

DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

November 1, 1999

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bill Holman, Secretary

THROUGH: Dewey Botts, Asst. Secretary for Natural Resources

FROM: Philip K. McKnelly

SUBJECT: Correspondence

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PKM/GSR

Attachment

cc: Billy Ray Xyris, Superintendent of State Parks
Iris Tridentata, Chief of Planning and Natural Resources
Lizzie Machia, Head of Natural Heritage Program
Andrew Pogon, South District Superintendent



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

November 1, 1999

JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

MEMORANDUM

BILL HOLMAN
SECRETARY

TO: Joe Henderson, Director
State Property Office

FROM: Phil McKnelly

SUBJECT: Correspondence

DR. PHILIP K. MCKNELLY
DIRECTOR

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PKM/gsr

Attachment

cc: Anna Campseros, Head of Forest Management Program
Division of Forest Resources

Iris Tridentata, Chief of Planning and Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Recreation





NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

November 1, 1999

JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

BILL HOLMAN
SECRETARY

DR. PHILIP K. MCKNELLY
DIRECTOR

The Honorable Mike Rostigium
N.C. House of Representatives
Legislative Office Building, Room 731
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

Dear Representative Rostigium:

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If you have any questions, or require additional information, please call Andrew Pogon
at 919/733-4181.

Sincerely,

Philip K. McKnelly

PKM/gsr

Enclosure

cc: Richard Rogers, Director
Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Affairs



1615 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27699-1615
PHONE 919-733-4181 FAX 919-715-3085

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER - 50% RECYCLED/10% POST-CONSUMER PAPER

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES



November 1, 1999

JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

Mr. Mike Rostigium
123 Sesame St.
X, North Carolina 12345

BILL HOLMAN
SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Rostigium:

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Sincerely,

Bill Holman

BH/PKM

cc: Philip K. McKnelly, Director
Division of Parks and Recreation



April 20, 2001

Don Barlow
7413 Six forks Road, Box 414
Raleigh, North Carolina 27515

Dear Mr. Barlow,

Thank you for your letter expressing the concerns you have with park opening and closing hours at our North Carolina State Parks and Recreation Areas.

I have forwarded your letter to Dr. Philip McKnelly, Director of the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation for his review and response to your concerns. You should be hearing from him soon. I am confident that he shares my commitment to good customer service for the citizens of North Carolina and visitors to our great state.

Again, I appreciate your taking the time to share your concerns with me. Feedback from citizens like yourself is valued highly by this administration. With kindest regards I remain

Very truly yours,

Michael F. Easley

MFE/PKM



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
RALEIGH 27603-8001

JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

July 1, 1997

The Honorable Mike Rostigium
Town of X
X, North Carolina 12345

Dear Mayor Rostigium:

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My warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

James B. Hunt Jr.

JBH:pkm



APPENDIX C
LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY REPORT

Office of the Governor
Legislative Counsel
Administration Bldg. Room 1030

NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY REPORT
Department Environment, Health & Natural Resources

DATE:

TELEPHONE _____ VERBAL _____ LETTER _____

Senator / Representative _____

PERSON RECEIVING INQUIRY _____

REFERRED W/I DEPARTMENT _____

SUBJECT OF INQUIRY:

ACTION TAKEN:

Return Blue Sheet to Legislative & Intergovernmental Affairs; Suite 1425,
Archdale Bldg. or PO Box 27687, Raleigh, NC 27611 (919) 715-4148.

December 3, 1998

John Fitzgerald
Post Office Box 127
Jefferson, North Carolina 28640

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning your application for employment with the Division of Parks and Recreation. It is the policy of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Division of Parks and Recreation to make employment decisions based on applicant merit. Employment offers are made to the most qualified applicant after considering all factors including, but not limited to, education, work experience, personal interview, reference check and a psychological screening process.

