



ROY COOPER
Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS
Director

MEMORANDUM

To: MFC CRFL Advisory Committee Members – Rob Bizzell, Doug Radar, Tom Roller, and Robert McNeill

From: Grants Program Manager, William Brantley

Date: Friday March 10, 2023

Re: Meeting to provide advice on proposals received from the 2022 CRFL RFP

The Marine Fisheries Commission’s Coastal Recreational Fishing License (“CRFL”) Advisory Committee will be meeting on Friday March 10, 2023, at 1:00 PM by Web Conference.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Provide advice on the applications received in response to the 2022 CRFL Request for Proposals

Enclosed is your briefing book with the meeting materials. If you have questions regarding the upcoming meeting or briefing book contents, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries’ Grants Program Manager, William Brantley at (252) 808-8015 or William.Brantley@ncdenr.gov.

Marine Fisheries Commission
Coastal Recreational Fishing License Advisory Committee Meeting
DMF Headquarters Office
3441 Arendell Street
Morehead City, NC
Friday March 10, 2023, at 1:00 PM

AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Conflict of Interest Reminder
- Roll Call
- **Vote on Approval of Agenda***
- **Vote on Approval of Minutes***
- Meeting Brief
 - *CRFL Advisory Committee Updates by DMF staff*
- **Provide advice on the CRFL RFP Applications***

Adjourn

***Action Items**

N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e) mandates at the beginning of any meeting of a board, the chair shall remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest under Chapter 138. The chair also shall inquire as to whether there is any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the board at that time.

N.C.G.S. 143B-289.54.(g)(2) states a member of the Marine Fisheries Commission shall not vote on any issue before the Commission that would have a "significant and predictable effect" on the member's financial interest. For purposes of this subdivision, "significant and predictable effect" means there is or may be a close causal link between the decision of the Commission and an expected disproportionate financial benefit to the member that is shared only by a minority of persons within the same industry sector or gear group. A member of the Commission shall also abstain from voting on any petition submitted by an advocacy group of which the member is an officer or sits as a member of the advocacy group's board of directors. A member of the Commission shall not use the member's

official position as a member of the Commission to secure any special privilege or exemption of substantial value for any person. No member of the Commission shall, by the member's conduct, create an appearance that any person could improperly influence the member in the performance of the member's official duties.

Commissioners having questions about a conflict of interest or appearance of conflict should consult with counsel to the Marine Fisheries Commission or the secretary's ethics liaison. Upon discovering a conflict, the commissioner should inform the chair of the commission in accordance with N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e).

Past Meeting Minutes



ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

STEPHEN W. MURPHEY
Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: MFC CRFL AC

FROM: Jamie Botinovch, CRFL Project Coordinator
Division of Marine Fisheries, NCDEQ

DATE: October 1, 2019

SUBJECT: Marine Fisheries Commission Coastal Recreational Fishing License Advisory
Committee (MFC AC) Meeting

The Marine Fisheries Commission Coastal Recreational Fishing License Advisory Committee (MFC AC) met at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Marine Fisheries Morehead City Office. The following attended:

MFC AC: Pete Kornegay and Rob Bizzell

Teleconference: Robert McNeill

Absent: Cameron Boltes

DMF Staff: William Brantley, Beth Govoni, Dee Lupton, Jamie Botinovch, Lara Klibansky, and Dana Gillikin

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Pete Kornegay called the meeting to order at 8:59am, gave a reminder of the duty to avoid conflicts of interest, and inquired of any known conflicts of interest (N.C.G.S. 138A-15e).

Dana Gillikin called role.

Rob Bizzell made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Robert McNeill seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

COMMITTEE BRIEF ON THE MFC CRFL AC ROLES

William Brantley briefed the team on the MFC AC's role in the Request for Proposal process including the reason for the committee's implementation, their role in providing advice, and other applicable details. Brantley discussed the role of the MFC AC's past advice and how it impacted the current RFP.

RANKING OF GRANTS

a. Fishery Management Grants

i. 2019-F-056, "Evaluating the current productivity and suitability of NC's designated estuarine nursery areas" – Discussion was had regarding how the results of this project could potentially impact within the DMF structure. DMF staff offered they could not speculate until the findings were completed. Discussion was had in general by the MFC AC regarding how to handle voting (umbrella vs individually). The MFC AC decided to vote on issues individually and review each proposal one-by-one. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

ii. 2019-F-057, "Using a novel satellite tagging approach to estimate spawning locations and post-spawning movements of adult southern flounder" – Discussion was had regarding timeliness and necessity for a project of this scope. Rob Bizzell asked about the budget and William Brantley offered that a large portion of the funds would be used for tags. Beth Govoni commented that continued funding years are contingent based on milestones met and data received per outlined contract. Discussion was had regarding where the money in the CRFL Marine Resource Fund was coming from. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

iii. 2019-F-058, "NCDMF / UNCW Fellowship Program Phase 2" – DMF staff noted that it was not reflected on the proposal in the documents received by the MFC AC, but Martin Posey had formally requested to be removed from the proposal. Discussion was had initiated by the MFC AC regarding how many fellowship programs were funded by the CRFL RFP process. DMF staff responded that there were two currently. The MFC AC members offered that they were hesitant to approve or felt neutral on this proposal. Rob Bizzell made the motion to table their advice. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

iv. 2019-F-059, "Identifying spawning areas and offshore migration patterns of sheepshead in NC" – Discussion was had regarding if the proposal end date would need to be adjusted due to the proposal listing a start date that had already elapsed. DMF staff offered that any proposal with a start date already elapsed would be adjusted as appropriate and that many projects often operate under a no cost extension. The NCE option would help to provide buffer if needed for projects that depend on seasonal dependent surveys/findings/collection or similar. Discussion was had regarding the potential future importance of data collected on this species. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

v. 2019-F-060, “Mapping offshore spawning locations of soniferous NC fishes”– Discussion was had regarding the proposed method of mapping offshore locations. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal not to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

vi. 2019-F-061, “Validation of wild spawned striped bass year classes in the CSMA using natural tracers”- Discussion was had by the MFC AC regarding the relevance of this proposal regarding backing up existing genetic information. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

vii. 2019-F-062, “Quantifying recreational harvest and improving stock assessment for NC blue crab with a tagging study” – The MFC AC questioned what portion of recreational harvest reported was blue crab. DMF staff offered that it made up a very small portion of the total catch. Robert McNeill asked for clarification on how DMF quantified its recreational blue crab survey. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal not to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

viii. 2019-F-063, “Quantifying nursery area habitat and evaluating performance of a statewide estuarine trawl survey in NC for recreationally significant species using spatiotemporal models” – Discussion was had regarding issues with the fixed station sampling. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal not to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

ix. 2019-F-064, “Identification of the spawning grounds of offshore migration corridor used by the NC stock of southern flounder” – Discussion was had regarding the MFC AC’s desire to cite what overlap there was in this proposal and proposal 2019-F-057. DMF staff noted that PI’s from both proposals were acquainted and aware of each other’s work. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal to be tabled, pending potential modifications recommended by the CJRT. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

b. Habitat and Enhancement Grants

i. 2019-H-073, “Identifying sources of potential conflict to enhance siting of shellfish cultivation operations to reduce regulatory burden” – Discussion was had regarding the recreational impacts of oyster cultch sites on landowners. General discussion had on the relevance of oyster cultch sites as important or not to recreational fishing. The MFC AC offered that they thought this study should be funded outside of the CRFL funds. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal not to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

ii. 2019-H-074, “Drone based rapid mapping methodology for SAV sentinel sites” – Discussion was had regarding the importance of SAV’s. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

iii. 2019-H-075, “Maximizing ecological benefits of artificial reef enhancements by harnessing advanced technologies to quantify fish community patterns and develop a decision support tool” – Discussion was had regarding the cost and potential outcome for this proposal. DMF staff offered that the PI had been in contact with DMF Artificial Reef Coordinator. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal not to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

iv. 2019-H-076, “Public use of offshore artificial reefs: a pilot study using hydrophones, on water observations, and vessel tracking data” – Discussion was had regarding review of this proposal. Robert McNeill made a motion to advise this proposal not to be recommended for funding. Rob Bizzell seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

v. 2019-H-077, “Evaluating the persistence of oyster cultch reefs: recommendations for restoration and management” – Discussion was had regarding the finfish sampling portion of this proposal. Mention was made that the PI would need to work very closely with the DMF staff for this proposal. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

vi. 2019-H-078, “Evaluating and optimizing restoration targets and multi-substrate monitoring methods for North Carolina's Oyster Sanctuary Program” – Discussion was had regarding the connection to oyster sanctuaries and recreational fishing. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

c. People Grants

i. 2019-P-066, “A monthly radio news feature focusing on local science & management efforts to protect coastal and marine resources” – Discussion was had about the frequency of broadcast and the limited audience due to the station being a regional broadcast and not statewide. Robert McNeill made a motion to advise this proposal not to be recommended for funding. Rob Bizzell seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

ii. 2019-P-067, “Take A Kid Fishing Event” – General discussion had regarding the previous funding of Take a Kid Fishing proposals. Rob Bizzell made a motion to advise this proposal to be recommended for funding. Robert McNeill seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion carried.

ADDITIONAL BUSSINES

None.

Robert McNeill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:11am, Rob Bizzell seconded. The MFC AC unanimously supported and the motion to adjourn carried.

JLB

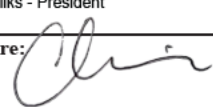
2022-P-069

Military Appreciation Day

Military Appreciation Day, Inc

Table 1

Application for Funding from the N.C. Marine Resources Fund application cover sheet

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM N.C. MARINE RESOURCES FUND		
1. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		2. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION:
Applicant's Legal Name: Military Appreciation Day, Inc		Name of Project Administrator/Principal Investigator: Chris Milks
St [REDACTED]		St [REDACTED]
Mail (PO Box):		Mail (PO Box):
City, State and Zip Code: [REDACTED]		City, State and Zip Code: [REDACTED]
EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): [REDACTED]		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator Phone number with area code: [REDACTED]
		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator FAX number with area code: N/A
3. TYPE OF APPLICANT: <input type="checkbox"/> State agency <input type="checkbox"/> County or Municipality <input type="checkbox"/> University <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify and list partnering entity)		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator Email Address: [REDACTED]
4. TYPE OF APPLICATION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New		5. PROJECT TITLE: Military Appreciation Day
6. PROPOSED PROJECT: Start Date: <u>June 1, 2023</u> Ending Date: <u>June 1, 2025</u> Number of years: <u>3</u>		7. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE, STRATEGY AND RESEARCH NEED: Management Goal (check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and Education Objective (list number): <u>2</u> Strategy (e.g., 2.1, 3.1): <u>3.2</u> Research Need (list project need): Develop informational programs on catch and release, ethical angling, fishing techniques, reducing release mortality and by catch.
8. SOURCES OF FUNDING: a. CRFL Funds Requested: \$ <u>\$75,000 (\$25,000 per year)</u> b. Applicant Match: \$ <u>\$75,000 (\$25,000 per year cash and in-kind donations)</u> d. Other Match: \$ <u>\$0</u> e. TOTAL: \$ <u>\$150,000 (over 3 years)</u>		9. AREA AFFECTED BY PROJECT (City, Counties, etc.): Carteret and Brunswick counties
11. LIST STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT: (Indicate completion date) Coastal Recreational Fishing License Exemption Permits to be completed by June 1 and September 1, annually, prior to events in Morehead City and Southport, respectively.		
12. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN FULLY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND WILL COMPLY WITH ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.		
Full Name of Authorized Representative: Chris Milks - President		Authorized Administrator Email Address: [REDACTED]
Signature: 	Date Signed: 11-16-2022	Phone Number (with area code): [REDACTED]
Following Boxes are for CRFL Internal Office Use Only		
Date Received by NC DMF: 11/16/2022	Tracking Number: 2022-P-069	Year 1 Request from Marine Resources Fund: \$25,000

Abstract

Military Appreciation Day, Inc. (MAD) is a North Carolina based non-profit organization whose mission is to hold events where we get volunteer captains to take active duty troops fishing for a day and hold a large family style picnic after their day of fishing. MAD was founded in 2006 and has hosted thousands of troops over the years in Morehead City and Southport, NC. Our volunteer captains donate their time, gear and money for expenses to take our troops fishing and educate them on the importance of ethical and sustainable fishing practices, and conservation of our delicate resources. We have many volunteer captains with a variety of boats taking our troops inshore, nearshore and offshore fishing. We also charter the Carolina Princess, which holds up to 70 troops. Where funds and resources allow, we put on family activities for our troop's families while they are out fishing. Family activities may include dock fishing for kids, kayaking, ferry rides to local islands or a host of other activities. We have a huge team of ground volunteers who help with coordinating, setting up and cleaning up before, during and after each event. On the day of each event, we operate what we call "MAD Dock", which is a team of seasoned watermen who maintain contact with our captains throughout the day via VHF radio and Google voice. After each group returns from fishing, we have a team of volunteers to clean their catch and educate them on proper fish cleaning and storage before everyone heads to the picnic. Every dollar raised by MAD is used to put on our events and everything provided for our troops is always free of charge to them. MAD is funded 100% from donations and nobody affiliated with MAD receives any kind of compensation for their efforts.

