



ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: May 29, 2025

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<p>DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING RICHARD BEARD BUILDING AUDITORIUM AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES 1445 FEDERAL DRIVE MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104 THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>PROCEEDINGS TAKEN BEFORE: JAMIE MCCracken Certified Court Reporter State of Alabama ACCR #451</p>	<p>MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:</p> <p>JOSEPH DOBBS, JR., CHAIRMAN CHRIS BLANKENSHIP, EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY BROCK JONES GRADY HARTZOG, JR. TIM WOOD CHARLIE GRAY RAYMOND JONES RICK PATE KEVIN SAVOY GREG BARKSDALE</p>
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<p>CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Everybody is here and seated. Thank y'all for being here. This inclement weather day is tough but maybe it's going to move out a little later today and we can all travel home safely.</p> <p>I'm going to ask -- First, let me introduce before I ask. We have a new Board member who has taken the place of Mr. Gary Wolfe, Mr. Charlie Gray from Dauphin Island, Alabama.</p> <p>Charlie, would you -- do you mind telling us a little bit about yourself?</p> <p>MR. GRAY: Sure. I'm Charlie Gray from Dauphin Island. I've lived down there full time permanently since 2004. I've got an inshore charter fishing service down there. I've been charter fishing down there for about 20 to 25 years.</p> <p>My first job was on Dauphin</p>	<p>Island, twelve, working for the Taul family at the Dauphin Island Marina. So, that's -- (Inaudible) -- with charter boats, and that's what I do.</p> <p>Also, Surety Land Title in Mobile, been there for 40 years. I appreciate the opportunity Mr. Blankenship has given me.</p> <p>CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you, Charlie. Welcome to the Board and good luck going forward.</p> <p>I'm going to ask you now, if you will do that for us, please, to lead our invocation.</p> <p>(Prayer led by Commissioner Blankenship.)</p> <p>CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you. Thank you very much.</p> <p>If you will all stand with me, I'll lead us in the pledge.</p> <p>(Pledge of Allegiance.)</p> <p>CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you all. So let me</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 take a few minutes to -- a few 2 seconds to remind y'all about it 3 and thank Betsy and Wanda, and I'll 4 do that again, for helping put this 5 together, you and y'all's staff, 6 thank you very much. 7 Somebody I leave out is -- or 8 have, is Mr. Billy Pope. And Billy 9 is the gentleman that takes the 10 photographs that you see, is 11 responsible for so many things. 12 So, thank you, Billy, always; you 13 do a wonderful job and you're 14 wonderful to be around. Thank you. 15 Also Charlanna Skaggs, her 16 staff, Juliana and Jennifer. 17 And then, of course, our 18 wonderful law enforcement, thank 19 you, gentlemen, for being here. 20 So, I'd like to read with you 21 today the -- You know what, I'll 22 pass on that, in the interest of 23 time, and I'll ask our Secretary.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 Mr. Secretary, do we have a 2 quorum today? 3 COMMISSIONER BLANKENSHIP: Yes, sir, we 4 do. 5 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: All right. The meeting 6 minutes of our previous meeting 7 have been distributed to the Board. 8 Are there any corrections to those 9 meeting minutes? 10 (No response.) 11 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: As there are no 12 corrections from the Board, those 13 minutes are approved. Thank you 14 very much. Thank you, thank you, 15 thank you. 16 I'd like to ask Mr. 17 Blankenship to please provide us 18 any updates since our last meeting. 19 COMMISSIONER BLANKENSHIP: Thank you, sir. 20 First, again, I would like to 21 thank Gary Wolfe for his service to 22 the Board for many years. He was a 23 good friend and appreciate his time</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 here, but we are excited to have 2 Mr. Charlie Gray serving in that 3 spot from District One. Appreciate 4 Charlie's knowledge on -- 5 particularly on the marine fishery 6 side and what he'll bring to the 7 Board with -- in the area of 8 expertise, to keep a good check on 9 Scott Bannon, make sure he's doing 10 the right thing down at the Marine 11 Resource Division. 