



North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



NC DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL AND
CULTURAL RESOURCES



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
Roy Cooper, Governor | D. Reid Wilson, Secretary

DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION
Dwayne Patterson, Director

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Cashie River Treehouses, Bertie County

The North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) was established in July 1994 to provide a dedicated funding source for improvements in state parks, matching grants for local parks and public access to the state's beaches and estuaries. PARTF is funded by annual appropriations as well as revenue from personalized license plates. The Parks and Recreation Authority, a citizen board, allocates PARTF revenue for projects in state parks and for grants to local governments to buy parkland and build facilities for public recreation.

The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund is allocated as follows:

- Sixty-five percent for the State Parks System or a State Recreational Forest for capital projects, repairs, and renovations of facilities and to acquire land;
- Thirty percent to provide grants to local governments on a dollar-for-dollar basis to establish or improve parks and recreational projects;
- Five percent for the Public Beach and Waterfront Access Program;
- A maximum of three percent may be used by the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) for the operating expenses associated with managing capital improvements projects, acquiring land, and administering the grants program for local governments.

The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund is housed within the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation (DPR). DPR transfers five percent of PARTF revenue to the Division of Coastal Management for the Public Beach and Waterfront Access Program. The Division of Coastal Management administers these funds and offers matching grants to local governments in 20 coastal counties.

