

No.	Agency	Project Title	County	Award	Acres	Description
3	WRC	Diggs (Pee Dee Game Lands)	Richmond	\$400,000	1,062	<p>This tract was previously leased for years by WRC, but owner subsequently put tract on the market for sale. This tract will help to form one of the core areas for an envisioned network of ecological preserves along the Pee Dee river corridor. This property will be managed by WRC for wildlife conservation and recreation and will be open to the public for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, canoeing, wildlife research, and other outdoor uses. This project will permanently protect 625 acres of the Pee Dee River Marsh Ponds Significant Natural Heritage area. Nearly three miles of shoreline on the Pee Dee River will also be protected, benefiting several listed aquatic species and numerous rare plants and animals. This region has been identified as a very high priority by several conservation planning efforts and as evidenced by matching funds from Cole (private) Foundation (\$208,000), NAWACA (\$1 million) and proposed CWMTF (\$1.1 million). Total project acreage is 1,659 acres.</p>
4	WRC	Lutz Tract - Wilson Creek	Caldwell	\$2,280,720	188	<p>The 649 acre Lutz tract is long and narrow in shape and the property adjoins the Pisgah Game Lands (Pisgah National Forest) and is within the nationally designated Wilson Creek Wild and Scenic River corridor. This corridor is also a nationally significant SNHA. The tract spans or borders approximately 3.5 miles of Wilson Creek and 3.4 miles of named and unnamed perennial streams tributary to Wilson Creek, including portions of Phillips Branch, Harper Creek, Estes Mill Branch and Thorps Creek. Because of the tract's linear shape along Wilson Creek, protection of the uplands is necessary to maintain water quality and aquatic habitat conditions of its flowing waters. WRC would manage the property to protect the aquatic habitat and resources it contains. The tract would be open to the public for outdoor recreation, primarily fishing. Land owner donation \$786,600 and proposed matching grant from CWMTF (\$4,857,255). Total acreage 649.</p>

No.	Agency	Project Title	County	Award	Acres	Description
5	WRC	Pond Mountain	Ashe	\$2,500,000	680	The Pond Mountain landscape offers the unique opportunity to manage for a host of state-listed and N.C. Wildlife Action Plan priority species that require habitat types which are rare in NC. Approximately 750 acres of the Pond Mountain tract is currently in grassy/shrubby habitat and Christmas tree production and offers an excellent opportunity to manage for high elevation early successional habitat. The remainder of the tract contains northern hardwood forest. The tract will further serve as a wildlife corridor from the adjacent National Forests in Tennessee and Virginia south to conservation areas in NC such as Three Top Mtn. The tract also serves as the headwaters of both Big Laurel and Big Horse Creeks and acquisition of the tract will be a significant step in protecting water quality in these drainages. The tract will be entered into the WRC Game Lands Program and will offer a variety of dispersed recreational opportunities to the public. Confirmed \$1 million private donation and proposed \$7,426,498 grant from CWMTF. Total acres 1,795. COPS funds not used.
6	WRC	Coweeta Creek	Macon	\$451,100	48	Protect 48 acres of rich, bottomland habitat in the Little Tennessee River Valley including nearly 5,200 feet of frontage along the Little Tennessee and 900 feet of frontage along Coweeta Creek. Also protect significant archeological resources (possible historic Cherokee outlying farmstead) on the tract as identified by the Archaeological Research Laboratory (University of Tennessee) and supported by the NC State Archaeologist (letter of support for project included). Provide and protect habitat and potential reintroduction sites for four (4) federally listed species, 16 state listed species, and federally designated Critical Habitat for the spotfin chub. Tracts would provide important stopover habitat for migratory birds. Establish a core area of conservation lands along the Little Tennessee River upstream of Franklin which is essential to providing water and habitat quality within the reach and as a foundation for additional cooperative conservation efforts in the upper river. Land Trust for the Little Tennessee bargain sale of land (\$212,720)

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7	WRC	Gull Island	Dare	\$470,400	73	Insure through acquisition the protection of a 73.4 acre island that lies in the Pamlico Sound. According to the appraisal, 2.9 acres of this are developable. Aquisition would be part of a landscape approach to protect significant natural areas, wetlands and watersheds that contribute to species richness within the South Atlantic Coastal Plain. Contribute towards protecting colonial waterbird nesting habitat for thousands of gulls, terns, herons, egrets and pelicans through guidance of the NC Colonial Waterbird Management Plan. This sale represents a unique opporunity to protect remote, prime waterbird nesting habitat as true islands are neither plentiful nor readily available for purchase in our sounds. Will provide high quality waterfowl hunting habitat.
8	WRC	Mullberry Mill Bog	Wilkes	\$253,130	40	Acquire a 40-acre parcel of land in Wilkes County that contains one of the largest known populations of bog turtles (State Threatened; Federally Threatened due to similarity in appearance) in the state. The bog/wetland is approximately 3-5 acres. Over 20 bog turtles have been captured, identified, and monitored at this site over the past five (5) years by Project Bog Turtle. Ensure through acquisition, protection of a tributary of Mulberry Creek, an important travel corridor for bog turtles between this site and the larger metapopulation of two other known sites, one of which has the most bog turtles of any known site in the entire southern population (from Maryland to Georgia). This corridor is crucial to the species' persistence in the region. Acquisition and management of the property will protect bog turtle populations and provide an opportunity to protect water quality in a developing watershed in the Yadkin basin.
9	WRC	Whitehurst Tract- Devils Garden (Neuse River Game Land)	Craven	\$3,298,800	461	Through acquisition, protect pocosin and pine upland, which is critical black bear habitat and is part of Duck Creek Natural Area. Proximity to New Bern and Highway 55 make this large natural area highly threatened from impending urban development. This project is within the strategic landscape scale "Onslow Bight Conservation Design Plan" developed by a consortium of public and private organizations including the military. This land acquisition is part of the large natural area that serves as a corridor along the outer Coastal Plain between Croatan National Forest and areas north of the Neuse River. WRC will manage land through incorporating into Neuse River Game Land. Confirmed CWMTF grant (\$1,147,50) and confirmed Forest Legacy grant (\$1,000,000). Total acreage is 775.5 acres.

