

**NORTH CAROLINA
 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
 January 5, 2014**

Grand Ballroom C
 Omni Grove Park Inn
 Asheville, NC

Commission Members	Others Present	
Vicky Porter	Pat Harris	Steve Bennett
Craig Frazier	David Williams	Kristina Fischer
Donald Heath	Natalie Woolard	Charles Mitchell
Tommy Houser	Julie Henshaw	Ricky May
Charles Hughes	Kelly Ibrahim	Charles Bass
John Langdon	Ralston James	Don Rawls
Bill Yarborough	Sandra Weitzel	Ben Knox
	Tom Hill	William Byrum
	Kim Livingston	Kirsten Frazier
Commission Counsel	Dick Fowler	Larry West
Jennie Hauser	Joseph Hudyncia	Leonard Killian
	Rob Baldwin	Jeff Joyner
Guest	Lisa Fine	Jonathan Wallin
Tim Beard	Marvin Cavanaugh	Donna Mills
Dr. Richard Reich	James D. Booth	April Hoyt
	Linda Hash	Bobby Stanley
	Janice Pack	Wayne Moser
	Charles Davenport	Pam Hawkins
	Mamie Caison	June Mabrey
	Janie Woodle	Nancy Carter
	Donna Rouse	Jeff Harris
	Jimmy Mason	

Chairwoman Vicky Porter called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and charged the Commission members to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest, that may exist for agenda items under consideration, as mandated by the State Ethics Act.

Chairwoman Porter asked each Commission member to introduce themselves.

1. Approval Of Agenda:

Chairwoman Porter reviewed the agenda. Commissioner Frazier moved to remove the supervisor appointment for Boyce Deitz in Jackson SWCD from the consent agenda and add to the agenda as item 10 and to approve the agenda as revised. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Houser. The motion carried.

2. Approval Of Minutes – November 20, 2013 Meeting: The minutes of the Commission meeting held on October 1, 2013 were presented. Commissioner Frazier noted that under the declaration of conflict of interest, Commissioner Langdon announced that he would recuse himself from discussion and the vote. He also noted that the header for item 6C should read Approval of Job Approval Authority, not Technical Specialist Designation. He also noted a minor grammatical change to the public comments section that was shared with staff earlier. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion. The motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Division Report: Ms. Pat Harris, director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, presented the division report. Her presentation included the following:

- Provided the dates for the 2014 School of Government training (February 11-12, 2014). Sixteen appointed supervisors are required to take the training. 36% of newly elected supervisors in the 2012 election participated in the training in 2013.
- Announced that Laura Parrish has accepted the position of Administrative Secretary and will begin work on January 21
- Announced that Allen Hayes, Jr. will be the new Soil Scientist in the Central Region effective January 21. Mr. Hayes previously worked in the division's soil survey program in the 1980s.
- Reported that approval of the recommended candidate for the Administrative Officer position is working its way through Human Resources.
- Informed the commission that the division has received instructions for preparing for the 2014-15 budget, including a proposed 2% reduction in the division's overall budget.
- Reminded the commission that their Statements of Economic Interest are due April 15th.
- Reported on the division's presentation to the Environmental Review Commission Stormwater Subcommittee on the role of agriculture and forested land in stormwater runoff on December 11, 2013. Division staff will be taking the subcommittee members to the John Langdon Farm on January 13 to look at issues faced by a farmer in a developing region.
- Recognized regional coordinator Ralston James for his 20-year anniversary of service to the division.
- The handout for the division report is included as Attachment 3.

Chairwoman Porter also congratulated Ralston James and thanked Commissioner Langdon for opening his farm to help educate our state elected officials.

4. Association Report: Commissioner Houser, NCASWCD President, presented a brief overview on the following:

- Market-Based Conservation Initiative
- Upcoming NACD meeting in Anaheim, CA on February 2-5, 2014
- Ad Hoc Committee on Area Alignment

The handout provided for item 4 is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

5. NRCS Report: Mr. Tim Beard, State Conservationist for the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), presented a report on expected changes for 2014 including the following:

- New Farm Bill and budget
 - Ramifications of the new federal budget for NC are not yet known
 - Most major programs remain authorized, but some are not
- Internal organizational structure at national and state level
 - New service delivery model. Some existing administrative personnel may be asked to support other states in addition to NC
 - Realigning responsibilities for soil scientists
 - State soil scientist no longer responsible for soil survey activities
 - Resource soil scientists report to state soil scientist
 - Taking advantage of technology should help to manage wetland determination backlog
- Improved processes for certifications
 - Update the Field Office Technical Guide
 - Supplement Job Approval Authority
 - Break Certified Conservation Planners down into categories to facilitate more employees to qualify for certification
 - Cropland
 - Pastureland
 - Forestland
 - Farmstead
 - Master (comprehensive)

The powerpoint presentation provided for item 5 is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

Chairwoman Porter thanked Mr. Beard. Chairwoman Porter also recognized Dr. Richard Reich, and thanked him for supporting the commission with his attendance.

6. Nutrient Sensitive Waters Annual Agricultural Reports

Ms. Julie Henshaw provided an overview of the agricultural rule requirements and procedures in place for accounting for the reductions for the three watersheds. She also reported that funding for staff to carry out the accounting is critical.

6A. Neuse River Basin

Ms. Henshaw reported that the Neuse Basin Oversight Committee (BOC) report demonstrates agriculture's ongoing collective compliance with the Neuse Agricultural Rule and estimates further producer progress in decreasing nutrients. In crop year 2012, agriculture collectively achieved an estimated 45% reduction in nitrogen loss from agricultural lands compared to the 1991-1995 baseline, continuing to exceed the rule-mandated 30% reduction. This percentage remains the same as the reduction reported for crop year 2011. Fifteen of the seventeen LACs achieved their BOC mandated nitrogen loss reduction goal. Lenoir County achieved a 16% reduction, and Pamlico County achieved a 26% reduction. The main reasons for the decrease in percent nitrogen reduction in these counties are cropping shifts to crops with higher nitrogen application rates.

6B. Falls Lake Watershed

Ms. Henshaw reported that the Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee (WOC) report demonstrates that agriculture has been successfully decreasing nutrient losses in the Falls Lake

watershed. In crop year 2012, agriculture collectively exceeded its 20% Stage I nitrogen reduction goal, with a 31% reduction compared to the 2006 baseline. This percentage remains the same as the reduction reported for crop year 2011. All six of the watershed's counties exceeded the mandated 20% reduction goal this year. Phosphorus qualitative indicators demonstrate that there is no increased risk of phosphorus loss, with an 8% and 14% decrease in animal waste phosphorus production and tobacco acreage, respectively, and an increase in cropland conversion to grass and trees since the 2006 baseline.

6C. Tar-Pamlico River Basin

Ms. Henshaw reported that the Tar-Pamlico Basin Oversight Committee (BOC) report demonstrates agriculture's ongoing collective compliance with the Tar-Pamlico Agricultural Rule and estimates further progress in decreasing nutrient losses. In crop year 2012, agriculture collectively achieved an estimated 46% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the 1991 baseline, continuing to exceed the rule-mandated 30% reduction. This represents a 3% increase in reduction compared to the 43% reduction reported for crop year 2011. Thirteen of the 14 LAC's exceeded the mandated 30% reduction goal.

The powerpoint presentation Ms. Henshaw presented and the reports on the three watersheds are attached and are an official part of the minutes.

Commissioner Heath commended Julie on the report and provided some historical perspective from a farmer. He recognized the efforts of NCDA&CS and Farm Bureau to legitimize to skeptical farmers the process of achieving and accounting for nutrient reductions on a regional basis.

Commissioner Yarborough also pointed out that the reports highlight the amount of farmland that has been lost to other land uses in these watersheds.

ACTION ITEMS

7. Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the modified consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Langdon, and it passed unanimously.

7A. Appointment of Supervisors

- Aaron Martin; Clay SWCD; filling the unexpired term of Clay Logan
- David Jared Gaaney; Richmond SWCD, filling the unexpired term of Myers Waddell

7B. Approval of Cost Share Supervisor Contracts

Contract No.	District	Supervisor Name	Practice(s)	Contract Amount
29-2014-001	Davidson	Ben Hege	Precision Nutrient Management	\$14,208
46-2014-004	Hertford	Samuel B. Howell (operator)	Grade Stabilization	\$4,003

			Structure	
70-2014-002	Pasquotank	Maurice Berry	Land Smoothing	\$10,500

7C. Approval of Job Approval Authority

Riparian Buffer

Mike Bennett, Northampton SWCD

Critical Area Planting

Mike Bennett, Northampton SWCD

7D. Technical Specialist Designation Recommendations

Waste Utilization Planning/Nutrient Management

Anthony Hester, Beaufort SWCD

Wettable Acres

John College, Division of Soil & Water Conservation

Joseph Hudynia, Division of Soil & Water Conservation

The handouts provided for items 7A-7D are attached and are an official part of the minutes.

8. Cost Share Committee recommendations

Ms. Julie Henshaw called attention to the handout for item 8, which is attached as an official part of the minutes. The committee has met on several occasions over the last few months.

8A. Policy for Approval of Cost Share Applications, Contracts, and Requests for Payment

The Cost Share Committee is recommending changes to this policy to clarify that signature authority cannot be delegated for approving applications and contracts, only for requests for payment. Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the committee's recommended changes. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

8B. Policy for Repairs

The committee is recommending changes to this policy to remove some specific references to forms and to make the policy reflective of all cost share programs. Commissioner Heath moved to approve the committee's recommended changes. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

8C. Cost Share Programs Spot Check Policy

The committee is recommending clarifying which contracts need to be spot checked adding language to the policy alerting districts to take note of biosecurity concerns for livestock operations when scheduling spot check visits and clarifying that the spot checks should include all practices and all fields on the subject contract. Commissioner Langdon moved to approve the committee's recommended changes. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

8D. Non-compliance policy

The committee is recommending a near complete rewrite of the policy to better combine the non-compliance policies of the various cost share programs into one overarching policy. Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the committee's recommended changes. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

9. District Issues

Ms. Ibrahim presented the following district issues, referring to the handout for items 9A-9B, which is attached as an official part of the minutes.

9A. Approval of a Agricultural Cost Share Program Contract on Government Property

Ms. Kelly Ibrahim referred to the handout for item 9A, which is included as part of the minutes. Mr. Marvin Cavanaugh and Mr. James Booth, supervisors from Stokes SWCD were present to answer any questions from the Commission. The contract involves land that is currently in the process of placement to a conservation easement to the Stokes district. The project is partially funded by a grant from the Division of Water Resources, and the district is preparing to request a second grant from DWR. NRCS EQIP funds are also expected to be part of the project, along with funds allocated by the commission for Impaired/Impacted Streams Initiative. Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the requested extension. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Houser. The motion carried.

9B. Exception for Program Eligibility

Ms. Ibrahim called attention to the letter included in the packet for item 9B, which is included as part of the minutes. Mr. Don Rawls, Supervisor from Pender SWCD, and Mr. Jason Turner, district technician, were present to answer any questions from the Commission. The contract involves repair for cropland conversion to grass. The applicant is the landowner who does not have any of the documentation to demonstrate eligibility. The district provided a copy of the conservation plan that is required for the Commission to approve the eligibility for contract. Commissioner Frazier noted that the information provided fulfills the requirements for eligibility and moved to approve the requested extension. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Heath. The motion carried.

10. Approval of Appointment of Supervisor

Chairwoman Porter called on Ms. Harris to explain the concerns with the nomination of Boyce Deitz to complete the unexpired term of Jeff McCall in Jackson SWCD. Ms. Harris said that the Jackson district noted in the minutes of its April 2013 meeting that Mr. McCall had moved out of Jackson County and was no longer qualified to serve as a supervisor. The district had tried to obtain a written resignation from Mr. McCall without success. Therefore, there is no official documentation that the seat is vacated. Ms. Harris has asked Regional Coordinator Davis Ferguson to secure a written resignation from Mr. McCall who currently resides in Haywood County. Mr. Ferguson felt confident he would be able to secure a signed resignation from Mr. McCall.

Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the appointment of Boyce Deitz effective today, conditional upon receipt of documentation that Jeff McCall has resigned or is no longer qualified to serve as a district supervisor for Jackson SWCD. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Chairwoman Porter recognized Donald Heath and thanked him for his service to the Commission. Mr. Heath added that it has been an honor to serve as president of the Association and on the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairwoman Porter asked if anyone had any public comments. With no public comments, she thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairwoman Porter declared the meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Patricia K. Harris 3/24/14
Patricia K. Harris, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.
(Sign & Date)

David B. Williams 3/24/14
David B. Williams, Recording Secretary
(Sign & Date)

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on March 19, 2014.

Patricia K. Harris 3/24/14
Patricia K. Harris, Director
(Sign & Date)

NORTH CAROLINA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA
AGENDA
DRAFT

WORK SESSION

Grove Park Inn
 Taft MN Room
 290 Macon Avenue
 Asheville, NC 28804
 January 5, 2014
9:30 a.m.

BUSINESS SESSION

Grove Park Inn
 Grand Ballroom C
 290 Macon Avenue
 Asheville, NC 28804
 January 5, 2014
3:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The State Government Ethics Act mandates that at the beginning of any meeting the Chair reminds all the members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and inquire as to whether any member knows of any conflict of interest or potential conflict with respect to matters to come before the Commission. If any member knows of a conflict of interest or potential conflict, please state so at this time.

II. PRELIMINARY – Business Meeting

January 5, 2014

Welcome

III. AGENDA / MINUTES

1. Approval of agenda

Chair Vicky Porter

2. Approval of the November 20, 2013 minutes

Chair Vicky Porter

IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Division report

Ms. Pat Harris

4. Association report

Mr. Tommy Houser

5. NRCS report

Mr. Tim Beard

6. Nutrient Sensitive Waters Strategy Annual Agriculture Reports

Ms. Julie Henshaw

A. Neuse River Basin

B. Falls Lake Watershed

C. Tar-Pamlico River Basin

V. ACTION ITEMS

- 7. Consent Agenda
 - A. Nomination of supervisors Ms. Kristina Fischer
 - B. Supervisor contracts Ms. Kelly Ibrahim
 - C. Job approval authority Ms. Natalie Woolard
 - D. Technical specialist designation Ms. Natalie Woolard

- 8. Cost Share Committee recommendations Ms. Julie Henshaw
 - Consideration of revisions to cost share programs policies:
 - a. Approval of cost share applications, contracts and requests for payment
 - b. Repairs
 - c. Spot checks
 - d. Non-compliance

- 9. District Issues Ms. Kelly Ibrahim
 - A. Request for approval for a governmental agency ACSP contract Stokes SWCD
 - B. Request for exception for program eligibility Pender SWCD

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**NORTH CAROLINA
 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
 November 20, 2013**

Ground Floor Hearing Room
 Archdale Building
 512 N. Salisbury St
 Raleigh, NC

Commission Members	Others Present	
Craig Frazier	Pat Harris	Steve Bennett
Donald Heath	David Williams	Kristina Fischer
Tommy Houser	Natalie Woolard	Joey Hester
John Langdon	Julie Henshaw	Tom Ellis
Bill Yarborough	Kelly Ibrahim	Jeff Harris
	Ralston James	Patrick Baker
	Ken Parks	Chester Lowder
	Tom Hill	Dewitt Hardee
	Kim Livingston	Sandra Weitzel
Commission Counsel	Helen Wiklund	Kirsten Frazier
Jennie Hauser	David Harrison	
	Joseph Hudyncia	
Guest	Rob Baldwin	
Jerry Raynor	Lisa Fine	

Vice-Chairman Craig Frazier called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. and charged the Commission members to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest, that may exist for agenda items under consideration, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. Commissioner Heath announced that he would be stepping down to represent the Craven District on item 8B. Commissioner Langdon declared a conflict for a supervisor contract under Item 6B and announced that he would recuse himself from the vote.

1. Approval Of Agenda:

Vice-Chairman Frazier reviewed the agenda. Contract 51-2014-005 is being removed from Item 6B of the consent agenda, and is being added to the end of the Action Items portion of the agenda as Item 9. Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the agenda as modified. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Heath. The motion carried.

2. Approval Of Minutes – October 1, 2013 Meeting: The minutes of the Commission meeting held on October 1, 2013 were presented. Commissioner Frazier noted a few minor grammatical changes that

were shared with staff earlier. Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Division Report: Ms. Pat Harris, director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, presented the division report. Her presentation included the following:

- Announcement that soil scientist Vincent “Pete” Lewis was retiring at the end of December and review of the status of other staff vacancies
- Recognition for division engineer Daphne Cartner for being appointed to the board of directors for the NC Irrigation Society
- Review of the status of the division’s reorganization, annual meeting preparation, and supervisor travel reimbursements
- Projected parking fees for annual meeting amount is \$6,840
- Review of progress on development of the new cost share contracting system (CS²)
- Update on the schedule and progress for the AgWRAP Program
- Scholarships for technical training and planned upcoming training
- Overview of the Agricultural Input Management Project (Director Harris called on David Williams to present this item)

The handout for the division report is included as Attachment 3.

Commissioner Yarborough commented on the significance and pioneering nature of the division’s participation in the Cooperative Soil Survey Program to accelerate the development of soil surveys in the state. He noted that Vincent Lewis was one of the original participants in the soil survey program. He urged the division to make sure this history is acknowledged.

4. Association Report: Commissioner Houser, NCASWCD President, presented a brief overview on the following:

- Market-Based Conservation Initiative
- Outstanding Conservation Farm Family celebration on October 8 at the Jane Iseley Farm in Alamance County, including Governor McCrory and Commissioner Troxler and over 300 guests
- Upcoming NACD meeting in Anaheim, CA on February 2-5, 2014
- NCASWCD Annual Meeting in Asheville on January 5-7, 2014.
- Ad Hoc Committee on Area Alignment

The handout provided for item 4 is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

5. NRCS Report: Mr. Jerry Raynor, Assistant State Conservationist for Operations for the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), referred to a handout and presented a brief overview of the following:

- Recap of successes of the past federal fiscal year
- Strikeforce counties have increased from 44 to 50
- Noted success of the ATAC agreement with the division
- Projections for 2014 are uncertain due to lack of budget or Farm Bill, but planning for funding similar to FY2013

- Looking at ways to use staff more efficiently to address needs for HEL determinations
- Congratulated the division for taking steps to build capacity of districts, noting that NRCS is understaffed relative to other states

The handout provided for item 5 is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

Commissioner Yarborough noted that additional NRCS support is needed to address the technical capabilities of district staff for planning and constructing farm ponds. Director Harris added that district staff have identified several obstacles to obtaining Job Approval Authority. She has a meeting with Mr. Beard on December 3 to discuss this concern.

Vice-Chairman Frazier thanked Mr. Raynor.

V. ACTION ITEMS

6. Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Heath, and it passed unanimously.

6A. Appointment of Supervisors

- Carl Neil McKenzie.; Hoke SWCD; filling the unexpired term of Andy Gibson
- Anthony M. Padgett; Onslow SWCD, filling the unexpired term of Donald Sweeting
- Pat Dial; Richmond SWCD; filling the unexpired term of Larry R. Chandler
- William L. Murray, Jr.; New Hanover SWCD, filling the unexpired term of Donna Moffitt

6B. Approval of Cost Share Supervisor Contracts

Contract No.	District	Supervisor Name	Practice(s)	Contract Amount
53-2014-001	Lee	John H. Gross	Grassed Waterway	\$730
53-2014-002	Lee	Tommy Dalrymple	Grassed Waterway, Diversion	\$3,460
53-2014-003	Lee	John H. Gross	Grassed Waterway	\$3,130
53-2014-004	Lee	John H. Gross	Grassed Waterway, Terrace, Land Smoothing	\$5,145
68-2014-009	Orange	Roger Tate	Grassed Waterway, Field Borders	\$3,708
68-2014-014	Orange	Ronald Parker	Grassed Waterway	\$1,910
94-2014-007	Washington	Guy Davenport	Water Control Structure	\$10,038
94-2014-009	Washington	Guy Davenport	Water Control Structure	\$9,257
98-2014-007	Wilson	Gary Scott	Grassed Waterway	\$2,768

6C. Technical Specialist DesignationCistern

Rodney Wright, Stokes SWCD

Critical Area Planting

Josh Pate, Wilson SWCD

The handouts provided for items 6A-6C are attached and are an official part of the minutes.

7. Conservation Easement Committee Recommendations

Ms. Natalie Woolard called attention to the handout for item 7, which is attached as an official part of the minutes. The Conservation Easement Committee met on November 5 and is recommending a very minor wording modification to the Policy for Noncompliance of Conservation Easement approved at the October 1, 2013 meeting. Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion to approve the division's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Langdon, and it was approved.

Commissioner Yarborough thanked the Committee for its work.

8. District Issues

Ms. Ibrahim presented the following district issues, referring to the handout for items 8A-8B, which is attached as an official part of the minutes.

8A. Exception for Program EligibilityContract 66-2014-401; Northampton SWCD

Mr. Eugene Brown, Supervisor from Northampton SWCD, and Mr. Mike Bennett, district technician, were present to answer any questions from the Commission. The contract involves cropland conversion to trees. The applicant is the landowner who does not have any of the documentation to demonstrate eligibility. The district provided a copy of the conservation plan that is required for the Commission to approve the eligibility for contract. Commissioner Langdon moved to approve the requested extension. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Houser. The motion carried.

Commissioner Yarborough suggested the district approach the landowner to consider participation in the Century Farm Program.

Mr. Brown thanked the Commission for appointing him to the board of supervisors, noting the importance of the work of districts.

8B. Post approval of a ACSP contract; Craven SWCD

Ms. Ibrahim explained that the Craven district is requesting Commission post approval of a 2014 contract to replace expired contract 25-2010-003. Commissioner Heath stepped down from the Commission and recused himself from the vote to represent the Craven district for this item. The crop advisor failed to submit the last year of paperwork documenting application of nutrients according to the plan. The producer understood that all required paperwork was submitted. Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the post approval. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Langdon, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Yarborough asked the district to make sure that the consultant is aware of the impact of his inaction, requiring the district to use a portion of its 2014 allocation to pay for this work that should have been completed using the 2010 allocation. This affects all farmers of the district.

Mr. Heath rejoined the Commission.

9. Approval of Cost Share Contract for a Commission Member

Ms. Ibrahim stated that Commissioner Langdon has requested cost share assistance for a grade stabilization structure, contract number 51-2014-005. Commissioner Heath moved to approve the contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yarborough, and the motion carried. Commissioner Langdon recused himself from the discussion and vote.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Vice-Chairman Frazier thanked everyone to the meeting, and he asked all of the Commission members and attendees to introduce themselves and provide any public comments they may have. He reminded everyone to sign the registration sheet.

Director Harris reminded everyone to update their ethics information.

Commissioner Yarborough recognized Keith Larick's new role with the department.

Commissioner Langdon welcomed Jerry Raynor back to North Carolina and recognized his contributions to the Johnston SWCD.

Vice-Chairman Frazier welcomed Assistant Commissioner Richard Reich who noted the important contributions of the commission and the districts.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Vice-Chairman Frazier declared the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Patricia K. Harris, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.
(Sign & Date)

David B. Williams, Recording Secretary
(Sign & Date)

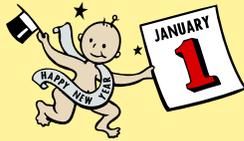
These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on January 5, 2014.

Patricia K. Harris, Director
(Sign & Date)

North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission

DIVISION REPORT

JANUARY 5, 2014



2014 SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

- Basic Training for Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- February 11-12, 2014
- Programming provided as contract deliverable between Association and Division
- 16 appointed supervisors required to take training
- 36% of elected supervisors attended 2013 SOG

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

- Administrative Officer II – selection made; awaiting OSBM approval
- Administrative Secretary II – Laura Parrish; effective Jan. 21
- Central Region Soil Scientist – Allen Hayes, Jr.; effective Jan. 21
- Budget process – 2% reduction target

NC ETHICS RULES

- Commission is subject to NC Ethics Rules
- Statements of Economic Interest are due April 15th (online; short form option)
- Ethics education and lobbying presentation within 6 months of appointment; refresher every 2 years thereafter (online option)
- <http://www.ethicscommission.nc.gov/sei/>

**Environmental Review Commission's
Stormwater Subcommittee**

- Co-chaired by Rep. Ruth Samuelson & Sen. Brent Jackson
- Dec. 11 – DSWC presentation
 - Overview of conservation districts
 - Environmental benefits of agricultural and forested land
 - CCAP
- Jan. 13 – Langdon Farms tour
- Jan. 14 – committee debriefing

20 YEARS STATE SERVICE

**MAX RALSTON
JAMES**

ASSOCIATION REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

January 5, 2014

Market Based Conservation Initiative –Work continues with the 18 soil and water conservation districts relative to the implementation of the Market Based Conservation Initiative Pilot program. The following is an update by phase:

Phase I counties (Harnett, Johnston, Sampson, Duplin and Lenoir) have completed landowner workshops for their second bid round and landowners will be submitting bids during January. Phase II counties (Jones, Onslow, Carteret, Pamlico and Craven) will schedule their second round of landowner workshops and second bid round in early 2014. Phase III counties (Wake, Franklin, Nash, Halifax, Edgecombe, Martin, Bertie) have completed their first landowner workshops with their first bid round to be completed by the end of December.