2021-22 Parks and Recreation Authority Members



Mavis Gragg
Chair
Durham



Chad Brown
Stanley



Amber Brown
Lawndale



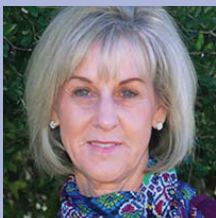
Beth Heile
Valdese



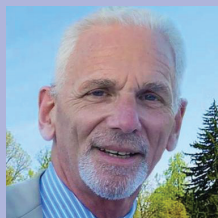
Lewis Ledford
Raleigh



Margaret Newbold
Vilas



Cynthia Tart
Hampstead



Doug Auer
Wilmington

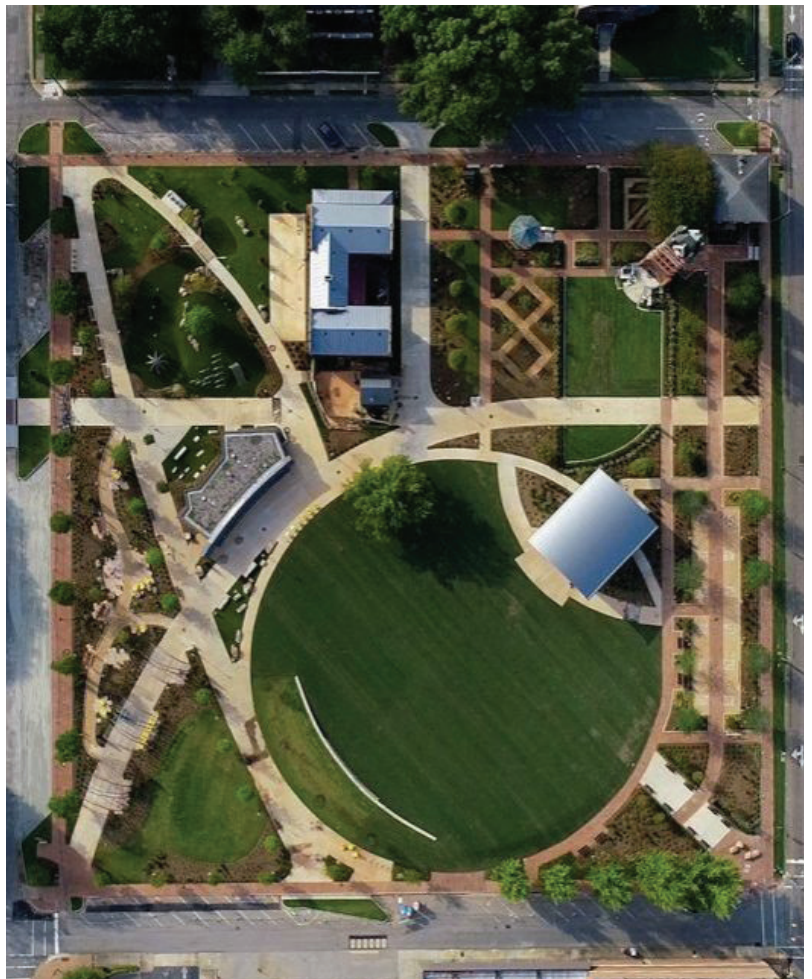
Barnes Sutton
Wilmington

The North Carolina Parks and Recreation Authority, a nine-member board, oversees the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund. The Governor appoints five members, including the chair. The General Assembly appoints four members, two by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and two by the Speaker of the House. Members are appointed for three-year terms.

The Authority is charged with six powers and duties:

- to allocate funds for land acquisition
- to allocate funds for capital projects
- to solicit financial and material support
- to receive public and private donations and funds for deposit into the Trust Fund
- to develop effective support for parks and recreation
- and to advise the Secretary of DNCR on any matter referred to the body.

The Parks and Recreation Authority held six meetings during fiscal year 2021–22.



Bell Tower Green, Salisbury

3.0 Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Revenue Summary

Total PARTF funding available for state and local parks as well as coastal access projects was \$64,555,041 from appropriations, non-recurring allocations, and personalized license plate fees. The state park system received \$39,992,976 (65 percent), the local government matching grant program \$18,458,297 (30 percent) and the Coastal Access grant program \$3,171,529 (five percent). Reserved for administrative expenses (three percent) was \$1,807,771 (Table 3-1).

Table 3-1: North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Deposits and Distribution of Revenues Fiscal Year 2021-22

Revenue	Amount
Recurring Appropriations	\$16,242,884
Non-Recurring Revenue	\$46,624,468
> Appropriations	\$8,000,000
> State Capital Infrastructure Fund	\$37,500,000
> McIntyre Gift	\$1,124,468
License Plate Fees	\$1,687,689
Total PARTF Revenue	\$64,555,041

Distribution	Amount
State Parks System / Dupont Recreational State Forest	\$39,992,976
Local Governments Matching Grant Program	\$18,458,297
Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program	\$3,171,529
Administrative Expenses Reserve	\$1,807,771
Total PARTF Allocation	\$63,430,573

3.1 Barbara Rose McIntyre Gift

Ms. Barbara Rose McIntyre provided a generous gift of over \$1 million to the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund to benefit future generations in North Carolina, particularly children. \$500,000 is to be used for the Vade Mecum project at Hanging Rock State Park. The remainder is allocated to the PARTF local grant program. The recipients of these funds are noted in this report. As her attorney, Mr. John "Nick" Fountain said about the gift "Ms. McIntyre has put \$1 million on parks in North Carolina and it's important that the rest of us ... think about what we are going to do. Are we going to find a way to augment what Barbara has done?"

4.0 Grant Program for Local Governments



Creedmore Community Center, Creedmore



Martin Marietta Park, New Bern

4.1 Program Description

The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund program provides dollar-for-dollar matching grants to local governments to acquire land for public parks and to build or renovate recreational facilities. North Carolina counties and incorporated municipalities are eligible for PARTF grants. Public authorities, as defined by N.C. General Statute §159-7, are also eligible if they are authorized to acquire parkland or develop facilities for public recreation.

Each year, the Parks and Recreation Authority announces the availability of PARTF matching grants and the schedule for applying to local government officials. A local government can request a maximum grant amount of \$500,000 in PARTF assistance with each grant application.