Applicant Name: Military Appreciation Day, Inc

Project Title: Military Appreciation Day Events

CRFL Strategic Plan Management Goal, Objective and Strategy Listed in RFP

Goal 1: Access and Education

Objective 2: Improve public information, education and enrichment.

Strategy 3.2: Develop information programs on catch and release, ethical angling, fishing techniques, reducing release mortality and bycatch.

Project Period: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025

Need:

Military Appreciation Day is supported solely by donations. Without monetary, product and service donations from individuals and organizations we simply cannot put on our events. Funding is needed to cover the expenses of charter/head boats, venue rentals, catering, supplies and to help subsidize the cost of fuel for our volunteer captains. The more we can do to ease the cost burden on our volunteer captains, the more captains we get to sign up – which opens up opportunity to host more troops.

Objective:

To provide our troops with a relaxing, fun and educational day on the water, while introducing fishing skills, ethical angling and conservation practices. In addition to this, it is our opportunity to give our “One. Simple. Thanks.” to our troops and their families.

Approach:

Each year MAD holds an event in Morehead City in June and another in Southport in September. Between these 2 events, we normally have around 100-120 volunteer boats take approximately 250-350 troops fishing. Our captains tell us if they plan to fish inshore, nearshore or offshore and we pair our troops with each captain based on interests and availability. Our captains reach out to the troops and stay in contact with them prior to the event so everyone knows what to expect when the event takes place. The day started with registering each troop in our proprietary software and verifying emergency contact information. Each boat will “check out” via VHF radio or through our Google voice service and our MAD dock team records the names of all occupants and their check out time. When each boat returns they check back in so we know each individual is accounted for. When the boats return we have a team of people ready to clean their fish, teach them proper fish cleaning and storage. To finish the day, we have a large family style picnic with great prizes for our troops. All of this gives our troops a day away from base where they can be introduced to saltwater fishing and learn a lot about our valuable NC marine resources.

Expected Results:

Military Appreciation Day will arrange to take approximately 350 troops saltwater fishing during our 2 events In Morehead City and Southport, NC. Paired with our seasoned captains, they learn hands on ethical fishing practices and the importance of respecting our delicate marine resources. They learn the importance of knowing size and creel limits and how to properly catch and handle fish for consumption or safe release. Our captains teach them the importance of properly disposing of all trash and how to minimize their imprint on our marine resources. Through this experience we introduce these troops to the sport of fishing and are able to help educate them on the importance of being responsible stewards of the marine environment.

Data Delivery Plan for Research Projects:

A written summary of our events will be delivered to DMF by August 30 and February 15th of each year. It will outline the number of participants, volunteers and the conservation and ethical fishing practices that were incorporated into our events, along with a log of expenses.

Geographical Location:

Our events are held in Morehead City and Southport, NC and our troops come from all branches of the armed forces throughout North Carolina.

Milestone Schedule:

	Years 1, 2 and 3: July,1 2023 - June 30, 2024											
Task	July	Aug	Sept*	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June**
Begin event planning					X			X				
Update websites/media	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Inventory supplies/repair/replenish	X	X							X	X	X	X
Fundraising (cash and in-kind donations)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Solicit Volunteers	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Committee Leader Meetings	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X
CRFL Reports by Feb 15 and Aug 30		X						X				
Contract for tents, tables chairs, etc	X									X		
Contract for catering	X									X		
Apply for CRFL Exemption									X			X
Obtain event liability insurance		X									X	
Secure event venues and docks								X			X	
Invite Participants	X									X		
Assign/Pair participants with volunteers	X	X	X							X	X	X
Confirm Receipt of all Release of Liability Forms			X									X
Execute event, clean up and store equipment			X									X
*Sept = Southport MAD event												
**June = Morehead City MAD event												

Match:

Military Appreciation Day matching funds would be generated from a combination of cash and in-kind donations received throughout the year. Donations to MAD fluctuate from year to year and are largely based on economic conditions. We anticipate these donations to be approximately \$25,000 per year.

Cost Summary:

CRFL Grant funds to be used for (amounts approximate):			
Expense	2023	2024	2025
Headboat Charter	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Subsidized fuel for volunteer captains	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Educational Materials/Giveaways (rods/reels, tackle, fish rulers, etc)	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Total CRFL Grant Funds	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
MAD match funds to be used for (amounts/items approximate and TBD):			
Expense	2023	2024	2025
Tents, tables, chairs, etc	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Catering	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Venue and dock rentals	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Event Insurance	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Supplies and maintence	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Family Activies (dock fishing for kids, ferries to Shackelford Banks, Kayak rentals, etc)	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Total MAD Funds (approximate)	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000

Please note that donations and our ability to hold our events (and the size of our events) is based on economic conditions, anticipated donations and grant funds. Funding from the CRFL would be used for charter/head boat rentals, fishing gear for our troops and to help subsidize the fuel costs for our volunteer captains so that we can host as many troops as possible. The cost of our events is expected to be \$50,000 per year, with \$25,000 CRFL grant funds and \$25,000 in cash and in-kind donations raised by Military Appreciation Day, Inc.

Principal Investigator:

Chris Milks, President Mad Morehead City

Other Funded Research: None

Other Information:

Military Appreciation Day Inc. was founded to say thank you to our troops and show them a great day on the water fishing, while teaching them the importance of respecting our marine environment. Everything provided for our troops and their families is 100% free of charge to them and every dollar raised by MAD goes towards putting on our events. After each event we donate any leftover food and drinks to local charities such as Hope Mission.

2022-P-070

Hooked on the New River Oyster Highway – A Public Guide to Fishing and Water Quality on the New
River

City of Jacksonville

City of Jacksonville- Pat Donovan-Brandenburg

Hooked on the New River Oyster Highway – A Public Guide to Fishing and Water Quality on the New River

Coastal Recreation Fishing License Strategic Plan Goals: Objective 2 – Improve Public Information, Education and Enrichment.

Strategy 3.1 –Develop comprehensive public education program on recreational fishing practices, including informational kiosks at fishing access points.

Strategy 3.2 – Develop information programs on catch and release, ethical angling, fishing techniques, reducing release mortality, and by-catch.

Project Period: July 1 2023- June 30 2024, July 1 2024 to June 30 2025 and July 1 2025 to June 1 2026. This is a 3-year project.

Need: The City of Jacksonville has been working on cleaning up the New River and restoring Wilson Bay for the last 25 years. Here is some background, or history, as to why this grant proposal is of such value to the City of Jacksonville and our partners for the continued restoration of the New River

Wilson Bay [34.76435 N, 077.40414 W] is a shallow, estuarine 101-acre cove in the New River. The New River Watershed is a sub basin (sub basin 02) of the White-Oak River Basin that meanders through the center of Onslow County. The river, on the western end of the White-Oak basin, has the distinction of being the only river in the country self-contained in One County. A recreational park, a residential subdivision, a yacht club, and US Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune bound Wilson Bay. The bay from the mid 1980's thru 1999 was typically a eutrophied waterbody, characterized by recurring stratification of the water column and persistent bottom water hypoxia or anoxia occurring during the summer months. Four urban creeks feed into the bay and during rain events, runoff would load the bay with nutrients, polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's), and organics. Wilson Bay and other sections of the New River support six endangered or threatened aquatic animal species and serve as a primary nursery area for species such as Red Drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*), Sea Trout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*), Flounder (*Paralichthys* species), shrimp (*Litopenaeus* and *Pandalus*) and blue crabs (*Callinectes sapidus*).

The Bay once served as hub of recreational activity for residents of Jacksonville as well as a nursery area for various aquatic species. Swimming, boating, and fishing were once readily accommodated by the bay ecosystem. In the late 1940s the City of Jacksonville's Wastewater Treatment facility was built on waterfront property on the western edge of the bay. The plant discharged treated effluent through an outfall located within the bay. The City's wastewater treatment plant (CJWTP) efficiently accommodated the municipal waste handling needs of Jacksonville for decades. However, the population of Onslow County and Jacksonville increased more than 85% from 1980-1990. Onslow County rapidly became the most densely populated of

the four watersheds within the White-Oak Basin. Although the CJWTP was modified several times to accommodate the expanding population, by the mid-1980s Jacksonville's waste handling needs exceeded the treatment capacity of the plant, thus the need for decommissioning the old Wilson Bay Plant and the start of the Wilson Bay Initiative. The New River had been so heavily polluted that people did not fish it or swim in it. It was a barren, dead zone. In fact, in the mid-1990s, a huge waste spill from a commercial pig operation did not appreciably degrade the New River because it was already devoid of life.

The Wilson Bay Initiative started in 1997 with the collection of base-line data and the transfer of waste from the old Wilson Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility to our 7,000-acre Land Application plant. In April of 1998, the City of Jacksonville removed all treated wastewater from entering the New River Watershed by shutting down the effluent and the plant. Over the next 25 years, we worked diligently to improve water quality and restore habitat by placing: 10 million oysters into Wilson Bay, 3 aeration units and restoring 9 square acres of constructed wetlands along the waterfront of Wilson Bay. In 2013, we worked with the Army Corp. of Engineers by placing 2.6 tons of granite rock down as a base for 8 oyster reefs in Wilson Bay. Then 102,400 pounds or ~2,275 bushels of recycled oyster shell were placed onto the granite rock. All of the living oysters placed in Wilson Bay from 1999 thru 2013 were placed on top of the shell and granite rock. Since the Wilson Bay wastewater treatment plant was shut down in 1998, the salinities in Wilson Bay seem to have stabilized around 14ppt with higher salinities during drought years of 28ppt and low salinities of 5ppt during wet years. The City adds ½ million living oysters to these eight reefs annually with the hope of solidifying the reefs as viable habitat and sustaining an oyster population in Wilson Bay.

The NRE is classified as nutrient sensitive waters, and in the past nutrient inputs into the NRE have caused algal blooms, high turbidity, and bottom-water hypoxia/anoxia— all of which had exacerbated loss of oyster reef habitat (via intense sedimentation). Efforts by several entities have and are taking place to improve water quality and fisheries production in the NRE. As part of this long-term effort, it is thought that conditions are now returning to a state conducive for oyster reef persistence throughout much of the NRE. In this context, the NRE Oyster Highway project is leveraging an integrated, landscape and watershed-scale approach for holistic ecosystem and habitat-based fishery conservation. The New River Oyster Highway started as an innovative way to improve water quality along North Carolina's central coast, but it has turned into a seatrout and redfish public fishing hotspot.

In 2011-2012, the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (NCDMF) installed an artificial reef, AR-398, utilizing recycled concrete from the Highway 17 bridge demolition. Local anglers started utilizing the AR-398 reef within two weeks of it being completed. This information was relayed from anglers directly. They were catching red drum, Southern flounder and speckled sea trout almost immediately.