12 But, all kidding aside, glad 13 to have you, Charlie. 14 And thank you, all, for making 15 the time for this special called 16 meeting today so that we could 17 conduct business, appreciate your 18 service to the Board. 19 I didn't -- I did provide 20 everybody, kind of, a copy of this 21 Outdoor Recreation Expansion 22 Program booklet/pamphlet. There is 23 a legislative conference that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 Alabama is hosting this year, the 2 Southern Legislative Conference. 3 And as part of that, there is an 4 awards program. And so we -- when 5 we started putting together, kind 6 of, a list of all the things that 7 we are doing on the outdoor 8 recreation front in Alabama and we 9 put it into one pamphlet and 10 submitted that for that legislative 11 conference. 12 But I thought it was important 13 to share with y'all, when you look 14 at all of the different types of 15 work that we're doing 16 department-wide for outdoor 17 recreation, it's over \$406-million 18 of work that's taken place, and 19 that includes work in the State 20 parks, \$228-million; about 21 \$56-million in boating access 22 projects; \$76-million in beach 23 re-nourishment or beach access;</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 \$10-million for State lakes; 2 \$12-million in trail enhancements. 3 When you put it all together, 4 there's a lot of work that our 5 staff is doing statewide. And I'm 6 very impressed with our folks and 7 the work that's taking place. And, 8 after putting that together to 9 submit with the award, I wanted to 10 make sure and give it to all the 11 Board members so you can have that 12 information as well. 13 When you see our staff, just, 14 please, thank them for the work 15 that they're doing because it is 16 making generational difference, I 17 think, in our State for outdoor 18 recreation. It's something we can 19 all -- all be proud of. 20 The opening of red snapper 21 season was last week, seemed to go 22 pretty well this weekend; the 23 weather was decent. Everybody -- I</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 saw a lot of people with some nice 2 fish and a few more people that 3 fished this opening weekend than 4 last year's opening weekend when 5 the weather was not nearly as good. 6 I saw a lot of people in the ports 7 and, more importantly, I got to go 8 fishing, so. I got to catch a lot 9 of red snapper. 10 It was -- That was a great, 11 great weekend. I got to go with my 12 dad on Friday and with my son on 13 the holiday week -- on the holiday 14 on Monday and -- and with my wife 15 on Saturday; so I got -- I got 16 three good -- three good but 17 different trips in over the 18 weekend. So it was nice to get out 19 and enjoy the resource. 20 Shrimp season opens on June 21 first, that's this Sunday. That 22 used to always be one of the 23 largest days in the marine side was</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 the opening day of shrimp season. 2 It's not quite as many boats or as 3 much participation as it was, you 4 know, 30 years ago when I started 5 my career. But it's still a big 6 day. If you like shrimp, it should 7 be -- should be available starting 8 -- fresh, local shrimp available 9 starting on Monday when everybody 10 gets in from that -- from the 11 opening day. 12 State Lands Director Patti 13 McCurdy is not here today because 14 they are working on the State Lands 15 Public Hunting auction materials. 16 All the sealed bids were due today 17 so they're compiling all those. 18 But the live auction for the 19 hunting properties is this upcoming 20 Saturday at 10:00 a.m., at The 21 Grande Hall at the Old Mill Square 22 in Columbiana. That was chosen 23 because Columbiana's, pretty much,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 the center of the State and, that 2 way, people can come from -- from 3 wherever to get to that part. But 4 this is not -- I want to make it 5 clear, it's not leasing our WMAs or 6 SOAs. These are properties that 7 are owned by other State agencies 8 like Education, Mental Health, 9 Department of Corrections and some 10 of those, and some of our own State 11 Lands property that we manage 12 that's available for people to 13 lease for public hunting. 