NACD – The 2014 national meeting will be held in Anaheim, California, February 2-5. North Carolina will be recognized for being in the top 10 state in quota support and will be recognized for their district supervisor training program. The Southeast meeting is scheduled for July 13-15, 2014 in Louisville, Kentucky.

Ad Hoc Committee – Craig Frazier, chair of the ad hoc committee on area alignment, presented an update report at seven of the eight fall area meetings with Charles Davenport reporting to Area 5. The committee met on December 4 and voted to continue moving forward with their area alignment study and to continue the effort to gather feedback from districts. Craig will make a report during the business meeting on Tuesday afternoon of the Annual Meeting.



Natural Resources Conservation Service

**2014 A Year of Change
*and Getting More
Boots on the Ground***

**Timothy Beard, State Conservationist
January 2014**





What is Changing?

Three Key Changes

1. **New Farm Bill and Budget**
2. **Internal Organizational Structure**
3. **Improved Processes for Certifications**



1. Farm Bill and Budget

- **Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013**
- **Congressional Authorization to Administer Select 2008 Farm Bill Programs**
- **New Farm Bill**



2. Internal Organizational Structure

- **Administrative Transformation**
- **Soil Scientist Realignment**



Administrative Transformation

New Service Delivery Model

- 1. Local Support** – *States continue to manage and oversee specific business and administrative operation activities*
- 2. National Service Delivery Teams** – *Consolidated services provided through several NRCS-wide virtual teams organized by business process to deliver services nationally*
- 3. National Oversight** - *Provide accountability, leadership and national supervision*



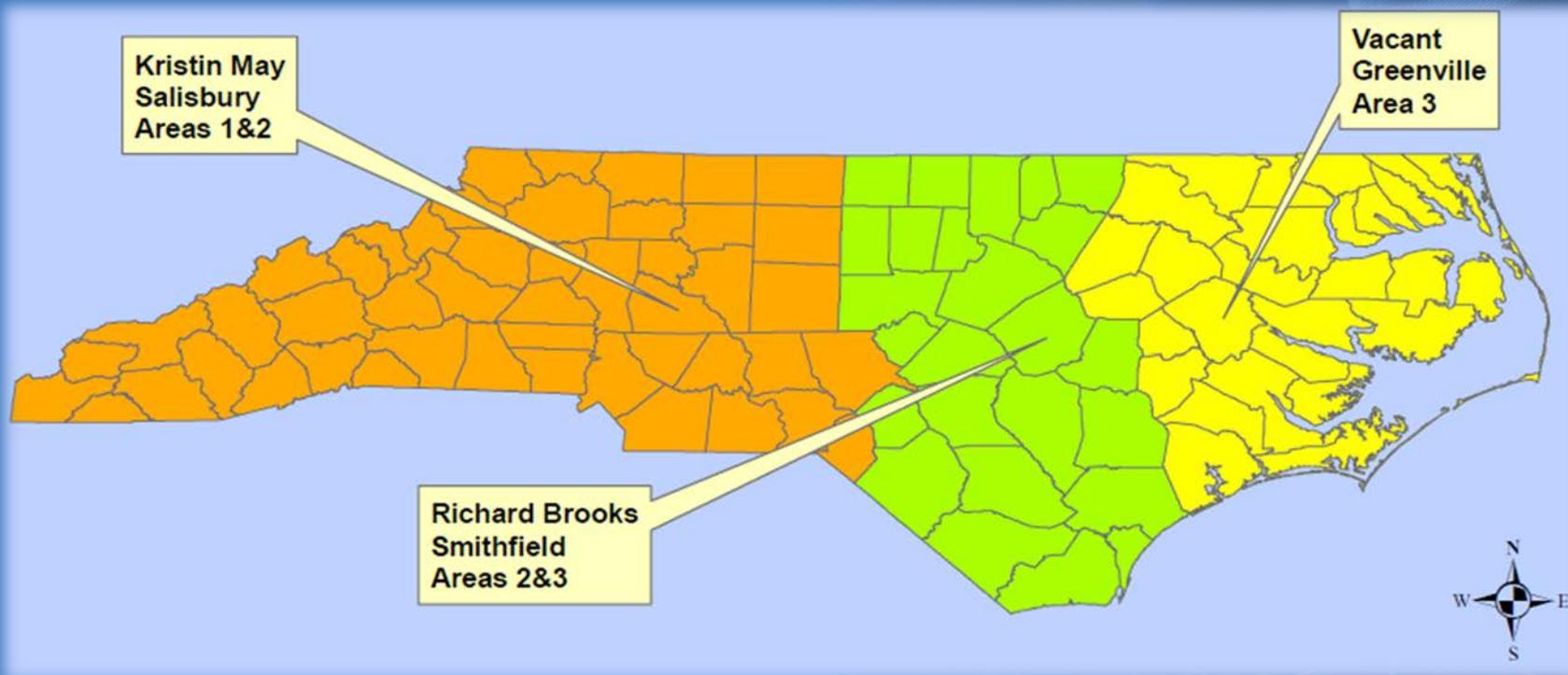
Soil Scientist Realignment

- National Level Realignment
- NC NRCS Soils Realignment



Natural Resources Conservation Service

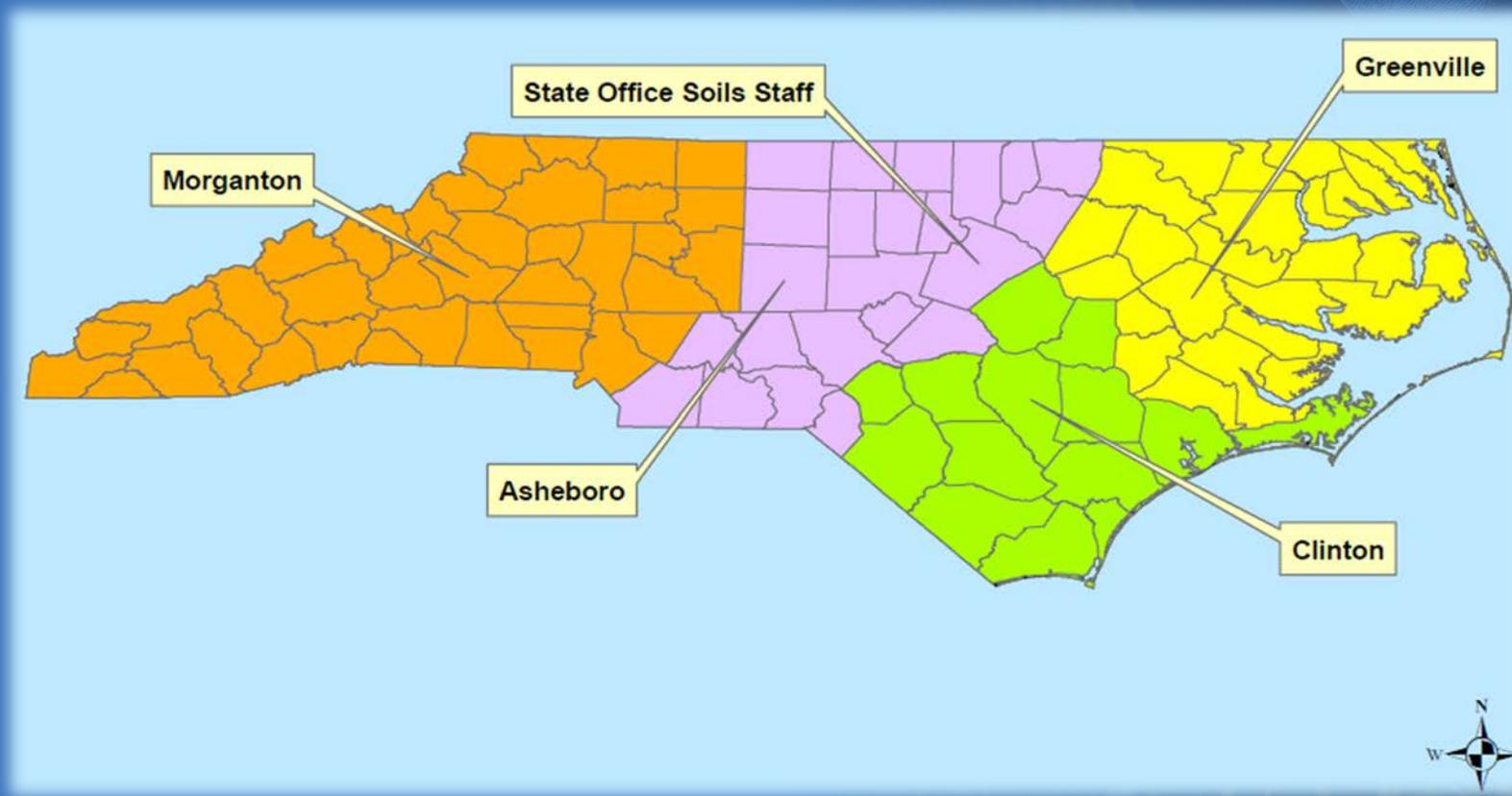
NRCS Resource Soil Scientist Areas of Responsibility Fiscal Year 2014





Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS Resource Soil Scientist Areas of Responsibility Long Term Plan for Realignment





Managing Wetland Determination Backlog

- Wetland Determination Plan
- Administrative Paperwork
- Potential “Remote” Determination



3. Improved Processes for Certifications

- Update Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG)**
- Supplement the Job Approval Authority**
- Improve Accessibility Toward Becoming a Certified Conservation Planner**



Natural Resources Conservation Service

Updated in Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG)

- **Update and Remove Obsolete Content**
- **Retain a Concept of “Core Practices”**



Supplement the Job Approval Authority

- 1. Independently develop and furnish designs**
- 2. Assist with layouts as needed, then checkout/ verify installation**
- 3. Submit all work to a reviewer with JAA**



Natural Resources Conservation Service

Improve Accessibility toward becoming a Certified Conservation Planner (CCP)

- **Making CCP Certification More Accessible
to Technical Staff**



Partnership

- **Assisting in the Challenge and the Change**



Questions/ Comments

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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NCDA&CS

2013 Annual Progress Report on the Neuse Agricultural Rule (15 A NCAC 2B.0238)

A Report to the Environmental Management Commission from the Neuse Basin
Oversight Committee: Crop Year 2012

Summary

All seventeen Local Advisory Committees (LACs) met as required. The Neuse Basin Oversight Committee (BOC) received and approved crop year (CY) 2011 annual reports estimating the progress from the seventeen Local Advisory Committees (LACs) operating under the Neuse Agriculture rule as part of the Neuse Basin Nutrient Management Strategy. This report demonstrates agriculture's ongoing collective compliance with the Neuse Agricultural Rule and estimates further producer progress in decreasing nutrients. In CY2012, agriculture collectively achieved an estimated 45% reduction in nitrogen loss from agricultural lands compared to the 1991-1995 baseline, continuing to exceed the rule-mandated 30% reduction. This percentage remains the same as the reduction reported for CY2011. Fifteen of the seventeen LACs achieved their BOC mandated nitrogen loss reduction goal. Lenoir County achieved a 16% reduction, and Pamlico County achieved a 26% reduction. The main reasons for the decrease in percent nitrogen reduction in these counties are cropping shifts to crops with higher nitrogen application rates.

Rule Requirements and Compliance History

Effective December 1997, the rule provides for a collective strategy for farmers to meet the 30% nitrogen loss reductions within five years. A BOC and seventeen LACs were established to implement the Neuse Agriculture rule and to assist farmers with complying with the rule. Currently there are 3.25 full time soil and water conservation district employees that work with Neuse LACs to assist with implementation of best management practices (BMPs) and to coordinate information for the annual reports. They are funded by the EPA 319 grant program, NC Agriculture Cost Share Program (NCACSP) technical assistance funds and county funds.

All seventeen LACs submitted their first annual report to the BOC in May 2002. That report estimated a collective 36% reduction in nitrogen loss with 12 of the 17 LACs exceeding 30% individually. In 2003, all LACs achieved their BOC mandated reduction goal. All have continued to meet their goal annually with the exception of Lenoir County, and this year Pamlico County. LACs use the Nitrogen Loss Estimation Worksheet (NLEW) to calculate their reductions. Adjustments are made to reflect the most up-to-date scientific research. These revisions lead to adjustments in both individual LAC and basinwide nitrogen loss reduction rates.

Neuse NSW Strategy

The Environmental Management Commission (EMC) adopted the Neuse nutrient strategy in December, 1997. The NSW strategy goal was to reduce the average annual load of nitrogen delivered to the Neuse River Estuary by 2003 from both point and non-point source pollution by a minimum of 30% of the average annual load from the baseline period (1991-1995). Mandatory nutrient controls were applied to addressing non-point source pollution in agriculture, urban stormwater, nutrient management, and riparian buffer protection.

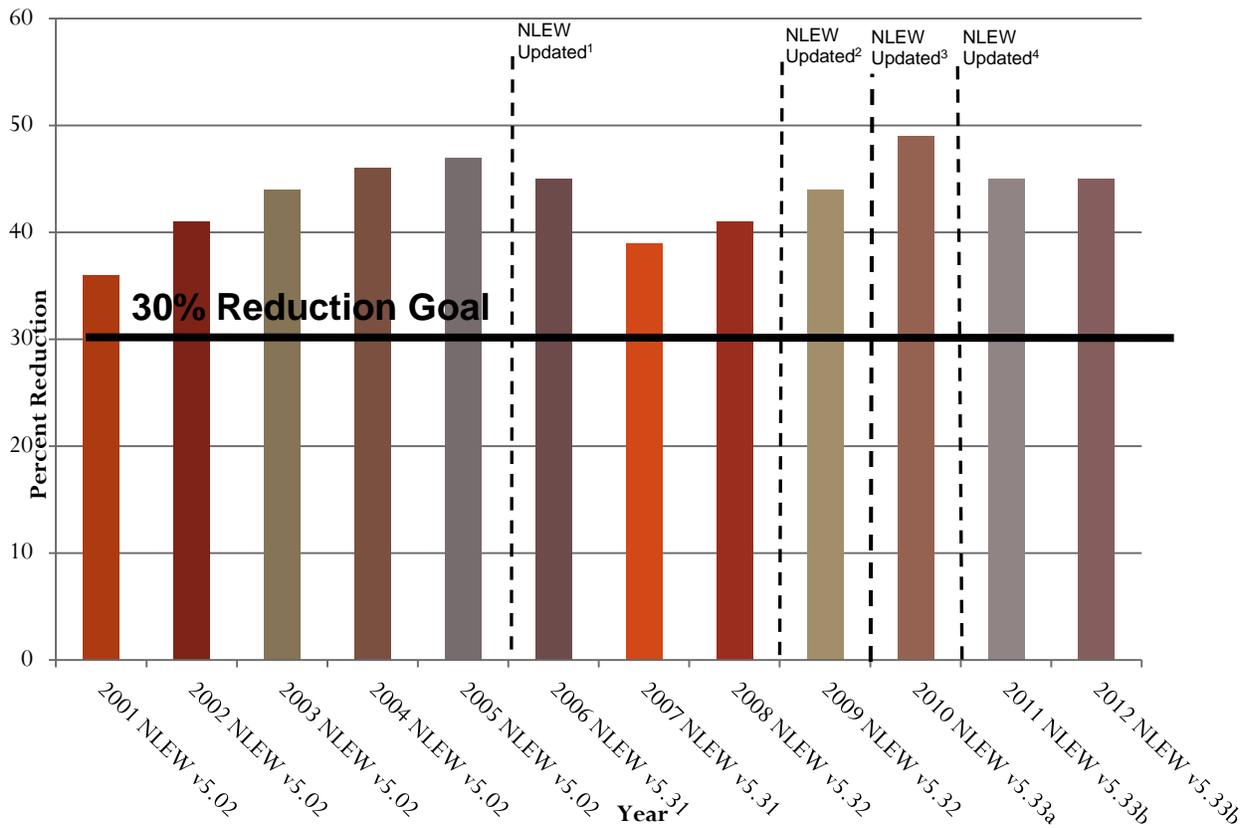
Scope of Report and Methodology

The estimates provided in this report represent whole-county scale calculations of nitrogen loss from cropland agriculture adjusted for acreage in the basin. These estimates were made by soil and water conservation district technicians using the ‘aggregate’ version of the Nitrogen Loss Estimation Worksheet, or NLEW, an accounting tool developed to meet the specifications of the Neuse Rule and approved by the EMC. The development team included interagency technical interests (NC Division of Water Resources (DWR), NC Division of Soil & Water Conservation (DSWC) and USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and was led by NC State University Soil Science Department faculty. The NLEW captures application of both inorganic and animal waste sources of fertilizer to cropland. It does not capture the effects of nitrogen applied to pastureland and NLEW is an “edge-of-management unit” accounting tool; it estimates changes in nitrogen loss from croplands, but does not estimate changes in nitrogen loading to surface waters.”

Annual Estimates of N Loss and the Effect of NLEW Refinements

As discussed below, the NLEW software is periodically revised to incorporate new knowledge gained through research and improvements to data. These changes have incorporated the best available data, but changes to NLEW must be considered when comparing nitrogen loss reduction in different versions of NLEW. Further updates in soil management units are expected as NRCS produces updated electronic soils data. The small changes in soil management units are unlikely to produce significant effects on nitrogen loss reductions. Figure 1 represents the annual percent nitrogen loss reduction from 2001 to 2012. In 2010 nitrogen reduction efficiencies assigned to buffers in NLEW were significantly decreased (see Table 1).

Figure 1. Collective Nitrogen Loss Reduction Percent 2001 to 2012, Neuse River Basin.



¹Between CY2005 & CY2006 NLEW was updated to incorporate revised soil management units and buffer nitrogen reduction efficiencies were reduced.

²Between CY2007 & CY2008 NLEW was updated to incorporate revised soil management units and correct some realistic yield errors.

³Between CY2009 & CY2010 NLEW had an administration software update with no effect on accounting.

⁴In 2011 NLEW was updated to significantly decrease buffer N removal efficiencies; CY2010 and the baseline reductions were recalculated.

The first revision (v5.31) marked a significant change in the nitrogen reduction efficiencies of buffers so both the baseline and CY2005 were re-calculated based on the best available information. The second (v5.32) and third (v5.33a) revisions were minor updates of soil mapping units. In April of 2011 the NLEW Committee established further reductions (v5.33b) in N removal efficiencies for buffers based on additional research. Table 1 lists the changes in buffer N reduction efficiencies over time.

Table 1. Changes in buffer width options and Nitrogen reduction efficiencies in NLEW

Buffer Width	NLEW v5.02* % N Reduction	NLEW v5.51 % N Reduction	NLEW v5.53b % N Reduction
20'	40% (grass)	30%	20%
20'	75% (trees & shrubs)	n/a	n/a
30'	65%	40%	25%
50'	85%	50%	30%
70'	n/a	55%	n/a
100'	n/a	60%	35%

*NLEW v5.02 - the vegetation type (ie trees, shrubs, grass) within 20' and 50' buffers determined reduction values. Based on research results, this distinction was dropped from subsequent NLEW versions.

Current Status

Nitrogen Reduction from Baseline for 2012

All seventeen LACs submitted their twelfth annual reports to the BOC for approval in November 2013. For the entire basin, in CY2012 agriculture achieved a 45% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the 1991-1995 baseline. This percentage remains the same as the reduction reported for CY2011. Table 2 lists each county's baseline, CY2011 and CY2012 nitrogen (lbs/yr) loss values, and nitrogen loss percent reductions from the baseline in CY2011 and CY2012.

Table 2. Estimated Reductions in Agricultural Nitrogen Loss from Baseline (1991-1995) for 2011 (NLEW v5.33b) and 2012 (NLEW v5.33b), Neuse River Basin

County	Baseline N Loss (lb)* NLEW v5.33b	CY2011 N Loss (lb)* NLEW v5.33b	CY2011 N Reduction (%)	CY2012 N Loss (lb)* NLEW v5.33b	CY2012 N Reduction (%)
Carteret	1,292,556	782,261	39%	840,791	35%
Craven	3,938,339	1,990,043	49%	2,046,893	48%
Durham	220,309	98,354	55%	104,557	53%
Franklin	219,209	69,529	68%	50,995	77%
Granville	193,197	81,252	58%	101,675	47%
Greene	4,195,637	2,175,880	48%	2,260,901	46%
Johnston	6,480,723	3,033,035	53%	3,150,208	51%
Jones	3,114,212	1,993,605	36%	1,865,103	40%
Lenoir	4,130,061	3,356,248	19%	3,481,143	16%
Nash	1,203,439	439,700	63%	393,303	67%
Orange	565,454	258,165	54%	276,838	51%
Pamlico	2,562,212	1,644,824	36%	1,884,166	26%
Person	616,669	303,985	51%	267,950	57%
Pitt	3,232,893	1,427,703	56%	1,715,544	47%
Wake	1,434,433	452,316	68%	395,898	72%
Wayne	7,994,019	4,559,621	43%	3,788,304	53%
Wilson	3,275,828	1,908,740	42%	1,963,589	40%
Total	44,669,190	4,575,261	45%	24,587,858	45%

*Nitrogen loss values are for comparative purposes. They represent nitrogen that was applied to agricultural lands in the basin and neither used by crops nor intercepted by BMPs in a Soil Management Unit, based on NLEW calculations. This is not an in-stream loading value.

It should be noted that some counties' reductions decreased due to crop rotations and not a reduction in BMP implementation.

Lenoir and Pamlico Counties are working to improve their reductions. The local Soil and Water Conservation District Boards are working to meet their reduction by making nutrient reducing BMPs a higher priority in their annual ACSP strategy plan. The DSWC, LACs and additional stakeholders are working with others in the agricultural community in these counties to communicate the need for more BMP installation at existing commodity outreach events. The BOC will refocus its efforts to monitor Lenoir and Pamlico counties progress and encourage BMP implementation.

Nitrogen loss reductions were achieved through a combination of fertilization rate decreases, cropping shifts, and BMP implementation. The most significant factor this year is due to cropping shift. Cropping shifts are attributed to increased commodity prices along with crop rotations. The NLEW outputs and staff calculations estimate these factors contributed to the nitrogen loss in the following percent reduction shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Factors That Influence Nitrogen Reduction by Percentage on Agricultural Lands, Neuse River Basin*

Practice	CY2008 NLEW v5.32	CY2009 NLEW v5.32	CY2010 NLEW v5.33b	CY2011 NLEW v5.33b	CY2012 NLEW v5.33b
BMP implementation	5%	7%	6%	8%	8%
Fertilization management	12%	14%	12%	14%	10%
Cropping shift	10%	8%	17%	11%	14%
Cropland converted to grass/trees	1%	1.5%	1.5%	2%	2%
Cropland lost to idle land	6%	6.50%	5%	4%	4%
Cropland lost to development	7%	7%	6%	7%	7%
Total	41%	44%	49%	45%	45%

*Percentages are based on a total of the reduction, not a year-to-year comparison.