Oyster populations had not developed on AR 398 or in Wilson Bay as was hoped, due to a lack of oyster larvae and suitable substrate in the surrounding waters. The closest known oyster populations are at the southern end of the New River in Stones Bay. With the slow prevailing downstream flow, the oyster larvae from the dense oyster populations in the lower New River Estuary (NRE) did not reach AR-398 or Wilson Bay, thus the creation of the Oyster Highway.

The New River Estuary Oyster Highway created oyster habitat stepping-stones in the central portion of the New River Estuary (NRE) that support biogenic reefs via local hard-substrate subsidies, as well as NRE-wide enhanced oyster larval supply. In turn, improved oyster (reef) fitness in the upper, middle, and lower NRE has provided a diverse nekton community of ecologically and economically prized species via provision of essential fish habitat (including water-column habitat via improved water quality). The 12 reef complexes initially covered >6.2 total acres, with Phase III starting this year, the reefs will be expanded to 10.5 acres by 2023. Permitting and construction of Phase I (6 reefs) and Phase II (additional 6) reefs of the NRE Oyster Highway was completed by July 2020. Design of each of the 12 identical Oyster Highway sites are summarized as: each site is defined by a reef landscape footprint of 70 m * 30 m, located sub tidally, but in close proximity to shore (within ~200 m), and away from navigation channels. Over ½ of each site, we deployed 90 Oyster Castle® patch reefs. Each Oyster Castle® patch reef comprised of 8 stackable, interlocking concrete blocks (12” * 12” * 8” [L*W*H]); overall dimensions of each patch reef: 36” * 24” * 16”). On the other half of each site, we deployed 90 Oyster Catcher™ patch reefs. Each Oyster Catcher™ patch reef is comprised of 10 manufactured patties (12” * 4” [D * H] disks; overall dimensions of each patch reef: 24” * 24” * 16”). Both Oyster Castle® blocks and Oyster Catcher™ patties are stackable and interlocking, and are designed to create complex, stable habitat with exceptional small-scale rugosity that fosters oyster larval settlement and early juvenile survival.

Upon completion of the Oyster Highway reefs, continued monitoring of the following occurs: (1) evaluation of oyster density, growth, and survivorship; (2) assessment of fish and crustacean use of sites; (3) inspection of sites for marine debris and or displaced substrates. In the first year, monitoring showed a 300% increase in the amount of fish settling onto the reefs as compared to the control sites. More specific data is available upon request.

Each reef site has permanent marking/signage at each of the four corners with the detailing of: (1) project name; (2) funding sources; (3) prohibition of oyster (shellfish) harvest; (4) project team contact information; and (5) encouraged web-based reporting of reef-associated catches/effort by recreational fishers (advertised among/by our CCA partners). The Oyster Highway design has built system resilience via mid- and upper-estuary oyster larval production/retention and geospatial buffering against anticipated environmental shifts that result from climate change (i.e., increased saltwater intrusion via sea-level rise). In this regard, the reefs are deeply rooted in sustainability vis-à-vis ecosystem response/change at the whole-system level over the foreseeable future

Oyster reefs are essential fish habitat via provision of structurally complex foraging, refuge, nursery, and spawning environments for a broad suite of fishes and crustaceans (NOAA Fisheries). As such, oyster reef restoration supports NOAA's National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy and Implementation Plans by providing this crucial habitat subsidy in degraded estuarine systems. Our sites are intended to increase the fitness of multiple sciaenids (e.g., spot, croaker, red drum, spotted seatrout), parichthyids (e.g., Southern flounder) and decapods (e.g., blue crabs, penaeid shrimp), among other taxa, while also enhancing and diversifying public fishing opportunities in our coastal system.

Objectives: The fishing seminars and tour, guide, signage, URL and phone App will focus on the following:

- A comprehensive public education program on recreational fishing practices on the New River
- A full list of fish species to be caught on the New River
- A list of all the oyster reef locations with coordinates and maps
- Creel and size limits and seasons with QR codes back to Marine Fisheries website
- A breakdown of the species and the habitat they prefer: - striped bass - speckled trout - red drum - Southern flounder
- A list of the important baitfish that are the base of the food chain: species of shrimp, crabs, menhaden, spot, croaker, shad, etc.
- Tips, tricks, tactics and general whereabouts for how to target said gamefish species
- Gear list, including baits, tackle setups, and rods/reels best suited to target said fish
- Fishing best practices: catch and release, circle hooks, barbless hooks, how to use a rubber net, keep them wet, how to properly hold a fish and more.
- Breakdown of the different habitats, water quality and some of the improvements to the overall health of the New River over the years that have brought the river back to a healthy fishery

Approach: The intent of this project is to introduce the general public to the fishing opportunities that were created by the introduction of twelve new oyster reefs into the New River estuary. The reintroduction of these oyster reefs into the New River has continued the commitment from the City of Jacksonville to restore water quality in this important ecosystem which has provided the added benefit of creating new fish habitat to help restore and rebuild the stocks of numerous, important gamefish in the region.

For generations, North Carolina enjoyed a nationwide reputation among the fishing public for the extraordinary abundance of our coastal sounds and river estuaries. Today, our once-abundant inshore fisheries resources are in shocking decline. Projects like the New River Oyster Highway have helped address problems with water quality and loss of critical habitat that are desperately needed to help rebuild and restore our declining fish stocks. This project will bring more members of the public out onto the water to view firsthand how improving water quality and restoring lost

habitat can change the direction and help restore our invaluable coastal resources for future generations to enjoy.

The project will be designed to introduce members of the fishing public to the angling opportunities that currently exist through actual in person fishing seminars during the winter month of February and then on water fishing activities in the Spring with professional for-hire fishing guides. The program will also be supplemented with a printed guide that identifies the numerous species of aquatic life that can be found right in their backyard. An app for the phone will also be developed to house the printed guide's information and history of the program. Information will also be supplied on how they can contribute to the continued effort to improve water quality and restore healthy fish stocks through their own ethical fishing actions.

Two days of classroom instruction covering all aspects of equipment, bait and techniques of sport fishing and slow trolling will occur at Sturgeon City. The "in-person fishing seminars" will have a main seminar and breakout "hands on training" sessions occurring concurrently for two days, so there will always be a session that most interests each participant. The main seminar will have experienced, knowledgeable captains working together to thoroughly cover their particular subject material, as well as give their different perspectives on what works for them. All of the main seminars and training sessions will be recorded and featured on the City of Jacksonville television station G10 as well as on the City's Web site. The breakout sessions are smaller and give greater access to the captain/instructor. This personal approach will greatly enhance the walk-away knowledge each participant receives from the school. Each participant will get all the tips they need on bait, tackle, species habits, regulatory limits, wind, weather, and safety.

The responsibility for each partner is as follows: Sturgeon City will provide support and location for the fishing seminars held in the winter month of February all three years. Sturgeon City is located on 27 acres of waterfront with three large classrooms that combined can hold 750 people. Coastal Conservation Association North Carolina (CCA NC) will help recruit and support the fishing guides/captains used for the fishing seminars and fishing tours. They will also write and assemble the printed fishing guide. Coastal Carolina River Watch (CCRW) will assist with editing the fishing guide and promote public outreach and recruitment. The City of Jacksonville will develop the fishing App for the phone, and URL, design and install the sign to be located near the fishing piers at Sturgeon City with information on Oyster Highway and how to obtain/utilize the fishing guide. The City's Media Services Division will visually produce, record and edit the seminars and fishing tours for the City's television station - G10 to be played throughout the year. A video will be made for year one and two. This information will also be available for on-demand view on the City's Web site. Video's will be stored on City servers and made available on social media platforms including Facebook and YouTube. Media Services will promote initiative efforts, create content and share it through the City's Direct messaging to Citizens, Social Media, Web and print as needed. The Division will also capture still images of efforts and provide support as needed for the APP design and fishing guide.

All four partners will assist and support the fishing seminars and the actual fishing tours for all three years.

Expected Results and Benefits:

This project will bring more members of the public out onto the water to view firsthand how improving water quality and restoring lost habitat can change the historical trend of a degraded watershed throughout the New River towards a thriving ecosystem which will help restore our invaluable coastal resources for future generations to enjoy. The project will be designed to introduce members of the fishing public to the angling opportunities that currently exist on the New River. Information will also be supplied on how they can contribute to the continued effort to improve water quality and restore healthy fish stocks through their own ethical fishing actions.

Geographic Location: Seminars and Signage will occur at Sturgeon City, the City’s Environmental and Educational center located at 50 South Court Street. The Latitude and Longitude for the 12 Oyster Highway Reefs are located in the graph below.

New River Estuary Oyster Highway Site

NREOH Site	Latitude (DD)	Longitude (DD)
1	34.6707	-77.3616
2	34.6583	-77.3555
3	34.6406	-77.3397
4	34.6124	-77.3636
5	34.6369	-77.3730
6	34.6530	-77.3801
7	34.6986	-77.3746
8	34.6283	-77.3504
9	34.6200	-77.3850
10	34.6199	-77.3851
11	34.6801	-77.4003
12	34.7189	-77.4308

Milestone Schedule:

Task	Year 1: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024											
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
Begin compiling material for Fishing Guide	X	X	X	X								
Meetings to prepare and carry out tasks	X		X		X		X	X	X			
Edit Guide					X	X						
Print Guide						X	X					
Develop Phone App.		X	X	X	X	X	X					
Develop an URL			X	X	X							
Develop Fishing Seminars					X	X						
Recruit Fishing Guides for Program and tour		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Recruit/Advertise General Public for program and tour			X	X	X	X	X					
Performance Reports		X						X				
Fishing Seminar 3 classes total- 1 Friday night, 2 Saturday								X				
Fishing Tour – All day										X		
Video/Document Seminar and Fishing Tour								X		X		
Edit Seminars and Tour videos-place on G10 and Web site									X	X	X	X
Design and install Sign											X	X
Final Report to DMF Report											X	
Year 2 July 2024-June 30 2025	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
Meetings to prepare and carry out tasks recruit vendors			X		X		X	X				
Fishing Seminar 3 classes total- 1 Friday night, 2 Saturday									X			
Fishing Tour – All day										X		
Performance Reports		X						X				
Final Report to DMF Report											X	

Year 3 July 2025-June 30 2026	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
Meetings to prepare and carry out tasks, recruit vendors			X		X		X	X				
Fishing Seminar 3 classes total- 1 Friday night, 2 Saturday								X				
Fishing Tour – All day										X		
Performance Reports		X						X				
Final Report to DMF											X	

Cost Summary:

Budget and explanation of Costs

Expense	Year 1		Year 2	
	No. FTE*	Cost(\$)	No. FTE*	Cost(\$)
CCRW Personnel:	2 FTE	\$9,600	2 FTE	\$4,500
Executive Director	@ \$60/hour X 64 hours	11%	@ \$60/hour X 30 Hr.	11.8%
Water Keeper	@ \$50/hour X 64 hours	\$3,840	@ \$50/hour X 30 HR	\$1,800
Admin Assistant	@ \$40/hour X 64 hours	\$3,200	@ \$40/hour X 30 Hr.	\$1,500
		\$2,560		\$1,200
Travel (mileage, meals, lodging)	82 miles to/from Jacksonville – 6 meetings and three events (carpool 3)	\$428.04	82 miles to/from Jacksonville –3 meetings and three events (carpool 3)	\$285.36
Advertisement		\$1,200		\$1,200
Total CCRW		Year 1-\$11,228.04		Year 2-\$5,985.36
CCA Personnel:	2 FTE	\$7,400	2 FTE	\$ 4,000
Executive Director	@\$60/hour X 64 hours	9%	@ \$60/hour X 30 Hr.	10.4%
Assistant Director	@ \$40/hour X 64 hours	\$3,840	@ \$40/hour X 30 Hr.	\$1,800
Intern	@ \$ 40/hour x 25 hours	\$2,560	@ \$40/hour x 25 hr.	\$1,200
		\$1,000		\$1,000
Development of Fishing Guide - editing	2 FTE	\$2,000		
Printing of Guide	1000 guides= \$2,000 2000 guides=\$4,000 5000 guides=\$10,000	\$4,000		\$2,000
Total CCA		Year 1- \$13,400		Year 2- \$6,000
Sturgeon City Personnel	2 FTE	\$ No Cost	2 FTE	\$ No Cost
Executive Director	NO Cost		No Cost	
Assistant Director	In Kind (\$4,000)		In Kind (\$4,000)	

