



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

Archdale Building
Ground Floor Hearing Room
512 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604

Commission Members	Others Present	
Vicky Porter	Pat Harris	Julie Henshaw
Craig Frazier	David Williams	Tom Jones
Bobby Stanley	Pat Stanley	Joe Hudyncia
Donald Heath	Rob Baldwin	Kelly Ibrahim
Tommy Houser	Charles Bass	Ralston James
Bill Yarborough	Vincent Lewis	James Pentecost
Charles Hughes	Steve Bennett	Bruce Whitfield
	Tom Hill	Ken Parks
	Kristina Fischer	Eric Pare
Commission Counsel	Tammy Wall	Sandra Weitzel
Jennie Hauser	James Massey	Natalie Woolard
	Terrance Rudolph	Tom Ellis
Guest	Davis Ferguson	
	Lisa Fine	
	Dewitt Hardee	
	Dick Fowler	
	Kirsten Frazier	
	John Langdon	

Chairwoman Vicky Porter called the meeting to order at 9:00 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.

Chairwoman Porter asked all of the Commission members and attendees to introduce themselves and reminded everyone to sign the registration sheet.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Chairwoman Porter mentioned that the cost share match policy consideration was deferred from the January meeting, and it is being deferred again to the May meeting. The agenda was to be modified by adding item #13, Guidance for AgWRAP Review Committee. Commissioner Yarborough made a motion to approve the agenda as modified. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stanley. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Commission meeting held on January 6, 2013 were presented. Commissioner Frazier noted two minor changes in the Division Report and offered a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion. 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:

- The remaining budget for supervisor travel is \$56,841. This year's pace of spending is \$27,000 ahead of last year
- May 14-15 Commission's work session and business meeting will be at Hampton Inn in Concord, NC. There will be a tour of conservation activities in Cabarrus and Stanly counties.
- Four Division employees were recognized for their length of service in state government.
 - Tim Kennedy; 20 years of service; all with Division as environmental engineer
 - Tammy Wall, Business Officer; 20 years of service with Dept. of Public Instruction, DENR, Justice, Cultural Resources, and the Division
 - Rob Baldwin, Area 2 Coordinator; 25 years of service with Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Plant Industry Division and the Division
 - Vincent Lewis, Soil Scientist; 35 years of service with the Division

Chairwoman Porter also recognized Pat as receiving an award for superior service from the Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society.

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

- Excellent annual meeting with 191 supervisors in attendance
- 2014 Annual meeting will be at the Grove Park Inn on January 5-7, 2014
- School of Government training on February 19-20 with 50 supervisors and staff attending, more than 50% were first year supervisors or staff
- 43 attendees from North Carolina attended the NACD meeting. Mike Dupree from Durham SWCD and Dick Fowler gave presentations. Millie Langley from the Guilford SWCD was recognized as the national district employee of the year.
- Successful passage of resolution from NC on Corps of Engineers permitting at NACD national meeting.
- Military Training Route project is underway with high interest. Training for Phase II counties will be in March and April
- Legislative Breakfast was on March 7. There were 32 legislators, 9 Legislative Assistants, 33 supervisors, several staff of Division, NCDA&CS, Farm Bureau, NRCS in attendance.

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

5. NRCS Report: Mr. Terrance Rudolph, Acting State Conservationist for the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), presented a brief overview of the following:

- Sequestration has had a minor impact for 2013 because NRCS has been able to hold vacancies. Another round of cuts is likely for 2014, which also affects vacant positions. Moving forward to fill 19 vacancies including district conservationists, engineers, and resource soil scientists.
- Working with the Division to improve upon engineering job approval and plan certification processes.
- Strike Force – 44 counties are part of the USDA Secretary’s Strike Force Initiative to accelerate assistance to Historically Underserved groups. Focus is on poverty counties based on the census. Secretary Vilsack will be in NC on March 27 in Hertford County to present an award.
- Animal Mortality – EQIP regional payment schedule is affecting interest in mortality systems. Result is about 30% cost share for these practices. Tour of mortality systems is scheduled for Tuesday to try to educate Eastern Tech Center staff about the impact of the payment rate.
- Microirrigation – Vendors charging about \$4,800/acre to install systems. Cooperators expect 90% cost share, but payment schedule results in only about 30% actual cost share.
- Terrance is meeting with Congressman GK Butterfield on Friday.

Commissioner Yarborough asked why microirrigation is suddenly a concern. The issue is related to the small size of the cooperating farms with few acres over which to spread the fixed costs. Looking at developing additional scenarios for small operations. Commissioner Yarborough offered assistance as needed.

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

6. Initial Progress Report for Agricultural Rules

A. Jordan Lake Agricultural Rule

Julie Henshaw, Chief of the Nonpoint Source Programs Section, presented the initial progress report for the Jordan Lake Agricultural Rule. The initial accounting assessed progress on achieving the required reductions through the 2010 crop year, measured against a baseline of the average estimated nitrogen losses for 1997-2001. She described the reduction requirements being separated into three arms of the watershed. The report included the following findings:

- Cropland nitrogen loss reduction achieved in all three segments
- Cropland Phosphorus losses, qualitative, no net increase
- Pasture Nitrogen loss accounting is based on pasture point system. Credit only allowed for exclusion and buffers. Only the Lower New Hope arm is meeting its goal.
- Majority of ag land in the watershed is already buffered, so little opportunity to install additional buffers
- Small watersheds also limit opportunity
- Equine operations are not eligible for EQIP, do not compete well for ACSP – Equine is a significant part of the agricultural makeup of this watershed.
- Anticipate significant improvement due to the amount of exclusion work done during the drought response.

The handout provided for item 6A is attached and has been made an official part of the minutes.

B. Falls Lake Agricultural Rule

Tom Jones, Neuse/Tar Pamlico Basin Coordinator, presented the initial progress report for the Falls Lake Agricultural Rule. The initial accounting assessed progress on achieving the required

reductions through the 2011 crop year, measured against a baseline of the estimated nitrogen losses for 2006. The report included the following findings:

- 6 counties in the watershed
- Stage 1 goal 20% nitrogen reduction, 40% phosphorus reduction through 2020
- Stage 2 goal 40% nitrogen reduction, 77% phosphorus reduction through 2035
- Progress: 31% nitrogen reduction, qualitative reduction in phosphorus

The handout provided for item 6B is attached and has been made an official part of the minutes.

Commissioner Frazier expressed concern that conservation work done prior to the baseline gets no credit. Commissioner Yarborough asked if there is anything the Commission can do to get the Environmental Management Commission to give credit for early adopters. Ms. Henshaw noted that the report does include an acknowledgement of other work that does not get credit.

V. ACTION ITEMS

7. Consent Agenda: Ms. Harris noted that Michael Underwood had submitted a revised form and letter confirming he is no longer employed by the Cleveland District. She also noted that Wayne Moser had submitted a letter confirming that his last day working for the Union District was February 28, 2013.

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stanley, and it passed unanimously.

A. Appointment of Supervisors

Roy Stanley, Jr., Alamance SWCD
Michael Underwood, Cleveland SWCD
Robert G. Cloninger III, Gaston SWCD
David Carl Branch, Surry SWCD
Wayne S. Moser, Union SWCD
A. Carroll Coleman, Wilson SWCD
Alan David Sharp, Wilson SWCD
Tracy Taylor, Watauga SWCD

Resignation letter from the following:

Albert Madren, Alamance SWCD
Jim Boggs, Cleveland SWCD
James Michael Mauney, Sr., Gaston County
Matthew Freed, Surry SWCD
James W. Cook, Union SWCD
Charles I. Harrell, Wilson SWCD
Thad Sharp, Jr., Wilson SWCD
Thad A. Taylor, Watauga SWCD

B. Approval of Cost Share Supervisor Contracts

Contract No.	District	Supervisor Name	Practice(s)	Contract Amount
01-2013-006	Alamance	Roger Tate (Orange SWCD Supervisor)	Grassed waterway, field borders	\$7,395
15-2013-007	Camden	Don Lee Keaton	Crop residue management	\$3,474
15-2013-008	Camden	Don Lee Keaton	Crop residue management	\$3,474
17-2013-020	Caswell	Tim Yarbrough	Grassed waterways, field borders	\$2,552
31-2013-012	Duplin	William Kilpatrick	Cropland conversion	\$5,065
43-2013-002	Harnett	J. Kent Revels	Grassed waterway	\$2,132
43-2013-003	Harnett	J. Kent Revels	Grassed waterway	\$1,274
53-2013-005	Lee	John Gross	Grassed waterway	\$3,002
69-2013-003	Pamlico	Elbert Lee	Water Control Structures	\$3,954
70-2013-008	Pasquotank	M K Berry Family Farms	Land Smoothing	\$4,914
70-2013-009	Pasquotank	Brian Stallings	Land Smoothing	\$3,747
76-2013-003	Randolph	Dennis Loflin (Davidson SWCD Supervisor)	Grassed waterways	\$8,662
88-2013-004	Transylvania	Richard Bragg	Manure/compost spreader	\$4,500

C. Job Approval Authority

Cisterns:

Daniel McClellan; Cabarrus SWCD

D. Technical Specialist Designation

Waste Utilization Planning/Nutrient Management (WUP/NM)

Quinton Cooper; Franklin SWCD

Chris Childers; NRCS Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Gaston

Stephen Barnhardt; DENR Division of Water Quality

Inorganic Nutrient Management (INM)

Stephen Barnhardt; DENR Division of Water Quality

The handout provided for items 7A-7D is attached and has been made an official part of the minutes.

8. Consideration of Approval of Supervisor Travel Reimbursements for Supervisor Voting Members on the TRC, CCAP Advisory Committee, and AgWRAP Review Committee

Ms. Julie Henshaw referenced the handout for item 8, which is attached as an official part of the minutes. She noted the statutory authority and the method of appointment of voting members of each of the subject committees and described the process by which supervisors are appointed as voting representatives. Commissioner Frazier noted that he thought the supervisor travel policy approved in

January already allowed reimbursement for these positions, but he offered a motion to approve supervisor travel reimbursement as voting members on the Technical Review Committee, CCAP Advisory Committee, and AgWRAP Review Committee. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

Commissioner Yarborough noted the difference in the process for selecting members. Mr. Yarborough moved to initiate legislative action as necessary to make the selection for all three committees the same as the process for selecting the member to the TRC, as described in commission policy. Commissioner Heath seconded the motion, and the motion was approved. Jennie Hauser, Counsel to the Commission said she would work with staff to investigate whether statutory changes were needed.

9. Cost Share Committee Recommendations

Ms. Julie Henshaw called attention to the handout for items 9A – 9H, which is attached as an official part of the minutes. She noted that the Cost Share Committee was continuing to meet to work through all of the Commission policies to identify those that need to be updated. Chairwoman Porter declared her intent to consider each policy individually.

9A. Prohibition of Post Approval of Contracts

The Cost Share Committee has proposed revisions to the existing policy to reduce confusion and eliminate unnecessary language. Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion to approve the proposed policy revisions. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

9B. Policy Involving Refunded Funds from Cost Share Program Contracts

The Cost Share Committee has proposed revisions to update the policy to reflect the current regulatory references for the Commission's rules. Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion to approve the proposed policy revisions. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

9C. Policy Involving Renovation of an Expired Best Management Practice

The Cost Share Committee has proposed revisions to the existing policy to broaden the scope to include all programs and to clarify when it is appropriate to cost share to renovate an expired practice. Commissioner Hughes offered a motion to approve the proposed policy revisions. Commissioner Stanley seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

9D. Policy for Revisions of Cost Share Program Contracts

The Cost Share Committee has proposed revisions to the existing policy to remove references to paper forms. Commissioner Houser offered a motion to approve the proposed policy revisions. Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

9E. Policy on Special Requests

The Cost Share Committee has proposed revisions to the existing policy to clarify what types of special requests require Commission approval. Commissioner Stanley offered a motion to approve the proposed policy revisions. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

9F. Policy for Supplements to Cost Share Program Contracts

The Cost Share Committee has proposed revisions to the existing policy to clarify when supplemental contracts are allowed and to eliminate confusion between contract revisions and supplements. Commissioner Heath offered a motion to approve the proposed policy revisions. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. Commissioner Frazier expressed concern about increasing the rate if someone

enrolls in an Enhanced Voluntary Ag District after the contract is approved, adding that he strongly supports Voluntary Ag Districts. The motion was approved on a 5-1 vote.

9G. Policy on Cost Share Program Contracts on Government-Owned Property

The Cost Share Committee has proposed revisions to the existing policy to clarify that ACSP and AgWRAP contracts on government property require Commission approval, but CCAP contracts do not. Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion to approve the proposed policy revisions. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

9H. Policy on Spot Checks

The Cost Share Committee has proposed a new policy that pulls together several existing policies to clarify the requirements of annual spot checks. Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion to approve the proposed policy revisions. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

Chairwoman Porter thanked Ms. Henshaw and the rest of the Committee for their hard work on updating the policies.

10. Cost Share Allocations

Ms. Kelly Ibrahim called attention to the handout for items 10A – 10C, which is attached as an official part of the minutes. She noted that districts were invited to request supplemental allocations for three separate funding categories: Regular Agriculture Cost Share Program, Poultry Mortality, and Drought Assistance. Requests must have been received by March 1.

10A. Supplemental Allocation of Agriculture Cost Share Program Funds

Fifty (50) districts requested supplemental allocations totaling more than \$1.8 million. \$418,384 is available to reallocate. Attachment 10A lists the recommended allocation based on the allocation formula specified in **02 NCAC 59D .0103 - ALLOCATION GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES**. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the recommended allocation. Commissioner Stanley seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

10B. Allocation of Remaining Special Appropriation Funds for Innovative Poultry Mortality Management

Ms. Ibrahim pointed out that the General Assembly appropriated a total of \$450,000 to demonstrate innovative poultry mortality management technologies in the 2007 and 2008 legislative sessions. \$146,065 remain available to allocate to districts. Nine projects have previously been completed in seven districts.

Eight districts submitted requests for over \$600,000 to support 15 innovative poultry mortality management projects. Ms. Ibrahim pointed out the criteria previously approved by the Commission to govern allocation of these special funds along with some additional considerations. Ms. Ibrahim suggested establishing a \$42,000 cap on the allocation and allowing the other applications to remain on a waiting list in case one of the other applicants dropped out. With those criteria staff recommended funding the following four projects: Alexander \$42,000, Columbus \$30,000, Guilford \$32,900 and Wilkes \$42,000. Ms. Ibrahim also requested a 'just in time' allocation to allow staff to allocate remaining funds not utilized by the four projects. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the recommended allocation of Poultry Mortality funds. Commissioner Houser seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

10C. Supplemental Allocation of Agriculture Drought Response Funds

Forty (40) districts requested supplemental drought response allocations totaling more than \$990,000. \$205,423 is available to reallocate. Ms. Ibrahim noted the eligible practices for these funds. Attachment 10C lists the recommended allocation based on the allocation formula specified in **02 NCAC 59D .0103 - ALLOCATION GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES**. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the recommended allocation. Commissioner Stanley seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

11. Agriculture Cost Share Program Technical Review Committee Recommendations: Ms. Kelly Ibrahim, Cost Share Program Supervisor, referred to the handout for items 11A-11B, which is included as an official part of the minutes. She presented the following recommendations:

A. Modifications to the Nutrient Scavenger Crop Incentive

The TRC is recommending modification to the nutrient scavenger crop incentive to allow physiological maturity to be used in lieu of a prescribed earliest kill date. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the proposed revisions this incentive, and Commissioner Heath seconded the motion. Commissioner Yarborough expressed concern with the restriction that no animal waste or fertilizer be applied. He offered an amendment to that the first sentence in policy number five specify that no animal waste or fertilizer be applied unless it is specifically recommended by an agronomist. The remainder of policy five remains the same. Commissioner Hughes seconded the proposed amendment. The amendment was approved. The amended motion was also approved.

B. Modification to the Well practice in the Agriculture Cost Share Program

The TRC is recommending language to clarify requirements for the well practice, consistent with the policy approved for AgWRAP, and to specify when replacement of an existing well may be cost shared and when alternative casing is allowed. Commissioner Frazier offered a motion to approve the proposed changes to the well practice, and Commissioner Houser seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Commissioner Yarborough moved to amend the motion to specify in item 7 that the pump was not previously cost shared. Commissioner Heath seconded, and the amendment was approved. With no further discussion, the amended motion was approved.

12. Cost Share Issues from Districts: Ms. Ibrahim presented the following:

A. Request for exception to ACSP eligibility; Randolph SWCD

Ms. Ibrahim explained that the Randolph district is requesting Commission approval of alternative documentation that cost share applicant, Mr. Russell Farley, is engaged in farming as allowed in G.S. 106-850 b (11). She noted that Commissioner Frazer, supervisor from Randolph SWCD was present to answer any questions that were posed by the Commission. She also called attention to Attachment 12A, a letter explaining the rationale for the request, which is included as a part of the minutes. Mr. Frazier noted that this was the first time a request for alternative documentation that a farmer was engaged in farming has come before the Commission. Mr. Frazier noted the need for the applicant to sign the conservation plan once the sale is complete. Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion to postpone consideration of this request to the May meeting. Commissioner Stanley seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

B. Post approval of a ACSP contract; Person SWCD

Ms. Ibrahim explained that the Person district is requesting Commission approval for post-approval of an ACSP contract for Two Red Wolves, LLC. The post-approval is needed to permit payment for the state portion of work done in conjunction with a CREP enrollment. The contract was overlooked during a time of transition of district staff. Ms. Ibrahim noted that Mr. Bruce Whitfield, supervisor from Person SWCD, and Jim Pentecost, district staff member, were present to respond to questions. Commissioner Houser made a motion to approve the post approval. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and the motion carried.

13. Direction to AgWRAP Review Committee on Allocation to Consider for Draft Rules

Ms. Julie Henshaw referred to the handout for item 13 which is included as part of the minutes. Commissioner Yarborough moved to instruct the Committee to draft rules that will allow the Commission to specify parameters and percentages in the annual detailed implementation plan. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairwoman Porter presented a plaque to Commissioner Stanley for his dedicated service to the Commission. Commissioner Stanley thanked the Commission and acknowledged the support of his wife Pat.

Director Harris noted that the Governor’s proposed budget was just released and that it included a recommendation for \$500,000 recurring funding for AgWRAP.

Chairwoman Porter asked if there were any public comments. Commissioner Frazier announced that Randolph SWCD would be hosting the FFA State Land Judging contest on April 5-6.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Commissioner Houser offered a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Stanley seconded the motion. The motion was approved, and Chairwoman Porter declared the meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

Patricia K. Harris

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

David B. Williams

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

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on May 15, 2013.

Patricia K. Harris

Patricia K. Harris, Director
(Sign & Date)

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

WORK SESSION

Archdale Building
Ground Floor Hearing Room
512 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604
March 19, 2013
5:00 p.m.

