and the amount. With the transition to plain paper licensing, customers will have the option to receive an email with a PDF of their license to be self-printed at home, as well as having access to electronic versions of their licenses online and in the HuntFishNY mobile application. Some license buyers may opt to have their license printed at point-of-sale locations or printed and mailed when purchased via phone or internet. The transition to plain paper will require LIAs to utilize their own plain paper stock, printers, and ink, which will result in increased costs to agents. The proposed fee is intended to offset those costs.

- RIM approved by Executive 1/3/24; NOPR being drafted.



**New York State Conservation Council Inc**

1060 Broadway #1090, Albany, New York 12204

January 2, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Jacqueline Lendrum, Director, Division of Fish and Wildlife

**FROM:** New York State Conservation Council

**SUBJECT:** Youth Hunt/Regular Big Game Deer Tagging

**This memo is written in support of the Memo that was distributed on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 on Youth Big Game Tagging;**

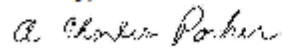
- Requesting an additional deer hunting tag or replacement deer hunting tag, for twelve and thirteen year olds, to use for the Youth Firearms Weekend.

The New York State Conservation Council supports an additional or replacement tag, for youth hunters, as it will increase big game hunting opportunities for 12 and 13 year old hunters. NYSDEC has released a memorandum with four options that they believe would help to solve this issue. NYSCC supports either of the options that do not require legislation to implement.

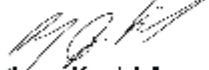
NYSCC supports the Recruitment, Retention, and Reinvigoration of sportsmen and women. There is a possibility that recruitment of youth hunters may be impacted by success during the youth firearms weekend. Currently, hunters in this age bracket only receive one deer tag when they purchase a regular season hunting license, and are ineligible to receive a bear tag due to the way the state legislature wrote the bill to allow 12 and 13 year olds to hunt big game with a firearm. In the situation that a youth hunter **is not awarded a DMP, this hunter would be "tagged out" in early October if they are** successful during the youth firearms weekend. This hunter would not be allowed to carry a firearm to hunt with their parent/mentor in pursuit of big game for the remainder of the season, which would likely lessen their interest in going afield for the remaining two months of the season. Hunters in the Adirondacks and northern zone are disproportionately impacted by this as most WMUs have limited or no DMPs available. The majority of hunters only participate in the regular firearms hunting season due to many reasons including work and school schedules. Many hunting families do not participate in muzzleloading and bowhunting due to financial constraints in purchasing the required implements, so hunting these seasons and purchasing the privileges would not be feasible. These youth hunters should not have their already limited field days reduced even more.

The additional time that the youth hunters can spend hunting with their parent/mentor will create lasting memories and give them a positive outlook on hunting. It allows more time to teach about hunting ethics, fair chase, and allowing time spent in nature away from phone and computer screens.

Sincerely,



A Charles Parker  
President, New York State Conservation Council



Anthony Kordziel  
NYSCC CFAB Representative.

**From:** [Schiavone, Michael V \(DEC\)](#)  
**To:** [Kemper, Jason](#)  
**Cc:** [Lendrum, Jacqueline M \(DEC\)](#); [Curran, Christina \(DEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Report to Legislature: 12/13 yo Deer hunting  
**Date:** Monday, February 5, 2024 9:13:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [jrhunterlegislative-report23.pdf](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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Hi Jason,

See attached report that our Game Management program prepared for the Legislature. Our Legislative Affairs office shared it with the Encon Committee chairs and other representatives. It has also been posted [to the website](#).

Thanks,  
Mike

**Michael V. Schiavone**

Assistant Director, Division of Fish and Wildlife

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**

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Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

