

North Carolina Natural Heritage Program Managed Areas

The North Carolina Natural Heritage Program's Managed Areas (marea) shapefile is primarily a collection of fee simple properties and easements where natural resource conservation is one of the primary management goals. It does include a number of properties and easements that are not primarily managed for conservation, but that are of conservation interest. This conservation interest ranges from properties and easements which support rare species and intact, high-quality natural communities to those that are open spaces in places where open space is scarce. The property and easement boundaries in this shapefile were acquired from a wide variety of sources, and in some cases their boundaries are approximate. Because of these inaccuracies, this shapefile is intended to be used as an aid to conservation planning only and not as a substitute for land survey data. Inclusion of an area in this shapefile in no way implies that the area is open to the public.

Since boundaries are approximate in many cases, there can be some limited overlap with adjacent boundaries. Furthermore, properties where fee simple ownership is depicted could also have partial or fully overlapping easement or other non-fee based property interest represented. Careful review of the Owner Type, Category, and other attributes described on the next page is required where stacked polygons are found.

Because these data can quickly become outdated, the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NC NHP) should be contacted before use of the data set to ensure data currency. Please use the following format when acknowledging products derived from this data set:

- a. If data are accessed via the Data Explorer website, the citation shall be:
North Carolina Natural Heritage Program. <year>. Natural Heritage Data Explorer [web application]. NCDNCR, Raleigh, NC. Available at www.ncnhp.org. (Accessed: <date>).
- b. If GIS data are cited, the citation shall be:
North Carolina Natural Heritage Program. <data year>. Geographic Information System (GIS) data. NCDNCR, Raleigh, NC. Available at www.ncnhp.org. (Accessed: <data_date>).

While efforts have been made to ensure that these data are accurate and reliable, the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program cannot assume liability for any damages or misrepresentation caused by any inaccuracies in the data.

For questions or comments, contact North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, 1651 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1651, or visit www.ncnhp.org

Projection: NC State Plane, **datum:** NAD83, **units:** meters

Attributes

The **Managed Area ID (MA_ID)** is a number that uniquely identifies the managed area record in the N.C. Natural Heritage Program database.

The **Acreage (ACRES)** of the managed area polygon. If the polygon is a multipart, this is the total acreage of the entire feature.

The **Managed Area Name (MA_NAME)** is the name of the managed area.

The **Owner (OWNER)** of the property, or, if the managed area is an easement, agreement, or other designation it is the administrator or holder of the easement, agreement, lease, etc.

The **Owner Type (OWNER_TYPE)** typifies the owner of the property or the administrator or holder of the easement, agreement, lease, etc.:

Federal	The Government of the United States of America is the Owner Type based on the Owner attribute.
Local Government	A local government entity, e.g., county or city, is the Owner Type based on the Owner attribute.
Private	A private individual or organization is the Owner Type based on the Owner attribute.
State	The State of North Carolina is the Owner Type based on the Owner attribute.

The **Category (CATEGORY)** is the type of ownership or other land management designation associated with the managed area:

Fee	Fee simple ownership, i.e., absolute title to the land, free of any other claims against the title.
Easement	A legally enforceable land preservation agreement between a landowner and government agency or qualified land protection organization (i.e. land trust).
Other	Includes mixed protection, leases, or agreements.

The **GIS Source (GIS_SRC)** is the source of data from which the record was drawn.

The **GIS Source Date (SRC_DATE)** is the date the of the data from which the record was drawn. If year, month, or day are unknown, they are left blank. The date format is: yyyy-mm-dd.

The **GAP Status (GAP_STATUS)** is a measure of the intent of the owner of the managed area to conserve biodiversity:

1 - managed for biodiversity - disturbance events proceed or are mimicked	An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a natural state within which disturbance events (of natural type, frequency, intensity, and legacy) are allowed to proceed without interference or are mimicked through management.
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2 - managed for biodiversity - disturbance events suppressed	An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a primarily natural state, but which may receive uses or management practices that degrade the quality of existing natural communities, including suppression of natural disturbance.
3 - managed for multiple uses - subject to extractive (e.g. mining or logging) or OHV use	An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover for the majority of the area, but subject to extractive uses of either a broad, low-intensity type (e.g., logging, OHV recreation) or localized intense type (e.g., mining). It also confers protection to federally listed endangered and threatened species throughout the area.
4 - no known mandate for protection	There are no known public or private institutional mandates or legally recognized easements or deed restrictions held by the managing entity to prevent conversion of natural habitat types to anthropogenic habitat types. The area generally allows conversion to unnatural land cover throughout or management intent is unknown.
(Blank)	No assigned status.

The **Symbology (SYMBOLGY)** allows the managed area to be symbolized based on types of fee-simple ownership (i.e., federal, state, local government, or private) and other type of protection (i.e., easement, dedication, registry, and other).

The **Label (LABEL)** is a shortened version of the managed area name. This field can be used in place of the longer Managed Area Name when there is little space for map labels.

The **Data Date (DATA_DATE)** is the date that the record was exported from the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program's database. Format of the date is: yyyy-mm-dd.