AGENDA

North Carolina Land and Water Fund Acquisition Committee Meeting

August 13, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 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 or 919-707-9400 in advance to request a meeting invitation/call-in number or directions.

Committee Members:

Ann Browning (Chair), Amy Grissom, 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 May 1, 2025
- 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.
- 2) 2024-062 TRLC Edwards Tract Proposed Budget Amendment (Marissa Hartzler)
 - Staff will present a proposal to amend the budget of an awarded grant contract.

North Carolina Land and Water Fund Acquisition Committee Meeting Minutes May 1, 2025

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, John Wilson

Committee Members not present: David Womack

Additional Board Members present: Jimmy Broughton

<u>Staff present</u>: Will Summer, Marissa Hartzler, Steve Bevington, Marie Meckman, Christina Benton, Damon Hearne, Justin Mercer, Jill Fusco, Chelsea Blount, Teresa Murray, Will Price, Nicolle Montero, Cameron Bernstein, Jill Sample, Zoe Hansen Burnet

<u>Visitors present</u>: Graham Corriher, Jim Behmer, and Jason Wilson, City of Salisbury; Kelly Schmaedeke and Graham Coggins, Black and Veatch; Ben Solomon and Crystal Cockman, NC Wildlife Resources Commission

Commencement

1) Call to Order (Amy Grissom, Chair)

Meeting was called to order by Amy Grissom, Chair, at 10:02 am

- a) Welcome
- b) Roll call
- c) Compliance with General Statute § 138A-15
 - Jason Walser recused from the discussion of the 2017-033 NCWRC Alcoa High Rock request and agreed to leave the meeting once presentation began.
- d) Participants were asked to silence phones and members of the public asked to mute and turn off video unless called on to speak.
- e) Revisions, additions and adoption of the agenda
 - **Motion** to approve the agenda was made by John Wilson, seconded by Darrel Williams, and unanimously approved.
- f) Approval of committee meeting minutes from February 2, 2025
 - **Motion** to approve the committee meeting minutes from February 2, 2025, was made by Darrel Williams, seconded by John Wilson, and unanimously approved.

2) Executive Director's Update (Will Summer)

Will Summer provided an update on legislation and the May board meeting in Salter Path and expressed appreciation to the Acquisition and Legal teams for their work on first quarter closings.

Public Comments

No requests for public comment

Business

- 1) **Program Manager's update** (Marissa Hartzler)
 - Staff presented an update on provisional funding, first quarter closings, and overall project progress statistics.

2) 2000A-016 Town of Wake Forest Smith Creek Greenway Amendment Request (Nicolle Montero)

- Staff presented a request to amend a conservation easement and recommended to the committee eliminating the reference of a cap on the percentage of total cleared, non-vegetated pervious and impervious surface areas associated with improvements to facilitate construction of greenway.
- **Motion** to recommend the staff recommendation to the board made by Darrel Williams, seconded by Jason Walser, and unanimously approved.

Jason Walser departed the meeting at 10:30 am.

3) 2017-033 NCWRC Alcoa High Rock – City of Salisbury Water Intake Request

- Staff presented the request and recommended to the committee supporting the request for
 exchange of parcels and recommending the NCWRC have qualifying portions of the proposed
 exchange parcels restricted by Articles of Dedication under the State Nature Preserves Act.
- Correction was made to the acreage the subject property is 15.83 acres, 1.9 acres of which would be temporarily or permanently impacted by construction. 1,100 square feet of the subject property would be permanently impacted
- **Motion** to recommend the staff recommendation to the board made by Darrel Williams, seconded by John Wilson, and unanimously approved with Jason Waler not in attendance.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 11:19 am made by Darrel Williams, seconded by John Wilson, and unanimously approved.

Action Item

Staff member: Marissa Hartzler

Agenda Item 2) 2024-062 TRLC Edwards Tract Proposed Budget Amendment

Staff will present a proposal to amend the budget of an awarded grant contract.

Background

In 2024, Tar River Land Conservancy ("TRLC") received a provisional award for the acquisition of the Annie Edwards Tract along Billys Creek in Franklin County. At a score of 63, it was the last project considered for provisional funding. In May of 2025, NCLWF provided full funding for the project. This was the fourth application for this project, having not received funding in 2016, 2017, or 2023.

TRLC executed the grant contract within days of notification, allowing them to secure local government funds for the project. They also had a successful award from the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program ("NC EEG"); however, they received the news that their \$100,000 grant of private funds was on indefinite hold due to the outcome of a court case. In late July, the Town of Franklinton ("Town") was awarded \$500,000 of state funds from the Great Trail State grant program administered by the North Carolina Department of Parks and Recreation.

With these funding shifts, TRLC and the Town ask to amend the matching sources of the award. They propose shifting funds awarded by the Great Trail State program to acquisition, but as they are other state funds, they score less in NCLWF's application rating system. A change of this type does not normally require Board approval, unless the change would result in a score lower than those funded in that cycle. The attached budget shows the maximum substitution of other state funds TRLC could achieve without losing any matching resources points, and then an additional \$100,000 substitution of other state funds to make up the unexpected loss of the NC EEG funds.

While the remainder of the funds from the Great Trail State program grant and additional funds expected from Franklin County would be used for trail construction and opening the property to the public as the new Franklinton Nature Preserve, these funds cannot be counted as match for the NCLWF award.

Staff recommendation

Staff recommends amending the grant contract's matching resources to allow for the substitution of NC Great Trails State grant funds in lieu of NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program funds as presented in the attached proposed matching resources.

Committee action needed

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

Attachments: original and proposed matching resources

2024-062 TRLC Edwards Tract
Original and proposed matching resources:

Original Matching Resources Scoring										
Line Item	Source	Amount		Percent	Multiplier	Points				
Local government	Federal/Local Government funds	\$	325,000	27%	0.18	4.853				
NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program	Private funds	\$	100,000	8%	0.22	1.825				
Private foundations	Private funds	\$	217,500	18%	0.22	3.969				
Bargain sale	Private funds	\$	10,000	1%	0.22	0.182				
Total	-	\$	652,500	-	-	11				

Proposed Matching Resources Scoring										
Line Item	Source	Amount		Percent	Multiplier	Points				
Local government	Federal/Local Government funds	\$	255,500	21%	0.18	3.815				
NC Great Trails State Program	Other State funds	\$	209,500	17%	0.14	2.433				
Private foundations	Private funds	\$	177,500	15%	0.22	3.239				
Bargain sale	Private funds	\$	10,000	1%	0.22	0.182				
Total	-	\$	652,500	-	-	10				