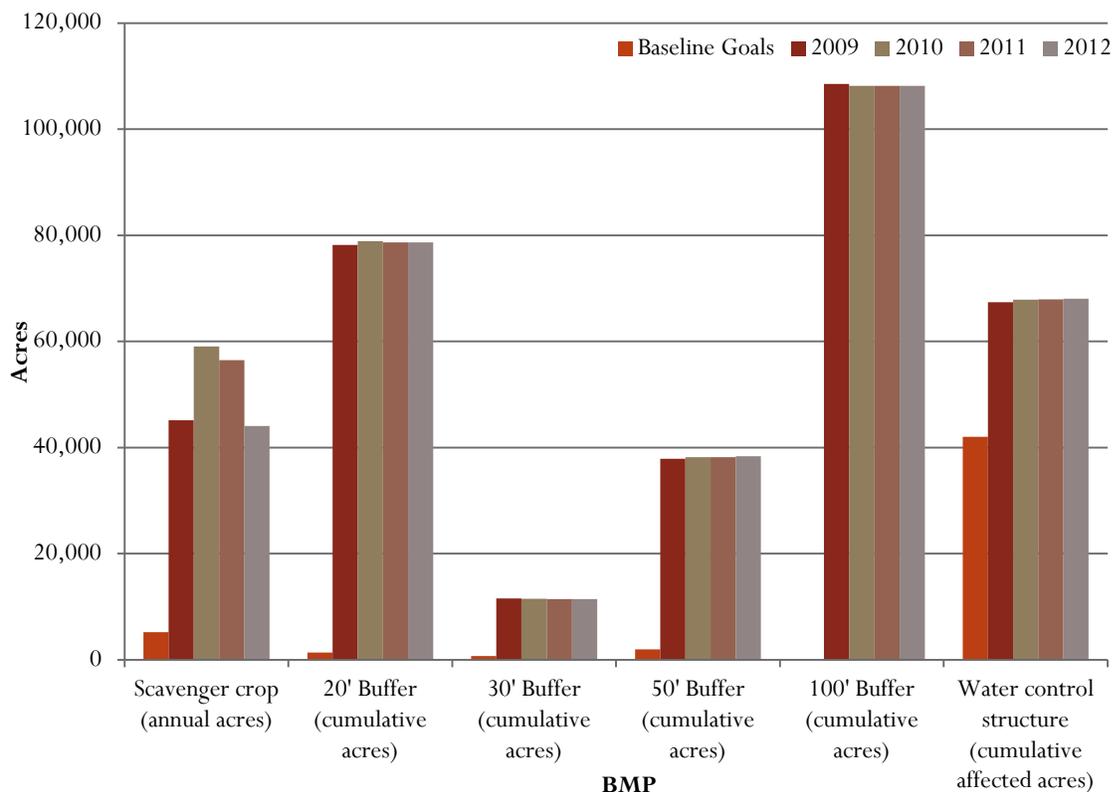
BMP Implementation

As illustrated in Figure 2, CY2012 BMP implementation yielded a net increase of 151 acres affected by water control structures, and a decrease in nutrient scavenger crop acres, while 30, 50 and 100 ft. buffer acres remained relatively steady.

DSWC staff and district conservationists continue to make refinements to the accounting as opportunities arise. BMP data is collected from state and federal cost share program active contracts, and in some cases BMPs that were installed without cost share funding. While there is some variability in the data reported, LACs are reporting data that is the best information currently available. As additional data becomes available, the LACs will review the sources and update their methodology for reporting if warranted.

It is estimated that over a third of enrolled croplands receive treatment from the installed BMPs, by comparing the acres of cropland to the acres of BMPs installed through federal, state and local cost share programs. BMP installation goals were set by the local nitrogen reduction strategies, which were approved by the EMC in 1999. The original proposed percent nitrogen loss reduction goals can be found in Figure 2. Agriculture exceeded all of the installed BMP goals in CY2008.

Figure 2: Nitrogen Reducing BMPs installed on Agricultural Lands and the Approved Goals Baseline (1991-1995) and 2008-2012, Neuse River Basin



The acres of buffers listed represent actual acres. Acres affected by the buffer could be 5 to 10 times larger in the piedmont than the acreage shown above. (Bruton 2004)

Additional Nutrient BMPs

Not all types of nutrient-reducing BMPs are tracked by NLEW. These include livestock-related nitrogen and phosphorus reducing BMPs, BMPs that reduce soil and phosphorus loss, and BMPs that do not have enough scientific research to support a nitrogen benefit. The BOC believes it is worthwhile to recognize these practices. Table 4 identifies BMPs not accounted for in NLEW and tracks their implementation in the basin since CY2008.

Increased implementation numbers are evident in CY2012 across all BMP types with the exception of terraces. These BMPs will yield reductions in nitrogen loss that are not reflected in the NLEW accounting in this report but will benefit the estuary.

Table 4: Nutrient-Reducing BMPs Not Accounted for in NLEW, 1996 to 2012, Neuse River Basin*

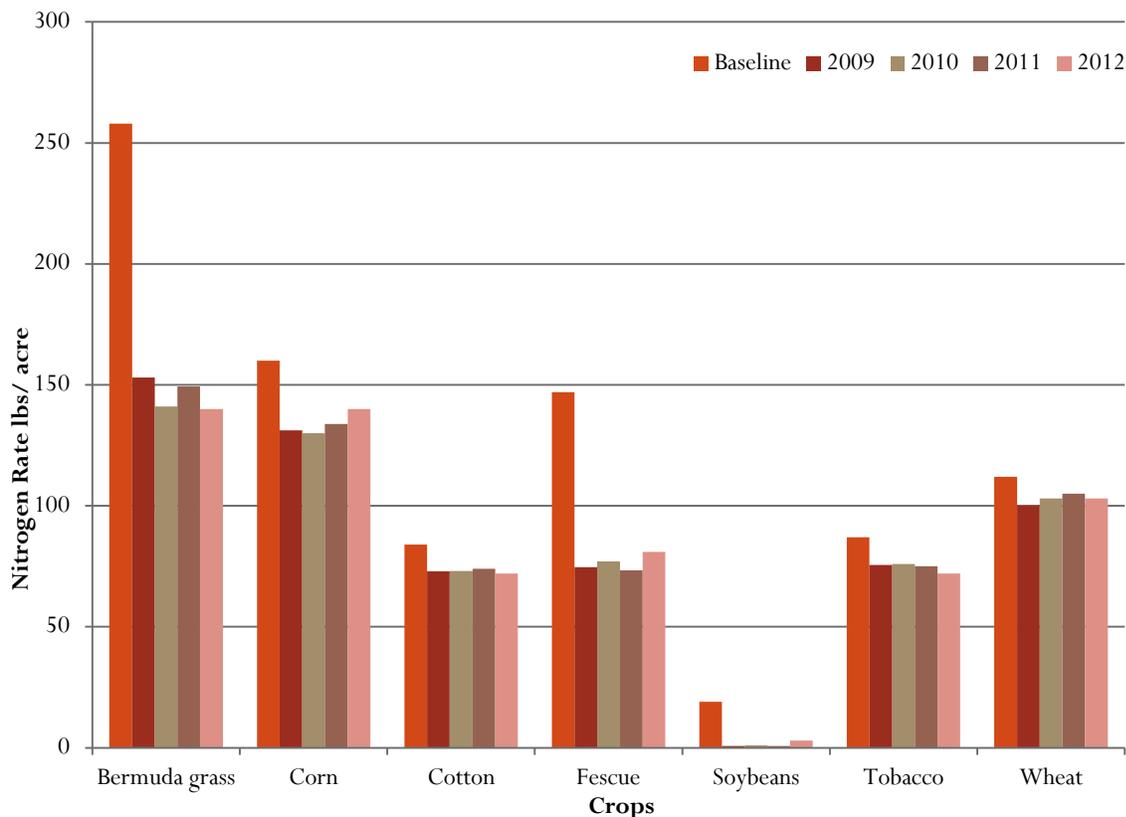
BMP	Units	1996-2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Diversion	Feet	139,492	146,749	149,109	149,449	159,101
Fencing (USDA programs)	Feet	53,991	98,584	112,029	154,885	164,202
Field Border	Acres	823	3,265	3,300	3,337	5,190
Grassed Waterway	Acres	2,229	2,245	2,256	2,261	2,289
Livestock Exclusion	Feet	71,035	71,035	74,753	81,389	90,633
Sod Based Rotation	Acres	27413	40,542	49,131	60,115	76,857
Tillage Management	Acres	20,586	24,011	30,945	34,072	44,011
Terraces	Feet	40,758	41,595	49,970	49,970	49,970

*Data provided using active contracts in State and Federal cost share programs.

Fertilization Management

Fertilizer rates are revised annually by LACs using data from farmers, commercial applicators and state and federal agencies' professional estimates. Both increased fertilizer cost and better nutrient management have resulted in farmers in the Neuse River Basin reducing their fertilizer application from baseline levels. Figure 3 indicates that fertilization rates for all major crops in the basin have reduced from the baseline period. In CY2012 fertilizer rates dropped slightly for bermuda grass, cotton, tobacco and wheat, while corn, fescue and soybean rates increased slightly compared to CY2011.

Figure 3. Average Annual Nitrogen Fertilization Rate (lbs/ac) for Agricultural Crops for the baseline (1991-1995) and 2009-2012, Neuse River Basin*



Cropping Shifts

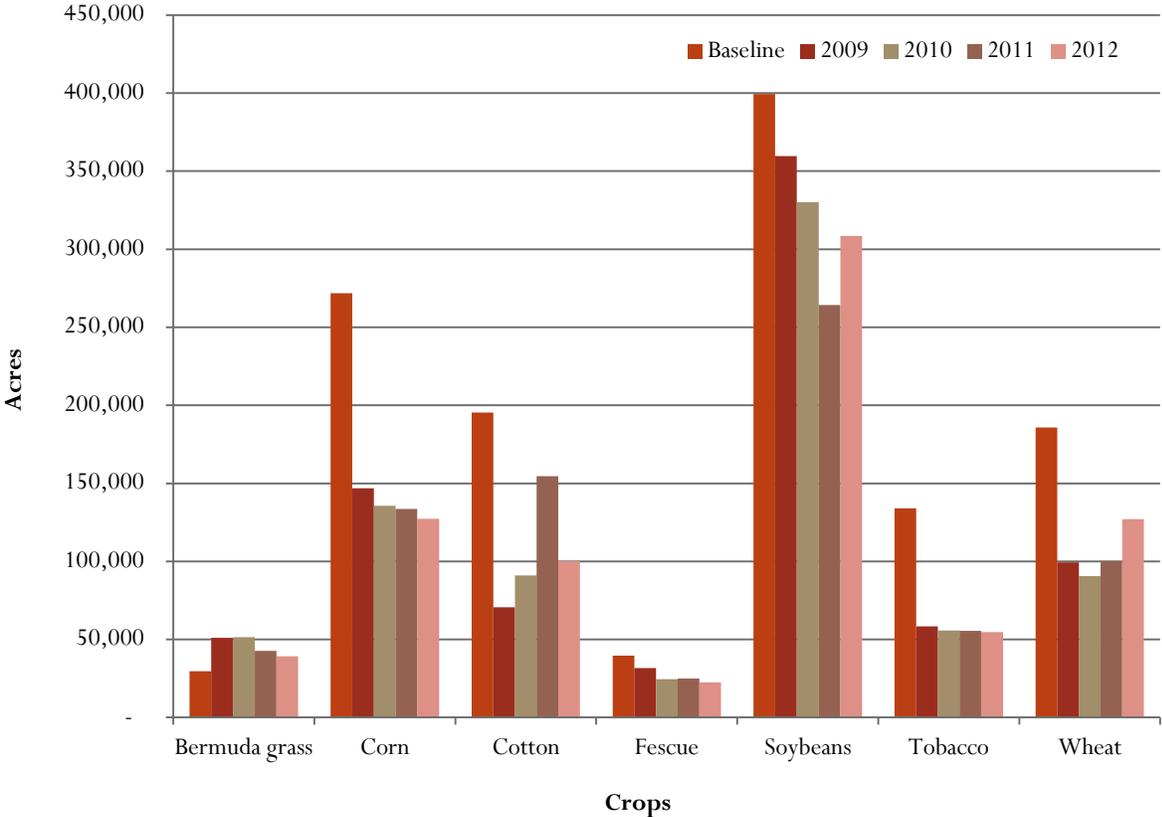
The LACs recalculate the cropland acreage annually by utilizing crop data reported by farmers to the Farm Service Agency. Because each crop type requires different amounts of nitrogen and uses applied nitrogen with a different efficiency rate, changes in the mix of crops grown can have significant impact on the cumulative yearly nitrogen loss reduction. The BOC anticipates that the basin will see additional crop shifts in upcoming years based on economic changes.

Figure 4 shows the crop acres and shifts for the last five years compared to the baseline. Soybeans and wheat acreages have increased this year, while cotton acreage has decreased. The remaining crops slightly decreased in acreage, but overall have remained relatively consistent. A host of factors from individual to global determine crop choices.

Factors Identified by LACs Contributing to Reduced Nitrogen Rates

- Rising fertilizer costs and fluctuating farm incomes.
- Increased education and outreach on nutrient management (NC Cooperative Extension held 21 nutrient management training sessions, approximately 2,000 farmers and applicators received training.)
- Mandatory animal waste management plans
- The federal government tobacco quota buy-out reducing tobacco acreage.

Figure 4. Acreage of Major Crops for the Baseline (1991-1995) and 2009-2012, Neuse River Basin

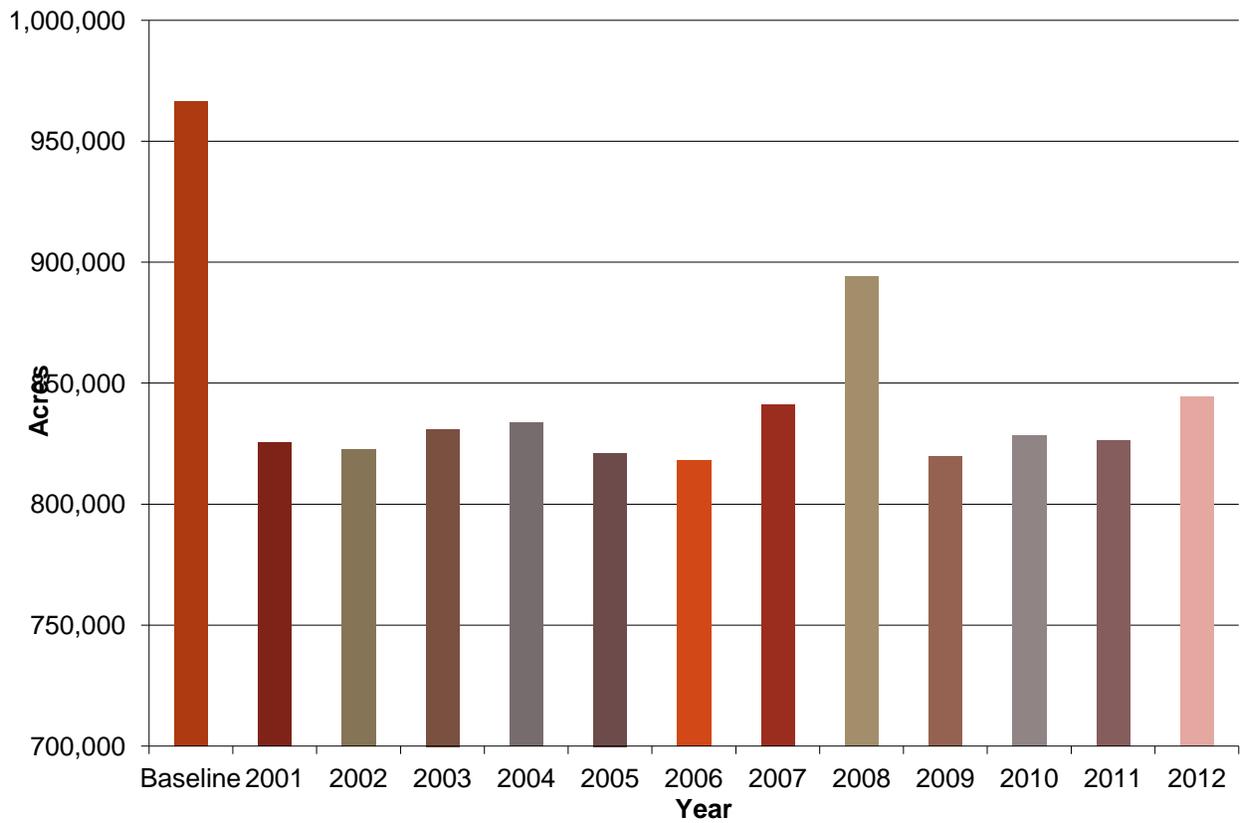


Land Use Change to Development, Idle Land and Cropland Conversion

The number of cropland acres will fluctuate every year in the Neuse River Basin. Each year, some cropland is permanently lost to development or converted to grass or trees. However, idle land is agricultural land that is currently out of production but could be brought back into production at any time. Cropland conversion and cropland lost to development is land taken out of agricultural production and is unlikely to be returned to production. Currently it is estimated that more than 70,985 acres have been lost to development, and more than 18,062 acres have been converted to grass or trees since the baseline. For CY2012 there are approximately 54,296 idle acres and a total of 844,376 acres of cropland. These estimates come from the LAC members’ best professional judgment, USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) records and county planning departments. The total crop acres are obtained from USDA-FSA and NC Agricultural Statistics annual reports.

Cropland acres have dropped significantly from the baseline period, while CY2012 experienced an increase of over 18,000 acres from CY2011.

Figure 5. Total Cropland Acres in the Neuse River Basin, Baseline (1991-1995) and 2001-2012.



Looking Forward

The Neuse Basin Oversight Committee will continue to work with Local Advisory Committees and farmers to reduce nitrogen loss from agricultural lands in the Neuse River Basin. The BOC continues to encourage counties to implement additional BMPs to further reduce nitrogen loss. Funding is an integral part in the success. Without funding for the technicians, the annual progress reports would fall on the LACs without assistance to compile data and annual reports. Technicians are essential in promoting and assisting farmers with BMP installation. Farmers and agency staff personnel with other responsibilities serve on the LACs in a voluntary capacity. If funding for technician positions is not available, the LACs would have a difficult time meeting the workload requirements. Additionally, the Division of Soil and Water Conservation no longer has the resources available to synthesize county level data for this report, thus putting the development of future annual reports in jeopardy. This reporting is required by the rules, therefore funding is essential for compliance.

The Neuse BOC will continue to monitor and evaluate crop trends. The current shift to and from crops with higher nitrogen requirements may continue to influence the yearly reduction. Additionally, if reconvened, members of the BOC plan to participate in a land accounting work group to assist in developing a more consistent land accounting framework.

Although significant progress has been made in nitrogen loss reduction by the agricultural community, the 30% nitrogen reduction target established by the General Assembly from all sources has not yet been reached. Nitrogen reduction values presented in this annual summary of agricultural reductions reflect “edge-of-management unit” calculations that contribute to achieving the overall 30% nitrogen loss reduction goal. Significant quantities of agricultural BMPs have been installed since the adoption and implementation of the nutrient management strategy, and agriculture continues to do its part towards achieving the overall goal of a 30% reduction of nitrogen delivered to the Neuse estuary. However, the measurable effects of these BMPs on overall in-stream nitrogen reduction may take years to develop due to the nature of non-point source pollution.

Basin Oversight Committee recognizes the dynamic nature of agricultural business.

- Changes in world economies, energy or trade policies.
- Changes in government programs (i.e., commodity support or environmental regulations)
- Weather (i.e., long periods of drought or rain)
- Scientific advances in agronomics (i.e., production of new types of crops or improvements in crop sustainability)
- Plant disease or pest problems (i.e., viruses or foreign pests)
- Urban encroachment (i.e., crop selection shifts as fields become smaller)
- Age of farmer (i.e., as retirement approaches farmers may move from row crops to cattle)

**Annual Progress Report on Agricultural Operations' Stage 1 Reductions
Falls Reservoir Water Supply Nutrient Strategy: Agriculture
(15 A NCAC 02B.0280)
For the Baseline Period (2006) through Crop Year 2012
A Report to the Water Quality Committee of the Environmental Management Commission
From the Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee**

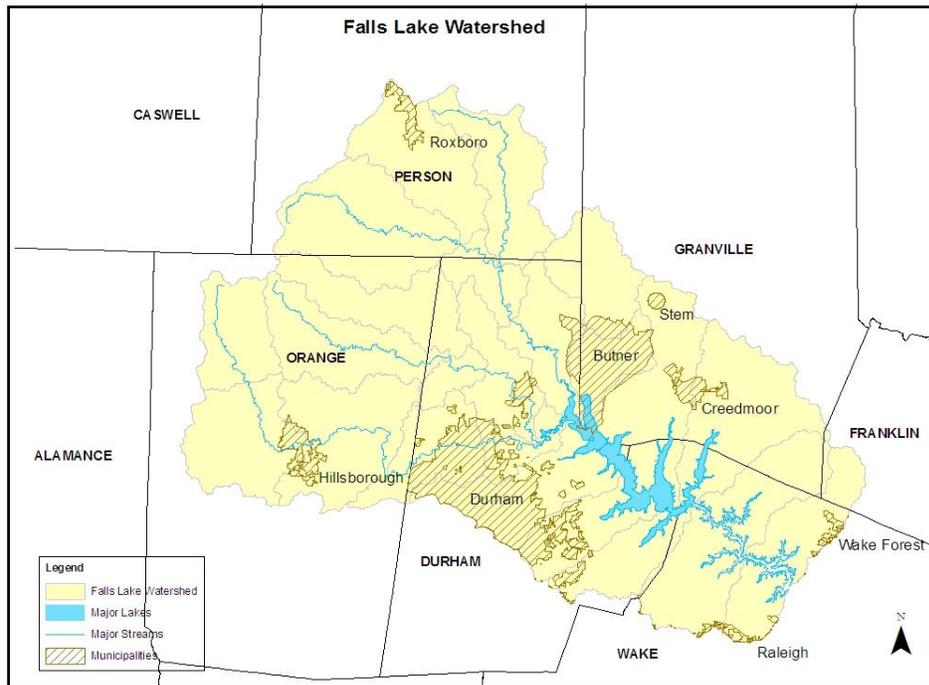
SUMMARY

This report provides the annual progress report of collective progress made by the agricultural community to reduce nutrient losses toward compliance with Stage 1 of the Falls Lake Agriculture rule. For this report, the Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee (WOC) oversaw the application of accounting methods approved by the Water Quality Committee in March 2012 to estimate changes in nitrogen loss and phosphorus loss trend in the Falls Lake Watershed for the period between the strategy baseline (2006) and the most recent crop year (CY) for which data was available, 2012. The Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee (WOC) received and approved crop year CY2012 annual reports from six counties as part of the Falls Lake Agriculture rule, which is part of the Falls Reservoir Water Supply Nutrient Strategy. To produce this report, Division of Soil and Water Conservation staff received, processed and compiled baseline and current-year reports from agricultural staff in six counties, and the WOC compiled the information and prepared this report. Agriculture has been successfully decreasing nutrient losses in the Falls Lake watershed. In CY2012, agriculture collectively exceeded its 20% Stage I nitrogen reduction goal, with a 31% reduction compared to the 2006 baseline. This percentage remains the same as the reduction reported for CY2011. All six of the counties exceeded the mandated 20% reduction goal this year. Reductions in nitrogen have been achieved through an overall decrease in cropland in production, a decrease in nitrogen application rates, and an increase in best management practices (BMPs) such as 20 and 50-foot riparian buffers. Since the baseline cropland decreased in the watershed by 10,837 acres. Of the agricultural land, 2,560 acres was lost to development. Phosphorus qualitative indicators demonstrate that there is no increased risk of phosphorus loss, with an 8% and 14% decrease in animal waste phosphorus production and tobacco acreage, respectively, and an increase in cropland conversion to grass and trees since the 2006 baseline.

**Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee
Composition, Falls Agriculture Rule:**

1. NC Division of Soil & Water Conservation
2. USDA-NRCS
3. NCDA&CS
4. NC Cooperative Extension Service
5. NC Division of Water Resources
6. Watershed Environmental Interest
7. Watershed Environmental Interest
8. Environmental Interest
9. General Farming Interest
10. Pasture-based Livestock Interest
11. Equine Livestock Interest
12. Cropland Farming Interest
13. Scientific Community

Figure 1. Map of Falls Lake Watershed



BACKGROUND

Rule requirements and compliance

In January 2011, the permanent Agriculture Rule that is part of the Falls Reservoir Water Supply Nutrient Strategy became effective. The Agriculture Rule provides for a collective strategy for farmers to meet nitrogen loss reduction goals in two stages. The strategy goal is to reduce the average annual load of nitrogen and phosphorus to Falls Lake from 2006 baseline levels. Stage 1 requires that agriculture reach a goal of 20% nitrogen loss reduction and 40% phosphorus reduction by year 2020. Stage II sets reduction goals of 40% and 77% for nitrogen and phosphorus, respectively, by year 2035. A Watershed Oversight Committee (WOC) was established to implement the rule and to assist farmers with complying with the rule.

