

**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 are required for the rehabilitation of native reptiles and amphibians.
- (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) 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) individuals collecting snapping turtles under the collection license set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0119;
  - (4) collection of native reptiles and amphibians from the wild;
  - (5) individuals in violation of the requirements of a collection license, as set forth in 15A NCAC 10B .0119, an endangered species permit, as set forth in 15A NCAC 10I .0100, or a possession permit as set forth in this Section; or
  - (6) individuals who do not first obtain possession permits prior to acquiring the following wildlife resources in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (f) Unless a more limited duration is designated on the permit, possession permits shall be valid from January 1 through December 31 of the applicable year.
- (g) 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.
- (h) Any individual engaged in the purchased transportation and sale of more than 100 snapping turtles is required to have a possession permit. Permitted individuals shall submit the numbers of snapping turtles taken under the permit and the use or disposition thereof to the Wildlife Resources Commission within 15 days of permit expiration.

*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. August 1, 2022; November 1, 2019; August 1, 2017.*