North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Committee



September 7, 2022

Agenda

1:30 pm	Welcome and Introduction ➢ Committee Member Roll Call ➢ Steve Troxler, Commissioner, NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services ➢ Ariel Aponte, Assistant Secretary, NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs ➢ Jeff Michael, Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources ➢ Cameron Ingram, Executive Director, NC Wildlife Resources Commission ➢ Dr. Myron F. Floyd, Dean, College of Natural Resources, NCSU ➢ Chester Lowder, Sentinel Landscape Partnership Liaison	Steve Troxler Commissioner of Agriculture Veronica Jamison ADFP Trust Fund Office Manager
1:35 pm	Reading of Ethics Reminder ➢ ETHICS REMINDER: Under the State Government Ethics Act, the chairman is required to remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest or appearances of conflicts of interest. If you have any conflict or appearance of conflict of interest with respect to any item on the agenda, please state this for the record and refrain from inappropriate participation on that item.	Steve Troxler Commissioner of Agriculture
1:36 pm	Approval of Minutes for June 22, 2022	Steve Troxler Commissioner of Agriculture
1:40 pm	Committee Member Reports Pertaining to NC Sentinel Landscape Activities ➢ NCDA&CS Report ➢ NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Report ➢ NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources Report ➢ NC Wildlife Resources Commission Report ➢ College of Natural Resources - NCSU Report ➢ Sentinel Landscape Partnership Report	Evan Davis Farmland Preservation Director Ariel Aponte Assistant Secretary Jeff Michael Deputy Secretary Cameron Ingram Executive Director Dr. Myron F. Floyd Dean Chester Lowder Sentinel Landscape Partnership Liaison
2:10 pm	2022 North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Committee Annual Report	Evan Davis Farmland Preservation Director
2:40 pm	Additional Sentinel Landscape Committee Business Items	Steve Troxler Commissioner of Agriculture
2:45 pm	Public Comments	Public Attendees
2:50 pm	Next Meeting, Assignments & Adjournment	Steve Troxler Commissioner of Agriculture

Committee Member Roll Call

- **Steve Troxler**, Commissioner, NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
- **Ariel Aponte**, Assistant Secretary, NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- **Jeff Michael**, Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
- **Cameron Ingram**, Executive Director, NC Wildlife Resources Commission
- **Dr. Myron F. Floyd**, Dean, College of Natural Resources-NCSU
- **Chester Lowder**, Sentinel Landscape Partnership Liaison

Ethics Reminder

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Approval of Minutes

- June 22, 2022

NCDA&CS ENCSL Program Updates

Current Contracts

Farm Name	Military Partner	County	Grantee	Length	Acres
Riggs Farm	Navy/MCIEAST	Jones	The Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	63.1
G&H Properties	USAF-SJAFB	Hyde	The Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	291.6
Columbia NC Farm	USAF-SJAFB	Washington	The Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	679.14
Linden Carolina Farm	USAF-SJAFB	Washington	The Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	737.24
McCotter Farm Phase I	Navy/MCIEAST	Pamlico	The Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	1,217.87
Armstrong Farm	USAF-SJAFB	Hyde	The Working Lands Trust	Perpetual	650
					3,638.95

Military Partnership Agricultural Conservation Easements Since July 2016

Military Partner	Acres Conserved	Easements Recorded	Counties
USAF-SJAFB	8,541.224	15	Bertie, Hyde, Tyrrell, Washington
Navy/MCIEAST	936.211	1	Pamlico
TOTAL	**9,477.435**	**16**	

MOU with NC MAC

Project	Award	Expenses through July 2022	Balance
NCDA&CS Outreach	$300,000	$113,705.61	$186,294.39
NCSU Project	$160,000	$84,072.71	$75,927.29
NCFSWC Project	$140,000	$79,615.09	$60,384.91
TOTAL	**$600,000**	**$277,393.41**	**$322,606.59**

NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Report

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & EFFORTS

1. Governor's Office Senior Advisors, Energy Resiliency Efforts
2. NC Defense Summit
3. NC Hall of Firsts Nomination Window
4. Timbermill Wind Project (onshore) Public Hearing
5. Childcare
6. Coast Guard Birthday and Galley Renaming Event
7. Session Legislative Efforts
8. Sentinel Landscape

DATE	TIME	EVENT	EVENT LOCATION	Section
04-Aug-22	1000	Coast Guard Day & Galley Renaming Ceremony	USCG Base E-City	Secretary Gaskin/ Military Affairs/ Communications
05-Aug-22	1000	Change of Command	MCAS Cherry Point, NC	Secretary Gaskin/ Military Affairs
10-Aug-22	1030	Energy Resilience	Fort Bragg, NC	Governor's Office/ Military Affairs
19-Aug-22	1000	Cape Fear Intergovernmental Council	MOTSU, NC	Military Affairs
23-Aug-22	1045	USCG RDML Gilreath	NCDMVA, Raleigh	Secretary Gaskin/ Military Affairs
24-Aug-22	1300	Operational Briefing & Tour	Camp Butner, Stem, NC	Military Affairs/ DOAGR/ ENCSL Partnership
9-Sep-22	TBD	STEM School Ribbon Cutting	Seymour Johnson AFB, NC	Military Affairs/ Communications
27-Sep-22	All Day	NC Defense Summit	Raleigh, NC	Secretary Gaskin/ Military Affairs/ Communications

NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources Report

NC Wildlife Resources Commission Report

College of Natural Resources-NCSU Report

Research Efforts

- 2020 Forestry Data for each of North Carolina's 100 counties
- Challenges and opportunities for agroforestry practitioners to participate in state preferential property tax programs for agriculture and forestry
- State Cost-Share Programs for Forest Landowners in the Southern United States: A Review
- Educating Landowners on Forest-Based Alternative Income Streams in North Carolina: Program Evaluation and Lessons Learned

Publications of Interest

- North Carolina's Forestry Present-Use Valuation (PUV) Property Tax Program
- What is Climate Smart Forestry? A Brief Overview.

NC STATE UNIVERSITY College of Natural Resources

Publications of Interest

- Current Forest Carbon Markets at a Glance
- Financial Incentives for Forest Management
- An Introduction to Forest Certification.
- Voluntary conservation options for land protection in North Carolina.
- Farm Bill 2018: Programs of interest to forest landowners.
- An introduction to forest carbon offset markets.
- Forestry Webinars On-Demand Webinars On-Demand Webinars are a great opportunity to learn about different forestry topics from experts in the field, and professionals from a variety of backgrounds. If you miss a webinar, it is available on demand. Examples:
- 1. Forest Management Plans, Present Use Valuation, and Voluntary Agriculture Districts: What a Landowner Needs to Know
- 2. Conserving Wildlife Through Forest Management

NC STATE UNIVERSITY College of Natural Resources

Sentinel Landscape Partnership Report



National Sentinel Landscape Partnership

1. **2022 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Announces Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund Grant Awards**

Of the 12 military installations in the Southeast to benefit directly, North Carolina's Fort Bragg, Camp Lejeune, and Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point are 3 of the LLSF recipients.

a**. North Carolina Sandhills.** awarded $392,200 (along with match) will plant 735 acres of longleaf pine and manage 60,000 acres of existing longleaf pine habitat within the Sandhills region of North Carolina. Partners will build prescribed burning capacity during fire trainings, utilize seasonal burn crews to complete prescribed burning and mid-story control and other management on lands around Fort Bragg and the Uwharrie National Forest, improving habitat for Bachman's sparrow, red-cockaded woodpecker, and northern bobwhite.

b. **Onslow Bight Landscape** awarded $499,990 (along with match) will plant more than 1,600 acres of longleaf pine and improve management of more than 65,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat on public and private lands in the Onslow Bight region of eastern North Carolina. The project will increase prescribed burning through a burn crew to assist partners with longleaf management, complete aerial ignition burns, and provide certified prescribed fire training for fire managers and forest management training for landowners.



