

**AGENDA**  
**North Carolina Land and Water Fund**  
**Acquisition Committee Meeting**  
February 13, 2025, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

This meeting will be held via teleconference and will have a physical location on the 4th floor of the Nature Research Center located at 121 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC in room 4508. If any member of the public would like to join to the meeting via MS Teams or in person, please contact Terri Murray at [teresa.murray@dncr.nc.gov](mailto:teresa.murray@dncr.nc.gov) or 919-707-9400 in advance to request a meeting invitation/call-in number or directions.

**Committee Members:**

Amy Grissom (Chair), Jason Walser, Darrel Williams, John Wilson, David Womack

**COMMENCEMENT**

**1) Call to Order (Chair)**

a) Welcome

b) Roll call

**c) Compliance with General Statute § 138A-15**

*General Statute § 138A-15 mandates that the Chair inquire as to whether any Trustee knows of any conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest with respect to matters on the agenda. If any Trustee knows of a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest, please state so at this time.*

**d) Please put cell phones on vibrate or turn off, and if guests are joining remotely, mute your audio and turn off your video unless you are called upon to speak**

**e) Revisions, additions, and adoption of the agenda**

**f) Approval of committee meeting minutes from November 18, 2024**

**2) Executive Director's Update (Will Summer)**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public is invited to make comments to the committee (Chair)

*The NCLWF Guidelines and Practices Manual states that comments shall be limited to subjects of business falling within the jurisdiction of the NCLWF. The NCLWF welcomes public comments on general issues. Comments will not be allowed on individual projects before the NCLWF for funding during the regular meeting. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person.*

**BUSINESS**

**1) Program Manager's Update (Marissa Hartzler)**

Staff will provide an update on Acquisition Program closings and funding.

**2) Report on 2021 Grants (Marissa Hartzler)**

Staff will provide progress updates on 2021-051 TNC 421 Sand Ridge Phase 2 and 2021-037 TCF Johnson Farm.

**3) 2023D-013 PCP Boiling Spring Lakes Kurunsaari Extension (Marissa Hartzler)**

Staff will present a request to extend a Donation Mini-Grant contract.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**North Carolina Land and Water Fund  
Acquisition Committee Meeting Minutes  
November 18, 2024**

The meeting was held via Teams with a physical location on the 4th floor of the Nature Research Center located at 121 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC in room 4508. All Committee Members in attendance were on Teams, and the Teams link was provided to guest attendees.

Committee Members present: Amy Grissom (Chair), Jason Walser, Darrel Williams, David Womack, John Wilson (joined meeting at 1:07 p.m.)

Committee Members not present: none

Additional Board Members present: Clement Riddle, Mike Rusher, Darrel Williams, Ann Browning

Staff present: Will Summer, Marissa Hartzler, Steve Bevington, Marie Meckman, Christina Benton, Damon Hearne, Justin Mercer, Jill Fusco, Chelsea Blount, Will Price, Donna Morris, Nicolle Montero, Zoe Hansen Burnet

Visitors present: Joan Lyons, Julie Parham, Sarah Beth Gentry

**COMMENCEMENT**

**Call to Order** (Amy Grissom, Chair)

Meeting was called to order by Amy Grissom, Chair, at 1:02 p.m.

1. Welcome
2. Compliance with General Statute § 138A-15
  - a. No conflicts of interest were noted
3. Revisions, Additions and Adoption of the Agenda
  - a. **Motion** to approve the agenda was made by David Womack, seconded by Darrel Williams, and unanimously approved, with John Wilson not yet in attendance.
  - b. **Motion** to approve the committee meeting minutes from October 1, 2024, was made by Darrel Williams, seconded by David Womack, and unanimously approved, with John Wilson not yet in attendance.

**Executive Director's Update** (Will Summer)

Will Summer provided an update on new administration and Helene recovery.