The Division of Parks and Recreation assists local governments in several ways. The PARTF staff posts a PARTF Application Video Guide online with which local governments can learn about the program and how to complete an application. The video is available on demand. The Division contracts with North Carolina State University to provide technical assistance to local governments through the Recreation Resources Service (RRS). RRS provides advice to local governments on preparing grant applications with four consultants in regional offices.

The members of the Parks and Recreation Authority vote to select grant recipients. The factors considered by the Authority include but are not limited to: the criteria contained in the PARTF scoring system, the population of the applicant community, the geographic distribution of projects across the state, the grant funds requested in comparison to the funds available and compliance with prior grant agreements. Applications were due May 3, 2021. The Parks and Recreation Authority met in September 2021 to award the matching grants.

4.2 Description of Applications and Grants

The PARTF revenue allocated to local grants for fiscal year 2021–22 was \$18,458,297. Fifty-eight local governments submitted PARTF applications, requesting \$19.3 million in PARTF assistance. The Authority awarded 58 grants totaling \$19,328,547** (Table 4-1).

**Table 4-1: North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund
Matching Grants Awarded to Local Governments Fiscal Year 2021-22**

Applicant	County	Project	Funds Awarded
Asheboro	Randolph	Zoo City Sportsplex	\$500,000
Beaufort County	Beaufort	Wright's Creek Phase II	\$249,895
Belmont	Gaston	Belmont Recreation Center	\$500,000
Blowing Rock	Watauga	Memorial Park Enhancement	\$500,000
Bogue	Carteret	Bogue Town Park	\$263,000
Cabarrus County	Cabarrus	Rob Wallace Park Expansion	\$100,000
Canton	Haywood	Chestnut Mountain Park	\$500,000
Clay County	Clay	Clay County Sports Complex	\$500,000
Concord	Cabarrus	Marvin Caldwell Park	\$400,000
Davidson	Mecklenburg	Beaty Park	\$285,000
Denton	Davidson	Harrison Park Community Center with Amenities	\$400,000
Elk Park	Avery	Lucille Winters Park	\$26,136
Fair Bluff	Columbus	Riverside Park Acquisition	\$392,500
Forest City	Rutherford	Park Square Depot	\$450,000
Forsyth County	Forsyth	Belews Lake Park	\$500,000
Greenville	Pitt	Wildwood Park	\$481,350
Grover*	Cleveland	Grover Town Park Improvements	\$168,562
Henderson	Vance	Williams & Montgomery Street Park	\$357,497
High Point	Guilford	City Lake Park Phase I Renovations	\$500,000
Hildebran	Burke	New Town Park Development	\$289,700
Hoke County*	Hoke	Inclusive Hoke	\$269,587
Jacksonville	Onslow	City of Jacksonville Marina	\$110,000
Jones County	Jones	Brock Mill Pond Enhancement	\$400,000
Lawndale	Cleveland	Lawndale Park	\$415,000
Lee County	Lee	Kiwanis Children's Park Phase II	\$209,000
Leland	Brunswick	Founders Park Phase I	\$489,000
Louisburg	Franklin	Commerce Park Greenway	\$300,000
Lumberton	Robeson	Pennington Complex – Phase III	\$400,000
Madison	Rockingham	Madison River Park	\$241,440
Mars Hill	Madison	Mars Hill Smith Farm Park	\$268,536
Marshville	Union	Stegall Lake Property	\$350,000
Mooreville	Iredell	Liberty Park Renovation	\$500,000
Oak Ridge	Guilford	Whitaker Park	\$490,000
Ocean Isle Beach	Brunswick	Town Center Park Phase II	\$395,289
Old Fort	McDowell	Fonta Flora State Trailhead at Old Fort Park	\$330,000
Pasquotank County	Pasquotank	Northern Pasquotank Park	\$289,000
Perquimans County	Perquimans	Perquimans Recreation Park Tennis Courts	\$65,600
Polk County	Polk	Little White Oak Mountain Trail Network – Phase I	\$336,000
Ramseur	Randolph	Deep River State Trail and Blueway	\$128,922
Randleman	Randolph	Stout Street Park Improvements	\$354,991
Roseboro*	Sampson	Roseboro Park Redevelopment	\$53,744

