



Journal  
WILD LIVES ■ WILD PLACES  
Winter 2014

WILD LIVES  WILD PLACES

Winter 2014



# 2013 annual report





# { INSPIRED. INSPIRING. INSPIRES. INSPIRATION. } INSPIRATIONAL.

by Carol Buie Jackson  
NCWF Board Chair

The many forms and tenses of the word “inspire” sum up my first year as board chairwoman for the North Carolina Wildlife Federation.

In my travels around the state (and abroad, but we will get to that in a minute) on behalf of the Federation, many people have related to me their stories of when they first really connected with the outdoors. I heard of catching that first fish while on a fishing trip with Grandpa, watching a nest of birds in a tree outside their childhood bedroom window, finding an orphaned squirrel and raising it and many other first-hand accounts with nature that instilled a deep and profound love for wildlife. I heard about memories that inspired them to learn more, care deeply, and explore the natural world around them.

Then there are the inspiring stories of people with disabilities who, in spite of their limitations, hunt, fish, hike, birdwatch, and make their way through wild places. Their desire to experience nature has given them the determination to overcome the obstacles and get outdoors. I also salute the organizations that, like NCWF and others, build hunting blinds, fishing docks, and trails to accommodate nature-lovers with disabilities and make it possible for everyone to experience what many of us take for granted.

I speak to a variety of groups about the Federation and our mission, hoping to inspire the citizens of this great state to appreciate the wildlife and the wild places we have here. Often, however, I am the who is inspired. People go to great lengths to preserve and create wildlife habitats in their backyards and in their communities. At our annual Awards Banquet, I am always humbled by the stories of ordinary people doing extraordinary things for wildlife, every day without fanfare, just because they love it.

Last summer, I had the incredible opportunity to go to Bermuda to help capture and tag green sea turtles. Although the experience of pulling the turtles from the nets, passing them up to the biologists on boats to measure, weigh, tag and release, was amazing, it was the people I met who were truly inspiring. I met a 78-year-old man who told me the story about how, at the age of 14, he was on the team that found a bird that everyone thought was extinct, the cahow. He told me that the moment that bird was discovered on its nest on an island near Bermuda, the course of his life was set. He worked, and continues to work, tirelessly to bring this bird back from the brink. His story was so inspirational because it brought home to me how important one moment in time could be. If he had not been there on that day, his life may have turned out much differently. I know it would have turned out differently for the birds.

I came back from Bermuda inspired! Inspired to get out more. I had let life get so busy, I wasn't making time for myself to get outside to remind myself what's at risk and what I am working for. I need to make time to rekindle my passion. To have an encounter so profound that I am inspired to do something.

I was also inspired anew to work to inspire others. To share my sense of awe of nature with someone else. To share my love of birds and bunnies and turtles and mountain streams and a favorite hiking trail so that someone else is intrigued enough to go out and explore. To inspire someone to go outside and fall in love.

North Carolina and its wildlife and wild places are threatened on many different levels. Climate change, increasing populations, non-native flora and fauna crowding out our native species, a state legislative agenda that is not committed to protecting our resources. It's more important than ever for those of us who enjoy our natural resources to share that passion with others so they can be inspired to protect them too. There can't be too many of us loving, and protecting, the beautiful state of North Carolina and its wildlife and wild places. **NCWF**

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## ABOUT THE COVER

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VISITNC.COM: seaturtle; kayaker; Elk Knob; sunset over ocean; Jordan Lake; Grandfather Mountain; Hammocks Beach; little girl fishing; Umstead Park.  
WIKIMEDIA: Morrow Mountain; Griffiths Branch waterfall. All other photographs, unless otherwise noted: www.istockphoto.com or courtesy of NCWF.

## CREDITS

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# North Carolina WILDLIFE FEDERATION *Journal*

WILD LIVES  WILD PLACES

Winter 2014

Official publication, North Carolina Wildlife Federation (Affiliate of National Wildlife Federation)

**NCWF Mission** The mission of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation is to be the leading advocate for all North Carolina wildlife and its habitat.

# 2013 annual report



The highs, the lows, and why  
**WE NEVER GIVE UP.**

**GOALS** Recognizing that wildlife includes all species of wild flora and fauna, the goals of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation are:

- To advocate the conservation and enhancement of all wildlife and its habitat.
- To advocate ethical and biologically sound hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities.
- To advocate education, for children and adults, that increases public awareness of wildlife, its dependence on habitat, and the importance of both to human existence.
- In affiliation with our member organizations, to communicate, cooperate, and partner with the North Carolina General Assembly, state resource agencies, corporations, and other interested groups to advance the well being of wildlife and its habitat.
- In affiliation with the National Wildlife Federation, to support national and international issues of mutual interest.