The psychological screening exam is a requirement of the North Carolina Criminal Justice Training and Standards Division for all applicants for law enforcement positions and is, therefore, a critical component of an applicant's qualifications for a park ranger position. Although our staff is not qualified to discuss psychological test results, the company that our Division uses to provide the testing service has always been responsive to applicants' written requests for test results. You can get this information by writing D.J. Reid, Reid Psychological Systems, P.O. Box 06409, Chicago, IL 60606.

Our Personnel Technician, Judy Warren, was correct in telling you that until an applicant officially accepts an offer all other applicants are still under consideration. I regret that the time necessary to fill this position caused you a problem, but it is our intent to fully utilize the hiring process to select the very best applicant regardless of the process length.

I hope that you find a job that will be rewarding for you, and I thank you for your interest in North Carolina State Parks.

Sincerely,

Philip K. McKnelly

PKM/MSD

State of North Carolina
Department of Environment,
Health and Natural Resources

James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor
Jonathan B. Howes, Secretary



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION



JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

WAYNE MCDEVITT
SECRETARY

DR. PHILIP K. MCKNELLY
DIRECTOR

February 18, 1999

Mr. Robert Tucker
P.O. Box 648
Concord, North Carolina 28026-0648

Dear Mr. Tucker:

Thank you for your January 21 letter expressing your support for the improvement of the trails and museum at Morrow Mountain State Park. These projects are important to the Division of Parks and Recreation because trails and museums play a critical role in accomplishing several of our mission objectives. Walking for pleasure is a popular recreational activity, and trails allow each visitor to personally experience the natural wonders of the park while providing many opportunities for environmental education and interpretation. The museum displays enable us to effectively educate and inform park visitors about the importance of the parks' resources.

You may remember that in 1994, the Division of Parks and Recreation documented \$168 million worth of capital improvement needs across the state. With support from members of the General Assembly, along with statewide citizen concern, two landmark funding initiatives were enacted. The State Park Bond referendum and the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) have provided our Division with the money needed to begin addressing the large backlog of capital needs. PARTF gave us the ability to schedule long-range projects because, for the first time, there was a predictable level of future funding.

With PARTF in place, project needs across the State have been individually evaluated using criteria such as public health, safety, protection of resources, protection of investments, cost savings, service demands, service improvements, legal mandates, and special population access. Each project is also ranked according to the number of visitors served. This process has resulted in a statewide priority ranking for each project. In order to improve visitor services to all of our State's citizens, the Division has deviated from the ranking for the first projects and began work on the highest ranked project in each park.

Major improvements were needed in Morrow Mountain's maintenance area and campgrounds. These were the first projects to be funded in the amount of just over \$1.5 million. Another \$150,000 was allocated to Morrow Mountain for emergency retaining wall repairs, and we currently have a \$100,000 project in place to replace the cabin destroyed by Hurricane Fran.



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

November 1, 1999

JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

MEMORANDUM

BILL HOLMAN
SECRETARY

TO: Joe Henderson, Director
State Property Office

FROM: Phil McKnelly

SUBJECT: Correspondence

DR. PHILIP K. MCKNELLY
DIRECTOR

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PKM/gsr

Attachment

cc: Anna Campseros, Head of Forest Management Program
Division of Forest Resources

Iris Tridentata, Chief of Planning and Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Recreation



DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

November 1, 1999

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bill Holman, Secretary

THROUGH: Dewey Botts, Asst. Secretary for Natural Resources

FROM: Philip K. McKnelly

SUBJECT: Correspondence

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PKM/GSR

Attachment

cc: Billy Ray Xyris, Superintendent of State Parks
Iris Tridentata, Chief of Planning and Natural Resources
Lizzie Machia, Head of Natural Heritage Program
Andrew Pogon, South District Superintendent

October 1, 1998

Glen E. Hatfield, Park Superintendent
Roan Mountain State Park
527 Highway 143
Roan Mountain, TN 37687

Dear Mr. Hatfield:

Thank you for the hospitality provided us during our recent visit to Roan Mountain State Park as part of our 1998 superintendent's conference. Please thank Ranger Walter Stewart especially for the time he took to meet with our group and give us a tour of your facilities.