All county Local Advisory Committees (LAC) submitted their second annual reports to the WOC in December 2013. Collectively, agriculture in the six counties is meeting the nitrogen loss reduction goal, with a 31% reduction. Phosphorus qualitative indicators for phosphorus suggest there is no increased risk of phosphorus loss from agriculture in the watershed.

Falls Lake NSW Strategy:

The Environmental Management Commission (EMC) adopted the Falls Reservoir Water Supply Nutrient Strategy rules in 2011. The strategy goal is to reduce the average annual load of nitrogen and phosphorus to Falls Lake from 2006 baseline levels. In addition to point source rules, mandatory controls were applied to addressing non-point source pollution in agriculture, urban stormwater, and riparian buffer protection. The management strategy was built upon the Neuse River, Tar-Pamlico River, and Jordan Lake Strategies.

Scope of Report and Methodology

The estimates provided in this report represent whole-county scale calculations of nitrogen loss from cropland agriculture in the watershed made by soil and water conservation district technicians using the 'aggregate' version of the Nitrogen Loss Estimation Worksheet, or NLEW. The NLEW is an accounting tool developed to meet the specifications of the Neuse Rule and approved by the Environmental Management Commission's (EMC) Water Quality Committee in March 2012 for use in the Falls Lake Watershed. The development team included interagency technical representatives of the NC Division of Water Quality (DWQ), NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation (DSWC), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and was led by NC State University (NCSU) Soil Science Department faculty. The NLEW captures application of both inorganic and animal waste sources of fertilizer to cropland. It does not capture the effects of nitrogen applied to pastureland, and is an "edge-of-management unit" accounting tool; it estimates changes in nitrogen loss from croplands, but does not estimate changes in nitrogen loading to surface waters. Assessment methods were developed and approved by the Water Quality Committee of the EMC for pastureland and phosphorus, and are described later in the report.

NITROGEN LOSS ACCOUNTING

Nitrogen Reduction from Cropland from 2006 Baseline for CY2012

All counties submitted their second progress reports to the WOC in December 2013. In CY2012 agriculture achieved a 31% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the average 2006 baseline. All of the counties individually surpassed the Stage 1 20% reduction goal for nitrogen in the Falls Lake watershed. Table 1 lists each county's baseline, CY2011 and CY2012 nitrogen (lbs/yr) loss values from cropland, along with nitrogen loss percent reductions from the baseline in CY2011 and CY2012.

Table 1. Estimated reductions in agricultural nitrogen loss (cropland) from baseline (2006) for CY2011, CY2012, Falls Lake Watershed

County	Baseline N Loss (lb)* NLEW v. 5.33b	CY2011 N Loss (lb)* NLEW v. 5.33b	CY2011 N Reduction(%)	CY2012 N Loss (lb)* NLEW v. 5.33b	CY2012 N Reduction (%)
Durham	135,902	98,354	28%	104,557	23%
Franklin	11,717	6,953	41%	5,080	57%
Granville	127,704	81,252	36%	101,675	20%
Orange	347,402	258,165	26%	276,838	20%
Person	484,123	303,985	37%	267,950	45%
Wake	49,932	45,232	9%	39,537	21%
Total	1,156,780	793,941	31%	795,637	31%

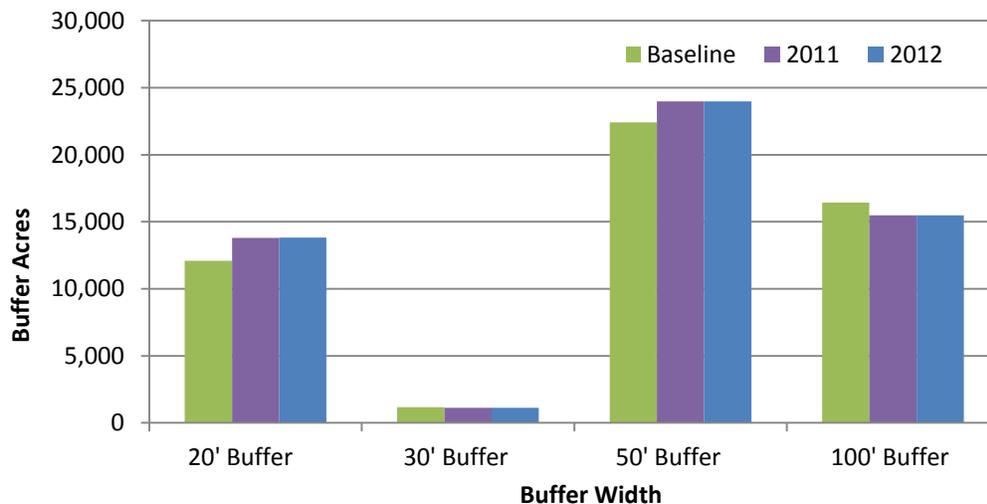
**Nitrogen loss values are for comparative purposes. They represent nitrogen that was applied to cropland in the watershed and neither used by crops nor intercepted by BMPs in an agricultural management unit, based on NLEW calculations. This is not an in-stream loading value.*

Best Management Practice Implementation

Agriculture is credited with different nitrogen reduction efficiencies, expressed as percentages, for riparian buffer widths ranging from 20 feet to 100 feet. The NLEW version 5.33b for Neuse River Basin provides the following percent nitrogen reduction efficiencies for buffer widths on cropland: 20' receives 20% reduction, 30' receives 25% reduction, 50' receives 30%, and 100' receives 35% reduction. Note that these percentages represent the net or relative percent improvement in nitrogen removal resulting from riparian buffer implementation.

Figure 2 illustrates the amount of buffers on cropland in the baseline (2006) and CY2012. Overall, total acres of buffers have slightly increased since the baseline (4.4%). Acres of buffers of 20 and 50 foot widths have increased, while 30 and 100 foot buffers have remained unchanged. The reported buffer acres do not take into account the entire drainage area treated by buffers in the piedmont which is generally 5 to 10 times greater than the actual acres of the buffers shown in Figure 2 (Bruton 2004)¹. Riparian buffers have many important functions beyond being effective in reducing nitrogen. Recent research has shown that upwards of 75% of sediment from agricultural sources is from stream banks and that riparian buffers, particularly trees, are important for reducing this sediment² (Osmond et al 2012). In addition, riparian buffers can reduce phosphorus and sediment as they move through the buffer and provide other critically important functions such as wildlife habitat and stream shading.

Figure 2. Nitrogen Reducing Buffers installed on Croplands from Baseline (2006) through CY2012, Falls Lake Watershed*



** The acres displayed represent buffer acres. Acres treated by the buffer could be 5 to 10 times larger in the piedmont than the actual buffer acreage shown above. (Bruton 2004)¹*

¹ Bruton, Jeffrey Griffin. 2004. Headwater Catchments: Estimating Surface Drainage Extent Across North Carolina and Correlations Between Landuse, Near Stream, and Water Quality Indicators in the Piedmont Physiographic Region. Ph.D. Dissertation. Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27606.

² Osmond, D., D. Meals, D. Hoag, and M. Arabi. 2012. How to Build Better Agricultural Conservation Programs to Protect Water Quality: The NIFA-CEAP Experience. Soil and Water Conservation Society, Ankeny, IA.

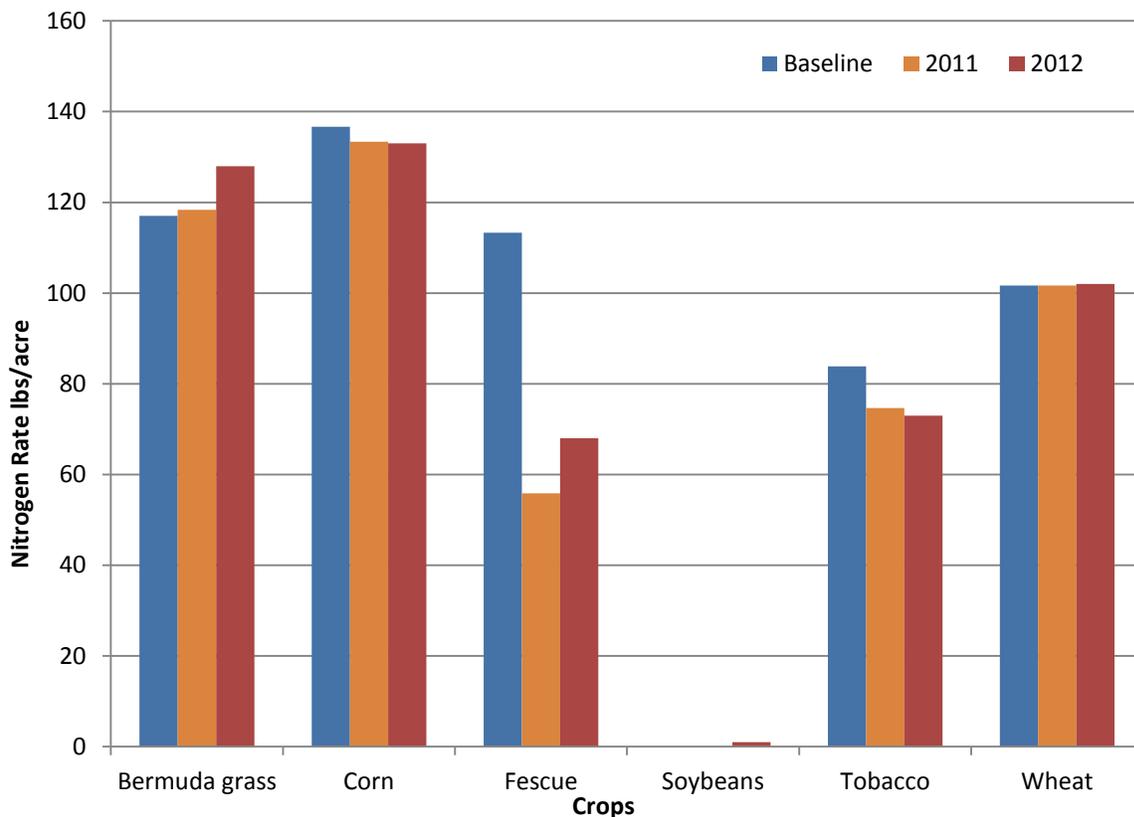
Fertilization Management

Increased fertilizer cost has impacted the application rates of nitrogen on farms in the Falls Lake Watershed. For most crops, farmers have reduced their nitrogen application rates from baseline levels. Figure 3 displays the nitrogen application rates in pounds per acre for the major crops in the watershed. Nitrogen application rates for fescue hay are still 45 pounds/acre lower than during the baseline, despite an increase in application rates from CY2011. The decrease since the baseline is due to increasing fertilizer costs and decreasing profits from beef cattle. Rates on bermuda grass increased, while rates on tobacco decreased slightly. Corn, soybeans and wheat nitrogen application rates remained relatively constant in CY2012 compared to the 2006 baseline. Fertilizer rates will be revisited annually by county local advisory committees using data from farmers, commercial applicators and state and federal agencies’ professional estimates.

Factors Identified by LACs Contributing to Reduced Nitrogen Application Rates since the Baseline Year:

- Rising fertilizer costs and fluctuating farm incomes.
- Mandatory waste management plans.
- The federal government tobacco quota buy-out reducing tobacco acreage.
- Neuse Nitrogen Strategies.

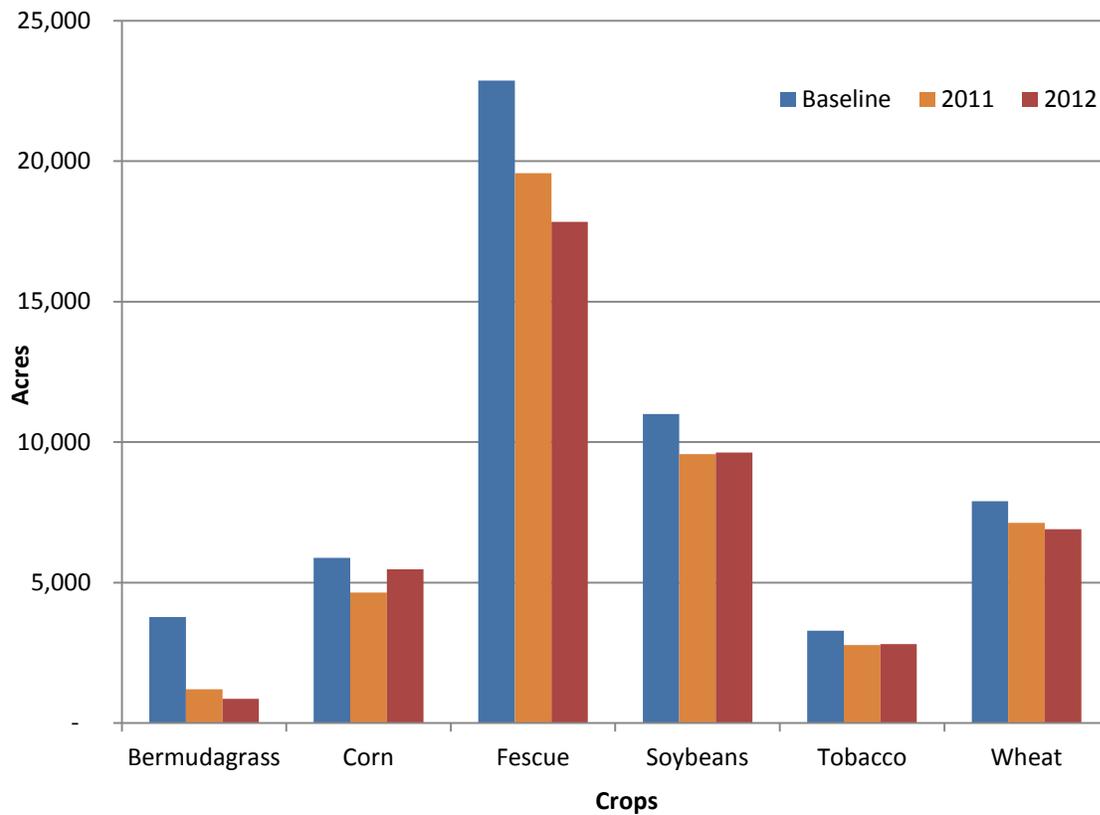
Figure 3. Average annual nitrogen fertilization rate (lb/ac) for agricultural crops for the baseline (2006), 2011, 2012, Falls Lake Watershed



Cropping Shifts

The LACs recalculate the cropland acreage annually by utilizing crop data reported by farmers to the Farm Service Agency. Because each crop type requires different amounts of nitrogen and uses applied nitrogen with a different efficiency rate, changes in the mix of crops grown can have a significant impact on the cumulative yearly nitrogen loss reduction. The WOC anticipates that the watershed will see additional crop shifts in upcoming years based on economic changes. A host of factors from individual to global determine crop choices. Crop acreages are expected to fluctuate yearly with market changes. Figure 4 shows crop acres and shifts for CY2012 compared to the baseline. The acres of all major crops have decreased by over 11,000 acres in the watershed since the baseline.

Figure 4. Acreage of Major Crops for the Baseline (2006), 2011, 2012, Falls Lake Watershed



Land Use Change to Development and Cropland Conversion

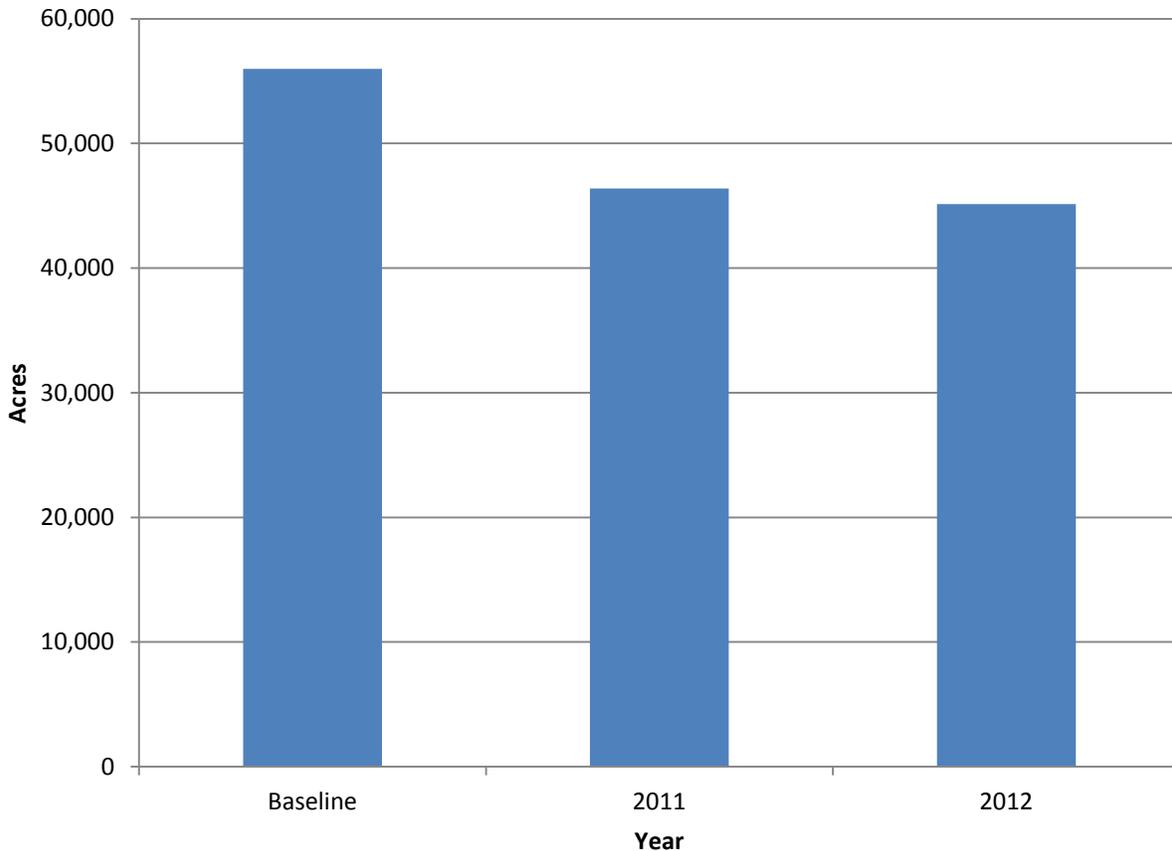
The number of cropland acres fluctuates every year in the Falls Lake Watershed due to cropland conversion and development. Each year, some cropland is either permanently lost to development or converted to grass or trees and likely to be ultimately lost from agricultural production. Data regarding land use change since the baseline is summarized below.

It is estimated that since the 2006 baseline there has been a decrease in crop production of 10,837 acres (19% of total cropland). Of that, 2,560 cropland acres (24% of cropland loss) have been permanently lost to development. Of the 295 cropland acres converted to grass or trees through state and federal cost share programs, almost all (97%) was converted to grass.

The estimates for cropland lost to development come from methodologies developed at the individual county level based on available information and the many and diverse local government reporting

requirements associated with development. Each county uses a different method, but these methods are documented and use the best local information available. The remaining acreage (8,030 acres) could potentially be brought back into crop production. These estimates do not separate the amount of cropland versus pastureland lost; the number reported is agricultural land converted to development.

Figure 5. Total Cropland Acres in the Falls Lake Watershed, Baseline (2006), 2011, 2012



PHOSPHORUS LOSS ACCOUNTING

Phosphorus Indicators for CY2012

The qualitative indicators included in Table 2 show the relative changes in land use and management parameters and their relative effect on phosphorus loss risk in the watershed. This approach was recommended by the Phosphorus Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) in 2005 due to the difficulty of developing an aggregate phosphorus tool parallel to the nitrogen NLEW tool and the PTAC reconvened to make minor revisions for the tool’s use in the Jordan Lake Watershed in April 2010. This modified approach was approved for use in the Falls Lake Watershed by the Water Quality Committee of the EMC. This report includes phosphorus indicator data for the baseline period (2006) and CY2012. Most of the parameters indicate less risk of phosphorus loss from agricultural management units than in the baseline period.

Factors contributing to the reduced risk of phosphorus loss in the Falls Lake Watershed include:

- Tobacco acres were reduced by over 14%
- Animal waste was reduced by 8% from swine and poultry
- Cropland conversion to other uses.

The soil test phosphorus median number reported for the basin fluctuates each year due to the nature of how the data is collected and compiled. The soil test phosphorus median numbers shown in Table 2 are from agricultural operations and are generated by using North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) soil test laboratory results from voluntary soil testing and the data is reported by the NCDA&CS. The number of samples collected each year varies. The data does not include soil tests that were submitted to private laboratories. The soil test results from the NCDA&CS database represent data from entire counties in the basin, and have not been adjusted to include only those samples collected in the Falls Lake Watershed.

Phosphorus Technical Assistance Committee (PTAC):

The PTAC's overall purpose was to establish a phosphorus accounting method for agriculture in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin. It determined that a defensible, aggregated, county-scale accounting method for estimating phosphorus losses from agricultural lands was not feasible due to "the complexity of phosphorus behavior and transport within a watershed, the lack of suitable data required to adequately quantify the various mechanisms of phosphorus loss and retention within watersheds of the basin, and the problem with not being able to capture agricultural conditions as they existed in 1991." (1991 was the Tar-Pamlico Basin's baseline year.) The PTAC instead developed recommendations for qualitatively tracking relative changes in practices in land use and management related to agricultural activity that either increase or decrease the risk of phosphorus loss from agricultural lands in the basin on an annual basis. This is the approved approach for the Falls Lake Watershed.

Table 2. Relative Changes in Land Use and Management Parameters and their Relative Effect on Phosphorus Loss Risk in the Falls Lake Watershed

Parameter	Units	Source	Baseline 2006	CY2011	CY2012	Percent '06-'12 change	CY2012 P Loss Risk +/-
Agricultural land	acres	FSA	55,969	46,387	45,132	-19%	-
Cropland conversion (to grass & trees)	acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	1,527	1,822	1,822	19%	-
CRP / WRP (cumulative)	acres	USDA-NRCS	0	0	0	0%	N/A
Conservation tillage*	acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	26,787	18,142	18,179	-32%	+
Vegetated buffers (cumulative)	acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	52,139	54,390	54,418	4%	-
Scavenger crop	acres	LAC	0	0	0	0%	N/A
Tobacco	acres	LAC	3,288	2,782	2,817	-14%	-
Animal waste P	lbs of P/yr	NC Ag Statistics	586,612	536,009	541,096	-8%	-
Soil test P median	mg/kg	NCDA&CS	77	74	67	-10%	-

** Conservation tillage is being practiced on additional acres but this number only reflects acres under active cost share contracts, not acres where contracts have expired or where farmers have adopted the use of conservation tillage without cost share assistance. It is likely that conservation tillage acres remain high, even after contracts expire, due to farmer satisfaction with the practice after initial implementation.*

Given the key role of phosphorus in the Falls Lake nutrient strategy, the Falls WOC recommends that phosphorus accounting and reporting follow a three-pronged approach:

1. Annual Qualitative Accounting: Conduct annual qualitative assessment of likely trends in agricultural phosphorus loss in the Falls watershed relative to 2006 baseline conditions using the method established by the 2005 PTAC report that added tobacco acreages and removed water control structures.
2. Phosphorus Loss Assessment Tool (PLAT): The PLAT has been developed to assess potential P loss from cropland to water resources. A survey of the Falls Lake watershed counties was conducted in 2010, with the next survey to be conducted in 2015 if funding is available. The results of the 2010 survey demonstrated that the potential for phosphorus loss is very low (< 0.35 lbs/ac/yr) for four of the five counties surveyed. Phosphorus loss in Orange County is rated at the low end of the medium range (> 1 lb/ac/yr). Even with the installation of buffers along all streams and the discontinuation of phosphorus application (fertilizer, biosolids, or animal waste), there would be limited potential for additional phosphorus loss reduction.

3. Improved understanding of agricultural phosphorus management through studies using in-stream monitoring: quantitative in-stream monitoring should be conducted. Such monitoring is contingent upon the availability of funding and staff resources. An appropriate water quality monitoring design would be a paired-watershed study of subwatersheds with only agricultural land use. This design will allow estimates of phosphorus loading for different management regimes and load reductions after conservation practices have been implemented. However, funding for this study is currently unavailable.