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The North Carolina Wildlife Federation is an equal opportunity organization and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin or physical disability and shall be in compliance with all applicable State and Federal laws dealing with clients, employees, and constituents of the agency and members of the governing board. NCWF's commitment to diversity extends to all levels of our organization and will be endorsed, implemented, and monitored by our Officers, Board of Directors, Staff, volunteer leaders, and chapters.





# FOCUS on Wildlife

January 1

## Deer on the Farm ►

NCWF launches a 2-year demonstration project to ramp up participation in three existing programs that play critical roles in North Carolina's long-term approach to managing deer. N.C. Hunters for the Hungry turns donated deer into frozen ground venison for use in food pantries. Hunt NC Farmlands is a website that matches farmers with sportsmen ready to pay for a day or a season of hunting. The Bonus Antlerless Deer Tag Program allows hunters to take does in addition to their big game season limit.

Underwritten by the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, NCWF's Farmers Manage Deer (FMD) approach brings farmers and hunters together with volunteers from rural fire departments, church food pantries, Boy Scout troops and local businesses to help with special hunts and raise donations to cover processing and transport of deer to Hunters for the Hungry. All the processed venison comes back to those in need in the participating farm communities.

Through FMD farmers develop science-based deer management objectives and learn about the land-leasing process with access to insurance, codes of conduct agreements, and hunt managers if needed. It's a comprehensive tool kit that builds on the success of Hunt NC Farmlands and covers every concern a farmer may have.

NCWF helps Hunters for the Hungry get more deer to processors by providing mobile coolers deployed where hunters can field dress and easily drop off deer and be on their way home. We want to make it free and easy for sportsmen to donate deer. Columbus County will be working with NCWF to expand the program and demonstrate what works for other counties to replicate.

Through Farmers Manage Deer, NCWF is investing in a long-term common sense approach to managing deer in North Carolina, an approach that raises crop production, creates hunt lease income for farmers, creates more hunting opportunities for sportsmen, and feeds thousands of local families in need. Most of all, over time, the state's deer population will be healthier and much more in balance with available habitat.

NCWF has 68 years of history in bringing partners together to solve big issues and move conservation forward. True to our mission, this coming year we will bring decision makers from large food banks and auto insurance companies together with those from chambers of commerce and row crop growers associations to create a more stable funding mechanism for processing donated deer and to promote the Farmers Manage Deer approach.



January 30



### Report Cards ▶

The first of four major reports is published in a joint effort by NCWF and NWF. Federation staff, advisors, and board members with professional wildlife backgrounds worked closely with NWF scientists to explain how climate change will impact wildlife habitats. The reports are *Wildlife in a Warming World*, *Swimming Upstream*, *Shifting Skies*, and *Nowhere to Run*, and cover freshwater fish, migratory birds and big game animals in a warming world.

February 1

### Rock Solid ▶



NCWF deploys more than 200 tons of rock in two sites on Lake Norman to establish fish habitat reefs, via a grant-in-aid from the Habitat Enhancement Program Fund. Later in the year, additional projects will include establishing heron rookeries, osprey nesting platforms, and planting shoreline trees.



February 3

### Strength in Diversity ▶

The Federation's ground-breaking diversity plan is finalized. The plan includes specific steps designed to build relationships, diversify the conservation community, and further the reach of NCWF's mission.



USFWS

February 8

### Nix the Noxious ▶

NCWF petitions the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to list *Arundo donax* as a noxious weed. The invasive species is proposed for a 4,000-acre coastal tract near Turkey, N.C. to be planted on the taxpayer's dime. Elsewhere, an Italian company proposes to plant up to 15,000 acres of arundo in the Coastal Plain, for the purpose of making cellulosic ethanol. If arundo is planted as an energy crop in North Carolina, especially in the Coastal Plain, there is a very high risk that it will become established and that it could invade important coastal wetlands such as pocosins, bottomland hardwood swamps, wet pine flat woods, and brackish estuaries.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

February 11

### Record Attendance ▶

DENR announces continued record level attendance at North Carolina State Parks and Recreation Areas with 14.2 million visits. The Federation continues to urge legislators to fully fund financial measures that shore up the conservation of the state's remaining open spaces.



February 14

### Economic Punch ▶

The Outdoor Industry Association releases its report on the economic value of outdoor recreation and shows it as a driving force nationally. In North Carolina, outdoor recreation contributes more than \$19 billion annually to the state economy, supports 192,000 jobs in the state, and generates \$1.3 billion in state and local tax revenue.



