

1 CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

2 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

3 State Capitol Auditorium

4 Montgomery, Alabama

5 May 3, 2014

6  
7  
8 \* \* \* \* \*

9  
10 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

11  
12 \* \* \* \* \*

13  
14  
15 Proceedings taken before Tracye  
16 Sadler Blackwell, Certified Court Reporter, ACCR  
17 No. 294, and Commissioner for the State of Alabama  
18 at Large, at the State Capitol Auditorium,  
19 Montgomery, Alabama, on Saturday, May 3, 2014,  
20 commencing at approximately 9:01 a.m.  
21

22 \* \* \* \* \*

1 BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 2 Mr. Dan L. Moultrie, Chairman
- 3 Mr. N. Gunter Guy, Jr., Commissioner
- 4 Mr. John McMillan
- 5 Mr. Bill Hatley
- 6 Dr. Bob Shipp
- 7 Mr. Raymond Jones, Jr.
- 8 Mr. Grady Hartzog
- 9 Dr. Gary Lemme
- 10 Mr. Joseph Dobbs, Jr.
- 11 Mr. T.J. Bunn, Jr.

12 \* \* \* \* \*

13 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: I'd like to call the  
 14 May 3rd, 2014, meeting of the  
 15 Conservation Advisory Board to order.  
 16 I'd like to welcome everyone to  
 17 Montgomery, Alabama. The board is glad  
 18 that you are able to be here today. The  
 19 invocation today will be given by Joey  
 20 Dobbs.

21 Mr. Dobbs.

22 MR. DOBBS: Thank you. Bow your heads.

23 Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for  
 this day. Be with our friends and

1 family as they move through this life.  
2 Bless this group that's here today and  
3 see to their safe travels home.  
4 Especially, please look after the  
5 families whose lives have been affected  
6 by the storms in the north and the  
7 floods in the south. Bestow your  
8 blessings and grace upon them. Thank  
9 you for your bounty. In Christ's name  
10 we pray, Amen.

11 (Crowd responds.)

12 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Dobbs.

13 The next order of business is the  
14 introduction of the board members.

15 First I want to introduce our  
16 Commissioner of Conservation,  
17 Commissioner Guy.

18 Next I would introduce our Deputy  
19 Commissioner, Curtis Jones.

20 Next I'd like to introduce Alabama's  
21 Agriculture Commissioner, John  
22 McMillan.

23 Our other ex-officio member here

1           today is Dr. Gary Lemme from the Alabama  
2           Extension Service. Dr. Lemme.

3           Next I would like to let the  
4           district members of the board give their  
5           name and what district they represent  
6           starting at the far end of the table.

7           MR. BUNN: T.J. Bunn, Congressional  
8           District 7.

9           DR. SHIPP: Bob Shipp, District 1.

10          MR. JONES: Raymond Jones, Congressional  
11          District 5.

12          MR. HATLEY: Bill Hatley, District 1.

13          MR. HARTZOG: Grady Hartzog, District 2.

14          MR. DOBBS: Joey Dobbs, District 6.

15          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Dan Moultrie, Chairman,  
16          District 6 also.

17                 Okay. The next order of business is  
18                 the Advisory Board minutes. We need to  
19                 approve the minutes. There's two  
20                 meetings this time -- we had a special  
21                 meeting -- the March 1st meeting, 2014,  
22                 and the March 31st, 2014, special  
23                 meeting. Are there any changes to the

1 minutes?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: If not, the minutes  
4 approved -- stand approved as read.

5 The next order of business is the  
6 Commissioner's comments. I'd like to  
7 call on Commissioner Guy. Commissioner.

8 COMMISSIONER GUY: Thank you, Dan. I don't  
9 think I need that.

10 Just one item of business that I  
11 would like to bring before the board.  
12 And, that is, we're going to be losing a  
13 long-time valued employee on June 1.  
14 David Dean --

15 David, would you stand up.

16 -- our legal counsel, has been with  
17 us for 33 years, and he has given us  
18 great legal advice and has been a friend  
19 for, you know, ever. And so I would  
20 like everybody to recognize David Dean.

21 (Crowd responds.)

22 COMMISSIONER GUY: We'll definitely miss  
23 David. We are going to try to see if we

1           can bring him back a little part-time,  
2           but I'm worried that he's going to find  
3           other adventures that he would rather  
4           do.

5                     But, David, thank you very much for  
6           all you've done for the Department of  
7           Conservation and Natural Resources.

8   MR. DEAN: Thank you.

9   COMMISSIONER GUY: Thank you, Mr. Moultrie.

10   CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Commissioner.

11                    Okay. The next order of business is  
12           the public hearing. When your name is  
13           called, please go to the microphone and  
14           give your name and subject you wish to  
15           speak on.

16                             (Brief interruption.)

17   CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. We're going to --  
18           before we do the public hearing, I'm  
19           going to call on Director Sykes to do  
20           his PowerPoint. And if the board would  
21           move to these seats down here in front,  
22           on the front right.

23   MR. SYKES: All right. Thank you for allowing

1 us to do this again. I think the  
2 PowerPoints have expedited the  
3 question-and-answer portion of this.  
4 I'm going to kind of run through this  
5 pretty quick. We haven't got a whole  
6 lot of changes.

7 At the last meeting we proposed the  
8 extension of the deer season into  
9 February. We shot the Chattahoochee  
10 Valley pretty hard last year. We also  
11 worked on it in March and April. The  
12 areas that we were looking were Houston  
13 and Henry County, the top part of  
14 Barbour and Russell County to see if we  
15 could fine-tune those lines a little bit  
16 more. And our guys, as usual, have done  
17 an outstanding job getting out and  
18 getting the work done.

19 21 deer were sampled in that Henry  
20 County site. Approximately 95 percent  
21 of them were bred before or on January  
22 the 31st. Out of the four sites, six  
23 deer at site one, the average conception

1 date was January the 8th. Site two was  
2 December the 31st. Site three was  
3 January the 11th. And site four was  
4 January the 11th.

5 So we have made some corrections to  
6 the map. Barbour County and Russell  
7 County stayed the same. We shot those  
8 areas. It's going to stay as proposed.  
9 But there was a little tweaking done  
10 down in Henry County that I'll go back  
11 to.

12 You can see this one little portion  
13 right there was taken out and the lines  
14 were cleared up to make enforcement and  
15 where the hunters would know exactly  
16 where the boundaries were a lot more  
17 clean. That's the only changes that we  
18 have to the February season extension.  
19 So the statewide map will look like  
20 that.

21 I want to talk briefly about  
22 alligator season. It's been one of the  
23 most popular things I think the

1 department has done in a long time. We  
2 are learning more and more about the  
3 alligator population in the state each  
4 year.

5 We are changing the way that the  
6 applications will be processed. Last  
7 year a person could apply as many times  
8 as they wanted to. This year one  
9 application per person per zone is all  
10 we're going to take. Those three zones  
11 are the Mobile Delta. There will be 150  
12 tags. The west-central zone, which is  
13 centered mainly around Selma, is 50  
14 tags. And then the southeast zone, most  
15 of the people that draw there go to  
16 Lake Eufaula.

17 If you'll notice the asterisk there  
18 by the southeast. We're instituting an  
19 eight-foot minimum before you can  
20 harvest an alligator over in that zone.  
21 The reason for that is we're trying to  
22 protect females. Most of the females  
23 are in that six- to eight-foot range.

1           The habitat quality, the nest predation  
2           is limiting recruitment over in that  
3           area. So we're going to institute that  
4           eight-foot minimum where we can try to  
5           protect those females.

6           The cost this year will be \$20.  
7           Last year it was \$5. Last year this  
8           program, the application process,  
9           produced approximately \$85,000 in  
10          revenue. It cost the department about  
11          \$85,000 to administer the program. If  
12          the same amount of people apply this  
13          year that did last year, it should be a  
14          wash. So we're not trying to make money  
15          off of this program. We're just trying  
16          to pay for the administrative process to  
17          administer it.

18          One big change this year over in the  
19          past, there have been some people that  
20          have applied five or six years that have  
21          not been drawn and are kind of upset.  
22          There are some people that draw every  
23          year. It's just the luck of the draw.

1 This year if you do not get drawn, next  
2 year you will have preference points.  
3 So each year that you don't draw, your  
4 preference points add up. So that way  
5 we can try to keep this as fair as we  
6 possibly can.

7 At the last meeting Mr. Dobbs asked  
8 us to take a look at Game Check again to  
9 see if we wanted to go mandatory or  
10 voluntary. Here are the stats from this  
11 year's Game Check.

12 Total deer reported was a little  
13 over 19,000. If you look below that at  
14 the hunter harvest mail survey that was  
15 done last year, it was estimated we  
16 killed over 260,000. Turkeys, this year  
17 through Game Check we reported just over  
18 2,000. The mail survey last year  
19 indicated we killed over 40,000.

20 Y'all, the numbers still aren't  
21 good, but what we're going to do is  
22 we're going to ask for voluntary again  
23 this year. Hope that the hunters saw

1           this year that this was not government  
2           overreach. This was not us trying to  
3           get into your business. All we're doing  
4           is trying to get the best data we can to  
5           make the management decisions that we  
6           need to make for the future of hunting  
7           in Alabama. So we're going to ask for  
8           voluntary again this year. We'll  
9           evaluate the numbers, and then we'll  
10          come back to the board next year with  
11          our recommendations.

12                 And, y'all, that's it. Told you it  
13                 was going to be short and sweet. Thank  
14                 you.

15         CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Director  
16                 Sykes.

17                         Commissioner Guy again.

18         COMMISSIONER GUY: Yeah. The one thing I  
19                 wanted to add to -- Chuck did an  
20                 excellent job on that. The one thing I  
21                 don't think he mentioned that I want to  
22                 add, because it's always a question, on  
23                 the alligator season -- and y'all might

1           remember there were claims that, you  
2           know, we were -- this was a lottery and  
3           it was illegal. There is no value for  
4           the tag. So, in other words, the \$20  
5           for the application is an administrative  
6           cost.

7           So we're not charging like other  
8           states do for the tag. Therefore, you  
9           are not applying -- you are not, you  
10          know, trying to get something of value.  
11          The value is zero for the tag. All  
12          we're trying to do is recoup our  
13          administrative costs with the  
14          application. And, consequently, since  
15          we are now reducing it to one per zone,  
16          our administrative costs will remain the  
17          same, and so we had to go up a little  
18          bit on the application cost.

19          But I just wanted to make that one  
20          clarification so if there are any  
21          questions about that. I don't want  
22          people to get confused that that \$20 is  
23          the tag cost. It is the administrative

1 cost as all departments all across the  
2 country have for similar situations. No  
3 value for the tag. The tag is actually  
4 free.

5 And, Chuck, you do have to have a  
6 license to hunt alligators, which is a,  
7 what, small game license?

8 So that's the only other requirement  
9 you have to have. You have to have a  
10 small game license. You have to pay the  
11 application fee, but the tag costs  
12 nothing.

13 Thank you, Mr. Moultrie.

14 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Commissioner.

15 And, Chuck, I think as -- and I  
16 think, Mr. Bolton, you write for this  
17 AON.

18 AON's survey last year showed that  
19 Game Check, 52.4 percent of the people  
20 thought it should be mandatory where  
21 40.5 percent thought it ought to be  
22 voluntary. So the public would want it  
23 that way, but I think it's admirable

1           you're keeping it that way one more year  
2           and let's see what happens with it.

3           That's excellent.

4                     Okay. The next order of business is  
5           the public hearing. When your name is  
6           called, please go to the microphone and  
7           give your name and subject you wish to  
8           speak on. I'll remind you that you only  
9           may speak at the time you are called and  
10          that any interference will not be  
11          tolerated.

12                     As always, the first speaker is  
13          Mr. Avery Bates.

14          MR. BATES: Some of y'all was looking like why  
15          am I standing up back there.

16          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Hold on, Avery. Is that  
17          microphone on?