Table 4-1 continued

Applicant	County	Project	Funds Awarded
Rowan County	Rowan	Woodleaf Community Park Phases I and II	\$354,346
Shallotte	Brunswick	Price Park Landing at Mulberry Park	\$500,000
Shelby	Cleveland	Shelby Rail Trail Depot Park Segment – Phase I	\$420,000
Simpson	Pitt	Simpson Walking Trail Improvements	\$22,500
Spruce Pine	Mitchell	Brad Ragan Park Improvements	\$100,000
Summerfield	Guilford	Bandera Farms Park	\$500,000
Surf City	Pender	Earl G. & Inez Batts Recreation Complex	\$500,000
Tabor City	Columbus	Tabor City Athletic Complex	\$500,000
Wake County	Wake	Beech Bluff County Park	\$425,000
Wallace	Duplin	Boney Mill Pond Park	\$412,535
Waxhaw	Union	Waxhaw Downtown Park	\$425,000
Waynesville	Haywood	Richland Creek Park and Greenway	\$232,750
Wendell	Wake	Hollybrook Park Property	\$300,000
Wilkes County	Wilkes	Bathhouse and Picnic Shelter at River's Edge Park	\$191,194
Wilkesboro	Wilkes	Cub Creek Park Expansion	\$256,250
Woodfin	Buncombe	Riverside Park Expansion	\$400,000
Youngsville	Franklin	Luddy Park Renovation	\$29,223
58 projects		Total	\$19,328,547

*Funding provided by a gift from Ms. Barbara Rose McIntyre.

