15A NCAC 10H .1302 POSSESSION OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

(a) Possession permits are required for the possession, importation, transportation, purchase, and sale of:
   (1) 25 or more individuals of any combination of native amphibian species; or
   (2) five or more individuals of native reptile species.

(b) Possession permits shall not be required for the possession, importation, transportation, purchase, and sale of:
   (1) 24 or fewer individuals of any combination of native amphibian species; or
   (2) four or fewer individuals of native reptile species.

(c) Nothing in this Rule shall be construed to authorize the collection of any wildlife resources from the wild or the taking, possession, transportation, sale, purchase, or release to the wild of any wildlife resources or their parts in violation of State or federal laws or regulations.

(d) At no time shall permitted animals be released to the wild, except under situations of research or rehabilitation with written permission from the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(e) The sale of native turtles shall be unlawful, except as authorized by 10A NCAC 41A .0302 and snapping turtles (Chelydra serpentina) with a curved carapace length of 11 inches or greater.

(f) A possession permit shall not be issued for:
   (1) holding reptiles and amphibians that were acquired unlawfully;
   (2) holding reptiles and amphibians for unlawful sale or trade;
   (3) selling snapping turtles (Chelydra serpentina) less than 11 inches (curved carapace length);
   (4) collecting five or more individual native turtles from the families Emydidae or Trionychidae from the wild in a given year, except those entities exempted from collection in Rule .1301(c) of this Section;
   (5) collecting five or more individuals in aggregate from other native reptile families or 25 or more individual amphibians from the wild in a given year without first having secured a valid Collection License;
   (6) individuals in violation of the requirements of a collection license, as set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0119, endangered species permit, as set forth in 15A NCAC 10I .0100, or possession permit as set forth in this Section; or
   (7) individuals who do not first obtain possession permits prior to acquiring the following wildlife resources in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(g) The permit shall be valid from January 1 through December 31 of the applicable year.

(h) Individuals permitted under this Rule shall submit a report to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 15 days following the date of permit expiration. The report shall contain the numbers of each species held under the permit and the use or disposition thereof.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-274(c)(1c); Eff. May 1, 2007; Amended Eff. May 1, 2009; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016; Amended Eff. November 1, 2019; August 1, 2017.