18                     There you go. Just speak up.

19          MR. BATES: But, anyway, a lot going on in the  
20          commercial fishing industry. A lot of  
21          attacks is going to be made and has been  
22          made. But we want to keep our people  
23          fishing and keep the property that

1 belongs to the people of this state and  
2 the country flowing.

3 And I know there's supposed to be a  
4 number of things coming up with  
5 reallocating the Magnuson-Stevens Act,  
6 taking a share of it away from the  
7 commercial fishermen and giving it to  
8 recreational fishermen. Let's keep it  
9 as it is. We brought it up in  
10 meetings. For one reason, we supply the  
11 consumer. The other reason, the 400  
12 fishermen that they say is outrageous  
13 for them to have 51 percent. But it  
14 ain't 400 fishermen that's supplying the  
15 markets.

16 We had a great Seafood Summit.  
17 Chris, John, and our assistant director  
18 back there was enjoying some of the good  
19 seafood. We've had some great seafood  
20 served around the state. John can avow  
21 to that -- McMillan, our commissioner.

22 Also, as Mr. Moultrie's heart is in  
23 Auburn, we had a great seafood cookout

1           and a storm over there at Pat Dye's. I  
2           think y'all got some die-hard fans  
3           there. They were standing ankle deep in  
4           water eating seafood. But we enjoy  
5           cooking, enjoy serving it.

6                     This year we're going to have a big  
7           question mark about our shrimping  
8           industry. Brown shrimp have trouble  
9           with freshwater, and we've had too much  
10          rain at a bad time of year. So you  
11          wonder why the price goes up.

12                    Mr. Shipp, you know why it goes up.

13                    When you have supply that's  
14          affected, it's going to affect your  
15          markets. So when you go in the market  
16          and see shrimp's up, there's a reason,  
17          supply and -- and also we're having a  
18          great shell-planting program this year.  
19          Chris and them has went along, and we've  
20          had people observing it on our board --  
21          our oyster board. Lawrence Johnson has  
22          been observing it. He's quite receptive  
23          and appreciative of what's going on.

1           It's putting the shell and the rock in  
2           the right place. That determines -- and  
3           it's the right time of year. So we're  
4           hoping that we'll get a good spat set  
5           and some oysters will come back --  
6           Alabama oysters will come back in Heron  
7           Bay, at Cedar Point, all these places  
8           and over in Mobile Bay.

9           We want y'all to keep enjoying them  
10          oysters, keep our people fishing, and  
11          keep any monies coming down going to our  
12          reefs.

13          Thank you, Commissioner Guy, for the  
14          funds that come down. And this fund was  
15          appropriated and acquired at the right  
16          time for the people of the state of  
17          Alabama to enjoy seafood.

18          I'm going to miss David Dean. Me  
19          and David -- he had brown hair the first  
20          time I met him.

21          And we got Heron Bay back, didn't  
22          we, David?

23          MR. DEAN: That's right.

1 MR. BATES: For the people of the state. And  
2 we want to keep harvesting oysters  
3 there.

4 And, David, I'm going to miss you.  
5 You're a good friend.

6 And besides that, y'all keep our  
7 people fishing. When gamefish status  
8 comes up for a fish --

9 MS. JONES: Time.

10 MR. BATES: -- don't let it happen because you  
11 take it out of the grocery stores. And,  
12 remember, as 9-2-80 says, all saltwater  
13 fish is considered seafood. And we want  
14 to catch it and serve it. Don't let  
15 them take it away from the public.

16 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Bates.

17 MR. BATES: Thank you. Any questions?

18 MR. HATLEY: Yes, I've got -- Mr. Moultrie?

19 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hatley.

20 MR. HATLEY: Mr. Avery, at the next meeting we  
21 have here would you sit down closer to  
22 the front so you don't have to walk so  
23 far.

1 MR. BATES: Takes me a while. I'm getting  
2 older.

3 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Bates.

4 Mr. Hatley, was that a necessary  
5 interruption?

6 The next speaker will be Amy George.

7 MS. GEORGE: We're going to let John Morse  
8 speak on behalf of wildlife  
9 rehabilitation.

10 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. Thank you, Amy.

11 The next speaker will be John Morse.

12 MR. MORSE: Thank you, sir. I'm John Morse,  
13 Enterprise, Alabama, Coffee and Dale  
14 County, and I'm representing wildlife  
15 rehabilitators. I'd like to take the  
16 opportunity to thank the board for  
17 allowing me to present the information  
18 and, also, Chuck Sykes for doing a fine  
19 job in communicating and working with  
20 the wildlife rehabilitators.

21 I would like, though, as the -- the  
22 Alabama Wildlife Alliance would like to  
23 request that the Wildlife and Freshwater

1 Fisheries consider the one RBS facility  
2 as kind of a trial basis in that we'll  
3 do -- we agree with you. We met with  
4 you on this. But we'd like to make sure  
5 that we can review this on an annual  
6 basis to ensure that the -- Alabama's  
7 wildlife and the citizens are getting  
8 all the benefits of this program. We  
9 really look forward to it. We are  
10 looking forward to the future with a  
11 good working relationship with all the  
12 WFF staff.

13 Commissioner, we really appreciate  
14 meeting us and working with us. And Ray  
15 Metzler has been a fantastic point as  
16 well to work with, and we really  
17 appreciate it. Any questions?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you so much.

20 MR. MORSE: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: The next speaker will be  
22 Arrion Tucker.

23 MR. TUCKER: Morning, Mr. Moultrie,

1           Commissioner, Board. My name is Arrion  
2           Tucker. I'm from Guntersville, Marshall  
3           County. And this morning I will be  
4           asking for a hook restriction for  
5           resident commercial fishing on the  
6           Tennessee River.

7           I'm a third-generation commercial  
8           fisherman. We would ask the board to  
9           consider a hook restriction of 1,000  
10          hooks per boat per day on resident  
11          commercial fishermen on the Tennessee  
12          River. The limit on hooks would ensure  
13          a level playing field for all commercial  
14          trotliners and protect our resource --  
15          not just speaking for my friends and  
16          family, but for the catfish guys, the  
17          families that supplement their income by  
18          catching fish to put in the freezer to  
19          help feed their families. And let's not  
20          forget the noodlers that love the  
21          sport. We also have rod-and-reel  
22          fishermen that have a ball catching  
23          catfish.

1           What we're looking for is bigger  
2 numbers of bigger fish which equals  
3 bigger fun for all of our folks and --  
4 for sports fishermen and bigger checks  
5 for the commercial fishermen. We have a  
6 sustainable fishery that produces large  
7 numbers of catfish. Help me protect  
8 this resource for the future.

9           The reason we're asking for this  
10 hook limit is technology is advancing  
11 every day. Commercial fishers are not  
12 dinosaurs anymore. The learning curve  
13 has been shortened by the Internet and  
14 cell phones. The information can be  
15 shared in minutes versus years.

16           To my knowledge, there are no laws  
17 or regulations that prohibit factory  
18 boats on our lakes. To give you an  
19 example, fishing 5,000, 10,000 hooks per  
20 day by eight to ten fishers on any given  
21 lake is not a sustainable fishing  
22 practice on our lakes.

23           Do you have any questions?

1 MR. HARTZOG: What is the limit now on number  
2 of hooks?

3 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hartzog, if you would  
4 address the Chair, but go ahead,  
5 Mr. Hartzog.

6 MR. HARTZOG: Well, Mr. Chair, would you ask  
7 the --

8 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Go ahead. Go ahead.  
9 We're rolling today on this meeting. So  
10 go ahead.

11 MR. HARTZOG: Would you ask the gentlemen  
12 downstairs what the limits are.

13 MR. DODD: Currently there is no restriction  
14 on residents for number of hooks on  
15 trotlines. On nonresidents it's a  
16 hundred hooks per fisherman  
17 restriction.

18 MR. HARTZOG: So a nonresident has a hundred  
19 and a nonresident has no limit?

20 MR. DODD: No. A resident has no limit.

21 MR. HARTZOG: That's what I meant.

22 MR. DODD: Yeah.

23 MR. HARTZOG: Okay. What is the Fisheries

1 position on his request?

2 MR. NICHOLS: Well, we would need to -- we  
3 need to look. We do have some recent --  
4 fairly recent research on Tennessee  
5 River catfish fisheries, and we just  
6 need to take a look and see. But what  
7 we need to see is evidence of a really  
8 high harvest in order to -- you know, to  
9 support a restriction of that type.

10 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hartzog, any more?

11 MR. HARTZOG: Well, we can't pass anything at  
12 this meeting because it hasn't been  
13 brought out.

14 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: That's correct.

15 MR. HARTZOG: We can look at it for next  
16 year. So I would ask that the Fisheries  
17 division report back to us at the first  
18 of next year to look at possible  
19 restrictions or leave it as it is.

20 Thank you, sir.

21 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Very good. Mr. Jones, any  
22 questions?

23 Commissioner Guy.

1           COMMISSIONER GUY:  Could I ask you, sir, is  
2           there -- I appreciate your opinion.  Is  
3           there a large number of other folks  
4           besides yourself who feel that way?

5           MR. TUCKER:  There's a few.  There's not a lot  
6           of us left.  But, Commissioner, the  
7           problem we've got is we've got some  
8           folks that are what I would call rogue  
9           fishermen, that they move from lake to  
10          lake and they cut the population of fish  
11          down to where it's not favorable for  
12          them to stay on that lake.  And they  
13          move to another lake and they beat the  
14          lake down.  And we need to slow that  
15          down.

16                 Because like I'm a local fisherman  
17                 from Guntersville.  I've lived there all  
18                 my life, and all my family has fished  
19                 there for years and years.  And it's not  
20                 a very good thing for me to have to go  
21                 get a new job when another group of  
22                 fishermen move to my lake and catch all  
23                 of our fish out, which given three to

1           five years, our lake can come right back  
2           to the best it's ever been. Catfish are  
3           real resilient. And I've seen the ups  
4           and the downs through the years. And if  
5           we could -- we could cut the number of  
6           hooks down to make it favorable for  
7           everybody, then the catfish numbers  
8           would stay up and everybody catch fish.  
9           And that's what we're looking for.

10          COMMISSIONER GUY: We'll get our folks to look  
11           at it. Thank you, sir.

12          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Tucker, I would ask  
13           that you contact our district  
14           representative, Austin Ainsworth, also,  
15           and get with him on your concerns, if  
16           you would. He's from your district.  
17           Thank you very much, sir.

18                   Okay. The next speaker will be Knox  
19           Williams.

20          MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, thank you, sir.  
21           My name is Knox Williams. I'm the  
22           president of the American Silencer  
23           Association. We are a nonprofit trade

1 group which represents the firearm  
2 suppressor industry. I'm here today to  
3 voice our support of the regulatory  
4 change to allow firearm suppressors on  
5 firearms while hunting. We are  
6 currently working across country on  
7 similar efforts.

8 To give everyone a background, there  
9 are currently 39 states in the country  
10 which allow civilians to own  
11 suppressors. Of those 39 states, 31  
12 allow for their use while hunting. Add  
13 to that, on July 1st Georgia will become  
14 the 32nd state in the country to allow  
15 that. We are currently working in other  
16 states like Louisiana and Ohio where we  
17 expect to get suppressor hunting laws  
18 passed this year as well.

19 With that, you know, I would be  
20 happy to answer any technical questions  
21 on suppressors, but --

22 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Does the board have any  
23 questions?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you very much, sir.

3 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: The next speaker is

5 Jessica Flowers.

6 MS. FLOWERS: Good morning. Hi, my name is  
7 Jessica Flowers. I'm from Baldwin  
8 County, Alabama. I'm here today to  
9 discuss my opinion of opening up the  
10 wildlife management to hog hunters --  
11 hog dog hunters. I am one of those.