14 Most of those properties are 15 being managed for timber income 16 for, like, the school systems. But 17 this is an additional opportunity 18 for income for the school system. 19 They provide more land for people 20 to be able to lease and hunt in our 21 State. 22 So, it's a -- it's a good 23 thing. But that -- that is -- it</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 happens every five years and this</p> <p>2 Saturday is when that -- when that</p> <p>3 happens.</p> <p>4 I met with a good group</p> <p>5 yesterday of dog hunters, had a</p> <p>6 good discussion about dog hunting</p> <p>7 in our State and history and the</p> <p>8 future and current conditions. And</p> <p>9 it was a very good -- good meeting</p> <p>10 yesterday.</p> <p>11 In the other business or</p> <p>12 unfinished business section, I'd</p> <p>13 like to discuss some options on a</p> <p>14 -- to address the remaining problem</p> <p>15 areas that we're having with dog</p> <p>16 hunting.</p> <p>17 And, hopefully, when we get to</p> <p>18 that section, Mr. Chairman, I'm</p> <p>19 glad to say a few words about that.</p> <p>20 In your regulation packet that</p> <p>21 you received -- I hope that we'll</p> <p>22 vote on today -- there will be one</p> <p>23 change to what was submitted to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 you, just make -- wanted to make</p> <p>2 sure we point that out, that due to</p> <p>3 the legislation that was passed</p> <p>4 concerning deer breeders, that the</p> <p>5 CWD regulation, that last section</p> <p>6 that deals with deer breeders and</p> <p>7 sampling there, that will be</p> <p>8 removed. But everything else in</p> <p>9 the packet should be, you know, the</p> <p>10 same, what you -- what you received</p> <p>11 back in March.</p> <p>12 With that, that's all I've got</p> <p>13 this morning, Mr. Chairman.</p> <p>14 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you very much, we</p> <p>15 appreciate that.</p> <p>16 Let's do a brief introduction</p> <p>17 of the Board members. If we could</p> <p>18 start down at the very far end, if</p> <p>19 you don't mind introducing yourself</p> <p>20 and your district. Thank you.</p> <p>21 MR. BARKSDALE: My name's Greg Barksdale</p> <p>22 -- Greg Barksdale, I'm District</p> <p>23 Four. I live in Hanceville,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 Alabama.</p> <p>2 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you.</p> <p>3 MR. WOOD: I'm Tim Wood. I'm from Selma,</p> <p>4 Congressional District Seven.</p> <p>5 MR. HARTZOG: Grady Hartzog, District Two.</p> <p>6 MR. SAVOY: Kevin Savoy, District Two.</p> <p>7 MR. PATE: I'm Rick Pate, Commissioner of</p> <p>8 Agriculture and Industry. We</p> <p>9 welcome you to our building.</p> <p>10 Hopefully you know the restrooms</p> <p>11 are right here outside the doors,</p> <p>12 the men's and women's, on this</p> <p>13 side. But anything -- This feels a</p> <p>14 little cool; if y'all are, I can</p> <p>15 see if they -- but if you're okay.</p> <p>16 But, anyway, let me know if</p> <p>17 there's anything we can do for you</p> <p>18 while you are here. I actually</p> <p>19 live in Lowndesboro and I don't</p> <p>20 know what district that is.</p> <p>21 MR. RAYMOND JONES: Raymond Jones from</p> <p>22 Huntsville, Congressional District</p> <p>23 Five.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 MR. BROCK JONES: Brock Jones, Tuscaloosa,</p> <p>2 District Six. And you were</p> <p>3 mentioning about the State parks,</p> <p>4 Matthew Capps gave me a tour of</p> <p>5 Lurleen last week and I was very</p> <p>6 impressed with the progress we've</p> <p>7 made there.</p> <p>8 MR. GRAY: Charlie Gray, District One,</p> <p>9 Dauphin Island.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you, gentlemen.</p> <p>11 And thank you, Commissioner</p> <p>12 Pate, for the use of the building</p> <p>13 and this hall. Thank you very</p> <p>14 much.</p> <p>15 So our next agenda item is</p> <p>16 unfinished business. I don't think</p> <p>17 that there is any unfinished</p> <p>18 business.</p> <p>19 We will conduct the motions as</p> <p>20 part of new business. I think all</p> <p>21 of the things or questions that we</p> <p>22 had at previous meetings have been</p> <p>23 addressed by the staffs. So, with</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 that, let's move on to new 2 business. So, shall we -- are 3 there any motions, any new business 4 before this Board today? 5 MR. SAVOY: I have one, Mr. Chairman. 