BUSINESS SESSION

Archdale Building
Ground Floor Hearing Room
512 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604
March 20, 2013
9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The State Government Ethics Act mandates that at the beginning of any meeting the Chair remind 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

March 20, 2013

Welcome

III. AGENDA / MINUTES

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Approval of agenda | Chair Vicky Porter |
| 2. Approval of the January 6, 2013 minutes | Chair Vicky Porter |

IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 3. Division report | Ms. Pat Harris |
| 4. Association report | Mr. Tommy Houser |
| 5. NRCS report | Mr. Terrance Rudolph |
| 6. Initial Progress Report for Agriculture Rules | |
| A. Jordan Lake Agriculture Rule | Ms. Julie Henshaw |
| B. Falls Lake Agriculture Rule | Mr. Tom Jones |

V. ACTION ITEMS

7. Consent Agenda

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Nomination of supervisors B. Supervisor contracts C. Job approval authority D. Technical specialist designation | <p>Ms. Kristina Fischer
 Ms. Kelly Ibrahim
 Ms. Natalie Woolard
 Ms. Natalie Woolard</p> |
| <p>8. Consideration of approval of supervisor travel reimbursement for supervisor voting representatives on the ACSP Technical Review Committee, CCAP Advisory Committee, and AgWRAP Review Committee</p> | <p>Ms. Julie Henshaw</p> |
| <p>9. Cost Share Committee recommendations
 Consideration of revisions to program accountability policies in the cost share programs manual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Prohibition of post-approval of contracts B. Refunded funds from cost share program contracts C. Renovation of an expired BMP D. Revision E. Special requests F. Supplements G. Cost share contracts on government owned properties H. Spot checks | <p>Ms. Julie Henshaw</p> |
| <p>10. Cost share allocations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Spring supplemental allocation B. Poultry mortality allocation C. Drought assistance allocation | <p>Ms. Kelly Ibrahim</p> |
| <p>11. TRC Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Consideration for changes to the Nutrient Scavenger Crop policy B. Consideration for changes to the Well policy | <p>Ms. Kelly Ibrahim</p> |
| <p>12. District issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Request for exception for ACSP Eligibility B. Post approval 73-2013-004 | <p>Ms. Kelly Ibrahim
 Randolph SWCD
 Person SWCD</p> |

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**Initial Progress Report for the Jordan Lake Agriculture Rule
(15A NCAC 02B.0264)
For the Baseline Period (1997-2001) through Crop Year 2010
A Report to the Water Quality Committee of the NC Environmental Management Commission
From the Jordan Lake Watershed Oversight Committee**

SUMMARY

This report provides an initial assessment of collective progress made by the agricultural community to reduce nutrient losses toward compliance with the Jordan Lake Agriculture rule. For this report, the Jordan Lake Watershed Oversight Committee (WOC) implemented the accounting methods approved by the Water Quality Committee in July 2011 to estimate changes in nitrogen loss and the phosphorus loss trend in the three Jordan subwatersheds for the period between the strategy baseline (1997-2001) and the most recent crop year (CY) for which data was available, 2010. This report provides initial progress estimates in three categories: cropland nitrogen, pastureland nitrogen and agricultural phosphorus. To produce this report, Division of Soil and Water Conservation staff received, processed and compiled baseline and current-year reports from agricultural staff in eight counties, and the WOC compiled the information and prepared this report.

The cropland nitrogen portion of the report demonstrates agriculture’s collective compliance with the Jordan Agriculture Rule and estimates progress made by agriculture in the watershed to decrease the amount of nutrients lost from agricultural management units. Agriculture has been successfully decreasing nutrient losses in each of the Jordan Lake subwatersheds. In CY2010, all three subwatersheds: Lower New Hope, Upper New Hope and Haw River Subwatersheds are exceeding the rule-mandated reductions for cropland agriculture. In CY2010, agriculture collectively achieved the estimated reductions in nitrogen loss compared to the 1997-2001 baseline, as demonstrated in Table 1. Reductions in nitrogen have been achieved through crop shifts and reduction in nitrogen application rates for the major crops in the watershed. From the baseline to 2010, the watershed has experienced a crop shift from crops with higher nitrogen requirements to mixed cool season grass (hay) and soybeans. In addition, the nitrogen rate on mixed cool season grass (hay) decreased by more than 20 pounds per acre, further reducing nitrogen application in the watershed. Reductions in overall crop acres through land permanently lost from agriculture did not contribute significantly to the nitrogen reductions in the watershed. Refer to Figure 1 for the location of the Jordan Lake Watershed, including the three subwatersheds affected by this rule.

**Jordan Lake Watershed Oversight Committee
Composition, Jordan 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 Quality
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

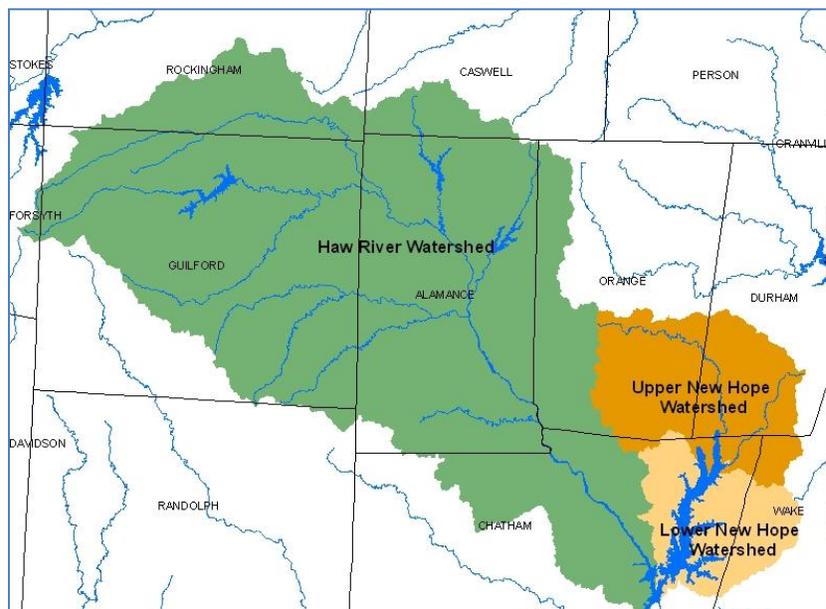
Qualitative phosphorus indicators demonstrate that there is no increased risk of phosphorus loss, due to the reduction in the acres of tobacco, the decrease in the amount of animal waste phosphorus, and a movement to 90% conservation tillage on cropland in the watershed.

ATTACHMENT 6A

For the initial pastureland point system accounting, in the five years between releases of the Census of Agriculture (2002 and 2007), only the Lower New Hope Subwatershed met its target reduction goal of maintaining the baseline point value of 0, as displayed in Table 2. However pasture management made significant gains in the Haw subwatershed, which comprises 80% of the entire Jordan watershed, achieving 5 points of its aggregate 8-point target. The WOC will revisit pasture progress in the annual report following the 2014 Census of Agriculture, and will offer any rule compliance recommendations called for by the rule to the Water Quality Committee at that time. While this system was developed for the Tar-Pamlico River Basin, Jordan Lake is the first watershed to employ the pastureland point system accounting method. Several factors may affect why the pasture points are low in the Jordan Lake Watershed, the greatest being the amount of agricultural land that is already buffered in the watershed. According to a report completed in 2007, *Delineating Agriculture in the Lake Jordan River Basin*, the majority of agricultural land is already buffered. This study found that, six of the counties had more than 75% of their agricultural land buffered, and that the average buffer width was greater than 50 feet.¹ Land that is already buffered is not captured in the baseline or 2007 reports, as the pasture points system only measures best management practices (BMPs) installed and the affected acres of pasture associated with those practices. Cattle is the predominant pasture animal in the watershed, and the recommended stocking rate is 1.5 acres per cow. While the stocking rate increased from 2002 to 2007, as an aggregate the livestock density is close to the appropriate rate in each subwatershed.

The Jordan Agriculture rule stipulates that if this initial accounting finds that a cropland nitrogen goal has not been achieved in a subwatershed, then Local Advisory Committees shall be formed in that subwatershed and farmers shall register their operations with these committees. Based on the success in nitrogen reductions relative to the strategy goals estimated in this report, the WOC finds that such actions are not required at this time.

Figure 1. Jordan Lake Watershed map



¹ Osmond, Deanna L. 2007. Final Report for the Sampling Analysis: Delineating Agriculture in the Lake Jordan River Basin. Department of Soil Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27606.

ATTACHMENT 6A

Table 1. Summary of estimated reductions in agricultural nitrogen loss (cropland) from baseline (1997-2001) for CY2010, Jordan Lake Watershed

Subwatershed	Required nutrient reductions	2010 nitrogen loss reductions from cropland
Lower New Hope	No increase in nitrogen or phosphorus	50%
Upper New Hope	35% nitrogen, 5% phosphorus	48%
Haw	8% nitrogen, 5% phosphorus	33%

Table 2. Summary of estimated reductions in agricultural nitrogen loss (pastureland) from baseline (2002) to 2007, Jordan Lake Watershed

Subwatershed	Required nitrogen reductions	2007 nitrogen point reductions from pastureland
Lower New Hope	No increase in nitrogen (0 points)	0 points
Upper New Hope	35% nitrogen (35 points)	0.3 points
Haw	8% nitrogen (8 points)	5.0 points

BACKGROUND

Rule requirements and compliance

Effective August 2008, the Agriculture Rule that is part of the Jordan Water Supply Nutrient Strategy provides for a collective strategy for farmers to meet nitrogen loss reduction goals within six to nine years. The goals for this nutrient strategy are specified at the subwatershed level in Table 1, and are compared to the 1997-2001 baseline period. The Lower New Hope Subwatershed has a goal of no increase in nitrogen or phosphorus. The Upper New Hope Subwatershed has a goal of 35% nitrogen loss reduction and 5% phosphorus reduction. The Haw River Subwatershed has a goal of 8% nitrogen loss reduction and 5% phosphorus reduction. A Watershed Oversight Committee (WOC) was established to implement the rule and to assist farmers with complying with the rule.

Jordan NSW Strategy:

The Environmental Management Commission (EMC) adopted the Jordan Water Supply Nutrient Strategy in 2008. The strategy goal is to reduce the average annual load of nitrogen and phosphorus from each of its subwatersheds to Jordan Lake from 1997-2001 baseline levels. In addition to point source rules, mandatory controls were applied to addressing non-point source pollution in agriculture, nutrient management, riparian buffer protection, and urban stormwater. The management strategy built upon the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins efforts.

All counties submitted their first annual report to the WOC in August 2012. Collectively, all three subwatersheds are meeting their nitrogen loss reductions, with the Lower New Hope Watershed reporting a 50% reduction, the Upper New Hope Watershed a 48% reduction, and the Haw River Watershed with a 33% reduction.

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 Water Quality Committee of the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) for use in the Jordan 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), USDA-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 managed livestock on nitrogen applied to pastureland. The 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. 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 Baseline for CY2010

All counties submitted their first progress report to the WOC in August 2012. For the Lower New Hope Watershed, through CY2010 agriculture achieved a 50% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the average 1997-2001 baseline. All of the counties achieved the no net increase reduction goal for nitrogen in this subwatershed individually. For the Upper New Hope Watershed, through CY2010 agriculture achieved a 48% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the average 1997-2001 baseline. One of the counties did not achieve the at least 35% nitrogen loss reduction goal individually, Orange County. For the Haw Watershed, through CY2010 agriculture achieved a 33% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the average 1997-2001 baseline. All of the counties achieved the at-least 8% nitrogen loss reduction goal individually. Table 3 lists each county's baseline and CY2010 nitrogen (lbs/yr) loss values from cropland, along with nitrogen loss percent reductions from the baseline in CY2010.

Table 3. Estimated reductions in agricultural nitrogen loss (cropland) from baseline (1997-2001) through CY2010, Jordan Lake Watershed

County	Baseline N Loss (lb)* NLEW	CY2010 N Loss (lb)* NLEW	N Loss Reduction (%) NLEW
Lower New Hope Subwatershed			
Chatham	57,853	33,829	42%
Wake	38,272	14,433	62%
Total	96,125	48,262	50%
Upper New Hope Subwatershed			
Chatham	43,826	22,807	48%
Durham	39,043	11,726	70%
Orange	64,594	44,310	31%
Wake	9,649	3,624	62%
Total	157,112	82,467	48%
Haw Subwatershed			
Alamance	697,924	536,075	23%
Caswell	131,875	88,205	33%
Chatham	220,152	172,210	22%
Guilford	1,393,207	829,290	40%
Orange	235,230	152,648	35%
Rockingham	169,080	134,752	20%
Total	2,847,468	1,913,180	33%

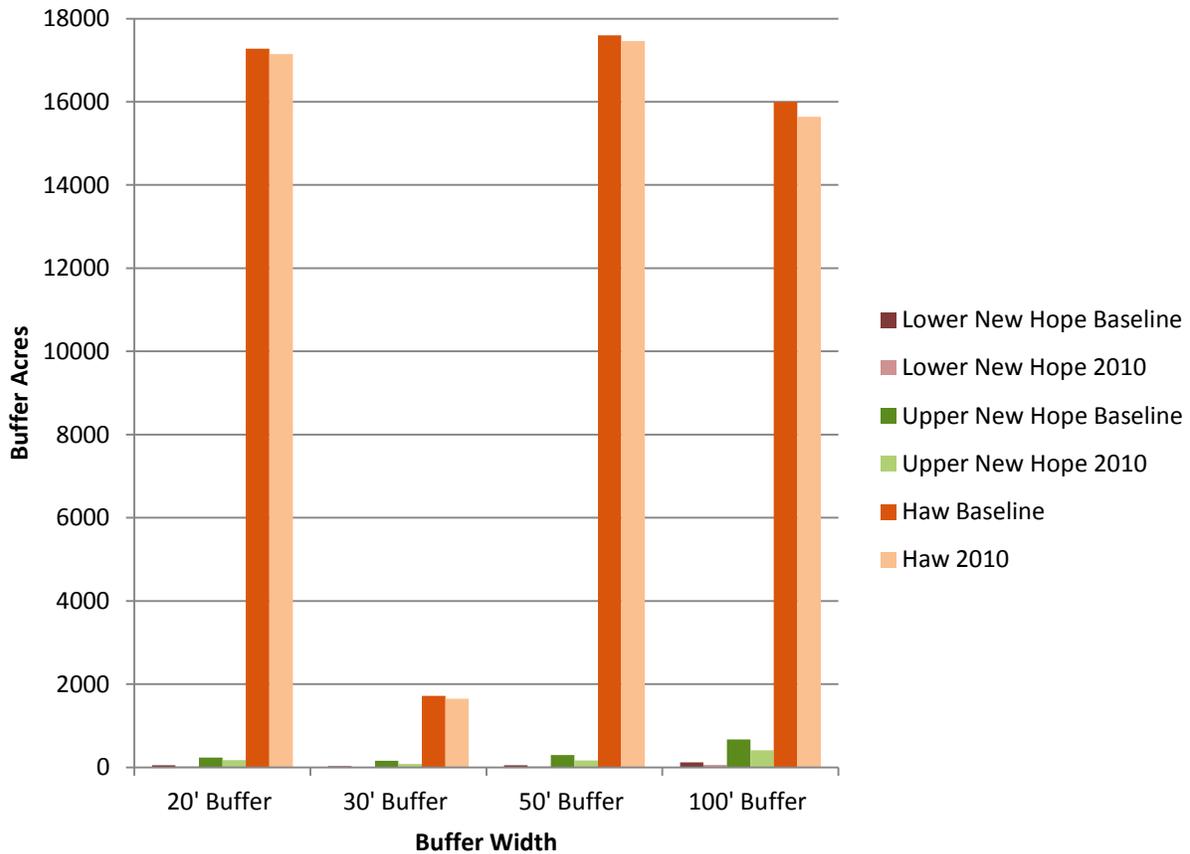
**Nitrogen loss values are for comparative purposes. They represent nitrogen that was applied to cropland in the watershed and neither used by crops nor intercepted by BMPs in a Soil Management Unit, based on NLEW calculations. This is not an in-stream loading value.*

Best Management Practice Implementation

Figure 2 illustrates the amount of buffers on cropland in the Lower New Hope, Upper New Hope and Haw River Subwatersheds in the baseline (1998) and 2010. 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 sediment. In addition, riparian buffers can reduce phosphorus and sediment as it moves through the buffer and provide other critically important functions.

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 6.01 for Jordan Lake 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 N removal resulting from riparian buffer implementation.

Figure 2. Nitrogen Reducing BMPs installed on Croplands from Baseline (1997-2001) and 2010, Jordan Lake Watershed*



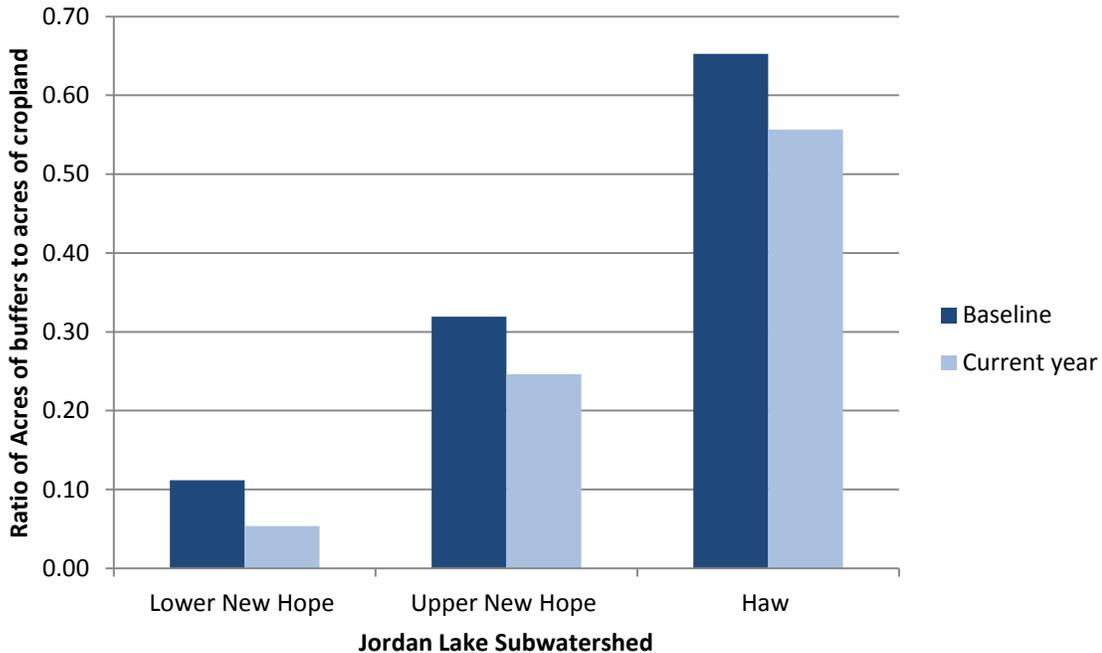
* The acres of buffers listed represent estimated acres from GIS analysis from 1998 and 2010 aerial photography. Cropland acres affected by the buffer could be 5 to 10 times larger than the acreage shown above.²

The acreage of riparian buffers on cropland among the different widths for which agriculture receives reductions was obtained from GIS analysis of 1998 and 2010 aerial photography. Overall, total acres of buffers have slightly decreased since the baseline. It is important to note that in the Lower New Hope and Upper New Hope Subwatersheds, this is due to the decrease in the amount of cropland from 1998-2010. In the Lower New Hope Subwatershed, 144 acres or 57% of the buffers in the subwatershed are still there but are no longer eligible for accounting under the agriculture rule. This correlates with the reduction of 12% of cropland with wide riparian buffers in this subwatershed. In the Upper New Hope Subwatershed, 531 acres or 39% of the buffers in the subwatershed are still there but are no longer eligible for accounting under the agriculture rule. This correlates with the reduction of 21% of cropland in this subwatershed. For these two watersheds, the small size of cropland acres greatly increases the effect of any change in agricultural operations or in land use. In the Haw River Watershed the decrease is only 1% of the buffers in the

² 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.

watershed and may be attributed to the increase in cropland acres since the baseline period and the effect of GIS analysis and differences between the aerial photography of the different years. Detailed information regarding buffer acreages by subwatershed is displayed in Figures 2 and 3. Figure 2 shows the buffer acres by width in each subwatershed, while Figure 3 shows the ratio of buffer acreage to cropland acreage.

Figure 3. Acres of buffers compared to acres of cropland from Baseline (1997-2001) and 2010, Jordan Lake Watershed



A significant amount of buffers have been installed in the Jordan Lake Watershed through the Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) since the baseline. EEP has completed 51 projects in the watershed from the baseline through 2010. Project data is not tracked regarding previous land use nor the area of buffer restored in conjunction with stream restoration projects. Because EEP funded these buffers for purposes of compensatory mitigation for stream or buffer permitted losses also occurring in the watershed, they are not eligible to be counted for reductions under the agriculture rule, even if they are located on agricultural lands. Thus EEP buffer restoration projects are not included in the totals provided in this report.

Fertilization Management

In this watershed, the majority of crops are under fertilized. Mixed cool season grass (hay) has always been under fertilized in the Jordan Lake Watershed, and continues to be under fertilized. This is important to note as it is the largest acreage crop grown in all three subwatersheds. For many of the high acreage crops, farmers have reduced their nitrogen application from baseline levels, while fertilization rates on other crops others have increased or remained the same. Figure 4 displays the nitrogen application rates in pounds per acre for the major crops in the watershed. Nitrogen application rates for mixed cool season grass (hay) decreased in all subwatersheds by over 20 pounds/acre. Nitrogen application rates for soybeans decreased in two of the subwatersheds, and remained at zero in the Lower New Hope Subwatershed. Farmers applied

Factors contributing to changing nitrogen rates:

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

more nitrogen in 2010 than in the baseline on corn acres due to differences in crop varieties and increased plant population densities, with expected increases in nitrogen uptake that produce higher yields. Tobacco and wheat experienced increases in nitrogen application rates due to increases in application rates in Wake County in the Lower New Hope Subwatershed, while decreased rates were applied in the subwatersheds with larger acreages. Tobacco companies buying flue-cured tobacco are now stressing higher quality which in many cases leads to reductions in nitrogen applications.

