

Office of State Budget and Management
Establish New, Receipt-Supported Positions
(G.S. 143-34.1)

Agency: NC Wildlife Resources Commission

Division: ~~Division of Conservation Education~~

Budget Code: 24350

Center Title: Division of Conservation Education - ~~Habitat Conservation Section~~

Center Number: ~~21312 & 2141E~~

***** Position Information *****

Proposed Classification: -Processing Assistant IV

Proposed Salary Grade: 59

Salary Range: ~~\$30,451~~19,626 - \$30,839

Proposed Effective Date: ~~04-03/01/04~~

Number of Positions: ~~3~~1

	<u>Center Authorized Budget</u>	<u>Current Request</u>
Total Budget	\$1,241,873	\$30,839
Receipts	<u>\$1,241,873</u>	<u>\$30,839</u>
Appropriation	\$0	\$ 0

Funding Source(s): ~~State Wildlife Grant (2 positions)~~ & The Wildlife Fund - Sales Tax Receipts

Justification for Position (including description of duties and responsibilities):

This position supports the Outreach Section within the Conservation Education division. Primary responsibilities will be assembling and disseminating information in the form of news releases and photographs to the media, as well as distribution of fact sheets, information summaries and position statements to the media. This position will develop and maintain a statewide database of media contacts for purposes of distributing news releases by district, region, or state. Contact with media both before and after information is disseminated to media will be required periodically. This position will assist in preparing written reports and oral presentations of results of outreach efforts. This position will monitor materials received from a clipping service to track the coverage that results from outreach efforts. This person is the initial contact for persons meeting with other Outreach Section personnel.

~~Due to recent division expansions and upcoming hydropower relicensing projects, these additional positions are essential in order to be capable to fulfill the objectives of the Habitat Conservation Section. One position will add to our hydropower relicensing program due to upcoming project negotiations in addition to existing projects. This position will be responsible for developing guidelines, leading in the development of agency policy and coordinating agency involvement in all Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hydropower license renewals. The second position, which will add to our technical guidance program, which routinely will reviews Triangle area construction projects and attends statewide related permitting, environmental, and policy issue meetings. In addition, this position will conduct literature reviews and suggest on-site research needs. The third position will add to the game fish research and survey program. The employee who previously occupied this position was promoted to the research and survey program supervisor position in order to provide a statewide approach to division research efforts. With this promotion, the piedmont region of the state was left without a game fish research coordinator. The re-establishment of this position is badly needed to provide support for management and stocking-related issues and several other public concerns.~~

Statutory Reference for Request

The Wildlife Resources Commission is charged by General Statute 113-132 with the management, regulation, protection, and conservation of wildlife resources and inland fisheries in North Carolina. The Division of Conservation Education is responsible for implementing the requirements of G.S. 113-132 by providing formal and informal education to the citizens of the state.

~~North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) is charged by General Statute 113-132 with the management, regulation, protection, and conservation of wildlife resources, and inland fisheries in North Carolina. The habitat conservation program allows the Commission to protect, enhance, and restore fisheries habitat and aquatic resources, which results in increased recreational opportunities for sport fishermen and protection for listed species. Land and water disturbing activities such as channelization, riparian area clearing, flow alteration, poor forestry and agricultural practices, hydropower projects, and land development have acted in concert to degrade the environment of sport and nongame aquatic resources.~~

Tommy Clark
Presentation to be made by

Chief Fiscal Officer
Title

Agency Head Signature

State Budget Officer Signature