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☒ North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission ☒

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Gordon S. Myers, Executive Director

November 23, 2009

Beth Knapp-Tyner, President  
Wildlife Rehabilitators of North Carolina  
P.O. Box 2844  
Durham, NC 27715

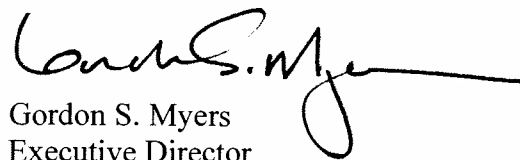
Dear Ms. Knapp-Tyner:

I am writing in response to your letter of July 3, 2009 proposing that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) implement a special rabies vector species rehabilitation permit. After receiving your letter, I requested input from the State Health Director, Jeffery P. Engel, M.D., regarding the human health implications of honoring your request.

The WRC is tasked with insuring the wise use, management and conservation of North Carolina's fish and wildlife resources. The Division of Public Health is tasked with promoting and contributing to the highest possible level of health for the people of North Carolina.

Dr. Engel outlined significant concerns that rehabilitation of rabies vector species would result in unacceptable risk to the public and to rehabilitators. Due to the concerns of the State Public Health Director and the fact that rehabilitation of rabies vector species is not necessary to maintain viable wildlife populations, I am denying your request. Nevertheless, I believe your organization can play a valuable role in wildlife rabies awareness and would be interested in having agency staff work cooperatively with you in that regard. Thank you for your concern and passion for North Carolina's wildlife.

Sincerely,



Gordon S. Myers  
Executive Director