6 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Go ahead, Mr. Savoy. 7 MR. SAVOY: I would like to propose an 8 amendment to 220-2112. And I can 9 read that, if needed. 10 (a) It shall be unlawful to 11 cast, release, or otherwise 12 place a dog for the purpose 13 of hunting deer from, upon, 14 or onto a public right-of-way 15 without the permission of the 16 landowners whose land adjoins 17 the right-of-way within 50 18 feet of the location of each 19 dog. 20 (b) It shall be unlawful for 21 any person to utilize a dog 22 for the purpose of deer 23 hunting without the person</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 placing or maintaining on 2 said dog a collar containing 3 the following information 4 clearly stated thereon: the 5 name, address, and telephone 6 number of the person 7 utilizing the dog. 8 (c) It shall be unlawful for 9 any person owning, having the 10 care of, or using any dog, to 11 allow any dog or dogs, for 12 the purpose of deer hunting, 13 to enter onto, cross, or 14 remain upon the property of 15 another without written 16 permission from the 17 landowner, lessee of the 18 property. Written permission 19 may be a paper copy, e-mail, 20 text, or other electronic 21 form and shall be in the 22 possession of each person 23 using such dogs on the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 property of another person 2 and shall be presented upon 3 the request of any 4 Conservation Enforcement 5 Officer. 6 A first offense of this 7 paragraph shall result in a written 8 warning; subsequent violations may 9 result in the issuance of a 10 citation. 11 (d) It shall be unlawful for 12 any person, without 13 permission of the owner, to 14 remove, tamper with, or 15 disable any collar, GPS 16 tracking collar, or training 17 correction collar on a dog 18 used for the purpose of deer 19 hunting. 20 Note: While not required by 21 this rule, the Department of 22 Conservation and Natural Resources 23 strongly encourages the use of GPS</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 tracking collars and training 2 correction collars on dogs used for 3 deer hunting. 4 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you, Mr. Savoy. 5 Was that sufficient for the 6 court reporter? 7 COURT REPORTER: Yes, sir. 8 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: I will be providing you a 9 copy of that and I will not re-read 10 that regulation. 11 There's a motion on the floor; 12 is there a discussion? 13 MR. HARTZOG: Second. 14 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Second. Second. Mr. 15 Hartzog seconded the motion. 16 Is there a discussion? 17 Mr. Commissioner. 18 COMMISSIONER BLANKENSHIP: Yes. Thank 19 you. 20 Thank you for the motion, Mr. 21 Savoy, and the second. 22 As you all know, for many 23 years we've been having people that</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 have come from different parts of 2 the State that have had issues with 3 dogs getting on their property, 4 primarily around the Talladega 5 National Forest is where we've seen 6 most of the issues, as of late. As 7 I mentioned yesterday in meeting 8 with the dog hunters, I've been in 9 this Department now over 30 years, 10 been attending Advisory Board 11 meetings for over 20 years and -- 12 over -- I guess closer to 30 years 13 now, actually, attending the 14 Advisory Board meetings. And they 15 used to last from early in the 16 morning, until late afternoon or 17 into the evening because of all the 18 complaints or problems with dog 19 deer hunting around the State. And 20 most of those have been addressed. 21 It is in -- We're in -- It's a 22 much different place now than it 23 was 30 years ago. A lot of that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 has to do with the responsibilities 2 of the hunters and then the 3 technology improvements, you know, 4 that we have so many less issues 5 than we've had in the past. But we 6 are still receiving complaints in 7 certain areas that I think -- that 8 I feel, after talking with the 9 Board and the public, you know, I 10 -- I just hate not to address 11 those. And for several years the 12 people have come from the Talladega 13 National Forest, landowners that 14 surround that, and continue to have 15 -- have problems with -- with 16 certain individuals or certain -- 17 certain folks. And so I really 18 think our options are three: 19 One is to do nothing, do 20 nothing at all and just continue to 21 let those people have problems and 22 their hunts to be impacted because 23 of a handful of folks that are not</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 doing it correctly in that county 2 or other counties around the State 3 where we're having a few issues. 