



# NCWRC Wildlife Conservation Land Program Enrollment

---

## STEP BY STEP

The Wildlife Conservation Land Program (WCLP) offers a property tax deferment for qualifying landowners who implement prescribed management practices on their property. The required management actions are specified in a Wildlife Habitat Conservation Agreement (WHCA) that can be developed by a NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) biologist. All WHCAs must be approved by the NCWRC. The following checklist defines the steps necessary to request NCWRC assistance to develop a WHCA and to enroll in WCLP.

- Review information at <http://ncwildlife.gov/WCLP> to determine if your property is eligible for the WCLP.
- Discuss the WCLP with co-owners or others who influence decisions for the property. Consider which WCLP criteria may fit the property and the level of management you are willing to implement.
- Complete the Application for Wildlife Resources Commission Assistance document and submit it via e-mail to [privatelands@ncwildlife.gov](mailto:privatelands@ncwildlife.gov) or by mail: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, Wildlife Management Division, c/o Wildlife Habitat Coordinator, 1722 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1700.
- A NCWRC biologist will contact you to discuss program details and determine the next steps in developing the required WHCA.
- Schedule a site visit with the NCWRC biologist. During this visit you will inspect the property together and identify management practices that qualify for the WCLP and meet your specified wildlife objectives for the property.
- The biologist will draft a WHCA for the property based on your input. You should review the WHCA with others that have a vested interest in the property before final signatures are obtained. Keep in mind failure to follow the WHCA can result in a financial penalty.
- Prior to applying for the WCLP with the county tax office, you must sign the WHCA and provide a signed copy to the NCWRC biologist.
- To apply for the WCLP you must submit a fully signed copy of the WHCA and a completed NC Department of Revenue AV-56 form to the county tax office during their open enrollment period. Open enrollment is usually during January each year but should be confirmed with your county tax office. If you have purchased or inherited a tract of land previously enrolled in the WCLP, you must submit an updated WHCA and AV-56 to the local tax office within 60 days following deed transfer.
- The county tax office will make the final determination concerning enrollment in the WCLP and adjust property tax valuation based on the qualifying WCLP criteria.
- You must adhere to and document the management activities as specified in the WHCA. Failure to do so may result in a determination that you are out of compliance with WCLP regulations, which could result in a financial penalty levied by the county tax office. If you are unable to meet the obligations of the WHCA, contact your primary NCWRC representative as soon as possible.