No.	Agency	Project Title	County	Award	Acres	Description
10	WRC	Odom Tract (Sandhills Game Land)	Richmond	\$411,500	161	Acquisition of an important inholding of the Sandhills Game Land will protect valuable foraging and potential expansion habitat for two groups of red-cockaded woodpeckers, and increase available public wildlife recreational opportunities. Management objectives for the property include: providing additional protected foraging habitat for the two red-cockaded woodpecker groups adjacent to the property, reintroduce regular fire to the property, and convert as much of the mixed loblolly/longleaf pine uplands to a more site appropriate longleaf pine canopy. US Fish&Wildlife Service (Section 6, Endangered Species) grant of \$249,000 confirmed. Total acreage 260. COPs funds not used.
11	WRC	Tuckertown Tract	Davidson	\$2,000,000	1,345	The acquisition of the Alcoa Tuckertown tracts will protect and maintain 6 SNHAs, freshwater resources, provide public recreational opportunities including fishing and hunting, provide public access to the Pee Dee River for canoeing and boating and establish state-owned game lands in the rapidly growing piedmont region of NC. Size of the tract and its location along the Tuckertown Reservoir make it highly valuable for conservation. WRC plans future acquisition of additional land from Progress Energy and other private industrial forest land owners along the Yadkin/Pee Dee River to help establish a network of public-owned game lands in the region. The Tuckertown Reservoir land has been made available for acquisition through Alcoa's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission settlement agreement. Alcoa is donating 1,085 acres to the State Park. Total acreage of this phase of acquisition from Alcoa is 2420, but a future 2311 acres is also being pursued for a second phase to this project. Pending grant with CWMTF for matching funds of \$3,200,000.
12	WRC	Leggett Tract (Caswell Game Land)	Caswell	\$210,000	77	The Leggett Tract is almost completely forested with the exception of a small pond and associated beaver dams that create a wetland area at the confluence of two unnamed tributaries of Country Line Creek. The tract contains a wide variety of wildlife habitats and is well suited to support a wide range of public uses. Without future security, degradation of this tract and its surrounding watersheds could contribute to devastating impacts to sensitive downstream vertebrate and invertebrate faunal assemblages. Country Line Creek and the Dan River into which it eventually flows are known to contain populations or possess potential habitat for three listed mollusk and two listed fish species. This project will contribute an additional 77 acres to the roughly 17,788 acres already permanently protected at Caswell Game Land by the WRC. COPs not used.

No.	Agency	Project Title	County	Award	Acres	Description
13	WRC	Wilkes Tract (Sandhills Game Land)	Scotland	\$170,000	115	Protection of the Leonard Wilkes Tract in Scotland County will help maintain freshwater resources and preserve high quality habitat along Drowning Creek on property directly across from the number one land conservation priority in the NC Sandhills, the Blue Farm. The Wilkes tract touches existing Sandhills Game Lands and is an acquisition priority for WRC and the Sandhills Conservation Partnership, as it links into a system of wildlife corridors connecting the Sandhills Game Lands to Fort Bragg. It is also shares a ¼ mile boundary with a 95-acre property on which The Nature Conservancy is currently negotiating the purchase of a Conservation Easement. \$50,000 confirmed funding from Army Compatible Use Buffer Program. COPs not used.
	WRC	WRC	SUB-TOTAL	\$15,559,872	6,990	\$2,226
1-1	DENR/ NHP	Continuation of County and Protection-focused Natural Area Inventories	Madison, Alleghany, Macon, Stanly, Anson, Robeson and other counties to be announced.	\$500,000	N/A	The North Carolina Natural Heritage Program of the Office of Natural Resource Conservation & Planning requests funds to support county-wide, protection-focused natural area inventories. Funds will be used to support inventory staff from 2008-2010, and to contract with local land trusts or other partners. This allows us to conduct several inventories per year and provide targeted visits to numerous other sites to support conservation actions. COPs not used.
1-2	DENR/ NHP	Inventory of Aquatic Significant Natural Areas and Federally Listed Aquatic Species	Statewide	\$421,000	N/A	The Natural Heritage Program of the Office of Natural Resource Planning & Conservation, in partnership with the Wildlife Resources Commission, requests funding of \$421,000 over three years to fund the inventory and conservation planning of North Carolina's aquatic natural areas, including surveys of high priority populations of federally listed and candidate species of mussels and fish in historic and potential habitats. Both Natural Heritage Program and Wildlife Resources Commission staff will work together to obtain information that will contribute to the conservation of those streams and rivers identified as Aquatic Significant Natural Heritage Areas. COPs not used.

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14	DENR/ DPR	Haw River State Park Land Acquisition	Guilford and Rockingham	\$1,000,000	64	The property acquisition would protect about 3,500 feet along the Haw River and upland natural communities adjacent to the Summit Environmental Education Center (SEEC). The main route of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail goes through this tract. The upper Haw River was included on the New Parks for a New Century list for the extensive area of wildlife habitat along the river. Several rare species are in the project area. The hardwood natural communities in the Piedmont, and the project area in particular, are threatened by residential development; part of this tract has already been subdivided for development. These areas include the Mesic Mixed Hardwood natural communities on the north facing slopes and the Dry-Mesic Oak-Hickory Forest natural communities on the upland flats. The Piedmont Alluvial Forest natural communities are excellent examples in the project area and critical to the movement and healthy populations of wildlife in the region. This property is key to the environmental education effort at the SEEC. \$3,260,000 to be funded by PARTF. Total acreage is 140.
15	DENR/ DPR	Elk Knob State Park (Snake Mountain Tracts) – Land Acquisition	Northern Watauga County, north of Boone, NC	\$2,325,000	129	The proposed acquisitions would help protect the ridge of Snake Mountain (5,518 feet). These three properties support at least four different natural communities, including the rare Grassy Bald and Northern Hardwood Forest, and at least eight rare species, including the Federal Species of Concern Gray's Lily. These tracts will be part of Elk Knob State Park which is managed for the protection of significant natural resources and to provide interpretation of its ecosystems and low impact outdoor recreation. These tracts will help connect Elk Knob State Park to adjacent conservation lands including Tater Hill (managed by the Plant Conservation Program) and conservation land which High Country Conservancy currently owns but plans to donate to the State. This project will help provide the land base for a hiking trail from Elk Knob to Tater Hill and protect the undeveloped western views from the summit of Elk Knob. Confirmed \$2,523,600 PARTF and proposed \$2,016,000 CWMTF matching grants. Total acreage 370.