The WOC recommends that no additional management actions be required of agricultural operations in the watershed at this time to comply with the phosphorus goals of the agriculture rule. The WOC will continue to track and report the identified set of qualitative phosphorus indicators to the Division of Water Resources (DWR) annually, and as directed by the rule to the Environmental Management Commission, with the next report to the Commission due in January, 2016 on Stage 1 progress. The WOC expects that BMP implementation may continue to increase throughout the watershed in future years, and notes that BMPs installed for nitrogen, pathogen and sediment control often provide significant phosphorus benefits as well.

PASTURE POINTS ACCOUNTING

The use of a pasture points system was approved by the EMC's Water Quality Committee for use in the Falls Lake Watershed to account for nutrient losses from pasture management units. Pasture activities are tracked by the federal Census of Agriculture conducted by USDA-National Agricultural Statistical Service every five years. The last year for which data was collected was 2007 and the next data set was collected in 2012 and will be available in 2014. Thus, no comparative data is available for pasture accounting in the Falls Lake watershed for this report. As part of the pasture points system, the data used for calculation purposes are acres of pastureland, number of pastured animal units, and livestock densities. The history and process to be used in the 2014 accounting is described below.

A pasture point system subcommittee was formed in 2010 to revisit the accounting method that was developed as mandated by a Session Law of the NC General Assembly for the Tar-Pamlico Basin Agriculture Rule. The subcommittee consisted of individuals representing NCSU, USDA-NRCS, NC DSWC, NC DWQ, NCDA&CS, and Alamance Soil and Water Conservation District. After reviewing available data sources and existing research findings the subcommittee made certain observations and recommendations, which the WOC has accepted.

The pasture point subcommittee found that:

- While the Tar-Pamlico point system was of sound design, it was not practically implementable because it required field-scale assessment, for which human resources were not available. For the purposes of this rule, given the same resources limitations, a county-scale approach to nitrogen loss accounting will be necessary as is done with cropland NLEW accounting.
- Unlike state-based cropland statistics that are developed annually, pasture activities are tracked only by the federal Census of Agriculture conducted by USDA-National Agricultural Statistical Service every five years. This will necessarily limit pasture accounting under this rule to a 5-year cycle. For Falls Lake accounting, the baseline will be 2007 compared to 2012.
- The point system developed for the Tar-Pamlico is fundamentally sound. It assigned nitrogen "point" credit values for BMPs in lieu of percent reductions based on recognition that research data are insufficient to provide the level of confidence required for attributing percent reductions in

nitrogen. Point values reflect best estimates of percent nitrogen reduction but instead bear the “point” label to connote this greater uncertainty. Research has advanced since the Tar-Pamlico system was developed but not sufficiently to depart from this approach.

The crop year 2014 annual report will be the first time that the CY2012 pasture data will be available from the 2012 Census of Agriculture for a CY2007 and CY2012 comparison.

BMP IMPLEMENTATION NOT TRACKED BY NLEW

Not all types of nutrient and sediment-reducing BMPs are tracked by NLEW such as: livestock-related nitrogen and phosphorus reducing BMPs, BMPs that reduce soil and phosphorus loss, and BMPs that do not have enough scientific research to support estimating a nitrogen benefit. The WOC believes it is worthwhile to recognize these practices. Table 3 identifies BMPs and tracks their implementation in the watershed since the end of the baseline period.

Table 3: Nutrient and sediment-reducing installed best management practices, Falls Lake Watershed*

BMP	UNITS	BMPs Installed (CY2006-CY2012)
Critical Area Planting	Acre	2
Composting Facility	Number	1
Cropland Conversion - Grass	Acre	286
Cropland Conversion - Trees	Acre	9
Diversion	Feet	14,378
Dry Stack	Number	5
Fencing (USDA programs)	Feet	33,239
Field Border	Acre	2007
Grassed Waterway	Acre	8,513
Livestock Exclusion	Feet	20,342
Nutrient Management	Acre	398
Pasture Renovation	Acre	326
Stream Crossing	Number	1
Sod-Based Rotation	Acre	6,723
Tillage Management	Acre	18,277
Terraces	feet	3,463
Trough or Tank	number	15
Waste Storage Facility	number	5

*Values represent active contracts in State and Federal cost share programs.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Falls Lake WOC will continue to improve rule implementation, relying heavily on the local soil and water conservation districts who work directly with farmers to assist with best management practice design and installation.

Because cropping shifts are susceptible to various pressures, the WOC is working with all counties to continue BMP implementation on both cropland and pastureland that provides for a lasting reduction in nitrogen and phosphorus loss in the watershed while monitoring cropping changes.

The committee overseeing the development of NLEW has been reviewing BMP efficiencies credited by the nutrient accounting software. This review is part of the ongoing examination of practices utilized to assess cropland's nutrient losses. Any recommended changes from the NLEW committee will be incorporated into nutrient accounting in future crop years.

Phosphorus accounting and reporting will continue to address qualitative factors and evaluate trends in agricultural phosphorus loss annually. Periodic land use surveys with associated use of PLAT will be conducted every five years contingent upon availability of funding and staff resources. Additionally, understanding of agricultural phosphorus management could be improved through in-stream monitoring contingent upon the availability of funding and staff resources.

A subcommittee of the Falls and Jordan Lake WOCs is working with DWR on issues regarding nutrient offsets that arise from trades involving agricultural land. Also, the WOC feels that additional research is needed on accounting procedures for pasture operations, and supports such research being conducted. Additionally, should readily accessible information become available on biosolids applications to cropland in the watershed, the WOC will consider whether separate accounting for those applications of nutrients is feasible and appropriate.

Funding is an integral part in the success of this strategy.

Without funding for the local Soil and Water Conservation District technicians, the collection of county data for the annual progress reports would fall on the LACs without assistance to compile data and county annual reports. In addition, technicians are needed for BMP installation. Farmers and agency personnel with other responsibilities serve on the LACs in a voluntary capacity. If funding for technician positions is not available, the LACs would have a difficult time meeting the workload requirements. The WOC considers this to be important work, and supports future funding to continue to meet the annual reporting requirements, and the continued efforts to increase BMP implementation. Additionally, the Division of Soil and Water Conservation no longer has the resources available to synthesize county level data for this report, thus putting the development of future annual reports in jeopardy. This reporting is required by the rules, therefore funding is essential for compliance.

WOC recognizes the dynamic nature of agricultural business:

- Urban encroachment (i.e., crop selection shifts as fields become smaller)
- Age of farmer (i.e. as retirement approaches farmers may move from row crops to cattle or hay production)
- Changes in the world economies, energy or trade policies
- Changes in government programs (i.e., commodity support or environmental regulations)
- Weather (i.e., long periods of drought or rain)
- Scientific advances in agronomics (i.e., production of new types of crops or improvements in crop sustainability)
- Plant disease or pest problems (i.e., viruses or foreign pests)

NCDA&CS

2013 Annual Progress Report on the Tar-Pamlico Agricultural Rule (15 A NCAC 02B.0256)

A Report to the Environmental Management Commission from the Tar-Pamlico
Basin Oversight Committee: Crop Year 2012

Summary

The Tar-Pamlico Basin Oversight Committee (BOC) received and approved crop year (CY) 2012 annual reports from the fourteen Local Advisory Committees (LACs) operating under the Tar-Pamlico Agricultural Rule as part of the Tar-Pamlico Basin Nutrient Management Strategy. The report demonstrates agriculture's ongoing collective compliance with the Tar-Pamlico Agricultural Rule and estimates further progress in decreasing nutrient losses. In CY2012, agriculture collectively achieved an estimated 46% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the 1991 baseline, continuing to exceed the rule-mandated 30% reduction. This represents a 3% increase in reduction compared to the 43% reduction reported for CY2011. Thirteen of the 14 LAC's exceeded the mandated 30% reduction goal.

Rule Requirements and Compliance History

Effective September 2001, the Tar-Pamlico Nutrient Sensitive Waters Management Strategy (NSW) provides for a collective strategy for farmers to meet the 30% nitrogen loss reduction and no-increase phosphorus goals within five years. A BOC and fourteen LACs were established to implement the rule and to assist farmers with complying with the rule. Currently there are five full time technicians that work with LACs to coordinate information for the annual reports. They are funded by the EPA 319 grant program, NC Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) technical assistance funds, and county funds.

Tar-Pamlico NSW Strategy

The Environmental Management Commission (EMC) adopted the Tar-Pamlico nutrient strategy in 2000. The NSW strategy goal is to reduce the average annual load of nitrogen to the Pamlico estuary by 30% from 1991 levels and to limit phosphorus loading to 1991 levels. Mandatory controls were applied to addressing non-point source pollution in agriculture, urban stormwater, nutrient management, and riparian buffer protection. The management strategy built upon the precedent-setting Neuse River Basin effort established three years earlier, which for the first time set regulatory reduction measures for nutrients on cropland acres in the state.

All fourteen LACs submitted their first annual report to the BOC in November 2003, which collectively estimated a 39% nitrogen loss reduction, and 10 of 14 LACs exceeded the 30% individually. Collective reductions had gradually increased in succeeding years, and by CY2007 only one LAC was shy of the 30% individually. In CY2008 all LACs individually exceeded the 30% nitrogen loss reduction goal and have continued to do so through CY2010. In CY2012 the collective reduction of 46% exceeded the mandated 30%, but one LAC fell below the 30% goal (Martin).

Scope of Report and Methodology

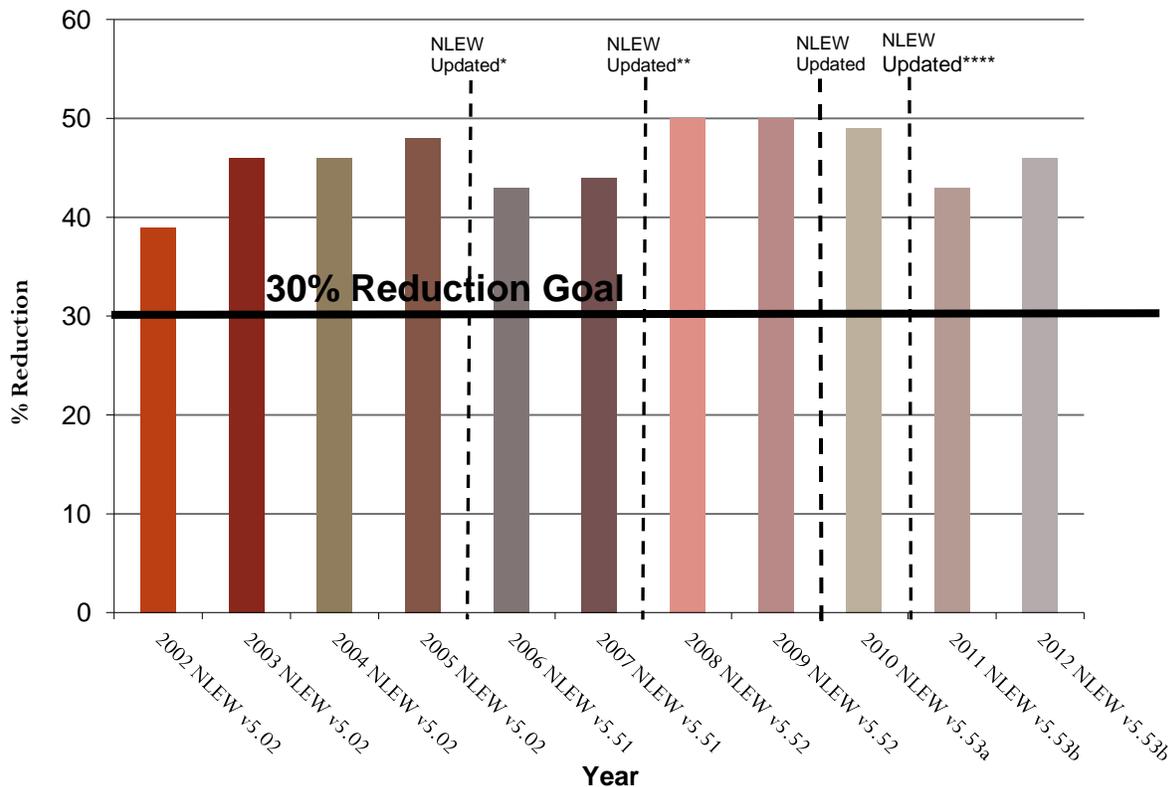
The estimates provided in this report represent whole-county scale calculations of nitrogen loss from cropland agriculture in the basin made by soil and water conservation district technicians using the 'aggregate' version of the Nitrogen Loss Estimation Worksheet, or NLEW, an accounting tool developed to meet the specifications of the Neuse Rule and approved by the EMC for use in the Tar-Pamlico Basin. The development team included interagency technical representatives of the NC Division of Water Resources (DWR), NC Division of Soil and Water

Conservation (DSWC), USDA-NRCS and was led by NC State University Soil Science Department faculty. NLEW captures application of both inorganic and animal waste sources of fertilizer to cropland. It does not capture the effects of nitrogen applied to pastureland, and is an “edge-of-management unit” accounting tool; it estimates changes in nitrogen loss from croplands, but does not estimate changes in nitrogen loading to surface waters. An assessment method was developed for phosphorus, approved by the EMC, and is described later in the report.

Annual Estimates of N Loss and the Effect of NLEW Refinements

As discussed below, the NLEW software is periodically revised to incorporate new knowledge gained through research and improvements to data. These changes have incorporated the best available data, but changes to NLEW must be considered when comparing nitrogen loss reduction in different versions of NLEW. Further updates in soil management units are expected as NRCS produces updated electronic soils data. The small changes in soil management units are unlikely to produce significant effects on nitrogen loss reductions. In 2010 nitrogen reduction efficiencies assigned to buffers in NLEW were significantly decreased (see Table 1). Figure 1 represents the annual percent nitrogen loss reduction from 2002 to 2012.

Figure 1. Collective Nitrogen Loss Reduction Percent 2002 to 2012, Tar Pamlico River Basin.



¹Between CY2005 & CY2006 NLEW was updated to incorporate revised soil management units and buffer nitrogen reduction efficiencies were reduced.

²Between CY2007 & CY2008 NLEW was updated to incorporate revised soil management units and correct some realistic yield errors.

³Between CY2009 & CY2010 NLEW was an administration software update with no effect on accounting.

⁴In 2011 NLEW was updated to significantly decrease buffer N removal efficiencies; CY2010 and the baseline reductions were recalculated to reflect changes in NLEW.

The first revision (v5.51) marked a significant change in the nitrogen reduction efficiencies of buffers so both the baseline and CY2005 were re-calculated based on the best available information. The second (v5.52) and third (v5.53a) revisions were administrative along with minor updates of soil mapping units. In April of 2011 the NLEW Committee established further reductions (v5.53b) in N removal efficiencies for buffers based on additional research. Table 1 lists the changes in buffer N reduction efficiencies over time.

Table 1. Changes in buffer width options and Nitrogen reduction efficiencies in NLEW

Buffer Width	NLEW v5.02* N Reduction %	NLEW v5.51 N Reduction %	NLEW v5.53b N Reduction %
20'	40% (grass)	30%	20%
20'	75% (trees & shrubs)	n/a	n/a
30'	65%	40%	25%
50'	85%	50%	30%
70'	n/a	55%	n/a
100'	n/a	60%	35%

*NLEW v5.02 - the vegetation type (i.e. trees, shrubs, grass) within 20' and 50' buffers determined reduction values. Based on research results, this distinction was dropped from subsequent NLEW versions.

Since the release of the CY2010 Report to the EMC, baseline and CY2010 values have been recalculated to reflect the most recent decrease in N removal efficiencies of buffers in NLEW. This resulted in a decreased estimate of percent N removed from agricultural loss for CY2010 to 49%, down from the reported 52%.

Current Status

Nitrogen Reduction from Baseline for CY2012

All fourteen LACs submitted their ninth annual report to the BOC in September 2012. For the entire basin, in CY2012 agriculture achieved a 46% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the 1991 baseline. This year 13 of the 14 LACs achieved the at-least 30% nitrogen loss reduction goal individually. Table 2 lists each county's baseline, CY2011 and CY2012 nitrogen (lbs/yr) loss values, and nitrogen loss percent reductions from the baseline in CY2011 and CY2012.

Table 2. Estimated Reductions in Agricultural Nitrogen Loss from Baseline (1991) for CY2011 and CY2012, Tar-Pamlico River Basin

County	Baseline N Loss (lb) ¹ NLEW v5.53b	CY2011 N Loss (lb) ¹ NLEW v5.53b	CY2011 N Reduction (%) NLEW v5.53b	CY2012 N Loss (lb) ¹ NLEW v5.53b	CY2012 N Reduction (%) NLEW v5.53b
Beaufort	9,190,250	6,014,967	35%	5,880,214	36%
Edgecombe	5,037,628	3,651,075	28%	3,182,967	37%
Franklin	2,183,751	798,686	63%	614,485	72%
Granville	890,371	449,968	49%	408,809	54%
Halifax	2,806,652	2,199,533	22%	1,557,924	44%
Hyde	4,975,781	3,289,265	34%	3,320,518	33%
Martin	782,152	595,684	24%	561,380	28%
Nash	4,963,538	1,547,934	69%	1,508,690	70%
Person	153,228	52,799	66%	52,240	66%
Pitt	6,147,727	2,646,294	57%	2,891,311	53%
Vance	419,485	165,056	61%	133,693	68%
Warren	535,517	148,874	72%	176,086	67%
Washington	977,801	674,271	31%	657,626	33%
Wilson	890,961	545,946	39%	469,373	47%
Total	39,954,842	22,780,352	43%	21,397,420	46%

¹Nitrogen loss values are for comparative purposes. They represent nitrogen that was applied to agricultural lands in the basin and neither used by crops nor intercepted by BMPs in a Soil Management Unit, based on NLEW calculations. This is not an in-stream loading value.

Martin County's individual nitrogen reduction showed improvement from the previous reporting period, but stayed below the 30% goal, at 28%, due mostly to cropping shifts. This county saw cotton decrease by 1,858 acres while corn and wheat, which require significant nitrogen inputs, increased by 73 and 84 acres, respectively. In addition, soybeans and peanuts, which need no nitrogen application, increased by 1,199 acres. The Division of Soil and Water Conservation will focus its efforts to work with this LAC on their reduction.

Halifax County's nitrogen reduction increased from 22% to 44% due to a reduction of 10,858 acres of cotton, which required 85 lbs of Nitrogen per acre, and an increase of 4,081 acres of soybeans, which required no Nitrogen input.

Nitrogen loss reductions were achieved through the combination of fertilization rate decreases, cropping shifts, BMP implementation and cropland attenuation shown in Table 3. The most significant factor continues to be fertilization management. NLEW estimates these factors contributed to the total nitrogen loss reduction in the following manner:

Table 3. Factors that Influence Nitrogen Reduction by Percentage on Agricultural Lands, Tar-Pamlico River Basin*

Factor	CY2009 NLEW v5.52	CY2010 NLEW v5.53b	CY2011 NLEW v5.53b	CY2012 NLEW v5.53b
BMP implementation	11%	9%	9%	10%
Fertilization Management	20%	23%	17%	14%
Cropping shift	11%	10%	8%	10%
Cropland converted to grass/trees	3.50%	3%	3%	5%
Cropland lost to idle land	3.50%	3%	4%	4%
Cropland lost to development	1%	1%	1%	1%
TOTAL	50%	49%	43%	44%

*Percentages are based on a total of the reduction, not a year-to-year comparison.

BMP Implementation

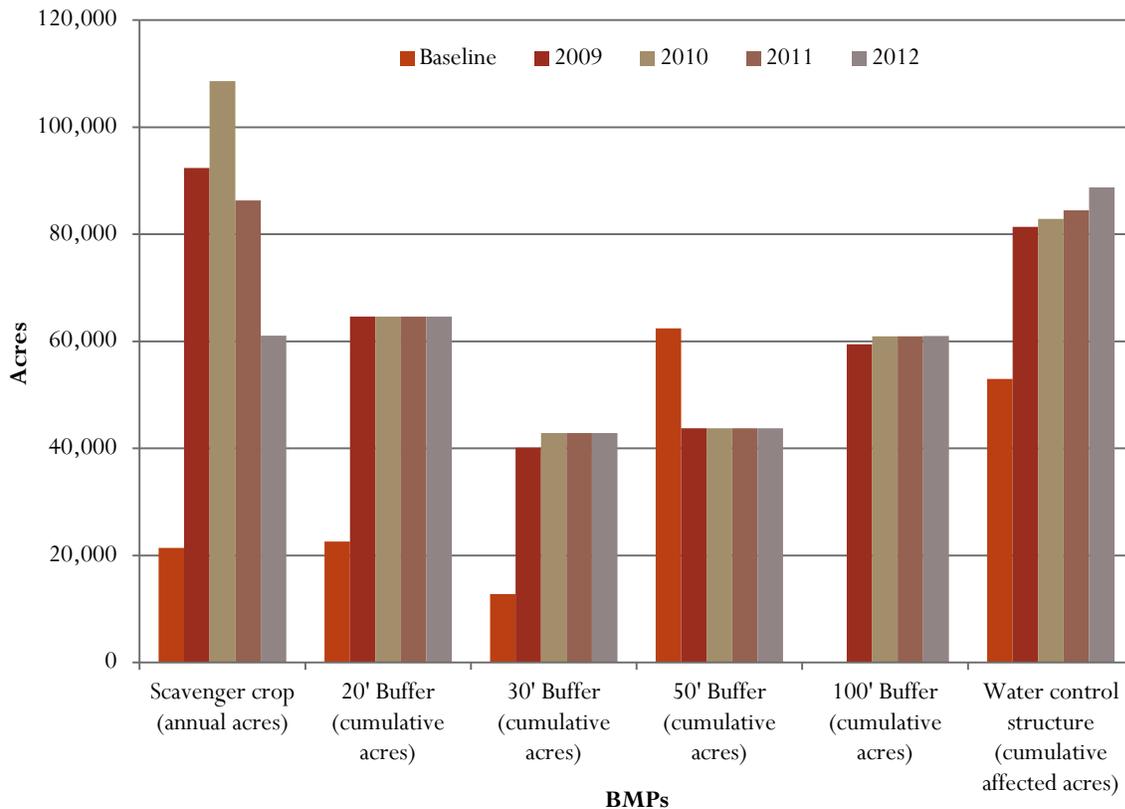
As illustrated in Figure 2, CY2012 yielded a net increase of 4,313 acres affected by water control structures and a decrease of 25,260 acres of nutrient scavenger crops, while buffer acres remained relatively steady.

While there is the inherent opportunity for variability in the data reported, LACs are including data that is the best information currently available. As additional sound data sources become available, the LACs will review the sources and update their methodology for reporting if warranted.

Overall, the total acres of implementation of BMPs have increased since the baseline, as illustrated in Figure 2. Based on a comparison of the actual acres of BMPs installed through federal, state and local cost share programs to the total 702,227 cropland acres; over half of all reported croplands receive some kind of treatment by BMPs. However this treatment estimate does not take into account the entire drainage area treated by buffers in the piedmont which is generally 5 to 10 times higher than the actual acres of the buffer shown in Figure 2. (Bruton 2004)¹

¹ Bruton, Jeffrey Griffin. 2004. Headwater Catchments: Estimating Surface Drainage Extent Across North Carolina and Correlations Between Landuse, Near Stream, and Water Quality Indicators in the Piedmont Physiographic Region. Ph.D. Dissertation. Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27606. <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/theses/available/etd-03282004-174056/>

Figure 2: Nutrient Reducing BMPs installed on Agricultural Lands for Baseline (1991) and 2009-2012, Tar-Pamlico River Basin*



*The acres of buffers listed represent actual acres. Acres affected by the buffer could be 5 to 10 times larger than the acreage shown above.

Additional Nutrient BMPs

Not all types of nutrient-reducing BMPs are tracked by NLEW. These include: livestock-related nitrogen and phosphorus reducing BMPs, BMPs that reduce soil and phosphorus loss, and BMPs that do not have enough scientific research to support estimating a nitrogen benefit. The BOC believes it is worthwhile to recognize these practices. Table 4 identifies BMPs not accounted for in NLEW and tracks their implementation in the basin since CY2005.

Increased implementation numbers are evident in CY2012 across all BMP types since the baseline. These BMPs will yield reductions in nitrogen loss that are not reflected in the NLEW accounting in this report but will benefit the estuary.