February 21

### Refuse Nicely ▶

NCWF sponsors with Friends of State Parks a "trash free" project for Bear Island and Hammocks Beach State Park. Biodegradable bags are provided to visitors for refuse receptacles to reduce wildlife encounters with harmful trash.



February 27

### Leadership Matters ▶

NCWF CEO Tim Gestwicki is honored with the *Fred A. Harris Fisheries Conservation Award* from the N.C. Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Gestwicki accepts on behalf of NCWF for the organization's significant contributions to fisheries and wildlife conservation in the state.





## March 5

### Partners in Publication ►

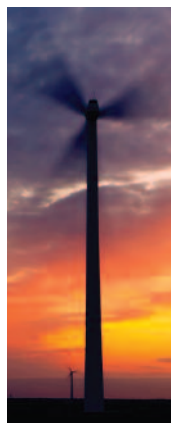
NCWF co-sponsors the Wildlife Resources Commission's report, *Conservation Pays Off!—Wildlife yields substantial economic impacts to NC*. Overall, hunting, fishing, and wildlife-watching activities contribute \$3.3 billion to the state.



## March 7

### Wondering About Wind ►

The Federation submits joint supportive comments, with the National Wildlife Federation, to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management on proposed wind energy exploration off the coast. The North Carolina coast offers significant opportunities to harness winds for energy, but these potentials must be balanced with siting and environmental considerations such as impacts on endangered right whales.



## March 8

### Magnolia Mafia ►

NCWF launches and coordinates a coalition of southern National Wildlife Federation affiliates known internally as the "Magnolia Mafia." Its focus is to coordinate regional efforts to get the Land and Water Conservation Fund fully funded.



## March 11

### Sunday Hunting ►

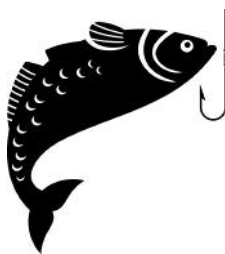
The Federation board adopts a resolution supporting 7-day hunting in North Carolina on private lands and with written permission.



## March 14

### River Suck ►

NCWF and NC Camo offer comments opposing a quarry permit to withdraw 12 million gallons of water per day and discharge into the headwaters of Blounts Creek, a tributary of the Pamlico River. The project poses grave concerns for the state-designated primary nursery area that supports fish and aquatic species.



## March 23

### Town Celebration ►

Matthews Naturally certification day as Matthews, NC, becomes the fourth certified Community Wildlife Habitat in North Carolina.



## March 25

### Forest Plan ►

Public meetings, coalition planning, and formal comments begin for stakeholders weighing in for wildlife habitat during the Nantahala-Pisgah National Forest management plan revision process. More than a million acres of the state's forests are affected by the revision. NCWF is working for diversity of habitat for wildlife in the plan.

## March 27

### General Assembly Fete ►

The Federation sponsors a legislative reception with partners N.C. Sportsmen Caucus Advisory Council and Land for Tomorrow.

**April 10**

**Certification Watershed ►**

8,000 and counting! NCWF's Certified Wildlife Habitat program hits the mark for the number of signature wildlife habitat programs certified for the state's private residences, places of worship, workplaces, and schools.



**May 3**

**Exhibit Endorsement ►**

NCWF endorses and commits support for the proposed Fly Fishing Museum of the Southern Appalachians, to be established in Cherokee.



**May 7**

**Positive Development ►**

The state's second certified Wildlife Friendly Development (WFD) is underway—Woodbridge in Concord. The WFD is a NCWF-managed collaborative certification program for new developments that focuses on minimizing the effects of development on wildlife habitat by avoiding inappropriate land disturbance and management while at the same time protecting wildlife or restoring degraded habitats.



**May 16**

**Missing the Mark ►**

Crossover date in the North Carolina General Assembly. This is the date by which a bill must pass either the House or the Senate in order to remain eligible for consideration in the remainder of the session. Unfortunately, this date marks another disappointing legislative session in the state, with no vote afforded on the issue of "gamefish status" for striped bass, speckled trout, and red drum to protect these species from commercial sale and overharvest in coastal waters.

**May 17**

**Agriculture and Wildlife ►**

NCWF spearheads a farm bill conservation effort with 49 other North Carolina sporting and conservation groups. We urge the state's congressional delegation to support the conservation programs that are crucial to our hunting, fishing, and conservation objectives. We also encourage reconnecting conservation compliance to crop insurance subsidies, thereby renewing the long-standing conservation compact with farmers by recoupling basic soil and water conservation measures to premium subsidies for crop insurance.