**Funding from 2022–2023 allocation will be used to make up any deficit in local funding awarded.

4.3 2019 Featured Local Government Projects Completed in 2022



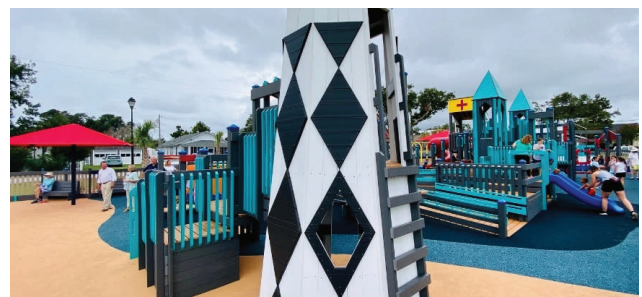
Brentwood Park , Raleigh



Shane Outpost Park, Beech Mountain



Lindsey Bridge Dan River Dam Access, Madison

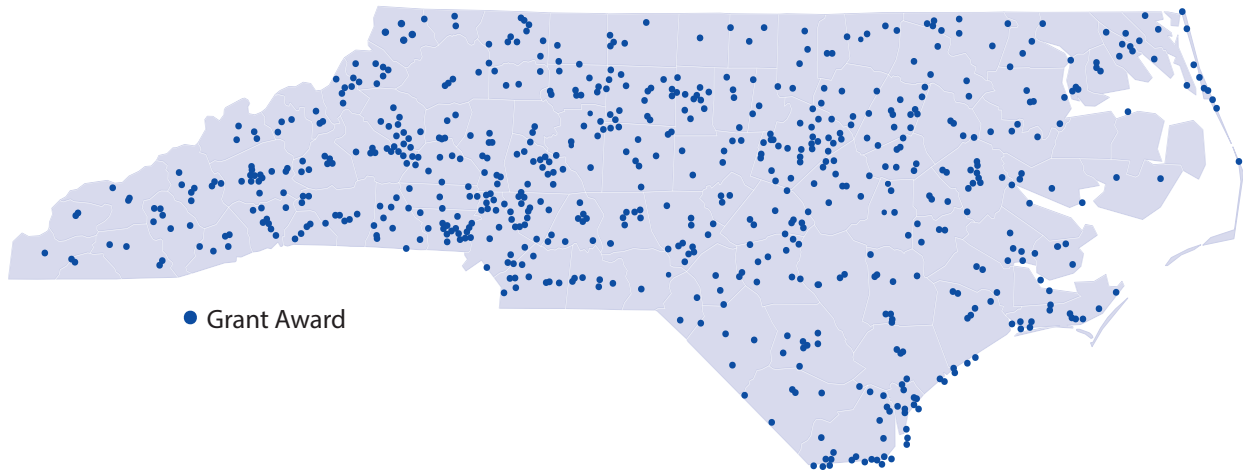


Shevans Park Renovation, Morehead City

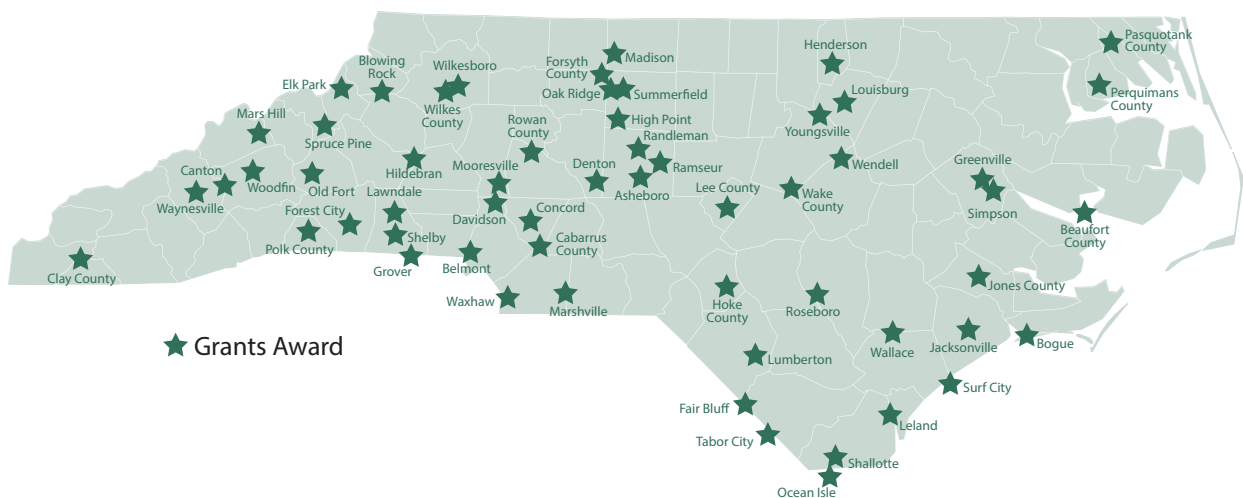
4.4 Geographic Distribution of Grants

Since 1995, the Parks and Recreation Authority has awarded 993 matching grants in all 100 counties across North Carolina.

Distribution of PARTF Grants by County 1995-2021



Distribution of PARTF Grants by County from 2021-22 Grant Cycle



5.0 State Parks

The Parks and Recreation Authority allocates PARTF revenue to capital improvement and land acquisition projects for the state parks system. DPR develops priorities for the state parks system and recommends projects for the board's approval. The PARTF revenue for state park projects for fiscal year 2021–22 was \$38,393,257**. No additional funding from previous administrative funds were available.

The total amount awarded to state park projects in FY 21–22 was \$37,772,738, including funds from projects from previous years completed under budget or postponed (Tables 5-1 and 5-2). An additional \$500,000 was awarded to Hanging Rock State Park from McIntyre funds bringing the total funds allocated to \$38,272,738 awarded.

The Parks and Recreation Authority allocated \$1,599,719 for two projects at Dupont State Recreational Forest (\$143B-135.56 (b)(1)). Section 7.0 provides additional information about these projects.