Enclosed please find a custom token of our appreciation that one of our vendors provided for you (Bob Cronauer of Blue Bay Distributing). Again, thank you for making your park and your staff available to us.

Sincerely,

Lewis R. Ledford
Parks District Superintendent

West District Office
159 Inland Sea Lane
Troutman, NC 28166
(704)528-6514

LRL/jb

March 5, 1998

MaeDawn Galliher
227 Bridge Bottom Road
Statesville, NC 28625

Dear Ms. Galliher:

I have received your letter and resume. Currently, there are two ranger positions open with the Division of Parks and Recreation, one at Duke Power State Park and the other at Lumber River State Park. I have enclosed a copy of the vacancy listing for both of those positions. I have also enclosed a state application form (PD 107). You may make copies of the application form as necessary, or you can download the form from the Internet (www.osp.state.nc.us). You will also find current job listings on the Internet.

Please take note of the closing date on the vacancy listing. If I can answer any questions or be of further assistance, please contact me at (704)528-6514. Thank you for your interest in North Carolina State Parks.

Sincerely,

Julie Bunn

North Carolina State Parks
West District Office
159 Inland Sea Lane
Troutman, NC 28166

March 23, 1998

Glen E. Hatfield, Park Superintendent
Roan Mountain State Park
527 Highway 143
Roan Mountain, TN 37687

Dear Mr. Hatfield:

Your recent letter requesting discount information has been referred to me. The North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation currently offers discounted camping, entrance fees and ferry fee to Senior Citizens (age 62 or older), both resident and non-resident. The fees are as follows:

Entrance fees	(Jordan Lake & Falls Lake St. Pks)	\$ 3.00 (\$1 reduction)
Ferry fee	(Hammocks Beach State Park)	\$ 1.00 (\$1 reduction)
Improved campsites		\$10.00 (\$2 reduction)
Hook-up Campsites		\$14.00 (\$3 reduction)

It is our policy that Senior Citizen status be verified by presentation of a valid Driver's License when campsite reservations are made or camping/entrance fees are paid. When campsite reservations are accepted by mail, a photocopy of a valid Driver's License must accompany the reservation request. The age of the vehicle driver determines whether senior citizen entrance fee discounts apply to the vehicle.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Lewis R. Ledford
Parks District Superintendent

LRL/jb

November 24, 1998

Andrew Chilton
397 Community Building Road
Pilot Mountain, NC 27041

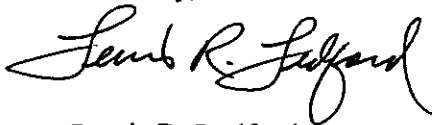
Dear Mr. Chilton:

Your request for information concerning classes necessary to become a park ranger has been forwarded to me. Please find enclosed a copy of the job description for a Ranger I position.

Aspiring park rangers must have an associates degree in a natural science or a park and recreation curriculum as a minimum. However, park ranger positions are usually very competitive. The vast majority of applicants selected for employment have four year degrees and relevant work experience. Therefore, to be competitive, applicants should have completed a four year degree in the aforementioned fields of study and have some relevant work experience - usually seasonal in nature. Additionally, applicants must have a "clean" criminal record in order to obtain certification as a Special Peace Officer following completion of Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) and divisional law enforcement training. Applicants that have already completed BLET prior to employment will have an advantage in seeking employment.

Thank you for your interest in North Carolina State Parks. Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Lewis R. Ledford
Parks District Superintendent

West District Office
159 Inland Sea Lane
Troutman, NC 28166
(704)528-6514
lledford@i-america.net

LRL/jb

Enclosure

DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

June 15, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tom Wells
FROM: Julie Bunn
SUBJECT: Lands' End Shirts

In response to your questions about Lands' End denim shirts:

- 1) They are only available in long sleeve.
- 2) The last time I ordered, the shirts costed a total of \$45.35 each. This included the logo application fee and shipping.
- 3) To my knowledge, Dr. McKnelly has only approved Division employees to purchase items with our logo. A few others have received them, such as the Secretary, etc., but those were all approved by Dr. McKnelly. Employees have paid for their own with the exception of some that were purchased with NASPD conference funds.
- 4) Lands' End requires a minimum order of six shirts. I haven't heard anybody mention wanting to get an order together but you might check with Dr. McKnelly. The last order I placed included some denim shirts for him - he may have some extras.