**May 24**

**Turtle Beaches ►**

NCWF supports the designation of critical habitat for loggerhead turtles along North Carolina and greater Atlantic Coast beaches to protect important nesting areas. We encourage the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to work closely together to designate and protect these habitat areas as both beaches and waterways must be protected to effectively meet the objective of supporting loggerhead sea turtles.

**June 3**

**Horses of a Different Color ►**

The Federation works to uphold the ability of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to manage wildlife refuges and native species by opposing the "wild horse act" for Currituck National Wildlife Refuge on the Outer Banks. This bill has a huge potential to set a disastrous precedent: If passed, FWS would be required to preferentially manage for a non-native species at the expense of native wildlife.

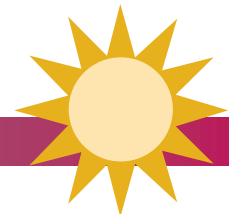


WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**June 4**

**Renew This ►**

Environmental Entrepreneurs releases its report that ranks North Carolina second in the nation for new clean energy jobs. North Carolina legislation is introduced to revoke the state's renewable energy portfolio which spurs investments in local jobs as utilities meet mandated percentages levels of power from renewable sources. The state's conservation and business communities will need to work diligently in 2014 to ensure that passage of this bad bill is halted.

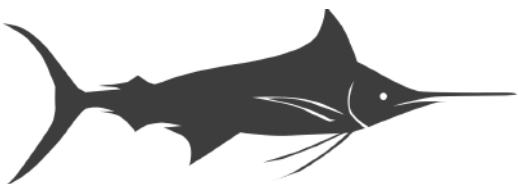




June 10

### **Marlin Moratorium ►**

NCWF announces support for the Billfish Conservation Act to ensure that the National Marine Fisheries Service prohibits the commercial importation and sale of billfish to the U.S. mainland.



June 12

### **Swine of the Times ►**

The Federation joins with fellow National Wildlife Federation affiliates with comments in support of a feral swine damage management environmental impact statement and plan. Feral hogs are an invasive species that causes extensive and growing damage to natural habitats and wildlife. Their impacts are severe in agricultural areas throughout the United States and especially in the South.

June 20

### **Top Critters ►**

NCWF releases its list of the state's Top 10 wildlife species struggling with habitat loss, disease, overharvest, and other challenges. The featured species range from popular game animals to endangered mussels and bats.

Top 10

June 17

### **Higher Ed ►**

On this date NCWF successfully launches its Great Outdoors University (Go U!) in the Greater Charlotte region. Go U! is a conservation-based experiential education program designed to bring life-changing experiences to kids 6-18 years old who have limited opportunity to explore the natural world. The success and progress of the program this year was phenomenal. Go U! established 15 destination partners and 10 participant partners in its inaugural year. The Federation partnered with Appalachian State University to develop and implement an evaluation plan for the program. In 2013, 30 day trips served over 1,800 participants who explored stream life, birds of prey, forest ecology, and wildlife observation skills.

In 2014, the program will more than double the number of nature trips, hosting at least three large Go U! events for all kids and their families to get outside and join in the fun. Additional participant and destination partners will be identified, as well as supporters to expand the program's reach and develop more curriculum options that engage youth through hiking, fishing, and canoeing.

The Federation is seeking those with an interest in having fun while sharing your passion about our natural world. The Go U! program seeks to nourish body, mind and spirit with the many benefits of nature. Join and volunteer to help today and make a difference in the lives of children. Special thanks to the Duke Energy Foundation, Arts and Science Council, Ryan Newman Foundation and Bank of America for supporting the successful launch of Go U!



June 21

### **Bearing Right ►**

NCWF posts a \$20,000 reward for the killing of a black bear in Buncombe County whose carcass, marked in white paint, was dumped and found this week on a mountain road. "WHATS BRUIN?" was written across the head and "w-h-a-t-s" across the claws on the right paw and "b-r-u-i-n" across the claws on the left paw. North Carolina is currently prosecuting cases from Operation Something Bruin, a multi-agency law enforcement initiative focused on the illegal poaching of bears and other wildlife, at the Haywood County Courthouse.



June 26

### **Tar Heel Tokens ►**

Legislation is adopted that establishes three new official state symbols. The North Carolina marsupial is the Virginia opossum. The pine barrens tree frog is the state frog, and the marbled salamander is the state salamander.



July 1

### **Carbon Copies ►**

Save the Dogwood campaign launched by the Federation in North Carolina via petitions and postcards to EPA and White House officials urging strong air standards for limiting carbon pollution from new power plants.



July 25

### **Take No Turtles ►**

NCWF comments in opposition to the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries' sea turtle incidental take permit. The welfare and recovery of endangered and threatened species such as the sea turtles named in this application outweigh the benefits of the continued use of gill nets in commercial fishing operations in certain waters.