SC building rental	Total Cost	Year 1- \$2,500		Year 2-\$2,500
City of Jacksonville Stormwater/WQ staff Manager 2 WQ Techs	3 FTE In Kind \$70/hourX64hours=\$4,480 \$45/hour x64hours=\$2,880	\$ No Cost In Kind (\$7,360)	3 FTE In Kind \$70/hourX30hours=\$2,100 \$45/hourX30hours=\$1,350	\$ No Cost In Kind (\$3,450)
City of Jacksonville Media: Director Assistant director Staff	2 FTE \$47.91 hour x 36 hours \$47.91 hour x 36 hours \$50.00 hour x 2 hours	\$ 3,550.00 4% @ \$1,725.00 @ \$1,725.00 @ \$100.00	2 FTE \$47.91 hour x25 hours \$47.91 hour x25 hours \$50.00 hour x 2 hours	\$ 2,495.50 6.5% \$ 1,197.75 \$ 1,197.75 \$ 100.00
Development of Phone App Software	NA	\$30,000	NA	NA
Video Production Costs	NA	\$2,250	NA	\$ 2,250
Stipends for Captains for fishing tour	20 FTE	\$13,000 15.5%	20 FTE	\$13,000 34%
Stipend for Captains for Seminars 1 full day and one ½ day	5 FTE	\$5,500 6%	5 FTE	\$5,500 14.4%
Informational sign Design and Print	NA	\$500	NA	NA
Refreshments for Seminars- 3 classes	NA	\$400	NA	\$400
Safety Items- Life Jackets	NA	\$ 1,500	NA	NA
Total COJ		\$ 56,700		\$23,645.50
Total Cost- ALL	Year 1	\$83,828.04	Year 2	\$38,130.86
Year 3	No. FTE	Costs		
CCRW Personnel: Executive Director Water Keeper Admin Assistant	2 FTE @ \$60/hour X 30 Hr. @ \$50/HR X 30 Hr. @\$40/hour X 30 Hr.	\$4,500 14.9% \$1,800 \$1,500 \$1,200		
Travel (mileage, meals, lodging)	82 miles to/from Jacksonville –3 meetings and three events (carpool 3)	\$285.36		
CCA Personnel: Executive Director Assistant Director Intern	2 FTE @ \$60/hour X 30 Hr. @\$40/hour X 30 Hr. @ 40/hr x 25 hours	\$4,000 13.2% \$1,800 \$1,200 \$1,000		
City of Jacksonville Media: Director	2 FTE \$47.91 hour x 36 hours	\$ 2,495.50 8% \$ 1,197.75		

Assistant director Staff	\$47.91 hour x 36 hours \$50.00 hour x 2 hours	\$ 1,197.75 \$ 100.00		
City of Jacksonville Stormwater/WQ staff Manager 2 WQ Techs	3 FTE In Kind \$70/hourX30hours=\$2,100 \$45/hourX30hours=\$1,350	\$ No Cost In Kind (\$3,450)		
Stipends for Captains for fishing tour	20 FTE	\$13,000 43%		
Stipend for Captains for Seminars 1 full day and one ½ day	5 FTE	\$5,500 18%		
Refreshments for Seminars- 3 classes		\$400		
Total Cost	Year 3	\$30,180.86		
TOTAL COST	Year 1 \$83,828.04	Year 2 \$38,130.86	Year 3 \$30,180.86	Total Cost 3 years \$152,139.76

Project Administrator/Principal Investigator/Partners of the Project:

City of Jacksonville’s mission is to provide the leadership, vision and oversight to ensure the responsible stewardship of Jacksonville’s resources for the effective, efficient, and economical delivery of municipal services for the future. The mission of the Stormwater/Water Quality Division is to assist in executing the Stormwater Management Utility Program that will implement an appropriate level of education, training, outreach and public involvement programs to support the objectives of the stormwater discharge permit and stormwater plan. This will include provisions for long-term maintenance of BMP’s, water quality improvements and habitat restoration. It is our mission to ensure the responsible stewardship of Jacksonville’s environment and natural resources by protecting the New River and its tributaries as a valuable environmental and economic resource. One of our goals is that Water quality improvements and habitat restoration be achieved through a combination of efforts. These efforts include: reducing storm water input to urban streams feeding the New River, planting bivalves and building oyster reefs to enhance natural filtration of the water column and providing needed habitat, promoting the construction of wetlands to reduce stormwater runoff of nutrients, and harvesting and propagating SAV’s.

The Principal Investigator is: **Pat Donovan-Brandenburg**

City of Jacksonville



A. Professional Preparation

University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Master of Science, Marine Biology, December 1993

University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Bachelor of Science, Marine Biology, May 1987

B. Appointments

2003 – Present Stormwater Manager, City of Jacksonville, Jacksonville NC 28540

2001 – Present Director Science Institute, City of Jacksonville, and Jacksonville NC 28540

1998-2003 Marine Scientist/Field Coordinator NCSU-College of Veterinary Medicine, Raleigh NC

1993-1999 Biology Instructor Coastal Carolina Community College, Jacksonville NC

1992-1993 Marine Scientist The Nature Conservancy, Key West Florida

1991-1993 Marine Biologist John Pennekamp Coral Reef Park, Key Largo Florida

1991-1993 Field Instructor Marine Resource Development Foundation, Key Largo Florida

1987-1991 Marine Biologist NC Aquarium Fort Fisher NC

1983-1987 Research Associate Institute for Marine Biomedical Research, UNCW Wilmington NC

C. Publications

*Donovan-Potts, P. 1993. The biological and physical parameters surrounding the traditional spawning sites of the bluehead wrasse, *Thalassoma bifasciatum*, along the Key Largo, Florida, reef tract.*

M.S. Thesis, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, 37 pp.

Relevant Current Grants

- \$ 3 Million Army Core of Engineers – Wilson Bay
- \$ 150,000 Chaney Creek Restoration – NOAA
- \$ 7,000 Duke Endowment Fund – Fisheries Project
- \$700,000 Clean Water Management Trust Fund- Wilson Bay
- \$25,000, North Carolina Marine Fisheries, renewed yearly 1996-97, 1996-95
- 1.5 million New River Oyster Highway Project
- 750,000 USDA/EWP Stream restorations

D. Certifications

- NOAA/NURC Enriched Air NITROX
- NOAA/NURC/UNCW research diver
- PADI Openwater

CCA NC:

The Coastal Conservation Association North Carolina (CCA) is a community of conservationists and anglers working to promote sound management of public trust marine and estuarine resources to protect those resources for the enjoyment of current and future generations. CCA and its state-chapter network are engaged in hundreds of local, state, and national programs and projects related to marine conservation, including initiating scientific studies, funding marine-science scholarships, building artificial reefs, creating finfish hatcheries, initiating hydrologic and contaminant studies, monitoring the quality and quantity of freshwater inflows, supporting local marine law enforcement and more.

Proposed Role of CCA NC:

- 1) Lead in the identification and recruitment of professional for-hire fishing guides to lead on water fishing tours of the New River Oyster Highway.
- 2) Assist in the development and printing of a written “fishing guide” that helps members of the public recognize the different species of marine life, specifically finfish that inhabit the New River ecosystem; promotes good stewardship of our coastal resources; promotes ethical angling practices; and supports the importance of clean water.

Website: www.ccanc.org

Biographical Sketch

David A. Sneed

CCA NC



3) Professional Preparation

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, May 1987

4) Appointments

2014 – Present Executive Director, Coastal Conservation Association North Carolina

Coastal Carolina River Watch (CCRW)- Coastal Carolina Riverwatch (CCRW) is a women-led grassroots organization driven by the voices of the coast and working through community collaboration to protect water quality and coastal habitat. We believe it is important to engage communities with the waters that surround them and give them the resources they need to protect the quality of water and quality of life in coastal NC.

CCRW Staff Link: <https://coastalcarolinariverwatch.org/staff/>

Sturgeon City – is a nonprofit organization that operates out of the site of the former Wilson Bay treatment Plant. They focus on cultivating Love and understanding of Science and the Environment thru hands on learning. Their programs take place in the Environmental Education Center with additional features on site such as boardwalks, outdoor areas and a 9-acre waterfront park. Their mission is to become the model for inspiring youth leadership, environmental education and stewardship of the New River and coastal wetlands.

Facilities/Access Projects: We are not sure of the increased usage of existing Boat Ramp, but believe the seminars and tours will increase numbers to the fishing community.

Environmental Considerations: This is not a developmental project so there will be no impacts to shorelines, wetlands, water quality, SAV's or fish species.

No SEAP will be required.

No NOAA permits needed, all fishing will be catch and release via Hook and Line.

Artificial Reef Projects: Not Applicable

Other Information: After the 3 years grant period, we believe the fishing community will continue to support the program thru individual funds and in-kind services for both the fishing seminars and tour, we believe at that time it will be a sustainable program.

**APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM
N.C. MARINE RESOURCES FUND**

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		2. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION:	
Applicant's Legal Name: City of Jacksonville		Pat Donovan-Brandenburg	
Street: [REDACTED]		Street: [REDACTED]	
Mail (PO Box): [REDACTED]		Mail (PO Box): [REDACTED]	
City, State and Zip Code: [REDACTED]		City, State and Zip: [REDACTED]	
EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): [REDACTED]		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator Phone number with area code: [REDACTED]	
		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator FAX number with area code: [REDACTED]	
3. TYPE OF APPLICANT: <input type="checkbox"/> State agency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County or Municipality <input type="checkbox"/> University <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify and list partnering entity)		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator Email Address: [REDACTED]	
4. TYPE OF APPLICATION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New		5. PROJECT TITLE: Hooked on the New River Oyster Highway A Public Guide to Fishing and Water Quality on the New River	
6. PROPOSED PROJECT: Start Date: July 2023, Year-2 July 2024 Year-3 July 2025 Ending Date: June 30 2024, Year 2 June 30 2025, Year 3 June 30 2026 Number of years: 3		7. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE, STRATEGY AND RESEARCH NEED: Management Goal (check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and Education <input type="checkbox"/> Education Objective (list number): <u>2</u> Strategy (e.g., 2.1, 3.1): <u>3.1 & 3.2</u> Research Need (list project need): N/A	
8. SOURCES OFFUNDING: a. CRFL Funds Requested: Year 1 \$83,828.04 b. Year 2 \$38,130.86 Year 3 \$30,180.86 c. Total for 3 years \$152,139.79 d. Applicant Match: <u>In Kind COJ \$14,260 (3 years)</u> d. Other Match: <u>In Kind Sturgeon City \$12,000 (3 years)</u> f. TOTAL: <u>Year 1- \$95,188.04 Year 2- \$45,580.86</u> <u>Year 3- \$37,630.86 -</u> <u>TOTAL 3 years \$178,399.76</u>		9. AREA AFFECTED BY PROJECT (City, Counties, etc.): COJ, Onslow County & New River	
10. LIST STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT: (Indicate completion date) None			
12. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN FULLY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND WILL COMPLY WITH ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.			
Full Name of Authorized Representative: Pat Donovan-Brandenburg		Authorized Administrator Email Address: [REDACTED]	
Signature: <i>Pat Donovan-Brandenburg</i>		Date Signed: 12-15-2022	Phone Number (with area code): [REDACTED]
Following Boxes are for CRFL Internal Office Use Only			
Date Received by NC DMF: 12/14/2022	Tracking Number: 2022-P-070	Year 1 Request from Marine Resources Fund: \$ <u>95,188.04</u>	



Coastal Carolina Riverwatch



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Marine Fisheries
217 West Jones
Street Raleigh, NC
27603

Dear Coastal Recreational Fishing License Grant Review Team,

Coastal Carolina Riverwatch protects the quality of water and quality of life through boots-on-the-ground research and advocacy. We support this project and partnership with the Coastal Conservation Association and City of Jacksonville, because it highlights the work we do collectively to protect water quality and fisheries in the New River while connecting coastal community members to all that the New River has to offer and enjoy.