***Slight adjustment to the final allocations will need to be made due to a \$115,664 administration fee.*

5.1 Land Acquisition

**Table 5-1: North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund
State Parks System Land Acquisition Projects Fiscal Year 2020-21**

Unit	Acres	PARTF Funds	Description
Bakers Lake State Natural Area	1,155	\$1,200,000	Initial acquisition
Elk Knob State Park	247	\$1,112,500	Multiple tracts on west side of peak section providing trail and conservation land connectivity
Eno River State Park	96	\$553,610	Critical tract in Orange County
Grandfather Mountain State Park	26	\$165,000	The Berry tract provides a buffer to Grandfather Mountain from increasing vacation home development along Hwy 105.
Hanging Rock State Park	14	\$140,000	Multiple tracts – all inholdings
Morrow Mountain State Park	216	\$350,000	Western addition to the park
Mount Mitchell State Park	85	\$75,000	Additions to provide better access to northern extension of the park
Sugar Mountain Bog State Natural Area	27	\$189,000	State significant heritage area and rare mountain bog wetland.
Mountains to Sea State Trail	1,226	\$625,000	The Hester tract is a large parcel that will serve as a regional hub in Johnston County.
New River State Park	108	\$271,000	Expand the Peak Section
Pineola Bog State Natural Area	2	\$37,000	Two small parcels that protect natural resources in the floodplain of the Linville River
Pisgah View Ranch State Park	300	\$1,000,000	The fourth acquisition of a five-year project to acquire the recently established park, this site consists of rugged mountainous terrain, with steep slopes, ridges, coves, and streams.
Stone Mountain State Park	120	\$850,000	Large ridge dominating the viewshed from the campground
William B. Umstead State Park	13	\$750,000	Land trade will allow us to establish a lighted intersection at the US Hwy 70 entrance to the park
William B. Umstead State Park	11.58	\$1,000,000	A critical parcel on the western portion of the park, this acquisition will increase habitat connectivity and tract may be used for future trail expansion.
Systemwide	N/A	\$500,000	Cost for administering various land acquisitions, including costs for legal, surveys, taxes, appraisals and Phase I environmental assessments
Totals	3,608	\$8,629,110	

5.2 Construction and Renovation

**Table 5-2: North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund
State Parks System Capital Improvement Projects Fiscal Year 2021-22**

Park	Project	Funding
Carvers Creek State Park	Renovate maintenance area	\$150,000
Carvers Creek State Park	Renovate fishing pier	\$90,000
Chimney Rock State Park	Village restroom renovations	\$400,000
Chimney Rock State Park	Tie existing sewer system into the town's wastewater system	\$400,000
Eno River State Park	Repair contact station exterior	\$100,000
Hammocks Beach State Park	New campground: RV sites with water, electric, and sewer hookups; tent sites, camper cabins, shower house, campsite amenities, roads, parking, utilities, connection to public utility services	\$ 3,317,553
Hammocks Beach State Park	Renovation of Teacher's Building to a community building	\$1,940,000
Hanging Rock State Park*	Restoration of Vade Mecum buildings and grounds	\$500,000
Jockey's Ridge State Park	Renovation of exhibits	\$300,000
Kerr Lake State Recreation Area	Renovation of several shower houses and campsites with electrical hookups; demolish and replace Satterwhite Point Maintenance Complex	\$5,431,250
Carvers Creek State Park	Renovation of Rockefeller house, parking, and trail access	\$3,050,000
Mayo River State Park	Build a storage building in the maintenance area	\$100,000
Medoc Mountain State Park	Renovate the campground to meet state building code and ADA compliance by improving two shower houses, RV sites with full hookups, tent sites; add four camper cabins; renovate the picnic shelter/ restroom	\$ 3,604,920
Morrow Mountain State Park	Renovate two campground shower houses and replace the third; renovate five family cabins and add camper cabins; renovate the pool house; remove lead piping; replace wading pool with small spray ground; renovate mountain top concession stand	\$ 3,326,937
Pisgah View State Park	Assess current facilities and develop initial park master plan	\$140,000
Stone Mountain State Park	Replace the stairs at Stone Mountain Falls	\$1,500,000
Systemwide	Trail maintenance throughout the state parks system including cost sharing with recreational trail grant projects	\$1,000,000
Systemwide	Repair and renovation projects throughout the state parks system	\$4,292,968
Total		\$29,643,628

