

#### HUBBARD PINKERTON

DU secured funding for the addition of the 6,310-acre Hubbard-Pinkerton tract to the NCWRC's North River Game Land in Camden County. The property has expansive forested wetlands and tidal marsh on the North River including rare Atlantic white cedar forests, pocosins, cypress forests, and a variety of pine and hardwood forests. Protection of this property secures wildlife habitat, especially for a variety of bird species including wintering waterfowl, as well as provides additional land for public access. The purchase used a combination of funds awarded from the Enviva Forest Conservation Fund, the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund, the USFWS Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant program, and the Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson) Fund.

### ALCOA LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT

The initial preservation phase of the Alcoa Land Acquisition Project has been completed, permanently protecting 2,300 acres and 45 miles of shoreline along the Yadkin and South Yadkin Rivers as an addition to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission's Alcoa Game Lands. This land purchase in North Carolina's Davie, Davidson, and Rowan counties preserves rolling and steep terrain dominated by hardwood forests and riparian habitats along the waterlines. Safeguarding this wildlife habitat will help maintain and improve the river's water quality as well as provide public recreational opportunities. Part of the Relicensing Settlement Agreement signed by Alcoa in 2007, 4,700 acres and 76 miles of shoreline along the Yadkin-Pee Dee River were made available for purchase and protection. Ducks Unlimited, in collaboration with Wrangler<sup>®</sup> and a diverse group of partners, supported the purchase of the initial phase and are now working to acquire the remaining 2,400 acres and 31 miles of frontage along the eastern shore of the Tuckertown Reservoir for NCWRC and the public.

GOOSE CREEK GAME LAND: HOBUCKEN UNIT WETLAND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT:COMPLETE

DU recently completed the enhancement of 25 acres of managed wetlands on the Hobucken Unit of Goose Creek Game Land in eastern in Pamlico County in partnership with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. This project, located within one of the primary waterfowl complexes on the game land included the installation of a pump station, water control structure, and embankment enhancement. These improvements will allow North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission staff enhanced habitat management capabilities to provide beneficial vegetation for waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds, and other wetland dependent species on this publicly accessible property. Thanks to the continued generosity of Axalta Coating Systems on public lands projects in North Carolina, DU was able to leverage their gift and funds from the Southeast Wetlands Initiative 3:1 with Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act funding allocated to the state to deliver the work.

> Ducks Unlimited PROJECTS

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## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Volunteer fundraisers are the heartbeat of Ducks Unlimited, and North Carolina has some of the best. North Carolina boasts more than 32,000 members, including more than 2,700 volunteers who hosted 189 events and raised more than \$2.6 million to support DU's conservation mission in 2019.



# A DUCKS UNLIMITED DECATHLETE



In the world of competitive track and field, most athletes boast a specific discipline as a strength. Some are sprinters while others run long distance and some focus on field sports such as the discus and javelin. To an extent, Ducks Unlimited supporters can be classified similarly. Some DU patrons volunteer a significant amount of time in prepping for an event. Some serve on leadership councils like our State Committee and some are capable of making significant financial contributions. It is a rare occurrence however to meet the DU member that does a little bit of everything, but at a high level. Enter Paul Warren, the Ducks Unlimited Decathlete.

Since coming on to the scene in Raleigh in 2012, Paul has steadily become a prominent figure within North Carolina Ducks Unlimited. Having served his

local committee as Treasurer and Area Chairman shortly thereafter, Paul was soon asked to fill a leadership role at the state level by becoming North Carolina's Campaign Chairman. In his first year, Paul helped guide his committee and program to an 8th place national ranking and a modern-day record of 66 major gift commitments secured. Two of those commitments came from he and his lovely wife Kathleen as they became Ducks Unlimited Sponsors in Perpetuity and Feather Society members.

Clearly, DU isn't known for performance medals beings awarded. Be that as it may, we take great pride and pleasure in recognizing our most ardent supporters in a variety of ways. While Paul isn't a hurdles specialist and he's not a pole vaulter extraordinaire, he is one of the finest Ducks Unlimited Decathletes around, and the organization appreciates everything that he does to embody that title.

## NORTH CAROLINA BY THE NUMBERS

#### 2019

- \$2.6 million raised
- 189 events
- 10,230 acres conserved
- CUMULATIVE
- 140,622 acres conserved
- \$31,974,368 invested

NCWRC's cumulative contributions to DU for habitat conservation in Canada: **\$1,071,478** 

Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.



SOUTHERN REGION

Visit us online at www.ducks.org/conservation/sr

<sup>(</sup>Information through 1/1/20)