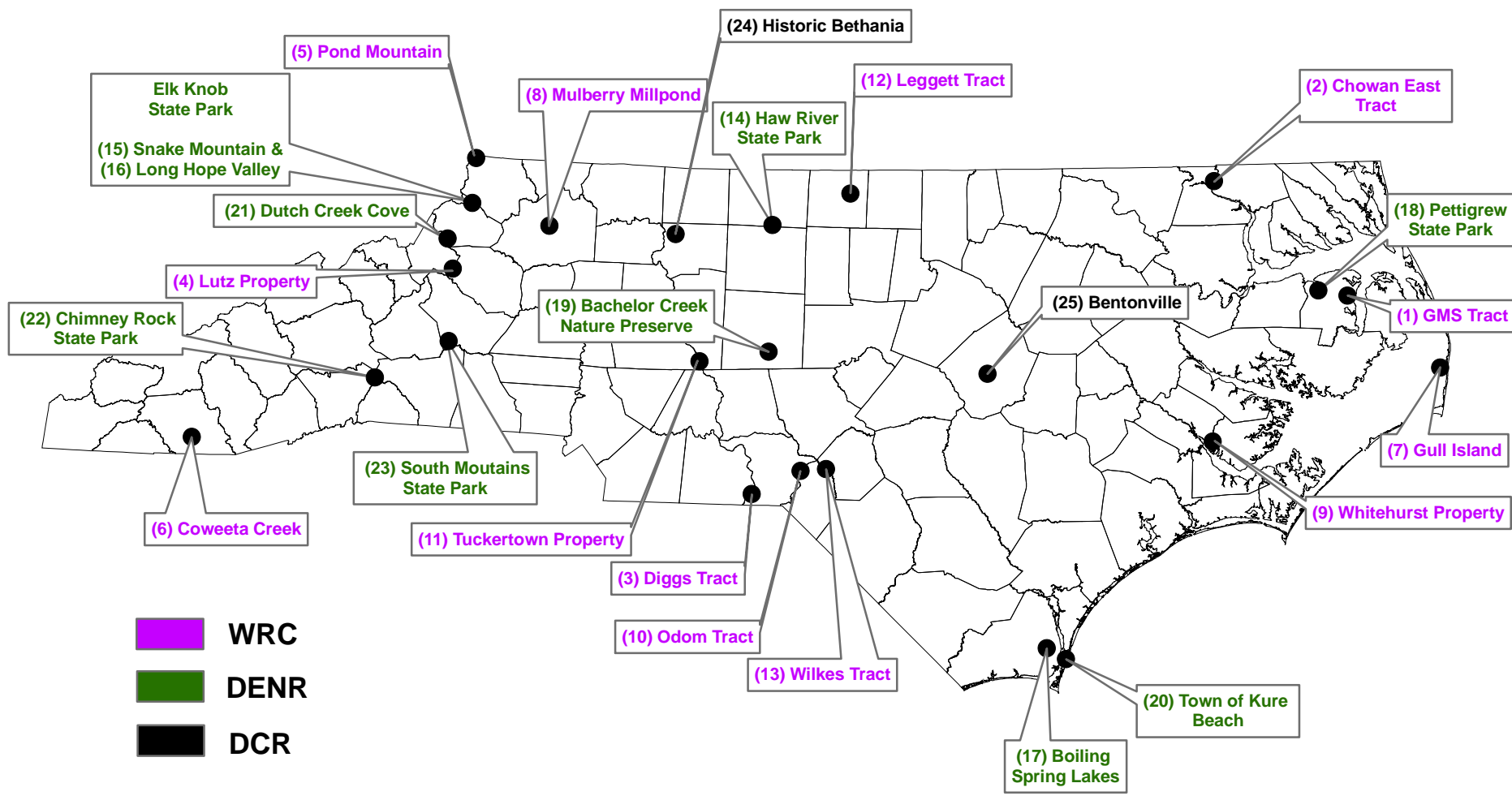
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16	DENR/ DPR	Elk Knob State Park/Long Hope Valley – Land Acquisition	Ashe and Watauga counties, north of Boone, NC	\$14,100,000	2,269	The proposed acquisition would protect Long Hope Valley and the slopes of the peaks surrounding it including Elk Knob (5,520') and Rittle Knob (4,860'). This project would preserve a globally significant natural heritage area and a rare hanging valley ecosystem. As part of the Amphibolite Mountain macrosite, Elk Knob State Park is part of a larger conservation effort that extends from Tater Hill to Mount Jefferson State Natural Area. The property in this request supports at least 10 high quality natural communities, 37 rare plant species, and eight rare animal species. The property includes 23 examples of Southern Appalachian bogs, the highest concentration in any area. The property in this request is owned by a family trust. The State and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) have been working on permanently protecting this property for many years. Matching grant from PARTF \$15,100,000 (confirmed) and TNC \$13,000,000 planned. Total acreage is 4,538.
17	DENR/ DPR	Boiling Spring Lakes, Section 14 (Pretty Pond Limesink Complex)	Brunswick	\$365,000	8	Project area is located in the northeastern section of the City of Boiling Spring Lakes. It is immediately adjacent to the privately managed Orton Plantation (5,000 acres) and a 135-acre conservation easement held by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Site contains undeveloped upland longleaf and pocosin habitat within the Pretty Pond Limesink Complex, a SNHA. Acquisition will protect habitat for current populations of the Federal and State endangered Red-cockaded woodpecker (<i>Picoides borealis</i>) and probable populations of the Federal species of concern Venus flytrap (<i>Dionaea muscipula</i>). It will complement the 7,000 acres of land previously protected in the Boiling Spring Lakes Plant Conservation Program Preserve and establish a core base for essential land management activities in the vicinity. The tracts will provide buffer for the privately held conservation lands, opportunity for passive recreation, and offer ecological research opportunities. NHP plans to manage the property through a management agreement with TNC.

No.	Agency	Project Title	County	Award	Acres	Description
18	DENR/ DPR	Pettigrew State Park (Scuppernong River Section)	Tyrrell County	\$483,000	537	The Scuppernong River corridor is part of a Nationally Significant Natural Heritage Area. The project area includes several rare and/or high quality natural communities: Peatland Atlantic White Cedar, Nonriverine Swamp Forest, and Cypress-Gum Swamp (Blackwater subtype). The tracts in this request contain two rare species and there are seven others documented in the project area, including the federally endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Bald Eagle. The State-owned tracts will help connect existing tracts already in conservation ownership by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Acquisition of these tracts will protect 4.6 miles of Scuppernong River frontage. The property will become part of Pettigrew State Park. Confirmed matching grants from PARTF (\$108,000) and CWMTF (\$483,000). Total acreage is 1,082.
19	DENR/ ZOO	Bachelor Creek Nature Preserve	SE Randolph County, northeast of Seagrove on Old NC Hwy 13	\$1,039,745	184	This proposed project will preserve the 335-acre Ward tract, .75 mi. south of the North Carolina Zoological Park (Zoo). This project is sponsored by the Zoo in partnership with the Piedmont Land Conservancy for long-term protection of a biologically significant site linking the Zoo to other natural lands in an increasingly fragmented landscape. Funding is requested from NHTF for 184 acres of forested uplands, complementing a 151-acre riparian buffer acquisition request submitted to CWMTF (\$931,889). Zoo contribution (\$4,400). Request reduced at Board meeting because some tracts were unavailable. COPS not used.
20	DENR/ DCM	Town of Kure Beach Oceanfront Park	New Hanover	\$500,000	0	Funding requested to assist the Town of Kure Beach in the debt service on the purchase price of 20,000 square feet of oceanfront property. A perpetual long-term conservation easement will be provided to the DENR/DCM as well as a detailed property management agreement. The Oceanfront Park faces the Atlantic Ocean and is the intended site of a local and regional public park. The park will expand public access to recreational opportunities, the beach, and the ocean. It will preserve open space and public access along the coast. New Hanover County confirmed grant of \$500,000. Funding for remainder of \$3.6 million project proposed to CWMTF, PARTF, DENR/DCM, DENR/DWR and Federal Appropriations. COPS not used.