If you need any other information, please let me know.

DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

February 28, 1996

MEMORANDUM

TO: WEDI Park Superintendents

FROM: Kenny McGrady

SUBJECT: Chainsaw Training Class

Tim Benton has made arrangements for a professional chainsaw trainer from Stihl to conduct a chainsaw training class for WEDI staff members. Any park personnel interested in proper chainsaw operation and safety is invited to attend - up to three people per park, 20 persons maximum for the class. (It would be good if all maintenance personnel could participate.)

The class is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 1996, and will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Training will consist of three hours of classroom instructions, with the remaining time spent outside doing actual chainsaw work. Participants will need to bring a chainsaw and all safety equipment. I also suggest bringing a bagged lunch, since it is so far to go out to eat.

Contact me or Tim if you have any questions.

KCM/jb

August 20, 1996

Don Young
FAX - (919) 331-4775

Dear Mr. Young:

Per our telephone conversation, this is to request whatever token marketing items you can provide for us to include in a welcoming tote bag for conference attendees at the National Association of State Park Directors Conference this September. This association includes officials from agencies responsible for tourism, wildlife and forestry departments, state parks, etc., across the country.

As I mentioned on the phone, this is the 75th anniversary of the NASPD conference and the very first time it has been hosted by North Carolina. Our goal is to insure that our guests experience the beauty and hospitality of North Carolina during their stay in the Tarheel state. (We are expecting approximately 120 attendees.)

Please send items to:

Lewis Ledford
159 Inland Sea Lane
Troutman, NC 28166-9620

We can arrange to pay any shipping costs or pick up if necessary. If there is any marketing literature you would like us to give out, include it and we will distribute it at no charge. We will be sure that your organization is recognized in our conference program acknowledgements page.

Thank you for any assistance you can provide.

Sincerely,

Julie H. Bunn

NASPD
159 Inland Sea Lane
Troutman, North Carolina 28166-9620

August 26, 1996

Lynn Heflin
Wake Forest University
Suite 213 Athletic Center
Wingate Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27109

Dear Ms. Heflin:

As you know from our recent telephone conversations, North Carolina will be hosting the National Association of State Park Directors Conference at Wrightsville Beach this September 10 - 17. This is the 75th anniversary of the conference and the very first time it has been hosted by North Carolina. The association includes officials from agencies responsible for tourism, wildlife and forestry departments, state parks, etc., from across the country.

Traditionally, the closing ceremony for this conference includes the use of a basketball to "hand off" the conference to next year's hosting state. Your assistance in getting a basketball autographed by the Demon Deacons coaches and/or players to be used in this ceremony is greatly appreciated. We'll be sure that Wake Forest University is recognized in our conference program.

Please return the basketball to my attention at the address listed below. We will need it no later than Friday, September 6 (the sooner the better).

Thank you so much for your assistance. With your help I'm sure this year's NASPD conference will be the best one yet!

Sincerely,

Julie Bunn
159 Inland Sea Lane
Troutman, NC 28166

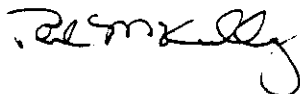
Mr. Robert Tucker
Page 2
February 18, 1999

The Morrow Mountain trails project is currently ranked number 112 out of 209 projects and the lodge renovation project, which would include the museum improvements, is project number 171. Some of the factors influencing this ranking are the number of visitors, the ability of the current facilities to meet some minimal needs when many parks have no facilities, and the condition of the current facilities as they relate to health and safety. It is important to note that the current ranking in no way lessens the Division's commitment to the projects nor the importance of each project. It is simply a tool for comparing a very large backlog of important needs.

