

DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM REPORT to the House Select Committee on Disaster Relief




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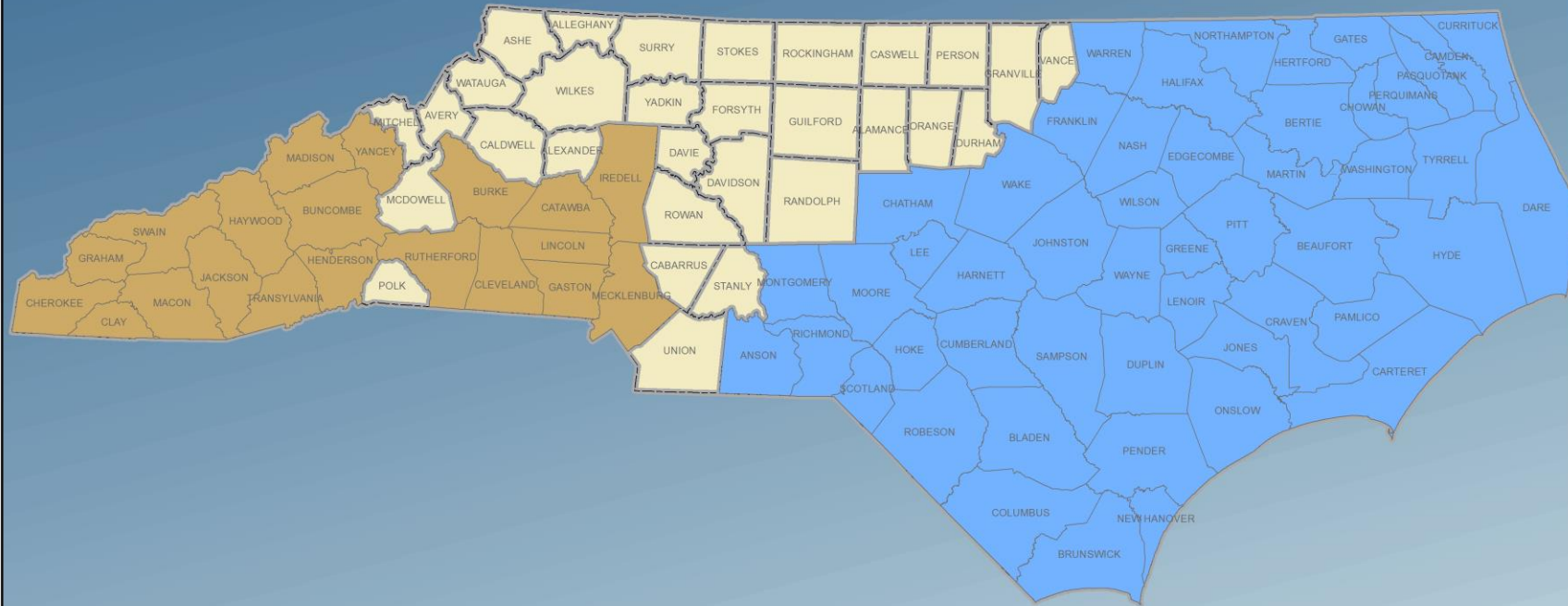


2016-17 FUNDING

Activity	2016 Allocation	2017 Allocation	Total
Stream Debris Removal	\$9,500,000	\$11,500,000	\$21,000,000
Agricultural Pond Repair (AgWRAP)	\$1,200,000	\$6,000,000	\$7,200,000
Non-Field Farm Road Repair	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Pasture Renovation		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Temporary Staff – TA	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
Total	\$12,200,000	\$20,000,000	\$32,200,000

Legend

-  Eligible for Pasture Renovation
-  Eligible for Stream Debris, Roads & Ponds
-  County Boundaries



Counties Eligible for 2016/2017 Disaster Recovery Funds

0 10 20 40 60 80 100 120 Miles



Coordination with Federal Funding (USDA, FEMA)

