



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT



Employment First State for Individuals with Disabilities

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

KRISTIN WALKER
STATE BUDGET DIRECTOR

March 22, 2023

TO: Senator Phil Berger
President Pro Tempore

Representative Tim Moore
Speaker of the House

FROM: Casey Harris Pratt, Assistant State Budget Officer

Casey Harris-Pratt

SUBJECT: Emergency Project – WRC Necropsy Facility

Pursuant to G.S. §120-76.1(a), whenever an expenditure is required because of an emergency that poses an imminent threat to health or safety, the Governor may take action without consulting the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations but shall report to the Commission on any expenditures made. The Wildlife Resource Commission expanded their emergency declaration for Chronic Wasting Disease response in November 2022 and has requested an emergency project to construct a necropsy facility at the Wilkes Depot, with concern for the health and safety of staff currently testing and working with biological waste in the field.

Under G.S. §143-254.7, the Wildlife Resource Commission may request funds from the Contingency and Emergency Fund in addition to using federal grants to address a Chronic Wasting Disease emergency. The Contingency and Emergency Fund's recurring appropriation was eliminated in S.L. 2017-57 and the fund balance exhausted in FY 2020. The Commission will utilize funds appropriated in SL 2022-74 for Chronic Wasting Disease. The project will be budgeted with \$100,000 from this appropriation and \$300,000 from available grant funds from the Department of the Interior Wildlife Protection and Basic Hunter Education program for a total budget of \$400,000. The Commission will be reporting the grant for a capital project to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations pursuant to SL 2021-180, Sec. 4.2.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 984-236-0600 or email at casey.harris-pratt@osbm.nc.gov or Brian McRae, Deputy Director of Operations with the Wildlife Resource Commission at brian.mcrae@ncwildlife.org.

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