

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Chip Hofler chip@ncsports.org

Wit Tuttell, Executive Director of Visit NC, Announces the 2023 Cycle North Carolina "Mountains to Coast" Route

RALEIGH, North Carolina, January 19, 2023 – Wit Tuttell, the Executive Director of Visit NC, announced the 2023 Cycle North Carolina "Mountains to Coast" Route with the help of town representatives in a pre-recorded video, which aired at Hi-Wire Brewing in Durham on Thursday evening.

To view the video of the "Mountains to Coast" Tour announcement, simply click the link below: <u>https://youtu.be/nZMkIYSDqGE</u>

The twenty-fourth annual ride is scheduled for a Banner Elk to Emerald Isle route, from September 30 -October 7, 2023. With beautiful tourist stops along scenic back roads, the "Mountains to Coast" trek is the highlight of the year for many cyclists from across the nation.

Cycle North Carolina will begin its full-service, cross-state ride on October 1st in Banner Elk (September 30th is a travel and check-in day), and will arrive at Emerald Isle on October 7th, with 900 bicyclists expected to participate. Over the course of the week, riders will bike an average of 60 miles per day. Additional overnight stays are planned for the towns of Wilkesboro, Winston-Salem, Mebane, Henderson, Tarboro and Kinston.

The Cycle North Carolina "Mountains to Coast" Tour is the state's only cross-state, fully-supported ride created in 1999 with the N.C. Division of Tourism (now Visit NC), Capitol Broadcasting Company, the N.C. Department of Transportation and North Carolina Amateur Sports as founding partners. Cycle North Carolina was developed to promote North Carolina's scenic beauty, heritage tourism, visitor attractions, historic sites, state parks, fitness, healthy lifestyles and the benefits of bicycling to individuals and our state. During the past 23 years, Cycle North Carolina has stopped overnight in more than 100 North Carolina towns and visited over 800 North Carolina communities.

Online registration is open at <u>www.ncsports.org</u> and interested riders are encouraged to register early, to avoid missing out on the highlight of the year for bicycling in North Carolina.

In addition to the "Mountains to Coast" Tour, Cycle North Carolina will host the Coastal Ride in Oriental, NC, April 28-30, 2023. Cycle North Carolina will also host its ninth annual Mountain Ride in Lake Lure, NC, August 4-6, 2023. Registration for both rides is open at <u>www.ncsports.org.</u>

Cycle North Carolina is presented by Retire NC. Partner organizations of Cycle North Carolina include: BODYARMOR, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, Truist, Capitol Broadcasting Company, Morningstar Law Group, the N.C. Department of Transportation and Motion Makers Bike Shop.

North Carolina Amateur Sports is a 501c(3) nonprofit charitable organization that annually organizes the BODYARMOR State Games and Cycle North Carolina. NCAS is dedicated to the promotion of the spirit of amateur sports, physical fitness and health to all ages and skill levels through the participation in organized events which enrich the state of North Carolina. For more information on NCAS and its events, please access www.ncsports.org.

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