12 Regardless of the number, we can  
13 agree that the population is growing  
14 rapidly in the state of Alabama. We're  
15 not asking to transport -- to relocate  
16 wild hogs. We're only asking -- which  
17 is against the law. We're only asking  
18 that we can hunt, kill, and harvest our  
19 hogs as far as putting them in our  
20 freezer and different things like that  
21 and feeding the needy. By opening the  
22 wildlife management to hog dog hunters,  
23 it will only help the efforts to control

1 the hog population.

2 As far as trapping, I trapped for  
3 the first two years before I started hog  
4 hunting. And we did catch a few.

5 That's no lie. But with dogs it's a lot  
6 more efficient. Where you would catch  
7 only two or three a week with a trap, we  
8 can catch anywhere from three to 13 with  
9 dogs, depending on the hog population in  
10 that area.

11 Hog dogs -- really, there's no  
12 difference in a hog dog, a squirrel dog,  
13 a coon dog. I could bring my dog in  
14 here today, the ones that hunt, and show  
15 him to you, and you would not know the  
16 difference as far as what type of dog he  
17 is. They use hounds. They use Curs,  
18 use Rat Terriers, use Jagdterriers. Any  
19 dog can be called a hog dog if it's  
20 trained properly, just like any coon  
21 dog.

22 I've been to two meetings already.  
23 This is my second meeting. I haven't



1 hunting. And let me tell you why.

2 We -- this regulation will reduce  
3 two hunting periods for Black Belt, ten  
4 days in October -- or excuse me -- two  
5 weeks in October and then two weeks in  
6 December. The regulation is  
7 discriminatory, gentlemen. That means  
8 it discriminates in favor of certain  
9 hunters and against us, and here's why.

10 We can't book now for the two weeks  
11 in October. It's out. Other preserves  
12 can. They can -- they can -- I mean,  
13 they can give a -- a hunting -- a hunter  
14 time right now in October, but we can  
15 not. In December, this is our best  
16 hunting time for our deer, which is the  
17 northern strain deer, and that's out.  
18 So your question is, well, Hardy, what  
19 about the extra time at the end of  
20 February?

21 The deer have shed their antlers.  
22 They're gone. So we are put between a  
23 rock and a hard place, so to speak.

1           Now, you say what are we going to  
2           do? We're in a position now that we  
3           have some regulations that have been  
4           studied, some regulations that -- that  
5           we want to pass. The first thing we  
6           would say is this: Table this until we  
7           can meet with you and put in some  
8           language that is not discriminatory --  
9           not that the whole bill is bad, but it  
10          is bad as far as our operation and other  
11          operators below -- south of Highway 80.

12           The real solution is to give  
13          high-fence operators a permit -- not  
14          designed to shoot deer within a season,  
15          but to give them a permit. They know  
16          when their deer are ready to be  
17          harvested. You want to bring  
18          economic -- economics to the deer  
19          hunting and to Alabama?

20           You do that and you'll have  
21          people --

22          MS. JONES: Time.

23          MR. HARDY: -- coming in from all over to

1            hunt. And it will not be just a benefit  
2            to us but to all the other industries.

3            CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hardy, we've got a  
4            question from the board. Mr. Hatley.

5            MR. HATLEY: Yes, sir. Where are you located  
6            specifically as far as your high fences  
7            is concerned?

8            MR. HARDY: Do you know where the intersection  
9            of 5 is and 80?

10          MR. HATLEY: Yes, sir.

11          MR. HARDY: You know right where that is?

12          MR. HATLEY: Yeah.

13          MR. HARDY: Our land borders 80, right there  
14          at the -- right there at the southwest  
15          corner. So we're just --

16          MR. HATLEY: How much land you got,  
17          Mr. Hardy?

18          MR. HARDY: I don't. My client does. I don't  
19          really -- Mr. Hatley, I'm a bird  
20          hunter.

21          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Do you know how many acres  
22          is involved, Mr. Hardy?

23          MR. HARDY: I think it's probably in excess of

1           four or 5,000 acres.

2       MR. BUNN: Under one enclosure, Mr. Hardy?

3       MR. HARDY: I don't think so. I don't think  
4           so. I think the enclosure is probably  
5           about a thousand acres. Now, that's  
6           just roughly speaking.

7       MR. BUNN: Mr. Hardy, can I --

8       MR. HARDY: Sure.

9       CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Bunn, go ahead.

10      MR. BUNN: I'm sorry.

11                   Do y'all hunt native deer outside  
12           the enclosure? Do y'all sell hunts  
13           outside the enclosure for native deer?

14      MR. HARDY: Yes, sir.

15      MR. BUNN: So you could still sell those hunts  
16           in --

17      MR. HARDY: We could still sell those --

18      MR. BUNN: -- in February?

19      MR. HARDY: That -- that is exactly right. We  
20           can sell those hunts in February.

21      MR. BUNN: So you still have deer to sell if  
22           somebody wants to book a hunt with  
23           you --

1 MR. HARDY: That's right. But our major  
2 emphasis is the northern strain, and in  
3 February the northern strain have no  
4 bones.

5 MR. BUNN: Right.

6 MR. HARDY: They're gone.

7 MR. BUNN: And the only deer -- then I would  
8 assume the only deer in your high fence  
9 is your northern strain deer?

10 MR. HARDY: I don't know the answer to that.

11 MR. BUNN: But you do -- I'm just trying to be  
12 clear. You do have -- if somebody  
13 wanted to book a hunt with you in  
14 February to kill a buck, you still have  
15 a place for them to --

16 MR. HARDY: Sure. Sure. Sure. Sure. But as  
17 you can imagine, the people want to  
18 shoot a big buck deer.

19 MR. BUNN: We all do.

20 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Commissioner Guy.

21 MR. HARDY: Well, that's you. I'd rather --

22 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hardy.

23 MR. HARDY: I'd rather shoot a quail if --

1 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hardy. Commissioner  
2 Guy.

3 MR. HARDY: Commissioner Guy, yes, sir.

4 COMMISSIONER GUY: Mr. Hardy, how you doing,  
5 sir?

6 MR. HARDY: Fine. How are you?

7 COMMISSIONER GUY: I don't know you. Are you  
8 an attorney?

9 MR. HARDY: I'm an attorney.

10 COMMISSIONER GUY: Okay. Do you have an  
11 interest in this place?

12 MR. HARDY: No.

13 COMMISSIONER GUY: Okay. So you're just here  
14 on behalf of your client?

15 MR. HARDY: That's right. That's right.

16 COMMISSIONER GUY: When you said northern  
17 strain, is this a deer-breeder  
18 operation?

19 MR. HARDY: Yes, sir, I think so.

20 COMMISSIONER GUY: Okay. And so you're  
21 releasing captive deer that you've  
22 raised into -- when you say northern  
23 strain, you're saying captive deer?

1 MR. HARDY: Northern genetics. Captive deer.

2 That's right. That's right.

3 COMMISSIONER GUY: All right.

4 MR. HARDY: And I don't know too much more  
5 about it than that.

6 COMMISSIONER GUY: That's fine.

7 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Does the board have any  
8 other questions?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Hardy.

11 MR. HARDY: I'd like to say one thing.

12 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: In closing quickly,  
13 please, sir.

14 MR. HARDY: I'd like for the board to  
15 recognize this, that there are no  
16 regulations in Alabama against hunting  
17 while you're intoxicated.

18 I think you'll agree with me on  
19 that, David.

20 I was just amazed. I looked at the  
21 regulations as a lawyer. And this has  
22 nothing to do with why I'm down here.  
23 But I'm just appalled that we don't --

1           please take a look at this, and please  
2           advise us how to get out of this enigma.

3           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Hardy.

4           MR. HARDY: Thank you.

5           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: The next speaker will be  
6           Clarence Herring.

7           MR. HERRING: Hi, my name is Clarence  
8           Herring. I'm from Baldwin County. I'm  
9           actually here to --

10          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Herring, if you can, I  
11          know you're on crutches, but if you can  
12          speak into the microphone so everybody  
13          can hear, please, sir.

14          MR. HERRING: Sorry.

15                 My name is Clarence Herring. I'm  
16                 from Baldwin County. I'm here in  
17                 reference to a permit system for Baldwin  
18                 County for dog hunting.

19                 I am a resident of Baldwin County.  
20                 I am one of the landowners that's having  
21                 problems with the Halls Fork Hunting  
22                 Club. If this wasn't a board meeting, I  
23                 wouldn't be here, less than four weeks

1 of having a tumor removed from my leg.  
2 I own property next to the club, and I  
3 have dealt with them for the first year  
4 of the dogs being on my property and  
5 didn't say a word. The second year it  
6 was just -- it's just done got to that  
7 point.

8 Even after meeting with the  
9 dog-hunting association, nothing changes  
10 with this club. They continue with  
11 their ways, letting the dogs run at  
12 large. I do have to say I was wrong  
13 about Dwayne Allen with the  
14 association. He is looking out for all  
15 dog hunters and means -- if that means  
16 singling out the bad clubs and going and  
17 doing the right thing, that is what he  
18 does. I am not asking for the whole  
19 dog-hunting community to be punished.  
20 Just the ones that's causing the  
21 landowners to not be able to use their  
22 own property in a peaceful manner.

23 It has gotten to the point that I

1           offered the members of that club to buy  
2           my property, and their reaction was I  
3           should not have bought property next to  
4           a dog-hunting club of 30 years. Well,  
5           my problem with that is the real estate  
6           company didn't tell me this. They  
7           didn't tell me I was going to have to  
8           deal with the dog-hunting club for the  
9           rest of my 20 years before I retire.

10           So my question is, I would just --  
11           hopefully y'all will consider putting  
12           them back -- if they're such a good  
13           club, then a permit system should not  
14           affect them. They should be able to  
15           survive within the community just like  
16           anybody else. I don't see any problems  
17           in the permit system.

18           So I would just hope y'all  
19           consider -- continue that thought about  
20           putting Baldwin County or either that  
21           section -- not all of Baldwin County.  
22           It doesn't have to be -- that's the only  
23           club that I know of that's having a

1           problem in reference to dog -- they're  
2           just letting the dogs run onto other  
3           people's property.

4           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Herring, have you  
5           contacted your representative,  
6           Mr. Hatley?

7           MR. HERRING: I have wrote letters. I've  
8           contacted the game wardens in the area.  
9           The game wardens in the area said  
10          there's no help --

11          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Well, if you would contact  
12          Mr. Hatley and direct your stuff through  
13          Mr. Hatley, I think you'll find an ear  
14          that --

15          MR. HERRING: Okay. After 14 years of law  
16          enforcement, when a game warden tells  
17          you there's nothing you can do, there's  
18          a problem with the game wardens in south  
19          Baldwin County.

20          MR. DOBBS: Chairman?

21          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Yes, Mr. Dobbs.

22          MR. DOBBS: Just two questions for  
23          edification.

1                   How many acres of land do you have?

2       MR. HERRING:   I own 50 acres personally and I  
3                   lease 240 acres and I lease another 800  
4                   acres in Baldwin County in the same  
5                   area.

6       MR. DOBBS:   So with regard to the Halls Fork  
7                   Hunting Club that you're talking about,  
8                   how much land do they have that is  
9                   adjacent to yours or total land that you  
10                  know of, that you're aware of?

11      MR. HERRING:   The only thing I'm aware of,  
12                   they run little 80 acres, 200 acres, and  
13                   they have a 600-acre plot.   But they  
14                   have a tendency of running small-acre  
15                   pieces of property, and there's no way  
16                   to keep the dogs -- the minute the dogs  
17                   get on the ground, they're already on  
18                   the next piece of property.

19      MR. DOBBS:   Thank you.

20      CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE:   Commissioner, did you have  
21                   a comment?

22      COMMISSIONER GUY:   No.

23      CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE:   Thank you, Mr. Herring.

1 MR. HERRING: Thank you, guys.

2 MR. HATLEY: Chairman Moultrie?

3 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Yes. Mr. Hatley.

4 MR. HATLEY: I will be glad to meet with him  
5 at any time.

6 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Very good.

