ATTACHMENT 1_WS

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

WORK SESSION
NC State Fairgrounds
Martin Building – Gate 9
1025 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607
November 15, 2016
6:00 p.m.

BUSINESS SESSION
NC State Fairgrounds
Martin Building – Gate 9
1025 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607
November 16, 2016
9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PRELIMINARY – Business Meeting

Welcome — Chairman John Langdon

III. BUSINESS

1. Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (Packet Item #13) — Ms. Julie Henshaw
   A. Regional application recommendations

2. Supervisor Appointment & Reappointments (Packet Item #9) — Ms. Kristina Fischer
   A. Conditional Reappointment from November 2015 (Information Item)
   B. Appointments & Reappointments for 2016-2020 Terms
      i. Recommendations for reappointments where training and attendance criteria have been met
      ii. Recommendations for reappointments where nominee has not attended training
      iii. Recommendations for reappointments where nominee has not attended 2/3 of regularly scheduled district board meetings
      iv. Recommendations for appointment where training requirement has been met
      v. Recommendations for new appointments with training conditions

DRAFT

C. Alexander appointment for unexpired term
D. Election Report for 2016-2020 Terms

3. Supervisor Training Committee Interim Report & Recommendations (Packet Item #16) — Vice-Chairman Knox, Mr. David Williams

4. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Rule Revisions (Packet Item #11) — Mr. David Williams

5. Cost Share Rules – Final Agency Determination (Packet Item #12) — Ms. Julie Henshaw

6. Community Conservation Assistance Program (Packet Item #14) — Mr. Tom Hill
   A. FY2017 Detailed Implementation Plan
   B. FY2017 Average Cost List

7. District Issues (Packet Item #15) — Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth
   A. Washington County Post Approval — Washington SWCD

8. Consent Agenda (Packet Item #8)
   A. Supervisor Appointments for Unexpired Terms — Ms. Kristina Fischer
   B. Supervisor Contracts — Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth
   C. Job Approval Authority — Ms. Natalie Woolard

9. Nutrient Sensitive Waters Annual Agriculture Progress Reports (Packet Item #7) — Mr. Joey Hester

10. Reading of Statements of Economic Interests Evaluations (Packet Item #2) — Mr. Phillip Reynolds

11. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Packet Item #3) — Chairman John Langdon
    A. September 21, 2016 Business Session Meeting Minutes
    B. September 20, 2016 Work Session Meeting Minutes

12. Division Report (Packet Item #4) — Ms. Pat Harris

13. Association Report (Packet Item #5) — Mr. Ben Knox

14. NRCS Report (Packet Item #6) — Mr. Tim Beard

15. Approval of Agenda (Packet Item #1) — Chairman John Langdon

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

V. ADJOURNMENT

DRAFT

ATTACHMENT 1

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RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA
BUSINESS SESSION AGENDA
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II. PRELIMINARY – Business Meeting

Welcome — Chairman John Langdon

III. BUSINESS

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2. Reading of Statements of Economic Interests Evaluations — Mr. Phillip Reynolds
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes — Chairman John Langdon
   A. September 21, 2016 Business Session Meeting Minutes
   B. September 20, 2016 Work Session Meeting Minutes
4. Division Report — Ms. Pat Harris
5. Association Report — Mr. Ben Knox
6. NRCS Report — Mr. Tim Beard
7. Nutrient Sensitive Waters Annual Agriculture Progress Reports — Mr. Joey Hester
8. Consent Agenda
   A. Supervisor Appointments for Unexpired Terms — Ms. Kristina Fischer

DRAFT

B. Supervisor Contracts — Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth
C. Job Approval Authority — Ms. Natalie Woolard

9. Supervisor Appointment & Reappointments — Ms. Kristina Fischer
   A. Conditional Reappointment from November 2015 (Information Item)
   B. Appointments & Reappointments for 2016-2020 Terms
      i. Recommendations for reappointments where training and attendance criteria have been met
      ii. Recommendations for reappointments where nominee has not attended training
      iii. Recommendations for reappointments where nominee has not attended 2/3 of regularly scheduled district board meetings
      iv. Recommendations for appointment where training requirement has been met
      v. Recommendations for new appointments with training conditions
   C. Alexander appointment for unexpired term
   D. Election Report for 2016-2020 Terms

10. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Rule Revisions — Mr. David Williams

11. Cost Share Rules – Final Agency Determination — Ms. Julie Henshaw

12. Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program — Ms. Julie Henshaw
   A. Regional application recommendations

