



SENATE BILL 244: Coastal Crescent Trail/State Parks System.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:		Date:	September 11, 2017
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Jennifer McGinnis Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	S.L. 2017-66		

OVERVIEW: *S.L. 2017-66 requires the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to add the Coastal Crescent Trail to the Mountains-to-Sea State Park Trail unit of the State Parks System.*

This act became effective June 28, 2017.

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 143B-135.54(b) provides that the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (Department) may add a State park, State natural area, State recreation area, State trail, State river, or State lake to the State Parks System upon authorization by an act of the General Assembly.

BACKGROUND: The CCT runs through Johnston, Sampson, Cumberland, Bladen, Pender, and Onslow counties, and was originally established as a temporary detour around portions of the MST that have not yet been constructed.

Adding the CCT to the State Parks System makes it eligible for the State share of funds from the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund and for the State Trail portion of the Connect NC Bond funds, and makes the Department's Division of Parks and Recreation responsible for overall planning and coordination for the trail. However, the Division will not be responsible for constructing and operating the entire trail.

More information on the CCT and State Trails generally, prepared by the Division of Parks and Recreation, is attached to this summary.

BILL ANALYSIS: This act directs the Department to add the Coastal Crescent Trail (CCT) to the Mountains-to-Sea State Park Trail (MST) unit of the State Parks System. The Department is directed to amend the State Parks System Plan accordingly, no later than October 1, 2017. The act also provides that the Coastal Crescent route of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail may include public and private lands, and requires that the Secretary and staff of the Department work cooperatively with the staff and volunteers of Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail to plan and develop the Coastal Crescent route.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act became effective June 28, 2017.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
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