Figure 5 depicts the total annual nitrogen fertilizer applied (pounds) for agricultural crops for the baseline (1997-2001) and 2010 to show the impact of fertilization rates related the crops that are grown. Due to the small size of the subwatersheds in Jordan Lake, minor changes in fertilizer application rates result in significant effects on the reported nutrient reductions on cropland for each subwatershed. Fertilizer rates will be revisited annually by counties using data from farmers, commercial applicators and state and federal agencies' professional estimates.

Figure 4. Average annual nitrogen fertilization rate (lb/ac) for agricultural crops for the baseline (1997-2001) and 2010, Jordan Lake Watershed

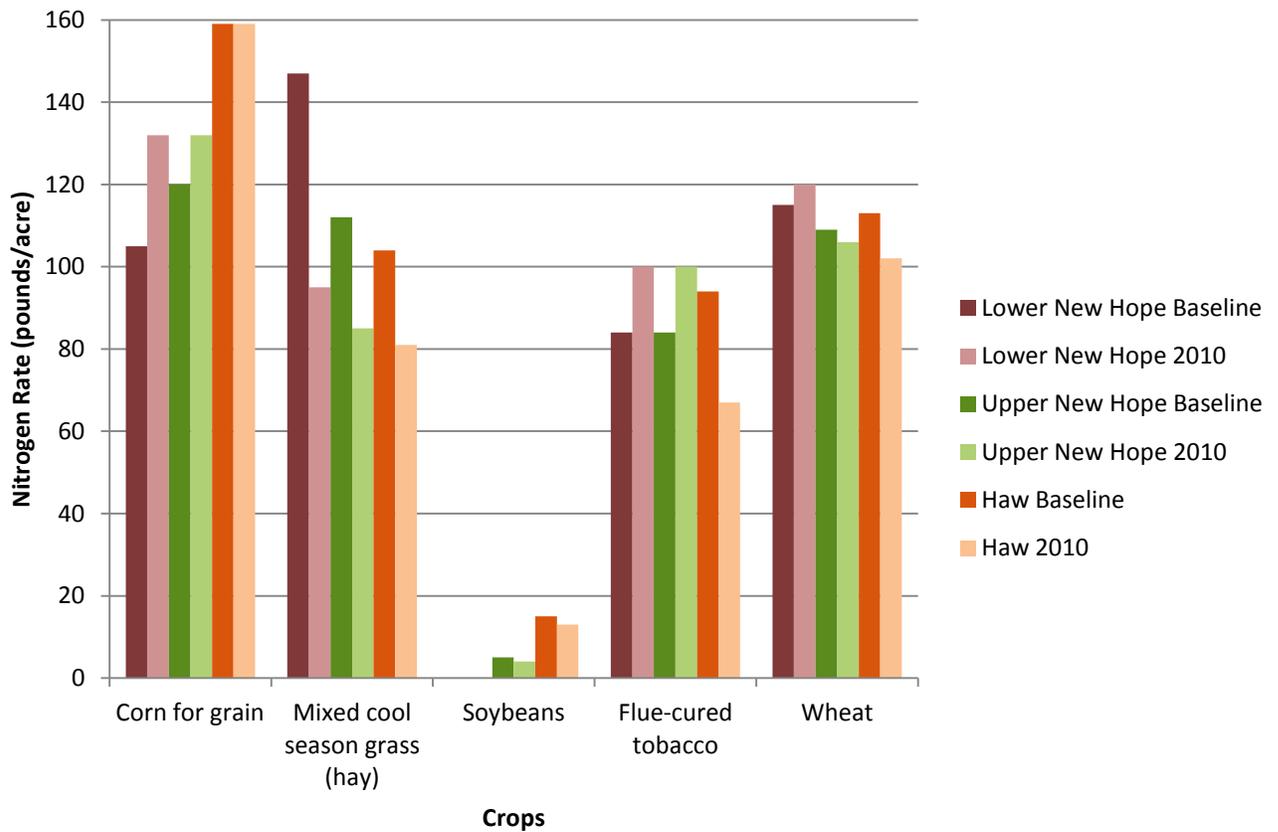
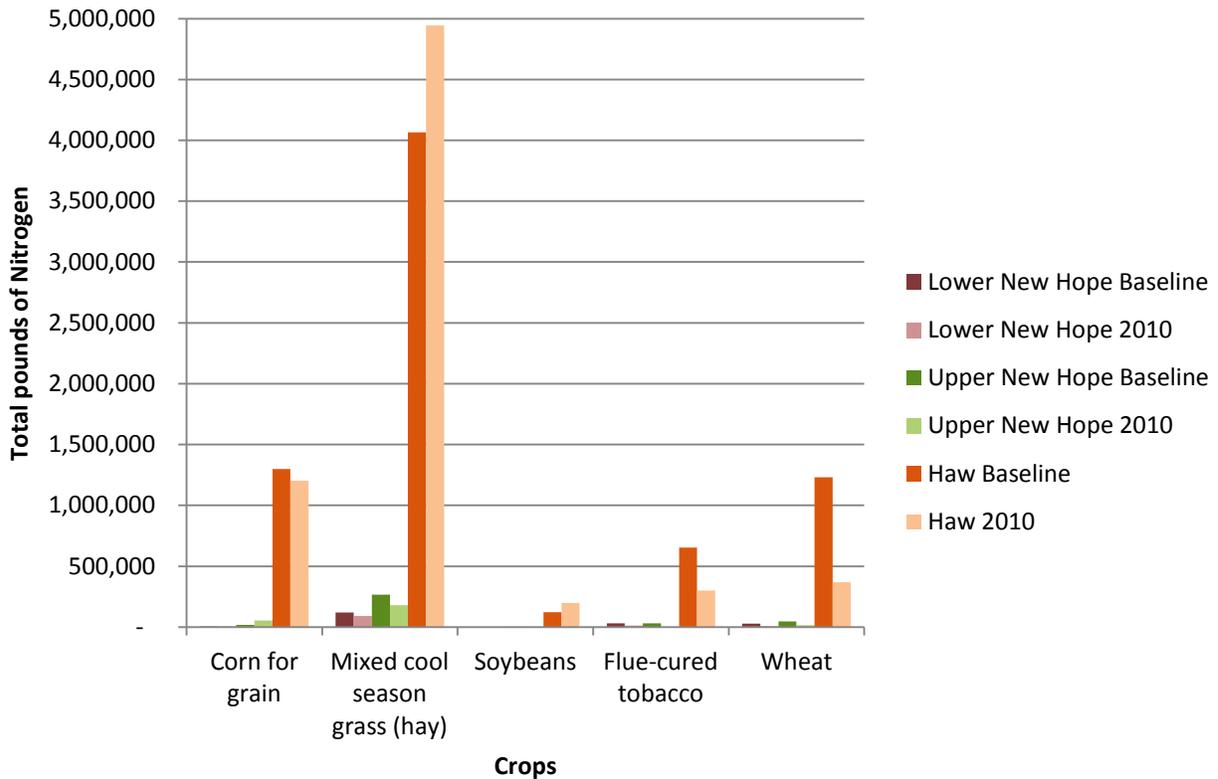


Figure 5. Total annual nitrogen fertilizer applied (lbs) for agricultural crops for the baseline (1997-2001) and 2010, Jordan Lake Watershed

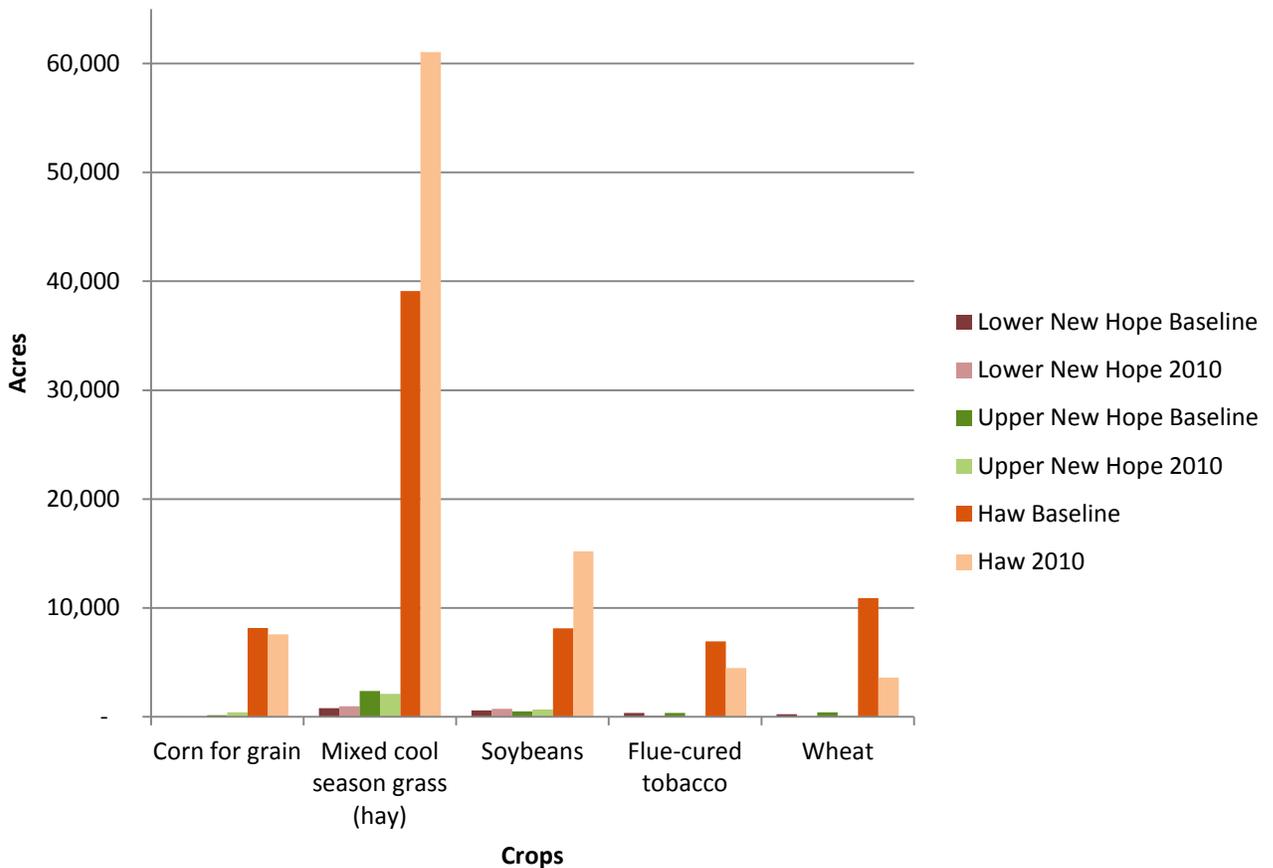


Cropping Shifts

Counties calculated cropland acreage by utilizing crop data reported through the North Carolina Agricultural Statistics Service of the US Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Each crop requires different amounts of nitrogen and uses 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 6 shows crop acres and shifts for 2010 compared to the baseline. The acres of mixed cool season grass (hay) increased substantially since the baseline, by over 21,000 acres in the watershed. This shift to hay production may be due to the tobacco quota buyout program, transition from field crops to pasture operations and increased reporting of hayland by farmers. Soybean acreage has also grown by over 7,300 acres across the watershed. Corn production has remained relatively constant, while tobacco and wheat production has decreased by over 3,000 and 7,700 acres respectively. A host of factors from individual to global determine crop choices. Crop acreages are expected to fluctuate with the market yearly.

Figure 6. Acreage of Major Crops for the Baseline (1997-2001) and 2010, Jordan Lake Watershed

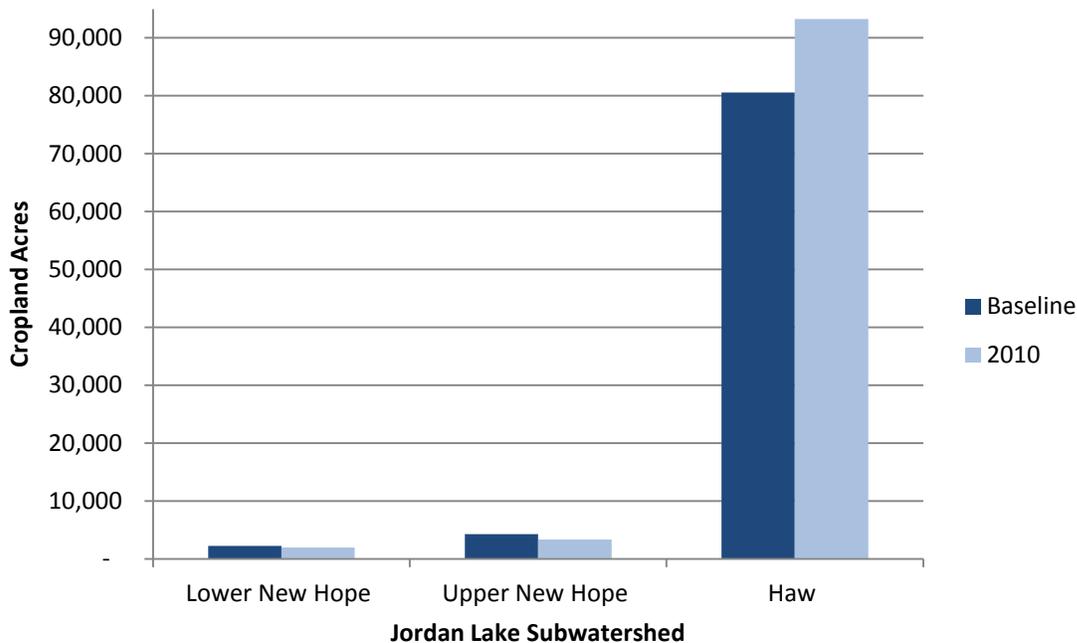


Land Use Change to Development and Cropland Conversion

The number of cropland acres fluctuates every year in the Jordan Lake Watershed and its subwatersheds due to cropland conversion 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. Figure 7 displays the total cropland acres in the watershed in the baseline and 2010. Data regarding land use change since the baseline is summarized below by subwatershed.

In the Lower New Hope Subwatershed it is estimated that approximately 1,778 agricultural acres have been permanently lost to development and more than 46 cropland acres have been converted to grass or trees. In the Upper New Hope Subwatershed it is estimated that approximately 3,025 agricultural acres have been permanently lost to development and no cropland acres have been converted to grass or trees through state or federal cost share programs. In the Haw Subwatershed it is estimated that approximately 10,054 agricultural acres have been permanently lost to development and more than 1,774 cropland acres have been converted to grass or trees. These estimates come from methodologies developed at the county level based on available information and reporting requirements associated with development. Each county uses a different method, but these methods are documented and use the best local information available. These estimates do not separate the amount of cropland versus pastureland lost; the number reported is agricultural land converted to development.

Figure 7. Total Cropland Acres in the Jordan Lake Watershed, Baseline (1997-2001) and 2010



Nutrient Management Training

As required by the fertilizer management rule (.0272), nutrient management training was conducted in the Jordan Lake Watershed. NC Cooperative Extension held 26 nutrient management training sessions, and since rule adoption approximately 1,000 farmers and applicators have received training. Training in this watershed is also available online, and to date 116 participants have successfully passed the exam at the end of the course. This online training can be accessed at <http://go.ncsu.edu/JordanLakeTraining>.

PASTURE POINTS ACCOUNTING

The WOC formed a pasture point system subcommittee in 2010 to revisit the accounting method 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 North Carolina State University (NCSU), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation (DSWC), NC Division of Water Quality (DWQ), NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (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 Jordan Lake accounting, the baseline will be 2002 compared to 2007.

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- 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 at the edge of the management unit. Point values reflect best estimates of percent 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.

As part of the pasture points system, the following data was used for calculation purposes: acres of pastureland, number of pastured animal units, and livestock densities (animal units per acre). Pasture animals included in this analysis include: cattle, equine, and goats. This information was analyzed using the 2002 and 2007 Census of Agriculture, and is presented in Table 4 at the subwatershed level. The percent of each county in each subwatershed, determined by GIS analysis, was used to calculate pasture data for each subwatershed in Jordan Lake.

Cattle is the predominant pasture animal in the watershed, and the recommended stocking rate is 1 cow per 1.5 acres, for a livestock density of 0.67. While the livestock stocking rate increased from 2002 to 2007, as an aggregate the livestock density is close to the appropriate rate in each subwatershed.

Table 4. Pasture and animal unit data by subwatershed in the Jordan Lake Watershed, 2002 and 2007

	2002 Pasture (acres)/sub- watershed	2002 Animal units/sub- watershed	2002 Sub- watershed livestock density (animal units/acre)	2007 Pasture (acres)/sub- watershed	2007 Animal units/sub- watershed	2007 Sub- watershed livestock density (animal units/acre)
Lower New Hope Subwatershed						
Chatham	5,263.20	3,594.15	0.68	4,731.50	3,455.88	0.73
Wake	1,055.55	492.57	0.47	777.75	423.33	0.54
Total	6,318.75	4,086.72	0.65	5,509.25	3,879.21	0.70
Upper New Hope Subwatershed						
Chatham	2,631.60	1,797.08	0.68	2,365.75	1,727.94	0.73
Durham	1,890.27	1,290.34	0.68	2,020.68	1,116.55	0.55
Orange	5,283.84	3,478.14	0.66	4,665.60	3,797.76	0.81
Wake	422.22	197.03	0.47	311.10	169.33	0.54
Total	10,227.93	6,762.58	0.66	9,363.13	6,811.58	0.73
Haw Subwatershed						
Alamance	30,209.48	17,325.75	0.57	28,800.24	21,276.56	0.74
Caswell	2,821.50	951.76	0.34	2,368.50	1,072.69	0.45
Chatham	12,631.68	8,625.96	0.68	11,355.60	8,294.10	0.73
Guilford	25,775.25	13,711.65	0.53	20,490.00	12,431.34	0.61
Orange	5,504.00	3,623.07	0.66	4,860.00	3,956.01	0.81
Rockingham	6,105.65	2,319.90	0.38	4,487.61	2,298.40	0.51
Total	83,047.56	46,558.09	0.56	72,361.95	49,329.10	0.68

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In the five years between releases of the Census of Agriculture, pasture acreage has decreased over 12,300 acres in the watershed, and decreases were experienced in each subwatershed as displayed in Figure 8. Due to the decrease in pasture acreage, and an increase of 2,600 pastured animal units, the livestock density increased from 2002 to 2007. Livestock stocking density is depicted in Figure 9 as measured in animal units per acre.

