

Working Group Updates

Resource Managers WG Update

Communications WG Update

RCW Recovery WG Update

The data from this year's field season is currently being compiled. A detailed report will be produced for the December meeting.

Land Protection WG Update

Since June 3, TNC closed on the 107 Buck Rub property in Richmond County adjacent Sandhills Game Land. This property improves management of the adjacent part of Block B of the game land, and enhances connectivity between blocks B & T which is particularly important in light of recent isolated wetland restoration work on Block T. Also, NCWRC received funding from the US Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Section 6 program for the acquisition of the Poplin (Richmond Co) and Gibson (Scotland Co) tracts from TNC. They are waiting to hear about Clean Water Management Trust Fund funding to complete this purchase. The NC Plant Conservation Program received funding from Section 6 for acquisition of the Austin property at Tunstall bay in SE Scotland Co and are also waiting on CWMTF to complete the purchase. Other pending projects likely or possible to be completed in the next few months include:

- Transfer of the ~1325ac Sassafras property (Scotland Co adjacent Sandhills GL) from TNC to NCWRC
- Acquisition of the Hutchison (Richmond Co adjacent Sandhills GL) and Downing (Hoke Co adjacent Blue Farm) properties by TNC
- Acquisition of the Stolting property (Richmond Co adjacent Sandhills GL) by NCWRC
- Acquisition of the Seaboard property (along Deep River adjacent SEER training area) by SALT
- Acquisition of conservation easements on the Haskell (Scotland Co adjacent Sandhills GL), McDonald (Richmond Co adjacent Sandhills GL & Camp Mackall), and Hawkes (Hoke Co adjacent Fort Bragg) properties by TNC

Reserve Design WG Update

A meeting was held to discuss the possibility of using conservation planning software to update the reserve design for the Sandhills.