July 26

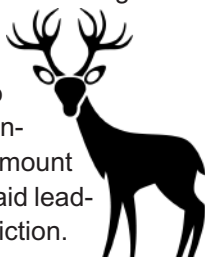
### **Rough Ending ►**

North Carolina General Assembly adjourns its session. Given the wildlife agency budget cuts, attacks on clean energy and wetlands, bad landfill bills, cuts to water and land investments, and the handcuffing of regulatory efforts by environmental agencies, conservation loses big in this controversial session.

July 29

### **Reward Fund ►**

The Fish and Wildlife Poacher Reward Fund is a reality. The establishing bill, supported and advocated for by NCWF, passes both Houses almost unanimously, and is signed by the governor. The new law creates a special fund to be administered by the Wildlife Resources Commission to pay rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons violating the more serious fish and wildlife laws of North Carolina. The Fund receives its revenue from donations and a portion of the replacement costs assessed by the courts upon conviction of a fish or wildlife violation. These actions generate about \$65,000 per year. In addition, courts can now add to the replacement and investigative costs an amount equal to the reward paid leading to arrest and conviction.



August 21

### **Native Fish Confab ►**

NCWF sponsors the initial meeting of a broad coalition seeking to designate and manage the Little Tennessee River as the nation's first Native Fish Conservation Area. Freshwater fishes in North America continue to decline despite substantial conservation efforts to reverse this trend. A recent assessment found that 39 percent of freshwater fishes are at risk of extinction. Lack of success is partially due to working at smaller spatial scales and focusing on habitats and species that are already degraded. A more effective approach would focus on protecting entire watersheds and aquatic communities. A new approach to aquatic resources conservation, Native Fish Conservation Areas will focus management on the watershed and complement existing conservation efforts by protecting intact aquatic communities while allowing compatible uses.

Other participants included representatives from NCDENR, NCWRC, GA DNR, TVA, USFWS, USFS, USDA, Eastern Band of Cherokee Nation, Land Trust for the Little Tennessee, Coweeta Long Term Ecological Research, Trout Unlimited, Watershed Association for the Tuckasegee River, Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture and the Fisheries Conservation Foundation. We agreed to designate the Little Tennessee River as a Native Fish Conservation Area and work collaboratively to conserve the native fishes in the river. Initial projects are likely to include improving habitat for fishes and other aquatic organisms, development of educational materials, and reestablishment or supplementation of native fish populations. A designation event will be held along the river in the Needmore area spring 2014.

The upper Little Tennessee River, including tributaries from the headwaters to the North Carolina–Tennessee state line, supports diverse communities of aquatic life. The free-flowing portions above Fontana reservoir contain approximately one-fourth of all native fish species in the entire Tennessee River system. Among these are several rare or endangered species such as spotfin chub, sicklefin redhorse, Appalachian elktoe mussel, and hellbender. The Little Tennessee River is identified by the World Wildlife Fund as one of the most important biological hotspots worldwide and is the site of two UNESCO Biosphere Reserves.

We see the establishment and management of key waters as Native Fish Conservation Areas as an important element of our country's efforts to conserve native aquatic resources. NCWF is pleased to be leading the effort to designate the Little Tennessee River as the nation's first Native Fish Conservation Area.



August 8

### **Primitive Fish Protections ►**

NCWF opposes a N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries application for incidental take permit for endangered Atlantic sturgeon that would allow continuation of the gill net fishery in North Carolina coastal water

August 27

### Our Waters ►

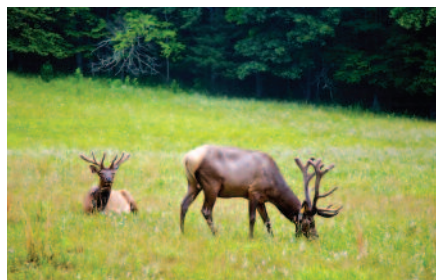
The Federation supports the state Department of Administration efforts to uphold public trust waters as related to the Alcoa hydropower relicensing issue on the Yadkin River. The public trust doctrine assures that our rivers, sounds and oceans are free for all North Carolinians to use.



September 4

### Bugle Futures ►

NCWF provides input to the Wildlife Resources Commission on an elk management plan. Key areas for the Federation include looking at additional public lands suitable for populating with elk as they roam out of Great Smoky Mountain National Park.



September 7

### Highlight on Heroes ►

50th Annual North Carolina Wildlife Federation Governor's Conservation Achievement Awards banquet.



