



## The Umstead Coalition

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<http://umsteadcoalition.org>

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*B.W. Wells Association  
Capital Group Sierra Club  
Eno River Association  
Friends of State Parks  
Headwaters Group Sierra Club*

*New Hope Audubon Society  
Neuse Riverkeeper Foundation  
NC Herpetological Society  
NC League Conservation Voters Foundation  
NC Wildlife Federation*

*NC Native Plant Society  
Orange-Chatham Group Sierra Club  
Raleigh Ski and Outing Club, Inc.  
Rockingham Naturalist's Club  
Friends of Jockey's Ridge  
Wake Audubon Society*

January 15, 2020

### MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Kevin Cherry, State Historic Preservation Officer and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Cultural Resources for the Office of Archives and History, NC State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

Ramona Bartos, Administrator and Deputy Historic Preservation Officer, NC State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

CC:

Susi H Hamilton, Secretary, NC Department Natural and Cultural Resources (NC NCR)  
Mike Regan, Secretary, NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ)  
Reid Wilson, Deputy Secretary, NC Department Natural and Cultural Resources (NC NCR)  
Dwayne Patterson, Director, NC Division of Parks and Recreation, NC NCR  
Carol Tingley, Deputy Director, NC Division of Parks and Recreation, NC NCR  
Scott Letchworth, Park Superintendent, William B. Umstead State Park  
Mike Landguth, President/CEO, RDU Airport Authority  
RDAAA Board Members  
Greg Ford, Chair, Wake County Commissioners and Wake County Commissioners  
Wendy Jacobs, Chair, Durham County Commissioners and Durham County Commissioners  
Mary-Ann Baldwin, Mayor, City of Raleigh and Raleigh City Council Members  
Steve Schewel, Mayor, City of Durham and Durham City Council Members  
Harold Weinbrecht, Mayor, Town of Cary and Cary Town Council Members  
TJ Cawley, Mayor, Town of Morrisville, and Town of Morrisville Council Members  
Kym Hunter, Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC)  
Cassie Gavin, Attorney, N.C. Sierra Club  
Dustin Chicurel-Bayard, Interim Director, N.C. Sierra Club  
Roy Cooper, Governor, North Carolina  
NC Legislative - Wake County Legislative Delegation

From: Dr. Jean Spooner, Chair, The Umstead Coalition, 919-602-0049, [info@umsteadcoalition.org](mailto:info@umsteadcoalition.org)

Re: Request to PROTECT William B. Umstead State Park from proposed fence and logging detrimental to a protected property listed under the National Register of Historic Places and an effective "taking" of Park lands.

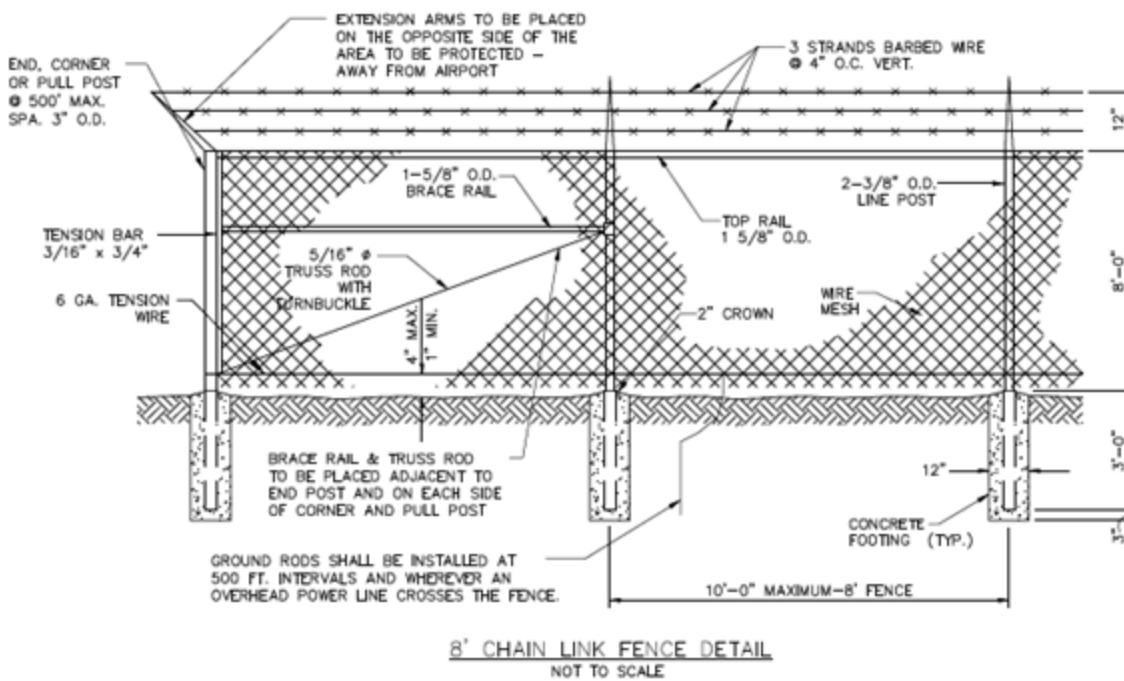
♥ The Umstead Coalition ♥

Dedicated to preserving the natural integrity of W.B. Umstead State Park and the Richland Creek Corridor

William B. Umstead State Park, including its forests, is listed under the National Register of Historic Places. The Site ID is: WA0721. Year of Registration: 1995. Listed under: ‘Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area” and “Umstead State Park, Raleigh, NC.” William B. Umstead State Park was established in 1934, well before the current RDU Airport.

Under a RDUAA’s proposal, visitors to the park will be greeted with 8' tall chain link fence topped by 3-rows of barbed wire on both sides of the East Coast Greenway as they approach William B. Umstead State Park from Lake Crabtree County Park. We believe this is NOT an appropriate entrance feel to a listed and protected property. And if the fence alone wasn't bad enough, RDU plans to clear cut a 30' wide path through the forest (15' to either side of the fence) for 8.3 miles, much of this along the border of William B. Umstead State Park (See attached Google Earth Graphic showing the proposed locations of this unnecessary boundary fence. Note, the extensive length of the proposed fence that would border within 10 feet of William B. Umstead State Park.)

Please find attached our letter of concern to NC State Parks. The proposed fence project (RDU Project No. 211140) has profound detrimental impacts on one of our most visited Parks in NC. To border our NC State Park with a security fence spec'ed for power stations or prisons is an insult to our Park visitors and certainly not in character with our Historic public property. Below is a graphic of the fence spec including the RFP for the fence.



Would any of the owners of the RDU Airport (Cities of Raleigh and Durham, Counties of Wake and Durham) plow through such a massive, controversial project in such a short time with essentially NO effective two-way collaboration and input from its neighbors and community and no SHPO review? We think not! RDU Airport is owned by the same local governments. Good public policy should be followed.

Viable alternatives exist and should be requested and evaluated. Extensive input and alternative suggestions from local government owners, State agencies, private residences and the public should be requested and evaluated prior to any SHPO approval.