National Sentinel Landscape Partnership

The LLSF contributes to America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative (ALRI). This strategic plan for longleaf aims to restore 8 million acres of longleaf habitat over a period of time. Increasing the range of long-leaf will offer additional compatible land use around installations, provide additional recreational opportunities for millions of Americans and contribute to working lands and forest-dependent economies. **Significant landscape areas considered in North Carolina include the Onslow Bight, the Sandhills, and Bladen Lakes.**

2. The American Farmland Trust (AFT), a national nonprofit advocating for the preservation of farmland across the country, has released several comprehensive studies on farmland loss in the United States. "Farms Under Threat: The State of the States," found between 2001 and 2016, 11 million acres of agricultural land were paved over, fragmented, or converted to uses that jeopardize agriculture; about the size of West Virginia.

In North Carolina, 732,000 acres of agricultural land were converted during that same period. Despite North Carolina ranking 30th in the nation in total agricultural acreage, this is the second-greatest number of agricultural land acres lost compared to all other states. Farms Under Threat 2040: Choosing an Abundant Future projects between 2016 and 2040, three possible scenarios of farmland loss in North Carolina: business as usual 1,197,300 acres, runaway sprawl 1,678,100 acres, and better-built cities 661500 acres.



Eastern NC Sentinel Landscape Partnership

Presentations

a. National Sentinel Landscape Partnership on the FY22 REPI Challenge award
b. National Sentinel Landscape Partnership and the Regional Climate Coastal Workgroup on Climate Resilience in ENCSL
c. NC Congressional staffers on the Eastern NC Sentinel Landscape, 3-day briefing tour of the Colleges of Ag and Life Sciences and Natural Resources, connecting research, teaching, and outreach to policymakers.

Completed and Pending Workshops

a. Collaborated on NC Salt Marsh Conservation Plan Development Workshop.
b. Land Trust Rally (New Orleans) Sentinel Landscape Coordinators
c. Association of Defense Communities Raleigh Event with the NC Department of Military and Veteran Affairs. A Best Practices in Landscape Management: Encroachment and Training Panel led by Addor in conjunction with the REPI Office, Fort Bragg, and TNC.
d. Seymour Johnson AFB Flood Resilience Workshop



FY23 REPI Challenge

a. very short turnaround from FY22 REPI Challenge award; June (mid)- Sept 12, 2022

b. focus; continue to connect Military Readiness, Working Lands, and Nature-Based Infrastructure Across the Landscape extending to Seymour Johnson Air Force Base. Partners – Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, Triangle Land Conservancy, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail, and other partners including NC Coastal Federation and NC State College of Natural Resources are providing support to the development of the FY23 REPI Challenge Proposal.

Focus is on securing a mosaic of working lands and climate resilience parcels in the upper Neuse region, particularly Johnston and Wayne counties. The rapid land use change in this area (and Wake county), from pervious to impervious surfaces has decreased the land's and rivers' ability to absorb rainwater and riverine runoff without overwhelming downriver communities including Seymour Johnson AirForce Base.



Eastern NC Sentinel Landscape Partnership

Project Development:

- Updating/revising the current ENCSL Strategic Plan that merges the natural resource management components with a climate resilience and adaptation plan for the Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape, for 1 plan. DRAFT will be submitted to ENCSL Partnership, anticipating an October date for review and additions.

- Coordination of the second (formal) MOTSU and Camp Butner Sentinel Landscape boundary adjustment request on behalf of the NC Sentinel Landscape Partnership and NC Sentinel Landscape Committee. Anticipate October 2022 submittal.

- 2022 National Sentinel Landscape Data Call will begin for Sentinel Landscapes Accomplishments December 2022.

Online Tool Development

a. Landowner Engagement online tool (underway)
b. Eastern NC Sentinel Landscape website (underway)
c. NC Climate Resilience Clearinghouse (NC Department of Environmental Quality, NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency, ENCSL will contribute to the clearinghouse) modeled after the California Adaptation Clearinghouse(ResilientCA.org) as a state-led central repository for Resilience Plans and Tools.

2022 North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Committee Annual Report

Additional Business Items



Public Comments



Next Meeting, Assignments, & Adjournment