13. Community Conservation Assistance Program — Mr. Tom Hill
   A. FY2017 Detailed Implementation Plan
   B. FY2017 Average Cost List

14. District Issues — Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth
   A. Washington County Post Approval — Washington SWCD

15. Supervisor Training Committee Interim Report & Recommendations — Vice-Chairman Ben Knox, Mr. David Williams

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

V. ADJOURNMENT

DRAFT

NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
COMMISSION BUSINESS SESSION MEETING MINUTES
November 16, 2016

NC State Fairgrounds
Martin Building – Gate 9
1025 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27607

Commission Members		
John Langdon	Natalie Woolard	Michelle Raquet
Wayne Collier	Helen Wiklund	Lisa Fine
Chris Hogan	Ralston James	Tim Beard
Charles Hughes	Tom Hill	Maegan Trimnal
Ben Knox	Kristina Fischer	Ken Parks
Manly West	Sandra Weitzel	Gerda Rhodes
Bill Yarborough	Kelly Hedgepeth	Michael Willis
	Davis Ferguson	Chester Lowder
Commission Counsel	David Harrison	Lynn Whitehurst
Phillip Reynolds	Rob Baldwin	Jason D. Byrd
	Louise Hart	Rodney Wright
Guests	Joey Hester	
Pat Harris	Bryan Evans	
David Williams	Tom Ellis	
Julie Henshaw	Keith Larick	

Chairman John Langdon opened the meeting with prayer and called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Chairman Langdon inquired whether any Commission members need 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. None were declared. Chairman Langdon welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Langdon discussed the changes on the agenda. Commissioner West moved to pull from the Consent Agenda Item 8A, Martin District Supervisor appointment, and Item 9Bv #8, Martin District Supervisor appointment, and to consider the two Martin District appointments as a separate Item 9E. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. Chairman Langdon called for discussion. There was no discussion. Motion failed.

   Commissioner Knox moved to approve the original agenda as provided, and Commissioner Collier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner West stated the Commission needed to discuss the appointment of the Martin supervisor appointments issue separately. With Chairman Langdon's approval, Commissioner West read out loud a letter he had received from Franklin Williams, NACD Board Member, earlier in the day. Commissioner West also read out loud his personal statement since he believed he was misquoted at the monthly Martin County Board Meeting. Both letters were made official part of the minutes and are attached as Item 1A. Chairman Langdon asked Mr. Lynn Whitehurst, Martin SWCD district technician to give his perspective of the appointment situation in Martin County. According to Mr. Whitehurst, the Martin Board has made its wishes known to the Commission, complied with the statutes and believed the Commission would fully institute their decision. The Martin Board thought the two individuals interviewed by Martin Supervisor Jeff Harris would serve well on the Board. The item was on the Martin District August 2016 agenda for discussion, but Mr. Whitehurst does not know if Supervisor Harris was ever notified. Supervisor Harris was out of town at the time of the Board Meeting. Commissioner West stated no Martin District supervisor is in attendance to address the recommendation to not reappoint Supervisor Harris. Commissioner West stated only two votes were tallied during the Board Meeting. According to Mr. Whitehurst there was a quorum, by a majority, since there were three members in attendance and one board member had resigned. Motion failed.

2. **Reading of Statements of Economic Interests Evaluations:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Phillip Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds stated the Division had received two evaluations, dated October 26, 2016, from the NC State Ethics Commission, one for Chairman Langdon and one for Commissioner Knox. By statute, portions of the letters must be read into the minutes and available for inspection upon request.

   For the October 26, 2016 Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest filed by Mr. John M. Langdon for the Soil and Water Conservation Commission, the State Ethics Commission determined the following:

   Our office is in receipt of Mr. John M. Langdon's 2015 Statement of Economic Interest and 2016 No Change Form as an appointee to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission ("the Commission"). We have reviewed them for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

   We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.

   The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

   Mr. Langdon fills the role of a Member at Large on the Commission. He is the Chairman of the Johnston County Soil and Water District and self-employed as a farmer. As such, he has the potential for a conflict of interest and should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties should issues involving his district or farm come before the Commission.

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

For the October 26, 2016 Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest filed by Mr. John B. Knox for the Soil and Water Conservation Commission, the State Ethics Commission determined the following:

Our office is in receipt of Mr. John B. Knox's 2016 Statement of Economic Interest as an appointee to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission ("the Commission"). We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. Knox fills the role of President of the Association of the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Districts on the Commission. He disclosed that he is employed as a Senior Agronomist with Soil & Plant Technology and that he receives income from Quick Sol NC LLC, a soil amendment company. He also disclosed he has an interest in Knox Grain Farms. As such, he has the potential for a conflict of interest and should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties should issues involving Soil & Plant Technology, Quick Sol NC LLC, or Knox Grain Farms come before the Commission for official action.

