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Title of Proposal: Every Tree Tells A Story

Abstract: The Underwater Branch of the NC Office of State Archaeology has launched a “log boat initiative” to inventory, identify, recover, preserve, and exhibit American Indian Log Boats. Staff with the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology (NC OSA) with the assistance of the Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe, Lake Waccamaw State Park, and the Lake Waccamaw Police Department recently located and safely removed an American Indian log boat from Lake Waccamaw State Park. In addition, THE NC OSA collaborated with the Coharie Indian Tribe to recover a log boat from South River. Conservation was completed and the boat is now on exhibit at the Coharie Tribal Center. This presentation will detail how the OSA is partnering with North Carolina American Indian Tribes to recover and preserve this important but threatened resource that demonstrates North Carolina’s Indian population as being “first on the land.”