No.	Agency	Project Title	County	Award	Acres	Description
21	DENR/ DPR	Dutch Creek Cove/ Bear Paw Natural Area - Land Acquisition	Watauga	\$3,852,600	241	These acquisitions would help protect the Nationally Significant Hanging Rock Mountain SNHA and the cove forests containing the headwaters of Dutch Creek, a tributary of the Watauga River. These properties support at least four different natural communities, including the rare High Elevation Rocky Summit, and at least nine rare species including the Federally Endangered Big-eared Bat. These tracts will be managed as Dutch Creek Conservation Land until authorization of the State Natural Area which is proposed for the 2008 session of the General Assembly. Acquisition of these tracts will help protect a widely recognizable and visible peak and ridge and contribute to the connectivity of protected sites including nearby Grandfather Mountain. Confirmed private donation \$1,314,000. Total acreage 341.
22	DENR/ DPR	Chimney Rock State Park–Bottomless Pools/Bat Cave/Round Top	Western Rutherford County	\$4,488,000	212	This 212 acre project is part of a larger conservation effort including TNC's Bat Cave and Rumbling Bald Preserves. The site hosts distinctive geological features and a large diversity of natural community types. World's Edge contains a number of rock houses and small fissure caves as well as extensive, high quality examples of several community types, including low elevation rocky summit, low elevation granitic dome, and a unique community described as a semi-exfoliated basic glade. At least nine significantly rare plants have been documented on or very near the subject properties, two of which are federally endangered, and four rare, special concern animals have been found in close proximity to the project area and have the potential to be found on site as well. The tracts in this project are within the following SNHAs: Cane Creek Mountain (national significance); Chimney Rock (national significance) and Bottomless Pools (regional significance). Once acquired, these properties will be part of Chimney Rock State Park. Matching funds from PARTF \$4,489,500. Total project acreage 423.

No.	Agency	Project Title	County	Award	Acres	Description
23	DENR/ DPR	South Mountains State Park - West Side II	Burke	\$605,000	323	This 683 total acre project will help protect the Hall Knob SNHA included within the South Mountains Macrosite and the South Mountains/ Foothills Megasite. The tracts in this request contain at least six rare species, including the federally endangered White Irisette. The broader project area is known to contain at least four additional rare species. South Mountains State Park is part of a broader conservation effort including South Mountains Game Lands. This project will add to the nearly 40,000 acres of contiguous State-owned conservation land. Conservation of these tract will also help protect undeveloped viewsheds for visitors approaching the state park and game lands from the west side. This area of the park is likely to see increased visitation following the development of facilities at the Clear Creek access area. Once acquired, the project area will be part of South Mountains State Park. Matching funds include PARTF (\$648,309 confirmed), CWMTF (\$932,140 proposed) and bargain sale donation (\$81,966 confirmed). COPS not used
	DENR	DENR	SUB-TOTAL	\$29,679,345	3,968	\$7,480
24	DCR	Historic Bethania Land Acquisition	Forsyth	\$1,465,000	69	Purchase of one of the few large, contiguous natural tracts of land remaining in Bethania will complement the 7 projects of nearly 100 acres previously protected by DCR. This project would completely protect "Bottom II," one of the bottomlands in Black Walnut Bottoms marked on the original survey of Bethania in 1768 by Christian Reuter. This historic area now holds the only remaining example of a European style "open field" agricultural village in North Carolina. A cell phone tower company has approached the landowner concerning the installation of a cell tower on the top of the ridgeline. Such a tower would significantly diminish the experience of visitors to Bethania. A management plan will be developed to provide guidance that is consistent with Bethania's Moravian culture and traditions and potentially restore the agricultural uses of the fertile bottomlands along Muddy Creek. Piedmont Land Conservancy is donating overhead costs and has applied for grants that could reduce the request to NHTF by as much as \$200,000. COPS not used.

Figure 2
 Natural Heritage Trust Fund
 Spring 2008 Awards
 Project Locations



Agency	Project Title	County	Grant Total	Cash Funding	2007 COPS	2008 COPS	Acres	Description
DCR	Horne Creek State Historic Site	Surry	\$190,000	\$190,000	\$0	\$0	8.03	Fee simple acquisition of 8.03 acres immediately opposite the main visitor entrance to the Horne Creek Living Historical Farm State Historic Site, and across the main road from the site's extensive Southern Heirloom Apple Orchard. The objective of this acquisition is to provide a permanent scenic buffer property along the main visitor entrance to the site, to preserve the presently rural character and setting. The proposed property consists of seven platted lots in an area now being developed as part of a new subdivision in this location. The Horne Creek Living Historical State Historic Site is operated by the department's Division of State Historic Sites to preserve and demonstrate the methods of farming and the way of life of a typical northern Piedmont farmstead during the early 1900's. The farmstead consists of a two-story frame and log house built about 1880 for Thomas and Charlotte Hauser, along with six period outbuildings and the family cemetery. The proposed property will be maintained and managed by the DCR as an extension of the department's existing 104 acre historic site. No matching funds proposed.
DCR	AWARDS	SUBTOTAL	\$190,000	\$190,000			8.03	
WRC	Pond Mountain	Ashe	\$5,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$3,500,000	1,795.00	The Pond Mountain landscape offers the unique opportunity to manage for a host of state listed and SWAP priority species that require habitat types which are rare in NC. Approximately 750 acres of the Pond Mountain tract is currently in grassy/shrubby habitat and Christmas tree production and offers an excellent opportunity to manage for high elevation early successional habitat. The remainder of the tract contains northern hardwood forest. The tract will further serve as a wildlife corridor from the adjacent National Forests in TN and VA south to conservation areas in NC such as Three Top Mtn. and the Pisgah National Forest. The tract also serves as the headwaters of both Big Laurel and Big Horse Creeks and acquisition will be a significant step in protecting water quality in these drainages. As part of WRC game land program, will offer a variety of dispersed recreational opportunities to the public. Matching funds of \$1.3 million private donor and \$2 million CWMTF (Originally project was planned for \$7,426,498 CWMTF funding.) Total cost is \$13,458,955. Previous grant of \$2.5 million from NHTF.