This project not only highlights the values and sustainable heritage of the fishing community of the New River, but it also showcases what types of fish can be found in the river, what can be kept to eat, best methods for sustainable catch and release, and proper bait and equipment needs. We also know that the printed and downloadable fishing guide for the New River is crucial for a better informed public both now and sustained through the future, by using real-time links and QR codes that keeps the content up-to-date with current fisheries management plan information.

We are excited about what this will do for our coastal communities and hope to expand this project to additional river systems (White Oak, Newport, and North River) in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Lisa Rider
Executive
Director
Coastal Carolina Riverwatch





December 3, 2022

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the City of Jacksonville's application for funding under for the Coastal Recreational Fishing License Request for Proposals for Fishing Access and Education grant. Headquartered in the City of Jacksonville, North Carolina, Sturgeon City represents a unique concept, the conversion of a wastewater treatment plant into a civic and environmental education center. Its mission is "to make Sturgeon City the model program for inspiring youth leadership, civic involvement, habitat restoration, environmental education and stewardship of the Wilson Bay and coastal wetlands." Sturgeon City has partnered with the City of Jacksonville for more than 20 years to help restore the New River and educate the public about the restoration efforts that have taken and continue to take place.

The project reflects the mission of Sturgeon City's environmental education focus. It is our practice to use the story of the New River to teach others how harmful practices can severely damage a river but also how taking responsibility for those actions and establishing a workable plan can turn a damaged natural resource into a viable and healthy resource.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of City of Jacksonville as they seek funding under for the Coastal Recreational Fishing License Request for Proposals for Fishing Access and Education grant. We value our long term partnership with the City of Jacksonville and are glad to support their work to continue to improve the health of the New River. Thank you for your consideration.

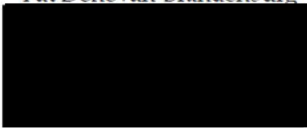
Sincerely,

Lisa Murabito
Executive Director
Sturgeon City of Jacksonville

 **CCA** *North Carolina*
Celebrating Over 30 Years of Conservation
1989 - 2022

December 5, 2022

Pat Donovan-Brandenburg



CCA North Carolina
Board of Directors

Bert Owens
Chairman

Rocky Carter
President

Donald Willis
President-Elect

Jeff Akin
Vice President

Avery Conning
Vice President

Van Parrish
Vice President

Bobby Rice
Vice President

Bud Abbott
Treasurer

Rip Woodin
Secretary

Billy Byrd
Chairman Emeritus

David Sneed
Executive Director

Matthew Wallin
Assistant Director

Cindy Davis
Office Administrator

Dr. Tim Nifong, Ph.D.
J.D. General Counsel

Dear Pat,

We are in strong support of your application for project funding from the NC Coastal Recreational Fishing License grant program entitled, "HOOKED ON THE NEW RIVER OYSTER HIGHWAY, A Public Guide to Fishing and Water Quality on the New River". We are very proud of our support of the 12 reef complexes your team has already constructed in the New River Estuary and agree that this program to inform more of the public about the efforts to enhance fish habitat, improve water quality and support public fishing access is an important part of maintaining good water quality and healthy fisheries.

This fits well within the Coastal Conservation Association North Carolina's mission to support grassroots-driven projects that achieve one or more of five key objectives: Restore degraded habitats; Create new habitats; Advance the science of coastal habitat and marine fisheries conservation; Foster habitat stewardship; and Educate coastal communities of the value of conservation. This project touches all of these objectives!

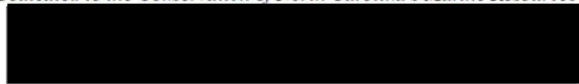
We are also happy to see our previous financial and volunteer contributions to the New River Oyster Highway leveraged to educate the public on how they can support clean water initiatives and promote ethical public fishing in the New River Estuary.

Yours Sincerely,

David A. Sneed

David A. Sneed, Executive Director

Dedicated to the Conservation of North Carolina's Marine Resources



2022-P-071

Expanding Recreational Fishing Access by Enhancing the Morris Landing Clean Water Reserve Pier

Town of Holly Ridge

Table 1

Application for Funding from the N.C. Marine Resources Fund application cover sheet

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM N.C. MARINE RESOURCES FUND		
1. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		2. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION:
Applicant's Legal Name: Audrey Madia		Name of Project Administrator/Principal Investigator: Town of Holly Ridge
Street: [REDACTED]		Street: [REDACTED]
Mail (PO Box): [REDACTED]		Mail (PO Box): [REDACTED]
City, State and Zip Code: [REDACTED]		City, State and Zip Code: [REDACTED]
EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): [REDACTED]		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator Phone number with area code: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator FAX number with area code: [REDACTED]
3. TYPE OF APPLICANT: () State agency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County or Municipality () University () Other (specify and list partnering entity)		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator Email Address: [REDACTED]
4. TYPE OF APPLICATION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New		5. PROJECT TITLE: Expanding Recreational Fishing Access by Enhancing the Morris Landing Clean Water Reserve Pier
6. PROPOSED PROJECT: Start Date: <u>12/1/23</u> Ending Date: <u>6/1/24</u> Number of years: <u>1.5</u>		7. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE, STRATEGY AND RESEARCH NEED: Management Goal (check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and Education Objective (list number): _____ Strategy (e.g., 2.1, 3.1): _____ Research Need (list project need): _____
8. SOURCES OF FUNDING: a. CRFL Funds Requested: \$ <u>154,425</u> b. Applicant Match: \$ _____ d. Other Match: \$ _____ e. TOTAL: \$ <u>154,425</u>		9. AREA AFFECTED BY PROJECT (City, Counties, etc.): Holly Ridge, North Carolina
11. LIST STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT: (Indicate completion date) - CAMA		
12. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN FULLY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND WILL COMPLY WITH ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.		
Full Name of Authorized Representative: Audrey Madia		Authorized Administrator Email Address: [REDACTED]
Signature: Audrey Goyer	Date Signed: 12/15/22	Phone Number (with area code): [REDACTED]
Following Boxes are for CRFL Internal Office Use Only		
Date Received by NC DMF: 12/15/2022	Tracking Number: 2022-P-071	Year 1 Request from Marine Resources Fund: \$ <u>154,425</u>

Applicant Name: Town of Holly Ridge

Project Title: Expanding Recreational Fishing Access by Enhancing the Morris Landing Clean Water Preserve Pier

Coastal Recreational Fishing License Strategic Plan Goals: Identify the Coastal Recreational Fishing License objective listed in the Strategic Plan, and specific priority (found on page 8 of this document) need for which the proposal is targeting.

Objective 1: Provide Access to Marine Resources and Angling Opportunities

Strategy 1: Develop fishing access to enhance angling opportunities through construction of boat ramps, fishing piers, and beach access sites to support and provide broader use of these resources.

1.1 Improve and/or develop public fishing access.

Project Period: 1.5 years

Need: Demonstrate the need for assistance.

For many years, the Town of Holly Ridge has partnered with the N.C. Coastal Federation on the Morris Landing public access property, which was purchased by the Coastal Federation in 2004 with a grant from the N.C. Clean Water Management Trust Fund to protect water quality and restore oyster habitat. The acquisition prevented the development of Morris Landing and protected valuable estuarine habitat in Stump Sound and provided a much-needed public access point for the Town. The Town has an existing 25-year memorandum of understanding with the Coastal Federation to maintain the pier and site as part of the Town's public works program. The Town also partnered with the Coastal Federation to construct an ADA-compliant composting toilet at the site, which is underway.

Currently Morris Landing sees an estimated 12,000 visitors per year, primarily on the weekends. Many of the recreational fishers can also be classified as subsistence fishers. The other nearest public access point to Morris Landing is the Turkey Point Wildlife Access ramp, which is 13.5 miles north of Morris Landing.

The Morris Landing fishing pier is a prime amenity for Holly Ridge, and the Town would like to expand its utility for its residents in this productive waterbody. The Town would also like to include signage on the pier in both English and Spanish to provide public outreach information to all of its residents. The Town's Open Space Master Plan identifies expansion of the pier as a goal, as it also intends to extend a public trail into the Morris Landing site, which will only increase visitation.

In addition, the North Carolina Oyster Plan has identified Morris Landing and Stump Sound as priority sites for restoration and public access due to the productivity of the resources and their widespread popularity. And finally, the state Division of Marine

Fisheries has a partnership agreement with the Coastal Federation and the Town to use the site for restoration activities.

Objective: Address what is to be accomplished.

Objective: Expansion and enhancement the fishing pier at Morris Landing Clean Water Preserve.

The 52-acre Morris Landing Clean Water Preserve (owned by the North Carolina Coastal Federation) contains coastal shrub scrub and forest habitat, salt marsh and tidal creek areas and has over 3,000 feet of shoreline along Stump Sound. The public access preserve is located in the heart of the very productive shellfish growing areas of Stump Sound, and is an excellent site to stage oyster restoration and shellfish enhancement activities. The North Carolina Coastal Federation has partnered to complete several shoreline restoration projects over the last 15 years. The property also serves as a demonstration site for living shoreline and oyster projects, and houses oyster shell recycling drop-off.

A small wooden fishing pier currently sits at the public access site, which is a free public amenity and provides 24-hour access. The pier is badly weathered, and while it has been repaired numerous times, it is in need of additional repairs, expansion to address demand and retrofitting to make it ADA-compliant. It currently extends only over a shallow portion of the ICW; this project seeks to extend its reach both into the ICW and marsh for fishing and public education purposes.

If funded, this project will:

1. Replace the current deck boards and hand railing with more resilient construction materials (300')
2. Add a "T" at the end of the pier to allow more people to fish concurrently (12' x 30')
3. Extend a walk-way/observation pier into the marsh area to allow for fishing/viewing in this area (8' x 100')
4. Bring the current pier into ADA compliance
5. Install bollards to prevent ATVs/motor vehicles from driving onto the structure, preventing damage and protecting public safety.
6. Develop and install two signs, in both English and Spanish, to educate visitors on resilient marine construction practices, the ecology and fishing resources of Stump Sound and coastal stewardship activities possible.

All construction would adhere to resilient marine construction methods, as outlined in [Recommendations for Improved Marine Construction](#). This will ensure the structure would last in the face of storms, and will also act as a demonstration site for better marine construction practices that help keep harmful treated wood and dock/pier-related marine debris out of our waterways. Signage will highlight this aspect of the project, as well.

Approach: List all procedures necessary to attain each project objective, with sufficient detail to be able to evaluate the likelihood of obtaining the objective. Also, if able, please include an

operational contingency plan to address common setbacks (such as staff turnover, natural disaster related events, or similar) if they arise.

1. Meet with project team
2. Obtain quotes from local marine contractors for construction of the structure; consult with the North Carolina Coastal Federation to ensure that construction practices meet recommendations outlined in above report.
3. Select contractor and develop and execute contracts.
4. Based on available funds, develop construction timeline, taking into account increased supply costs.
5. Team reviews and approves design.
6. Contractor obtains all regulatory permits/conditions.
7. Review MOA with North Carolina Coastal Federation regarding maintenance for structure.
8. Complete CRFL interim and final reports in a timely manner.
9. Enter into construction; install signage explaining project and timeline.
10. Complete project, invite community to opening event.

The Town of Holly Ridge recently hired their first Parks & Recreation staff person, who will oversee this project. The Town has an excellent relationship with the North Carolina Coastal Federation, a conservation nonprofit organization, which is committed to assisting in this project as necessary (see attached letter of support).

The resilient marine construction practices mentioned above will ensure the structure safely stands after a major storm event. Construction will be planned for winter months when storms are not as likely and environmental impacts and use conflicts will be minimized.

Expected Results and Benefits: Identify and document the results or benefits expected from the proposed activities and how the project will help manage, protect, restore, develop, cultivate, and enhance the marine resources of North Carolina. A statement detailing how the project will ultimately benefit access to or education about the marine and estuarine resources in North Carolina must be included in this section.