September 7

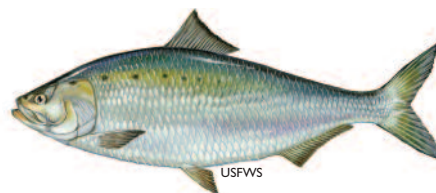
### High Honors ►

Dr. John Benbow, long-time NCWF board member and past president, is conferred President Emeritus.

September 29

### Migrant Management ►

NCWF seeks stronger conservation measures from the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council for river herring and shad. Stocks of these species are severely depleted and commercial gill netting practices in coastal waters necessitate restrictions.



September 30

### And The Winner Is.... ►

NCWF sponsors a lifetime youth sporting license for a winner of the wildlife scavenger hunt as part of the Wildlife Resources Commission's National Hunting and Fishing Day youth events.



October 1

### Halted Progress ►

Federal government shuts down for 16 days, halting access and management activities on many North Carolina parks, forests, and seashores.



VISITNC.COM

October 2

### Wrong Decision ►

Right whales decision goes against NCWF and other conservation groups concerned about the impacts of the U.S. Navy's proposed construction and operation of a permanent, instrumented 500-nautical mile training range. The range would be off the North Carolina coast and just outside of the world's only calving grounds for the highly endangered North Atlantic right whale.



October 5

### You Like Us! ►

NCWF Facebook site goes over 10,000 likes.



October 16

### Forest Friends ►

NCWF partners with TreesCharlotte to plant 600 trees in underserved neighborhood.

October 24

### Ten to Watch ►

NCWF releases its listing of the Top 10 fish and wildlife bills in history. The list, which covers policies at the federal level, features conservation laws for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of wildlife and wild places.



October 30

### Spring Forward ►

NCWF signs on to support EPA science reports to advance rule-making to protect headwaters and wetlands as “waters of the United States” that deserve the protection of the Clean Water Act. For over a decade, the Federation has worked with NWF and partners to clarify and restore Clean Water Act protections to more than 20 million wetland acres and 2 million stream miles.



November 4

### Crime Watch ►

The Federation posts a reward for \$7,500 in the aftermath of a rash of red wolf killings. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requests assistance with an investigation involving the suspected illegal take of multiple radio-collared red wolves that were found dead in Washington County. Northeastern North Carolina is the only place in the world where this species roams in the wild.

November 9

### Good View ►

NCWF commits to underwriting a new wheelchair-accessible handicapped hunting/wildlife viewing blind for Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge.



November 6

### Good Act ►

The Sportsmen Act is introduced in Congress by North Carolina Senator Kay Hagan. It contains many provisions favorable to management of fish and wildlife resources, habitat conservation and access to public lands for hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting. Many sporting and natural resource conservation organizations, including the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, endorse the bill.

November 8

### Storm Story ►

Typhoon Haiyan smashes the Philippines with winds of 200 miles per hour. It is one of the most intense storms in history.



November 19

### Nail in the OLF Coffin ►

The U.S. Navy cancels environmental studies of northeastern North Carolina sites under review for a massive landing field. This was the end of a decade-long battle for NCWF and its allies in the Outlying Landing Field saga that prompted NCWF to sue the Navy over its preferred site adjacent to Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge and near two other wildlife refuges.

November 21

### Road Work ►

NCDOT issues a new environmental impact statement (EIS) for the \$900 million Monroe Bypass. The new document is as flawed as its predecessor which we successfully challenged in court in 2012. NCWF and its allies continue to work with the local communities in Union County to advocate for lower-cost small-scale improvements to U.S. 74. NCDOT's new EIS demonstrates that such improvements will provide significantly greater benefits to local drivers than the costly Bypass and result in significantly less environmental degradation to Union County.



November 22

### Green Bling ►

The North Carolina-based Bank of America issues \$500 million in green bonds investment, highlighting growth in renewable energy and energy efficiency investment worldwide.



December 1

### Tuna Talk ►

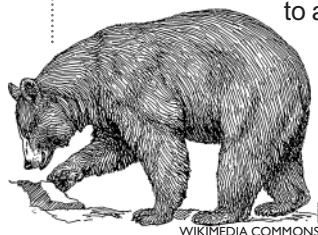
NCWF submits formal comments on bluefin tuna in hopes of reducing unintended catch of marine life on surface longlines.



December 9

### Bear Facts ►

The Federation adopts a formal resolution opposing proposed regulations to allow hunting over bait for black bear in North Carolina.



December

### Now Showing! ►

NCWF launches new and improved website [www.ncwf.org](http://www.ncwf.org).