4 Two is to put more areas on 5 the permit system or do a statewide 6 permit system, which I think is not 7 really fair to the dog deer hunters 8 that are doing it correctly. Then 9 you'd be -- especially in the 10 Talladega National Forest area; if 11 you put that on the permit system, 12 it's really not able to permit the 13 National Forest and so they -- it 14 really would end hunting there for 15 -- with dogs. I just don't know 16 that, that is the best course of 17 action. 18 And so the third option is to 19 do what we did in 2019. What we 20 proposed then was the amendment to 21 the dog deer hunting regulation 22 that would allow our officers to 23 have a tool to address the issue</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 with folks that are not doing it 2 correctly and letting their dogs 3 get off on other people's property 4 repeatedly. 5 As the motion states, there'd 6 be one -- first offense would be a 7 warning and then the officers could 8 issue a ticket after that. And I 9 think this would really give the 10 officers a tool to be able to 11 handle this. And I am -- would 12 recommend to the Board, on behalf 13 of our staff and the officers that 14 work in the field, that this is an 15 opportunity to see if this would 16 work to address those issues before 17 we do something that would be more 18 intrusive and would cut out some of 19 the dog hunting in places that -- I 20 mean, frankly, I just don't -- I 21 hate to take more area away if we 22 can do it and just address it with 23 the people that are causing the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 problems, so.</p> <p>2 I'd be glad to hear your</p> <p>3 thoughts on that from the Board; I</p> <p>4 just wanted to share mine.</p> <p>5 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you, Commissioner.</p> <p>6 Mr. Jones.</p> <p>7 MR. RAYMOND JONES: I would just like to</p> <p>8 echo a lot of what Commissioner</p> <p>9 Blankenship said. My first Board</p> <p>10 meeting was 32 years ago. I've</p> <p>11 only served 20 years total so I've</p> <p>12 not served consecutively. But for</p> <p>13 30 -- the last 32 years when this</p> <p>14 Board has met, that's been the</p> <p>15 primary issue that they've dealt</p> <p>16 with, has been dog deer hunting.</p> <p>17 And I remember those days where the</p> <p>18 meetings started early in the</p> <p>19 morning and went well into the</p> <p>20 afternoon. And there's been lots</p> <p>21 of issues.</p> <p>22 Now, I will say, I want to</p> <p>23 commend the dog hunters, and I -- I</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 know many of you in this room enjoy</p> <p>2 it, and you guys are doing it</p> <p>3 right. And you guys are trying to</p> <p>4 do the right thing. I can't tell</p> <p>5 you in the 32 years I've been</p> <p>6 around that -- how much it's</p> <p>7 improved. But we still have</p> <p>8 problems. And we -- it -- this is</p> <p>9 not whether we like dog deer</p> <p>10 hunting or not like dog deer</p> <p>11 hunting. I think this Board, time</p> <p>12 and time again, has proven that we</p> <p>13 have tried to help you all continue</p> <p>14 to do what you do because we've</p> <p>15 been very long suffering.</p> <p>16 I notice some of the</p> <p>17 landowners that may be in the room.</p> <p>18 It appears like we're very slow and</p> <p>19 inactive. And that's -- we --</p> <p>20 we're trying to be fair to all</p> <p>21 parties and that's what we've done.</p> <p>22 But it's -- it's been a problem.</p> <p>23 And I think this solution,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 this motion, will greatly enhance</p> <p>2 and keep the ability to be able for</p> <p>3 you to do what you love to do and</p> <p>4 we want you to continue to do. And</p> <p>5 thank you, all, for working with</p> <p>6 us. And thank you to all the</p> <p>7 landowners for being patient with</p> <p>8 us, but I think we're in a place</p> <p>9 that this makes a lot of sense.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you, Mr. Jones.</p> <p>11 Mr. Brock Jones.</p> <p>12 MR. BROCK JONES: I think Raymond did a</p> <p>13 great job of saying, basically,</p> <p>14 what I was going to say.