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Chairman Langdon asked if there were any comments on the minutes. No comments.

3A. September 21, 2016, Business Session: Commissioner Collier moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3B. September 20, 2016, Work Session: Commissioner Hogan moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. **Division Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Director Harris to present item 4. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

    - Introduced Maegan Trimnal, Administrative Officer for DSWC, and discussed the DSWC vacancies
    - Reviewed Hurricane Matthew and the impact and recovery efforts in the eastern counties
        - Director Harris participated on the AgEOC (Agriculture Emergency Operations Center) and fielded over 180 calls

5. **Association Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Commissioner Knox to present item 5. Commissioner Knox, President of the NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, presented the report. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

    - Association will mail letters to Congress to encourage funding for EWP and ECP
    - Introduced Mr. Bryan Evans, the new Executive Director for the NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts
    - An announcement, at the Annual Meeting, will be made to present two Association candidates for 2nd Vice President and two Commission candidates
        - Brian Harwell, Association candidate, Iredell SWCD, Area 8
        - Miles Payne, Association candidate, Alexander SWCD, Area 2
        - Tommy Houser, Commission candidate, Lincoln SWCD, Area 8
        - Michael Willis, Commission candidate, Caldwell SWCD, Area 2
    - Finance Committee is hard at work and has hired an accounting firm
    - Recognized Julie Groce, former Executive Director
        - Commissioner Knox was pleased to work with her and sad to see her go
        - Julie created a better web site that is user friendly
        - Association has a lot to thank her for—she did an outstanding job
    - Mr. Bryan Evans is excited to work with the Commission and the Association and carry the Association forward after 30 years of service with Pitt County
    - Chairman Langdon is looking forward to working with Mr. Evans

6. **NRCS Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Tim Beard, State Conservationist, to present item 6. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

    - Summarized EQIP for FY2016 and FY2017 EQIP with sign-up ending November 18, 2016
    - Seven employees received training across the state in the new Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), which is the largest conservation program in the U.S.
    - NRCS has semi-imposed a hiring freeze, if it requires relocation
    - Announced upcoming EQIP roll-out training and Toolkit training
    - NRCS employees have worked with the districts hit by Hurricane Matthew
        - NRCS is working to get sponsors, since NRCS has no ECP funds available, but NRCS will provide Technical Assistance
    - National Office in Washington inquired about policy waivers for EWP
    - National Office inquired about the drought situation in the western counties

- NRCS will dedicate their EQIP funds for the drought to the western counties
- NRCS will ask the National Office for additional funding for the drought

7. **Nutrient Sensitive Waters Annual Agriculture Progress Reports (Item 7):** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Joey Hester to present item 7. Mr. Hester presented a report describing the 2016 Annual Progress Report for Crop Year 2015 regarding agriculture's ongoing collective compliance affecting the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins and the Jordan Lake and Falls Lake Watersheds. His report also included a summary of Nitrogen Loss Reduction, BMP Implementation, Nutrient-Reducing BMPs, Fertilization Management, Cropping Changes, Nutrient Trading, and the loss of funding. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes.

8. **Consent Agenda:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kristina Fischer, Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth, and Ms. Natalie Woolard discussed items 8A-C.

Commissioner Collier moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. Commissioner West stated again the Commission is making a mistake as the Consent Agenda currently stands. Motion carried with four in favor and two opposed.

8A. Supervisor Appointments for Unexpired Terms:

- Stephen C. Lilley, Jr., Martin SWCD, for the appointed term filling the unexpired term of Eugene W. Mellette for 2014-2018
- William Y. Comninaki, Richmond SWCD, filling the unexpired term of Pat D. Dial for 2014-2018
- William Thompson, Richmond SWCD, filling the unexpired term of Jared Gainey for 2014-2018
- Edward B. Staton, Union SWCD, filling the unexpired term of R. Scott Baucom for 2014-2018

8B. Supervisor Contracts:

- Eight contracts; totaling $36,764

8C. Job Approval Authority:

- Scott Melvin, DSWC employee, requested to obtain JAA for Pond Site Assessment and Water Needs Assessment

Chairman Langdon announced a break at 11:09 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:23 a.m.

9. **Supervisor Appointment & Reappointments (Item #9):** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kristina Fischer to present items 9A-D.

