



June 24, 2026

Representative Destin Hall
Speaker, House of Representatives
16 West Jones Street, Room 2304
Raleigh, NC 27601

Re: Appropriations Request for the North Carolina Land and Water Fund

Position: Support

Dear Speaker Hall,

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, and as a resident of the State of North Carolina, I am writing to express our strong support for prioritizing the North Carolina Land and Water Fund (NCLWF) by providing strong funding support through the budget and appropriations process.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influencing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitols advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

North Carolina consistently ranks among the fastest growing states in population annually. No different than any other aspect of life, as populations increase, so does need. Land is being bought, subdivided, and developed at an unprecedented rate, leaving less and less access to quality hunting and fishing lands and waters. The NCLWF plays a significant role in protecting and acquiring lands used for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation activities and has contributed significantly to the vast public land hunting and fishing opportunities present from the mountains to the coast.

The NCLWF's mission is centered around conserving natural, cultural, and historic resources while also protecting lands critical to the military. All centered around conserving North Carolina's

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diverse natural resources, the NCLWF funds the following: land acquisitions, stream and wetland restoration, innovative stormwater projects, and planning projects involving pollution and storm related flooding. All projects are carefully scored and ranked by the NCLWF's Board of Trustees and, while not required, most projects leverage matching funds, maximizing the State's investment in the Fund. For every dollar spent, the State leverages approximately two dollars from private, federal, state, and local government funding sources.

For the past 25 years, the NCLWF has been responsible for conserving and protecting access to over 500,000 acres of land in our great state, and has restored hundreds of miles of rivers, streams, and protected buffers on thousands of additional stream miles. More specifically, the NCLWF has added 350,000 acres to 50 North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) Game Lands which offer unparalleled hunting and angling opportunities for sportsmen and women across the state, amplified by the fact that the NCLWF has contributed to approximately 65% of Game Lands owned or managed by the NCWRC.

In closing, we respectfully encourage you to increase your investment in an ongoing, successful effort that has supported North Carolina's storied natural resources for decades. Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,



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