Figure 8. Pasture acreage in the Jordan Lake Watershed, Baseline (2002) and 2007

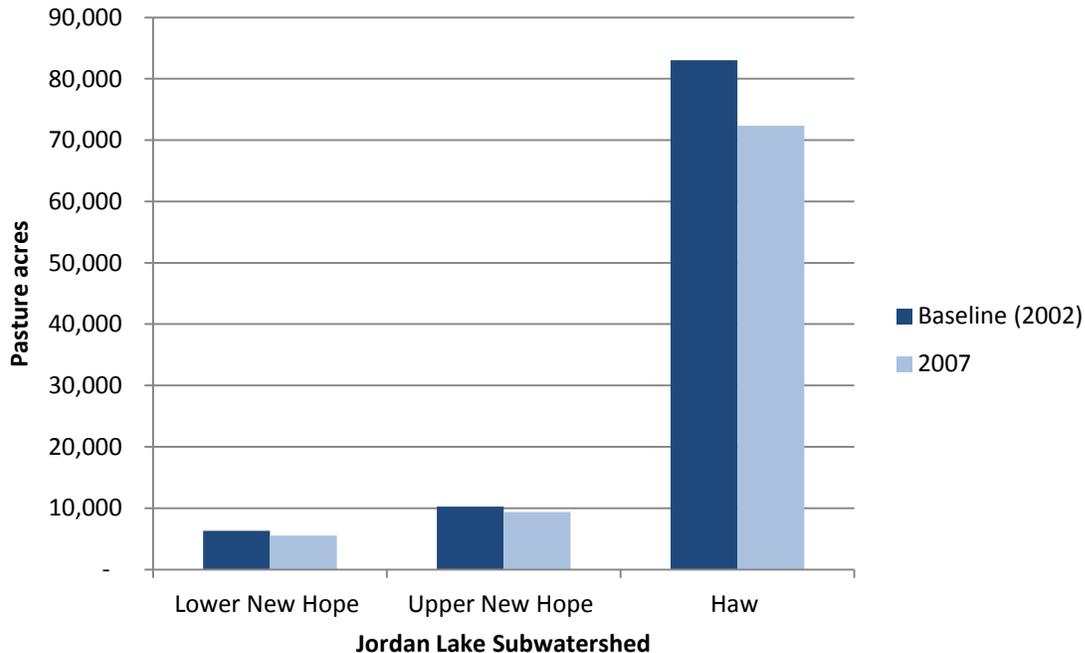
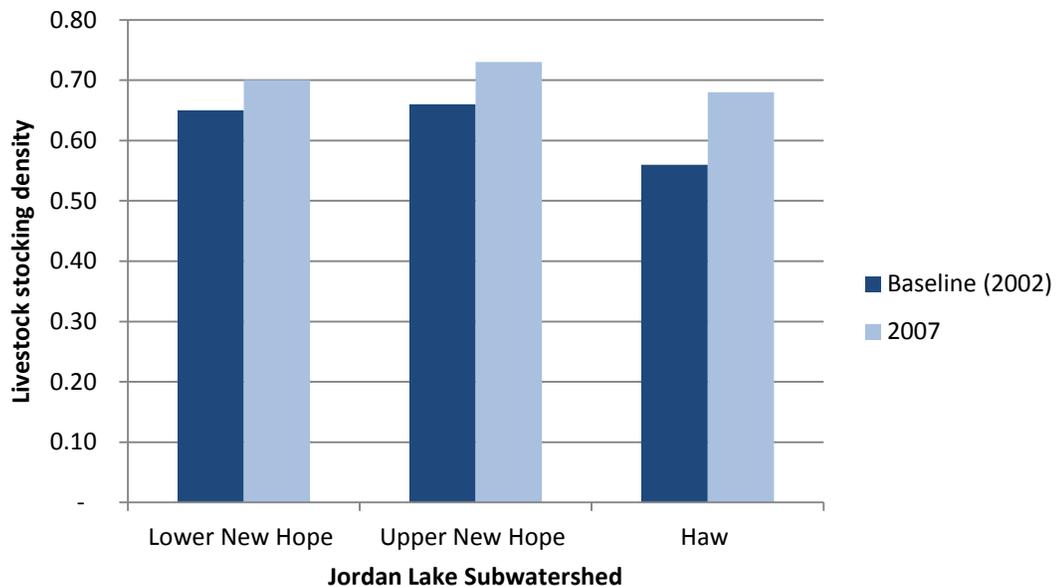


Figure 9. Livestock stocking density in the Jordan Lake Watershed, Baseline (2002) and 2007



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To complete the pasture point system accounting method in each county, pasture BMPs funded by state and federal cost share programs are to be tracked annually and compiled every five years. Individual contracts are reviewed to compile pasture acres affected by each BMP.

According to the adopted methodology, for each county for each implementation period, acreage-weighted BMP point assignments will be aggregated and compared to baseline values to yield a county point reduction estimate. These county point values will then be acreage-weighted aggregated for each Jordan subwatershed and compared to subwatershed reduction goals.

Pasture BMPs implemented in 2002 served as the baseline for this analysis, and were compared to pasture BMPs implemented from 2003-2007. Pasture BMPs receive point reduction credit as described in Table 5. These buffer credits incorporate the most recent adjustments made to NLEW cropland accounting, which reflect current research estimating restored buffer net efficiency improvements. The data for this five year period is displayed in Table 6.

Table 5. Points nitrogen reduction from pastureland for different BMPs, Pasture Point System

Pasture BMP	Pasture points
Exclusion fencing with a 10' stream setback	30 points
Exclusion fencing with a 20' buffer	50 points
Exclusion fencing with a 30' buffer	55 points
Exclusion fencing with a 50' buffer	60 points
Exclusion fencing with a 100' buffer	65 points

For the initial pastureland point system accounting, in the five years between releases of the Census of Agriculture, only the Lower New Hope Subwatershed met its target reduction goal of maintaining the baseline point value of 0. The Haw River Subwatershed came close to meeting its goal, with 5.0 points compared to the goal of 8 points, a difference of 3.0 points. While the Upper New Hope Subwatershed did not meet its goal with 0.3 points compared to the goal of 35 points, a difference of 34.7 points. Detailed information regarding county and subwatershed data is displayed in Table 6.

While this system was developed for the Tar-Pamlico River Basin, the Jordan Lake watershed is the first to employ the pastureland point system accounting method. The WOC will continue to monitor the accounting method and offer recommendations for improvements to the pasture points subcommittee as suggestions or new research arises. Several factors may affect why the pasture points are low in the Jordan Lake Watershed. The first factor is the amount of land already buffered in the Jordan Lake Watershed. According to a report completed in 2007, *Delineating Agriculture in the Lake Jordan River Basin*, the majority of agricultural land is already buffered. This study found that six of the counties had more than 75% of their agricultural land buffered, and that the average buffer width was greater than 50 feet.¹ Land that is already buffered is not captured in the baseline or 2007 reports, as the pastureland points system only measures BMPs installed and the affected acres of pasture associated with those practices. The second factor is the small size of the subwatersheds, this is particularly noticeable in the Lower and Upper New Hope Subwatersheds. Each of these subwatersheds has small acreages of pastureland, according to the 2007 Census of Agriculture; they are both below 10,000 acres. This limits the amount of land that can be excluded and buffered, as well as reduces the number of farmers that can be targeted for adoption of voluntary conservation practices. The third factor is that equine operations are not eligible for cost share assistance through federal programs, which are funded at a much higher level than state cost share

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programs. This is particularly important because horses are the second highest population of livestock in the watershed, following cattle.

On a positive note, local soil and water conservation district and NRCS staff have indicated that during the next reporting cycle in 2014, more livestock BMPs will be reported. This watershed, and the state as a whole, experienced a severe drought that had a significant impact on pasture operations. Additional funding was secured from state appropriations and grant sources for the installation of many pasture practices including livestock exclusion and associated buffers.

Table 6. Points nitrogen reduction from pastureland by county and Jordan Lake Subwatershed, Pasture Point System

County	Baseline 2002 Pasture Points	2007 Pasture Points	Pasture Points normalized by pastureland acres of subwatershed in county	Subwatershed point reduction goal	Goal status
Upper New Hope Subwatershed					
Chatham	0	0	0		
Durham	0	0	0		
Orange	0	1,375.0	0.3		
Wake	0	0	0		
Total	0	1,375.0	0.3	35.0	Not meeting
Lower New Hope Subwatershed					
Chatham	0	0	0		
Wake	0	0	0		
Total	0	0	0	0	Meeting
Haw Subwatershed					
Alamance	2,310.0	57,539.0	1.9		
Caswell	-	1,250.0	0.5		
Chatham	32,600.0	8,324.0	(1.9)		
Guilford	5,165.0	6,270.0	0.1		
Orange	4,573.0	2,945.0	(0.2)		
Rockingham	1,820.0	22,010.0	4.6		
Total	46,468.0	98,338.0	5.0	8.0	Not meeting

PHOSPHORUS LOSS ACCOUNTING

Phosphorus Indicators for CY2010

The qualitative indicators included in Table 7 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. The PTAC reconvened in April 2010 to make minor revisions for the tool's use in this watershed and the approach was approved for use in the Jordan Lake Watershed by the Water Quality Committee of the EMC. This report includes phosphorus indicator data for the baseline period (1997-2001) and CY2010. Most of the parameters indicate less risk of phosphorus loss than in the baseline.

Contributing to the reduced risk of phosphorus loss is the reduction in the acres of tobacco, the decrease in the amount of animal waste phosphorus, and a movement to 90% conservation tillage on cropland in the watershed.

The soil test phosphorus median number reported for the watershed fluctuates each year due to the nature of how the data is collected and compiled. The soil test phosphorus median numbers shown in Table 7 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 watershed, and have not been adjusted to include only those samples collected in the Jordan Lake Watershed.

Phosphorus 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 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. 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.

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Table 7. Relative Changes in Land Use and Management Parameters and their Relative Effect on Phosphorus Loss Risk in the Jordan Lake Watershed

Parameter	Units	Source	Baseline (average 1997-2001)	2010	Percent change	2010 P Loss Risk +/-
Cropland	Acres	NC Ag Statistics	87,384	98,573	13%	+
Cropland conversion (to grass & trees)	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	1,359	1,822	34%	-
CRP / WRP* (cumulative)	Acres	USDA-NRCS	Federal data not able to be reported	986.9	N/A	N/A
Conservation tillage**	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	1,997	17,635	783%	-
Vegetated buffers (cumulative)	Acres	GIS analysis	54,212	52,831	-3%	+
Tobacco acres	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	7,667	4,647	-39%	-
Scavenger crop***	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	0	0	0%	N/A
Animal waste P	lbs of P/ yr	NC Ag Statistics	9,809,802	5,608,723	-43%	-
Soil test P median	mg/kg	NCDA & CS	72	71	-1%	-

* CRP/WRP data during the baseline period was not able to be queried. Once contracts expire, they are removed from the datalayer where this information is stored.

**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.

***Nutrient scavenger crop acreage only reflects acres under active cost share contracts, not acres where farmers plant scavenger crops without cost share assistance, primarily following tobacco.

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The WOC finds that the decreased risk of P loss is associated with the following three important parameters:

- increase in conservation tillage acreage,
- decrease in animal waste phosphorus and
- decrease in tobacco acreage.

These parameters sufficiently outweigh the increased P loss risk associated with the watershed cropland increase for this time period. 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 Quality (DWQ) annually, and to bring any concerns raised by the results of this effort to the DWQ's attention as they arise, along with recommendations for any appropriate action. 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.

The Jordan Lake Watershed Oversight Committee also initially recommended adding tracking of the annual application of human biosolids, but ultimately removed this element from the tracking methodology due to lack of readily accessible biosolids data. Currently, biosolids applicators submit paper copy annual reports containing application and site information; however, due to limited resources NC DENR is not keying the information into a database. To include this information would require new resources to mine the historical and enter new hard copy data. To date, resources have not been obtained for this purpose. When digital biosolids information becomes available the human biosolids component will be tracked as a separate component of the phosphorus accounting. In an effort to improve nutrient management strategies that are part of the residuals (biosolids) application program, NC DENR has formed a stakeholders group to evaluate available nutrient management tools for phosphorus and make recommendations for future phosphorus management of biosolids applications.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE IMPLEMENTATION

Not all types of nutrient and sediment-reducing best management practices (BMPs) are tracked by NLEW. Other BMPs 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 WOC believes it is worthwhile to recognize these practices. Table 8 identifies BMPs and tracks their implementation in the watershed since the end of the baseline period.

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Table 8. Best management practices installed, Jordan Lake Watershed*

Conservation practice	Units	Haw: 2002-2010	Lower New Hope: 2002-2010	Upper New Hope: 2002-2010
Ag road repair-stabilization	feet	2,880.0	-	-
Agricultural pond restoration/repair	units	17.0	-	-
Closure-waste impoundments	units	17.0	-	-
Conservation cover	acres	756.1	20.0	9.5
Constructed wetland	acres	2.1	-	-
Cover crop	acres	2,292.2	-	56.3
Critical area planting	acres	65.0	0.1	0.2
Cropland conversion-grass	acres	932.8	36.5	-
Cropland conversion-trees	acres	842.1	10.2	-
Diversion	feet	4,034.0	574.0	464.0
Fencing (USDA programs)	feet	6,741.0	-	-
Field border	acres	138.5	-	0.4
Filter strip	acres	0.4	-	-
Grassed waterway	acres	288.3	-	0.2
Habitat management	acres	284.6	3.3	9.5
Livestock exclusion	feet	85,130.0	3,061.0	814.0
Nutrient management	acres	5,109.5	-	-
Nutrient management plan	number	29.0	-	-
Pasture renovation	acres	2,763.1	-	58.9
Pastureland conversion to trees	acres	31.2	-	-
Pond	number	1.0	-	-
Prescribed grazing	acres	3,352.0	-	-
Riparian forest buffer	acres	84.5	-	-
Sediment control basin	units	2.0	-	-
Sod-based rotation	acres	9,667.7	-	11.2
Streambank and shoreline protection	acres	16,905.0	-	-
Terrace	feet	9,439.0	-	10,970.0
Tillage management	acres	17,478.7	5.8	150.9

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

Additional BMPs may exist in the watershed as producers may maintain practices after the life of a cost share contract, and other practices are installed without cost share assistance.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Jordan 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.

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).
- 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).

The WOC will incorporate recommendations of NC DENR’s stakeholder group on evaluating available nutrient management strategies that are part of the residuals (biosolids) application program and incorporate biosolid application data in agriculture’s phosphorus accounting when available electronically.

The committee will be evaluating 2012 Census of Agriculture data, when published in 2014, for the next 5-year pasture point analysis for each subwatershed. The committee supports additional research on accounting procedures for pasture operations, including how to measure and report buffers on pastureland.

A subcommittee of the Falls and Jordan Lake WOCs is working with DWQ on issues regarding trading nutrient offsets that arise from trades involving agricultural land.

Funding is an integral part in the success of this strategy. There are no technicians funded to conduct nutrient management data collection. Further the staff position in the Division of Soil and Water Conservation previously assigned to work on Jordan Lake reporting was reassigned due to significant losses of positions in this division due to budget reductions.

The WOC considers this to be important work, and supports future funding to continue the annual reporting requirements.

**Initial Assessment of 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 2011
A Report to the Water Quality Committee of the Environmental Management Commission
From the Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee**

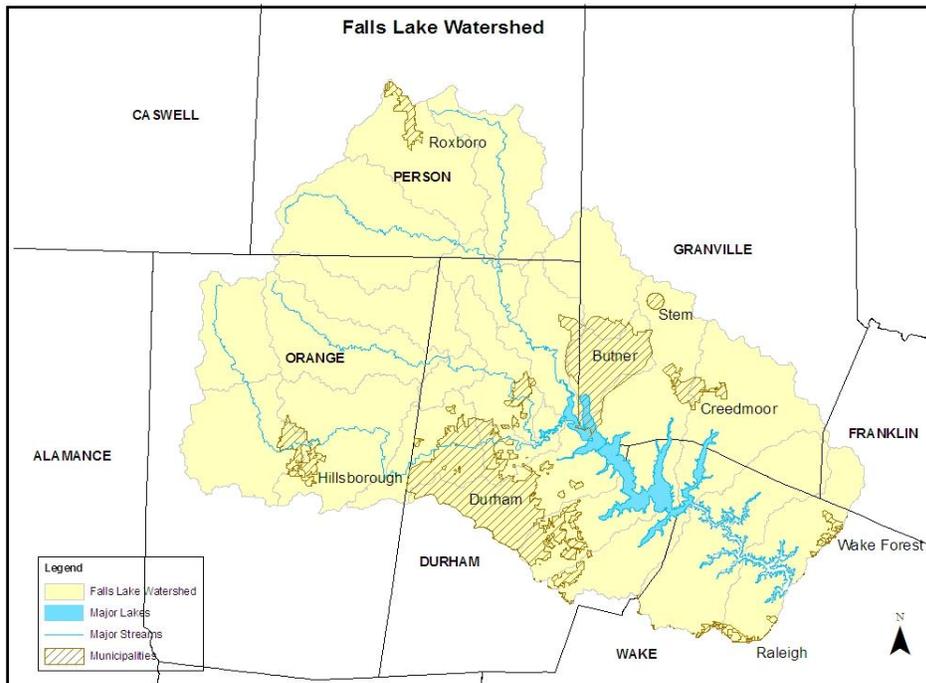
SUMMARY

This report provides an initial assessment 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, 2011. The Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee (WOC) received and approved crop year CY2011 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 CY2011, agriculture collectively exceeded its 20% Stage I nitrogen reduction goal, with a 31% reduction compared to the 2006 baseline. 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. Of the 9,525 acres of cropland decrease in the watershed, 27% (2,529 acres) was lost to development. Phosphorus qualitative indicators demonstrate that there is no increased risk of phosphorus loss, with a 9% and 15% 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 Quality
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 goals for this nutrient strategy are compared to the 2006 baseline period. 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 first annual reports to the WOC in October 2012. 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.

Farmer Registration

The Falls Lake Agriculture Rule tasks the local advisory committees in the watershed with conducting a registration process for persons subject to the Rule. The registration process was intended to serve as one mechanism to request information regarding the type and acreage of agricultural operations. It was also an opportunity to provide farmers with information on requirements and options under the rule, and details about available technical assistance and cost share options. The registration process was to be completed by January 15, 2012.

The Division of Soil and Water Conservation developed a registration website that provided information and allowed farmers to register electronically. This website was also included in an information pamphlet developed and distributed at agriculture meetings throughout the Falls Watershed. In addition to the development and distribution of these materials, individual LAC members conducted extensive farmer outreach and attended multiple agriculture meetings throughout 2011 and 2012 to present rule information and encourage farmer registration. Efforts included distributing registration information through Soil and Water Conservation District newsletters, numerous presentations at workshops and clinics, and to individuals at local farmers' markets.

Despite significant efforts made by the local advisory committees the response to the farmer registration was light, with a total of 55 farmers registering. The lack of response to the registration efforts is attributed to several factors. In general, feedback from farmers in the watershed indicated they felt that they did not need to register a second time because they had already registered under the Neuse Agriculture rules that have been in effect since 2001. The registration requirement of the rule has been very confusing. Some farmers stated that they felt that the registration unfairly targeted farmers because they had previously registered. Self-described "hobby farmers" didn't identify themselves as "agriculture" because of their smaller operations and did not feel registration was necessary for them. The lack of response to the registration process has not hindered implementation of the rules and the overall goal of the process. The type and acreage of agricultural operations has been obtained from other sources. The other goal of registration, which was to assure that farmers were supplied with information about the requirements and options under the rules, has been accomplished.

NITROGEN LOSS ACCOUNTING

Nitrogen Reduction from Cropland from 2006 Baseline for CY2011

All counties submitted their first progress reports to the WOC in October 2012. In CY2011 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, with the exception of Wake (9%). Table 1 lists each county's baseline and CY2011 nitrogen (lbs/yr) loss values from cropland, along with nitrogen loss percent reductions from the baseline in CY2011.

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

County	Baseline N Loss (lb)*	CY2011 N Loss (lb)*	N Loss Reduction (%)
	NLEW	NLEW	NLEW
Durham	135,902	98,354	28%
Franklin	11,717	6,953	41%
Granville	127,704	81,252	36%
Orange	347,402	258,165	26%
Person	484,123	303,985	37%
Wake**	49,932	45,232	9%
Total	1,156,780	793,941	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.

** Land in Wake County only represents 5 percent of the Falls Lake Watershed, and 8.5 percent of the total of all land in Wake County is in Falls Lake Watershed.