9A. Conditional Reappointment from November 2015 (Information Item): Ms. Fischer discussed item 9A and presented an update regarding Chatham SWCD Supervisor Edward McLaurin. Mr. McLaurin's attendance has been monitored for the past year, and he has achieved two-thirds attendance at local board meetings during the monitored time period.

Mr. McLaurin's status has changed from conditional to fully appointed for the remainder of this term.

9B. Appointments & Reappoints for 2016-2010 Terms: Ms. Fischer discussed the following:

9Bi. Recommendations for reappointments where training and attendance criteria have been met

Commissioner Collier moved to approve the reappointments and Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Fischer added that Mecklenburg and Edgecombe Counties have not submitted recommendations for reappointment. For Mecklenburg, it is their intention that Mr. Jason Lee Cathey's seat will go vacant on December 5, 2016 and the Commission will be presented with a recommendation at a future Commission Meeting. For Edgecombe, they have had staffing changes, and it is their intention to reappoint Mr. Joseph Suggs. Edgecombe's Board will meet tomorrow on November 17, 2016 and expects to nominate Mr. Suggs for reappointment, but without Commission action, the seat will go vacant on December 5, 2016.

Commissioner Knox moved to reappoint Edgecombe County Supervisor, Joseph Suggs, and Commissioner Yarborough seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9Bii. Recommendations for reappointments where nominee has not attended SOG training – Jones and Richmond districts

- Mike Haddock, Jones SWCD
- Jim Chandler, Richmond SWCD

Commissioner Collier moved to approve the reappointments, conditioned upon their attendance at 2017 SOG. If the Division confirms their participation, they will be fully appointed. If these supervisors do not meet the condition, the recommendations for reappointment will be discussed at the March Commission Meeting. Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9Biii. Recommendations for reappointments where nominee has not attended 2/3 of regularly scheduled district board meetings – Forsyth and Vance districts

- Edward C. Wall, Forsyth SWCD; attended 23 out of 42 meetings; 54.76%
- J. G. Clayton, Vance SWCD; attended 21 out of 37 meetings; 56.76%

Commissioner Knox moved to approve the reappointments, conditioned upon their improved attendance from December 2016 – November 2017. If they meet the increased attendance requirements, they will be considered fully appointed through December 2020. If either individual does not attend at least 2/3 of the meetings, they will be brought back to the Commission no later than November 2017. Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The Division will prepare correspondence to these individuals based on the conditions of the reappointments.

9Biv. Recommendations for appointment where training requirement has been met – Alexander, Jackson, and Union districts

- Miles Payne, Alexander SWCD, elected seat
- Nikki Young, Jackson SWCD, appointed seat
- Allan Baucom, Union SWCD, elected seat

Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the reappointments of these individuals without the training conditions, and Commissioner Collier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9Bv. Recommendations for new appointments with training conditions – for appointments for 2016-2020 terms - ten local SWCD

Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the appointments, conditioned upon their attendance at 2017 SOG. Commissioner Collier seconded the motion and the motion carried with four in favor and two opposed.

The Division will prepare correspondence to these individuals based on the conditions of their appointments.

9C. Alexander Appointment for Unexpired Term: Ms. Fischer discussed item 9C and presented the Recommendation for Appointment of Alexander Supervisor Kathy Bunton to fill the unexpired term of Myles Payne for an appointed position. The district requests that Ms. Bunton's term begins the first Monday in December in 2016.

Commissioner Knox moved to approve the appointment of Supervisor Kathy Bunton and Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9D. Election Report for 2016-2020 Terms: Ms. Fischer handed out the preliminary Election Report results from November 8, 2016, for local Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisors. For Randolph SWCD, the race was too close to call. In two districts, Avery and Washington SWCDs, no candidates filed.

After much discussion about Supervisor Appointments and Reappointments, Chairman Langdon stated it is your responsibility as supervisors to be fair and honest and not bring shame to your district, yourself, the Association, the Commission.

10. **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Rule Revisions:** Chairman Langdon recognized Deputy Director Williams. Mr. Williams discussed the Revisions for CREP Rule Re-adoption with changes for Rule 02 NCAC 59F.0106 Noncompliance with CREP Agreement. This Rule was identified with substantive interest and the Commission adopted it with changes at the July meeting. The changes were published in the State Register and received comments during the public comment period asking for clarification if the Rule addressed issues with a particular practice or compliance with the conservation agreement for CREP. The language for final adoption will go to the Rules Review Commission to correct the noncompliance with the CREP agreement.