Table 4: Nutrient-Reducing Best Management Practices Not Accounted for In NLEW, 2009-2012, Tar-Pamlico River Basin*

BMP	Units	2009	2010	2011	2012
Diversion	Feet	389,861	390,046	394,461	398,291
Fencing (USDA Programs)	Feet	205,959	206,190	235,865	241,732
Field Border	Acres	539	943	1,001	1,264
Grassed Waterway	Acres	646	1,115	1,154	2,475
Livestock Exclusion	Feet	217,302	221,088	221,096	233,061
Sod Based Rotation	Acres	16,724	26,504	37,052	52,502
Tillage Management	Acres	33,905	35,946	40,612	46,808
Terraces	Feet	368,914	369,914	371,936	371,936

*Values represent active contracts in State and Federal cost share programs.

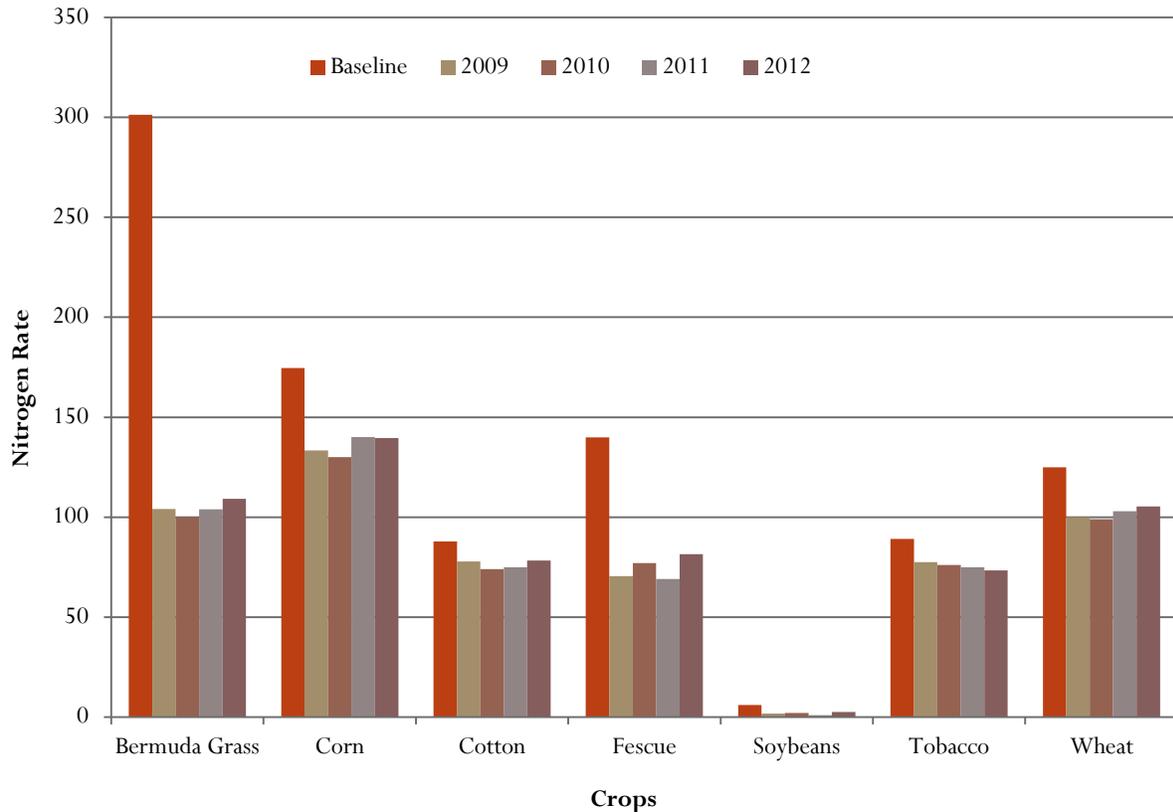
Fertilization Management

Both increased fertilizer cost and better nutrient management have resulted in farmers in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin reducing their nitrogen application from baseline levels. Figure 3 indicates that nitrogen rates for the major crops in the basin have reduced from the baseline period. In CY2012 nitrogen rates were stable for corn compared to CY2011, and slightly decreased for tobacco. The rates for bermuda grass, cotton, fescue, soybeans, and wheat increased by less than 5 lbs per acre this year. Most pastures are under-fertilized throughout the Tar-Pamlico basin. Some bermuda grass and fescue land is used for waste application, but due to the nitrogen concentrations of the waste and the amount of liquid, actual waste applied does not have nitrogen application rates as high as the agronomic rates for the grasses. The pasture and hayland are typically not supplemented with inorganic fertilizers. Fertilizer rates are revisited annually by LACs using data from farmers, commercial applicators and state and federal agencies' professional estimates.

Factors Identified by LACs Contributing to Reduced Nitrogen Rates since the Baseline Year

- Rising fertilizer costs and fluctuating farm incomes.
- Increased education & outreach on nutrient management (NC Cooperative Extension holds an annual nutrient management training session, since 2004 approximately 2,000 farmers and applicators have received training.)
- Mandatory waste management plans
- The federal government tobacco quota buy-out reducing tobacco acreage.
- Neuse & Tar-Pamlico Nutrient Strategies.

Figure 3. Average Annual Nitrogen Fertilization Rate (lb/ac) for the Major Agricultural Crops for the Baseline (1991) and 2009-2012, Tar-Pamlico River Basin

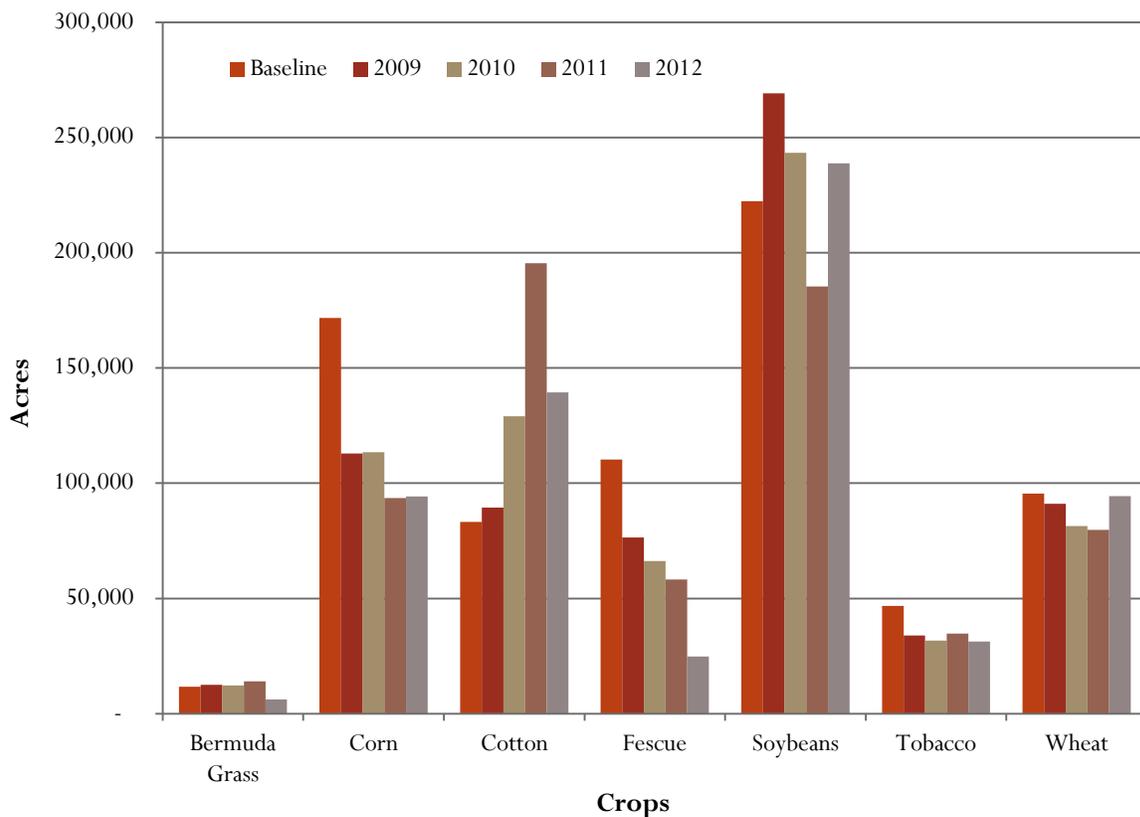


Cropping Shifts

The LACs calculated the cropland acreage by utilizing crop data reported by farmers to the USDA-Farm Service Agency. Each crop requires different amounts of nitrogen and use the nitrogen applied with different efficiency rates. Changes in the mix of crops grown can have a significant impact on the cumulative yearly nitrogen loss reduction.

Figure 4 shows crop acres and shifts for the last four years compared to the baseline. While some crops – bermuda grass, tobacco, and wheat – have remained relatively stable, others show more volatility. In CY2012, cotton acreage reduced to a more typical amount, and soybeans increased to a normal level. From CY2009 to CY-2012, fescue has lost significant acreages. A host of factors from individual to global determine crop choices.

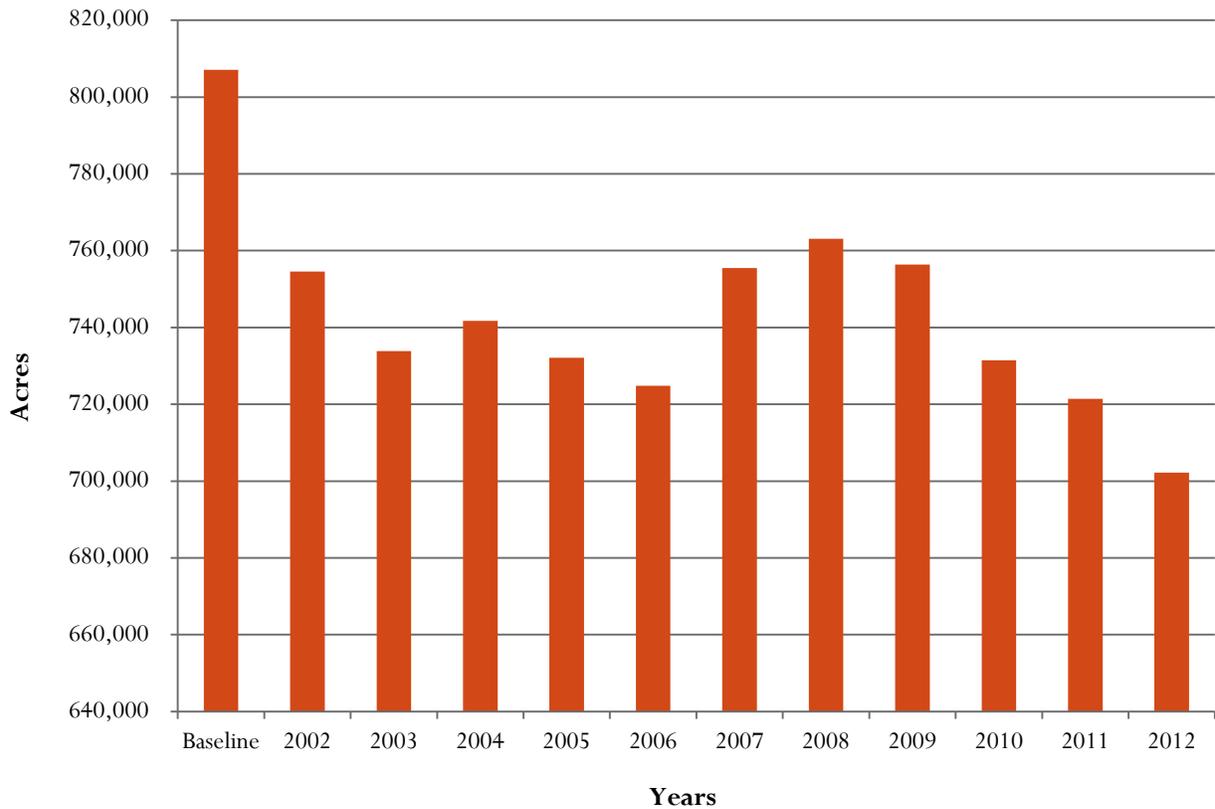
Figure 4. Acreage of Major Crops for the Baseline (1991) and 2009-2012, Tar-Pamlico River Basin



Land Use Change to Development, Idle Land and Cropland Conversion

The number of cropland acres fluctuates every year in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin due to cropland conversion, idle land and development. Each year, some cropland is permanently lost to development or converted to grass or trees and likely to be ultimately lost from agricultural production. Idle land is agricultural land that is currently out of production but could be brought back into production at any time. Currently it is estimated that approximately 11,464 acres have been permanently lost to development in the basin and more than 42,330 acres have been converted to grass or trees since the 1991 baseline. For CY2012 it is estimated that there are approximately 37,124 idle acres and a total of 702,227 total acres of cropland (see Fig. 5). These estimates come from the LAC members’ best professional judgment, USDA-FSA records and county planning department data.

Figure 5. Total Cropland Acres in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin, Baseline (1991) and 2002-2012



Phosphorus

Phosphorus Indicators for CY2012: The qualitative indicators included in Table 5 show the relative changes in land use and management parameters and their relative effect on phosphorus loss risk in the basin. This approach was recommended by the Phosphorus Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) in 2005 due to the difficulty of developing an aggregate phosphorus tool parallel to the nitrogen NLEW tool and was approved by the EMC. Table 5 builds upon the data provided in the 2005 PTAC report, which included all available data at the time ending with data from 2003. This report adds phosphorus indicator data for CY2009 through CY2012. Most of the parameters indicate less risk of phosphorus loss than in the baseline.

Contributing to the reduced risk of phosphorus loss is the increase of nutrient reducing BMPs in the basin.

Phosphorous Technical Assistance Committee (PTAC)

The PTAC's overall purpose was to establish a phosphorus accounting method for agriculture in the basin. It determined that a defensible, aggregated, county-scale accounting method for estimating phosphorus losses from agricultural lands is not currently feasible due to "the complexity of phosphorus behavior and transport within a watershed, the lack of suitable data required to adequately quantify the various mechanisms of phosphorus loss and retention within watersheds of the basin, and the problem with not being able to capture agricultural conditions as they existed in 1991". The PTAC instead developed recommendations for qualitatively tracking relative changes in practices in land use and management related to agricultural activity that either increase or decrease the risk of phosphorus loss from agricultural lands in the basin on an annual basis.

As indicated in Table 6, the acres affected in the basin by water control structures have steadily increased over the past three years. It should also be noted that the soil test phosphorus median number reported for the basin fluctuates each year due to the nature of how the data is collected and compiled. The soil test phosphorus median numbers shown in Table 6 are generated by using North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) soil test laboratory results from voluntary soil testing and the data is reported by the NCDA&CS. The number of samples collected each year varies. The data does not include soil tests that were submitted to private laboratories. The soil test results from the NCDA&CS database represent data from entire counties in the basin, and have not been adjusted to include only those samples collected in the river basin area.

Table 5. Relative Changes in Land Use and Management Parameters and their Relative Effect on Phosphorus Loss Risk in the Tar-Pamlico

Parameter	Units	Source	1991 Baseline	CY 2009	CY 2010	CY 2011	CY 2012	'91 - '12 Change	CY2012 P Loss Risk +/-
Agricultural land	Acres	FSA	807,026	756,365	731,408	721,432	702,227	-13%	-
Cropland conversion (to grass & trees)	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	660	31,168	31,596	31,631	42,330	6314%	-
CRP / WRP (cumulative)	Acres	USDA-NRCS	19,241	38,967	41,833	41,833	41,833	117%	-
Conservation Tillage (cumulative)	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	41,415	33,905*	35,946	40,612	46,808	13.02%	-
Vegetated buffers (cumulative)	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	50,836	211,360	215,606	227,528	212,212	317%	-
Water control structures (cumulative)	Acres Affected	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	52,984	81,348	82,844	84,442	88,755	68%	-
Scavenger crop	Acres	LAC	13,272	92,376	108,888	86,283	73,177	451%	-
Animal waste P	lbs of P/yr	NC Ag Statistics	13,597,734	14,608,377**	15,202,037	16,695,543	16,561,052	22%	+
Soil test P median	mg/kg	NCDA&CS	83	84	86	87	85	2.41%	+

* Conservation tillage is still being practiced on additional acres but this number only reflects active cost share contract acres, not acres where contracts have expired.

** Due to the reporting protocol of the National Agricultural Statistics Service some of the numbers were not available for 2009. The additional numbers were derived from the NCDA&CS Emergency Program and the Division of Water Resources.

Based on the these findings, the BOC recommends that no additional management actions be required of agricultural operations in the basin at this time to comply with the “no net increase above the 1991 levels” phosphorus goal of the agriculture rule. The BOC will continue to track and report the identified set of qualitative phosphorus indicators to the EMC annually, and to bring any concerns raised by the results of this effort to the EMC’s attention as they arise, along with recommendations for any appropriate action. The BOC expects that BMP implementation will continue to increase throughout the basin in future years, and notes that BMPs installed for nitrogen, pathogen and sediment control often provide significant phosphorus benefits as well.

Looking Forward

The Tar-Pamlico BOC will continue to improve rule implementation, relying heavily on the basin technicians to work with the LACs and farmers.

Because cropping shifts are susceptible to various pressures, the BOC is working with LACs in all counties to continue BMP implementation that provides for a lasting reduction in nitrogen loss in the basin while monitoring cropping changes.

The committee overseeing the development of NLEW has been reviewing BMP efficiencies credited by the nutrient accounting software. This review is part of the ongoing examination of practices utilized to assess agriculture's nutrient losses. Any recommended changes from the NLEW committee will be incorporated into nutrient accounting in future crop years.

The BOC will continue to review data from all studies as they are completed and become available and will consider the results as they relate to nutrient loadings from land based sources and uses. This includes studies related to the 2004 NPDES permit issued to Rose Acre Farms.

Funding is an integral part in the success of this strategy. Without funding for the technicians, the annual progress reports would fall on the LACs without assistance to compile data and annual reports. In addition, technicians are needed for BMP installation. Farmers and agency staff personnel with other responsibilities serve on the LACs in a voluntary capacity. If funding for technician positions is not available, the LACs would have a difficult time meeting the workload requirements. The Division of Soil and Water Conservation no longer has the resources available to synthesize county level data for this report, thus putting the development of future annual reports in jeopardy. This reporting is required by the rules, therefore funding is essential for compliance.

Basin Oversight Committee recognizes the dynamic nature of agricultural business.

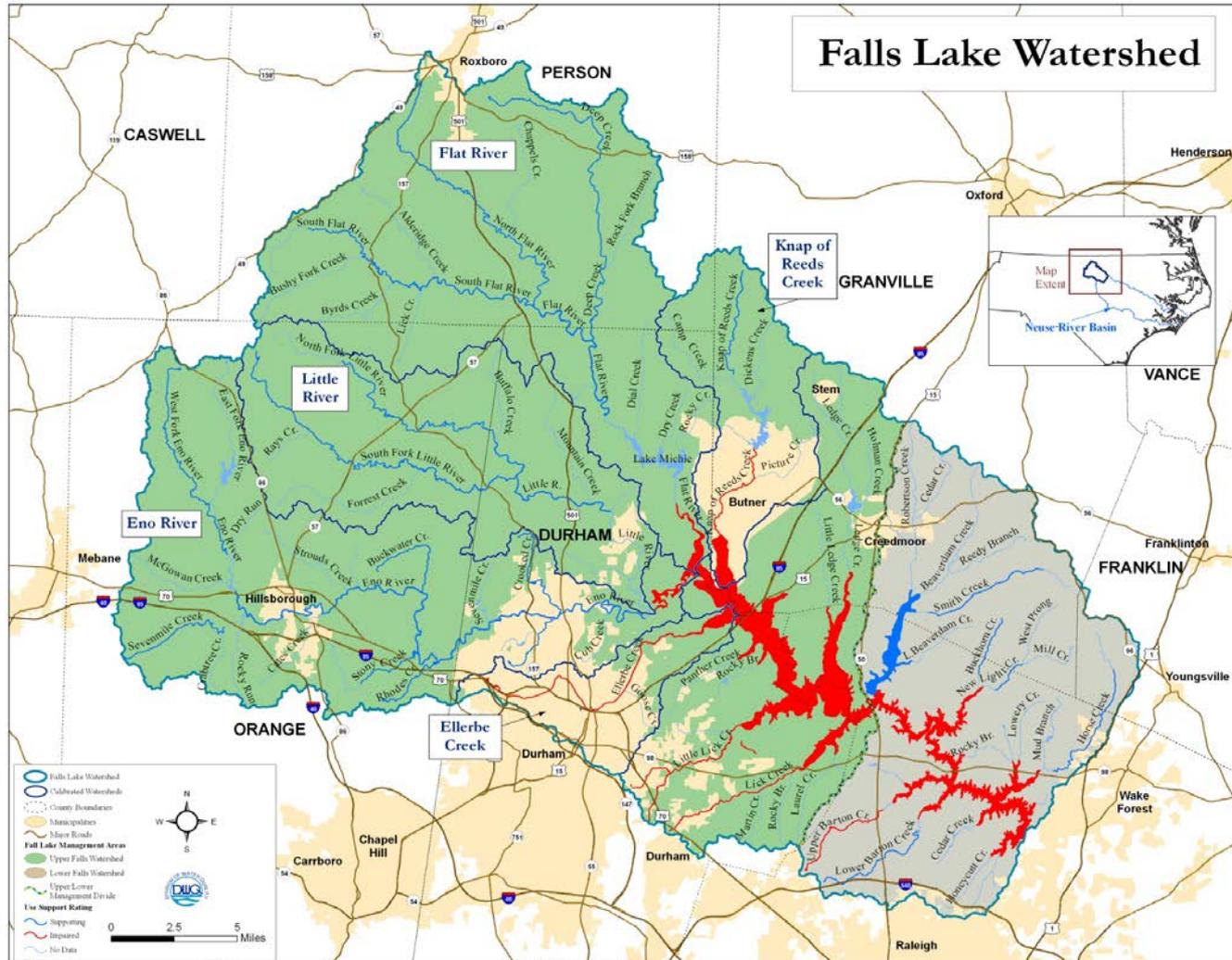
- Changes in the world economies, energy or trade policies.
- Changes in government programs (i.e., commodity support or environmental regulations)
- Weather (i.e., long periods of drought or rain)
- Scientific advances in agronomics (i.e., production of new types of crops or improvements in crop sustainability)
- Plant disease or pest problems (i.e., viruses or foreign pests)
- Urban encroachment (i.e., crop selection shifts as fields become smaller)
- Age of farmer (i.e., as retirement approaches farmers may move from row crops to cattle)

Annual Agriculture Progress Reports

Tar-Pamlico / Neuse / Falls Lake

*Prepared by the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico Basin Oversight Committees
&
Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee*

Falls Lake Watershed



Nutrient Management History

- WQ Impairment
 - Exceeding Chlorophyll-a standard
 - Neuse & Tar-Pamlico Estuaries, Falls Lake
- Nutrient Management Strategies for each watershed
 - Address Point & Nonpoint Sources
- Goal
 - Decrease nutrient loading - Achieve Chlorophyll-a standard
- Effective Dates
 - Neuse: (1998), Tar-Pamlico (2001), Falls (2011)

Neuse & Tar-Pamlico Agriculture Rule Overview

- Rule Effective
 - August 1998 (Neuse) & September 2001 (Tar-Pamlico)
 - Collective Compliance Approach
- Goal
 - 30% Reduction in Nitrogen Load from Baseline
 - Tar-Pam: No Increase in Phosphorus Load
 - Baseline 1991-1995 (Neuse) & 1991 (Tar-Pamlico)
- BOC & LACs
 - Develop accounting tools
 - Assist with implementation

Falls Lake

Agriculture Rule Overview

- Rule Effective: January 2011
 - Collective compliance similar to Neuse & Tar-Pamlico
- Affects All Agriculture – Cropland & Pastureland
 - Stage I 2011-2020: **20% N / 40% P**
 - Stage II 2021-2035: **40% N / 77% P**
 - 2006 Baseline
- WOC & LACs
 - Develop accounting tools
 - Assist with implementation

Reports Produced Through Joint Effort

- Neuse technicians
- Producers
- LACs
- WOCs
- Local SWCDs
- DSWC
- NRCS
- CES
- NCDA & CS
- NASS
- NLEW Committee
- Pasture points committee
- PTAC
- NCSU
- DWR

Oversight Committees (BOC & WOC)

Representatives

Division of Soil and Water Conservation

US Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

NC Cooperative Extension

Division of Water Resources

Environmental

General Farming

Pasture-Based Livestock

Equine Livestock

Cropland Farming

Scientific Community

Environmental Management Commission Approved Accounting Methods

1. Cropland Nitrogen Loss – NLEW Tool
2. Phosphorus Loss – Qualitative Indicators
3. Pastureland Nitrogen Loss - Point System*