Best Management Practice Implementation

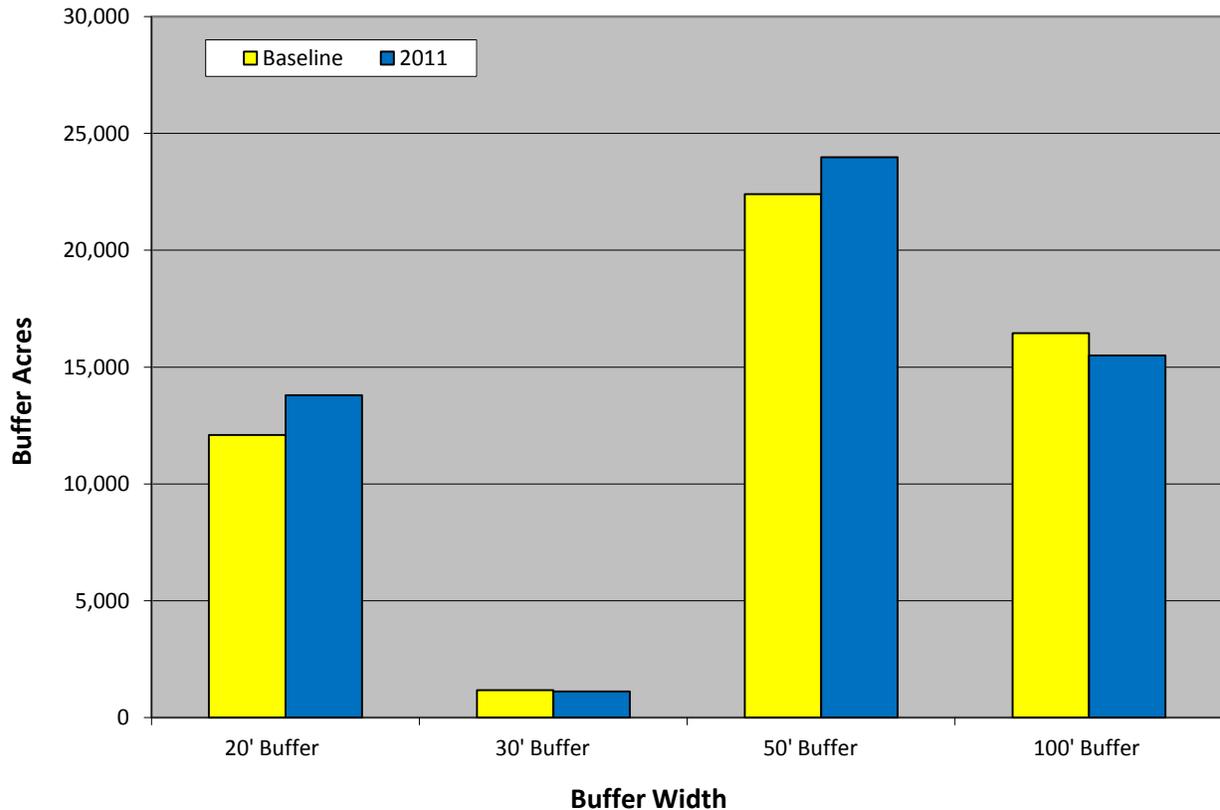
Agriculture is credited with different nitrogen reduction efficiencies, expressed as percentages, for riparian buffer widths ranging from 20 feet to 100 feet. The NLEW version 5.53b for Neuse River Basin provides the following percent nitrogen reduction efficiencies for buffer widths on cropland: 20' 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 N removal resulting from riparian buffer implementation.

Figure 2 illustrates the amount of buffers on cropland in the baseline (2006) and CY2011. Overall, total acres of buffers have slightly increased since the baseline (4.3%). Acres of buffers of 20 and 50 foot widths have increased, 100 foot buffers have decreased, and 30 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

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.

that riparian buffers, particularly trees, are important for reducing this sediment. In addition, riparian buffers can reduce phosphorus and sediment as it moves through the buffer and provide other critically important functions.

Figure 2. Nitrogen Reducing Buffers installed on Croplands from Baseline (2006) through CY2011, 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

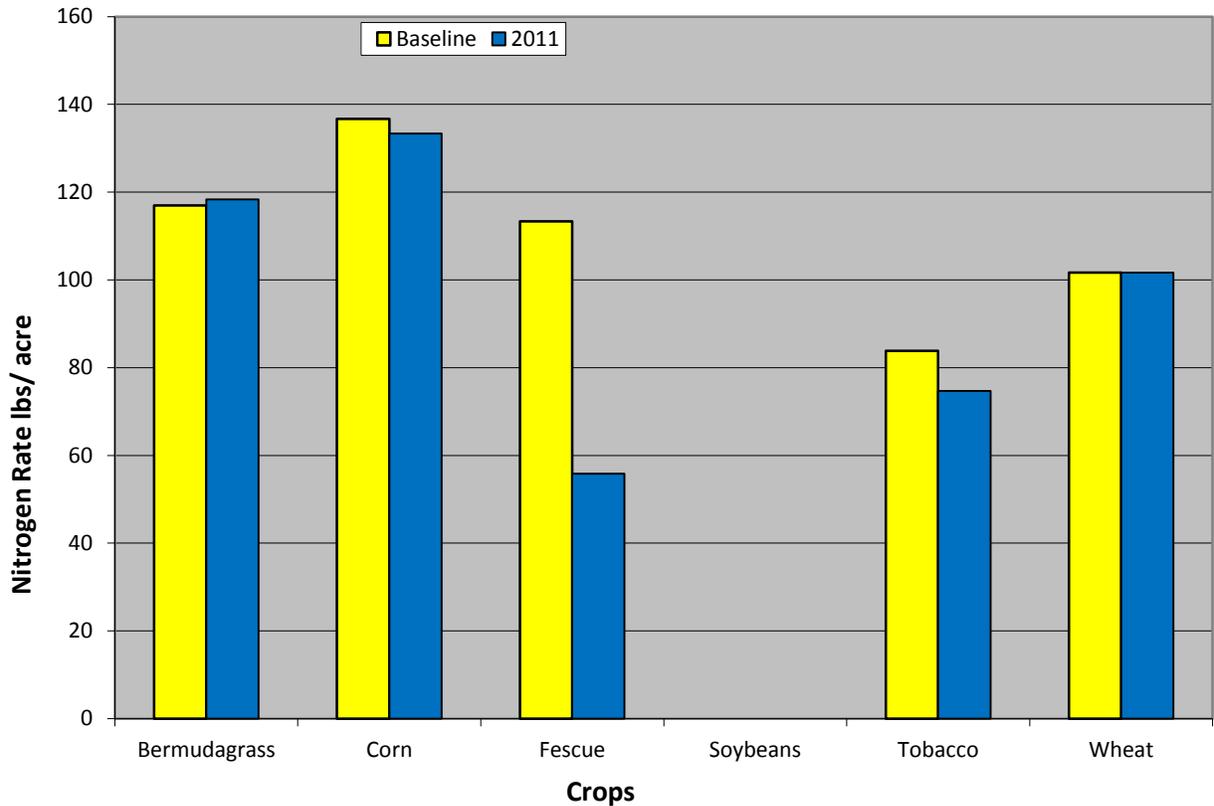
Fertilization Management

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 decreased by over 50 pounds/acre, due to increasing fertilizer costs and decreasing profits from beef cattle. Rates on corn and tobacco decreased slightly. Nitrogen application rates for soybeans remained at zero. Bermudagrass and wheat nitrogen application rates remained relatively constant in CY2011 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.

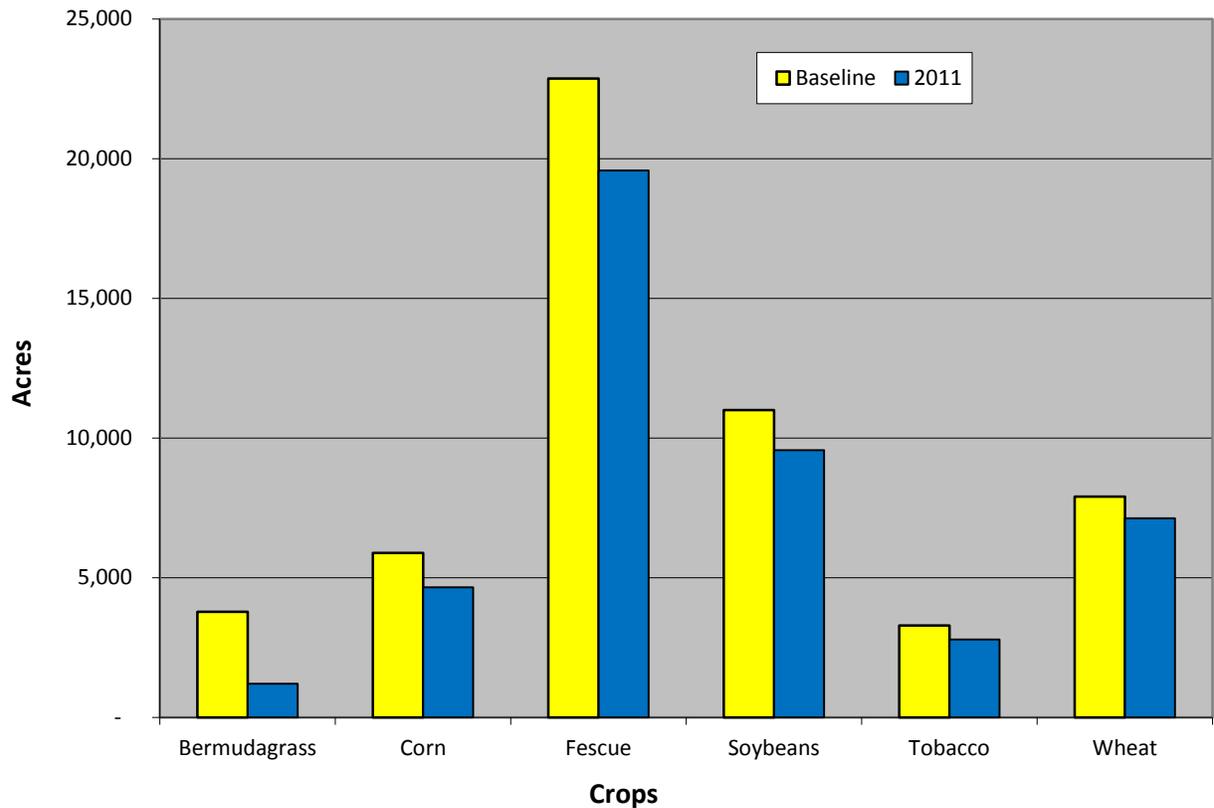
Figure 3. Average annual nitrogen fertilization rate (lb/ac) for agricultural crops for the baseline (2006) and 2011, Falls Lake Watershed



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 CY2011 compared to the baseline. The acres of all major crops have decreased by over 9,500 acres in the watershed since the baseline.

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



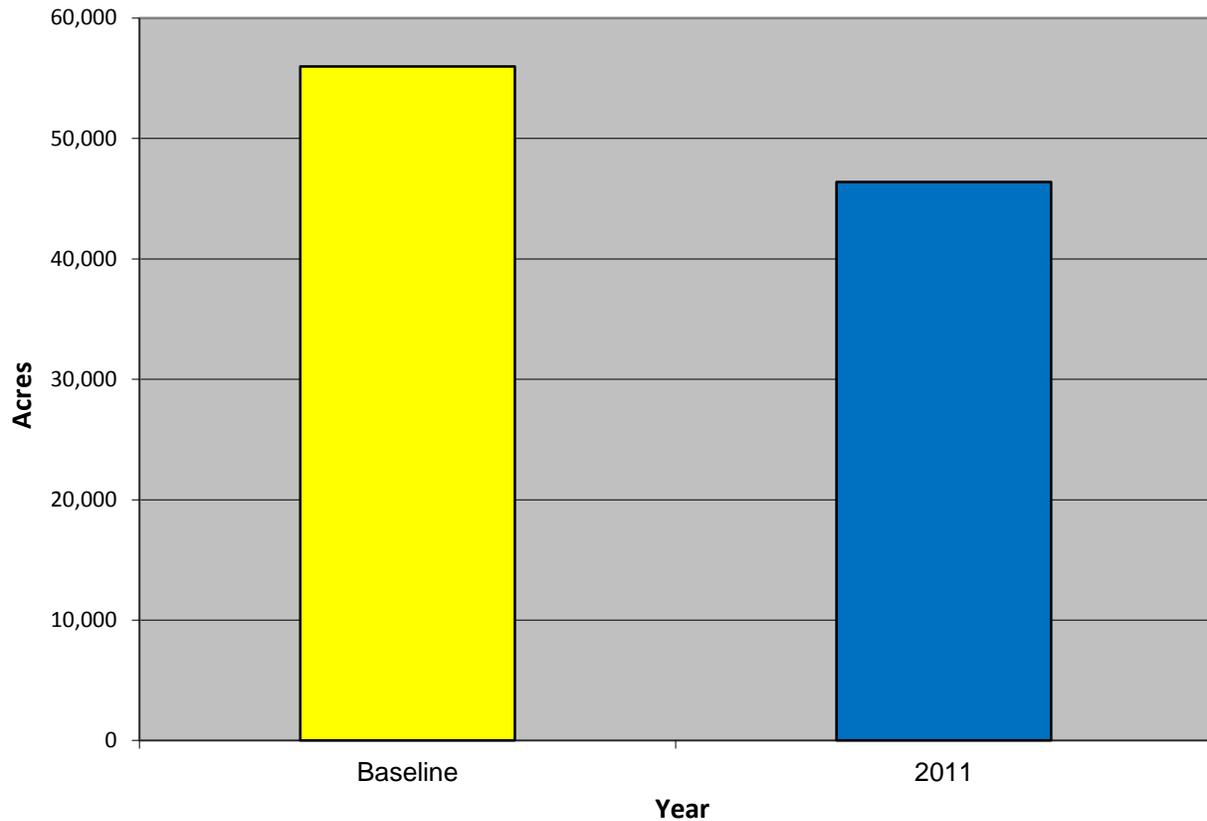
Land Use Change to Development and Cropland Conversion

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 9,525 acres (17% of total cropland). Of that, 2,529 cropland acres (27% 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 (6,701 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) and 2011



PHOSPHORUS LOSS ACCOUNTING

Phosphorus Indicators for CY2011

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 CY2011. 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 15%
- Animal waste was reduced by 9% from swine, poultry and cattle
- 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 CY2006	CY2011	Percent change	CY2011 P Loss Risk +/-
Cropland	acres	FSA	10,834	7,545	-30%	-
Cropland conversion (to grass & trees)	acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	1,527	1,822	19%	-
CRP / WRP (cumulative)	acres	USDA-NRCS	0	0	0%	N/A
Conservation tillage*	acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	26,787	18,142	-32%	+
Vegetated buffers (cumulative)	acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	52,139	54,390	4%	-
Scavenger crop	acres	LAC	0	0	0%	N/A
Tobacco	acres	LAC	3,288	2,782	-15%	-
Animal waste P	lbs of P/ yr	NC Ag Statistics	586,612	536,009	-9%	-
Soil test P median	mg/kg	NCDA& CS	77	74	-4%	-

* 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. A Phosphorus Loss Assessment Tool (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 (fertilizer, biosolids, or animal waste), there would be limited potential for phosphorus loss reduction.
3. Improved understanding of agricultural phosphorus management through studies using in-stream monitoring: quantitative in-stream monitoring should be funded 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 Quality (DWQ) annually, and as directed by the rule to the Environmental Management Commission, with the next reports to the Commission due in January, 2014 and 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 all types of nutrient and sediment-reducing BMPs are tracked by NLEW. Other BMPs 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 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 (CY2011-CY2006)
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	8,501
Livestock Exclusion	Feet	11,098
Nutrient Management	Acre	398
Pasture Renovation	Acre	326
Stream Crossing	Number	1
Sod-Based Rotation	Acre	6,705
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 DWQ 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.

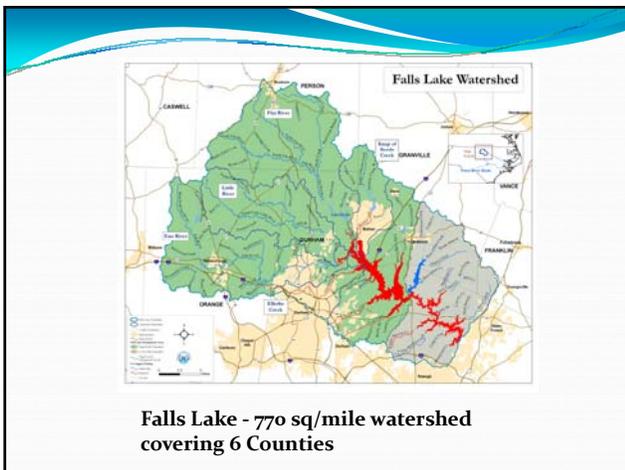
WOC recognizes the dynamic nature of agricultural business:

- 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)

Initial Assessment of Nutrient Reductions from Agricultural Operations in the Falls Lake Watershed

Prepared by the Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committees

- ## 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
 - DWQ



- ## Falls Agriculture Rule Overview (15A NCAC 02b .0280)
- 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

Watershed Oversight Committee (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 Quality
Environmental (3)
General Farming
Pasture-Based Livestock
Equine Livestock
Cropland Farming
Scientific Community

- ### EMC Approved Accounting Methods
1. Cropland Nitrogen Loss – NLEW Tool
 2. Phosphorus Loss – Qualitative Indicators
 3. Pastureland Nitrogen Loss - Point System

- ### Cropland Nitrogen Accounting N-Loss Estimation Worksheet (NLEW)
- Empirical Spreadsheet-based Model
 - Developed by DWQ, 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

Falls Watershed Cropland N Loss Reductions

County	2006 Baseline N Loss (lbs)	CY2011 N Loss (lbs)	CY2011 N Loss (%)
Durham	135,902	98,354	28%
Franklin	11,717	6,953	41%
Granville	127,704	81,252	36%
Orange	347,402	258,165	26%
Person	484,123	303,985	37%
Wake	49,932	45,232	9%
Total	1,156,780	793,941	31%

Phosphorus Loss Tracking - Falls Lake Watershed 2011 P Loss Indicators

Parameter	Units	Baseline 2006	CY2011	Percent '06-'11 change	CY2011 P Loss Risk +/-
Cropland	acres	10,834	7,545	-30%	-
Cropland conversion (to grass & trees)	acres	1,527	1,822	19%	-
CRP / WRP (cumulative)	acres	0	0	0%	
Conservation tillage	acres	26,787	18,142	-32%	+
Vegetated buffers (cumulative)	acres	52,139	54,390	4%	-
Scavenger crop	acres	0	0	0%	
Tobacco	acres	3,288	2,782	-15%	-
Animal waste P	lbs of P/ yr	586,612	536,009	-9%	-
Soil test P median	mg/kg	77	74	-4%	-

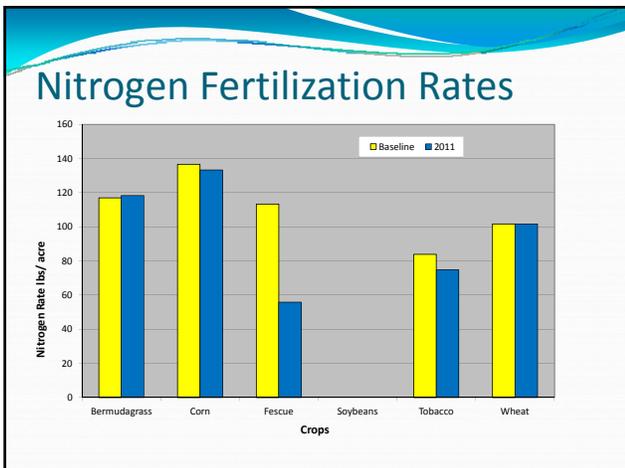
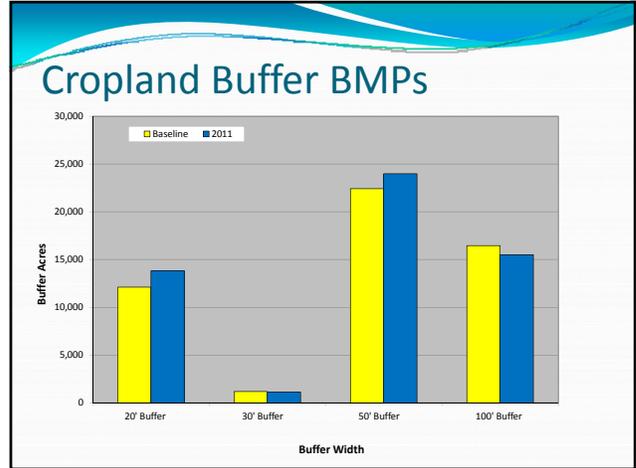
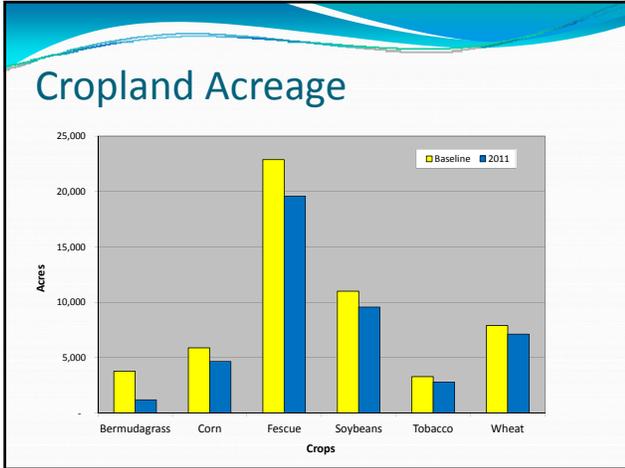
Falls Pasture Points Accounting

- N "Point" Credit Values for Pasture BMPs
- Comparative analysis for Falls included in future report
- Reason:
 - Pasture data compiled in Census of Agriculture 5yr Reports
 - Most recent = 2007 (Falls Baseline is 2006)
 - 2012 Data will be available in 2014

Looking forward

- Funding for staff is critical, without which tasks would fall to the voluntary LACs for data compilation; staff also needed for BMP installation
- WOCs will continue working with LACs and farmers to implement the rules and adopt nutrient-reduction BMPs
- WOCs will continue to review data from all studies to incorporate into the process
- WOC members are working with DWQ on trading nutrient offsets
- Efforts underway to complete next annual report in both watersheds

Questions



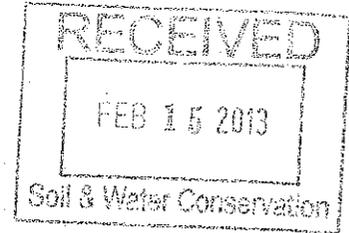
- ### Pasture Nitrogen Accounting Method
- Subcommittee Revised Tar-Pam Method
 - N "Point" Credit Values for BMPs
 - BMPs: Buffer & Exclusion Fencing
 - County scale approach
 - Limited Data
 - 5-yr Report (Census of Agriculture)

Pasture Nitrogen Accounting Method

BMP	Points
Exclusion Fencing	30
20' Buffer and Exclusion Fencing	50
30' Buffer and Exclusion Fencing	55
50' Buffer and Exclusion Fencing	60
100' Buffer and Exclusion Fencing	65



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 North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

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

The supervisors of the Alamance Soil and Water Conservation District of Alamance 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 04-1-2013 and ending 12-1-2016 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Albert L. Madren. 3/20/13 VAF 12/5/16 VAF

Name of nominee: Roy Stanley, Jr.
 Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 5364 Union Ridge Rd., Burlington, NC 27217
 Email address of nominee: NA
 Home phone: 336-421-3336
 Mobile phone: 336-516-6519
 Business phone: NA
 Occupation: Farmer
 Age: 70
 Education: High School Diploma
 Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Church Deacon and Usher, Chairman and Treasurer on local Fire Dept. Board
 Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Farmer for many years, the past 20 Years Supervising on our SWCD Board, Fema Training Certification, Church Leader, Fire Dept. Leader
 Other pertinent information: Helped obtain our meeting facility for our upcoming Spring Meeting free of charge. Knows how to manage....owned and managed a Seed and Feed business in Downtown Burlington NC for many years. Has attended 90% of all Monthly SWCD Board Meeting for the past 20 years.