7 The next speaker will be T.J.  
8 Thompson.

9 MR. THOMPSON: I'm T.J. Thompson from  
10 Phillipsville in Bay Minette, Alabama.  
11 My concern is about the same thing as  
12 Mr. Herring's. I came to the last  
13 meeting and spoke.

14 A lot of people has asked me if this  
15 has been going on for so long why did I  
16 wait until now to do it. As an adult  
17 and hunting all my life, I could kind of  
18 move around. And, yeah, I've grumbled  
19 and complained with this club, and we've  
20 grumbled back and forth. But as an  
21 adult I could move.

22 I got a son now that hunts with me.  
23 And, you know, he just -- you can't move

1 a child to go climb a tree here and  
2 there because he has to sit in a  
3 shooting house. I just don't feel  
4 confident putting a child in a climber.

5 He told me two years ago that he  
6 didn't want to hunt anymore because all  
7 we got to see when we went over there  
8 was dogs coming through this plot.

9 I made up my mind then. That hit home  
10 because I wanted to make memories with  
11 my son hunting as long as everybody --  
12 you know, as well as everybody else  
13 does. But when he told me that, that  
14 hit deep.

15 So that's why I was at the last  
16 meeting and I'm at this one. I just  
17 want some relief in Baldwin County so  
18 that we can hunt in peace, you know,  
19 just like everybody else does. Thank  
20 you.

21 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Thompson.

22 The next speaker is Jack Hall.

23 MR. HALL: My name is Jack Hall. I'm a member

1 of Halls Fork Hunting Club. I'm a  
2 retired schoolteacher, 35 years of  
3 service. Just recently retired and  
4 moved back to my hometown of Bay  
5 Minette, which is located in Baldwin  
6 County. I'd like to talk to you about a  
7 couple of things. One is about  
8 heritage, and that's what I'm going to  
9 talk on first.

10 I'm a dog hunter because of my  
11 heritage. My dad, which is 91 years  
12 old, which is still a member of Halls  
13 Fork Hunting Club, basically got me  
14 started when I was four and five and six  
15 years old. Me and my siblings would  
16 load up in a '52 Chevrolet pickup truck  
17 with my dad. This is before seatbelts  
18 and constraint laws. We would ride all  
19 the way to Tensaw, Alabama, and hunt on  
20 a small hunting club up there by the  
21 name of Box Branch Hunting Club.

22 The joy that I got hunting with my  
23 dad back in those days. He would always

1 take me with him. He would put me up on  
2 the dog box, and my job was to call the  
3 dogs. And as they would come in, he  
4 would give me a good you're a good dog  
5 caller, thank you very much.

6 And my excitement with my dad  
7 continues today. He's hard of hearing.  
8 He has hearing aids. And we go hunting  
9 one night a week. We hunt fox and  
10 coyotes. And we sit there at the camp  
11 and we listen to the dogs run and we  
12 pick them up the next morning. And he  
13 still goes and we enjoy spending time  
14 together with the dogs that we have  
15 today.

16 Another thing I'd like to talk about  
17 is we've been in contact with landowners  
18 of our hunting club. We've invited them  
19 to come to our hunting camp and talk to  
20 us about things that we can do to  
21 improve, are there any problems. We've  
22 been in contact with the landowners by  
23 letter. One of the landowners gave us a

1 speech about not just being seen during  
2 hunting season, but to be seen 12 months  
3 of the year not only just hunting, but  
4 doing things for the community.

5 We have several things that we've  
6 worked on and improved on. One thing is  
7 we have a community fish fry coming up.  
8 Y'all all are invited. We're inviting  
9 our entire community to come and take  
10 part in. It starts about two o'clock  
11 next Saturday, and it'll run till about  
12 dark. We'll have some musical  
13 entertainment and games for the kids to  
14 play.

15 We also have another thing that  
16 we're going to do and that's a community  
17 cleanup day where the club is going to  
18 organize and simply clean the roads --  
19 not on the hunting club itself, but out  
20 in the actual community. And we're  
21 actually doing other things with some of  
22 the elderly in the community as well.

23 MS. JONES: Time.

1 MR. HALL: We feel like Halls Fork, which is  
2 40 years old -- we like to think that  
3 we'll be there another 40 years, and  
4 we're taking the steps to try to be  
5 there. Thank you very much.

6 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Hall.

7 The next speaker will be Don Knight.

8 MR. KNIGHT: I'm Don Knight, state president  
9 of the Alabama Dog Hunters Association.  
10 And at the last meeting we had two  
11 problem situations, one in Colbert  
12 County and one in Baldwin County. I  
13 have been involved in both of them very  
14 extensively. The situation in both  
15 cases is pretty much personal. It's --  
16 I hate that dog hunting is being  
17 involved in them, but there's an awful  
18 lot of personal -- and I can't even  
19 talk -- problems in both of those  
20 situations.

21 Both dog-hunting clubs in these  
22 situations are making corrections in  
23 their way of hunting to try to help

1           these problems. Both of them have  
2           agreed to do whatever they can.

3           The one in Colbert County -- and  
4           Mr. Buddy will talk on it a little bit  
5           later -- they went to the point of  
6           giving up a Wednesday and a Saturday not  
7           to turn their dogs loose period, okay,  
8           except the last Saturday and Wednesday  
9           of the season. That is a big step.  
10          They want to communicate with the  
11          people.

12          And I'll be honest with you. When I  
13          had that meeting between the landowners  
14          up there and the people in Colbert  
15          County, the dog-hunting club, the  
16          landowner had nothing. I finally just  
17          adjourned the meeting and stated that we  
18          weren't getting anywhere. If you put  
19          those clubs on a permit system, they're  
20          going to be at a tremendous disadvantage  
21          and especially that one in Colbert  
22          County.

23          Now, another thing that I want to go

1 over right quick is that permit system.  
2 I got a copy of it, and it doesn't read  
3 today like it used to read.

4 When we originally sat on that  
5 board --

6 Mr. Hatley is the only one left that  
7 was on that board and myself. And I was  
8 on the board.

9 -- we agreed that any situation to  
10 cause a problem, in other words, the  
11 three complaints that you can get, they  
12 had to be legitimate -- turning the dogs  
13 loose on their property, something that  
14 would get a citation, not just the dogs  
15 running across the land. I would never  
16 have agreed to that. And I sat on that  
17 committee meeting and there's no way.  
18 There had to be legitimate problems that  
19 a citation could be written for. And I  
20 would like for that to be checked into  
21 and go back to Mr. Grant Lynch's -- when  
22 he put up the permit system and  
23 everything.

1           These people have no chance if it's  
2           just a dog running across the property  
3           and they're going to call it. We'll  
4           have situations where people have  
5           stopped on the side of the road -- and  
6           I'm not saying these two people will.  
7           I'm not saying these people are  
8           complaining against this. But I'm  
9           telling you we have had problems with  
10          the landowners or the complainers  
11          stopping, picking up our dogs on the  
12          side of the road, and taking them to  
13          their property. Now, three of those and  
14          they're gone.

15       MS. JONES: Time.

16       MR. KNIGHT: That's just a little bit too  
17          much. And I want y'all to consider  
18          looking at that situation. I'll meet  
19          with any committee, anything we can do  
20          on the permit system. So I ask you to  
21          take a look at that.

22       CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Bunn.

23       MR. BUNN: Mr. Knight, I do want to commend

1           you. And we all -- I think I can speak  
2           for the board. We all appreciate your  
3           involvement in trying to help us with  
4           these problems.

5           But one thing I do have an issue  
6           with -- and I appreciate Halls Fork  
7           in -- y'all getting involved in the  
8           community. That's great. But it's my  
9           opinion -- and I don't know if it's  
10          anybody else's opinion -- but it  
11          shouldn't be Mr. Herring's or any other  
12          private landowner's responsibility to  
13          keep somebody else's dogs, you know, off  
14          their property. You know, that's --  
15          he's a private landowner, and that's  
16          infringing on -- you know, onto his  
17          property and infringing on the way he  
18          likes to hunt.

19          And it gets to a point where -- and  
20          I think he seemed like a reasonable  
21          fellow. If it gets to a point where  
22          they cannot control their dogs, then it  
23          really leaves us no choice but to, you

1 know, put clubs like that on permits.  
2 Because, you know, as a private  
3 landowner, you shouldn't be responsible  
4 for your neighbor's dogs. That should  
5 be their responsibility.

6 MR. KNIGHT: I agree. I agree  
7 wholeheartedly. And that's what our  
8 clubs are setting up to try to do now is  
9 do more things to keep those dogs off  
10 that property in the one in Colbert  
11 County and also the one in Baldwin  
12 County. Both of them -- Halls Fork,  
13 they're agreeing to cut down on their  
14 dogs to try to -- where people can keep  
15 them off the land --

16 MR. BUNN: How big of an area are they  
17 releasing the dogs on, Mr. Knight?

18 MR. KNIGHT: In Halls Fork, I think -- what  
19 have y'all got -- 3,000 acres?

20 (Crowd responds.)

21 MR. KNIGHT: 35, 3600. I've got a map of  
22 their area.

23 MR. BUNN: One contiguous lot or is it --

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We got a highway  
2 dividing one half of it, and then we got  
3 a -- probably about a 20-acre block that  
4 actually -- all of our land would  
5 actually join if you actually look at a  
6 map.

7 MR. KNIGHT: And I had them send me a map  
8 where I had it in front of me to look at  
9 that, because I don't want people  
10 running a hundred acres there or 200  
11 acres there. I mean, that's going to  
12 cause problems. If they don't have a  
13 big enough set of acres, I'm going to  
14 tell them you don't need to run dogs  
15 there.

16 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Any other questions from  
17 the board?

18 Mr. Hartzog.

19 MR. HARTZOG: Mr. Chairman, Don has made the  
20 statement that there have been some  
21 changes in the way the original -- when  
22 Grant did the original permit system and  
23 the way it's worded now. You know, I

1           would like for the department to send  
2           all the members of the board a copy of  
3           the way it's written now and the way it  
4           was written back when Grant presented it  
5           so that we can review what Don has  
6           said.

7           The second comment, Don, right at  
8           the first of your comments you said  
9           that -- I've forgotten exactly how you  
10          worded it -- but said that it would be a  
11          hardship --

12         MR. DOBBS:   Disadvantage.

13         MR. HARTZOG:  Huh?

14         MR. DOBBS:   Disadvantage.

15         MR. KNIGHT:  Disadvantage, yeah.

16         MR. HARTZOG:  Okay.  That was the word you  
17          used.

18                 But as long as the club -- you know,  
19                 from the area that we had a problem with  
20                 that you helped me with two years ago  
21                 around Titus, you know, from what I  
22                 understand now -- you know, I actually  
23                 got calls -- a "thank you" because

1 everything was running good. So why is  
2 it a disadvantage when now it's working  
3 so good in Titus with why -- explain to  
4 me the disadvantage that the gentlemen  
5 in Colbert County would have where it  
6 seems to be working well in other permit  
7 areas.

8 MR. KNIGHT: Well, I don't like to do this,  
9 but I will. It's the people. It's the  
10 people, whether they want to try to get  
11 along, they want to try to keep people  
12 hunting.

13 A dog running across the property,  
14 as long as the people are working with  
15 them and they're trying to keep off of  
16 them and they know that, then they  
17 should be willing to help a little bit.  
18 And a dog every now and then should not  
19 be that big a problem. A dog every day,  
20 a dog every time you go out in the  
21 woods, yes, sir, that's a problem. And  
22 that's what our clubs are meeting on now  
23 trying to resolve.

1           But it depends on the people. Those  
2 people down there were very willing to  
3 work with the dog clubs and make it  
4 happen. In these two situations, I have  
5 met with these people -- and I don't  
6 like to be ugly about the people. I  
7 like the people. I want them all  
8 hunting. But they're not willing to --  
9 in one case we got the man fussing about  
10 the dogs running on the other property.  
11 He's fussing about the dogs -- not only  
12 the dogs, but the four-wheelers. How  
13 you going to make --

14 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Does the board have any  
15 other questions for Mr. Knight?