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WRC	Whitehall Plantation - Cape Fear Lowlands	Bladen	\$4,212,000	\$0	\$4,212,000	\$0	1,440.00	Time-sensitive acquisition to protect large natural area from future development to include upland pine and Cape Fear lowland hardwoods and swamp drainages. Will protect key neo-tropical migrant bird (one of only two possible nesting sites in NC for swallow-tailed kites), black bear, and waterfowl habitat. Protection of the site will reduce non-point source pollution into the Cape Fear River. The property falls within a strategic landscape scale conservation plan being developed by the Cape Fear Arch due to it's proximity to Bladen Lakes State Forest and Singletary Lake State Park and includes Regionally Significant Natural Areas – Cape Fear Lowlands, Cape Fear Sloughs, Cypress-Gum Swamps, Coastal Plain Levee Forest, and proximity to Conkill Bay Complex. WRC plans to incorporate site into the Cape Fear Wetlands Game Lands. No matching funds.
WRC	Miller-Hufnagel (Three Top Mountain Game Land Addition)	Ashe	\$254,896	\$254,896	\$0	\$0	103.26	The Miller-Hufnagel tract is adjacent Three Top Mountain Game Land and would provide direct access to the game land from SR 1125 where no public access currently exists. Acquisition of this property is also highly significant as part of the total management project in the Three Top Mountain area. The Three Top Mountain macrosite contains numerous plants and community types that are considered to be of national significance. Matching grants confirmed from both private (\$270,447) and CWMTF (\$316,000).

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WRC	Carpenter Tract - Sandhills Game Land	Scotland	\$636,972	\$0	\$0	\$636,972	263.00	Tract contains approx. 23 acres of mature longleaf pine forest including canebrake and streamhead pocosin, and 240 acres of readily-restorable longleaf/wiregrass forest with intact native groundcover diversity. Tract is extremely important as a strategic connector between large blocks of existing protected habitat of the Sandhills Game Lands, and barring protection was destined for horse farmettes. Currently the mature longleaf forest stand needs only fire to manage and maintain floral diversity, while the cut portion will be burned in the Spring of 2009, and planted back to longleaf pine that following Winter. While the tract is primarily made up of Xeric Sandhill Scrub and Pine/Scrub Oak Sandhill communities, its Southern boundary is a Streamhead Pocosin wetland along Little Muddy Creek, which the property shares with a 635 acre private conservation easement to the south that protects red-cockaded woodpecker habitat. This recent protection of both sides of Little Muddy Creek will allow the use of prescribed fire to open up the ecotone and to reduce shrub density along the creek. \$208,000 Army ACUB funding confirmed. Total project cost \$833,000.
WRC	Elam Tract - Wilson Creek	Caldwell	\$238,500	\$238,500	\$0	\$0	73.00	The Elam tract is surrounded by protected properties in the Wilson Creek watershed. To the north is the Edgemont Ltd. property, to the east is Pisgah National Forest, and to the south is the Lutz tract. The Foothills Conservancy of NC will close on a conservation easement on the Edgemont Ltd. Property in late 2008 or early 2009, the U.S. Forest Service owns the Pisgah National Forest, and WRC is acquiring the Lutz tract with NHTF and CWMTF grants. Much of the tract is in the nationally designated Wilson Creek Wild and Scenic River corridor. This corridor is a nationally significant aquatic natural heritage area and feeds the Johns River, a State SNHA. The tract is also within the Wilson Creek Slopes/Lost Cove Creek/Thorps Creek regionally SNHA. Although the tract contains only a small amount of perennial stream, its acquisition would link other existing protected lands. It would be accessible from the Lutz tract and national forest lands, but not from the road. Purchase of this tract would permanently protect the area from development. The owners have offered it at a bargain sale price, pending confirmation via appraisal.

Agency	Project Title	County	Grant Total	Cash Funding	2007 COPS	2008 COPS	Acres	Description
WRC	Johnson Tract	Ashe	\$764,670	\$764,670	\$0	\$0	218.00	The Johnson tract is the first of several expected opportunities to expand the adjacent Pond Mountain (pending) major acquisition. This tract would serve as a significant wildlife and ecological corridor from the adjacent National Forests in Tennessee and Virginia south to conservation areas in North Carolina such as Three Top Mountain, other Game Lands, various Natural Heritage areas and the Pisgah National Forest. Along with Pond Mountain, the Johnson tract offers a unique opportunity to manage for a host of state listed and SWAP priority species that require habitat types which are rare in NC. The majority of the tract contains northern hardwood forest. The tract also serves as the headwaters of Big Horse Creek further complimenting our anticipated purchase of Pond Mountain. The Johnson tract will be entered into the Game Lands Program and will offer a variety of dispersed recreational opportunities to the public. Total cost \$1,721,770 with planned proposed application to CWMTF for \$823,900 in 2/2009.
WRC	AWARDS	SUB-TOTAL	\$11,107,038	\$2,758,066	\$4,212,000	\$4,136,972	3,892.26	
DENR/ DPR	Proposed Grandfather Mountain State Park - Initial Acquisition	Avery, Caldwell, Watauga	\$6,000,000	\$0	\$6,000,000	\$0	3,200.00	Funding requested for the initial acquisition for proposed Grandfather Mountain State Park. Project includes fee simple acquisition of 2,600 acres and a conservation easement on 600 acres. Property is a nationally significant SNHA and an International Biosphere Reserve. A total of 73 rare species have been documented for the mountain, and of these 32 are endangered or threatened. The mountain supports 16 distinct ecological communities including red spruce-Fraser fir forest, heath bald, high-elevation red oak forest, rich cove forest, Canada hemlock forest, and spray cliff. Grandfather Mountain also contains the headwaters of both the Linville and Watauga rivers. Important component of a larger network of conservation lands in the area, which include the Blue Ridge Parkway, Pisgah National Forest, and holdings by TNC. Total cost \$12,180,000. PARTF expected grant \$6,180,000. Authorization for a new state park will be requested in the 2009 session.

