

Item Title: Approve Agreement with State of North Carolina for Protection of Forest Land in Wake County

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners approves the State of North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Agreement for the Protection, Development and Improvement of Forest Land in Wake County, North Carolina and authorizes the Chairman of the Wake County Board of Commissioners to execute the agreement.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners is asked to approve this agreement with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services.

Background: Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §106-898, Counties must contribute to specified forestry management activities in order for State funds to be expended. County funds comprise must comprise at least 25% of the total cost of the forestry program. The statute requires the Board of Commissioners approve the agreement, and the County Attorney's Office advises that the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners be authorized to execute the agreement.

This annually recurring agreement is funded through the Wake County Fire Tax District as part of System Wide Expenses. Funds support such forestry management services as controlled burns, seedling plantings, and wildfire response.

Board Goal: This action supports routine County operations.

Fiscal Impact: Funding of \$68,168 has been included in the FY19 Fire Tax District budget, no additional funds are needed.

Additional Information:

None.

Attachments:

1. State of North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Agreement (Forest Ranger)
2. N.C.G.S. §106-898, Duties of forest rangers; payment of expenses by State and counties