16                           (No response.)

17 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Knight.

18 MR. BUNN: Thank you, Don.

19 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: The next speaker will be  
20 Susan Morrow.

21 MS. MORROW: Good morning, Chairman, Members  
22 of the Board. I'm Susan Morrow from  
23 Mobile County. I think y'all all know

1 me. You should by now.

2 Anyway, I would like to -- I hope  
3 that y'all are voting today to give us  
4 back our ten days where y'all did the  
5 season shift, the ten days in December.  
6 That would be a big plus for us. And I  
7 think Mr. Sykes recommended it. And we  
8 thank you for that.

9 And I would also like to ask y'all  
10 to look into hog hunting with dogs on  
11 management areas. We're not asking for  
12 a whole lot. It is a big sport and it  
13 is done entirely different than deer  
14 hunting. And it is very controllable.  
15 And I think that with 37 management  
16 areas in this state that we ought to be  
17 able to let the hog hunters come on at  
18 least one or two, three or four. I  
19 mean, we have four that we can dog hunt  
20 with deer on, and there's 37. And so  
21 the other 37 you can basically stalk  
22 hunt on. So I would like for y'all to  
23 please look at that and let's see if we

1           couldn't get something for our hog  
2           hunters.

3           And if you have any questions about  
4           it, you can go hog hunting with these  
5           guys at any time. They would be more  
6           than happy to take you to show you how  
7           it's done. It's very organized. It's  
8           not like -- well, I'm not saying that  
9           deer hunting with dogs is not  
10          organized. It could be better organized  
11          on the Upper Delta. But it's  
12          entirely -- it's a different thing.  
13          It's like coon hunting. Coon hunting is  
14          different. So don't mistake me there,  
15          now. But I would like for y'all to look  
16          at that.

17          And also I would like for the board  
18          to look at -- I know that the state does  
19          a lot of shooting to do studies of the  
20          deer. Well, we have Alabama Hunger  
21          Relief Program in this state, and they  
22          do pay processors to process the deer  
23          meat to give to charities and things.

1           And from what I understand from  
2           Mr. Sykes, that the deer is no good.

3           If we knew, we could coordinate. We  
4           could get people there that would go out  
5           and get the deer and skin the deer and  
6           take it to food processors. We have  
7           people with refrigerated trucks. And it  
8           would be paid for. So the deer would  
9           not go to waste. And there is people in  
10          this state that don't even get to kill a  
11          deer during the season and they hunt.  
12          But they would be more than happy to be  
13          there to clean the deer, go get the  
14          deer -- wouldn't have to do any of  
15          that -- for the deer meat so it wouldn't  
16          be throwed away. And I would appreciate  
17          it if y'all would look into this.

18        MS. JONES: Time.

19        MS. MORROW: I thank y'all for all that you  
20           do. Thank you.

21        CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Ms. Morrow.

22                    The next speaker is John Pfeffer.

23        MR. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman?

1           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE:  Yes, sir.

2           MR. HARTZOG:  I have one question.

3                         What is the policy on WMAs as to hog  
4                         hunting?  Is there no regulations,  
5                         Chuck?

6           MR. SYKES:  As far as dogs, no.

7           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE:  Director Sykes.

8           MR. HARTZOG:  Excuse me?

9           MR. SYKES:  As far as running with dogs, no.

10          MR. HARTZOG:  No.  But say, for instance, if I  
11                         wanted to go still hunting on Barbour  
12                         WMA --

13          MR. SYKES:  There are numerous hog-hunting  
14                         opportunities throughout the WMA system.

15          MR. HARTZOG:  It's what, now?

16          MR. SYKES:  There are numerous hunting  
17                         opportunities for hogs throughout the  
18                         WMA system.  It's in all the packets.  
19                         Each WMA that has hogs has -- some have  
20                         special seasons.  Some have where you  
21                         can harvest hogs during any season.  If  
22                         you're squirrel hunting and you see a  
23                         hog, you can harvest one.  So we're --

1           there's opportunities to hog hunt on the  
2           WMAs.

3           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: The next speaker is John  
4           Pfeffer.

5           MR. PFEFFER: My name is John Pfeffer. This  
6           is my second time having to come to one  
7           of these meetings.

8           I'm with Halls Fork Hunting Club, a  
9           dog hunter. Been a dog hunter for  
10          years. I've been -- my granddaddy took  
11          me on a club not far from where I grew  
12          up. And where I'm at now is basically  
13          my hometown, born and raised there, in  
14          Perdido, which is there in Halls Fork --  
15          you know, right next to the Halls Fork  
16          community.

17          I've been hunting there for about  
18          six years now. Well, this will be my  
19          sixth year actually as a club member,  
20          and everything has been going great.  
21          Been having a real good time with  
22          family. I hunt there with two of my  
23          children, two boys, and my wife. My

1           wife don't always go, but it's mostly  
2           just my two boys and I. We chose this  
3           club because of the people that's  
4           actually in this club. They care a lot  
5           about the children and stuff that  
6           actually hunts with us. That's their  
7           main goal. I mean, a lot of the older  
8           generation don't even carry a gun. They  
9           just want, you know, the younger kids to  
10          have a gun. They got their gun with  
11          them, but 90 percent of the time it's  
12          not even out in their hands. They got  
13          little kids with their Red Rider BB guns  
14          ready to shoot.

15                 But we've had some issues, you know,  
16                 last hunting season that we've, you  
17                 know, been trying to address since last  
18                 hunting -- or this past hunting season.  
19                 And we've been talking about different  
20                 things, and we've actually -- it's like,  
21                 you know, Mr. Jack Hall was speaking  
22                 about awhile ago. He said that, you  
23                 know, you only want to hunt during the

1            hunting season. Then, you know, like  
2            the community said, hey, you need to  
3            make it where it's something where it's  
4            kind of like 12 months, you know,  
5            instead of just making it deer-hunting  
6            season. That's what we're kind of  
7            doing. And it's actually brought our  
8            club even closer together than what it  
9            was as far as, you know, how we're doing  
10           things. It's just like they said, the  
11           community cleanup. We always had an  
12           annual fish fry, but we've actually went  
13           out this time and actually got -- went a  
14           little bit bigger scale with our annual  
15           fish fry on getting people to come out  
16           to this.

17                    The dog issue that we've had,  
18                    90 percent of our dogs now have tracking  
19                    units on them. I would say 50 percent  
20                    of them is GPS tracking units. It's  
21                    better to locate your dogs, you know,  
22                    with the GPS units. You can pinpoint  
23                    exactly where they're at, get ahead of

1           them, cut them off, bring them back to  
2           you.

3           Used to you could use -- years ago  
4           you could turn a Running Walker loose  
5           and just let him run and just listen to  
6           him run. These days you can't.  
7           Property is being swapped hands from  
8           property owner to property owner to  
9           property owner to where it eventually  
10          gets to where somebody's got it that  
11          don't like dogs or, you know, vice  
12          versa.

13          Well, we've talked to a few  
14          still-stalk hunters that actually is  
15          around in our area. They're willing to  
16          work with us. We're willing to work  
17          with them on it. We've actually asked  
18          them a few things about some changes  
19          that could be made around there. And,  
20          you know, one of the things was brought  
21          up about how many days we do hunt.  
22          Well, we're -- that's in the making --  
23          of us cutting back on our hunting

1           schedule and hunting days as far as how  
2           many days we hunt.

3           The next thing is, is when we turn  
4           loose, we try to keep -- you know, be  
5           respectful to the stalk hunters.  
6           Because I'm a stalk hunter myself.  
7           But -- and my boys are. But as a stalk  
8           hunter, you got to look at what time you  
9           turn your dogs loose.

10       MS. JONES: Time.

11       MR. PFEFFER: A stalk hunter usually gets in  
12           there about eight, 8:30, maybe nine  
13           o'clock. They'll come down at nine  
14           o'clock when it ain't rut. And we don't  
15           normally turn our dogs loose till about  
16           nine o'clock. And that's something we  
17           pretty much stay to is that. And we  
18           don't hunt the areas close to the stalk  
19           hunters and try to give them time to  
20           actually get out. And then midday  
21           that's the side we'll hunt, and then  
22           we'll leave that side, so --

23       CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Pfeffer, have you

1                   contacted and worked with Mr. Hatley?

2           MR. PFEFFER:   Yes, sir.

3           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE:   Okay.   Very good.   Just  
4                   wanted to make sure you knew who your  
5                   district representative was.

6           MR. PFEFFER:   Yes, sir.   Thank you.

7           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE:   Thank you very much,  
8                   Mr. Pfeffer.

9                   The next speaker is Chase Waddle.

10          MR. WADDLE:   Good morning.   How y'all doing?

11                   I'm here on behalf of Halls Fork  
12                   Hunting Club today.   I'd like to thank  
13                   you for having us.   I'd like to start by  
14                   telling you a little bit about myself.

15                   I've been a part of this club for  
16                   about eight years, going on nine this  
17                   year.   The last two years I've had the  
18                   opportunity to spend with my  
19                   five-year-old son and on occasions  
20                   sometimes my wife will go with me.   For  
21                   me, it's not all about hunting.   It's  
22                   about spending time with my family,  
23                   teaching my son to hunt the same way I

1           was taught. My dad took me dog hunting  
2           when I was four years old. Instantly I  
3           was hooked and not much has changed a  
4           generation later. My son probably loves  
5           to go more than I do. For him it's just  
6           not going hunting. He enjoys playing  
7           with other boys and girls who come with  
8           their parents and grandparents.

9           Most of the club members in our club  
10          have been a part of the Halls Fork  
11          community all their lives. For me,  
12          being a part of the club makes me feel  
13          like being a part of the community. As  
14          the hunting club as a whole, we're  
15          always willing to lend a helping hand to  
16          anyone and everyone. Like Mr. Pfeffer  
17          was saying, we try to schedule our hunts  
18          on the weekend after 9 a.m. out of just  
19          pure respect to the still hunters around  
20          us.

21          We also have the fish fry every  
22          year, and we invite everyone in the  
23          community to come. The fish fry and the

1 work day that we're going to plan this  
2 year is just not a great way to give  
3 back to our community; it's also great  
4 morals being taught to our children to  
5 come out and help and give back to their  
6 community and help anyone who needs any  
7 kind of help in their community.

8 I'm sure everyone in this room hunts  
9 or has hunted before. That being said,  
10 it takes a little effort from everyone,  
11 both parties, to keep our hunting  
12 tradition alive. Whether you hunt deer,  
13 turkey, squirrel, coon, it doesn't  
14 matter. We're all blessed to hunt and  
15 share the same tradition our forefathers  
16 did before us. Over the years in this  
17 club I've met some great friends and  
18 great people, and I hope our traditional  
19 way of hunting with dogs continues for  
20 generations to come. I'd personally  
21 like to thank you for having our hunting  
22 club today. I hope you have a great  
23 day. Any questions?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you very much,  
3 Mr. Waddle.

4 The next speaker is Buddy Willis.

5 MR. WILLIS: Commissioner, Dan, Board, my name  
6 is Buddy Willis. I'm from Cherokee,  
7 Alabama. That's located in Colbert  
8 County. I've been hunting in that  
9 county for 60 years.

10 We was here two months ago.

11 Mr. Worsham and Mr. Thompson made some  
12 complaints on our dogs running across  
13 their property. Well, I'd say five  
14 years ago Mr. Worsham and his daddy was  
15 a member of our club, and they had no  
16 problems at all with our dogs. Our dogs  
17 run deer over them. The two gentlemen  
18 sitting back there has killed deer in  
19 front of our dogs. And when we asked  
20 them to pay their part of planting the  
21 green fields, et cetera, et cetera, they  
22 didn't want to do it no more. They  
23 would pull their land out and hunt like

1           they wanted to.