**Public Comments**

No public requests for comment

**Business**

- 1) **Program Manager's update** (Marissa Hartzler)
  - a. Staff presented closings to date for 2024, which included approval to close for 37 projects protecting over 12,500 acres. Staff expect at least five more closings before the end of the year. The committee and staff discussed resources and increasing the speed of closings.
  - b. The program has funded the first project on the 2024 provisional list, 2024-025 NCDNCR Nantz Tract – Fort Dobbs State Historic Site.
- 2) **2024-027 NCCLT Topsail** (Marie Meckman)
  - a. **Motion** to recommend reducing the scope from 147 acres to approximately 97 acres and reducing the budget by \$158,200 was made by David Womack, seconded by Jason Walser, and unanimously approved.

- b. The Committee requests that future application presentations note when projects are situated in similarly fragile or dynamic systems.
- 3) **2023-071 TCF Winter Star Ridge** (Marissa Hartzler)
  - a. **Motion** to recommend reducing the scope from 216 acres to approximately 103.5 acres and the changing the conservation strategy from State to conservation nonprofit ownership was made by Darrell Williams, seconded by David Womack, and unanimously approved.
- 4) **Matching Resources in the Application Rating System** (Will Summer)
  - a. **Motion** to recommended changing the “Value” section of the ARS for the acquisition applications so that only secured match is given additional points associated with the source and that a lower multiplier of 0.1 be used for any unsecured match made by John Wilson, seconded by Darrel Williams, and unanimously approved.
- 5) **Riparian Buffer Resources in the Application Rating System** (Marissa Hartzler)
  - a. Staff presented draft edits ARS to define surface waters and standardize references.
  - b. **Motion** to recommend amending the “Riparian Buffer” section of the ARS to include the edits provided in the meeting agenda was made by Darrel Williams, seconded by David Womack, and unanimously approved.
- 6) **1998A-104 City of Raleigh Greenway amendment request** (Justin Mercer)
  - a. Staff presented a request to allow for impacts to 0.59 acres of conservation easement for upgrading sewer infrastructure, and to retroactively impact up to 2.18 acres of conservation easement for existing sewer infrastructure installed in 2009.
  - b. **Motion** to recommend approving the amendment request and waiving the requirements for additional offset of impact was made by Jason Walser, seconded by Darrell Williams, and unanimously approved.
- 7) **1997B-023 City of Gastonia Greenway DOT amendment request** (Justin Mercer)
  - a. **Motion** to recommend authorizing NCDOT and the State Property Office to terminate up to 0.264 acres of the 1.477-acre conservation easement and up to 0.22 acres of the 9.971-acre conservation easement to facilitate the widening of NC 274 (Union Road) was made by Darrell Williams, seconded by John Wilson, and unanimously approved.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion** to adjourn at 3:12 pm by **Amy Grissom**, and unanimously approved.

**Informational Item****Staff member: Marissa Hartzler**

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**Agenda Item 2) Report on 2021 Grants**

Staff will provide progress updates on 2021-051 TNC 421 Sand Ridge Phase 2 and 2021-037 TCF Johnson Farm.

**Background**

In 2021, the board requested that staff provide annual updates on four projects with large grant awards. Two of those projects are still active:

App #	App Name	Award
2021-037	The Conservation Fund - Johnson Farm - Hector Creek	\$3,636,230
2021-051	The Nature Conservancy - 421 Sand Ridge Ph2 - Corbett Ind	\$8,901,455

At the October 2024 funding meeting, the committee discussed progress and considered the extension of these awards, which was recommended to the board and approved unanimously. These awards now extend through January 31, 2026. The committee requested additional updates at the committee's February and May meetings.

Staff will present a summary of the grant recipients' progress since the October update.

**Committee action needed:**

As an informational item, no committee action is required.

**Action Item**

**Staff member: Marissa Hartzler**

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**Agenda Item 3) 2023D-013 PCP Boiling Spring Lakes Kurunsaari Extension**

Staff will present a request to extend a Donation Mini-Grant contract.

