

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 1999

SENATE BILL 323
RATIFIED BILL

AN ACT TO EXTEND WATERFOWL HUNTING PRIVILEGES TO HOLDERS OF COMPREHENSIVE HUNTING LICENSES, TO INCREASE THE FEE CHARGED FOR MIGRATORY WATERFOWL LICENSES, AND TO INCREASE THE APPLICATION FEE FOR MANAGED HUNTS FOR MIGRATORY WATERFOWL AND REQUIRE APPLICANTS TO FURNISH SATISFACTORY PROOF OF POSSESSION OF THE NECESSARY HUNTING LICENSE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 113-129 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(11c) Migratory Waterfowl; Waterfowl. – Those migratory birds for which open seasons are prescribed by the United States Department of the Interior and belonging to the Family Anatidae (wild ducks, geese, brant, and swans)."

Section 2. G.S. 113-129(11c) reads as rewritten:

"~~(11e)~~ (11d) Nongame Animals. – All wild animals except game and fur-bearing animals."

Section 3. G.S. 113-129(11d) reads as rewritten:

"~~(11d)~~ (11e) Nongame Birds. – All wild birds except game birds."

Section 4. G.S. 113-270.1D(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Annual Sportsman License – \$40.00. This license shall be issued only to an individual resident of the State and entitles the holder to take all wild animals and wild birds, ~~other than including~~ waterfowl, by all lawful methods in all open seasons, including the use of game lands, and to fish with hook and line for all fish in all inland and joint fishing waters, including public mountain trout waters."

Section 5. G.S. 113-270.2(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) The hunting licenses set forth in subdivisions (1), (3), and (6) of subsection (c) of this section entitle the holder to take, except on game lands, wild birds and wild animals, other than big game and waterfowl, by all lawful methods and in all open seasons. The comprehensive hunting licenses of subdivisions (2) and (5) of subsection (c) of this section further entitle the holder to take big game and waterfowl and to use game lands."

Section 6. G.S. 113-270.3(b)(5) reads as rewritten:

"(5) Migratory Waterfowl Hunting License —~~\$5.00.~~ \$10.00. This license shall be issued to an individual resident or nonresident of the State and entitles the holder to take migratory waterfowl in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The Wildlife Resources Commission may implement this license requirement through the sale of an official waterfowl stamp which may be a facsimile, in an appropriate size, of the waterfowl conservation print authorized by G.S. 113-270.2B. An amount not less than one-half of the annual proceeds from the sale of this license shall be used by the Commission for cooperative waterfowl habitat improvement projects through contracts with local waterfowl interests, with the remainder of the proceeds to be used by the Commission in its statewide programs for the conservation of waterfowl."

Section 7. G.S. 113-291.2(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) In accordance with the supply of wildlife and other factors it determines to be of public importance, the Wildlife Resources Commission may fix seasons and bag limits upon the wild animals and wild birds authorized to be taken that it deems necessary or desirable in the interests of the conservation of wildlife resources. The authority to fix seasons includes the closing of seasons completely when necessary and fixing the hours of hunting. The authority to fix bag limits includes the setting of season and possession limits. Different seasons and bag limits may be set in differing areas; early or extended seasons and different or unlimited bag limits may be authorized on controlled shooting preserves, game lands, and public hunting grounds; and special or extended seasons may be fixed for those engaging in falconry, using primitive weapons, or taking wildlife under other special conditions. ~~Unless modified~~

Unless modified by rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission, the seasons, shooting hours, bag limits, and possession limits fixed by the United States Department of Interior or any successor agency for migratory game birds in North Carolina must be followed, and a violation of the applicable federal rules is hereby made unlawful. When the applicable federal rules require that the State limit participation in seasons and/or bag limits for migratory game birds, the Wildlife Resources Commission may schedule managed hunts for migratory game birds. Participants in such hunts shall be selected at random by computer from properly licensed ~~applicants~~ applicants, and each applicant shall provide proof satisfactory to the Wildlife Resources Commission that the applicant is the lawful holder of a North Carolina hunting license that has the applicable migratory game bird hunting privilege. A nonrefundable fee of ~~five dollars (\$5.00)~~ ten dollars (\$10.00) shall be required of each applicant to defray the cost of processing the applications.

Where there is a muzzle-loading firearm season for deer, with a bag limit of five or more, one antlerless deer may be taken. Dogs may not be used for hunting deer during such season."

Section 8. This act becomes effective July 1, 1999.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 13th day of July, 1999.

Dennis A. Wicker
President of the Senate

James B. Black
Speaker of the House of Representatives

James B. Hunt, Jr.
Governor

Approved _____ .m. this _____ day of _____ , 19