* Funding provided by a gift from Ms. Barbara Rose McIntyre

5.3 Operating Expenses Associated with State Park Projects

In allocating PARTF funds to the state parks system, the Parks and Recreation Authority considered the operating expenses that may be associated with the projects [§143B-135.56 (e)]. The Division of Parks and Recreation estimated these costs and presented them for the board's consideration when the projects were proposed for funding. The estimated costs are based on conceptual plans for each project.

Table 5-3: Operating Expense Associated With State Park Projects

State Park	Project	Estimated Operating Expenses*	
		Recurring Operating Expenses	Non-recurring Operating Expenses
Hammocks Beach State Park	New campground	\$251,090	\$104,810
Kerr Lake State Recreation Area	Renovation of campgrounds and maintenance complex	\$94,520	\$49,600
Morrow Mountain State Park	Renovation of campgrounds, cabins, and pool	\$164,239	\$77,650
Medoc Mountain State Park	Renovation of campground and restroom	\$174,353	\$81,650

*Costs associated with Connect NC Bond Projects, which PARTF funds are supplementing.

6.O

Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program

6.1 Program Description

North Carolina's Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program was established by the General Assembly in 1981. The program began receiving five percent of the revenues from the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund during the 1996–97 fiscal year. The program's enabling legislation (§ 113A-134.1) states that public interest would be served by providing increased access to coastal waters, public parking facilities, or other related public uses.

The program, administered by the Division of Coastal Management (DCM), offers matching grant funds primarily to local governments throughout the 20 coastal counties. Since 1981, over 451 public access sites have been acquired or improved at a cost of over \$47 million in grant funds. Local governments are responsible for construction, operation, and long-term maintenance of the facilities. While most of the early projects were located along the oceanfront, more projects are now designed to improve access to estuarine shorelines, coastal rivers, and urban waterfronts.

The Division of Coastal Management sends pre-application requests for proposals (RFPs) to local governments in the 20 coastal counties annually. Criteria developed by the Coastal Resources Commission are used to select grant recipients. Local governments are given eighteen (18) months to complete projects. Extensions may be granted for unforeseen events and delays, such as hurricanes, with a three (3) year maximum life of a contract.

Local governments are required to match from 10 percent to 25 percent of the project costs based on the type of project being funded and the communities' economic status per the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Tier designations, as outlined by (§ 143B-437.08). The required cash match may include Federal and other State funds provided these funds are not already being used as match funds for any other state or federal program.

6.2 Types of Projects Funded

Communities can apply for the following types of projects:

Land Acquisition/Easement

- Purchase of land for future public access facilities
- Purchase of easements for public access

Construction Projects

- Facilities such as dune crossovers, boardwalks, and piers that provide access to the water
- Support facilities such as parking areas, restrooms, and other facilities
- Boat Launch facilities: Boat launch and ramp facilities, whether motorized or not, may be part of a project providing pedestrian access is still a major component of the project

Rehabilitation

- Urban waterfront access sites: Improved public access to deteriorating or underutilized urban waterfronts through reconstruction or rehabilitation
- Reconstruction or relocation of existing damaged public access facilities: Primarily for sites not originally funded by this program or for improvements to any sites at least fifteen (15) years old

6.3 PARTF Awards Based on FY 2021-22 Deposits and Other Available Funds

State appropriations are allocated to DCM through PARTF. The amount transferred from the PARTF to DCM during fiscal year 2021–22 was \$3,171,529. The amount budgeted for grants in addition to this allocation include funds unused from previous fiscal years and returned funds from previous grants. Table 6-1 provides the list of local governments that have been awarded grant funding. Additional information on current and past grants awarded can be found [here](#):