**Background**

On August 18, 2023, North Carolina Plant Conservation Program (PCP) received an award of \$4,500 for project 2023D-0013 to accept the donation of 10 acres in fee simple in Brunswick County. This Property was identified in the PCP priority land portfolio for its contribution to protecting the Funston Bays natural area, which adjoins the Boiling Spring Lakes natural area to the west and the Hog Branch Ponds natural area to the east, forming a contiguous area of protected rare plant habitat. Successful completion of the project would also serve to fill in gaps in protection, allowing PCP to better manage this habitat.

PCP has been working with the State Property Office to complete the project, but has encountered unforeseen delays including most recently the retirement of the assigned closing attorney. Because NCLWF staff have already granted a six-month extension through February 28, 2025, any further amendments are at the discretion of the board.

**Staff recommendation**

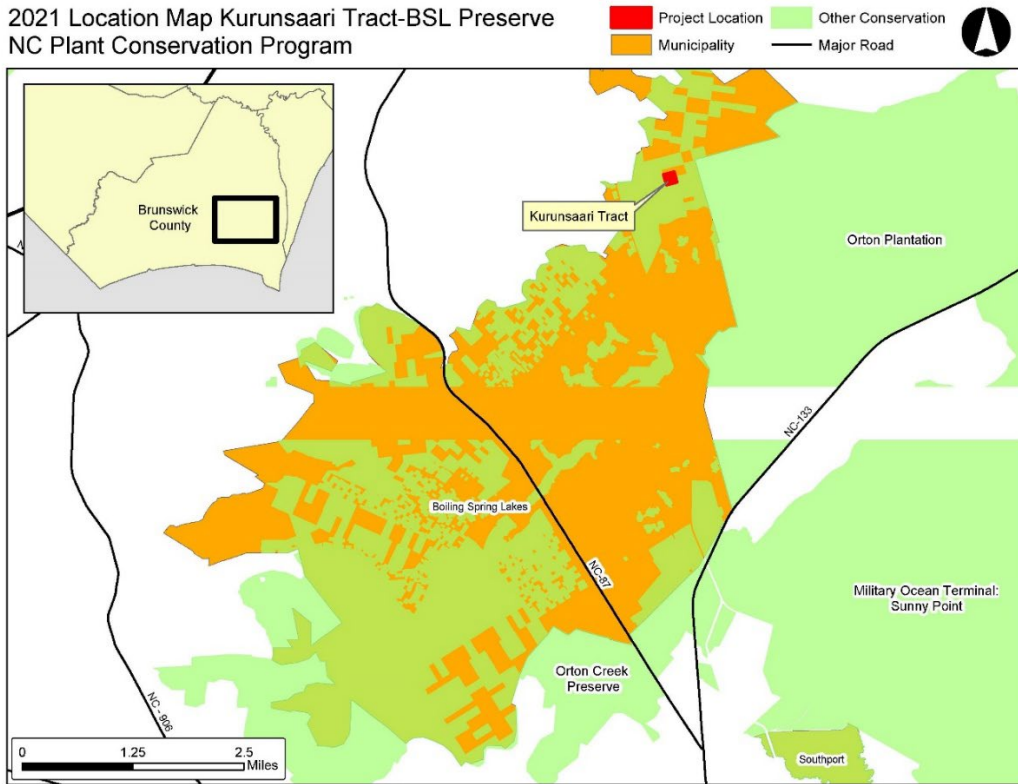
Grant a year extension for the contract to allow for the completion of the donation.

**Committee action needed**

Approve, amend, or deny the staff recommendation and make a recommendation to the Board as appropriate.

*Attachments: Maps*

2021 Location Map Kurunsaari Tract-BSL Preserve  
NC Plant Conservation Program



2021 Property Map Kurunsaari Tract-BSL Preserve  
NC Plant Conservation Program