The Morris Landing Clean Water Preserve is a heavily-used site, and one of the last remaining fully free/continuous water access sites available to recreational anglers in the region. Through a CAMA Access Grant, the Town of Holly Ridge and the North Carolina Coastal Federation are constructing a compostable toilet at the Preserve, roughly 1,100 feet from the current fishing pier. The Town's *Parks, Trails and Open Space Master Plan* also brings a multi-use path through the Preserve, which will continue to increase users at the site.

There are a number of subsistence fishers who currently utilize this site, and who would benefit from an enhanced structure that reaches deeper waters.

By enhancing the existing pier and adding additional signage, users will be able to learn about the restoration work that has taken place in the area, and further learn how they can engage with local groups and projects, including oyster shell recycling, living shorelines, water quality monitoring and resilient marine construction.

Geographic Location: Morris Landing Clean Water Preserve, Stump Sound, Town of Holly Ridge, Onslow County. 34°28'10.18"N / 77°30'31.51"W

Milestone Schedule: An activity schedule in table format (see page 11) for the duration of the project, starting with month one and concluding at the end of the requested award period including a maximum three-month report writing period. The final report and all data/deliverables must be submitted to the Coastal Recreational Fishing License Project Coordinator at Jamie.Botinovch@ncdenr.gov prior to contract termination. On multi-year proposals, a separate budget, scope of work, and milestones must be submitted for each year of the proposal. The schedule should include submission of performance reports due no later than February 15 and August 30. Applicants are expected to strictly adhere to their milestone schedule, and be prepared to accommodate staffing changes, weather events, and other delays. If the proposal is funded, no-cost extension requests are permitted, but highly discouraged. Repeat requests for no-cost extensions may impact future funding decisions by the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries.

Timeline

This project will be accomplished over 18 months from contract execution.

Project Activity	Dates of Implementation
Project team meets	Q1, Q3, Q5
Develop bid documents, gather contractor bids	Q1
Select contractors, develop and execute contracts	Q2-Q3
Public communication—media, community, students	All quarters
Education	All quarters
Obtain all necessary permits	Q3
Develop English and Spanish signage	Q5
Complete interim and final performance reports to CRFL/DMF in a timely manner.	Q4 and Q6



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

December 12, 2022

Jamie Botinovch
Coastal Recreational Fishing License Project Coordinator
Jamie.Botinovch@ncdenr.gov

Dear Jamie,

I submit this letter in support of the proposal by the Town of Holly Ridge for the Coastal Recreational Fishing License Request for Fishing Access and Education titled: "Expanding Recreational Fishing Access by Enhancing the Morris Landing Clean Water Preserve Pier."

The North Carolina Coastal Federation is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the North Carolina coast. Our organization represents 16,000 supporters statewide and works with the public, agencies and local governments to communicate and collaborate wherever possible towards solutions that lead to the stewardship and resiliency of our coast.

We are invested in the preservation and restoration of our coastline, for people of all walks of life. A primary tenet of our organization is that the coast belongs to us all, and we are committed to ensuring everyone can enjoy a coast that is a great place to live, work and visit.

We have partnered with the Town of Holly Ridge for many years to maintain the Morris Landing Clean Water Preserve in Onslow County. In addition to the numerous living shoreline and oyster restoration projects that have taken place here, this property is a key public access point for many families who use the existing pier for fishing, many for subsistence.

We are pleased to work with the Town of Holly Ridge on improvements to the existing pier, to ensure continued and improved access for the community.

Sincerely,

Todd Miller,
Executive Director



Morris Landing

Improvements identified as appropriate and compatible with facilities include:

- ◇ Enhanced roundabout area with clear vehicular limits
- ◇ Enhanced parking facilities for automobiles and trailers
- ◇ Non-motorized boat launch and water access
- ◇ Accessible pedestrian connections to fishing pier and restrooms
- ◇ Enhanced signage for wayfinding and education
- ◇ Expand walking trails and boardwalk into wetland area
- ◇ Enhanced drainage and stormwater management
- ◇ Site-sensitive landscaping and screening







“PROPOSAL”

ENNETT MARINE CONSTRUCTION LLC



PROPOSAL SUBMITTED. Town of Holly Ridge	PHONE 	DATE. 12-14-2022
STREET ADDRESS Morris Landing	CUSTOMER EMAIL 	
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE Holly Ridge, NC	JOB LOCATION Same As Above	

Description and Specifications:

- Demo Decking & Hand-Railing On Existing 300’ Pier & Dock
- Replace Decking & Hand-Railing
- New 12’ X 30’ Dock On Left/Right Side of Existing Pier.
- New, 8’ X 100’ Walk-Way/Observation Pier

Scope of Work;

- (2) New, Dock’s 12’ X 16’, With 8’ X 18’ Finger Piers, 2.5’ Marine Treated Round Poles 16’/20’ 2”X 8” Bands & 2”X 8” Stringers, Sure-Step & Trex Decking, 316 Grade Stainless Steel Screws,
- Finger Pier’s Off Existing Observation Dock 8’ X 100’ (Same Construction)
- Re-deck Existing Pier & Dock With Sure-Step Decking and Trex, Utilizing 316 Stainless Screws.
- Replace Hand-Railing On Existing Pier, Dock, New Dock’s & Finger Pier’s, Utilizing 1” X 6” Trex Boards.
- Will Inspect and Replace Any Bad Stringers On Existing Pier/Dock.
- **Pricing Subject to Change Due to Fluctuating Material Cost.**

WE PROPOSE TO FURNISH MATERIAL AND LABOR – COMPLETE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ABOVE SPECIFICATIONS, FOR THE SUM OF:

Total Project Cost; \$ 152,425.00

PAYMENT TERMS:

30% Up-On Commencement, 30% When Framed & Decked, 40% Due at Completion.

Not Included In Above Pricing;

- **Electrical**
- **Permitting**
- **Plumbing**
- **Engineering Cost & Consulting Cost**

**All material is guaranteed to be as specified. All work to be completed in a workmanlike manner according to standard practices. Any alteration or deviation from above specifications involving extra costs will be executed only upon written orders and will become an extra charge over the above estimate. All agreements contingent upon strikes, accidents or delays beyond our control. Contractor not liable for any underground utility or septic disturbance.

****Acceptance of Proposal**- The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payments will be made as outlined above.



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE; _____

NOTE: THIS PROPOSAL MAY BE WITHDRAWN BY US IF NOT ACCEPTED WITHIN 20 DAYS

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE OF ACCEPTANCE: _____

Town of Holly Ridge Morris Landing CRFL 2022

			Time	CRFL	Totals	
Contractual				\$152,425	\$152,425	
Construction				\$152,425		turnkey design, permitting, construction (see attached estimate)
Travel				\$0	\$0	
Supplies				\$0	\$0	
Totals				\$152,425	\$152,425	

2022-P-072

Surf City Boating Access Area Renovation

NC Wildlife Resources Commission

Table 1

Application for Funding from the N.C. Marine Resources Fund application cover sheet

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM N.C. MARINE RESOURCES FUND		
1. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		2. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION:
Applicant's Legal Name: NC Wildlife Resources Commission		Name of Project Administrator/Principal Investigator: Gary Gardner
Street: 1751 Varsity Dr		Street: 1751 Varsity Dr
Mail (PO Box): 1720 Mail Service Center		Mail (PO Box): 1720 Mail Service Center
City, State and Zip Code: Raleigh, NC 27699		City, State and Zip Code: Raleigh, NC 27699
EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN):		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator Phone number with area code: 919-707-4091
		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator FAX number with area code:
3. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (X) State agency () County or Municipality () University () Other (specify and list partnering entity)		Project Administrator/Principal Investigator Email Address: Gary.gardner@ncwildlife.org
4. TYPE OF APPLICATION: (X) New		5. PROJECT TITLE: Surf City Boating Access Area Renovation
6. PROPOSED PROJECT: Start Date: Dec. 1, 2023 Ending Date: <u>March 31, 2024</u> Number of years: _____		7. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE, STRATEGY AND RESEARCH NEED: Management Goal (check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and Education Strategy (e.g., 2.1, 3.1): _____ Research Need (list project need): _____
8. SOURCES OF FUNDING: a. CRFL Funds Requested: \$ <u>301,850</u> b. Applicant Match: \$ _____ d. Other Match: \$ _____ e. TOTAL: \$ _____		
9. AREA AFFECTED BY PROJECT (City, Counties, etc.):		
11. LIST STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT: (Indicate completion date) CAMA(12/1/22-3/31/23), USACE(12/1/22-3/31/23), ESC(12/1/22-3/31/23), SCO approval		
12. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN FULLY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND WILL COMPLY WITH ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.		
Full Name of Authorized Representative: Gary Gardner		Authorized Administrator Email Address: Gary.gardner@ncwildlife.org
Signature: <i>Gary Gardner</i>	Date Signed: 12/08/2022	Phone Number (with area code): 919-707-4091
Following Boxes are for CRFL Internal Office Use Only		
Date Received by NC DMF: 12/15/2022	Tracking Number: 2022-P-072	Year 1 Request from Marine Resources Fund: \$ <u>301,850</u>

**WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION – SURF CITY BOATING
ACCESS AREA**

APPLICANT: NC WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR: GARY GARDNER

PROJECT TIMELINE- DECEMBER 2022 – MARCH 2023

ABSTRACT: The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is requesting Coastal Recreation Fishing License funds in the amount of \$301,850.00 for the improvement of the Surf City Boating Access Area, located in the town of Surf City. The access area currently has two fixed docks that rest on piling supports. The piling create safety issue for boaters when docking and trailering their vessel. NCWRC would like to replace these fixed docks with floating dock structures that are more standard at NCWRC boating access areas. The floating docks will improve user friendliness, safety, and will require much less maintenance during the term of the docks useful life. This site currently does not offer appropriate ADA parking to the general public. NCWRC proposes to pave the heavy use portions of the site near the head of the ramp, as well as create heavy ADA parking with access to the head of the ramp. Design of the dock replacement and parking renovation will be handled in house with NCWRC engineering staff. The docks will also be constructed in house at NCWRC's WISE facility. The paving portion of the project will still be bid out per State Construction Office criteria and guidelines.

**WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION – SURF CITY BOATING
ACCESS AREA**

APPLICANT: NC WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR: GARY GARDNER

PROJECT TIMELINE- DECEMBER 2022 – MARCH 2023

CRFL Plan Goal: Provide Access to Marine Resources and Angling Opportunities : Improve public fishing access

Requested Amount : \$301,850

Project Period : Tentatively December 2022-March 2023

Project Administrator/Contact: Gary Gardner, Engineering Division Chief

919-707-4091 – gary.gardner@ncwildlife.org

Need:

The Boating Access area at Surf City, located at 517 Roland Avenue in Surf City, and operated in partnership between the Commission and the Town, needs upgrades to be completed. The access area currently has two fixed docks that rest on pilings. The pilings create an issue for boaters unfamiliar with docking and can cause damage to boats. NC WRC plans to replace these two fixed docks with new floating docks that are more standard at WRC boating access areas. The floating dock design is much more user-friendly and requires less maintenance.

In addition, the site doesn't have appropriate ADA parking. WRC plans to pave the heavy use portions of the site near the head of the ramp and also create ADA parking with access to the head of the ramp.

Objective:

Replace the two fixed docks with floating docks. WRC plans to pave the heavy use portions of the site near the head of the ramp and also create ADA parking with access to the head of the ramp.

Approach:

WRC specializes in boating access area design and construction with in-house engineering staff, as well as in-house construction expertise. The dock replacement would be designed and constructed in-house by WRC personnel at a significant cost savings to hiring a designer and bidding dock construction.

The paving portion will still be bid out per State Construction Office criteria and guidelines.

Expected Results and Benefits:

This renovation will provide better and safer access to the water to allow for more fishing opportunities for the public and increase recreational boating opportunities as well. The improved parking lot will decrease run off from stormwater as well as provide safer access for ADA compliance to reach a broader user base. The renovation will incorporate the latest standards for safety and design.