December 28

### Landmark Legislation ►

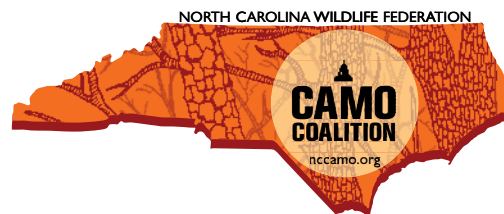
Forty years ago on this date the Endangered Species Act was signed into law.



December 31

### Strong Showing ►

NC Camo ends the year strong with its highest level of citizen participation yet. NC Camo has emerged as the primary voice unifying sportsmen in North Carolina to rally around legislative and regulatory issues that matter to wildlife, hunters, and anglers.







## POSITIVE IMPACTS ALL AROUND

Some people like to sit at a computer or in front of the television and watch as the world goes by. Every once in a while they may donate money to a cause or even sign a petition. The wildlife conservation movement has hundreds of thousands of these supporters and we thank them, but they don't get written about unless it's in an annual report or spreadsheet.

The people we like to write about are the doers and shakers for wildlife. The individuals that stand in the cold with a shovel digging a hole and planting a tree. The young and old alike that get down and dirty for their cause. The rich and poor who stand together to stop destructive projects and call their elected official to speak on behalf of wildlife.

Wildlife chapters and volunteers all over the state have many examples of positive impacts for wildlife and its habitat. They may not brag about it much, but they are the central part of this movement. Volunteers work together to preserve, protect, conserve and enhance habitat for wildlife acre-by-acre, species-by-species.

In the eastern coastal plains, our chapter volunteers planted 10,000 Atlantic white cedar seedlings to help restore acreage in the Dismal Swamp State Park, and that is just the beginning. Thousands more will be planted this year. Fishing line recovery and recycling bins were built and erected at piers along the coast to prevent aquatic mammals, turtles, fish and wading birds from becoming injured from entanglements, or ingestion, often to their demise. At Lake Norman, chapter volunteers planted thousands of bushes and trees along eroding shorelines providing much needed cover and food for many wildlife species, aquatic and terrestrial. Gastonia chapter members have deployed hundreds of deep fish attractors in Lake Wylie to provide structure for fish to have cover and thrive. Elsewhere, hundreds of kids enjoyed Youth Day fishing, bow and slingshot shooting, horseback riding, air rifle and skeet shooting, and rock climbing.

The Lake James community has improved through wildlife chapter volunteers removing dozens of tons of trash from the lake including tires, bottles, dock materials, fishing line, engines, and even appliances. In the mountains, nature trails were created at schools, places of worship and businesses. Nesting boxes were built for barn owls and Carolina northern flying squirrels to enjoy safe nesting and winter roosts.

And did you hear this past year the town of Matthews has been certified as a Community Wildlife Habitat? This project was a huge endeavor, organizing hundreds of volunteers over many years for one simple cause—improving local habitat for wildlife.

We also had two new wildlife chapters emerge last year, Fayetteville Increasing Sustainable Habitat or FISH and Charlotte Reconnecting Ourselves With Nature or CROWN. Both of these chapters are continuing to increase their local membership and volunteer base and are acting as local advocates for their wildlife and habitat. The Wildlife Federation would like to thank our wildlife chapter volunteers, leaders, members and supporters.

**Good work everyone and thank you all for your dedication and time.**

### CHECK OUT OUR CHAPTERS!

Our wildlife chapter activities are endless and provide something for everyone. For more information on how you can participate, contact Christopher North at [chris@ncwf.org](mailto:chris@ncwf.org).



CROWN (Charlotte Reconnecting Ourselves With Nature)



Habitat and Wildlife Keepers (HAWK)



Protecting, Advocating and Conserving (PACT)



Lake Norman Wildlife Conservationists



Mountain Island Lake Wildlife Stewards



Gaston County Piedmont Area Wildlife Stewards (PAWS)



The Albemarle Conservation and Wildlife Chapter



Mountain WILD



Capital Chapter



Lake James Area Wildlife and Nature Society



F.I.S.H. (Fayetteville Increasing Sustainable Habitat)

Thanks to our thousands of members and major donors who provide the financial backbone of a healthy advocacy organization. NCWF thanks all those contributors who entrusted their dollars to the Federation, and chose to work for wildlife through NCWF's proven programs and initiatives.

