

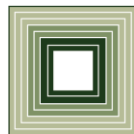
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

NC Museum of Natural Sciences



NER Appropriations Subcommittee

April 10, 2013



FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION
A Staff Agency of the North Carolina General Assembly

Museum of Natural Sciences (MNS)

Mission:

To enhance the public's understanding and appreciation of the natural environment in ways that emphasize the natural diversity of North Carolina and the southeastern United States and relate the region to the natural world as a whole and engage the public in scientific research that affects our daily lives.

MNS Fast Facts

- Founded in 1879 – NC's 1st public museum
- Open: Mon.– Sat. 9 - 5 p.m., Sunday noon - 5
- Admission is free, but charge for special events
- NRC opened April 2012
- Visitation
 - 700,000 visitors in FY 2011
 - 1.22 million in FY 2012 - most visited state attraction in 2012



MNS Facilities

Main museum facility:

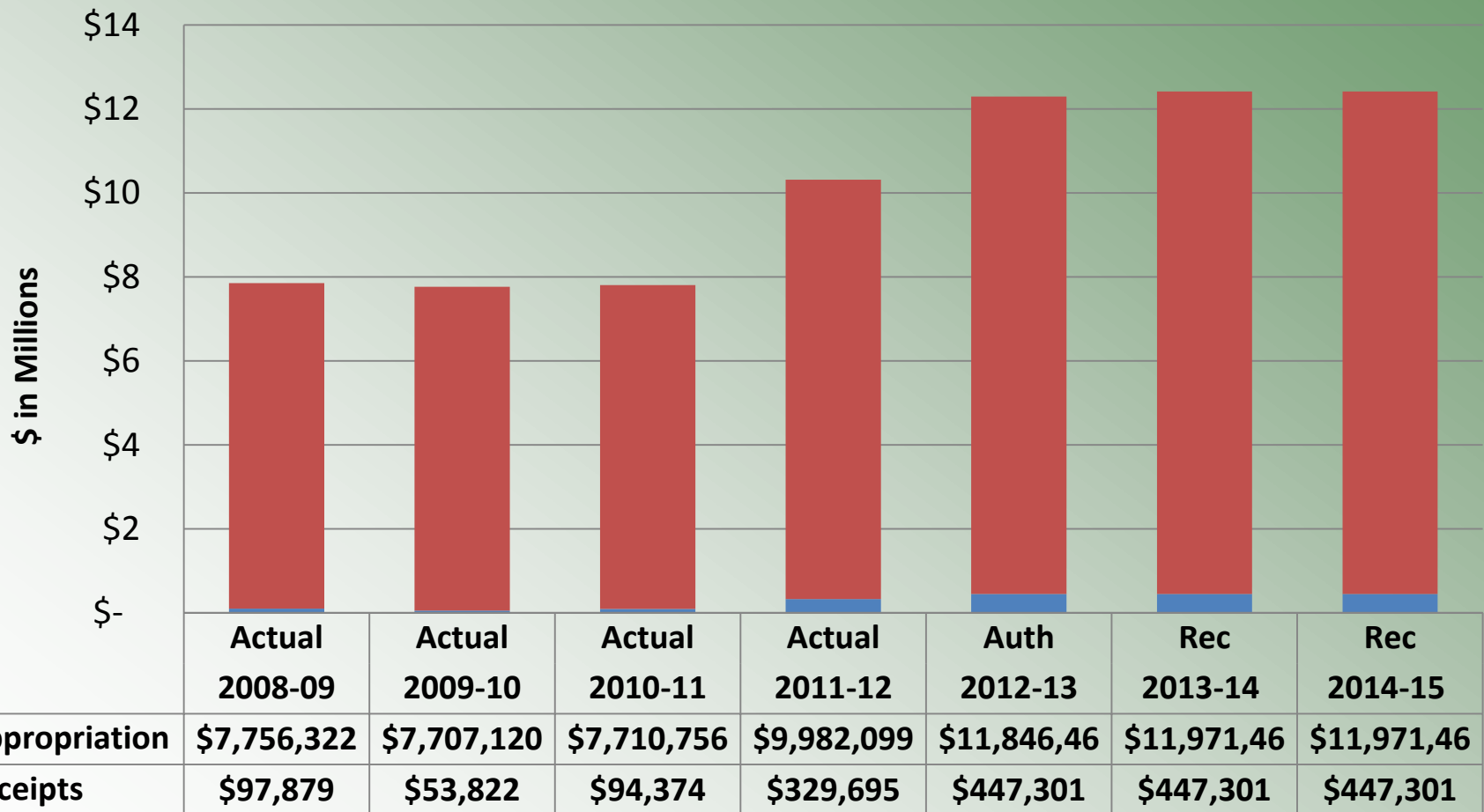
- 200,000 square foot facility
- Southeast's largest natural history museum
- Nature Research Center ~79,000 sq feet

Satellite facilities:

- Museum of Forestry in Whiteville
- Prairie Ridge Ecostation in Raleigh

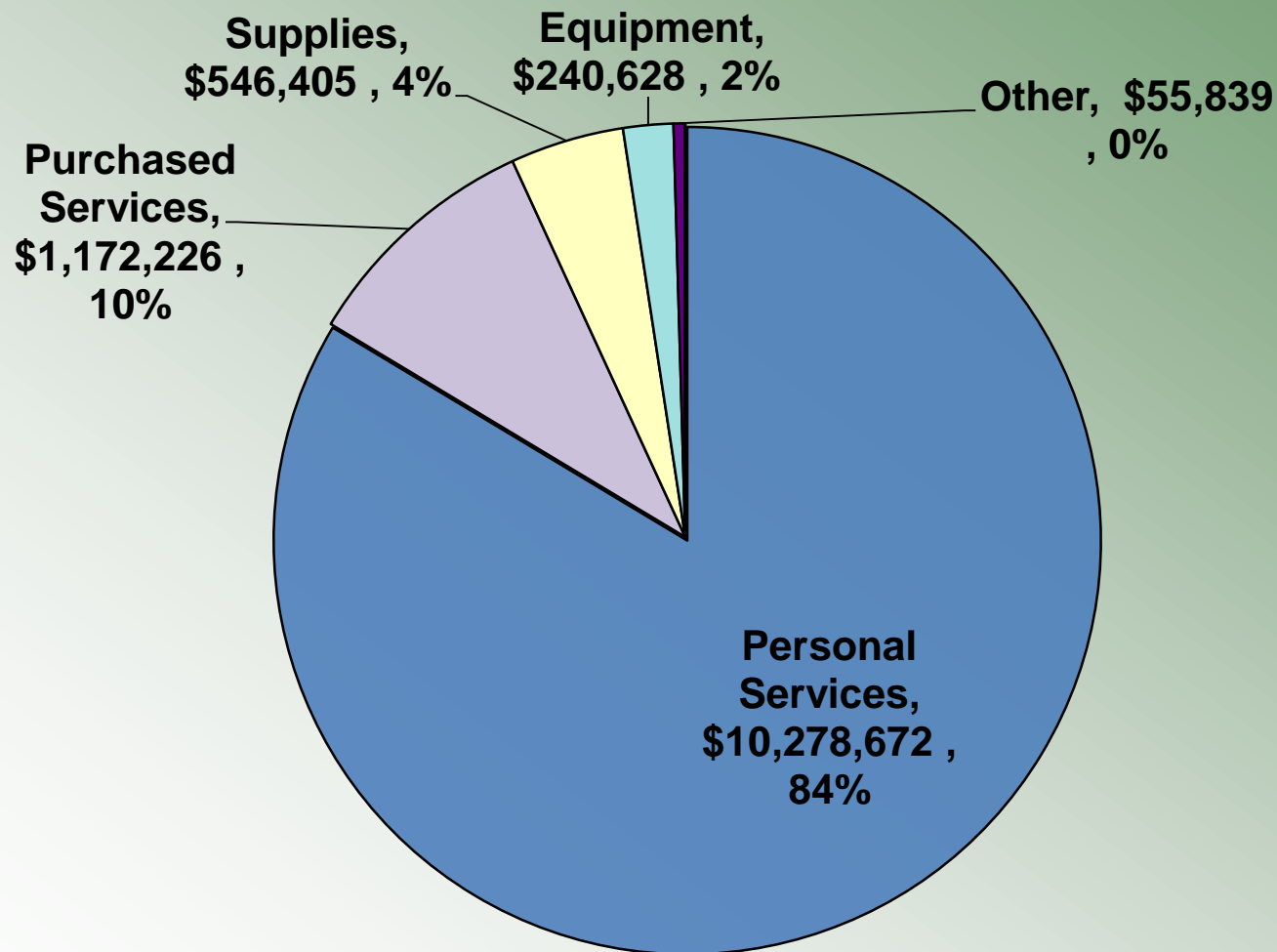


MNS Expenditure History



MNS FY 2012-13

Authorized Expenditures



Recent General Assembly Budget Actions

2011 Session

- Eliminated 5 filled positions (\$245,180 R)
- Reduced temporary wages (\$189,732 R)
- Operating reserve for NRC (\$1,465,460 & 22 FTE)

2012 Session

- Add '1 NRC operating reserve (\$804,338 over FY 2011)

FY 2013-15 Governor Recommended Continuation & Expansion Items

Continuation

Telecommunications increase \$125,000 R

Expansion

No specific expansion or reduction

Friends of the Museum

- Non-profit entity (501-C-3) - charitable contributions support museum programs, events, exhibits and research
- Employs ~48 FTE to manage gifts shops, theater, concessions including Daily Planet Café, special events like Titanic exhibit, and facility lease
- Retains proceeds to reinvest in museum

MNS Contacts & Questions

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