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 J. Fred Bowman
 SWCD Chair
 Printed name: J. Fred Bowman

2-5-2013
 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.

X J. Fred Bowman
 SWCD Chair
 Printed name: J. Fred Bowman

2-5-2013
 Date

X Roy Stanley Jr
 Individual recommended for appointment
 Printed name Roy Stanley Jr

2-5-2013
 Date



**ALAMANCE SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**
P.O. BOX 3185
Burlington, NC 27215-0185
Phone: (336) 228-1753 ext.3

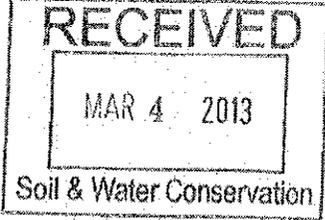


January 29, 2013

Attention Chairman to the Alamance Soil and Water Conservation District Board:

I am resigning from my appointed position on the Board effective today. I have enjoyed my time here and am resigning due to health reasons. Thank you

Albert L. Madren
Albert L. Madren 1/29/13



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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

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

The supervisors of the Cleveland Soil and Water Conservation District of Cleveland 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 December 1, 2012 and ending December 1, 2016 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Jim Boggs 3/22/13 VAF 12/5/14 VAF

Name of nominee: Michael Underwood
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 917 Oak Grove-Clover Hill Church Rd. Lawndale, NC 28090
Email address of nominee: uffarms@aol.com
Home phone: _____
Mobile phone: 704-477-6401
Business phone: _____
Occupation: Farmer
Age: 35
Education: BA in History
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: _____
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: _____
District Water Quality Technician
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 D. Randy McDaniel 2-27-13
SWCD Chair Date
Printed name: D. Randy McDaniel

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 D. Randy McDaniel 2-27-13
SWCD Chair Date
Printed name: D. Randy McDaniel

X Michael J. Underwood 2/26/2013
Individual recommended for appointment Date
Printed name: Michael Underwood

Dec. 13, 2012

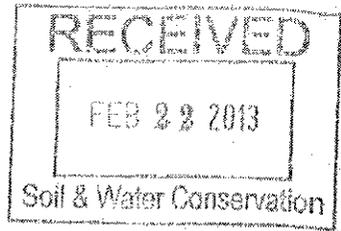
Mr. Randy McDaniel, Chairman
Cleveland Soil & Water Conservation District Board
844 Wallace Grove Drive
Shelby, NC 28150-9213

Dear Sir:

Please accept my resignation from the Cleveland County Soil & Water Conservation District Board. It has been a pleasure to serve on the board. It is my desire to see our area benefit from the services you and your board provide our citizens.

Sincerely,


Jim Boggs



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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR
Complete and send 1 copy to the address above; keep a copy for your file

The supervisors of the Gaston Soil and Water Conservation District of Gaston 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 12/6/2010 and ending 12/6/2014 to fill the expired or un-expired term of James Michael Mauney, Sr. 3/20/13 KAF

Name of nominee: Robert G. Cloninger, III
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 3048 Cloninger Rd., Dallas, NC 28034
Email address of nominee: rgcloninger@gmail.com
Home phone: 704-922-7138
Mobile phone: 704-678-9757
Business phone:
Occupation: Environmental Specialist/Erosion Control & Stormwater Inspector
Age: 31
Education: Bachelors of Science, Industrial Tech/Construction
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee:
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications:
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

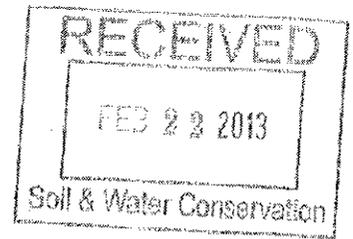
I hereby certify that the board of supervisors considered the Guiding Principles for Supervisor Nomination for Appointment shown on the reverse of this nomination form when selecting the above supervisor candidate for nomination.

X [Signature] SWCD Chair Date 2-19-13
Printed name: W N Craig

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] SWCD Chair Date 2-19-13
Printed name: W N Craig

X [Signature] Individual recommended for appointment Date 02-19-13
Printed name: Robert G. Cloninger



2296 Mauney Lane

Mauney Farms
Gastonia, North Carolina 28052

Telephone 803-927-6607
Fax 803-927-6607

February 4, 2013

To: Gaston Soil and Water Conservation Board

It is regretful that I have not fulfilled my duties as a board member. I understand that I have missed more than the allotted number of meetings. I do not know when the labor situation at the farm will improve, therefore, I cannot say that my attendance record will improve. I think it is best that I resign as a board member, allowing you to replace me with someone better able to fulfill the necessary duties.

Respectfully

James Michael Mauney Sr.
James Michael Mauney, Sr.



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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR
 Complete and send 1 copy to the address above; keep a copy for your file

The supervisors of the Surry Soil and Water Conservation District of Surry 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 April, 2013 and ending December, 2023 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Matthew Freed. 3/20/13 KRF 12/1/14 KRF

Name of nominee: David Carl Branch
 Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 352 Laster Road, Elkin NC 28621
 Email address of nominee: branchtrckin@surry.net
 Home phone: 336-366-4541
 Mobile phone: 336-366-7944
 Business phone: _____
 Occupation: Farmer, Truck Driver
 Age: 36
 Education: High School
 Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: n/a
 Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: _____

Other pertinent information: Owner/Operator of Branch Trucking, (livestock transporting), small grain farming and beef cattle

- 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 S. Gordon Holder 03-05-13
 SWCD Chair Date
 Printed name: S Gordon Holder

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 S. Gordon Holder 03-05-13
 SWCD Chair Date
 Printed name: S Gordon Holder

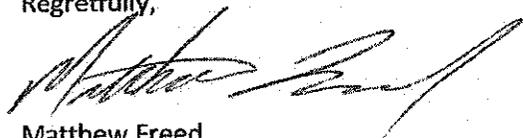
X David Carl Branch 03-05-13
 Individual recommended for appointment Date
 Printed name: David Carl Branch

January 3, 2012

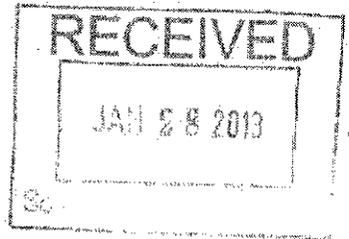
To Whom It may Concern:

I regret that due to unforeseen events, at this time it has become necessary for me to resign from my position as Supervisor of the Surry SWCD.

Regretfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Freed", written in a cursive style.

Matthew Freed



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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

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

The supervisors of the UNION Soil and Water Conservation District of UNION 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 2014 to fill the expired or un-expired term of JAMES W COOK. ^{MARCH 2013} _{by KAF}

Name of nominee: Wayne S Moser
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 5710 Lancaster Hwy MONROE, NC 28112
Email address of nominee: Wayne.Moser65@gmail.com
Home phone: 704-764-3768
Mobile phone: 704-292-8078
Business phone: N/A
Occupation: Retired as of 2/28/2013
Age: 64
Education: BS in Bus Adm. 25yr Exp As Soil & Water Conservation
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: District Director Union SWCD Tech.
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: _____

Other pertinent information: Assoc Degrees in Criminal Justice & Hotel & Restaurant Mgmt.

- 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 James K Mills
SWCD Chair
Printed name:

X 1-15-2013
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.

X James K Mills
SWCD Chair
Printed name:

1-15-2013
Date

Wayne S Moser
Individual recommended for appointment
Printed name:

1-15-2013
Date

Fischer, Kristina

From: Moser, Wayne - NRCS-CD, Monroe, NC [Wayne.Moser@nc.nacdnet.net]
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 1:54 PM
To: Fischer, Kristina
Subject: FW: letter of resignation

Kristina ,
Please find the resignation email from James W. Cook to me on Nov, 27 2012.

Wayne S. Moser
District Director
Union SWCD
704-233-1621 ext 114
Fax. 704-233-0148
wayne.moser@nc.nacdnet.net

From: jwcook2@gmail.com [mailto:jwcook2@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 10:27 AM
To: Moser, Wayne - NRCS-CD, Monroe, NC
Subject: Re: letter of resignation

Yes you may use my previous email as my resignation letter.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 4, 2012, at 9:16 AM, "Moser, Wayne - NRCS-CD, Monroe, NC" <Wayne.Moser@nc.nacdnet.net> wrote:

James,
Do you want the Supervisors and Commission to consider this letter as your resignation letter.
I have contacted the other Supervisors and I have decided to apply for appointment to your position at the earliest date possible following Feb 28, 2013. The other three Supervisors are 100% open to this process.
Let me know so I proceed with the paper work.
THANKS

Wayne S. Moser
District Director
Union SWCD
704-233-1621 ext 114
Fax. 704-233-0148
wayne.moser@nc.nacdnet.net

From: JWC [mailto:jwcook2@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2012 1:24 PM
To: Moser, Wayne - NRCS-CD, Monroe, NC
Subject: Re: letter of resignation

Wayne,

I would like to resign with the affective date being the day before or the day of your appointment. I would like to do this in case an emergency comes up and we need a teleconference or something like that. I doubt anything like that will be needed, however I don't want to compound the disadvantage placed on the board by my past absences, with leaving the board short handed. If you can assure me no business or meetings will need to be handled between now and then, I am happy to resign immediately affective.

Further, it is a great comfort to know that the youngest most inexperienced supervisor will be replaced by someone who knows the mission and the purpose of the conservation district in such depth and detail. I have enjoyed my time as a Supervisor and I have learned a great deal from everyone. Serving the community is very important to me and I only wish that I had more time to devote. It is an honor to serve the people of the Union District and to serve along side honorable men such as yourself. Please extend my gratitude to the Chairman and other board members for allowing me to resign in good standing, as well as offering my seat to you. Good luck in retirement and if you ever need anything please don't hesitate to ask.

Respectfully,

James W. Cook

On Tue, Nov 27, 2012 at 11:09 AM, Moser, Wayne - NRCS-CD, Monroe, NC
<Wayne.Moser@nc.nacdnet.net> wrote:

James,

I have heard from three supervisors concerning the subject of your resignation for personal reasons from the Union County Board of Supervisors and the possibility of myself being appointed to your position. The three I have talked with have no problems with this process if resigning is what you want to do without reservations. The timing of this process should start now so all paperwork can be ready for the March meeting of the State Commission.

The decision to resign must be your decision, if you want to stay on the board please do.

If you decide to resign I must have it in writing, by email, in person or Fax, your option.

If you have **any questions about anything** please contact me anytime.

Wayne S. Moser

District Director

Union SWCD

704-233-1621 ext 114

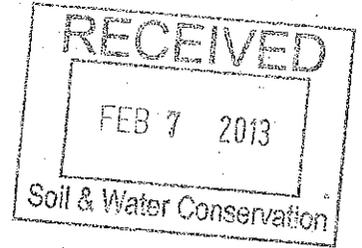
Fax. 704-233-0148

wayne.moser@nc.nacdnet.net

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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

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

The supervisors of the Wilson Soil and Water Conservation District of Wilson 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 3/20/13 and ending Dec. 5, 2016 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Charles I. Harrell.

Name of nominee: A. Carroll Coleman
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 7368 Rock Ridge School Rd Reilly NC 27542
Email address of nominee: CarrollColeman@MyG9.NC.Com
Home phone: 252-237-0437
Mobile phone: 252 399 3760
Business phone: " " "
Occupation: Farm Manager
Age: 74
Education: College (Director - Sec Treas Rock Ridge Fire Dept)
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Director K.S. Bank, Trustee Wilson Medical Center
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Pres-Mgr PL Woodard & Co Inc, Board of Buckhorn UM Church, State EMSA Board Member
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.

Gary D Scott
SWCD Chair
Printed name: Gary D Scott

2-4-13
Date

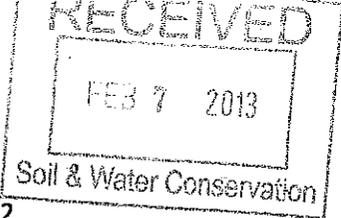
This recommendation has been considered and approved by a majority of the members of the board of supervisors and entered in the official minutes of the board.

Gary D Scott
SWCD Chair
Printed name: Gary D Scott

2-4-13
Date

A Carroll Coleman
Individual recommended for appointment
Printed name: A. CARROLL COLEMAN

1-27-13
Date



12/06/2012

Charles Harrell
6247 Good News Church Road
Stantonsburg, NC 27883

Dear Wilson Soil and Water District Supervisors and Staff,

I would like to inform you that I am resigning my position as District Board Supervisor as of 12/07/2012.

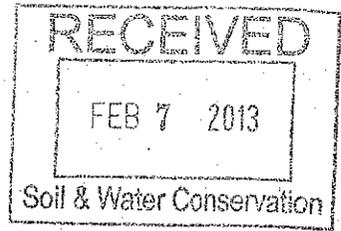
Thank you and the District Staff for their support and the opportunities you have provided for the past 20 years. It has been a rewarding experience and I believe the Wilson District has become a leader for all other districts to follow.

If I can be on any assistance in the future, I will be glad to help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Harrell".

Charles Harrell



DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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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 Wilson Soil and Water Conservation District of Wilson 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 3/20/13 and ending 12-5-2016 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Thad Sharp, Jr.

Name of nominee: ALAN DAVID SHARP
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 5151 Hwy 581, Sims, N.C. 27880
Email address of nominee: alasharp@gmail.com
Home phone: 252-235-4823
Mobile phone: 252-205-1995
Business phone: 252-235-3786
Occupation: Farmer - row crops & livestock

Age: 53
Education: 2yr. degree Ag. Institute - NCSU
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: 4-H Youth Leadership Council, Deacon - Nobles Chapel Baptist Church
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: N.C. Pork Council BOD, Livestock Co-op BOD for 12 yrs (Eastern Foods), American Yorkshire Club National BOD
Other pertinent information: 1985 Conservation Farm Family of the Year

- 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.

[Signature]
SWCD Chair
Printed name: Gary D Scott

2-4-13
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: Gary D Scott

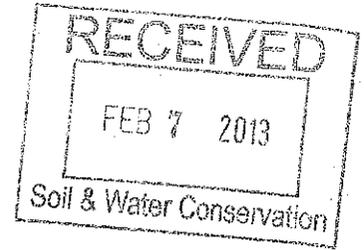
2-4-13
Date

[Signature]
Individual recommended for appointment
Printed name: ALAN SHARP

1/16/13
Date

January 10, 2013

Thad Sharp, Jr.
5171 NC 581 Hwy
Sims, NC 27880



Dear Wilson Soil and Water District Supervisors and Staff,

I would like to inform you that I am resigning my position as District Board Supervisor as of 1/15/2013.

Thank you and the District Staff for their support and the opportunities you have provided to me for the past 40 years. I have enjoyed my years of serving on the Soil and Water board. The Wilson District is a leader for other districts and I am honored to have been a part.

If there is any way I can provide my assistance in the future, just let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thad Sharp, Jr.".

Thad Sharp, Jr.

ATTACHMENT 7B

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

County	Contract Number	Supervisor Name	BMP	Contract Amount	Comments
Alamance	01-2013-006	Roger Tate	grassed waterway and field borders	\$ 7,395	supervisor in Orange County
Camden	15-2013-007	Don Lee Keaton	crop residue management	\$ 3,474	
Camden	15-2013-008	Don Lee Keaton	crop residue management	\$ 3,474	
Caswell	17-2013-020	Tim Yarbrough	waterways and field borders	\$ 2,552	
Duplin	31-2013-012	William Kilpatrick	cropland conversion	\$ 5,065	
Harnett	43-2013-002	J. Kent Revels	grassed waterway	\$ 2,132	
Harnett	43-2013-003	J. Kent Revels	grassed waterway	\$ 1,274	
Lee	53-2013-005	John Gross	grassed waterway	\$ 3,002	
Pamlico	69-20213-003	Elbert Lee	water control structures	\$ 3,954	
Pasquotank	70-2013-008	M K Berry Family Farms	Land Smoothing	\$ 4,914	
Pasquotank	70-2013-009	Brian Stallings	Land Smoothing	\$ 3,747	
Randolph	76-2013-003	Dennis Loflin	grassed waterways	\$ 8,662	
Transylvania	88-2013-004	Richard Bragg	manure/compost spreader	\$ 4,500	District BMP approved by TRC

Total Number of Supervisor Contracts: 13

Total \$ 54,145

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Orange 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: Waterway and Field Borders

Contract number: 01-2013-006-02 Contract amount: \$7395

Score on priority ranking sheet: 40

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

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 3 of 6

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: Roger Tate

Roger Tate
(District Supervisor's signature)

2-1-13
Date

Approved by:

J. Fred Bowman
(District Chairperson's signature)

2-4-13
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/Camden 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: Crop Residue Management

Contract number: 15-2013-007

Contract amount: \$3,474

Score on priority ranking sheet: 70 Highly Eligible

Cost Share Rate: 100% If different than 75%, please list % percent: 100
Reason: Incentive Practice

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

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:

Don Lee Keaton
(District Supervisor's signature)

1-28-13
Date

Approved by:

Alvin Wayne Staples
(District Chairperson's signature)

2/1/13
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/Camden_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: Crop Residue Management

Contract number: 15-2013-008 Contract amount: \$3,474

Score on priority ranking sheet: *60 Highly Eligible*

Cost Share Rate: 100% If different than 75%, please list % percent: 100%
Reason: Incentive Practice

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

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied?

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

Supervisor name: *Don Lee Keaton*

Don Lee Keaton
(District Supervisor's signature)

1-28-13
Date

Approved by:

Albin Wayne Staples
(District Chairperson's signature)

2/1/13
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.