An important part of the project ranking system is a periodic review of each park's planned projects. This review helps to ensure that the projects listed for each park accurately represent the current needs of the park. The next review of planned projects at Morrow Mountain is scheduled for May 1999. At that time, the park superintendent will participate in a discussion and re-evaluation of the park's needs and priorities, and the views and comments of the Park Advisory Committee will be considered.

I would like to personally thank you for your continued support of North Carolina State Parks and especially for your interest in and assistance to Morrow Mountain State Park. Without this type of leadership and commitment to state parks, we would still be trying to find a way to address the campground and maintenance area renovation, replace the retaining wall, and rebuild the cabin.

Sincerely,



Philip K. McKnelly

PKM/MSD/ghf

DRAFT

February 17, 1999

Robert B. Tucker
Post Office Box 648
Concord, North Carolina 28026-0648

Dear Mr. Tucker:

Thank you for your January 21 letter expressing your support for the improvement of the trails and museum at Morrow Mountain State Park. These projects are important to the Division of Parks and Recreation because trails and museums play a critical role in accomplishing several of our mission objectives. Walking for pleasure is a popular recreational activity, and trails allow each visitor to personally experience the natural wonders of the park while providing many opportunities for environmental education and interpretation. The museum displays enable us to effectively educate and inform park visitors about the importance of the parks' resources.

You may remember that in 1994, the Division of Parks and Recreation documented \$168 million worth of capital improvement needs across the state. With support from members of the General Assembly, along with statewide citizen concern, two landmark funding initiatives were enacted. The State Park Bond referendum and the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) have provided our Division with the money needed to begin addressing the large backlog of capital needs. PARTF gave us the ability to schedule long-range projects because, for the first time, there was a predictable level of future funding.

With PARTF in place, project needs across the ^State have been individually evaluated using criteria such as public health, safety, protection of resources, protection of investments, cost savings, service demands, service improvements, legal mandates, and special population access. Each project is also ranked according to the number of visitors served. This process has resulted in a statewide priority ranking for each project. In order to improve visitor services to all of our ^State's citizens, the Division has deviated from the ranking for the first projects and began work on the highest ranked project in each park.

Major improvements were needed in Morrow Mountain's maintenance area and campgrounds, and these were the first projects to be funded in the amount of just over \$1.5 million. Another \$150,000 was allocated to Morrow Mountain for emergency retaining wall repairs, and we currently have a \$100,000 project in place to replace the cabin destroyed by Hurricane Fran.

Robert B. Tucker
Page 2
February 17, 1999

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An important part of the project ranking system is a periodic review of each park's planned projects. This review helps to ensure that the projects listed for each park accurately represent the current needs of the park. The next review of planned projects at Morrow Mountain is scheduled for May 1999. At that time, the park superintendent will participate in a discussion and ^{evaluation}reevaluation of the park's needs and priorities, and the views and comments of the Park Advisory Committee will be considered.

I would like to personally thank you for your continued support of North Carolina State Parks and especially for your interest in and assistance to Morrow Mountain State Park. Without this type of leadership and commitment to state parks, we would still be trying to find a way to ~~address project need number one~~ address the campground maintenance.

Sincerely,

Philip K. McKnelly

PKM/MSD/ghf

9/25/98 sent
to TOM W.

DRAFT

September 29, 1998

The Honorable Dewey L. Hill
N.C. North Carolina House of Representatives
Legislative Office Building - Room 1309
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

Dear Representative Hill:

September 15 letter

Thank you for your letter of September 15, 1998, concerning the need for improving the trail system at Lake Waccamaw State Park. This project is important to the Division of Parks and Recreation because trails play a critical role in accomplishing several of our major objectives. Walking for pleasure is one of our park visitor's most popular recreational activities, and trails allow each visitor to personally experience the natural wonders of the park while providing many opportunities for environmental education and interpretation.

