



**North Carolina Forever 2021 Legislative Agenda:
3 WAYS TO CONSERVE NORTH CAROLINA'S LANDS AND WATERS**

Conservation through Better Resilience on the Coast

- Keep building oyster sanctuaries
 - Support recurring annual funding to build 10-15 acres of new sanctuaries a year at a cost of \$1.5 million per year
- Create a pilot living shorelines grant program to provide technical assistance to help private landowners plan, design, permit and build living shorelines
 - \$250,000 non-recurring, to be administered by the NC Division of Coastal Management and the NC Coastal Federation
- Create a pilot Readiness, Resources & Resilience coastal resilience grant program to attract matching federal and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation dollars for projects that enhance military installation resilience against extreme weather events and changing environmental conditions and that have a significant natural resources conservation co-benefit
 - \$1,000,000 non-recurring, to be administered by the NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the NC Department of Environmental Quality, with input from the NC Sentinel Landscapes Committee
 - Example of such a project: the MCAS Cherry Point Living Shoreline along the Neuse River

Conservation across the State

For Public Lands and Waters

- Support the Land and Water Conservation Fund
 - Increase annual recurring funding to \$45 million per year by 2023, or equivalent bonds
- Support the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund
 - Increase annual recurring funding to \$45 million per year by 2023, or equivalent bonds
- Support the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund
 - Increase annual recurring funding to \$10 million per year by 2023, or equivalent bonds

On Private Lands and Waters

- Increase funding for the Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP), the voluntary, incentive-based program to improve water quality through the installation of various BMPs on urban, suburban and rural lands not directly involved with agriculture production.
 - Increase annual recurring funding to \$1.5 million per year
- Reestablish the Conservation Tax Credit
- Support NC Secure to reduce communities' vulnerability to flood events by leveraging the private restoration industry to deliver cost effective, nature-based flood storage measures.
 - \$5 million for a pilot natural infrastructure demonstration project in the Stony Creek Watershed in Wayne County

Powering Conservation through Information and Experience

Information: effective monitoring of conditions in the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuary

- Support recurring funding for FerryMon (Pamlico Sound) and ModMon (Neuse River)
 - FerryMon: \$175,000 per year (direct cost)
 - ModMon: \$185,000 per year (direct cost)

Experience: fund years 2 and 3 of the successful State Parks Conservation Corps pilot program

- \$500,000 total for 2 years
- For high school and college age students