

15A NCAC 10B .0119 WILDLIFE COLLECTORS

- (a) **Collection Licenses.** The Executive Director may license qualified individuals to take or collect any species of wildlife resources except that endangered, threatened, and special concern species may not be taken or collected except under a special permit issued by the Executive Director for research purposes, unless there is an open season for the species. If an open season exists for the species, then the appropriate hunting, fishing, or trapping license serves as the authorization for take. This Rule shall not prohibit an individual from killing an endangered, threatened, or special concern species in defense of his own life or the lives of others without a permit. Individuals who annually collect fewer than five reptiles or fewer than 25 amphibians that are not on the endangered, threatened, or special concern lists shall be exempted from this license requirement, except snapping turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*) less than 11 inches (curved carapace length) shall not be collected at all. The license shall be issued upon payment of a fee in accordance with G.S. 113-272.4, except that licenses shall be issued to representatives of educational or scientific institutions or of governmental agencies without charge. The license shall be used in lieu of any other hunting or trapping license required by law and shall authorize possession and transportation of the wildlife incidental to the authorized taking, except that it shall not authorize the taking, possession, or transportation of any species of wildlife in violation of the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act or any other federal act to prohibit or restrict the possession and transportation of wildlife resources.
- (b) **Limits on collection.** Individuals shall collect no more than 10 turtles from the family Chelydridae (snapping turtles) per day and no more than 100 per calendar and these turtles shall have a curved carapace length greater than 11 inches. Individuals shall collect no more than 10 turtles from the family Kinosternidae (mud and musk turtles) per day and no more than 100 per calendar year.
- (c) **Qualifications of Licensees.** In addition to representatives of educational and scientific institutions and governmental agencies, the collection license may be issued to any individual for any purpose when it is not deemed inimical to the efficient conservation of the species to be collected or to some other wildlife species that may be dependent thereon.
- (d) **Methods of Taking.** The manner of taking wildlife resources under a collection license may be specified by the Executive Director pursuant to G.S. 113-272.4(d) and need not be restricted to the usual methods of hunting or trapping.
- (e) **Term of License.** The Executive Director may, pursuant to G.S. 113-272.4(c), impose time limits and other restrictions on the duration of any collection license, but unless so restricted the license shall be valid from January 1 through December 31 of the applicable year.
- (f) **Report of Collecting Activity.** Each individual licensed under this Rule shall submit a report to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 15 days following the date of expiration of the license. The report shall show the numbers of each species taken under the license and the use or disposition thereof. The Executive Director may require additional information for statistical purposes such as the dates and places of the taking and the sex, size, weight, condition, and approximate age of each specimen taken.
- (g) **Other Requirements and Restrictions.** The Executive Director may, pursuant to G.S. 113-272.4(d), impose such other requirements and restrictions on persons licensed under this Rule as he may deem to be necessary to the efficient administration of the wildlife conservation statutes and rules.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-272.4;
Eff. January 1, 1981;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2017; January 1, 2013; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; April 1, 2001;
February 1, 1994; November 1, 1990; September 1, 1989.*