2           So we was here last -- two months  
3 ago, and we come up with this idea to  
4 have a meeting with these people. And  
5 Mr. Jones, we thought he was going to be  
6 there, but he wasn't able to make it.  
7 And Don was there. Four officers was  
8 there from the wardens, and they heard  
9 what was said. And we got minutes of  
10 it. And we offered them 14 days --  
11 which there's 55 days of running dogs in  
12 Colbert County. We offered them 14 days  
13 of that back just so we could run our  
14 dogs.

15           The majority of those people that's  
16 in this club is 55 or older. Some of us  
17 have double-knee replacements. Four of  
18 us has got prostate cancer, can't move,  
19 this, that, and the other. And we have  
20 no other way to get around in those  
21 hills up there other -- to make a deer  
22 move other than put a little dog after  
23 it. I've got some dogs that's -- one of

1           them's 14, one of them's 12, and the  
2           other one's about ten. And I know for a  
3           fact that they run deer over to  
4           Mr. Worsham and his daddy. And now this  
5           is a personal thing, the only thing I  
6           can see.

7           I'm asking you to consider them  
8           making a counteroffer to what we made to  
9           them. I mean, we hadn't broke any  
10          laws. I don't know what to say about  
11          it. I mean, what can you say if you  
12          hadn't broke any laws and paid any  
13          fines? But we were willing to turn our  
14          dogs loose way beyond them or whatever.

15          Another issue was we was accused of  
16          running our dogs on the management area,  
17          which we figured the Saturdays and  
18          Wednesdays north of the Natchez Trace,  
19          that's the day that Forever Wild has  
20          their hunt.

21        MS. JONES: Time.

22        MR. WILLIS: We figured that would help that.

23                So I don't know what else I can say.

1                   Gentlemen, I thank you for your  
2                   time. And, then again, 15 seconds. I'm  
3                   going to give you 14 of it back like it  
4                   was last time you wasn't here.

5           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Willis.

6                   And I wasn't going to say anything about  
7                   that.

8                   The next speaker is Paul Jeffreys.

9           MR. JEFFREYS: Chairman, Members of the Board,  
10                   I'm from Lamar County. My name is Paul  
11                   Jeffreys. I've been coming to these  
12                   meetings for several years.

13                   And I just want to take this  
14                   opportunity to thank you for the season  
15                   and bag limits that you set in Lamar  
16                   County in our area of the state. They  
17                   worked out very well. We just ask that  
18                   y'all continue to keep them the same as  
19                   they are. Don't want to make any  
20                   changes.

21                   This past deer season we had some  
22                   problems in Marion County on a piece of  
23                   property of my family with night

1 hunters. I would like to, while I've  
2 got the mic up here, just commend  
3 Captain Johnson and his officers in that  
4 district. They worked diligently. And  
5 I believe there was one arrest made. So  
6 they did a wonderful job.

7 And, Chief, I would like to commend  
8 your officers in that part of the  
9 state. They really worked on it.

10 But long story short, I'd just like  
11 to ask you to keep our seasons the way  
12 they are -- seasons and bag limits, not  
13 make any changes in that part. Thank  
14 you.

15 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Jeffreys.

16 The next speaker is Randy Thompson.

17 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes,  
18 I'm Randy Thompson from Cherokee,  
19 Alabama, and that's in west Colbert  
20 County.

21 And we're here today mainly to say I  
22 think we're moving in the right  
23 direction maybe to help our problem.

1           But we have had a problem for years with  
2           the dog hunting -- not necessarily with  
3           the dog hunting, but the dog hunting  
4           running on our property.

5           And, again, I just want to say I  
6           think we've made a step in the right  
7           direction. I understand there's a  
8           motion on the table. And we put up with  
9           this for a long time. And in 2013 I  
10          believe we were here for the meeting and  
11          kind of brought this to the attention of  
12          the board and then again this past  
13          meeting.

14          And we -- to bring you up to speed a  
15          little bit, they've already mentioned  
16          the meeting that we had. We did get a  
17          call that the Blanton Hill Club wanted  
18          to meet with us, and we agreed to meet  
19          with them. We were told there would be  
20          five or six of their members of the club  
21          and then we knew it would be four or  
22          five landowners and we agreed to that.  
23          And I'll have to say, when we got there,

1           it looked more like a town meeting or a  
2           football game.

3           There was -- about all the club  
4           members were there. There was a Colbert  
5           County Commissioner there. There was  
6           two ladies there that addressed  
7           themselves as attorneys. And I'll have  
8           to say, after they found out we didn't  
9           really like that, they -- including  
10          Mr. Willis, he offered to leave. And he  
11          and his sons, I think, did leave. We  
12          didn't have any problem really with  
13          anybody being there, but the problem was  
14          there were people there making comments  
15          that didn't know anything about the  
16          problem.

17          Mr. Knight -- I wasn't going to say  
18          anything about him being there, but he  
19          was there. If you can picture this:  
20          We've got a meeting between a club  
21          that's supposed to be five members and  
22          five landowners and we've got the  
23          president of the Alabama Dog Hunters

1 Club presiding over the meeting. Now,  
2 there's something wrong with that  
3 situation.

4 So a lot of the people that were  
5 there that witnessed -- because of the  
6 comments that he made, it made it look  
7 like we were the culprits. And trust  
8 me, people, we're not bothering  
9 anybody.

10 It's just like somebody said  
11 earlier. I don't have a problem with  
12 the dogs running. I don't have a  
13 problem hearing dogs in the distance.  
14 But we've got documentation. Mr. Jones  
15 has got documentation we sent him.  
16 We've got pictures of dogs under our  
17 shooting houses, on our green fields  
18 over and over.

19 So we're not being -- we're not  
20 being unreasonable here. All we're  
21 asking is that we be able to hunt the  
22 way we want to hunt. And I wish they  
23 could hunt the way they want to hunt,

1 but obviously they don't have enough  
2 property to do that. Because it seems  
3 no matter where they turn the dogs loose  
4 they end up on top of us. And that's  
5 the only problem we got. I don't have  
6 anything personal with anybody, but I  
7 would like for me and my family --

8 MS. JONES: Time.

9 MR. THOMPSON: -- to be able to hunt.

10 And if I could just say one more  
11 thing.

12 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Go ahead, please, sir.

13 MR. THOMPSON: The one proposal that they made  
14 for those two days they wanted to give  
15 up, what they're telling us is -- in  
16 short, if you look at it like this,  
17 they're telling us you can hunt two days  
18 out of the week the way you want to hunt  
19 and we'll hunt five days out of the week  
20 the way we want to hunt. Now, I don't  
21 think that's -- I don't think that's  
22 reasonable.

23 But thank you for your

1           consideration. And, again, I think  
2           we're headed in the right direction. I  
3           appreciate it.

4           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Thompson.

5                     The next speaker is Mike Worsham.

6           MR. WORSHAM: My name is Mike Worsham. My  
7           place is in north Colbert County north  
8           of Cherokee, and I'm the problem that  
9           Mr. Knight referred to in his comments.  
10          And anytime the facts don't support a  
11          group's position on an issue, they  
12          resort to personal attacks, and that's  
13          what the Blanton Hill Hunting Club is  
14          doing right here.

15                    They're talking about their  
16          willingness to meet with us and talk  
17          about the issues. We tried to talk with  
18          them numerous years before 2013 when we  
19          appeared before the board. Buddy  
20          Willis' last statement to my dad was,  
21          Gene, you might as well go on; we're  
22          going to do what we want to do. And  
23          that's what led us to appear before the

1 board in 2013. Came back and they  
2 didn't -- didn't try to get with us in  
3 2013. Nothing changed in this last  
4 year.

5 So they -- they did want to meet  
6 with us after they talked. The board  
7 was going to consider putting Colbert  
8 County on the permit system. We had the  
9 meeting. And Randy talked about the  
10 meeting. We didn't understand there  
11 were going to be five or six members.  
12 They said they would bring five or six  
13 members so it would just be a discussion  
14 between the two groups.

15 The issue is dogs running on our  
16 properties. It's not an occasional  
17 dog. It's not hearing a dog. We have  
18 pictures. I have a video of one running  
19 under a stand. We have dogs on our  
20 property every day that we hunt just  
21 about -- I mean, not every day --  
22 practically every day that we hunt.

23 We don't -- you know, they agreed to

1           the days that they would not turn their  
2           dogs loose. Well, that in itself  
3           implies that they can't keep the dogs  
4           off of our property when they turn them  
5           loose. So they're giving up 14 days.  
6           Well, you know, you don't hunt very many  
7           Wednesdays, or I don't. So that means  
8           seven days out of a 55-day season that  
9           they're giving us back -- giving us --  
10          to hunt. And, you know, what good does  
11          that do if the dogs have been all over  
12          your property the other six days of the  
13          week.

14                 So they talk about putting standers  
15                 on the property line to catch the dogs  
16                 as they cross. Very hilly terrain, pine  
17                 thicket. I just don't think that'll  
18                 work. They've asked us to call them  
19                 when the dogs are on our property. We  
20                 will do that, but your hunt is already  
21                 ruined when the dogs are on the  
22                 property.

23                         So we'd like to ask that you put

1           them on the permit system if these  
2           remedies are going to work. It won't  
3           have any effect on them. They -- they  
4           have shown an unwillingness to abide by  
5           voluntary restrictions, and this will  
6           just be a reminder that if they don't  
7           make a concerted effort to keep the dogs  
8           on the property that they lease and off  
9           of our properties, then there will be  
10          repercussions.

11           You know, this is not just an  
12          occasional thing. The dogs are on our  
13          property every time we hunt. So I'd  
14          like to ask y'all to consider putting  
15          this on the -- the area of Colbert  
16          County on the permit system.

17           And, for the record, I've never been  
18          a member of Blanton Hill Hunting Club,  
19          ever.

20          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Thank you, Mr. Worsham.

21           That concludes our speakers. For the  
22          next order of business, before we get into  
23          old business, I want to call on

1 Commissioner Guy. Commissioner.

2 COMMISSIONER GUY: Thank you, Chairman

3 Moultrie. Two things of housekeeping  
4 that I just forgot. I apologize to the  
5 public and the members of the board.

6 One of them was the minutes -- where  
7 we approved the minutes, there was a  
8 request by Director Sykes at our last  
9 meeting on March 1, 2014 -- on page 16,  
10 he made a reference to a population  
11 estimate, and he said the word "5,000"  
12 and it was supposed to be "500,000."  
13 And Director Sykes would like to make  
14 that correction to the mistake in the  
15 number he said. But he wanted to -- in  
16 case it was read later, he wanted to  
17 make that correction.

18 So I would ask the board, if they  
19 would -- if somebody would make a motion  
20 to approve that correction to the  
21 minutes of March 1, 2014.

22 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hartzog.

23 MR. HARTZOG: So made.

1 MR. JONES: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Got a motion and a second  
3 to amend the minutes from the previous  
4 motion approving them. All of those in  
5 favor raise your right hand.

6 (All board members raise hand.)

7 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record show it's  
10 unanimous.

11 COMMISSIONER GUY: And just so -- the court  
12 reporter got it right. We just made the  
13 mistake. I see her staring at me.

14 And then, lastly, I forgot to call  
15 on Chris Blankenship. If Chris --  
16 Director Blankenship would come up to  
17 the microphone.

18 There have been a lot of questions  
19 about red snapper season, and I think  
20 that we've gotten the word out that  
21 that's controlled by the federal  
22 authorities. But I think Chris would  
23 like the opportunity to address that so

1           that people might can get a better  
2           understanding of what is happening and  
3           what we're trying to do.

4           Thank you, Chris.

5           MR. BLANKENSHIP: Thank you, Commissioner.

6                       We have a lot of good things going  
7           on in coastal Alabama like Mr. Bates  
8           mentioned with the planting the shells  
9           for the oyster reef and so many other  
10          things. But the one issue that causes  
11          the most consternation down there and  
12          probably in a lot of your districts as  
13          well has to do with the red snapper  
14          management.