* Falls Implementation Only – To be included CY 2014 progress report

Cropland Nitrogen Accounting

N-Loss Estimation Worksheet (NLEW)

- Empirical Spreadsheet-based Model
 - Developed by DWR, NRCS, and NCSU
- Estimates Nitrogen Loss from Cropland Ag
 - Compare baseline loss to current crop year
 - Loss Estimates at County Scale
- Data Collected Annually
 - Number of Acres / Type of Crop
 - Fertilization Rates
 - BMPs implemented

Neuse Estimated N Loss Reductions

County	2011 Reported N Loss Reduction	2012 Reported N Loss Reduction
Carteret	39%	35%
Craven	49%	48%
Durham	55%	53%
Franklin	68%	77%
Granville	58%	47%
Greene	48%	46%
Johnston	53%	51%
Jones	36%	40%
Lenoir	19%	16%
Nash	63%	67%
Orange	54%	51%
Pamlico	36%	26%
Person	51%	57%
Pitt	56%	47%
Wake	68%	72%
Wayne	43%	53%
Wilson	42%	40%
Total	45%	45%

Tar-Pamlico Estimated N Loss Reductions

County	2011 Reported N Loss Reduction	2012 Reported N Loss Reduction
Beaufort	35%	36%
Edgecombe	28%	37%
Franklin	63%	72%
Granville	49%	54%
Halifax	22%	44%
Hyde	34%	33%
Martin	24%	28%
Nash	69%	70%
Person	66%	66%
Pitt	57%	53%
Vance	61%	68%
Warren	72%	67%
Washington	31%	33%
Wilson	39%	47%
Total	43%	46%

Falls Estimated N Loss Reductions

County	2011 Reported N Loss Reduction	2012 Reported N Loss Reduction
Durham	28%	23%
Franklin	41%	57%
Granville	36%	20%
Orange	26%	20%
Person	37%	45%
Wake	9%	21%
Total	31%	31%

Phosphorus Accounting Method

- Developed by Phosphorus Technical Committee
 - EMC approved Phosphorus tracking method in 2005
- Qualitative Indicator Trends
 - 9 indicators used to qualitatively assess risk of P loss
- Baseline vs. Current Crop Year
 - Indicators characterize changes in land use and management to assess P-loss risk compared against the baseline year

Phosphorus Loss Tracking: Tar-Pamlico

2012 P Loss Indicators

Parameter	Units	Baseline 1991	CY2012	Percent '91-'12 change	CY2012 P Loss Risk +/-
Agricultural Land	Acres	807,026	702,227	-13%	-
Cropland conversion (to grass & trees)	Acres	660	42,330	6,314%	-
CRP / WRP (cumulative)	Acres	19241	41,833	117%	-
Conservation tillage	Acres	41,415	46,808	13%	-
Vegetated buffers (cumulative)	Acres	50,836	212,212	317%	-
Water Control Structures (cumulative)	Acres affected	52,984	88,755	68%	-
Scavenger Crop	Acres	13,272	73,177	451%	-
Animal waste P	lbs of P/ yr	13,597,734	16,561,052	22%	+
Soil test P median	mg/kg	83	85	2.4%	+

Phosphorus Loss Tracking: Falls Lake

2012 P Loss Indicators

Parameter	Units	Baseline 2006	CY2012	Percent '06-'12 change	CY2012 P Loss Risk +/-
Agricultural Land	acres	55,969	45,132	-19%	-
Cropland conversion (to grass & trees)	acres	1,527	1,822	19%	-
CRP / WRP (cumulative)	acres	0	0	0%	n/a
Conservation tillage	acres	26,787	18,179	-32%	+
Vegetated buffers (cumulative)	acres	52,139	54,418	4%	-
Scavenger crop	acres	0	0	0%	n/a
Tobacco	acres	3,288	2,817	-14%	-
Animal waste P	lbs of P/ yr	586,612	541,096	-8%	-
Soil test P median	mg/kg	77	67	-10%	-

Looking forward

- Funding for staff is critical, without which tasks would fall to the voluntary LACs & Oversight Committees for data compilation; staff also needed for BMP installation
- Committees will continue working with LACs and farmers to implement the rules and adopt nutrient-reduction BMPs
- Committees will continue to review data from all studies to incorporate into the process
- Falls WOC members are working with DWR on trading topics



Questions



INTERNAL USE ONLY:
 Appointed / Elected Seal
 Current Term: 10-14

DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
 North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
 1614 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614
 919.733.2302 • www.ncagr.gov/sw/

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and send 1 copy to the address above; keep a copy for your file

The supervisors of the Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District of Clay County, North Carolina have recommended the individual listed below for APPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing 01/14 and ending 12/14 to fill the expired or un-expired term of James Clay Logan.

Name of nominee: Aaron Martin
 Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 365 BARNARD RD HAYESVILLE NC
 Email address of nominee: ackley_martin@yahoo.com
 Home phone: 828-359-2147
 Mobile phone: 828-361-1910
 Business phone: _____
 Occupation: RETIRED
 Age: 65
 Education: B.S. WESTERN CAROLINA U.
 Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: NONE
 Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: DISTRICT DIRECTOR FSA - USDA STATE DIRECTOR - RALEIGH NC
 Other pertinent information: _____

- Is nominee willing to attend a training session within the first year after appointment? Check for "Yes"
- Has the nominee been contacted to determine their willingness to serve? Check for "Yes"
- Has the program and purpose of the soil and water conservation district been explained to the nominee? Check for "Yes"
- Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in local district meetings? Check for "Yes"
- Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in Area meetings? Check for "Yes"
- Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in State meetings? Check for "Yes"

Signatures

I hereby certify that the board of supervisors considered the Guiding Principles for Supervisor Nomination for Appointment shown on the reverse of this nomination form when selecting the above supervisor candidate for nomination.

X Bruce Woody
 SWCD Chair
 Printed name: Bruce Woody Date: 12-10-13

This recommendation has been considered and approved by a majority of the members of the board of supervisors and entered in the official minutes of the board.

X Bruce Woody
 SWCD Chair
 Printed name: Bruce Woody Date: 12-10-13

X Aaron Martin
 Individual recommended for appointment
 Printed name: AARON MARTIN Date: 12-10-13

May 20, 2013

To: Chairman Bruce Woody of the
Clay County Soil and Water Conservation
District:

I Clay Logan resign my
position on the Board of
the Clay County Soil and Water
District as of the end of
the May 2013 meeting.

Reason - Concerns that I have
which never get resolved.

Clay Logan


Note: Please be sure
this gets put in
the minutes properly
Thanks

Clay County Soil and
Water Supervisor



RECEIVED

DEC 16 2013

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

INTERNAL USE ONLY: Appointed / Elected Seat Current Term: 10-14

DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services 1614 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614 919.733.2302 • www.ncagr.gov/sw/

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and send 1 copy to the address above; keep a copy for your file

The supervisors of the Richmond Soil and Water Conservation District of Richmond County, North Carolina have recommended the individual listed below for APPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing 12-21-2013 and ending 12-2014 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Myers Waddell 01/2014 KAF

Name of nominee: David Jared Garney "Jared" Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 189 BB Covington Rd. Ellerbe, NC 28338 Email address of nominee: jaredgarney@yahoo.com Home phone: 910-1052-7062 Mobile phone: 910-995-05169 Business phone: 910-638-5746

Occupation: Lineman/Inspector/Poultry Farmer/Longleaf Farmer/RB Bail Bonds Age: 32

Education: B.S. Biology

Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Safety Chairman/Finance Committee Committee (church)

Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Manager Perdue Farms, Team lead for (ITAM) we tracked land disturbance on Fort Bragg

Other pertinent information:

Is nominee willing to attend a training session within the first year after appointment? Check for "Yes" [X]

Has the nominee been contacted to determine their willingness to serve? Check for "Yes" [X]

Has the program and purpose of the soil and water conservation district been explained to the nominee? Check for "Yes" [X]

Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in local district meetings? Check for "Yes" [X]

Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in Area meetings? Check for "Yes" [X]

Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in State meetings? Check for "Yes" [X]

Signatures

I hereby certify that the board of supervisors considered the Guiding Principles for Supervisor Nomination for Appointment shown on the reverse of this nomination form when selecting the above supervisor candidate for nomination.

[Signature] SWCD Chair Printed name: Jeff W. Joyner

12/10/2013 Date

This recommendation has been considered and approved by a majority of the members of the board of supervisors and entered in the official minutes of the board.

[Signature] SWCD Chair Printed name: Jeff W. Joyner

12/10/2013 Date

[Signature] Individual recommended for appointment Printed name: David Jared Garney

12/10/13 Date By KAF

RECEIVED

DEC 16 2013

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Myers Waddell
1116 Ann Street
Rockingham NC 28379-3008
December 10, 2013

Richmond SWCD Board of Supervisors
Richmond Soil & Water Conservation District
123 Caroline Street #300
Rockingham NC 28379-3685

Dear Board of Supervisors:

Pursuant to our discussion, I am, with great regret, tendering my resignation as a member of the Board of Supervisors of the Richmond Soil and Water Conservation District. Please except this written statement as notice of my resignation.

Over the past 19 years, I have sincerely enjoyed the opportunity to serve our County and our State in this capacity, and will always cherish the relationships gained as a result of my work. It is my hope that my service on the Board helped to make a positive impact.

Thank you for your confidence in electing me, and I look forward to our paths crossing again in the future.

With best regards,



Myers Waddell

**NCACSP Supervisor Contracts
Soil and Water Conservation Commission**

County	Contract Number	Supervisor Name	BMP	Contract Amount	Comments
Davidson	29-2014-001	Ben Hege	Precision Nutrient Management	\$ 14,208	
Hertford	46-2014-004	Samuel B. Howell	Grade Stabilization Structure	\$ 4,003	(Farm Operator)
Pasquotank	70-2014-002	Maurice Berry	Land Smoothing	\$ 10,500	

Total Number of Supervisor Contracts: 3

Total \$ **28,711**

NCDA&CS
DSWC

RECEIVED

DEC 13 2013

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

NC-ACSPs-1B
(01/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the DAVIDSON Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control or the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application.

The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Best Management Practices: Precision Nutrient Mgmt

Contract Number: 29-14-01-16 Contract Amount \$ 14,208

Score on priority ranking sheet: 250

Cost Share Rate: 75% 90% other FR (circle one)

Relative Rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 2 of 4

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts were denied? No

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts.: _____

Supervisor Name: BEN HEGE

Ben Hege
(District Supervisor's Signature)

12-11-13
Date

Approved by:

David A. Smith
(District Chairperson's Signature)

12-11-13
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a grant.

(SWCC Chairperson's Signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Hertford Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: NC ACSP

Best management practice: Grade Stabilization Structure

Contract number: 46-2014-004 Contract amount: \$ 4,003

Score on priority ranking sheet: 130

Cost Share Rate : 75% If different than 75%, please list % percent:
Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 3rd out of 7

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: Samuel B. Howell (Farm operator)

Samuel B. Howell
(District Supervisor's signature)

11/19/13
Date

Approved by:

[Signature]
(District Chairperson's signature)

12-2-13
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Albemarle/Pasquotank Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a contract under a commission cost share program. I did not vote on the approval or denial of the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application. The proposed contract is for the installation of the following best management practices.

Program: NCACSP

Best management practice: Land Smoothing

Contract number: 70-2014-002

Contract amount: \$10,500

Score on priority ranking sheet: 80

Cost Share Rate : 75 % If different than 75%, please list % percent:

Reason:

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 1st out of 3 projects

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? no

If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts:

Supervisor name: Maurice Berry

Maurice Berry
(District Supervisor's signature)

11/14/13
Date

Approved by:

Steph Davis
(District Chairperson's signature)

12/3/13
Date

The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(SWCC Chairperson's signature)
(Pursuant G.S. 139-8(b)(2))

Date

*Beneficiaries include but are not limited to applicant, landowner, and/or business partners.



SWCC Job Approval Authority Recommendations

January 5, 2013

The following individuals have submitted a request to obtain Commission Job Approval Authority for the respective categories.

1. Riparian Buffer
Mike Bennett – Northampton Soil and Water Conservation District
2. Critical Area Planting
Mike Bennett – Northampton Soil and Water Conservation District

Mr. Bennett has successfully completed the training requirements. The Division has acquired confirmation of demonstrated technical proficiency through NRCS job approval authority; therefore I recommend his job approval authority requests be approved.

MAILING ADDRESS

Division of Soil and Water Conservation
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

Telephone: 919-733-2302
Fax Number: 919-733-3559

An Equal Opportunity Employer

LOCATION

Archdale Building
512 N. Salisbury Street, Suite 504
Raleigh, NC 27604



Technical Specialist Designation Recommendations

January 5, 2014

The Soil and Water Conservation Commission has authority to designate water quality technical specialists based upon specific criteria and procedures (15A NCAC 06H .0101). This authority extends to individuals who have been assigned approval authority by USDA NRCS, NC Cooperative Extension, Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and the Division. District staff is assigned the approval authority by the USDA NRCS. This process allows for each agency personnel to ensure an employee not only has completed the training requirements, but has also demonstrated proficiency prior to obtaining a technical specialist designation.

1. Mr. Anthony Hester, District Resource Specialist for Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District, has requested to be designated technical specialist for the Waste Utilization Planning/Nutrient Management category.

Mr. Hester has successfully completed the required training and his technical competency has been verified by their respective NRCS staff. Therefore I recommend this designation for approval.

2. Mr. John College and Mr. Joseph Hudyncia, both Environmental Specialists for the Division of Soil and Water Conservation have requested to be designated technical specialist for the Wettable Acres category.

Mr. College and Mr. Hudyncia have successfully completed the required training and his technical competency has been verified by Division staff. Therefore I recommend these designations for approval.

Commission Cost Share Programs

APPROVAL OF COST SHARE APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS AND REQUESTS FOR PAYMENTS

This policy specifies the process for approving cost share applications, contracts and requests for payments.

Applications and contracts

1. Applications and contracts must be approved during an official board meeting. Signature authority cannot be delegated for approving applications and contracts outside of an official board meeting. For this reason, the information provided below only applies to approving and processing requests for payment and does not apply to approval of applications/contracts.
2. Applications and contracts must be approved as separate action items as required by 02 NCAC 59D .0108.

Requests for payment

1. Requests for payment (RFPs) must be complete, including proper job approval authority signature or letter, prior to approval.
2. RFPs should be considered and approved at board meetings.
3. Boards may delegate signature authority on RFPs to a person, not a position. This delegation shall be recorded in board minutes and include the name of the person and the delegated authority. The authority remains with the person until rescinded.
4. The commission recommends delegating signature authority only to supervisors.
5. Although the board retains the ultimate authority for decisions, boards can delegate signature authority to a primary delegate and an alternate delegate. If the primary or the alternate is unavailable, RFPs will go back to the board.
6. If the RFP benefits the primary or alternate delegate, that delegate cannot approve the RFP. The other delegate or the board can approve the RFP.
7. RFPs approved outside of a board meeting must be presented and recorded at the next board meeting as an information item.

APPROVAL OF COST SHARE APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS AND REQUESTS FOR PAYMENTS

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3. Boards may delegate signature authority on RFPs to a person, not a position. This delegation shall be recorded in board minutes and include the name of the person and the delegated authority. The authority remains with the person until rescinded.
4. The commission recommends delegating signature authority only to supervisors.
5. Although the board retains the ultimate authority for decisions, boards can delegate signature authority to a primary delegate and an alternate delegate. If the primary or the alternate is unavailable, RFPs will go back to the board.
6. If the RFP benefits the primary or alternate delegate, that delegate cannot approve the RFP. The other delegate or the board can approve the RFP.
7. RFPs approved outside of a board meeting must be presented and recorded at the next board meeting as an information item.

REPAIRS

1. If a BMP is destroyed the applicant must either repair the BMP as agreed in the contract or repay the state a pro-rated amount of the funds received to install the BMP.
2. If a BMP suffers damages beyond the control of the applicant, repairs are cost shareable under the Cost Share Program.
3. State the reason for the need to repair the BMP on the contract. Up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the actual cost of the repairs, not to exceed the average costs, may be paid. Repair contracts follow the normal contract approval process.
4. Contract procedures for repairs :
 - If sufficient funds remain in the contract to be repaired, follow the revision policy.
 - If insufficient funds remain in the contract to be repaired, write a new contract and reference the original contract;
5. Repair contracts must be limited to a maximum of one (1) year from the date the cost share contract is given final approval. If repairs are not implemented within that year, the funds encumbered to the repair contract will be canceled to the state program account. **In addition, the district must provide documentation explaining why the repair has not been implemented and actions the district has taken with regard to non-compliance rules and policies.**

Note: **If a repair contract expires prior to installation, the cooperator is required to immediately refund to the State a pro-rated amount of the cost share monies received for that BMP. The amount to be refunded should be based on the remaining life of the BMP from the date of installation to the date the BMP was found to be in need of repair.**
6. The life of the practice is renewed when the cooperator receives cost share to repair a BMP. For example: repairing a grassed waterway that has been installed for two years will dictate that the cooperator must still maintain the grassed waterway an additional ten years from the date of repair.
7. Repairs for supervisor contracts **must receive** commission approval prior to approval by the division.
8. If a BMP that was repaired using cost share funds is found out of compliance and not repaired/reimplemented within the allotted time period, a pro-rated repayment of the original cost shared amount (not the repair amount) would be required.

REPAIRS

1. If a BMP is destroyed the applicant must either repair the BMP as agreed in the contract or repay the state a pro-rated amount of the funds received to install the BMP.
2. If a BMP suffers damages beyond the control of the applicant, repairs are cost shareable under the Cost Share Program.
3. ~~Be sure to S~~state the reason for the need to repair the BMP ~~on the contract~~~~(on the NC-ACSP-11)~~. Up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the actual cost of the repairs, not to exceed the average costs, may be paid. ~~Invoices should be kept in the contract file in the district office (do not send to Division)~~. Repair contracts follow the normal contract approval process.
4. Contract Procedures for repair s ~~contracts~~:
 - If sufficient funds remain in the contract to be repaired, follow the revision policy:
 - ~~a. revise NC-ACSP-11;~~
 - ~~b. and use average costs from the original contract.~~
 - If insufficient funds remain in the contract to be repaired, :
 - ~~a. write a new contract~~
~~with a new agreement number and~~
~~referencing reference~~ the original contract;
 - ~~b. use current year average cost;~~
 - ~~c. submit a NC-ACSP-2, 11, 11A, map/sketch;~~
 - ~~d. and include hydrologic unit code, latitude, longitude,~~
~~District Supervisor status.~~
5. Repair contracts must be limited to a maximum of one (1) year from the date the Agreement cost share contract is given final approval. If repairs are not implemented within that year, the funds encumbered to the repair contract will be canceled to the state program account. **In addition, the district must provide documentation explaining why the repair has not been implemented and actions the district has taken with regard to non-compliance rules and policies.**

Note: If a repair contract expires prior to installation, the cooperator is required to immediately refund to the State a pro-rated amount of the cost share monies received for that BMP. The amount to be refunded should be based on the remaining life of the BMP from the date of installation to the date the BMP was found to be in need of repair.

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6. ~~Remember~~—The life of the practice is renewed when the landowner/applicant/cooperator receives cost share to repair a BMP. ~~Thus~~For example; repairing a GGrassed Wwaterway that has been installed for two years will dictate that the landowner/applicant/cooperator must still maintain the Ggrassed Wwaterway an additional ten years from the date of repair.
7. Repairs for supervisor contracts **must receive** commission approval ~~on a case-by-case basis~~ prior to approval by the Ddivision.
8. ~~Note on pro-rated repayment:~~ If a BMP that was repaired using cost share funds is found out of compliance and not repaired/reimplemented within the allotted time period, a pro-rated repayment of the original cost shared amount (not the repair amount) would be required.
9. ~~Repairs on waste management systems for certified animal operations shall be limited to 50 percent of original cost share payment based on receipts and not to exceed 75 percent of the average cost.~~

COST SHARE PROGRAMS SPOT CHECK POLICY

1. Supervisors shall be responsible for conducting annual spot checks to ensure program compliance for the following:
 - a. 5% or more of all active contracts per program. Contracts should be randomly selected. Districts shall contact cooperators to learn of current biosecurity concerns prior to visiting any animal operations. Scheduling spot checks on these operations shall be coordinated with cooperators to follow protocols. Should a cooperator have a high risk biosecurity concern, the field visit portion of the spot check shall be deferred and completed after the biosecurity concern is lifted.
 - b. All waste management systems for operations not permitted by the Division of Water Resources for five years following implementation. The mandatory waste management spot check cannot make up the total 5% random spot check. After selecting 5% of active contracts, any remaining waste management systems not randomly chosen must be added and reviewed for five years following implementation. The technical review should not be completed by the person who developed the plan.
 - c. All agricultural ponds.
 - d. 5% of all nutrient management best management practice (BMP) contracts. The technical review should not be completed by the person who developed the plan.
 - e. Any ACSP contract, revision, supplement or repair completed under a Cost Share Program or other nonpoint source pollution cost-shared programs for lands owned or operated by a district, county, division or NRCS employee or district supervisor will be spot checked by representatives of the NRCS Area Office within one year after completion of a contract item (effective 12/13/90). Any AgWRAP or CCAP contract, revision, supplement or repair completed under a Cost Share Program or other nonpoint source pollution cost-shared programs for lands owned or operated by a district, county, division or NRCS employee (AgWRAP only) or district supervisor will be spot checked by representatives of the division within one year after completion of a contract item.
2. Spot check reports must be submitted to the division annually. Refer to the Program Year Due Date policy for deadline date.
3. The commission encourages the participation of all the supervisors in the spot check process, and it requires that at least one supervisor be present for every spot check. The division recommends that all supervisors participating in the site visits inspect the selected operations together and that district, NRCS and/or division technical staff will accompany the supervisors to provide technical expertise.
4. Districts are to document the number/names of all persons participating in the spot check process. The Open Meetings Law requirements must be met if a quorum of supervisors participates in the spot check process.
5. During the spot check process, technical staff will provide to supervisors the cost share contract including the conservation standard, conservation plan, design (if applicable) and field notes. All BMPs and all fields in each selected contract must be inspected for compliance.
6. If a contract is found to be in non-compliance, refer to and follow the non-compliance policy.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS SPOT CHECK POLICY

1. Supervisors shall be responsible for conducting annual spot checks to ensure program compliance for the following:
 - a. 5% or more of all active contracts per program. Contracts should be randomly selected. Districts shall contact cooperators to learn of current biosecurity concerns prior to visiting any animal operations. Scheduling spot checks on these operations shall be coordinated with cooperators to follow protocols. Should a cooperator have a high risk biosecurity concern, the field visit portion of the spot check shall be deferred and completed after the biosecurity concern is lifted.
 - a.b. All waste management systems for operations not permitted by the Division of Water ~~Resources~~ Quality for five years following implementation. The mandatory waste management spot check cannot make up the total 5% random spot check. After selecting 5% of active contracts, any remaining waste management systems not randomly chosen must be added and reviewed for five years following implementation. The technical review should not be completed by the person who developed the plan.
 - b.c. All agricultural ponds.
 - e.d. 5% of all nutrient management best management practice (BMP) contracts. The technical review should not be completed by the person who developed the plan.
 - d.e. Any ACSP contract, revision, supplement or repair completed under a Cost Share Program or other nonpoint source pollution cost-shared programs for lands owned or operated by a district, county, division or NRCS employee or district supervisor will be spot checked by representatives of the NRCS Area Office within one year after completion of a contract item (effective 12/13/90). Any AgWRAP or CCAP contract, revision, supplement or repair completed under a Cost Share Program or other nonpoint source pollution cost-shared programs for lands owned or operated by a district, county, division or NRCS employee (AgWRAP only) or district supervisor will be spot checked by representatives of the division within one year after completion of a contract item.
2. Spot check reports must be submitted to the division annually. Refer to the Program Year Due Date policy for deadline date.
3. The commission encourages the participation of all the supervisors in the spot check process, and it requires that at least one supervisor be present for every spot check. The division recommends that all supervisors participating in the site visits inspect the selected operations together and that district, NRCS and/or division technical staff will accompany the supervisors to provide technical expertise.
4. Districts are to document the number/names of all persons participating in the spot check process. The Open Meetings Law requirements must be met if a quorum of supervisors participates in the spot check process.
5. During the spot check process, technical staff will provide to supervisors the cost share contract including the conservation standard, conservation plan, design (if applicable) and field notes. All BMPs and all fields in each selected contract must be inspected for compliance.
6. If a contract is found to be in non-compliance, refer to and follow the non-compliance policy.