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DENR/ DPR	Carvers Creek State Park - Clark II and Carvers Falls Tracts	Cumberland	\$5,035,000	\$401,500	\$791,000	\$3,842,500	1,316.00	Funding requested for two tracts as an addition to Carvers Creek State Park. One is Clark II tract located between existing state ownership and Fort Bragg and the other is around Carvers Falls. These two tracts are keystone tracts for this state park. The Clark II tract connects the existing state ownership to Fort Bragg permanently protecting this outstanding matrix of Sandhills natural communities and Red-cockaded woodpecker habitat. The Carvers Falls tract brings a unique geologic feature into public ownership that will eventually be accessible to the public. Once these tracts are acquired, they will be managed as part of Carvers Creek State Park for the protection of the natural resources and the interpretation of the resources and the natural processes that affect them. Total project cost \$14,271,000; Army ACUB grant \$3,850,000; PARTF proposed \$5,253,500.
DENR/ DPR	Chimney Rock State Park - Round Top Mountain, Cane Creek and Lost Colony Tracts	Rutherford	\$2,477,500	\$0	\$0	\$2,477,500	287.00	As part of both the Southeastern Escarpment Megasite and the Hickory Nut Gorge Macrosite, this 287-acre project is part of a larger conservation effort including TNC's Bat Cave and Rumbling Bald Preserves. Because of the project area's position on the eastern edge of the Blue Ridge Escarpment, it hosts distinctive geological features and a large diversity of natural community types. At least nine significantly rare plants have been documented on or very near the subject properties, two of which are federally endangered, and four rare, special concern animals have been found in close proximity to the project area and have the potential to be found on site as well. The tracts in this project are within the following significant natural heritage areas: Cane Creek Mountain (national significance) and Round Top Mountain/Rumbling Bald (national significance.) Tracts will be managed as part of Chimney Rock State Park. Total cost \$6,677,560; PARTF proposed grant \$3,435,280.

Agency	Project Title	County	Grant Total	Cash Funding	2007 COPS	2008 COPS	Acres	Description
DENR/ DPR	Gorges State Park, Phase IV	Transylvania	\$1,256,000	\$768,500	\$0	\$487,500	190.00	Request funds for acquisition of four tracts in the acquisition plan for Gorges State Park. The tracts in this request are from landowners who contacted the state with their interest in selling to the state. Three of the four tracts are listed on the open market. Gorges State Park was established to protect the natural resources in the escarpment gorges and to provide outdoor recreation in the southwestern part of the state. There are 23 rare plant and animal species found in the Gorges State Park project area. The Gorges State Park project area encompasses the Toxaway River Gorge SNHA and is part of the Escarpment Gorges Megasite. Both of these are nationally significant. Once acquired, these properties will be managed as part of the Gorges State Park for the protection of the natural resources and water quality. Low impact public recreation such as hiking and nature study may occur on these tracts. Total cost \$2,677,000; PARTF matching grant proposed - \$1,384,500.
DENR/ DCM	Kitty Hawk Woods - Hard Tract	Dare	\$87,500	\$87,500	\$0	\$0	16.04	Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve is one of the largest (ca. 1,900 acres) maritime forests on the Outer Banks. The extensive maritime forest occupies a relict beach ridge and swale system. The ridges are comprised of Maritime Deciduous Forest while the swales support Maritime Swamp Forest and coastal marsh. According to the N.C. Natural Heritage Program, both community types are globally extremely rare. Kitty Hawk Woods and Nags Head Woods are the only extensive occurrences of Maritime Deciduous Forest in NC. The Hard Tract contains examples of both the Maritime Deciduous Forest and Swamp Forest, which have extreme ecological importance. The Maritime Deciduous Forest of Kitty Hawk Woods is one of only two extensive and diverse examples left in the state. The tract identified for acquisition is located adjacent to the Reserve, which has been designated by the NC Natural Heritage Program as a Nationally-significant SNHA. Total cost - \$350,000; \$262,500 USF&W Service Grant

Agency	Project Title	County	Grant Total	Cash Funding	2007 COPS	2008 COPS	Acres	Description
DENR/ ZOO	Ridges Mountain Nature Preserve - Phase II	Randolph	\$490,000	\$490,000	\$0	\$0	93.00	In partnership with the Piedmont Land Conservancy, the NC Zoo proposes to add 93 acres to the 186-acre Ridges Mountain Nature Preserve, a site that was identified during the Randolph County Natural Heritage Inventory as a top priority for protection. Ridges Mountain contains high quality examples of uncommon natural communities, including Basic Piedmont Monadnock Forest, Basic Oak-Hickory Forest, Upland Pools and Upland Depression Swamp Forest. Two of the three tracts have mature high-quality Basic Oak-Hickory Forest. A newly-discovered Upland Pool is located on the boundary between the Zoo property and the Allen tract. On a landscape scale, Ridges Mountain is significant due to its connectivity to other SNHAs. All three properties buffer the existing Preserve and provide breeding habitat for wildlife, including forest interior bird species and neotropical migrants. Tracts will provide nature-based recreation, such as low impact hiking and bird-watching, environmental education, and research on its biological and ecological resources. Threat of development is high for these parcels, which are convenient to a major highway. Zoo to contribute \$2,000.
DENR/ DPR	Mount Jefferson State Park - Vannoy Heirs and Phillips Tracts	Ashe	\$1,479,500	\$187,500	\$0	\$1,292,000	253.50	Funds requested to acquire two key tracts on the slopes of Mount Jefferson. Mount Jefferson is an amphibolite peak and supports very high quality examples of natural communities. Twelve rare plant species and six rare animal species are found at Mount Jefferson State Natural Area. The addition of these two tracts to the state natural area will protect the mid slopes of Mount Jefferson from residential development. The owners of these tracts have been approached by developers. The larger tract is currently on the market. These slopes are very scenic as well as containing Northern Hardwood Forest natural communities. Once acquired, these tracts will be managed as part of Mount Jefferson State Natural Area for the protection of the natural and scenic resources and for low impact recreation such as hiking and nature study. Total cost \$4,633,000 with PARTF grant expected for \$2,332,000.