15                      This year it looks like on the  
16          federal season it will be somewhere  
17          between nine and 11 days for red snapper  
18          season, and that is caused by several  
19          factors that go into that. Two of the  
20          factors is the inadequate stock  
21          assessment that is done by the federal  
22          government that sets the total amount of  
23          red snapper that can be harvested, and

1           the other -- another thing is the poor  
2           data collection for the landing  
3           information that they collect. I want  
4           to just catch you up briefly on the  
5           things that we're doing with the Marine  
6           Resources division to try and improve  
7           those two particular areas.

8           One, on the stock assessment, we  
9           funded research for several years --  
10          Dr. Shipp, some of the work that he's  
11          done at the University of South Alabama,  
12          Dr. Powers, and then Dr. Szedlemeyer  
13          with Auburn University and our own  
14          staff -- on the artificial reef system  
15          off the coast of Alabama to include more  
16          of the information from those areas in  
17          the stock assessment. And we are  
18          currently participating in an exercise  
19          to where we do our own stock assessment  
20          off the coast of Alabama -- and we  
21          should have that in the next month or  
22          so -- to show -- so that our scientists  
23          can show exactly what is off the coast

1 of Alabama and to work with the federal  
2 government to improve their stock  
3 assessment.

4 But most importantly today, where it  
5 affects the board, is the collection of  
6 the red snapper landings data. The  
7 information system that the federal  
8 government uses changed in 2013, and it  
9 has not been proven to be accurate in  
10 that year. The high landings rate that  
11 they're using now to set the season is  
12 the reason that red snapper season is  
13 extremely short this year, and that will  
14 affect the triggerfish season, amberjack  
15 season, grouper season, you know, all of  
16 those fisheries.

17 And so we have proposed at the last  
18 meeting to implement a red snapper  
19 reporting system here in Alabama. And  
20 we do have good consensus on that. We  
21 received letters of support from the  
22 Orange Beach Fishing Association, the  
23 Coastal Conservation Association, the

1 Dauphin Island Marina, many other  
2 charter captains, and then e-mails of  
3 support from people in the recreational  
4 fishing community. Because we think  
5 that if we can show what's actually  
6 being landed in Alabama and work with  
7 the federal government moving forward  
8 that we can improve this -- improve the  
9 process and the way that they set the  
10 red snapper season on one side. And as  
11 we try and move to take over the  
12 management of red snapper from the  
13 federal government, this information  
14 from this -- from red snapper landings  
15 from the red snapper reporting system  
16 that we would like to implement will be  
17 integral in being able to do that.

18 There was also a lawsuit recently  
19 that caused the federal government to  
20 change some of the way that they are  
21 managing the fishery -- you know, we're  
22 having to use some of this 2013 data --  
23 and some inflexibility in the

1 Magnuson-Stevens Act that mandates how  
2 the Gulf Council and National Marine  
3 Fisheries Service has to manage the  
4 fishery. So those are outside issues  
5 that we are working on as well in  
6 different manners. We're working with  
7 our congressional delegations to make  
8 some changes to the Magnuson Act, as  
9 it's going to be reauthorized in the  
10 next year or two, to create some  
11 flexibility there.

12 And then we also passed -- worked  
13 with our state legislators to pass a  
14 bill this year that extended our state  
15 waters from three miles to nine miles.  
16 Now, that has only been passed in the  
17 state legislature and still needs some  
18 federal concurrence. But we are working  
19 with Senators Shelby and Sessions and  
20 then also our congressmen, Congressman  
21 Byrne in particular, to make some -- to  
22 make that -- include that in the  
23 Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization for all

1 of the upper Gulf Coast states so that  
2 we would all have our state waters be  
3 extended out to nine miles.

4 And Mr. Bates made some -- had some  
5 good comments about the commercial  
6 fishery. And I just want to, you know,  
7 reiterate that nothing that we're  
8 proposing with the red snapper reporting  
9 or these other issues that we're working  
10 on with the stock assessment would hurt  
11 the commercial fishery in any way. All  
12 that we're trying to do is improve the  
13 stock assessment, which would help on  
14 the -- increase the amount of pounds of  
15 red snapper that can be harvested by  
16 both sectors. And this red snapper  
17 reporting is -- would really just --  
18 would just be for the  
19 recreational/charter sector. The  
20 commercial fishery is already under a  
21 different system that is working very  
22 well, and we're not proposing to make  
23 any changes to that.

1           So I tried to make an extremely  
2           complicated and a lot of moving-parts  
3           process down into about five minutes  
4           because I know we're all -- but I'll be  
5           glad to answer any questions that you  
6           have. And I would appreciate as we move  
7           forward with the red snapper reporting  
8           regulation --

9           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Blankenship -- and you  
10          or Dr. Shipp can answer it, but I've got  
11          a question that I want the board to  
12          know.

13          Is our resource of red snapper, as  
14          they decrease our limits year after year  
15          and this year to a new -- I guess it's  
16          never been this low that I remember. Is  
17          our resource growing, is it staying the  
18          same, or is it declining? What are our  
19          red snapper numbers doing?

20          MR. BLANKENSHIP: The resource -- you know, we  
21          feel the resource off the coast of  
22          Alabama is increasing. We have a great  
23          fishery here. And that -- we feel that

1           that's not being adequately reflected in  
2           the federal stock assessment. And so  
3           that's why we are working to do our own  
4           stock assessment off the coast of  
5           Alabama.

6           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Dr. Shipp.

7           DR. SHIPP: Yeah. I'd like to follow up on  
8           what Chris said and also ask the board  
9           for, I guess, a favor.

10           As Chris said, right now in congress  
11           the Magnuson Act is under revision. And  
12           a little background, Florida and Texas  
13           do have a nine-mile territorial sea.  
14           Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana only  
15           have three miles.

16           Our congressional delegation is  
17           working to extend it to nine miles, and  
18           we could have a viable fishery if we had  
19           a nine-mile territorial sea. It also  
20           would probably end the federal season.

21           Because it's down to nine days, eight  
22           days right now. Louisiana just declared  
23           a year-around opening. The day after

1           the Fishery Council decided on 11 days,  
2           Louisiana said to heck with it, we're  
3           going to open it year around.

4                        So we're at a point where the  
5           federal season is just about closed.  
6           And so I don't know whether it's -- a  
7           resolution is appropriate or not. But I  
8           would ask this board to support our  
9           congressional delegation in attempting  
10          to get a territorial sea extension for  
11          nine miles throughout the state of  
12          Alabama.

13          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Very good. Dr. Shipp, if  
14          you would draw that up, I'm sure we  
15          could have that by the end of the  
16          meeting if you wanted to write that up  
17          real quick.

18          DR. SHIPP: I will so do it.

19          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. And, Dr. Shipp or  
20          Mr. Blankenship, what is -- so that the  
21          board knows, too, in the three-mile  
22          limit and the nine-mile limit, what is  
23          the average depth out at the nine-mile

1           limit and the three-mile limit, and how  
2           does it affect snapper -- the holdings  
3           of snapper?

4           DR. SHIPP: The nine-mile limit, my estimation  
5           is that it would probably be between 60-  
6           and 80-feet deep. It's not the best,  
7           but we have enough structure there that,  
8           you know, in the worst-case scenario we  
9           could have a viable fishery out to nine  
10          miles. The best-depth -- snapper go out  
11          to a hundred fathoms and, you know, so  
12          that's 40, 50 miles off the coast. But  
13          40 to 60 feet is about the depth.

14          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: In your estimation, how  
15          many days would that nine-mile limit  
16          support?

17          DR. SHIPP: We could have 180-day season with  
18          a two-fish bag limit. You know, there  
19          would be fewer fish than there are now,  
20          but right now what's the use of having  
21          all these big fish if you can't catch  
22          them.

23          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Any other questions from

1 the board?

2 Mr. Bunn, did you have a question?

3 Go ahead.

4 MR. BUNN: He answered it.

5 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Any other questions?

6 MR. DOBBS: Chairman?

7 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Dobbs.

8 MR. DOBBS: I wanted to add on to that. As  
9 part of what you're talking about,  
10 Dr. Shipp, the reef structure, what  
11 majority of that -- what percentage of  
12 that is manmade?

13 DR. SHIPP: Off of Alabama the vast majority  
14 is manmade. We have 17,000 artificial  
15 reef structures off the Alabama coast.  
16 Actually, more than 20,000 have been put  
17 out, but with storms and so forth they  
18 get buried and then they get uncovered.  
19 But we now, using side-scan sonar, have  
20 identified 17,000. And every one of  
21 them holds anywhere from a hundred to a  
22 thousand pounds of snapper. So you do  
23 the math. We could have a viable

1 fishery here. This system from the  
2 federal government is insane. It's  
3 absolutely insane.

4 MR. DOBBS: With that being said, if the  
5 fishery continues to be limited, I  
6 suspect that people will limit the  
7 number of reefs that they put out --  
8 municipalities and state governments or  
9 individuals -- to attract these fish,  
10 and that's not good.

11 MR. BLANKENSHIP: And that's already -- that  
12 already has taken place.

13 MR. DOBBS: And that's happening, so -- and we  
14 want to encourage that.

15 DR. SHIPP: We do. And I warn against the use  
16 of attract. They produce.

17 MR. DOBBS: Produce.

18 DR. SHIPP: They don't attract them from  
19 somewhere else. In fact, our research  
20 indicates that our snapper stocks off  
21 Alabama have provided snapper to the  
22 west coast of Florida. Our tagged  
23 snapper show up there. And it's a boom

1 to the whole Gulf, not just Alabama.

2 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Any other questions?

3 Commissioner McMillan.

4 COMMISSIONER McMILLAN: I want to be sure I  
5 understand this. It actually takes  
6 congressional action to extend the  
7 nine-mile --

8 MR. BLANKENSHIP: Yes, sir.

9 MR. McMILLAN: And, secondly, I certainly  
10 would be in favor of a resolution to  
11 extend it out.

12 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Absolutely. Write  
13 quickly, Dr. Shipp, before the end of  
14 the meeting.

15 Very good. Anything else?

16 DR. SHIPP: I'm ready.

17 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. Dr. Shipp.

18 DR. SHIPP: Real simply, that the Conservation  
19 Advisory Board support the efforts of  
20 our congressional delegation to extend  
21 the territorial seas in the state of  
22 Alabama to nine miles.

23 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. This is not a

1 motion. It's a resolution?

2 DR. SHIPP: That's correct.

3 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All of those in favor of  
4 supporting this raise your hand.

5 (All board members raise hand.)

6 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record show it's  
9 unanimous to support the resolution.

10 Thank you, Mr. Blankenship.

11 MR. BLANKENSHIP: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. The next order of  
13 business is old business. And unless  
14 anybody else has old business to be  
15 brought up, I'm showing that we're clear  
16 on that, and we'll move right into new  
17 business with motions.

18 Does anyone on the board have a  
19 motion they need to make in new business  
20 or any other new business?

21 Mr. Jones.

22 MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, as this board has  
23 known for the last two to three years,

1 we've had some issues in Colbert County  
2 with dog -- concerning dog deer hunting.  
3 And I have researched this. I've talked  
4 to the landowners, talked to some -- the  
5 dog hunters, talked to various members  
6 of the government that work up there,  
7 the county commissioners, the sheriff,  
8 also spoken with our wildlife officers  
9 and tried to get a better handle of the  
10 situation that we're facing. I'd  
11 particularly like to thank all of those  
12 people, but especially I'd like to thank  
13 Don Knight and the Alabama Dog Hunters  
14 Association for doing what they've done  
15 in trying to help resolve that  
16 situation.

17 And, Mr. Knight, you do a great  
18 service for your association. You lead  
19 them well. Thank you for that.

20 Unfortunately, though, as we've  
21 heard here today, the two user groups  
22 are still at an impasse. So I've had  
23 to -- would like to present to the board

1           this morning a motion to place a small  
2           area of extreme northwest Colbert County  
3           under the permit system.

