

# Gaining Access Into Nature



Review Committee Update and  
Proposed Rule Development



# Current Access of WMA's



- Fishing license, hunting license, or GAIN permit is required to access WMA's
- 1,119 GAIN permits sold 2014-15 license year
- Access is very restricted and Department has taken the "WMA's are closed unless otherwise open" approach
- Only a few activities are allowed and access is not consistent between WMA's

# Committee Goal

*“Fully review the current GAIN program and make necessary changes to the program in order to facilitate the public going outdoors (as the statute intends) and assist in the economic development of an area.”*



# Committee's Approach



- Make sure access doesn't:
  - Negatively impact wildlife or cultural resources
  - Violate purpose of the property
- WMA's will be "open unless otherwise closed"
- Simplify access rules and make consistent as possible between all WMA's

# Overview of General Rules

- May not remove or deface rocks, minerals, plants, animals, firewood, or cultural features
- Scouting will be allowed 7 days prior to hunt when lands are otherwise closed
- Camping allowed up to 14 days in designated areas
- No coyote calling contest on WMA's
- Director maintains the authority to close lands and allow prohibited activities as necessary



# Recommended Permitting

- A valid hunting license, fishing license, or HMAV will be required for access by a group



Questions?