

DNCR Quarterly Report on S.L. 2023-134 Directed Grants - June 2025

Fiscal Year	Budget Item #	Grantee	NR Grant Amount	Date of the initial contact	Date all documentation received from grantee	Date the contract was sent to the entity receiving the funds	Date the administering agency received the fully executed contract back from the entity	Contract execution date (signed by both parties)	Payment date	Notes
2023-24	238	Saluda Grade Trails Conservancy	7,000,000	12/1/2023	6/20/2024	3/15/2025	3/20/2025	3/31/2025	6/18/2025	<p>3/25/2024: Worked on Memorandum of Agreement and Contract specifications</p> <p>05/15/24: Funding Accounts were requested from Division Financial so that due diligence funding can be sent after MOU is executed.</p> <p>6/17/24: MOU sent to Saluda Grade Conservancy (through Conserving Carolina) for review.</p> <p>6/20/24: Department Legal reviewed requested changes. The MOU was sent to the Saluda Grade Conservancy (through Conserving Carolina) for signature the week of the 24th. The Division continued meeting with Conserving Carolina (CC) bi-weekly to work through items for this project and has provided CC with all requirements for their survey of the corridor along with all requirements for their due diligence needed for the purchase of the corridor.</p> <p>08/14/24 – MOU outlining responsibilities was signed by Saluda Grade Trail Conservancy however, the MOU and Grant Contract are linked to each other. The Grant Contract is currently under review by the recipient and DNCR. Once finalized, the MOU will be signed by DNCR.</p> <p>09/15/24 – Working with Saluda Grade Trail Conservancy, Division Financial, and Legal for CC to be the direct recipient of funds for the purchase of the rail corridor.</p> <p>09/25/24 – Working with Legal to finalize the Grant Contract with CC as the recipient. Expect to have both MOU and Grant Contract executed by end of October.</p> <p>11/15/24 - Conserving Carolina needed to amend contract with resolution to allow funding to flow directly to Conserving Carolina instead of Saluda Grade Conservancy</p> <p>11/20/24 - Working with Saluda Grade Conservancy to update MOU noting that all modifications to the rail components (rail, ballast, ties) in the corridor needs to have Department approval.</p> <p>12/15/24 - Have revised MOU for distribution to Saluda Grade Conservancy and Conserving Carolina. 12/15/2024-3/19/2025: During this time period, Conserving Carolina and Saluda Grade Conservancy worked on finalizing appropriate documentation to ensure Conserving Carolina could receive the grant funds on behalf of the Saluda Grade Conservancy.</p> <p>03/19/25 - MOU is out for signature all parties, we have received the affidavit from Saluda Grade Conservancy allowing Conserving Carolina to receive funding. Conserving Carolina is wrapping up their due diligence on the rail corridor and expects to close this summer. 3/31/25 - MOU executed by both parties. 3/31/25 to 6/13/25 - Closing documents needed to be collected and approved by SPO. Time delays related to SPO reviewing deeds, completing surveys and appraisals prior to their signoff. 6/13/25 - MOU complete - Funds transferred to Saluda Grade Conservancy's Financial Manager. Property purchased and sale closing occurred 6/18/25. All funds were spent and project closed.</p>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>7,000,000</b>							