



Wildlife Action

PEE DEE CHAPTER

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JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

Meeting was opened at 2:30PM by John Etheridge. Donnie Wheeler led prayer and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 20 members were in attendance including Board Members, Roger Burrows, Dennis Wade, and Dan Packard, Keith Wyrick Treasurer, Donnie Wheeler Secretary. Meeting led by John Etheridge.

May minutes were reviewed and approved.

New Business:

- NA

CRSO report

- NA

Treasurers Report was given by Keith Wyrick.

Treasurers report shows favorable balance at this time. Club has approximately \$13,577.00 balance in checking/savings. Does not include Hunt Club balance of approximately \$4,303.60. No major expenses expected until August.

Old Business

Swap meet occurred prior to today's meeting.

Updating calendar online: Members are reminded and encouraged to update the online calendar if they are planning to shoot and to publish dates they plan to serve as RSO

All members reminded and requested to assist in general maintenance and mowing grass on the property.

Fishing Report - Roger Burrows

With recent rain fishing conditions in rivers and lakes are average. Good for Shell Crackers and Brim as they also bed every new moon until cold weather, Recommended bait red worms.

Little River - fishing it is recommended that you use GPS so you can get in and out of the area without getting lost. In emergency DNR will come locate and assist those who cannot find their way back out.

Santee - Crappy and Bass are not schooling and are deeper due to water temperature warming up. Catfish are plentiful and best bait is chum bait and live bait. Salt water fishing is good for Flounder

Review of Boater Safety. Safe boating practices discussed. Use life jackets even if you can swim. Not possible to predict situations where someone may fall out of the boat. Smaller size auto inflate vest or manual inflate vest are more comfortable to wear for extended periods of time. Make sure to check the expiration date on the auto inflate vests. Be aware of weather conditions especially weather warnings and small craft advisories. If there are advisories be smart and do not go out in small boats.

Hunt Club Report - Dennis Wade

Several turkeys have been observed on the club property. There are no active hunting seasons now. There is need for culling of Coyote, Raccoon, and Possums to protect nesting birds' nests their eggs and hatchlings.

Club members interested in joining or renewing their membership in the hunt club should contact Dennis Wade. Club rule limits members to one buck per season. Members desiring to harvest a doe or bringing a youth to hunt should request opportunity to hunt from Dennis Wade.

Education report - Bob Veasey

Review Hale Gold mine in Kershaw area. This 22,000 acre property was purchased in 1789 by Captain Benjamin Hale and in 1800's gold was discovered on the property. This gold mine was the largest gold mine in US prior to 1920. It requires processing 20 ton of ore to result in one ounce of gold. The mine produces 350 ounces of gold per day. Many years of gold remains to be mined at this site. You can call the mine office to schedule a tour of the mine.

Environmental Report John Etheridge

Review that this year Turkey seasons pushed back by two weeks to ensure turkeys have completed mating prior to hunting pressure. There is stress on the Turkey population due to loss of habitat due to development and people not planting grasses etc to maintain available habitat. Predator pressure from Coyote, Raccoon, Possum and observed behavior of vultures and birds of prey eating eggs and hatchlings from the nest.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

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Pre Meeting Note - Swap Meet held just before the meeting was successful. Thanks to all who participated.

Post Meeting Note - The Range security system will be upgraded this month to continue testing a "Road Cam" license plate reader. It will be positioned in the roadbed adjacent the Shotgun Range. It will be well marked for this test period. This activity is to better evaluate the relatively low cost Blink camera equipment for this unusual location and application.