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## Special Thanks

to these folks for offering  
extraordinary in-kind and volunteer  
services over the past year:

Carolina's College of Health Services

David Stokes

Lisa Hart

Jane Henderson

Joy James Phd. ASU

Queens College

R.A. Jeffreys Distributing Company

Duane Raver

Frances White

Ty Conti

Embassy Suites Raleigh-Durham/RTP

Bill and Lisa Ray – AGRINET™ NEWS

# FINANCIAL REPORT 2013

## RECENT AUDITED EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN:

PROGRAM .....	85.7 %
MANAGEMENT .....	7.6 %
FUNDRAISING .....	6.7 %

## 2013 INCOME:

Chapters and Affiliates .....	1.5 %
Corporate Gifts .....	4.5 %
Event Registration .....	0.6 %
Foundation Gifts .....	38.4 %
Individuals .....	35.5 %
Interest and Investment .....	3.6 %
Memberships .....	14.6 %
Memorials .....	0.2 %
Rent .....	1.1 %
TOTAL .....	100 %

## 2013 EXPENSES:

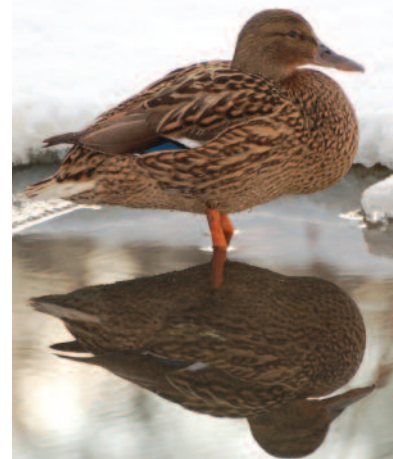
Contract Labor .....	21.4 %
Insurance .....	1.9 %
Operational Expenses .....	33.7 %
Postage and Delivery .....	2.2 %
Printing and Reproduction .....	6.7 %
Professional Fees .....	1.9 %
Special Projects Materials .....	29.8 %
Travel .....	2.3 %
TOTAL .....	100 %

**TOTAL ASSETS: December 31, 2013. . . . . \$1,420,344**

Where There's a Will,  
There's a Way...

*for Wildlife*

Consider NCWF in your planned  
giving. For more information,  
contact Dom Canavarro at  
1024 Washington St.  
Raleigh, NC 27605  
dom@ncwf.org  
(919) 833-1923



# Charlie Shaw Society



NCWRC

John Robbins, owner  
of Greathorn Properties  
in Concord, and a  
long-time philanthropist  
and sportsman is the  
current chair of the  
Charlie Shaw Society. He  
encourages others  
to join him in support  
of the North Carolina  
Wildlife Federation.



## Current Members

Members in the Charlie Shaw Society are our most dedicated supporters—generous members who have made a commitment to the work and programs of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation through an annual contribution of \$1,000 or more. Gifts can be made in one lump sum or in any number of smaller contributions within a calendar year, and can be directed to any Federation program that is of interest to the donor.

To learn more about the Charlie Shaw Society and benefits of membership, please visit our website at [www.ncwf.org](http://www.ncwf.org), or Dom Canavarro, Development and Operations Director, at (919) 833-1923; dom@ncwf.org.

Jennifer Alligood  
Alen Baker  
Robert Bass  
John Benbow  
Robert Brown  
Mollie Brugh  
Sid Burton  
Pinkney Bynum  
Mike and Pam Byrd  
Susan Cameron  
Maurice and Addria Capps  
John Crutchfield  
Jerry Davis  
Roger and Sally Dick  
James Doyle

Helen Eggers  
Ray Felton  
Manley Fuller  
Carol Gestwicki  
Tim and Karen Gestwicki  
Joan Gillings  
John Hairr  
Fred Harris  
Susan Harris  
Phil and Bessie Hinton  
John Hislop  
Carol Buie and Jay Jackson  
Lawrence Kimbrough  
Jeffrey Martin  
Richard and Julia Mode

Stacey and Wanda Ohm  
Patrick O'Leary  
Perry Patterson  
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Mark and Jane Ritchie  
John and Holly Robbins  
Tonda Schmunk  
Rick Smith  
Fred and Alice Stanback  
Bill Staton  
Victoria Sutton  
Joye Thomas and Karen Redfern  
Patti Wheeler

North Carolina Wildlife Federation  
1024 Washington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27605

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progress  
indicia

# History, Heritage & Future

At the North Carolina Wildlife Federation's Annual Meeting, held in September, we celebrated the **50th anniversary** of the Governor's Conservation Achievement Awards Program. For a half-century, the Federation has put the spotlight on those citizens who have worked for wildlife with passion and unselfish commitment. We're looking forward to finding more conservation heroes over the next 50 years.



*1963 Awards Banquet*



RECREATIONAL BOATING AND FISHING FOUNDATION

*Celebrating*  
**50 YEARS**  
*of Conservation*



**North Carolina  
WILDLIFE  
FEDERATION**