You may remember that in 1994, the Division of Parks and Recreation documented \$168 million dollars worth of capital improvement needs across the state. With support from you and other members of the General Assembly, along with statewide citizen concern, two landmark funding initiatives were enacted. The State Park Bond issue and the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund provided our Division with the money needed to begin addressing the large backlog of capital needs. ~~The trust fund~~ gave us the ability to schedule long-range projects because, for the first time, there was a predictable level of future funding. *referred*

~~With the trust fund~~ *PART* in place, project needs across the state were individually evaluated using criteria *such as* public health, safety, protection of resources, protection of investments, cost savings, service demands, service improvements, legal mandates, and special population access. Then each project was given some weight depending on the number of visitors served. This process resulted in a statewide priority ranking for each project. In order to improve visitor services to all of our state's citizens, the Division deviated from the ranking for the first projects and began work on the highest ranked project in each park.

The visitor center at Lake Waccamaw was the top-ranked project for that park, and this \$1.2 million dollar facility is now near completion. Recently, trail projects with an estimated cost of \$100,000 or more were evaluated and ranked along with all other capital projects. The Lake Waccamaw trail has an estimated cost of \$200,000 and is ranked as priority number 190 out of 223 projects. Some of the factors influencing

Honorable Dewey L. Hill

Page 2

September 29, 1998

this ranking are the comparatively low number of visitors, the ability of current facilities to meet some minimal needs, and the presence of critical health or safety problems in many of the higher ranked projects. The development of a camping area, maintenance area, and picnic area at Lake Waccamaw State Park are all projects with a higher priority than the trail system.

~~However,~~ ^{PART}
There is some good news. The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund has provided \$500,000 this year to address small trail projects (those with an estimated cost of less than \$100,000). South District Superintendent Scott Daughtry has ranked the first portion of the Lake Waccamaw trail as his highest district priority. This first section will lead visitors from the visitor center along a boardwalk to an observation deck at the edge of the lake. This section of the trail is estimated to cost \$90,000, and construction should begin around the first of the year. In the meantime, Jack Bradley, the new Lake Waccamaw park superintendent, will be exploring ways to reduce the cost of the remainder of this trail by using park volunteers and park staff to do some of the marking and rough clearing work.

These two efforts will at least mark the beginning of this project, but without a special appropriation allocated to this specific project and at current projected revenues from the trust fund, it may be many years before we can fully address this need. It is important to note that the current ranking in no way lessens the Division's commitment to the project nor the importance of this project. It is simply a tool for comparing a very large backlog of important needs. This project, along with the others, will continue to be re-evaluated as circumstances and funding change. ^{reevaluated}

Again, I would like to personally thank you for your continued support of North Carolina State Parks and especially for your interest in and assistance to Lake Waccamaw State Park. Without this type of leadership and commitment to state parks, we would still be trying to find a way to address project need number one.

Sincerely,

Phil McKnelly *Philip K. McKnelly*

PKM
PM/SD/gf

cc: Richard Rogers, Director
Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Affairs

Division of Parks and Recreation ROUTING FORM

To: _____
 _____ Jordan _____
 _____ McKnelly _____
 _____ Skinner _____
 _____ Thompson _____
 _____ Tingley _____
 _____ Warren _____
 ✓ _____ Wells _____

From:

Please:

Draft Response for:

_____ Governor
 _____ Secretary
 _____ Assistant Secretary
 ✓ _____ Director

_____ Reply, noting letter
 was referred to you

_____ For your information

_____ Take appropriate action

_____ Recommend appropriate action

_____ Review and comment

_____ Approve/sign

And:

✓ _____ Return attached material

_____ File or discard

DATE: 9/21

DUE BY: 10/2

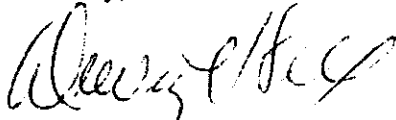
COMMENTS:

RECEIVED

SEP 22 1998

NODI

Sincerely,



Dewey L. Hill

DLH:vm

rlg

COMMITTEES:

ENVIRONMENT - CO-CHAIRMAN
 NANCE - RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
 SUBCOMMITTEE ON LOCAL, REGIONAL, & STATE
 REVENUES - CHAIRMAN
 AGRICULTURE - RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
 COMMERCE
 SUBCOMMITTEE ON BUSINESS & LABOR
 CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING - RMM
 JLES
 STATE GOVERNMENT
 SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS, FACILITIES, & PROPERTY
 ELFARE REFORM
 ADVISORY BUDGET COMMISSION

the Lake Waccamaw
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proposal to fruition.





North Carolina General Assembly
House of Representatives
State Legislative Building
Raleigh 27601-1096

REPRESENTATIVE DEWEY L. HILL
14TH DISTRICT

OFFICE ADDRESS: ROOM 1309
RALEIGH, N.C. 27601-1096
TELEPHONE: (919) 733-5830
(919) 733-2599 FAX

HOME ADDRESS: LAKE COVE ROAD
LAKE WACCAMAW, N.C. 28450

BUS. ADDRESS: P. O. Box 723
WHITEVILLE, N.C. 28472

September 15, 1998

COMMITTEES:

ENVIRONMENT - CO-CHAIRMAN
FINANCE - RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LOCAL, REGIONAL, & STATE
REVENUES - CHAIRMAN
AGRICULTURE - RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON BUSINESS & LABOR
CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING - RMM
RULES
STATE GOVERNMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS, FACILITIES, & PROPERTY
WELFARE REFORM
ADVISORY BUDGET COMMISSION

Dr. Phillip McKnelly, Director
Parks and Recreation
Department of Environment &
Natural Resources
Archdale Building
Raleigh, NC 27604-1148

Dear Dr. McKnelly:

Please accept this letter as my strong support for a trail system for the Lake Waccamaw State Park. As the representative of the area and a resident of Lake Waccamaw, I am most anxious to see this proposal become a reality.

As you know, there is wide interest in the healthy activity of walking - I am a walking enthusiast myself - and such a trail for the park will be a boost to the tourist industry in my area. Two or three crossovers would be needed for people wanting to cover shorter distances. Such a trail system would be the natural interpretive extension of the beautiful new showcase Visitor Center.

Please let me know if there is anything further I can do to see this proposal to fruition.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Dewey L. Hill

DLH:vm



June 2, 1999

~~Mr. and Mrs. Ron~~
~~Ron and Mary Bynum~~
3817 W. San Pedro Street
Tampa, Florida 33629

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Bynum:

I have received a copy of your May 1 letter and, of course, regret your unpleasant experience at Jordan Lake State Recreation Area. It has always been the practice and policy of the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation to secure our parks at posted closing hours. These hours vary according to season, but coincide approximately with sundown. It has likewise been our experience that those who use our park for the purpose of camping, especially senior citizens, appreciate this level of security. The vast majority of our campers also like the fact that they are not disturbed after dark by late arrivals.

Jordan Lake State Recreation Area is located within a rapidly growing metropolitan area, and unfortunately the incidents of crime have risen along with the size of the surrounding cities. Leaving an isolated camping area like Jordan Lake unsecured at night would most assuredly result in disturbance to campers, vandalism of the park, and other more serious undesirable activities.

The limited park staffing situation makes it impossible to provide a ranger on duty for ^{24-hour} twenty-four hour security. Therefore, our rangers are required to live in the park and be present after the completion of their work day to respond to any emergency. Our rangers are equipped with radio communications and are very familiar with local emergency resources. In addition, they are state law enforcement officers with emergency medical response training. Given these circumstances, our rangers are well prepared to provide or summon assistance for campers who may be unfamiliar with the area. ^{emergency}

Under most circumstances, we request campers to arrive and register before park closing hours. Of course, campers who request to leave the park after closing are assisted in doing so.