- Ensure funds expended in a manner that does not adversely affect any person or entity's eligibility for (available or anticipated) federal funds
- Avoid using State funds to cover costs that can be covered by federal funds
- Intent to fund gaps not covered by federal assistance
- USDA, Farm Service Agency – Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
- USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service – Emergency Watershed Program (EWP)
- FEMA, Stream Debris Removal

Stream Debris Removal

- Over \$36.8 M requested
- Division has allocated \$20.23M to 51 local project sponsors in 38 counties; \$1.1M in local match planned
- Approved \$1.9M in payments on 19 projects to date, affecting over 269 miles, removing 53 beaver dams

ELIGIBILITY & PRIORITIZATION

1. Stream debris removal (e.g. woody vegetation)
2. Stand alone instream sediment removal (explain)
3. Streambank stabilization (vegetative cover) with or without sediment removal
4. Other Stream Repair needs

Non Field Farm Roads

Commission approved the following practices

- Non-Field Farm Road – Repair must meet NRCS standard
- Emergency Access Restoration – Repairs must have been completed by June 9, 2017, cost share capped at 40%.

Commission has allocated \$1.5 M to 22 districts

- To date:
 - 200 applications received
 - 120 cost share contracts for \$444,362.
 - \$187,868 paid out to 55 contracts.

AgWRAP Supplement for Damaged Ponds & Dams

Commission approved the following practices

- Pond Repair – 75% cost share for repair meeting Pond Repair Retrofit requirements.
- Emergency Agricultural Pond Repair/Retrofit addresses agricultural ponds that were repaired prior to June 2017 due to the necessity to restore water supply immediately, cost share capped at 40%.
- Emergency Auxilliary Spillway Repair/Retrofit - repair auxiliary spillways on existing low-hazard agricultural pond systems that were damaged during the disaster events of 2016.

90 applications received

Resource Institute contracted to do engineering assessments for ponds

- 46 engineering assessments completed
- Draft designs received for 4 repairs, and design development is underway for 6 others

Repairs and payments complete for 2 ponds

Coordination with USDA- ECP for Pond Repairs

- FSA County Committees determine:
 - whether to participate in ECP
 - applicant eligibility
 - amount of funding to commit to each applicant, based on engineering assessment
- Contracted with Resource Institute, Inc. to conduct engineering needs assessments, designs, construction oversight
 - 46 engineering assessments completed to date
 - Average est. repair cost \$217,000 + \$21,500 engineering
 - Range: \$22,000 - \$659,000
- FSA County Committees have approved \$2.1M for 18 pond projects so far
- ECP awards:
 - > \$50K require State Committee approval
 - \$100K - \$200K require approval in Washington
- State funding available to cover 18% of the landowner's match for ECP, so farmer's share may be as little as 7%.

Statutory Concern – Annual Payment Cap

- Pond repair funds appropriated as a Supplement to AgWRAP.
- Authorizing statute for AgWRAP limits payments to \$75,000 per year per applicant (G.S. 139-60(c)(1)(a)(2))
- Over 40% of disaster pond repairs will involve state cost share > \$75,000, so payments will have to be spread over multiple years.
- Suggest a special provision for disaster program funds to suspend the annual payment cap or raise to \$200,000.

Pasture Renovation

Commission approved the following practices

- Drought Pasture Renovation

20 western counties eligible

Commission has allocated \$1,000,000 to 18 districts

- To date:
 - 203 cost share contracts for 3,702 acres, totaling \$846,366.
 - Renovation is complete for 1,268 acres.

Swine Floodplain Buyout Program

- Budget directs leftover disaster funds from NCFS to be used to support voluntary swine buyout from the 100-year floodplain
- Received a \$2.49M grant from USDA-NRCS to support this activity
- Working on Cooperative Agreement with USDA
- Anticipate soliciting applications from eligible producers in late summer/fall
- Goal: remove 5-10 active swine operations from the 100-year floodplain.

Questions?