Double Tree East, Atlantic Beach

6.O Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program

Table 6-1: Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Program Communities Awarded or Prioritized for FY 2021-22 Funding Based on Earlier Deposits and Other Available Funds

Local Government	Project Description	Total Project Costs	Grant Amount
Atlantic Beach	DoubleTree East Public Beach Access	\$47,060	\$94,120
Cedar Point	Boathouse Creek Kayak Launch	\$60,000	\$80,000
City of Washington	Wetlands Boardwalk Reconstruction (Phase II)	\$350,000	\$603,500
Elizabeth City	George M. Wood Memorial Park Restoration Project	\$92,180	\$112,780
Holden Beach	Holden Beach Pier Acquisition	\$180,460	\$541,666
Hyde County +	Englehard Far Creek Boardwalk Renovation (Phase I)	\$90,750	\$100,833
Nags Head	Epstein Street Public Beach Access	\$200,000	\$1,079,885
New Bern	Lawson Creek Marshwalk (Phase III)	\$110,809	\$147,746
Tyrrell County	Scuppernong River Park Renovation (Phase III)	\$25,650	\$145,350
Totals		\$1,156,909	\$2,905,880

+ Denotes communities that are Tier 1 jurisdictions. \$90,750 or about 8.8% of the grant awards are proposed for Tier 1 communities.

The above project list does not include any direct partnerships with other State agencies. The only non-award use of the funds is providing access site signs made by the State Division of Corrections. Signs are provided to local governments for new sites and for replacement of weathered signs.

7.O DuPont State Recreational Forest

Since 2017 in keeping with N.C.G.S. 143B-135.56, the Parks and Recreation Authority allocated four percent (4%) of the annual appropriation for State Parks for capital projects, repairs, renovations, and land acquisitions at DuPont State Recreational Forest (DSRF). The amount transferred was \$1,599,719. In fiscal year 2021, State Forest staff made progress on capital projects supported by PARTF funds, expending a total of \$505,875. Table 7-1 provides a summary of expenditures.

Table 7-1: DuPont State Recreational Forest PARTF expenditures for FY 2021-22

Capital Project	Expenditures
Law Enforcement Office- repair and renovation	\$4,341
Ranger Headquarters at Lake Julia- repair and renovation	\$501,875
Total	\$505,875
Old Camp Summit Cabin – repair and renovation	\$ 68,481
Total	\$309,624

Law Enforcement Office – Repair and Renovation

During fiscal year 2021-2022, work on the law enforcement office was completed. This work included replacing the glass in the entry doors and installing new windows throughout the building. With renovations complete, the DSRF law enforcement team now has a safe area to work from and a secure area to store supplies, equipment and evidence from investigations.

Ranger Headquarters at Lake Julia – Repair and Renovation



The Lake Julia facility has served as the main office for forest ranger staff since the early 2000s. Before it became state property, the building served as the DuPont overnight lodge and as the infirmary for the Summit Camps for Boys and Girls. In 2019, mold contamination was detected in parts of the facility, making it a high priority for renovation and structural improvements. PARTF funds were used to repair and renovate the facility, which included new electrical system layouts, updated heating and cooling systems, a new floorplan to support forest administrative and operational work, and the removal of mold sources throughout the structure. The expenditures in fiscal year 2020-2021 were for final design, construction management and implementation. All work on the facility was completed in December 2021. The renovated exterior includes a covered ADA-compliant ramped entry into the building. Repairs to the Lake Julia office were completed and staff moved in during December 2021. The remodeled interior of the Lake Julia office includes an area with a conference table. The remodeled interior includes seven individual offices, a technology room, three storage rooms, two ADA accessible restrooms, a kitchen, and a combination conference-work area.