Agency	Project Title	County	Grant Total	Cash Funding	2007 COPS	2008 COPS	Acres	Description
DENR/ NHP	Boiling Spring Lakes, Sections 14 and 5 (Pretty Pond Limesink Complex)	Brunswick	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$0	\$0	9.40	Project area is located in the northeastern section of the City of Boiling Spring Lakes. It is immediately adjacent to the privately managed Orton Plantation (5,000 acres) and a 135-acre conservation easement held by TNC. Site contains undeveloped upland longleaf and pocosin habitat within the Pretty Pond Limesink Complex, a SNHA. Acquisition will protect habitat for current populations of the Federal and State endangered Red-cockaded woodpecker (<i>Picoides borealis</i>). It will complement the 7,000 acres of land previously protected in the Boiling Spring Lakes Plant Conservation Program Preserve and establish a core base for essential land management activities in the vicinity. The tracts will provide buffer for the privately held conservation lands, opportunity for passive recreation, and offer ecological research opportunities. NHP plans to manage the property through a management agreement with TNC.
DENR/ DPR	Mount Mitchell State Park - Bagwell, Begley and Wilson Heir tracts	Yancey	\$833,750	\$833,750	\$0	\$0	314.00	Funding requested for acquisition of key tracts to be added to Mount Mitchell State Park. Mount Mitchell State Park was the first state park in NC and includes the highest point east of the Mississippi River. The tracts in this request have the highest value in the DENR Conservation Planning Tool. These tracts contain high quality Northern Hardwood Forest and Red Spruce-Fraser Fir Forest natural communities. Both of these natural communities are high protection goals for the state parks system. These tracts are visible from multiple public use areas of the state park. The owners of these tracts have been approached by developers. These owners would prefer to sell to the state to avoid the development of their property. Once acquired, these tracts will be included in Mount Mitchell State Park and managed for the protection of the natural and scenic resources. Total cost \$6,726,400 with expected \$3,395,700 PARTF grant.

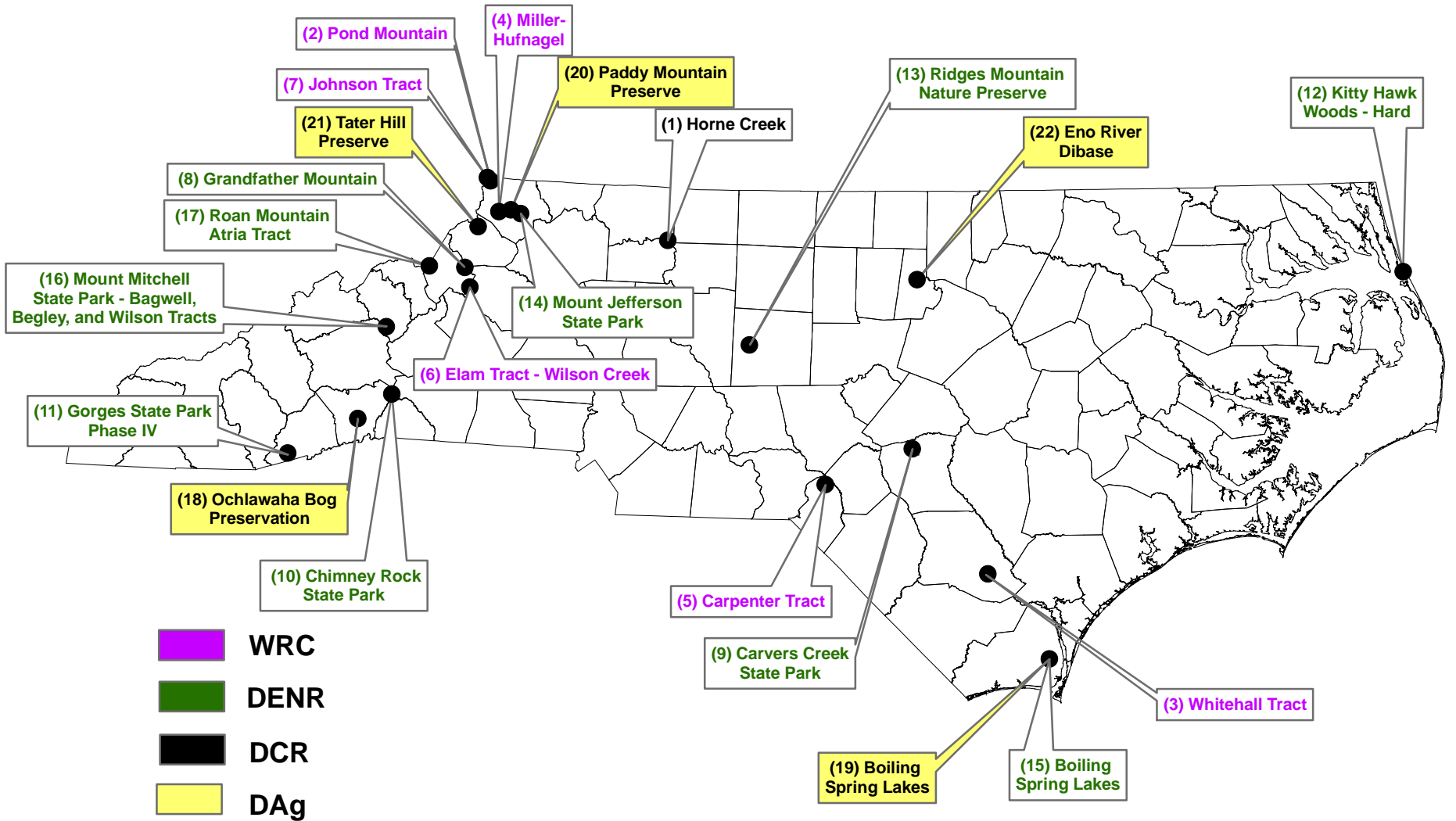
Agency	Project Title	County	Grant Total	Cash Funding	2007 COPS	2008 COPS	Acres	Description
DENR/ DPR	Roan Mountain - Atria Tract (Big Yellow Mountain)	Avery	\$1,875,000	\$1,875,000	\$0	\$0	265.00	Funds requested for acquisition of 265 acres to protect important natural resources in the Nationally Significant Big Yellow Mountain SNHA. This tract contains numerous, extensive High Elevation Seeps embedded within the Northern Hardwood Forest. Gray's Lily, a Federal species of concern and State Threatened species, is known to occur on the tract and the seeps have a high potential for other rare plant species. The tract adjoins the Big Yellow Mountain Preserve owned by TNC and is nearby the Roan Mountain Preserve owned by the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy. The site will be managed for the protection of significant natural resources and to provide interpretation of its ecosystems. Acquisition of these tracts will help protect a widely recognizable and visible peak and ridge system and contribute to the connectivity of 17,000 acres of protected land, including nearby Roan Mountain in the Pisgah National Forest. Total cost \$3,800,390. Adjoining 177 acres will be protected via donated easement valued at \$1,875,000. Not eligible for PARTF because not in new Yellow Mt. State Natural Area.
DENR		<i>SUBTOTAL</i>	\$19,859,250	\$4,968,750	\$6,791,000	\$8,099,500	5,944	
DACS/ PCP	Ochlawaha Bog Preservation - Ward, Fortescue & CMLC Additions	Henderson	\$347,590	\$347,590	\$0	\$0	30.78	Request is to add 30.79 acres to the Ochlawaha Bog Plant Conservation Preserve, established in 1996 with the purchase of 2.4 acres, and which harbors Bunched Arrowhead, one of NC's most endangered plant species. Bunched Arrowhead is a federally and state endangered species known to persist in only two populations in NC. This site is considered to be a critical conservation priority and has been the focus of protection and restoration efforts by the state, CMLC, the US F&W Service and others. Site is currently ditched and used for growing tomatoes. The proposed acquisition would eliminate the most critical ongoing threat to the Bunched Arrowhead colony while providing PCP, and its partners, the opportunity to restore the hydrology in portions of the project area with the goal of re-establishing both a healthy, functioning riparian area as well as expanding the population of this endangered species. A feasibility study for wetland restoration, emphasizing creation and maintenance of suitable habitat for Bunched Arrowhead, has already been completed. Other funding: \$6,350 CWMTF mini-grant and \$85,000 private donor. Bargain sale, valued at \$45,600.