NCDA&CS
DSWC



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 _____ Caswell _____ 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: waterways and field borders

Contract Number: 17-2013-020 Contract Amount \$ 2552.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 14

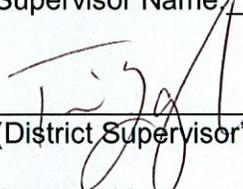
Cost Share Rate: (75%) 90% other _____ (circle one)

Relative Rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): _____ 1st only 1__

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: Tim Yarbrough

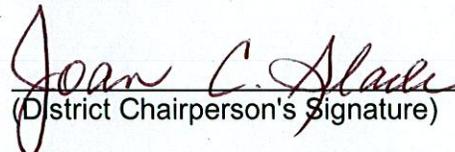


(District Supervisor's Signature)

2-26-13

Date

Approved by:



(District Chairperson's Signature)

2-26-13

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 Duplin 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 Agriculture Cost Share Program

Best management practice: Cropland Conversion

Contract number: 31-2013-012 Contract amount: \$ 5,065.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 25

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

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 14th out of 19 projects considered

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: William Kilpatrick

Billy Taylor
(District Supervisor's signature)

1-28-13
Date

Approved by:

Franklin D. Williams
(District Chairperson's signature)

2-4-13
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 AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Harnett 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: Grassed Waterway

Contract Number: 43-13-002-02 Contract Amount \$ 2132

Score on priority ranking sheet: 200

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

Relative Rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 1 of 2

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: J Kent Revels

J. Kent Revels
(District Supervisor's Signature)

11-15-12
Date

Approved by:

Gerald Temple
(District Chairperson's Signature)

11-15-12
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 AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Hannett 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: Grassed Waterway

Contract Number: 43-13-003-02 Contract Amount \$ 1274

Score on priority ranking sheet: 175

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

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

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: J. Kent Revels

J. Kent Revels
(District Supervisor's Signature)

11-15-12
Date

Approved by:

Ann M. McCombs
(District Chairperson's Signature)

11/15/12
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.

RECEIVED

DEC 27 2012

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

NC DENR
DSWC

NC-ACSP-1B
(05/2004)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the LEE Soil and Water Conservation District, I have applied for, or stand to benefit* from, a grant under the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control. 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 grant is for the installation of the following best management practices to improve water quality and/or reduce sedimentation.

Best Management Practices: Grassed Waterway

Contract Number: 53-2013-005-02 Contract Amount \$ 3002

Score on priority ranking sheet: 200

Relative Rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 5th of 5 considered

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: John Gross

[Signature]
(District Supervisor's Signature)

10/16/2012
Date

Approved by:

[Signature]
(District Chairperson's Signature)

10/14/2012
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 AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAMS**

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the Pamlico 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: Water Control Structures

Contract Number: 69-2013-003 Contract Amount \$ 3,954.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 115

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

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

Were any higher or equally ranked contracts denied? No

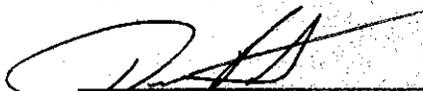
If yes, give an explanation as to why the supervisor's contract was approved over the other contracts.: _____

Supervisor Name: Elbert Lee


(District Supervisor's Signature)

3-4-13
Date

Approved by:


(District Chairperson's Signature)

3-5-13
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 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: ACSP

Best management practice: Land Smoothing

Contract number: 70-2013-008

Contract amount: \$4,914

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): Ranked 1st out of 3

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 for M K Berry Family Farms LLC

Maurice K Berry
(District Supervisor's signature)

2/28/13
Date

Approved by:

Steph Harris
(District Chairperson's signature)

2/28/13
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: ACSP

Best management practice: Land Smoothing

Contract number: 70-2013-009

3,747 ~~sq~~
Contract amount: \$3,000⁰⁰

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): Tied for 1st out of 3

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: Brian Stallings

Brian Stallings
(District Supervisor's signature)

2-28-13
Date

Approved by:

Steph Harris
(District Chairperson's signature)

2/28/13
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 Randolph 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: Grassed waterways

Contract number: 76-13-03-16

Contract amount: \$8,662

Score on priority ranking sheet: 160

Cost Share Rate : 65% If different than 75%, please list % percent:

Reason: Local cost share rate is 65%

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 5th out of 5 applicants

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: Dennis Loflin

Dennis Loflin
(District Supervisor's signature)

2/25/13
Date

Approved by:

[Signature]
(District Chairperson's signature)

2-28-13
Date

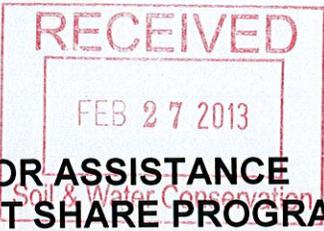
The Soil & Water Commission has approved the subject application for a contract.

(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 Transylvania 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: Manure/Compost Spreader

Contract number: 88-2013-004

Contract amount: \$4,500

Score on priority ranking sheet: 5 points

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

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 4th out of 9

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: Richard W. Bragg

Richard W. Bragg
(District Supervisor's signature)

2/21/13
Date

Approved by:

Charles J. Bryson
(District Chairperson's signature)

2/21/13
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.

Consideration of approval of supervisor travel reimbursement for supervisor voting representatives and alternates on the following Commission Cost Share Program committees:

- **Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) Technical Review Committee (TRC):**

The membership of the TRC is described in § 106-852, and includes a seat for the President of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The TRC has a formal appointment process that was approved at the March 2006 Soil and Water Conservation Commission meeting. The State Association nominates a supervisor to the commission for appointment to a single three-year term.

This policy can be accessed online:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/commission/documents/SWCCpolicytonominatesupervisorandSWCDemployeeetoTRCMar162005.pdf>

- **Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) Advisory Committee (CAC):**

The membership of the CAC is described in § 106-860, and includes a seat for the President of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts or the President's designee. To date, the president has been selecting a designee who has been an active participant in the CAC.

- **Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP) Review Committee (ARC)**

The membership of the ARC is not defined in § 139-60, aside from the following text: *At least once each calendar year, the Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Commissioner of Agriculture shall meet with stakeholders for the purpose of advising the Soil and Water Conservation Commission on the development and administration of the Program, including the development of annual goals for the Program.* To date supervisor(s) have been participating in all meetings without receiving travel reimbursement. Consider implementing a process similar to the one used for the CAC where the President of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts or the President's designee participate as a member of this committee and be eligible for travel reimbursement.

PROHIBITION OF POST-APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS

To maintain the integrity of cost share programs it is important that all involved parties have a common understanding of policy and eligibility criteria. District and NRCS employees at the field office are primarily responsible for the technical phase of this program.

Work on best management practices (BMPs) shall not be started before the district receives division approval. Certification that a practice is needed after the practice has been installed could be fraud.

District and NRCS employees are prohibited from assisting operators in signing a commission cost share program plan of operations for BMPs that have been started prior to receiving the necessary approvals.

For Agriculture Cost Share Program contracts, cooperators may choose to begin work on best management practice(s) once approved by the district prior to receiving final approval from the Division of Soil and Water Conservation if the following conditions are met:

- i. The total amount of the contract does not exceed thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3500); and
- ii. The best management practices described in the conservation plan of operations (CPO) are solely vegetative in nature. Please refer to the BMP matrix of required conservation effects to determine if practices is eligible for vegetative exception; and
- iii. The cooperator(s) is not a district supervisor or Soil and Water Conservation Commission member.

If districts find that work has begun before division approval is received, the cooperator should stop work immediately, and ask the district board to consider requesting an exception to this policy from the commission. The district has the authority to deny the cooperator's request or to refer the request to the commission for consideration of approval. If the request is referred, a district supervisor is required to appear before the commission to request the exception.

REFUNDED FUNDS FROM COST SHARE PROGRAM CONTRACTS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are responsible for ensuring that cost share program (CSP) contracts are properly maintained and operated for the period of time described in the cost share contract and Conservation Plan of Operations. If a cooperator fails to maintain the cost shared practices for the required period, then a prorated refund of the cost shared funds may be required, in accordance with 02 NCAC 59D .0107 and 02 NCAC 59H .0107. Since districts often must exert considerable effort to affect repair of damaged practices or to recover funds, they should also be given the first opportunity to use recovered funds to contract with other cooperators to install additional practices.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of this commission that all refunded funds from CSP contracts, regardless of the program year in which the contract was initiated, shall be added to the current year district allocation. Districts shall not be required to submit revised annual strategy plans to be eligible to receive refund allocations.

RENOVATION OF AN EXPIRED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

1. If the contract maintenance obligation for a best management practice (BMP) has been completed and the BMP is no longer functioning as intended due to no fault of the cooperator, then the BMP is eligible for renovation under the cost share program.
2. Up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the actual cost of the renovation, not to exceed the average costs, may be paid. Invoices should be kept in the contract file in the district office. Renovation contracts follow the normal contract approval process.
3. Procedures for renovation contracts:
 - a. write a new contract with a new agreement number referencing the original contract;
 - b. use actual cost or current year average cost whichever is less;
 - c. submit a written statement certifying that this BMP has reached its contract maintenance obligation and that this renovation is needed to address the identified natural resource concerns, as required by the purpose of the specific cost share program funding the renovation.
4. Incentive practices are not eligible for renovation contracts.
5. This provision should not be used to replace worn out cost-shared equipment. However, cost share on expired equipment may be allowed where additional equipment is needed for an expanded application system to implement an updated waste management plan (WMP) for an existing operation that addresses phosphorus or other nutrients not included in the original WMP or to base application rates on more current realistic yield estimates.
6. The contract lifespan is renewed when the landowner/applicant receives cost share to renovate a BMP.
7. Renovation contracts for commission members or district supervisors **must receive** commission approval prior to approval by the division.

REVISIONS

Revisions are used when there are changes to best management practices (BMPs) as contracted.

Substituting unrelated BMPs or the addition of a new BMP requires a new contract.

Minor changes in size, quantity, amount or components of previously approved BMPs are allowed.

Only a current year contract can exceed the original contract amount and only if you have money in your district account to cover the increase. You cannot increase the total of a prior year contract; you can only revise the BMPs within the contract (see supplements).

Revisions to commission members or district supervisor contracts need commission approval prior to approval by the division.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

The commission recognizes the occasional need by districts to make requests for special allocations, approval of payments, exceptions to policies, or other requests under a cost share program that do not fall within the approval authority of Division of Soil and Water Conservation staff.

Districts making special requests of the commission must:

1. Notify the division at least 30 calendar days before the date of the commission meeting.
2. Provide the division all necessary materials for the appropriate section to review the request and document for the commission statutory, administrative code and policy positions.
3. Provide at least one district supervisor to present the district's request.

Any request made by a district that is outside the bounds of division staff approval authority must follow the procedure hereby established.

SUPPLEMENTS

1. Supplements are used when there are insufficient funds remaining in the contract to pay the entire eligible cost. Supplements only apply to BMPs specified in the original contract.
 - a. Supplements may be used to fully fund the last contract of the previous program year.
 - b. Supplements are also used to pay minor revisions of components that occurred during installation.
 - c. Supplements may be used if a cooperator becomes eligible for a higher cost share rate.
2. Supplements are not intended to provide funding for increases in average costs for components or BMP caps.
3. Any BMP not shown on the original contract map requires a new contract.
4. Supplement contracts may be submitted as soon as funds become available, or they may accompany the final request for payment for the contract.
5. When a contract qualifies for a supplement, you must:
 - a. Submit a new NC-CSP-11 and NC-CSP-11A for the additional units required (using a current year agreement number but using the average cost from the program year of the original contract); and
 - b. Submit a request for payment to close out the supplement.
6. **Remember:**
 - a. **Reference original agreement number on the supplement.**
 - b. **You must have enough money in your current year district account to cover the supplement.**
7. Supplements cannot be used to increase funds for a contract written with a district limit.

COST SHARE PROGRAM CONTRACTS ON GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTY

STATEMENT OF INTENT

02 NCAC 59D .0105 requires Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) contracts on property owned by federal, state or local governments to be approved by the commission. Commission policy also applies this requirement to Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP) contracts on property owned by federal, state or local governments. The intent of this policy is to establish criteria to guide the staff in presenting to the commission requests for consideration of ACSP and AgWRAP contracts on government property, regardless of funding source.

This policy does not apply to Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) cost share contracts.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of this commission that all requests for approval of ACSP and AgWRAP contracts on government property must include the following:

1. Written explanation of why the district is recommending this contract be approved.
2. Written explanation from the cooperating agency of why the funds necessary for implementing the prescribed best management practices are not available from sources other than the ACSP or AgWRAP.
3. Written explanation of how this project will be used to demonstrate best management practices to local landowners.

A district supervisor and a representative from the cooperating government agency must be present at the commission meeting to present the request and respond to questions from commission members.

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.
 - b. All waste management systems for operations not permitted by the Division of Water 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.
 - 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.
6. If a contract is found to be in non-compliance, refer to and follow the non-compliance policy.

NCACSP PY2013 - Regular CS SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOCATION

Total to be Allocated

March \$418,384

		Amount Requested by District	Total Allocation
02	ALEXANDER	\$ 26,000	\$10,115
03	ALLEGHANY	\$ 50,000	\$8,610
04	ANSON	\$ 5,500	\$5,500
05	ASHE	\$ 100,000	\$8,664
06	AVERY	\$ 15,000	\$8,276
07	BEAUFORT	\$ 15,755	\$9,085
08	BERTIE	\$ 12,105	\$5,951
11	BUNCOMBE	\$ 40,000	\$9,577
15	CAMDEN	\$ 10,150	\$5,856
17	CASWELL	\$ 7,051	\$7,051
18	CATAWBA	\$ 6,000	\$6,000
19	CHATHAM	\$ 31,984	\$10,754
24	COLUMBUS	\$ 74,359	\$8,967
25	CRAVEN	\$ 14,016	\$7,311
31	DUPLIN	\$ 65,000	\$13,415
32	DURHAM	\$ 25,000	\$6,989
33	EDGECOMBE	\$ 26,000	\$6,745
35	FRANKLIN	\$ 50,000	\$9,377
41	GUILFORD	\$ 85,132	\$8,363
42	HALIFAX	\$ 28,505	\$8,096
44	HAYWOOD	\$ 37,000	\$7,664
45	HENDERSON	\$ 30,000	\$9,868
46	HERTFORD	\$ 9,850	\$5,831
49	IREDELL	\$ 12,000	\$8,873
51	JOHNSTON	\$ 35,000	\$9,922
53	LEE	\$ 17,944	\$8,036
57	MADISON	\$ 35,000	\$8,542
58	MARTIN	\$ 20,000	\$5,152
61	MITCHELL	\$ 75,000	\$8,828
62	MONTGOMERY	\$ 9,000	\$7,049
63	MOORE	\$ 42,000	\$8,119
66	NORTHAMPTON	\$ 17,544	\$6,957
68	ORANGE	\$ 16,206	\$9,759
70	PASQUOTANK	\$ 25,000	\$7,728
71	PENDER	\$ 15,500	\$6,623
72	PERQUIMANS	\$ 3,663	\$3,663
75	POLK	\$ 25,000	\$6,536
76	RANDOLPH	\$ 75,000	\$10,401
78	ROBESON	\$ 50,000	\$11,304
86	SURRY	\$ 50,000	\$11,738
87	SWAIN	\$ 12,940	\$5,413

		Amount Requested by District	Total Allocation
90	UNION	\$ 31,500	\$10,041
91	VANCE	\$ 9,000	\$8,676
92	WAKE	\$ 44,000	\$9,549
93	WARREN	\$ 6,968	\$6,968
94	WASHINGTON	\$ 40,000	\$7,880
96	WAYNE	\$ 100,000	\$7,883
97	WILKES	\$ 177,687	\$9,719
98	WILSON	\$ 20,000	\$6,302
99	YADKIN	\$ 81,500	\$10,163
00	YANCEY	\$ 32,911	\$8,493

COUNTY:	Please describe the proposed treatment:	Please select the proposed BMP	Please indicate the type of poultry:	What is the bird population on the operation:	What is the estimated cost share amount needed for this proposed contract:	What cost share rate is proposed for this contract:	If eligible for 90% please indicate criteria that applies:
Alexander	A biovator is proposed to handle the disposal of dead birds. The resulting compost will be land applied as fertilizer.	Biovator	Layers	40000	49500	75%	
Columbus	The landowner is currently using incineration for mortality management and using a great deal of energy. The landowner wants to use innovative poultry mortality waste management technology by installing a forced air composter.(producer has EQIP funding and this funding is needed to make up the difference, producer will not be able to install the practice without these additional funds)	Forced Air Composter	Heavy Toms	32000	30000	90%	New Farmer
Franklin County	The Applicant HAS A EQIP APPLICATION ON FILE FOR 2013 TO BUILD A LITTER STORAGE STRUCTURE ON THE SITE. THIS ADDITIONAL BMP WOULD IMPROVE WATER QUALITY ALONG WITH AIR QUALITY AS HE NOW BURIES THE POULTRY CARCASSES ON SITE. MR. TYSON HAS NEVER APPLIED FOR OR RECEIVED AG. COST SHARE THROUGH THE DISTRICT. THERE IS A CYRESS CREEK WATERSHED PLAN FOR THIS AREA. PAGE 34 OF THIS PLAN RECOMMENDS FCSWCD PROMOTING BMPs TO ADDRESS LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS IN THE WATERSHED.	Forced Air Composter	Layers	17000	70000	75%	
Guilford (1st)	Plans to install a Biovator to properly take care of chicken mortality and protect water quality.	Rotary Drum Composter	Layers	40000	32900	75%	
Guilford (2nd)	Plans to install a Biovator to properly take care of chicken mortality and protect water quality.	Rotary Drum Composter	Layers	50000	33400	75%	
Robeson (1st)	Installation of innovative/economic version of the Forced Air Composting System to manage mortality generated on the farm. The application will help supplement USDA-NRCS EQIP program.	Forced Air Composter	Broiler	84000	21000	90%	New Farmer
Robeson (2nd)	Installation of innovative/economic version of the Forced Air Composting System to manage mortality generated on the farm. The application will help supplement USDA-NRCS EQIP program.	Forced Air Composter	Broiler	84000	22000	90%	New Farmer
Robeson (3rd)	Forced Air Composting Facility	Forced Air Composter	Broiler	80000	22000	25%	New Farmer
Robeson (3rd)	Installation of innovative/economic version of the Forced Air Composting System to manage mortality generated on the farm. The application will help supplement USDA-NRCS EQIP program.	Forced Air Composter	Broiler	168000	22000	90%	New Farmer
Robeson (3rd)	Installation of innovative/economic version of the Forced Air Composting System to manage mortality generated on the farm. The application will help supplement USDA-NRCS EQIP program.	Forced Air Composter	Broiler	84000	21000	90%	New Farmer
Robeson (4th)	Compost Poultry Mortality instead of any other method that is energy inefficient and not better for water quality.	Forced Air Composter	Broiler	84000	21000	25%	New Farmer
Union	Ecodrum Composter Codrum	Rotary Drum Composter	Broiler	96,400 Broilers/flock	?estimate to come	90%	New Farmer

COUNTY:	Please describe the proposed treatment:	Please select the proposed BMP	Please indicate the type of poultry:	What is the bird population on the operation:	What is the estimated cost share amount needed for this proposed contract:	What cost share rate is proposed for this contract:	If eligible for 90% please indicate criteria that applies:
Wayne	The applicant have 18,000 tom turkey operation that needs a composter. They have an existing 7 bin forced air composter to handle 24,000 tom turkeys that was done under EQIP in 2008. They expanded operation by 18, 000 in 2008, but EQIP funding could not address this expansion, since they were contracted before the expansion. He is doing a good job with the composting, but the mortality is more then the system can handle, expecially near the end of the cycle since it is currently undersized. He has been applying for additional EQIP money but has not received it yet because of the competition with other animal BMP's. There has been great resistance from the turkey intergrator in this area, to any kind of open bin composting. This farm has potential of being a very good example of how forced air composters will work on turkey operations. The broiler intergrators have not had a problem with forced air composting and we currently have several great examples on how wll they work. We also have several good examples on swine. But on turkeys, we need a great example in this area so we can not only educate the growers but we can educate the intergrators also to combat their resistance to this technology. Mr. Ballance needs a 4 bin system (10'x12' bins) with storage for raw materials and compost.	Forced Air Composter	Turkeys	18000	113356	75%	
Wilkes (1st)	The applicant has exhausted three incinerators over the last few years on his farm. He desparetly needs a rotary drum composter to dispose of his daily broiler mortality and protect the waters of the state.	Rotary Drum Composter	Broiler	204000	84590	75%	
Wilkes (2nd)	The applicant needs a rotary drum composter installed in order for him to compost his broiler mortality in an environmentally safe manner, to protect the waters of our state.	Rotary Drum Composter	Broiler	135000	77000	75%	Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural

SPECIAL POULTRY WASTE FUNDS: Potential items for consideration

The General Assembly appropriated \$450,000 to the Division to fund innovative poultry waste management technology, there is \$146,065 remaining. 15 applications were submitted, requesting over \$600,000. Refer to attached spreadsheet for a list of applications.