Cost Estimate:

						12/1/2022
	Surf City BAA Renovation					
	<u>Item</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Item Cost</u>	
BAA	BAA - Floating Dock Sections	8	EA	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 32,000.00	
	Abutment - Concrete	2	EA	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 9,000.00	
	BAA - hinge	10	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 7,500.00	
	ADA floating dock rails	2	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,500.00	
	Paving Contract	67200	SF	\$ 3.50	\$ 235,200.00	
	Gravel - widened maneuve are	2000	SF	\$ 1.50	\$ 3,000.00	
	Labor	390	\$/mh	\$ 35.00	\$ 13,650.00	
					\$ 301,850.00	TOTAL

Usage Estimates:

There are currently over 50,000 CRFL license holder in Pender and its 3 neighboring coastal counties. In addition, anglers come from across the state to utilize the free boating access areas along the coast.

The Engineering Services Division of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission recently deployed traffic counters at the Wrightsville Beach Access Area. The traffic logger counted 1000 vehicles during a normal summer 24 hour period on a weekend. It is our assumption that with boaters and public access fisherman using this site, and due to the close proximity and highly populated nearby areas, we could expect to see this site full most days of the summer and a large portion of the winter months. We could see as many as 20,000 users per year once it is properly designed and built.

Environmental Considerations:

The dock replacement will be straightforward with little to no environmental impact and will actually eliminate the need for driving of new piles. All required permitted will be obtained. Moratorium will be observed as required for any waterside work.

The paving project will strive to coincide with the Town of Surf City's Southside Park Environmental Enhancement Project to address flooding. WRC will also investigate the use of permeable paver if appropriate as we have used on recent other coastal paving projects.

Table 2

												12/1/2022
	Surf City BAA Renovation											
	<u>Item</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Item Cost</u>							
BAA	BAA - Floating Dock Sections	8	EA	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 32,000.00							
	Abutment - Concrete	2	EA	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 9,000.00							
	BAA - hinge	10	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 7,500.00							
	ADA floating dock rails	2	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,500.00							
	Paving Contract	67200	SF	\$ 3.50	\$ 235,200.00							
	Gravel - widened maneuve are	2000	SF	\$ 1.50	\$ 3,000.00							
	Labor	390	\$/mh	\$ 35.00	\$ 13,650.00							
					\$ 301,850.00							TOTAL

Milestone schedule template

To be used as a guide to help applicants provide a listing of planned activities. Milestone schedule for each year of project is required as separate document. Schedule should include submission of performance reports due February 15 and August 30. **Schedule should include an allowance for N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries review of any final report or data submissions. It is important to note that all final work (reports, data, and other) should be submitted with time to allow for this review, prior to the contract termination date.**

Task	Year 1: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024											
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
Design	XX											
Permitting			XX									
Bidding				XX								
Construction						XX	XX	XX	XX			

2022-P-073

Midway Drive Boating Access Area – Replacement of Bulkhead/Breakwater

NC Wildlife Resources Commission

**WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION – MIDWAY DRIVE BOATING
ACCESS AREA**

ABSTRACT

APPLICANT: NC WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR: BEN SOLOMON

PROJECT TIMELINE- JULY 1, 2023 – OCTOBER 31, 2024

ABSTRACT: The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is requesting Coastal Recreation Fishing License funds in the amount of \$75,000.00 for the improvement of the Midway Drive Boating Access Area, located in the town of Edenton, on the Albemarle Sound in Chowan County. The bulkheading and breakwater bulkheading has weathered and sustained damage from storm events requiring replacement to remain effective. The replacement is needed in order to protect the access area shoreline from erosion due to wave action from Albemarle Sound and ensure safe conditions for boaters to launch and retrieve their boats. The structure replacement would begin in January 2024 with project contracting paid for with CRFL funds. Vessel registration receipts would be utilized for staff time commitment for planning, permitting and project oversight. The site improvement would continue to provide a safe environment for boating and fishing access in this area of Albemarle Sound.

CRFL STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES: Management Goal 1 -Objective 1 – Strategy 1.1 Improve and/or develop public fishing access.

SCOPE OF WORK: Obtain all necessary permits and approval to contract the removal and installation of 30’ of replacement bulkhead and approximately 100’ of breakwater in same footprint as the old, to the latest standards for safety and design.



**Application for Funds from the
Coastal Recreational Fishing License Fund**

Applicant Name: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Project Title: Midway Drive Boating Access Area – Replacement of Bulkhead/Breakwater

CRFL Strategic Plan Management Goal: Access

Priority Listed in Request for Proposals: Access – Objective 1 – Strategy 1.1 –
Improve public fishing access

Requested Amount: \$75,000

Project Period: July 1, 2023 – October 31, 2024

Need:

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission currently manages the Midway Drive Boating Access Area in Edenton NC, as a leased site from a private entity. The current bulkhead and breakwater bulkheading of steel construction have become corroded or otherwise weathered, as well as storm damaged and need replacement. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is requesting Coastal Recreation Fishing License funds in the amount of \$75,000.00 for the improvement of the Midway Drive Boating Access Area.

Objective:

Site improvement to maintain public access to the Albemarle Sound in Chowan County, at Midway Drive BAA.

Approach:

The Commission is in the process of preparing a full set of design drawings and CAMA permits will be applied for. Detailed drawings, when complete, will show exact dimensions, materials, and low impact development techniques. These drawing details will be forwarded to the Division of Marine Resources when completed. Drawings will also be sent to the Office of State Construction for review and approval. The replacement work will be bid out to a contractor. This grant request is for 100 percent of materials and contracting cost for improvement. The WRC will provide funding for staff costs from construction with vessel registration receipts. The construction is anticipated to begin in July of 2024 and be completed before October 31, 2024, accounting for required in-water work moratorium.

Expected Results and Benefits:

The site provides as many as 45 parking spaces and can potentially provide access to as many as 16,000 boaters a year. This site is a highly used access area for the Albemarle Striped Bass Fishery and is one of the top sites for NCDMF’s creel surveys for the Albemarle Striped Bass Fishery.

The improvement of the boating access area will ensure the angling public a high quality and reliable access point. The project will incorporate the latest standards for safety and design. Based on current standards of design and construction, and with routine maintenance, the expected lifespan of the project is over 30 years. Without the improvements we will expect erosion issues and shoreline damage, along with shoaling of sand which is occurring now due to the damaged breakwater. The replacement of the breakwater will also provide the necessary protection from wave action while boaters are launching and retrieving their boats.

Location:

142 Midway Drive
Edenton, NC
Chowan County

The site is located at the end of Midway Drive as it meets the Albemarle Sound. (See Attached vicinity maps)

Scope of Work:

Access Area – Removal of old bulkheading and breakwater. Install new bulkhead and breakwater in same footprint, to the latest standards for safety and design.

Proposed Milestone (Construction) Schedule:

Planning, permitting and construction timeline will be based on an 11-month period around a construction moratorium beginning July 1, 2023, and should be completed by October 31, 2024. However, the actual start date is contingent upon final regulatory permit approval as well as bid approval from OSBM and the State Construction Office.

Midway Drive Boating Access Area - Bulkheading						
	2023					
PLANNING AND DESIGN	July	Aug	Sept			
Concept Drawings						
Permit Application & SCO Review						
	2024					
CONSTRUCTION	May	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	
Project Bidding						
Site Work						

Project Administration:

NCWRC Engineers will administer the project and the major features of their work will be to:

1. Meet with regulatory agencies to confirm compliance with applicable rules, secure necessary permits;

2. Preparation of construction and bid documents for approval of State Construction and Office of Insurance;
3. Upon approval, advertise and bid the project (formal contract for construction process);
4. Perform special and final inspections;
5. Provide necessary close-out documents, record drawings, and final report.

Cost Summary:

Project Costs:	
Administrative cost to NCWRC for permitting, design & project oversight.	2,000.00
Marine Based Improvements - (staging of equipment, removal of old bulkhead and breakwater, installing new materials – contracted out)	75,000.00
Project Cost Total:	\$77,000

Project Funding:	
CRFL Funding	\$75,000
NCWRC Funds - Approved	\$2,000
Project Funding Total:	\$77,000

Project Administrators/Key Contacts: Ben Solomon, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission 919-417-2328 ben.solomon@ncwildlife.org



APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA MARINE RESOURCES FUND



1. APPLICANT INFORMATION		2. PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR INFORMATION	
Applicant's Legal Name: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission		Name of Project Administrator: Ben Solomon	
Street: 1720 Mail Service Center		Street: 1720 Mail Service Center	
Mail (PO Box):		Mail (PO Box):	
City, State and Zip Code: Raleigh, NC 27699-1720		City, State and Zip Code: Raleigh NC 27699-1720	
EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 73-6502734		Project Administrator Phone number with area code: 919-707-0269	
		Project Administrator FAX number with area code: 919-707-0162	
3. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (x) State agency () County or Municipality () University () Other (specify)		Project Administrator Email Address: Ben.solomon@ncwildlife.org	
4. TYPE OF APPLICATION: (x) New () Continuation of previously funded CRFL Project () Award Revision (<i>Explain</i>)		5. PROJECT TITLE: Midway Drive Boating Access Area – Replacement of Bulkhead/Breakwater	
6. PROPOSED PROJECT Start Date: July 1, 2023 Ending Date: October 31, 2024		7. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE, STRATEGY AND PRIORITY: Management Goal (check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and Education Objective (list number): <u> 1 </u> Strategy (e.g., F.I.I.): <u> 1.1 </u> 1.1 – Improve public fishing access.	
8. SOURCES OF FUNDING: a. CRFL funds requested : \$ <u>75,000.00</u> b. Applicant Match: \$ <u>2,000.00</u> d. Other Match: \$ <u> 0 </u> e. TOTAL: \$ <u>77,000.00</u>		9. AREA AFFECTED BY PROJECT (City, Counties, etc.): Edenton – Chowan County – Albemarle Sound – Chowan River	
11. LIST STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT: (Indicate completion date) CAMA Major Permits, Land Quality – Erosion Control Permit, Completion Date: October 31, 2024			
12. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN FULLY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND WILL COMPLY WITH ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.			
Full Name of Authorized Representative: Ben Solomon		Authorized Administrator Email Address: Ben.solomon@ncwildlife.org	
Signature: <i>Ben Solomon</i>		Date Signed:	Phone Number (with area code): 919-707-0269
Following Boxes are for CRFL Internal Office Use Only			
DATE RECEIVED BY NCDMF: <u>12/15/2022</u>	REVIEWERS:	Project Identifier: 2022-P-073	
DATE ACCEPTED FOR REVIEW:		From Marine Resources Fund: Year 1	\$ <u>75,000</u>

2022-P-074

Cannon's Ferry Boating Access Area – Breakwater Replacement

NC Wildlife Resources Commission

WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION – CANNON’S FERRY
BOATING ACCESS AREA

ABSTRACT

APPLICANT: NC WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR: BEN SOLOMON

PROJECT TIMELINE- MARCH 1, 2024 – OCTOBER 31, 2024

ABSTRACT: The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is requesting Coastal Recreation Fishing License funds in the amount of \$75,000.00 for the improvement of the Cannon’s Ferry Boating Access Area, located in Chowan County, on the Chowan River. The breakwater bulkheading has become damaged and rotted away and needs replacement. The replacement is needed to protect the canal from silting/shoaling in. We are proposing to replace the rotten wooden breakwater with a rock/rip rap jetty on both sides of the canal. This would be in the same footprint of what remains of the old breakwater. The new rock breakwater will ensure safe access for boaters to the boat ramp access canal from the Chowan River and reduce shoaling of the access canal. The replacement of all materials would begin in July 2023 and would be paid for with CRFL funds and motorboat registration receipts. This site improvement would provide much needed boating and fishing access in this area.

CRFL STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES: Management Goal 1 -Objective 1 – Strategy 1.1 Improve and/or develop public fishing access.

SCOPE OF WORK: Obtain all necessary permits and approval to contract the installation of new rock breakwater in same footprint as the old wooden breakwater with potential for a structure with more longevity than the original.