Agency	Project Title	County	Grant Total	Cash Funding	2007 COPS	2008 COPS	Acres	Description
DACS/ PCP	Boiling Spring Lakes - Management Areas 7 and 22	Brunswick	\$360,000	\$360,000	\$0	\$0	574.00	Proposed funding for inholdings in two of the most critical areas of the existing preserve. Boiling Spring Lakes (BSL) preserve, the largest existing PCP preserve, became a focus of major acquisition efforts in 1999, with NHTF supplying majority funding since that time. The Preserve, now exceeding 6,000 acres in size, features an outstanding complex of natural communities as well as a collection of rare plant and animal species. The Venus flytrap (<i>Dionaea muscipula</i>), and the federally endangered rough-leaf loosestrife (<i>Lysimachia asperulifolia</i>) are notable examples of some of the many rare plant species known to be present. Protecting and restoring the natural habitats and rare species populations is the overarching management goal upon acquisition, with a significant portion of the effort focused on reintroducing controlled burns across the Preserve. PCP has recently narrowed the Preserve focus area and this request is to complete two critical management areas in the newly defined focus area. Request includes \$367,148 for management costs. Awarded the \$300,000 estimated to close within a year plus \$60,000 stewardship monies.
DACS/ PCP	Paddy Mountain Preserve - Cook & Rash Tracts	Ashe	\$1,337,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,337,000	143.00	Funding requested to add two tracts to the Paddy Mountain Plant Conservation Preserve. This Preserve, established with grants from the NHTF Board in 2002 and 2003, protects several rare plant species including the federally endangered Heller's Blazing Star (<i>Liatrix helleri</i>), and one of only three known NC populations of the Allegheny Onion (<i>Allium allegheniense</i>). Protecting the high elevation rock outcrop habitats for these rare species as well as the surrounding rich forested slopes from incompatible land use is the primary protection and management goal. The proposed acquisitions are some of the most important parcels on the acquisition plan for the site.

Agency	Project Title	County	Grant Total	Cash Funding	2007 COPS	2008 COPS	Acres	Description
DACS/ PCP	Tater Hill - Ball and Greer Tracts	Watauga	\$2,220,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,220,000	324.00	Funding requested to add two tracts to the Tater Hill Plant Conservation Preserve. The project area has been a priority for protection efforts for years and the NHTF Board has awarded seven previous grants for acquisition efforts there. The Preserve is designed to protect a number of rare plant species and natural plant communities. Rare plants present include Gray's lily (<i>Lilium grayi</i>), American fly-honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera canadensis</i>), Tall larkspur (<i>Delphinium exaltatum</i>), and long-stalked holly (<i>Ilex collina</i>). The proposed tracts occur along the northern boundary of acquisition plan for the site. Protecting the rare plant species and natural habitats present on these tracts from incompatible land use is the primary protection and management goal.
DACS/ PCP	Eno River Diabase - Pickett and Arrington Tracts	Durham	\$85,250	\$85,250	\$0	\$0	2.11	PCP in partnership with Eno River Association is proposing to add two tracts to the Eno River Diabase Sill Plant Conservation Preserve. These tracts, which have been priorities since the project inception, were not previously acquired due to title issues (these issues are being addressed). The importance of establishing this Preserve has been well recognized by the NHTF Board, as evidenced by seven previous grants for the Preserve, which is designed to protect a host of rare plant species including the federally endangered Smooth Coneflower (<i>Echinacea laevigata</i>), and the Piedmont region's only remaining population of Tall Larkspur (<i>Delphinium exaltatum</i>). Restoration of the habitats for these species, once protected, is the number one management priority. Since 2004, management efforts by PCP and its partners have resulted in dramatic increases in several of these rare species, most notably the Smooth Coneflower.
DACS		<i>SUBTOTAL</i>	\$4,349,840	\$792,840	\$0	\$3,557,000	1,073.89	

Agency	Project Title	County	Grant Total	Cash Funding	2007 COPS	2008 COPS	Acres	Description
DCR	Averasboro Civil War Battlefield Site			\$130,000				Amended Fall 2007 award by \$130,000. Matching funds from Civil War Preservation Trust Fund will not be available in the court-mandated timeframe for closing on easement (result of 2-year litigation.)
ALL APPs.		TOTAL	\$35,636,128	\$8,839,656	\$11,003,000	\$15,793,472	10,918.12	
WRC	Tuckertown					\$2,000,000		Was funded in Spring 2008 with 2007 COPS, now switched to 2008 COPS
DPR	Chimney Rock/Bottomless Pools					\$3,500,000		Was funded in Spring 2008 with 2007 COPS, now switched to 2008 COPS
		GRAND TOTAL	\$41,136,128	\$8,839,656	11,003,000	\$21,293,472		
NC = North Carolina								SNHA = Significant Natural Heritage Area
DCR = NC Department of Cultural Resources								PARTF = Parks & Recreation Trust Fund
DACS = NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services								CWMTF = Clean Water Management Trust Fund
PCP = Plant Conservation Program								WRC = NC Wildlife Resources Commission
DENR = NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources								SWAP = WRC's Sate Wildlife Action Plan
DPR = Division of Park Resources								TNC = The Nature Conservancy
DFR = Division of Forest Resources								CMLC = Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy
NHP = N.C. Natural Heritage Program								ACUB = Army Compatible Use Buffer Program
DCM = Division of Coastal Management								USF&W = United States Fish and Wildlife
DWR = Division of Water Resources								
WRC = NC Wildlife Resources Commission								

Figure 3
 Natural Heritage Trust Fund
 Fall 2008 Awards



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