

Conservation Advisory Council  
Minutes  
March 13, 2007

Meeting called to order by chairman Chris Marino at 7:00 PM.

**Attendance:**

Eight primary delegates including: Bruce Tolhurst, American Hunting Dog Club; Jon D'Arpino, CT Falconer's Assoc.; Chris Marino, CT Sportsman's Alliance; Claude Garritt, CT Trappers Assoc.; David Proulx, CT Waterfowl Assoc.; Fred Frillici, Fairfield County League; Ray Szajkowski, NWTf CT; George Finch, New London/ Windham County League.

Six alternate delegates including: Ray Hanley, Bristol F&G; Robert Crook, CCS; Chris Gillette, CT River RGS; Rich Lockary, NWTf CT; Mike Ose, Rockville F&G; George Marsh, UBC.

DEP: BNR Bureau Chief, Edward Parker and ECP Sgt. James Wolfe.

**Motion** to, "approve the February Minutes" by Fred Frillici; second George Finch. No discussion. Motion approved.

The CAC Secretary was not in attendance. No Secretary's Report.

Our thanks to Ray Hanley who agreed to take minutes for the March meeting.

Correspondence: None.

Report from the Chair: None.

**Tip Report:** Wildlife Hotline Activity report for 01/ 09/ 07 through 03/ 13/ 07 was distributed.

Sgt. Wolfe informed the Council that the TIP Trailer was well received at the Hartford Sportsman's Show. A TIP trailer will be provided for the CT Waterfowl Youth Day.

**Law Enforcement:** Sgt. Wolfe reports the hiring of 4 new ECP officers. Total law enforcement staffing is currently at 57 officers.

**BNR Report:** Edward Parker.

- Discuss sportsman response to proposed marine fishing license.
- Fluke Reduction. Ed reported on a meeting with New York Marine Fisheries regarding Fluke reduction and regs. No agreement was reached on this issue due to adverse impact on CT. NY is facing a 37% reduction in take while CT is looking at a 14% reduction. However, CT still desires to achieve consistency in marine regulations with NY and RI.  
Current regs for Fluke are: 18" lgt, 6 fish from April 30 through December 31.  
New regs for Fluke: 18" lgt, 5 fish from April 30 through September 5.  
The new regs will go into effect upon signing by the Commissioner. This will occur prior to the April opening.
- Ed gave an overview of the marine fishery license proposal, and what the agency hopes to accomplish if approved. A handout was provided detailing all proposed sport license changes.
- Inland Fisheries. Stocking is underway.

**Wildlife:**

- Bluff Point Deer control completed. No adverse coverage or protest. Approximately 10 deer harvested.
- Hartford Courant editorial critical of Sunday Hunting. Ed reports there was no inquiry with the BNR for information. The editorial was factually wrong. Ed Parker and Dale May have submitted a rebuttal and have arranged a meeting with the Courant's editorial board.

- Proposed Dog Regulations for state lands. Review has been completed. Notice of intent has been sent out to the 100 people who requested additional information at the first public hearing.
- Trial-blazer program, BSA. Organizational meeting well attended. Bob Clark to coordinate events. Bob is looking for sportsman's groups and DEP assistance. Program to be held in Greenwich on May 5<sup>th</sup>, and in Hebron on June 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Governor Rell and DEP Commissioner McCarthy will host the "Great Park Pursuit" to be held on March 28, at Dinosaur State Park. A flyer was distributed.

#### **Committee Reports:**

Legislative: Robert Crook.

- Bob inquired of Mr. Parker regarding new hunting regulation proposals. Response; no news at this time.
- Bear management issue is in process. No proposal at this time. Earliest possible proposal could take effect by the Fall of 2008. Look for private land management.
- Discuss hunting hours and sunset provision.
- Trapping bill hearing was well attended by CT Trappers.
- Sunday Hunting bill is still viable.
- All bullet bills are dead.
- One gun a month has been relegated to a study by DPS as to its effectiveness.
- Lost & Stolen Gun bills still active.

A motion was offered by Ray Hanley to, "authorize the CAC Chairman to write and submit three letters to the appropriate legislative committees: one to support Sunday Hunting, one to support the DEP licensing proposal and one in opposition to the trapping bill." Motion received a second. No discussion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

#### **Old Business:**

- Fred Frillici brought up the issue of hunting on private preserves. It was noted that Dale May was asked to look into this issue at the December meeting.

#### **New Business:**

- There are now up to 14 falconers registered with the state.
- George Finch asked that DEP arrange to pick up Fisher carcasses on March 31<sup>st</sup>, at Fin, Fur & Feather.
- Dave Proulx discussed an upcoming youth program hosted by CT Waterfowlers Association. Junior Waterfowling Day will be held on Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at Fin, Fur & Feather. A rain date of August 5<sup>th</sup> has been established.
- Fred Frillici brought up a youth recruitment issue regarding regulations imposing a two tip-up limit for youths 16 years and under, while ice fishing. Fred's position is basically to encourage recruitment and retention; youths should have the same opportunity as licensed adults. Fred Frillici **motions** to, "request a regulation change to allow youths the same ice fishing regulations as adults." Ray Szajkowski seconds. No discussion. Motion approved.

**Motion to Adjourn** by Fred Frillici, second by Bob Crook. Motion approved.

Adjourn 9:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Chris M. Marino  
Chairman: CAC