Thank you for your interest and concern for our park system. Please let me know if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Philip K. McKnelly

PM/SD/gf

November 1, 1999

Room 639 The Honorable Edd Nye
N.C. House of Representatives
(639) Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-1096

Dear Representative Nye:

After receiving your October 7 letter, the Division of Parks and Recreation staff searched our permit records but were unable to locate a pier permit for Mr. Riley Evans. Our records did show a White Lake mooring buoy in Mr. Evans' name. District Superintendent Scott Daughtry then contacted Mr. Evans to obtain the details of his concerns and to clarify his request. Mr. Evans reported to us that he had been using one of the boat stalls on White Lake pier #178. This pier is owned by the Shady Shores homeowners group, and Ms. Mary Ann Hobbs is the agent of record for the pier permit. The pier was constructed in 1968. In 1971, thirteen boat stalls were added to the pier without a permit and in noncompliance with the rules in place at that time. Soon afterwards, a moratorium was placed on state lake permitting until new regulations could be developed. In 1974, the new regulations became effective and in 1975, the pier owners applied for and received a nonconforming permit. In other words, this pier already exists on the lake as an exception to the regulations and with components and dimensions not available to most other lake front property owners.

This pier did not receive damage from the recent hurricane and is in a reasonably good state of repair. Mr. Evans' request to enlarge the boat stalls results from his purchase of a new boat that was larger than the boat stall that he was using on pier #178. If this pier was in compliance with state lake regulations, the boat stall enlargement would be easily allowed. Current regulations, and the ones that most pier owners on White Lake are abiding by, allow for only one boat stall per pier. But, compliant permit holders can enlarge or reduce the size of that boat stall as they wish as long as it is used to store only one boat.

The nonconforming permit prohibits any alterations, enlargements, or other structural modifications including boat stall enlargement until the pier is brought into compliance with current regulations. This rule was adopted to allow pier owners who had illegally constructed piers on White Lake prior to 1974 a way to get the benefit of their investment while giving them some incentive to eventually come into compliance. This rule is the only method the Division has for gaining regulatory compliance over piers constructed before 1974. The 1974 rules were instituted through the rule-making

(P)



**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION**



**JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR**

**WAYNE MCDEVITT
SECRETARY**

**DR. PHILIP K. MCKINLEY
DIRECTOR**

Representative

~~The Honorable Edd Nye~~

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November 1, 1999

process and included public meetings. At that time, many of the property owners and lake users felt that these rules were needed because some property owners were building very large piers with multiple boat stalls, impeding their neighbors' ability to build piers, restricting the view from shore, and adding significantly to the already over-crowded boating situation.

The new rules were developed to treat all pier owners fairly by allowing them equal access to the state lake while placing maximum limits on the number and size of boat stalls and piers. Those people who had built piers before 1974 that exceeded the new limits were permitted to keep their piers on the lake and to receive full benefit from their investment until it was destroyed or until they wished to make changes or improvements, such as those requested by Mr. Evans. If a nonconforming pier is destroyed, usually by a storm, the owner can only reconstruct it to the same maximums as all other piers. Using this regulation at some point in the future, all pier owners will have a fair and equal limit on the amount of State Lake that they can use for a pier. If this regulation is changed, it will allow some owners to continue to rebuild piers that are larger, longer and contain more boat stalls than everyone who must comply with the limits. Allowing the boat stalls on pier #178 to be enlarged would certainly be an injustice to all the nonconforming pier owners who have come into compliance in order to make improvements they wished to make.

We feel ^{that} these rules should not be changed or amended because the current rules that prevent Mr. Evans from enlarging his pier are intended to ^{ensure that} ~~assure~~ all property owners have fair and equal use of state property. I regret ^{that} this position will place a temporary hardship on Mr. Evans and hope that he will understand our intent to treat all citizens equally.

Thank you for your continued strong support of North Carolina State Parks, ~~and~~ ^{and} please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Philip K. McKnelly

PKM/MSD/gf