

**Summary of the Second Natural and Working Lands Stakeholder Group Meeting
December 12, 2018
Raleigh, NC**

The meeting opened with Sushma Masemore, Assistant Deputy Secretary for the Environment summarizing the first meeting, including the voting exercise to prioritize actions for the NWL sector. She stated the voting and discussion during the first meeting quickly focused in on hurricane recovery and resiliency (HRR). The complete voting results were discussed, and several stakeholders noticed that the results were limiting to various actions and landowner types. DEQ personnel assured the stakeholders that the voting exercise does not limit the actions that are investigated for potential inclusion in the plan.

Lydia Olander of Duke University proposed four opportunity areas that provide both resiliency and carbon sequestration for the stakeholders to consider; pocosin wetland, coastal habitats, coastal flood plain and riverine buffer, hog manure management. It was noted by the stakeholders that forestry was not included in this list. Lydia agreed to add forestry opportunities to the list. In addition, the group decided to broaden the manure management subcommittee to all of agriculture. Lydia then proposed that Duke University (or other entity) host a workshop for each NWL HRR opportunity to 1) collate existing science and data and 2) come up with a process for estimating the resilience opportunities for various management scenarios. Lastly, she proposed that Duke University students assist in the pocosins and manure management opportunities through a Bass Connections grant and class taught by Tanja Vujic and Tim Profeta. Lydia circulated signup sheets for everyone to join a subcommittee.

James Fox of UNC Asheville and Director of the National Environmental Modeling and Analysis Center (NEMAC) presented an overview of what resiliency means, various fire and flooding resiliency projects he has recently supported, and the various tools available from his group to analyze resiliency needs at the local level. He also noted there are some parallel efforts and tools by other organizations doing this work including National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

Next Ryan Cox the NC State Hazard Mitigation Officer presented on the NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR). He presented the various roles of each program and how the funding is obtained using local level resiliency plans. He stated the top two mitigation categories are wildfire and flooding with the urban wildfire interface being the largest risk. It was noted that North Carolina has a large population associated with this urban wildfire risk. He discussed that some of the funding can be used for hazard mitigation planning. Lastly, he discussed property acquisitions due to reoccurring flooding and presented a map of the number of acquisitions in each county. The group discussed the details of these buyouts as well as the local planning process as it relates to FEMA funding.

Leslie O'Conner Chief of Emergency Management for the City of Durham presented the group with the local planning perspective. The city handles all aspects of emergencies and builds plans

to support the whole community. The city of Durham participates in the Triangle Regional Resiliency Project. Plans are developed in 5-year cycles and includes an environmental subcommittee. Leslie also discussed buyouts of properties with reoccurring flooding. Leslie and Ryan stressed that proposed project must be in the local plan, needs a true deliverable, and the funding is a reimbursement after work is complete.

The meeting came to a close discussing the future work of the group in the subcommittees, the deliverables and due dates to support the Executive Order 80 EO80 Risk Assessment & Resiliency Plan. At this time, it was noted that a separate subcommittee on urban lands may be needed in addition to forestry. Lastly, Sushma Masemore asked for volunteers to lead the subcommittees.

The subcommittees are below. The subcommittee leads and members will be published in a separate document once it is finalized.

- **Pocosin Wetlands**
- **Coastal Habitats**
- **Flood Plain & Riverine Buffers**
- **Agriculture and Manure Management**
- **Forestry**
- **Urban Lands**