</p> <p>15 And so, I commend the</p> <p>16 Commissioner and Mr. Savoy for this</p> <p>17 idea, trying to find a solution</p> <p>18 that's going to not be quite as</p> <p>19 harsh, as far as the permit system,</p> <p>20 eventually, hopefully not, and just</p> <p>21 trying to strike a proper balance</p> <p>22 between the rights of the</p> <p>23 landowners and the -- the dog</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 hunters.</p> <p>2 And I am so impressed with the</p> <p>3 Commissioner in his way in working</p> <p>4 with people and trying to do the</p> <p>5 right thing and I commend you for</p> <p>6 it. Thank you.</p> <p>7 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you, Mr. Jones.</p> <p>8 Any more questions?</p> <p>9 Mr. Hartzog?</p> <p>10 MR. HARTZOG: Mr. Chairman, Kevin and I</p> <p>11 live in the district that normally</p> <p>12 got the most complaints and -- and</p> <p>13 over the years and -- and things</p> <p>14 have gotten tremendously better.</p> <p>15 The complaints we get, I can either</p> <p>16 call Lonnie or Don and, generally,</p> <p>17 the problem is handled almost</p> <p>18 immediately. And we really</p> <p>19 appreciate that.</p> <p>20 I think the dog hunters have</p> <p>21 come a long way in cleaning up</p> <p>22 their act and in cleaning up their</p> <p>23 procedures. And I think that this</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 new regulation going into effect, I 2 think it would be appropriate to, 3 maybe, reward the deer hunters for 4 doing a good job by, the next year, 5 extending their season. There have 6 been requests, I think about two 7 meetings ago, that they be extended 8 past Martin Luther King Day. And I 9 would really like the Board to 10 consider that in the next session. 11 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Thank you. Thank you, 12 Mr. Hartzog, very much. 13 Any additional questions? 14 (No response.) 15 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Well, as a long continued 16 member of the Board as well, I'd 17 like to add to what Mr. Jones and 18 Mr. Jones and Mr. Hartzog said. It 19 has been a long road with the dog 20 deer hunters. Things are better. 21 We don't have violence. Fifteen 22 years ago, there were some 23 incidents of violence in the field</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 and in our meetings. 2 So, I'm -- As Mr. Jones said, 3 I commend them for doing what 4 they're doing, for the responsible 5 acts of the Dog Hunters 6 Associations and things. And we're 7 here to work with and for 8 everybody. But the resource is our 9 number one goal. Thank you very 10 much. 11 So, with that being said, we 12 have a motion on the floor and a 13 second; discussion, any further 14 discussion? 15 (No response.) 16 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Discussion is closed. So 17 I will ask for a vote. All of 18 those in favor, please note by 19 raising your right hand. 20 (Board members complied.) 21 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: The motion carries 22 unanimously. 23 Is there any other new</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 business before this Board today? 2 MR. HARTZOG: Mr. Chairman. 3 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Yes, Mr. Hartzog. 4 MR. HARTZOG: May I approach the podium? 5 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: You may. 6 MR. HARTZOG: You know, years ago we used 7 to, always recognized when people 8 retired and left. And several 9 years ago, the Board and Ducks 10 Unlimited gave Barnett Lawley what 11 we call "The Old Coot Award" for 12 all his service. 13 So, we were hoping Chuck was 14 going to be here today; but if Fred 15 or Wanda or somebody would carry it 16 back to him, the Board here now 17 has -- and Ducks Unlimited has -- 18 an "Old Coot Award" for Chuck to 19 put on his desk so he can remember 20 his work with the Alabama 21 Conservation and Natural Resources 22 and his work with Ducks Unlimited. 23 So --</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 Thank y'all and thank Chuck 2 for all the work that he's done for 3 us. 4 (Applause.) 5 COMMISSIONER BLANKENSHIP: And Director 6 Sykes is representing us this week 7 at a -- last week at a conference, 8 the Southeast -- the SEAFWA 9 Conference and so he is not able to 10 be here today. He will miss not 11 getting to get his -- He will miss 12 not being here to get his award. 