To help prioritize the applications receive, the following criteria could be used to determine funding: These funds will be used for complete installations of the technology at 75% cost share based on the PY2013 ACSP Average Cost List. The commission previously approved the following criteria for allocating funds to districts (criteria in priority order):

1. Demonstrate the technologies on various types of operations (e.g., broilers, turkeys, roasters)
2. Demonstrate the technologies on different sizes of birds (e.g., broilers, pullets)
3. Distribute systems geographically

Table 1: Projects already completed using the poultry waste funds

County	PW funds spent	BMP	# of birds	Type of bird
Chatham	\$27,670	Gasifier	55,000	breeder
Edgecombe	\$21,984	Gasifier	44,000	broiler
Edgecombe	\$30,309	Gasifier	78,000	broilers
Harnett	\$27,009	Gasifier	92,000	broilers
Martin	\$21,984	Gasifier	66,800	broilers
Onslow	\$27,670	Gasifier	132,000	broilers
Wayne	\$50,298	composter	80,000	broilers
Wayne	\$50,298	composter	80,000	broilers
Wilkes	\$45,350	Gasifier	411,000	broilers
Wilkes	\$1,363	Gasifier		Supplement

To help prioritize the applications receive, here are some additional considerations proposed by division staff:

1. Eliminate projects in counties where funds were previously spent on the same technology for the same type of bird.
2. Consider prioritizing the applications for layers and heavy toms since they are not represented in the projects previously installed.
3. Many of the applications are waiting for determinations for the EQIP applications. Some of the amounts requested may be reduced if they are accepted into EQIP. EQIP is currently batching until March 15th.

DRAFT Drought Appropriation (DA) Allocation: March 2013

County Number	District	Amount Requested by District	Total Allocation
01	ALAMANCE	\$ -	\$ -
02	ALEXANDER	\$ -	\$ -
03	ALLEGHANY	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,369
04	ANSON	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
05	ASHE	\$ 40,000	\$ 5,403
06	AVERY	\$ -	\$ -
07	BEAUFORT	\$ 12,000	\$ 5,665
08	BERTIE	\$ -	\$ -
09	BLADEN	\$ -	\$ -
10	BRUNSWICK	\$ -	\$ -
11	BUNCOMBE	\$ 8,500	\$ 5,972
12	BURKE	\$ -	\$ -
13	CABARRUS	\$ -	\$ -
14	CALDWELL	\$ 10,688	\$ 4,684
15	CAMDEN	\$ -	\$ -
16	CARTERET	\$ -	\$ -
17	CASWELL	\$ -	\$ -
18	CATAWBA	\$ 14,500	\$ 5,172
19	CHATHAM	\$ -	\$ -
20	CHEROKEE	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,335
21	CHOWAN	\$ -	\$ -
22	CLAY	\$ -	\$ -
23	CLEVELAND	\$ 22,500	\$ 5,154
24	COLUMBUS	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,200
25	CRAVEN	\$ 4,067	\$ 4,067
26	CUMBERLAND	\$ 13,500	\$ 2,885
27	CURRITUCK	\$ -	\$ -
28	DARE	\$ -	\$ -
29	DAVIDSON	\$ -	\$ -
30	DAVIE	\$ -	\$ -
31	DUPLIN	\$ 200,000	\$ 8,365
32	DURHAM	\$ 15,000	\$ 4,358
33	EDGECOMBE	\$ 9,000	\$ 4,206
34	FORSYTH	\$ 8,500	\$ 4,098
35	FRANKLIN	\$ -	\$ -
36	GASTON	\$ 7,000	\$ 5,448
37	GATES	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,061
38	GRAHAM	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,077
39	GRANVILLE	\$ -	\$ -
40	GREENE	\$ -	\$ -
41	GUILFORD	\$ 60,500	\$ 5,215
42	HALIFAX	\$ -	\$ -
43	HARNETT	\$ -	\$ -
44	HAYWOOD	\$ -	\$ -
45	HENDERSON	\$ 25,000	\$ 6,153
46	HERTFORD	\$ -	\$ -
47	HOKE	\$ -	\$ -
48	HYDE	\$ -	\$ -
49	IREDELL	\$ -	\$ -
50	JACKSON	\$ -	\$ -
51	JOHNSTON	\$ 29,000	\$ 6,187

County Number	District	Amount Requested by District	Total Allocation
52	JONES	\$ 18,250	\$ 5,689
53	LEE	\$ -	\$ -
54	LENOIR	\$ -	\$ -
55	LINCOLN	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,361
56	MACON	\$ -	\$ -
57	MADISON	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,327
58	MARTIN	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
59	MCDOWELL	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
60	MECKLENBURG	\$ -	\$ -
61	MITCHELL	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,505
62	MONTGOMERY	\$ -	\$ -
63	MOORE	\$ 45,000	\$ 5,063
64	NASH	\$ -	\$ -
65	NEW HANOVER	\$ -	\$ -
66	NORTHAMPTON	\$ -	\$ -
67	ONslow	\$ -	\$ -
68	ORANGE	\$ -	\$ -
69	PAMLICO	\$ -	\$ -
70	PASQUOTANK	\$ -	\$ -
71	PENDER	\$ 9,000	\$ 4,130
72	PERQUIMANS	\$ -	\$ -
73	PERSON	\$ -	\$ -
74	PITT	\$ -	\$ -
75	POLK	\$ -	\$ -
76	RANDOLPH	\$ -	\$ -
77	RICHMOND	\$ 10,000	\$ 4,146
78	ROBESON	\$ -	\$ -
79	ROCKINGHAM	\$ 20,000	\$ 5,921
80	ROWAN	\$ -	\$ -
81	RUTHERFORD	\$ -	\$ -
82	SAMPSON	\$ -	\$ -
83	SCOTLAND	\$ -	\$ -
84	STANLY	\$ 9,000	\$ 6,645
85	STOKES	\$ 7,100	\$ 5,537
86	SURRY	\$ 20,000	\$ 7,320
87	SWAIN	\$ -	\$ -
88	TRANSYLVANIA	\$ -	\$ -
89	TYRRELL	\$ -	\$ -
90	UNION	\$ 10,500	\$ 6,261
91	VANCE	\$ -	\$ -
92	WAKE	\$ 70,000	\$ 5,955
93	WARREN	\$ -	\$ -
94	WASHINGTON	\$ -	\$ -
95	WATAUGA	\$ -	\$ -
96	WAYNE	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
97	WILKES	\$ 154,000	\$ 6,061
98	WILSON	\$ 52,300	\$ 3,930
99	YADKIN	\$ -	\$ -
00	YANCEY	\$ -	\$ -
	TOTAL	\$ 990,105	\$ 205,423

Nutrient Scavenger Crop

Definition/Purpose

A Nutrient Scavenger Crop is a crop of small grain grown primarily as a seasonal nutrient scavenger. The purpose is to scavenge and cycle plant nutrients. The nutrient scavenger crop also adds organic matter to the soil, improves infiltration, aeration and tilth, improves soil quality, reduces soil crusting, provides residue for conservation tillage, and sequesters carbon. Benefits may include reduction of soil erosion, sedimentation and pollution from dissolved and sediment-attached substances.

Policies

1. For a nutrient scavenger crop to improve water quality, it must become quickly established, grow vigorously, and accumulate significant biomass in the early fall before nutrients are leached below the root zone. Only the following crops are eligible for this incentive. They **must** be planted by the planting deadline and sown at the seeding rates given below for each region.

Nutrient Scavenger Crop	Minimum Planting Rate	Coastal Plain Plant Deadline/ <i>Earliest Kill Date*</i>	Piedmont Plant Deadline/ <i>Earliest Kill Date*</i>	Mountains Plant Deadline/ <i>Earliest Kill Date*</i>
Barley	2-3 bu	Oct. 15/ <i>April 1</i>	Oct. 10/ <i>April 10</i>	Oct. 10/ <i>April 10</i>
Oats	3 bu	Oct. 15/ <i>April 1</i>	Oct. 10/ <i>April 10</i>	Nov.1/ <i>April 10</i>
Rye	2 bu	Nov. 30/ <i>April 1</i>	Nov. 30/ <i>April 10</i>	Nov.1/ <i>April 10</i>
Triticale	90 lb	Nov. 30/ <i>April 1</i>	Nov. 30/ <i>April 10</i>	Nov.1/ <i>April 10</i>
Wheat	2-3 bu	Nov. 30/ <i>April 1</i>	Nov. 30/ <i>April 10</i>	Nov. 1/ <i>April 10</i>

*Note: Planting deadline in standard print and earliest kill date shown in *italics*.

2. Establishment of nutrient scavenger crops must be planned well in advance to achieve a good stand. Seedbed preparation may be done by any suitable method. Seedbed preparation may be eliminated when nutrient scavenger crops are seeded by broadcasting into a standing crop, into residues of a previous crop by conservation tillage methods or when the harvesting procedure or residue shredding will cover seeds. No-till methods are preferred.
3. Drill or broadcast methods of seeding may be used. Broadcast methods of seeding should be completed prior to harvest for cotton and soybeans. For cotton or soybeans, it is highly recommended that seed be broadcast during the defoliation pass or before leaf drop. Subsequent leaf drop and harvest operations will cover seeds and help ensure good germination.

4. Nutrient scavenger crops must be allowed to grow throughout the winter and early spring to achieve the purpose of the incentive. Greatest effectiveness is achieved if left to grow until the early boot stage. The planting and kill dates (see table under policy #1) are given in order to achieve optimum physiological maturity..
5. No animal waste or fertilizer will be applied to these nutrient scavenger crops unless specified by an agronomist. The fields must not be grazed nor the crop removed. No burning of crop residue will be permitted.
6. No payment for this incentive shall be made until the nutrient scavenger crop reaches the kill date. Field office representatives shall verify each spring that cover has reached either physiological maturity (early bootstage) or has been left to grow until the required kill date. Field offices unwilling to assist operators in achieving success and monitor nutrient scavenger crop establishment and stand quality should not offer this incentive to cooperators in their district.
7. Disking or plowing destroys the majority of the soil quality gains associated with nutrient scavenger crop management. Therefore, while disking or plowing may be allowed by this practice, conservation tillage is encouraged.
8. Certified seeds or bin seed may be used for each year to receive the annual incentive payment. **Cooperators using bin seed must be careful to adhere to the restrictions imposed by the federal Plant Variety Protection Act, the NC seed rules and statutes, and laws governing the use of seed from patented plants.** Seed allowed for cost share includes rye, triticale, oats, barley, or wheat. Rye or triticale is preferred for higher rates of nutrient scavenging and biomass accumulation. Incentive rates are dependent on the species planted can be found on the average cost list.
9. Practice has a \$25,000 lifetime cap per cooperator. Each field is eligible for up to three annual contracts per cooperator. Annual contracts do not need to be consecutive years. The life of the BMP is one year.
10. Growers currently receiving state or federal cost share for any conservation tillage practice are not eligible for this practice on the same field or group of fields. (All conservation tillage incentive rates include cost of nutrient scavenger crops.)
11. Growers who have previously received state or federal cost share for any conservation tillage practice are eligible for this BMP.
12. When determining the acreage for which payments can be made for this practice, only the acreage actually planted shall be considered. The area occupied by farm roads, best management practices, ditches, structures, etc. shall not be included in planted acreage.
13. BMP soil, nitrogen, and phosphorus impacts are required on the contract. Include the planted acreage as well. Refer to the Minimum NCACSP Effects Requirements table later in this section for the correct methods of calculation.
14. On occasion it may be unavoidable for the cooperator to need to access the field when the traffic will result in ruts in the field (e.g., harvest operations). With documented approval from field staff, the cooperator can spot disk/level ruts to smooth out the

surface. The field staff will work with the cooperators to stay in compliance with his/her conservation tillage contract. If field staff determines adequate cover can be established prior to next crop being planted, a cover crop should be planted immediately. The field staff can provide a recommendation on what might be best to plant as a quick cover. Cooperators must contact their district office for assistance.

- a. Field staff needs to determine the level of need for isolated disking. If smoothing the ruts will allow for the cooperators to stay in compliance, no contract extension will be required.
- b. If extensive disking and leveling occurs, contract must be extended by one year or cooperators must refund entire amount of incentive payment.

Recommendation

Growers are encouraged to establish this BMP using conservation tillage or long term no-till.

Specifications

NC NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #340 (Cover Crop), # 328 (Conservation Cropping Rotation), #329A (Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till and Strip Till), and #778 (Long Term No Till).

(Revised July 2009; Policy #14 added March 2010)

Well

Definition/Purpose

A Well means constructing a drilled, driven or dug well to supply water from an underground source. (DIP)

Policies

1. Installation of the well must include wellhead protection.
2. Average cost for pumps for wells include all costs associated with installation and is based on actual cost.
3. Pumps, Solar Pumps, Wells & Windmills must have a qualifying statement that they will be used for agricultural use only. Wells must include well head protection. The cost for the pump includes all costs associated with pump installation, including the cost of getting electricity to the pump.
4. The solar powered pump installation is limited to sites where, due to the topography, property lines, etc., it is not possible to locate the tank or trough such that water may be supplied by gravity. The pump cost includes a submergible pump, photovoltaic panels, control box, support structure, pump cable, drop pipe, and fittings to make up plumbing at pump.
5. Permits are a cost-shareable component for this practice in counties where agricultural wells are not exempt from permit fees. A copy of the permit, receipt of the permit fee, and any supporting water quality reports associated with the permit are required to be kept in the district's contract file.
6. Cooperators are responsible for obtaining and complying with all required permits and local requirements as applicable.
7. Repairs of an existing well that is part of a new stream protection system is cost sharable, including pump if not previously cost shared, and must be completed by a certified well contractor.
8. New wells and pump installation must be completed by a well contractor certified by the North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission. A NC certified well contractor is allowed to sign as Job Approval Authority within their approved level of certification.
9. Replacement of a previously cost shared pump cannot receive additional cost share.
10. Where the certified well contractor determines alternative casing is required by 15A NCAC Subchapter 02C Well Construction Standards the additional cost is eligible for cost share assistance.
11. Life of the BMP is ten (10) years.

Specifications

North Carolina NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification # 642 (Water Well)

(Revised November 2010)

Randolph County Soil & Water Conservation District

2222-A S. Fayetteville Street ♦ Asheboro, North Carolina 27205
Phone: (336) 318-6490 ♦ Fax: (336) 318-6494

March 5, 2013

Ms. Vicky Porter, Chairperson
NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-1614

Dear Ms. Porter,

The Randolph SWCD currently has a contract with Mr. Lloyd Roberts (76-12-06-16) to do a livestock exclusion project on his farm. The contract total is \$12,536 and includes a well, 1,000' of fencing, one watering station, 1,100' of pipeline, one stream crossing, a heavy use area and gutters on the barn. Since the approval of Mr. Roberts' contract, he has bought a new farm and put the farm under contract on the market in order to off-set the cost of the new farm. He has a buyer for the farm and the purchase is supposed to close on March 20th.

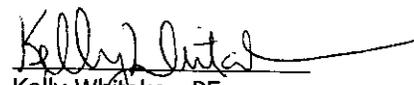
The new buyer is Ms. Mary Jenkins Farlow. Ms. Farlow will be leasing the farm to her son, Mr. Russell Farlow. Mr. Farlow recently constructed a greenhouse in which he grows produce to sell at local farmers markets. With the purchase of the adjoining Roberts' property, Mr. Farlow will also purchase and raise a small herd of Angus cows. Mr. Farlow will be signing an Affidavit for the Tax Department certifying that the land will remain in agriculture production in order to remain in the present-use valuation program. Since Mr. Farlow intends to continue to raise cows on the property he would like to have the contracted BMP's installed on the property and is willing to take over the responsibility of the contract.

Mr. Farlow is considered a 'new farmer'. In fact, 2013 will be the first year in which he files a Schedule F on his income taxes, and subsequently he does not yet have a sales tax exemption certificate from the Department of Revenue. Therefore, under the current eligibility guidelines he does not qualify for NCACSP funding since he cannot produce these documents. However, Mr. Farlow and Mr. Roberts would like to request that once the land purchase is finalized, Mr. Farlow be allowed to fulfill the contract originally entered in with Mr. Roberts. Both parties have been made aware of the Substitution of Parties Agreement and agreed to the terms therein.

We thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,


Craig Frazier
Randolph SWCD Chairman


Kelly Whitaker, PE
Soil & Water Engineer

Yours for Life

- SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Person Soil & Water Conservation District

304 S. Morgan St., Person Co. Off. Bldg., Rm. 126
Roxboro, NC 27573 - Phone: (336) 597-2973 - Ext. 3
Fax: (336) 599-6516

To:

From: Jim Pentecost
Person County Cost Share Technician

Date: February 25, 2013

Subject: Contract #73-13-004 Two Red Wolves (CREP)

On March 31, 2010 the Person SWCD approved Ag. Cost Share Contract #73-10-019 with Two Red Wolves LLC in the amount of \$14,780.00. The funding source was listed as Drought Appropriations (DA) & Drought Grant (DG) funds. Best Management Practices (BMP's) include a well, 2 watering facilities and a stream exclusion fence. During this time the landowner was also seeking funding under the CREP Program to establish a planted hardwood buffer and protective fence, with an associated conservation easement adjacent to a wetland area on the same tract.

In March of 2011 the Farm Service Agency entered into a CREP contract with Two Red Wolves LLC that was based on the existing Drought Contract #73-10-019 and agreed to pay 50% of the cost of the original well, waters, and stream exclusion fence and 50% of the CREP hardwood buffer planting and protective fence. It is our understanding that a separate Ag. Cost Share CREP contract should have been written for the CREP portion of this work. This omission was partly due to the retirement of the Person County Cost Share Technician responsible for the original contract, the new Cost Share Technicians unfamiliarity with the CREP process, and apparent confusion between FSA and Person SWCD personnel concerning funding sources.

The farmer completed the work under contract #73-10-019 and received payment totaling \$12,285.00. The FSA has paid the remaining cost associated with contract #73-10-019 in addition to 50% of the cost of the hardwood buffer planting and buffer fence. All work has been inspected by District personnel and the NRCS engineers and found satisfactory. The Districts 50% cost share funding for the hardwood buffer planting and exclusion fence remains unpaid.

The Person SWCD Board of supervisors believes that the farmer has acted in good faith and should not be penalized for any confusion regarding the contract. The Person SWCD has approved contract #73-13-004 in the amount of \$607.00 to cover 50% of the average cost of .4 acres of hardwood tree planting and installation of 520 Ln. ft. of exclusion fence. The work was completed in the spring of 2012 therefore we hereby request post approval of the contract.

AgWRAP Review Committee question regarding draft rules:

Does the commission want to use the same parameters used to allocate funds to districts in January 2012? (A-E below, with performance parameters added in as found in ACSP) Another option for consideration would be to request commission authority to specify the parameters or the percentage requirements in the annual detailed implementation plan.

- (A) Number of farms (total operations) that are in the respective district as reported in the most recent edition of the United States Department of Agriculture's Census of Agriculture. The actual number shall be normalized to a 1-100 scale. (%)
- (B) Total acres of land in farms (includes the sum of all cropland, woodland pastured, permanent pasture (excluding cropland and woodland), plus farmstead/ponds/livestock buildings) that are in the respective district as reported in the most recent edition of the United States Department of Agriculture's Census of Agriculture. The actual number shall be normalized to a 1-100 scale. (%)
- (C) Three year average of North Carolina Agricultural Water Use Survey published data for the respective district as reported by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Agricultural Statistics Division unless the North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture specifies that another information source would be more current and accurate. The actual number shall be normalized to a 1-100 scale. (%)
- (D) The market value of sales that are in the respective district as reported in the most recent edition of the United States Department of Agriculture's Census of Agriculture. The actual number shall be normalized to a 1-100 scale. (%)
- (E) The relative rank of population density for the county as reported by the state demographer. (%)
- (F) The percentage of AgWRAP funds allocated to a district that are encumbered to contracts in the best three of the most recent four completed program years as reported on the NC Cost Share Programs Database. (%)
- (G) Percentage of AgWRAP program funds encumbered to contracts that are actually expended for installed BMPs in the best three of the most recent four-year period for which the allowed time for implementing contracted BMPs has expired as reported in the NC Cost Share Programs Database. (%)