Application for Funds from the *Coastal Recreational Fishing License Fund*

Applicant Name: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Project Title: Cannon's Ferry Boating Access Area – Breakwater Replacement

CRFL Strategic Plan Management Goal: ACCESS

Priority Listed in Request for Proposals: Access – Objective 1 – Strategy 1.1 –
Improve public fishing access

Requested Amount: \$75,000

Project Period: March 1, 2024 – October 31, 2024

Need:

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission currently manages the Cannon's Ferry Boating Access Area in Edenton NC. The current breakwater bulkheading has degraded to the point of being nonfunctional and needs replacement. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is requesting Coastal Recreation Fishing License funds in the amount of \$75,000.00 for the improvement of the Cannon's Ferry Boating Access Area.

Objective:

To improve and protect public access to the Chowan River in Chowan County, at Cannon's Ferry BAA.

Approach:

The Commission is in the process of preparing a full set of design drawings and CAMA permits will be applied for. Detailed drawings, when complete, will show exact dimensions, materials, and low impact development techniques. The drawing details will be forwarded to the Division of Marine Resources when completed. Drawing will also be sent to the Office of State Construction for review and approval. The replacement work will be bid out to a contractor. This grant request is for the full amount of the materials and contracting cost for improvement for the site. The WRC will provide the funds for staff time and travel from vessel registration receipts. Timed to avoid in-water work moratoria the construction will begin in July of 2024 and be completed on or before October 31, 2024.

Expected Results and Benefits:

The site provides as many as 25 parking spaces and can potentially provide access to as many as 9,000 boaters a year. This site is a high uses access area for recreational and commercial anglers to access the Chowan River. The improvement of the boating access area will ensure the angling public a high quality and reliable access point. Without the improvements we will expect silting/shoaling of the access canal, which is occurring now due to the damaged breakwater.

Location:

247 Cannon’s Ferry Road
Tyner, NC
Chowan County

The Breakwater replacement is located at the end of access canal at the Chowan River’s edge.

Scope of Work:

Access Area –Install 300’ of new rock/rip rap breakwater in same footprint, to the latest standards for safety and design.

Proposed Milestone (Construction) Schedule:

Construction timeline will be based on a 4-month period and will begin July 1, 2024, and should be completed by October 31, 2024. However, the actual start date is contingent upon final regulatory permit approval/conditions as well as bid approval from OSBM and State Construction.

Cannons Ferry Boating Access Area - Breakwater								
	2024							
	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
PLANNING AND DESIGN								
Concept Drawings	■							
Permit Application & SCO Review		■	■	■				
CONSTRUCTION								
Project Bidding				■	■	■	■	■
Site Work					■	■	■	■

Project Administration:

NCWRC Engineers will administer the project and the major features of their work will be to:

1. Meet with regulatory agencies to confirm compliance with applicable rules, secure necessary permits.
2. Preparation of construction and bid documents for approval of State Construction and Office of Insurance.
3. Upon approval, advertise and bid the project (formal contract for construction process);
4. Perform special and final inspections.
5. Provide necessary close-out documents, record drawings, and final report.

Cost Summary:

Project Costs:	
Administrative cost to NCWRC for permitting, design and oversight.	2,000.00
Marine Based Improvements - (staging of equipment, delivery of materials, installing new materials – contracted out)	75,000.00
	Project Cost Total:
	\$77,000.00

Project Funding:	
CRFL Funding	\$75,000
NCWRC Funds - Approved	\$2,000
	Project Funding Total:
	\$77,000

Project Administrators/Key Contacts: Ben Solomon, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission 919-417-2328 ben.solomon@ncwildlife.org



APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA MARINE RESOURCES FUND



1. APPLICANT INFORMATION		2. PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR INFORMATION	
Applicant's Legal Name: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission		Name of Project Administrator: Ben Solomon	
Street: 1720 Mail Service Center		Street: 1720 Mail Service Center	
Mail (PO Box):		Mail (PO Box):	
City, State and Zip Code: Raleigh NC 27699-1720		City, State and Zip Code: Raleigh NC 27699-1720	
EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 73-6502734		Project Administrator Phone number with area code: 919-707-0269	
		Project Administrator FAX number with area code: 919-707-0162	
3. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (x) State agency () County or Municipality () University () Other (specify)		Project Administrator Email Address: Ben.solomon@ncwildlife.org	
4. TYPE OF APPLICATION: (x) New () Continuation of previously funded CRFL Project () Award Revision (<i>Explain</i>)		5. PROJECT TITLE: Cannon's Ferry Boating Access Area – Breakwater Replacement	
6. PROPOSED PROJECT Start Date: March 1, 2024 Ending Date: October 31, 2024		7. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE, STRATEGY AND PRIORITY: Management Goal (check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and Education Objective (list number): <u> 1 </u> Strategy (e.g., F.1.1): <u> 1.1 </u> 1.1 – Improve public fishing access.	
8. SOURCES OF FUNDING: a. CRFL funds requested : \$ <u> 75,000 </u> b. Applicant Match: \$ <u> 2,000 </u> d. Other Match: \$ <u> 0 </u> e. TOTAL: \$ <u> 77,000.00 </u>		9. AREA AFFECTED BY PROJECT (City, Counties, etc.): Tyner – Chowan County – Cannon's Ferry Road - Chowan River	
11. LIST STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT: (Indicate completion date) CAMA Major Permits, Land Quality – Completion Date: 10/2024			
12. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN FULLY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND WILL COMPLY WITH ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.			
Full Name of Authorized Representative: Ben Solomon		Authorized Administrator Email Address: Ben.solomon@ncwildlife.org	
Signature: <i>Ben Solomon</i>		Date Signed:	Phone Number (with area code): 919-707-0269
Following Boxes are for CRFL Internal Office Use Only			
DATE RECEIVED BY NCDMF: <u> 12/15/2022 </u>	REVIEWERS:	Project Identifier: 2022-P-074	
DATE ACCEPTED FOR REVIEW:		From Marine Resources Fund: \$ <u> 75,000 </u>	

2022-P-075

Lowland Marina Acquisition

NC Wildlife Resources Commission

**WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION – LOWLAND MARINA
ACQUISITION FOR BOATING ACCESS AREA DEVELOPMENT**

ABSTRACT

APPLICANT: NC WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR: BEN SOLOMON

PROJECT TIMELINE- JULY 1, 2023 – DECEMBER 31, 2024

ABSTRACT: The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is requesting Coastal Recreation Fishing License funds in the amount of \$730,000.00 for the acquisition of the Lowland Marina property located in Pamlico County, near the mouth of the Pamlico River to ensure public access to the lower reaches of the Pamlico River and adjacent Sound. Current access to the area is through a pay-per-use ramp, however ownership changes are threatening the long-term viability of that access option.

CRFL STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES: Management Goal 1 -Objective 1 – Strategy 1.1 Improve and/or develop public fishing access.

SCOPE OF WORK: Acquire the Lowland Marina tract in fee simple to ensure public boating access to the lower Pamlico River and western Pamlico Sound.



**Application for Funds from the
Coastal Recreational Fishing License Fund**

Applicant Name: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Project Title: Lowland Marina Acquisition

CRFL Strategic Plan Management Goal: ACCESS

Priority Listed in Request for Proposals: Access – Objective 1 – Strategy 1.1 –
Improve public fishing access

Requested Amount: \$730,000

Project Period: July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2024

Need:

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission strives to provide continued public boating access to the Pamlico River and Sound. Currently no free launch facility exists in the Lowland, NC vicinity. Continued public use of the existing fee launch site is in jeopardy. Currently public parking for the fee site is along the public road, which is inadequate due to increasing ambient water levels and safety concerns for access users in the road. There is no existing access opportunity for disabled users.

Objective:

Fee simple acquisition of property to sustain and improve public access opportunities to the Lower Pamlico River and Pamlico Sound.

Approach:

The Commission has made contact with a willing seller of virtually the only property in the Lowland, NC that is already developed and capable of adequately providing public access needs. The property location is 580 Oyster Creek Road. The State Property Office, on the Wildlife Resources Commission's behalf, contracted with an appraiser, Daniel Glenn, who established an opinion of the property market value of \$730,000. The tract has been submitted to the WRC Board as an acquisition opportunity and a Phase I approval was secured.

The WRC has provided the property owner with the appraisal findings for his consideration and has initiated a funding plan. This grant request is for the full amount of the distribution to the seller. The WRC will provide state funds for staff time and travel. Closing and other acquisition costs will be covered with state funds. Upon successful funding of the acquisition, a Commission Phase II and Council of State approval will be requested. Pending funding and timely approvals, a December 2024 closing is the target.

Expected Results and Benefits:

The tract is +/- 7.7 acres with a portion already developed and could provide significantly more public parking space dependent upon wetland determinations. A single lane launch ramp is

already established and the shoreline adjacent to the parking area is stabilized with bulkheading. The access canal has not been dredged in over five decades, yet continues to provide adequate depths for boat traffic averaging over 4' deep at standard tide. Over 16,000 CRFL license holders from Pamlico, Beaufort and Craven County would be the primary fishing public utilizing the area, although the flounder, sea trout and red drum fisheries attract users from a wider range. While not tied to fishing, an ancillary benefit is that an excess of 1,000 waterfowl hunters annually launch boats from the Lowland area.

Cost Estimate

Lowland Marina Acquisition	
Appraisal	\$4,000
Purchase Price	\$730,000
Attorney Fees	\$10,000
Title Insurance	\$1,000
Recording Fees	\$100
Tax Stamps	\$1,500
Surveying	\$4,500
Total	\$751,100

Project Administrators/Key Contacts: Ben Solomon, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission 919-417-2328 ben.solomon@ncwildlife.org



APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA MARINE RESOURCES FUND



1. APPLICANT INFORMATION		2. PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR INFORMATION	
Applicant's Legal Name: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission		Name of Project Administrator: Ben Solomon	
Street: 1720 Mail Service Center		Street: 1720 Mail Service Center	
Mail (PO Box):		Mail (PO Box):	
City, State and Zip Code: Raleigh NC 27699-1720		City, State and Zip Code: Raleigh NC 27699-1720	
EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 73-6502734		Project Administrator Phone number with area code: 919-417-2328	
		Project Administrator FAX number with area code: 919-707-0162	
3. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (x) State agency () County or Municipality () University () Other (specify)		Project Administrator Email Address: Ben.solomon@ncwildlife.org	
4. TYPE OF APPLICATION: (x) New () Continuation of previously funded CRFL Project () Award Revision (<i>Explain</i>)		5. PROJECT TITLE: Lowland Marina Acquisition	
6. PROPOSED PROJECT Start Date: July 1, 2023 Ending Date: December 31, 2024		7. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE, STRATEGY AND PRIORITY: Management Goal (check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and Education Objective (list number): <u> 1 </u> Strategy (e.g., F.1.1): <u> 1.1 </u> 1.1 – Improve public fishing access.	
8. SOURCES OF FUNDING: a. CRFL funds requested: \$ <u> 730,000 </u> b. Applicant Match: \$ <u> 21,100 </u> d. Other Match: \$ <u> 0 </u> e. TOTAL: \$ <u> 751,100.00 </u>		9. AREA AFFECTED BY PROJECT (City, Counties, etc.): Lowland – Pamlico County – Oyster Creek Road - Pamlico River & Sound	
11. LIST STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT: (Indicate completion date)			
12. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN FULLY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND WILL COMPLY WITH ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.			
Full Name of Authorized Representative: Ben Solomon		Authorized Administrator Email Address: ben.solomon@ncwildlife.org	
Signature: <i>Ben Solomon</i>		Date Signed:	Phone Number (with area code): 919-707-0269
Following Boxes are for CRFL Internal Office Use Only			
DATE RECEIVED BY NCDMF: 12/15/2022	REVIEWERS:	Project Identifier: 2022-P-075	
DATE ACCEPTED FOR REVIEW:		From Marine Resources Fund: \$ <u> 730,000 </u>	