13 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Okay. Okay. Thank you, 14 Mr. Hartzog. Thank you very much. 15 And so, is there any 16 additional new business today 17 before this Board? 18 Mr. Raymond Jones. 19 MR. RAYMOND JONES: Mr. Chairman, I'd like 20 to move for the approval of the 21 seasons, their dates and times, all 22 bag limits, creel limits and 23 restrictions, and all other items</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 set forth in the current proposed</p> <p>2 regulations and season</p> <p>3 recommendations as it relates to</p> <p>4 all sections and divisions of the</p> <p>5 Department of Conservation and</p> <p>6 Natural Resources.</p> <p>7 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: All right. There's a</p> <p>8 motion on the floor. Is there a</p> <p>9 second?</p> <p>10 MR. SAVOY: Second.</p> <p>11 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: Mr. Savoy, thank you.</p> <p>12 Is there any discussion?</p> <p>13 (No response).</p> <p>14 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: We're all apprised of the</p> <p>15 changes and Commissioner apprised</p> <p>16 us of the changes for Wildlife and</p> <p>17 Freshwater Fisheries. As there is</p> <p>18 no discussion, discussion is</p> <p>19 closed. Let's vote on this.</p> <p>20 Will everyone in favor, please</p> <p>21 let that be known by raising your</p> <p>22 left hand.</p> <p>23 (Board members are raising</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 hands.)</p> <p>2 CHAIRMAN DOBBS: The ayes have it, the</p> <p>3 motion carries.</p> <p>4 Ms. Court Reporter, I will</p> <p>5 bring you a copy of both of those.</p> <p>6 Thank you.</p> <p>7 There are no announcements</p> <p>8 that I'm aware of. We're not going</p> <p>9 to have another meeting, as far as</p> <p>10 I know, in 2025. So, the next</p> <p>11 meeting will be sometime in</p> <p>12 February, March of 2026. Y'all</p> <p>13 enjoy this day. Please be safe</p> <p>14 going home. And, as I say every</p> <p>15 time, this Department touches your</p> <p>16 lives in everything you do so enjoy</p> <p>17 and say thank you every now and</p> <p>18 again. God bless you. Thank you.</p> <p>19 This meeting's adjourned.</p> <p>20 (The Conservation Advisory</p> <p>21 Board Meeting ended at</p> <p>22 approximately 10:54 a.m. on</p> <p>23 Wednesday, May 29th, 2025.)</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE</p> <p>2 STATE OF ALABAMA</p> <p>3 MONTGOMERY COUNTY</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 I, Jamie McCracken, Certified Court</p> <p>6 Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of</p> <p>7 Alabama at Large, certify on Thursday, May 29th,</p> <p>8 2025, that I reported the proceedings in the matter</p> <p>9 of:</p> <p>10 ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF</p> <p>11 CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES</p> <p>12 IN RE THE MATTER OF:</p> <p>13 CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING</p> <p>14</p> <p>15 on Thursday, May 29th, 2025, that the foregoing 34</p> <p>16 computer-printed pages contain a true and correct</p> <p>17 transcript of the meeting set out herein.</p> <p>18 I further certify that I am neither a relative,</p> <p>19 employee, attorney or counsel of any of the</p> <p>20 parties, nor am I a relative or employee of such</p> <p>21 attorney or counsel, nor am I financially</p> <p>22 interested in the results thereof. All rates</p> <p>23 charged are usual and customary.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 I further certify that I am duly licensed by the</p> <p>2 Alabama Board of Court Reporting as a Certified</p> <p>3 Court Reporter as evidenced by the ACCR number</p> <p>4 following my name found below.</p> <p>5 This 25th day of July in the year of our</p> <p>6 Lord, 2025.</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 <i>15/Jamie McCracken</i></p> <p>11 Jamie McCracken, CCR</p> <p>12 ACCR NO. 451 Exp. 9/30/25</p> <p>13 Certified Court Reporter and</p> <p>14 Notary Public</p> <p>15 Commission expires 10/28/28</p> <p>16</p> <p>17 (C) Copyright 2025, Boggs Reporting & Video. All</p> <p>18 rights reserved. No portion of this document may</p> <p>19 be reproduced without written consent of Boggs</p> <p>20 Reporting & Video.</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p>

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