4           Best I can tell, this is only about  
5           ten percent of the county. So it is a  
6           very small isolated area. But this way  
7           it will ensure that the dog deer hunters  
8           can continue to dog hunt in the way that  
9           they see fit without giving up any days  
10          for as long as they so choose and they  
11          abide by it within the rules of the  
12          permit. It will also ensure the  
13          landowners are able to peacefully enjoy  
14          their land without the fear of  
15          intrusion, and that is the -- what I  
16          would like to do.

17          Formally, the motion I would like to  
18          make is to make that section of Colbert  
19          County bounded by the Natchez Trace  
20          Parkway west to the Mississippi state  
21          line and from U.S. Highway 72 north to  
22          the Colbert County line be placed on a  
23          permit system for dog deer hunting.

1 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Is there a second?

2 MR. BUNN: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: I have a second.

4 Mr. Bunn.

5 Any discussion?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Being no further decision,  
8 we have a motion that it would -- that a  
9 section of Colbert County bounded by the  
10 Natchez Trace Parkway west to the  
11 Mississippi state line and from  
12 U.S. Highway 72 north to the Colbert  
13 County line be placed on a permit system  
14 for dog hunting. All of those in favor  
15 raise your hand.

16 (All board members raise hand.)

17 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record show it was  
20 unanimous.

21 Thank you, Mr. Jones. Anything  
22 else, Mr. Jones?

23 MR. JONES: Not right now.

1 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. And if the board --  
2 make sure that you have a map. All the  
3 board should have a map of that area,  
4 and if you'll carry that with you,  
5 please.

6 Okay. Anybody else, new business?

7 Mr. Dobbs.

8 MR. DOBBS: I have a motion I would like to  
9 read: A motion to approve the  
10 regulations promulgated by the  
11 department for the implementation of the  
12 alligator season.

13 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay.

14 MR. DOBBS: I'll read it again.

15 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Yes.

16 MR. DOBBS: Make a motion to approve the  
17 regulations promulgated by the  
18 department for implementation of  
19 alligator season.

20 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. Is there a second?

21 (Mr. Hatley raises hand.)

22 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hatley seconds.

23 Any discussion?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. Mr. Dobbs, if you  
3 would read it one more time.

4 MR. DOBBS: I make a motion to approve the  
5 regulations promulgated by the  
6 department for implementation of  
7 alligator season.

8 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All of those in favor  
9 raise your hand.

10 (All board members raise hand.)

11 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record show  
14 unanimous. The motion is passed.

15 Mr. Dobbs, any further motions?

16 MR. DOBBS: I have another motion. I make a  
17 motion that the Department of  
18 Conservation adopt the season and bag  
19 and creel limits and other regulations  
20 as contained in the packet provided to  
21 the board previously. This would, of  
22 course, include the changes on feral  
23 swine, management area regs, and legal

1 arms and ammunition and the February  
2 deer season.

3 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Do I have a second?

4 (Mr. Hatley raises hand.)

5 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hatley, a second.

6 Any discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. With no discussion,  
9 we have a motion that the Department of  
10 Conservation adopt the season and bag  
11 limit -- bag and creel limits and other  
12 regulations as contained in the packet  
13 provided to the board. This would, of  
14 course, include the changes on feral  
15 swine, management area regs, and legal  
16 arms ammunition and February deer  
17 season. All of those in favor?

18 (All board members raise hand.)

19 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record reflect  
22 unanimous vote. Motion is passed.

23 Mr. Dobbs.

1 MR. DOBBS: I have another motion. Request  
2 the Conservation Advisory Board and the  
3 Commissioner of Department of  
4 Conservation and Natural Resources  
5 promulgate the reporting request for red  
6 snapper and other species as provided  
7 for in Marine Resource Division Proposal  
8 Number 220-3, as well to adopt the creel  
9 limit changes to vermilion snapper  
10 (requisite with federal regulations).

11 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Do I have a second?

12 (Mr. Hatley raises hand.)

13 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Hatley. We have a  
14 second.

15 Any discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. We have a motion  
18 that the Department of Conservation and  
19 Natural Resources promulgate the  
20 reporting request for red snapper and  
21 other species as provided for in Marine  
22 Resource Division Proposal 220-3, as  
23 well to adopt the creel limits to

1           vermilion snapper (requisite to federal  
2           regulation). All of those in favor?

3                           (All board members raise hand.)

4           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

5                           (No response.)

6           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record show

7                           unanimous. Motion carries.

8                           Mr. Dobbs.

9           MR. DOBBS: Another motion, please. I make a  
10                           motion to approve all the department  
11                           rules and regulations adopted since the  
12                           last approval.

13           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Okay. This is our general  
14                           housekeeping motion. Is there a second?

15           MR. JONES: Second.

16           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Mr. Jones had a second.

17                           Any discussion?

18                           (No response.)

19           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Being no discussion, we  
20                           have a motion to approve all department  
21                           rules and regulations adopted since the  
22                           last approval. All of those in favor?

23                           (All board members raise hand.)

1 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record reflect  
4 unanimous vote. Motion passes.

5 Mr. Dobbs.

6 MR. DOBBS: I have another motion -- a motion,  
7 slash, resolution or resolution, slash,  
8 motion. I'm not sure.

9 Mr. Dean, I'm going to read this.

10 But this is a motion to endorse the  
11 efforts of Marine Resources division in  
12 their process of navigating the existing  
13 federal regulations; enacting reporting  
14 requirements for reef and other species  
15 to enable the collection of data, this  
16 data to be used to implement best  
17 practice management for Alabama's  
18 resources.

19 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: So can that be a  
20 resolution or a motion?

21 MR. DEAN: I think that's a resolution.

22 MR. DOBBS. Resolution. That will be a  
23 resolution.

1 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All of those in favor of  
2 that being voted on as a resolution that  
3 this board adopt raise your hand.

4 (All board members raise hand.)

5 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record reflect  
8 that the board adopts that resolution.

9 Mr. Dobbs.

10 MR. DOBBS: One last resolution: The  
11 Conservation Advisory Board endorses the  
12 progressive and positive actions of the  
13 Division of Wildlife and Freshwater  
14 Fisheries in managing Alabama's  
15 resources. Further, we endorse the  
16 positive and continued collection of  
17 data relative to making scientific and  
18 informed management decisions for all  
19 the resources.

20 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: That would be a resolution  
21 also.

22 All of those in favor of supporting  
23 that resolution raise your hand.

1 (All board members raise hand.)

2 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: All opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Let the record reflect the  
5 board endorses that resolution also.

6 Mr. Dobbs.

7 MR. DOBBS: That's all of the motions and  
8 resolutions.

9 I just want to say to Division of  
10 Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and to  
11 Marine Resources and others as well, not  
12 to leave anyone out, thank you so much  
13 for what you've done progressive and  
14 moving forward with what -- what's  
15 happening. The change is very  
16 refreshing. Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: And let me echo that  
18 support. And Chris is doing an  
19 unbelievable job, and our new director  
20 is doing an unbelievable job.

21 I had a chance to turkey hunt not  
22 long ago with our new director, and  
23 about the only thing that I found that

1           we --

2           COMMISSIONER GUY: Turkey hunting?

3           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Turkey hunting. You were  
4           out of town. And we could have been on  
5           your property, Commissioner Guy, but we  
6           weren't.

7                     But it was early, about daylight,  
8           and we were hooting. Chuck hooted and a  
9           turkey gobbled. And right when a  
10          gobbler -- of course, everybody always  
11          points their finger. Well, I pointed  
12          this way and Chuck pointed this way. We  
13          hooted again and then we got in unison  
14          on it. But besides that, we had a great  
15          hunt.

16                    It is a pleasure to have guys -- and  
17          as long as I've been chairman of this  
18          board, it's never been operating as  
19          efficiently with Marine Resources and  
20          Conservation as it has, and I applaud  
21          this board's acceptance of that and  
22          especially what y'all two are doing.  
23          You're doing an absolutely fantastic

1           job.

2                    Okay. Any other new business or  
3           motions?

4           COMMISSIONER GUY: And let me say --

5           CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Commissioner.

6           COMMISSIONER GUY: -- since we've taken care  
7                    of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and  
8                    Marine Resources, I don't want  
9                    Ms. Powell to be left out over there  
10                   who -- because she does such a great job  
11                   in the Lands division, particularly on  
12                   all the BP oil spill. And Greg Lein.

13                   Where is Greg?

14                   Greg over here, Parks. Y'all have  
15                   been noticing a lot of work in the  
16                   parks. It's the 75th anniversary of the  
17                   parks. Please don't forget it's the  
18                   75th anniversary. Support our parks.  
19                   They very badly need your business. And  
20                   Greg is making a lot of positive changes  
21                   and doing a lot of important things to  
22                   increase, you know, the efforts to make  
23                   those places even better to go to.

1           And then who -- and, oh, Steve  
2           Thompson, Marine Police. So I think --  
3           and help me if I'm wrong -- but  
4           between -- just so everybody will know,  
5           they don't always get the publicity they  
6           need. The Marine Police, Wildlife and  
7           Freshwater Fisheries, Marine Resources,  
8           and there may have been some Lands  
9           folks, too -- I think we had 64 -- 64  
10          rescues during the flooding down in  
11          Baldwin County, and I think we should  
12          give them all a hand.

13           Our guys, you know, don't get a lot  
14          of publicity and accolades. But they do  
15          a terrific job when it comes to natural  
16          disasters, life-saving, enforcement  
17          issues, and so I'm proud of them.

18          CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: We all are.

19           Patti, we give you a hard time  
20          about -- and everybody knows Patti is  
21          the biggest Alabama fan there's ever  
22          been, but she dates an Auburn guy. So  
23          we give her a hard time about that. But

1 I'm going to give equal time here --  
2 because I know you and Grady will like  
3 this. We're running sort of fast today  
4 because I have to leave because my  
5 daughter is graduating from University  
6 of Alabama. Why that is I have no  
7 idea. But so there's equal time for  
8 you.

9 Any other business from the board?

10 Mr. Jones.

11 MR. JONES: One thing I'd like to throw out  
12 for us to consider doing, I  
13 wholeheartedly agree with Chuck Sykes'  
14 recommendation about the Game Check and  
15 the fact that we're not using it  
16 enough. I would like for us to maybe --  
17 the Department to look at Tennessee's  
18 very similar Web-based system. I found  
19 it much easier to use than ours. And I  
20 don't know, you know, from a technology  
21 standpoint what they do differently.  
22 But their system that they have for  
23 their game-check system runs much more

1 smoother than ours.

2 CHAIRMAN MOULTRIE: Very good. We'll look at  
3 that.

4 Okay. The next order of business is  
5 the date and location of the next  
6 Advisory Board meeting. The date has  
7 not been set. The location has not been  
8 set. And it will be announced as soon  
9 as possible. It will be in the  
10 following year unless we have to call a  
11 special meeting.

12 Being no further business, this  
13 meeting is adjourned.

14 (Meeting adjourned at  
15 approximately 10:41 a.m.)

16 \* \* \* \* \*

17 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

18 \* \* \* \* \*

19 STATE OF ALABAMA:

20 MONTGOMERY COUNTY:

21 I, Tracye Sadler Blackwell, Certified  
22 Court Reporter and Commissioner for the State of  
23 Alabama at Large, do hereby certify that I reported

1 the foregoing proceedings of the Alabama Department  
2 of Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory  
3 Board Meeting on May 3, 2014.

4 The foregoing 115 computer-printed pages  
5 contain a true and correct transcript of the  
6 proceedings held.

7 I further certify that I am neither of  
8 kin nor of counsel to the parties to said cause nor  
9 in any manner interested in the results thereof.

10 This 18th day of August 2014.

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

---

Tracye Sadler Blackwell  
ACCR No. 294  
Expiration date: 9-30-2014  
Certified Court Reporter  
and Commissioner for the State  
of Alabama at Large