

March 9 ANER Committee Meeting Follow-up

Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

1. How has the Division of Parks & Recreation used the funds appropriations for its Centennial Celebration?

The FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17 appropriations for the celebration of the State Parks centennial was the first time funding has been directed specifically for marketing the State parks system. The funding was used to:

- Support the events and activities of the Centennial, and
- Develop video footage, promotional materials, and public participation programs that will extend the benefits of the program beyond the Centennial year.

According to the Department, the State Parks Centennial was a great success, resulting in record visitation, a more robust social media presence, stronger relationships with business and health sector partners, and an improved ability for State parks to support the tourism sector.

Expenditures from Non-recurring Centennial Marketing Funds

	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17
Publicity/ Promotion		
Professional marketing firm contract for ad, media campaign	149,332	83,039
Print & TV Advertising (ex: Our State, USA Today, billboards)	15,465	14,000
VisitNC 365 Tourism Conference Sponsorship & Booth (Cherokee in 2016, Greenville in 2017)	5,279	3,000
Promotional printed material & souvenirs	3,912	12,000
Centennial Events		
Support for Centennial Events (tables, chairs, stage, shuttles, portaJohns, AV, etc.)	14,583	9,811
Displays/ Exhibits/ Videos		
2016 State Fair Exhibit		12,500
Other Displays, Exhibits and Videos	4,908	9,000
Public Participation/ Sponsorship		
State Parks Passport Printing & Promotion	40,315	35,950
State Park 100-Mile Challenge Website & Promotion	29,337	7,500
Total	263,131	186,800

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

1. How is the Division of Emergency Programs helping the state prepare for terrorist attacks? What does this Division do year round?

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) stated that the first sentence in the division's mission statement is "The NCDA&CS Emergency Programs Division's mission is to reduce the vulnerability to or the impact from any disaster, disease or terrorist attack on NC's agricultural community." Although disaster, disease or terrorist activity would be dealt with in very similar fashions, for terrorist activity, Emergency Programs Division (EP) would focus on critical agricultural infrastructure, including animal and poultry agriculture, food manufacturing, retail food stores, food storage and warehousing, and food transportation. North Carolina has about a 72-hour food supply before grocery stores start running out of essential food items, which can be seen following a moderate snow or ice event where everything is gone from the produce department except the beets. An attack on the State's food or water supply, such as from a dirty bomb or bombs that would contaminate a widespread area or multiple food warehouses, would do more damage than a vehicular attack or the usual terrorist attacks seen around the world. People may not die but damage would be done to confidence to feed ourselves and provide for our families. EP is uniquely equipped with various GPS and mapping capabilities to locate the dirty warehouses and find safe transportation routes that would not result in a secondary contamination. That would include getting food into and out of the state depending on what is required. EP would serve as a platform of operations to quickly respond and mitigate the damage. That same capability extends to combating animal disease outbreaks with the added capability of performing large scale depopulation of diseased animals (foam units). EP's GIS and mapping capabilities have been used before to more quickly mitigate the problem and return life to normalcy. Attached is a one-page document from DACS about Emergency Programs.

2. Does the Board of Agriculture have the authority to disallow pesticides or insecticides found to be harmful to human/ wildlife health or the environment? Similarly, can the Board regulate flame retardants in bedding products?

The authority would fall under the Pesticide Board with the regulation of pesticides found in [G.S. 143-440](#). Flame retardants are not specifically addressed in the bedding law. N.C. Gen. Stat. 106-65.97 states that "All materials used in the manufacture of bedding in this State or used in manufactured bedding to be sold in this State shall be free of toxic materials and shall be made from new materials." "Toxic" is not defined in statute, although other terms from the bedding law are defined in N.C. Gen. Stat. 106-65.95. Recently, the Board of Agriculture had a petition for rulemaking to define "toxic." (A copy of that petition is attached.) Included in the petition was language that toxic included some specific flame retardants, along with some other materials not flame retardants. The petition was denied by the Board for multiple reasons. (A copy of that denial is also attached.) One of the reasons for the denial was that all other definitions from the Article on Bedding are contained in legislation and not rule.

3. What are the anticipated receipts for the NC Forest Service (2-3 years out)? Can these be used to pay for plane and equipment needs?

	FY 2013-14 Actual	FY 2014-15 Actual	FY 2015-16 Actual	FY 2016-17 Authorized	FY 2017-18 Base Budget	FY 2018-19 Base Budget
NCFS Receipts	\$9,675,712	\$11,894,918	\$10,559,426	\$10,744,639	\$10,744,639	\$10,744,639

DACS reports that they do not believe that there will be revenues available to support the purchase of a plane and other heavy equipment in the upcoming biennium. In FY 2015-16, the authorized revenue budget for NC Forest Service was \$11,263,341, but the actual revenue collections were \$10,559,426. Because of this, NC Forest Service was \$703,915 short in meeting their revenue budget.