NON-COMPLIANCE WITH MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR COST SHARE CONTRACTS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

A BMP is considered to be non-compliant if the BMP is not functioning as planned or not being operated for its intended use. Refer to the cost share program manuals for more detailed information. The intent of this policy is to outline the compliance process. It also clarifies the maximum number of times a cooperator may be found out of compliance with contract requirements before being required to repay cost share funds or cost share incentives.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The commission’s policy for addressing non-compliance on all cost share contracts is as follows in the table below.

If the contract is tied to a **conservation easement**, please contact your cost share specialist and he/she will provide further guidance or refer the district to the appropriate source before proceeding with the steps outlined below.

Only the individual BMP that is out of compliance should be addressed if a contract includes multiple BMPs.

STEP	TIMELINE	ACTION
1	15 calendar days from the date the BMP(s) were found out of compliance.	District to send a notification letter regarding repair or reimplementation of BMP in non-compliance. The commission recommends hand delivery to provide technical assistance and develop a plan with the cooperator to bring BMP back into compliance. If BMP is brought into compliance within 30 calendar days from the date the BMP(s) were found out of compliance, send letter explaining that no further action is required (include reference to step 7).
2	30 calendar days from the date the BMP(s) were found out of compliance.	If BMP remains out of compliance after step 1: a. Cooperator is notified by warning letter of the non-compliance by certified mail return receipt or by a designated delivery service providing a signed delivery receipt. The letter includes notification to correct non-compliance within 30 calendar days, or to repay a prorated amount of contracted funds (with reasonable consideration for vegetation re-establishment up to 12 months) (02 NCAC 59D.0107). b. District to mail or email a copy of the letter and signature confirmation to the division. c. The commission recommends that the district contact the cooperator if they have not heard a response within the first 10 days of receiving the signature confirmation.

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		d. If cooperator refuses to sign and accept this letter, district will resend the letter through first class mail. As long as the letter is not returned as undeliverable, after 30 days forward to the division.
3	20 calendar days from the date of certified mail return receipt or delivery receipt through a designated delivery service.	Cooperator responds to district in writing: a. Intent to repair or re-implement within 30 days or b. Repay funds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prorated amount for non-incentive BMPs. • 100% for incentive BMPs. • Checks are made payable to NCDA&CS, rounded to the nearest dollar and mailed to the division by cooperator or district staff.
4	If no response from cooperator after 20 calendar days from the receipt of the letter or 2 nd attempt delivery by first class mail.	a. The district must mail or email copies of all documentation (letters, receipts, notes, pictures, etc.) of the non-compliance to their cost share specialist. b. Division staff will turn over documentation to the Attorney General's office for collection of funds.
5	If a cooperator brings the BMP back in compliance or repays the prorated amount before the end of the 30 calendar days.	No further action is required. The district will send a letter to the cooperator explaining that no further action is required and reference step 7.
6	If funds are not repaid within 20 days of the demand letter sent by the Attorney General's office.	The Attorney General's office will seek collection of funds through litigation.
7	If the cooperator restored compliance, but was found out of compliance a second time.	a. The district must require cooperator to repay pro-rated funds within twenty days of receipt of written demand. b. The district will notify the division. c. If payment is not received the division will send the non-compliance issue to the Attorney General's office for collection.

1. District boards of supervisors are required to follow the process above. Districts that do not follow the noncompliance policy will be required to have at least two district supervisors appear before the commission to explain why they refuse to follow this

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policy. Failure to appear at the next scheduled commission meeting may affect allocations, contract approvals, payments, and supervisor appointments.

2. For incentive practices, districts must require the cooperator to repay 100% of funds associated with the noncompliance the first time the cooperator is found out of compliance. If the district determines that compliance cannot be met due to circumstances beyond the applicant's control, the time period of the contract can be extended to meet the water quality objectives of the BMP (02 NCAC 59D .0107).
3. If any soil and water conservation district, division and/or Soil and Water Conservation Commission representatives are denied reasonable access to a cooperator's property or if a cooperator revokes permission to access the BMP(s) so the district can perform an inspection of a cost shared BMP(s), the BMP(s) shall be considered out of compliance. Refer to the spot check policy for animal operations with high risk biosecurity concerns.
4. If a BMP is maintained for its intended use but is not being used, it is still considered in compliance.
5. If a BMP is being used for other than its intended use, it is out of compliance.
6. When a cost shared BMP is damaged or destroyed and the cooperator **is at fault**, the cooperator is not eligible to receive cost share funds for the repair/reimplementation of BMP(s) found out of compliance. The BMP must be brought into compliance before cost share funds can be encumbered or requests for payment processed for BMPs on a different site, field or operation.
7. When a cost shared BMP is damaged or destroyed and the operator **is not at fault**, a contract may be approved for cost share funds for the repair or reimplementation of the BMP(s). Contracts for repairs must be limited to one calendar year. Repair contracts require approval by the division prior to the start of installation and follow the routine procedures of the Cost Share Programs.
 - a. If the district certifies that the unrepaired BMP poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment, then the district can follow an expedited approval process for the repair contract. District staff must certify that a site visit has been performed which verifies the following:
 - Damage to the BMP
 - An immediate threat exists to public health or the environment
 - The damage has occurred through no fault of the cooperatorThe district should notify the division in writing. Refer to the repair policy for more information.
 - b. Any request to cancel a repair contract must include a written justification. The district must provide an explanation to the division for all repair contracts which expire without installation. If an cooperator chooses not to repair the BMP within the one year time stipulated by the contract, then he/she is in noncompliance and subject to reimbursing the State regardless of the fact that the need for

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repair/reimplementation was not the fault of the operator.¹ Refer to the repair policy for more information.

8. For all structural practices, any additional area needed to accommodate the producer's equipment and/or desires will be at the producer's expense. The additional area must be stipulated on the design and not receive cost share assistance. For example, if the operator stores equipment other than waste handling equipment in the structure and the design plan did not stipulate that the area of the designed structure was increased at the producer's expense, then the operator is out of compliance.

Calculating repayment

If destroyed or improperly maintained BMPs are not repaired or re-implemented within the specified time, the applicant shall be required to repay the division for cost shared BMPs. The amount to be repaid is shown in the prorated refund schedule for noncompliance of cost share payments as listed in 02 NCAC 59D .0107 and 02 NCAC 59H .0107. To compute the amount to be repaid, the district should use as the life of the practice the time period between the date of signature of job approval authority on the request for payment and the date which the BMP was found to be in need of repair or reimplementation. When cost share incentive payments have been received, 100 percent of the cost share payments for the non-compliant BMP(s) are to be repaid (02 NCAC 59D .0107, 02 NCAC 59H .0107). Refer to the [refund calculator](#).

Allocating refunds

Refunded cost share funds are added to the district's current year allocation. Refer to refunded funds from cost share program contracts policy.

¹ This policy is supported by the N.C. Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General opinion of July 1991.

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COOPERATOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR COST SHARE CONTRACTS

NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission

STATEMENT OF INTENT

~~A BMP is considered to be non-compliant if the BMP is not functioning as planned or not being operated for its intended use. Refer to the cost share program manuals for more detailed information. Districts are not consistent in determining how many times a cooperator can be found in non-compliance with the maintenance requirements expressed in cost share contracts before being asked to repay cost share funds. Some districts have allowed cooperators to go out of compliance multiple times without making the cooperator repay cost shared funds. This result in a situation where a cooperator may only be in compliance with the maintenance requirements for a cost shared practice for a fraction of the time expected. This also undermines the ability of districts to hold all cooperators accountable to maintain the practices installed with public cost share assistance.~~

The intent of this policy is to outline the compliance process. It also clarifies the maximum number of times a cooperator may be found out of compliance with contract requirements before being required to repay cost share funds or cost share incentives.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The commission's policy for addressing non-compliance on all cost share contracts ~~is shall be~~ as follows in the table below.

~~If the contract is tied to a **conservation easement**, please contact your cost share specialist and he/she will provide further guidance or refer the district to the appropriate source before proceeding with the steps outlined below.~~

÷

~~For cost share practices:
First time found out of compliance — district sends written warning by certified mail within 30 calendar days to cooperator with notification to correct non-compliance within 30 calendar days, or repay a prorated amount of contracted funds (with reasonable consideration for vegetation re-establishment up to 12 months);
If cooperator restored compliance, but was found out of compliance a second time, then the district must require cooperator to repay pro-rated funds.
Only the individual BMP that is out of compliance should be addressed if a contract includes multiple BMPs.~~

<u>STEP</u>	<u>TIMELINE</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>15 calendar days from the date the BMP(s) were found out of compliance.</u>	<u>District to send a notification letter regarding repair or reimplementation of BMP in non-compliance. The commission recommends hand delivery to provide technical assistance and develop a plan with the cooperator to bring BMP back into</u>

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		<u>compliance. If BMP is brought into compliance within 30 calendar days from the date the BMP(s) were found out of compliance, send letter explaining that no further action is required (include reference to step 7).</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>30 calendar days from the date the BMP(s) were found out of compliance.</u>	<p><u>If BMP remains out of compliance after step 1:</u></p> <p><u>a. Cooperator is notified by warning letter of the non-compliance by certified mail return receipt or by a designated delivery service providing a signed delivery receipt. The letter includes notification to correct non-compliance within 30 calendar days, or to repay a prorated amount of contracted funds (with reasonable consideration for vegetation re-establishment up to 12 months) (02 NCAC 59D.0107).</u></p> <p><u>b. District to mail or email a copy of the letter and signature confirmation to the division.</u></p> <p><u>c. The commission recommends that the district contact the cooperator if they have not heard a response within the first 10 days of receiving the signature confirmation.</u></p> <p><u>d. If cooperator refuses to sign and accept this letter, district will resend the letter through first class mail. As long as the letter is not returned as undeliverable, after 30 days forward to the division.</u></p>
<u>3</u>	<u>20 calendar days from the date of certified mail return receipt or delivery receipt through a designated delivery service.</u>	<p><u>Cooperator responds to district in writing:</u></p> <p><u>a. Intent to repair or re-implement within 30 days or</u></p> <p><u>b. Repay funds:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>• Prorated amount for non-incentive BMPs.</u> <u>• 100% for incentive BMPs.</u> <u>• Checks are made payable to NCDA&CS, rounded to the nearest dollar and mailed to the division by cooperator or district staff.</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>If no response from cooperator after 20 calendar days from the receipt of the letter or 2nd attempt delivery by first class mail.</u>	<p><u>a. The district must mail or email copies of all documentation (letters, receipts, notes, pictures, etc.) of the non-compliance to their cost share specialist.</u></p> <p><u>b. Division staff will turn over documentation to the Attorney General's office for collection of funds.</u></p>
<u>5</u>	<u>If a cooperator brings the BMP back in compliance or repays the prorated amount</u>	<u>No further action is required. The district will send a letter to the cooperator explaining that no further action is required and reference step 7.</u>

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	<u>before the end of the 30 calendar days.</u>	
<u>6</u>	<u>If funds are not repaid within 20 days of the demand letter sent by the Attorney General's office.</u>	<u>The Attorney General's office will seek collection of funds through litigation.</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>If the cooperator restored compliance, but was found out of compliance a second time.</u>	<u>a. The district must require cooperator to repay pro-rated funds within twenty days of receipt of written demand.</u> <u>b. The district will notify the division.</u> <u>c. If payment is not received the division will send the non-compliance issue to the Attorney General's office for collection.</u>

1. District boards of supervisors are required to follow the process above. Districts that do not follow the noncompliance policy will be required to have at least two district supervisors appear before the commission to explain why they refuse to follow this policy. Failure to appear at the next scheduled commission meeting may affect allocations, contract approvals, payments, and supervisor appointments.

4-2. For incentive practices, districts must require the cooperator to repay 100% of funds associated with the noncompliance the first time the cooperator is found out of compliance, unless the cooperator has failed to achieve compliance despite making a good-faith effort. If the district determines that compliance cannot be met due to circumstances beyond the applicant's control, the time period of the contract can be extended to meet the water quality objectives of the BMP (02 NCAC 59D .0107).

3. If any soil and water conservation district, division and/or Soil and Water Conservation Commission representatives are denied reasonable access to a cooperator's property or if a cooperator revokes permission to access the BMP(s) so the district he/she can perform an inspection of a cost shared BMP(s), the BMP(s) shall be considered out of compliance. Refer to the spot check policy for animal operations with high risk biosecurity concerns.

4. If a BMP is maintained for its intended use but is not being used, it is still considered in compliance.

5. If a BMP is being used for other than its intended use, it is out of compliance.

6. When a cost shared BMP is damaged or destroyed and the cooperator is at fault, the cooperator is not eligible to receive cost share funds for the repair/reimplementation of BMP(s) found out of compliance. The BMP must be brought into compliance before cost share funds can be encumbered or requests for payment processed for BMPs on a different site, field or operation.

Commission Cost Share Programs

7. When a cost shared BMP is damaged or destroyed and the operator **is not at fault**, a contract may be approved for cost share funds for the repair or reimplementation of the BMP(s). Contracts for repairs must be limited to one calendar year. Repair contracts require approval by the division prior to the start of installation and follow the routine procedures of the Cost Share Programs.

a. If the district certifies that the unrepaired BMP poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment, then the district can follow an expedited approval process for the repair contract. District staff must certify that a site visit has been performed which verifies the following:

- Damage to the BMP
- An immediate threat exists to public health or the environment
- The damage has occurred through no fault of the cooperator

The district should notify the division in writing. Refer to the repair policy for more information. (~~See Section VI for more information on Repair contracts.~~)

b. Any request to cancel a repair contract must include a written justification. The district must provide an explanation to the division for all repair contracts which expire without installation. If an cooperator chooses not to repair the BMP within the one year time stipulated by the contract, then he/she is in noncompliance and subject to reimbursing the State regardless of the fact that the need for repair/reimplementation was not the fault of the operator.¹ Refer to the repair policy for more information.

8. For all structural practices, any additional area needed to accommodate the producer's equipment and/or desires will be at the producer's expense. The additional area must be stipulated on the design and not receive cost share assistance. For example, if the operator stores equipment other than waste handling equipment in the structure and the design plan did not stipulate that the area of the designed structure was increased at the producer's expense, then the operator is out of compliance.

Calculating repayment

If destroyed or improperly maintained BMPs are not repaired or re-implemented within the specified time, the applicant shall be required to repay the division for cost shared BMPs. The amount to be repaid is shown in the prorated refund schedule for noncompliance of cost share payments as listed in 02 NCAC 59D .0107 and 02 NCAC 59H .0107. To compute the amount to be repaid, the district should use as the life of the practice the time period between the date of signature of job approval authority on the request for payment and the date which the BMP was found to be in need of repair or reimplementation. When cost share incentive payments have been received, 100 percent of the cost share payments for the non-compliant BMP(s) are to be repaid (02 NCAC 59D .0107, 02 NCAC 59H .0107). Refer to the refund calculator.

Allocating refunds

¹ This policy is supported by the N.C. Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General opinion of July 1991.

Commission Cost Share Programs

Refunded cost share funds are added to the district's current year allocation. Refer to refunded funds from cost share program contracts policy.

~~This policy applies to all cost share programs under the Commission's authority.~~

~~This policy was approved by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission in regular session on September 16, 2009.~~

~~Richard Smith, Acting Chairman
Soil and Water Conservation Commission~~

DRAFT

Request to the Soil and Water Commission from the Stokes County Soil and Water District

On April 13th 2012 the Stokes Soil and Water District was awarded a Division of Water Resources Grant for the Little Snow Creek Project in the amount of \$20,000. A serious erosion problem had existed at this stream for many years. At one time this stream was evaluated for an EEP project; however, the farmer did not want to give up so much pasture that would be necessary for the project. After a number of years went by the Stokes County Soil and Water Office was contacted again by the landowner. Our office was asked to revisit the site due to the fact that the farmer's barn was now in jeopardy of falling into the stream itself.

Since the Phase I Grant was approved through the Division of Water Resources we have completed the following:

- On-site survey of existing rare, threatened and endangered species
- Morphological survey to determine the existing dimension, pattern, and profile on approximately 2300 linear feet of stream on Little Snow Creek
- Morphological survey to determine reference reach stream design criteria
- Completion of most of the necessary drawings and are finishing up the final Construction plans
- Are working on the survey and modeling to determine a Floodway analysis/No-rise Certification
- Design survey for determination of the final conservation easement to be donated by Mr. Bradley Robertson

We believe that Phase I will be completed on time and will be a success. We have prepared and will be submitting an application for the Division of Water Resources for the 2nd phase of the Little Snow Creek Project on December 31, 2013.

We are attempting to utilize all of the available sources of funding to complete this project. We have asked for and received Impaired and Impacted funds for this project from the Division of Soil and Water for the amount of \$18,275. The Landowner (Bradley Robertson) has signed papers agreeing to a permanent conservation easement on the Little Snow Creek of 6.3 acres (\$42,000 market value) to be donated to and held by the Stokes County Soil and Water District.

We are requesting that the Soil and Water Commission allow the Stokes County Soil and Water District to put the Impaired and Impacted application and contract in our District name. We will be placing the following in the easement area: well, stream crossing, and fencing for a distance of 4600 linear feet. We plan to utilize 2nd phase funds from the Division of Water Resources for stream stabilization for a 600 linear foot section at the barn area (see photo page 2). We will be placing the two water tanks with a different contact at a later time. We may also be utilizing 319 grant and Environmental Quality Incentives Program funds.

By leveraging various sources of funds we hope to stabilize and repair this extremely eroded and damaged section of the Little Snow Creek.



Pender Soil & Water
Conservation District

PO Box 248
Burgaw, NC 28425
910-259-9123 #3
910-259-1505 Fax

12-16-13

To The NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission,

The Pender Soil & Water Conservation District is requesting that this office be included in the January Commission. We are requesting an exemption from the statutory requirements of the NC Agri Cost Share Program. The applicant has tried to receive a farm sales tax exemption certificated, but was not approved. She has an active contract that needs to be repaired. I have attached the recommendations from the NCDA&CS.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 910-471-9122.



Jason Turner
PSWCD District Techn.



Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Agronomic Division

Dr. Colleen Hudak-Wise
Director

Mr. Jason Turner
Pender Soil and Water Conservation District
PO Box 248
Burgaw, NC 28425

December 11, 2013

Dear Jason,

I looked at the bermudagrass hayfield for Bill Murrell in May 2013. There was essentially no surviving stand, aside from a plant or patch scattered yards apart across the field. The remaining stand was not sufficient to produce coverage again across the field, and reestablishment was required.

I can't offer a certain reason for the stand loss there. If Mr. Murrell's recounting of his management practices was accurate, then management was not at fault. We were not sure what variety was seeded; he thought perhaps it was Laredo, a seed blend sold by Southern States, and it is not possible at this juncture to know what lines were in that blend. Whatever blend it was, if the cultivar known as 'Giant' was a component, that could explain the sudden stand loss.

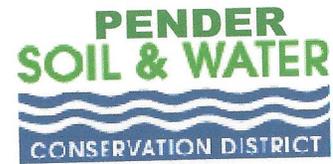
'Giant' performs well for the first couple years, then frequently dies out during cold winters, such as we encountered during February and March of 2013. Since December 2012 and January 2013 were relatively mild, it is possible that the 'Giant' cultivar had broken dormancy repeatedly during the mild part of winter and then succumbed during the sharp cold weather later in the winter. I do not know if Giant had been included in the blend that was sown, but I have seen that sort of stand loss occur where 'Giant' was a 50% component before. It comes up quickly and vigorously and often dominates the sward in the establishment year. 'Giant' is only suited to southern Florida and Texas and perhaps just along the Gulf coast.

At the juncture I observed the field, I discussed remediation with Bill, and we both agreed that a hybrid would be better for hay production than a seeded blend, and that it was late in the season to plant sprigs. I recommended rotating through a Roundup-Ready crop to finish the destruction of the existing grass and then to prepare the land and plant dormant sprigs of Midland 99 in the late winter of 2014.

I hope this helps; call me if you have questions.

Tim Hall
Regional Agronomist
NCDA&CS

Pender Soil & Water Conservation District
801 South Walker Street
Burgaw, NC 28425
910-259-9123 x 3



Conservation Plan

Sabrina Schultes
 9176 Shiloh Road
 Ivanhoe, NC 28447-9204

Tract 395

Pastureland

512 Pasture and Hay Planting: Lime and fertilize according to soil test recommendations for hybrid bermudagrass. Obtain pure weed free springs. Plant sprigs 12 to 15 inches apart in rows 3 feet apart or broadcast. Plant between March 1 and April 15. See the attached sheet on Establishing Hybrid Bermudagrass.

Field	Planned Amount (ft)	Month	Year	Applied Amount	Date
1	6.5 acres	April	2014		
Total	6.5 acres			0	

327 Conservation Cover: This field will be converted from cropland to permanent grass to provide cover and control erosion. The stand will be maintained for a minimum of ten years and in accordance with the attached job sheet: NC-190-102 Maintaining Hybrid Bermudagrass.

Field	Planned Amount (ft)	Month	Year	Applied Amount	Date
1	6.5 acres	April	2014		
Total	6.5 acres			0	

511 Forage Harvest Management: To maintain high yields of quality hay and pasture, apply plant Nutrients and indicated by soil tests. Maintain a pH range of 6.0 – 6.5. For grazing, turn livestock on to pasture when grass is 6 to 10 inches high, and remove stock when grazed down to two inches. For hay, cut when grass is 10 to 12 inches high. Refer to job sheet NC-190-102 Managing Hybrid Bermudagrass.

Field	Planned Amount (ft)	Month	Year	Applied Amount	Date
1	6.5 acres	June	2014		
Total	6.5 acres			0	

CERTIFICATION OF PARTICIPANTS

[Signature]
 LANDOWNER
 17 Dec 2013
 DATE

CERTIFICATION OF:

SOIL & WATER TECHNICIAN

[Signature]
 NAME
 12-17-13
 DATE

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

[Signature]
 DISTRICT SWCD
 12/17/13
 DATE

PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collections is 0578-0013. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 45/0.75 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection information.

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The above statements are made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C 522a). Furnishing this information is voluntary; however failure to furnish correct, complete information will result in the withholding or withdrawal of such technical or financial assistance. The information may be furnished to other USDA agencies, the Internal Revenue Service, the Department of Justice, or other state or federal law enforcement agencies, or in response to orders of a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal.

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DEC 23 2013



SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed/ Elected Seat
Current Term: 12-16

DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1614 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614
919.733.2302 • www.ncagr.gov/sw/

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and send 1 copy to the address above, keep a copy for your file

The supervisors of the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District of Jackson County, North Carolina have recommended the individual listed below for APPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing Jan 2013 and ending Dec 2016 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Jeff McCall. JAN 2014 MPF

Name of nominee: Boyce Turhan Deitz
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 922 Buff Creek RD Sylva, NC 28779
Email address of nominee: coachbtd@gmail.com
Home phone: (828) 586-8431
Mobile phone: (828) 508-7815
Business phone: _____
Occupation: Retired
Age: 64
Education: Masters Degree in Education
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: PR of Western Carolina Regional Livestock CTR.
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Education Administrator, US Congressional staffer, Athletic Director
Other pertinent information: _____

- Is nominee willing to attend a training session within the first year after appointment? Check for "Yes"
- Has the nominee been contacted to determine their willingness to serve? Check for "Yes"
- Has the program and purpose of the soil and water conservation district been explained to the nominee? Check for "Yes"
- Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in local district meetings? Check for "Yes"
- Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in Area meetings? Check for "Yes"
- Is the nominee willing to attend and participate in State meetings? Check for "Yes"

Signatures

I hereby certify that the board of supervisors considered the Guiding Principles for Supervisor Nomination for Appointment shown on the reverse of this nomination form when selecting the above supervisor candidate for nomination.

X [Signature] 12-16-13
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
Printed name: John Wittekind

This recommendation has been considered and approved by a majority of the members of the board of supervisors and entered in the official minutes of the board.
X [Signature] 12-16-13
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
Printed name: John Wittekind

X [Signature] 12-16-13
Individual recommended for appointment Date
Printed name: Boyce Deitz