Commissioner Hogan moved to approve the Rule Revisions, and Commissioner West seconded the motion. Motion carried.

11. **Cost Share Rules – Final Agency Determination:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Julie Henshaw to present. Ms. Henshaw presented G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC 59D for ACSP with no public comments received and G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC 59H for CCAP with no public comments received. The Commission determined the Rules were necessary with substantive public interest for all the Rules. The Commission needs to approve the final agency determination to classify all the Rules as necessary with substantive public interest.

Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the classification, and Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

12. **Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Julie Henshaw to present item 12.

12A. Regional Application Recommendations: Ms. Henshaw discussed item 12A and presented a list of 18 regional applications from ten counties. She recommended approval of these applications using AgWRAP and TVA funds.

Commissioner Collier moved to approve the Regional Application Recommendations, and Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

13. **Community Conservation Assistance Program (Item 13):** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Tom Hill to present items 13A and 13B.

13A. FY2017 Detailed Implementation Plan: The changes to the CCAP rules became effective November 1, 2016. The recommended Plan gives the Commission the flexibility to allocate funds for three separate purposes: BMP Implementation, Technical and Administrative Assistance, and Education and Outreach. The allocations for each purpose can go to districts, regions, or statewide.

For Fiscal Year 2017, the recommendation is to allocate funds for BMP Implementation at the regional level, with $10,000 allocated to the statewide level for supplement contracts. The Commission has already allocated some funds for technical assistance at the district level for New Hanover and Dare SWCDs.

Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the Plan and Commissioner West seconded the motion. Motion carried.

13B. FY2017 Average Cost List: Mr. Hill discussed the CCAP Average Cost List. It has remained the same from the FY2016 Average Cost List with one major exception that the suggestion from the Advisory Committee to begin funding of engineering practices for a cap of $5,000 for professional engineering costs. This $5,000 was recommended to be within the $15,000 cap. The $5,000 is necessary to get the projects on the ground.

Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the FY2017 Average Cost List, and Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

14. **District Issues:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth. Ms. Hedgepeth introduced a letter written by Ty Fleming, Tyrrell SWCD Technician, acting on behalf of Washington

County SWCD. Ms. Hedgepeth stated the contract amount is $1,836 and these were Ag Input Management (AIM) funds. Ms. Hedgepeth also introduced Ms. Gerda Rhodes, Board Chair of Washington County SWCD. Ms. Rhodes shared a letter with the Commission regarding the post approval contract. The Board approved the contract in December 2015 by e-mail with the technician calling each board member to discuss the issue, since the Board does not meet in person in December. Washington SWCD was awaiting Division approval, when the technician became ill. The contract slipped through the cracks, and the producer was led to believe he could install the structures. Mr. Reynolds questioned Ms. Rhodes about each board member being contacted through e-mail. The Board took action by a round-robin vote without notice to the public in approving a contract. Mr. Reynolds advised Ms. Rhodes to read the Open Meeting Law. The Board action would not be compliant with the Open Meetings Law. The Commission cannot approve a contract that is not properly approved by the local board.

Commissioner Yarborough suggested to postpone this issue so the Board can approve it properly in December and bring it forward to the Commission at the January Meeting. No action was taken.

15. **Supervisor Training Committee Interim Report & Recommendations:** Chairman Langdon recognized Vice Chairman Knox to present item 15. A copy of the report is included as an official part of the minutes. Commissioner Knox and Deputy Director David Williams reported on the Committee's progress, as follows:

- Goal is to establish a training program for all district supervisors
- Reviewed avenues for training, potential training topics, and proposed draft timeline
- Discussed the next steps
- Presented feedback received from supervisors at the 7 area meetings that preceded the Commission meeting.
    - Supervisors prefer to receive training at local board meetings and area and state meetings.
    - Most supervisors indicated that it would not be difficult to obtain 6 hours/year of training
    - Time for training is the biggest obstacle to obtain credits
- Supervisor Training Committee requesting Commission's conceptual approval
- Area 2 has a resolution with regards to supervisor training—hours are not assigned yet
    - Hours for spot check, annual meeting, spring/fall meetings, UNC-SOG
- System needs to track the training (mandatory vs. non-mandatory training)

Commissioner Knox moved to approve the Supervisor Training Committee's Recommendations and Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Langdon called Mr. Whitehurst to the podium and thanked Mr. Whitehurst for coming to Raleigh. Chairman Langdon stated he is not personally holding Mr. Whitehurst responsible for the actions of the Martin County Board; it is about business and doing what is right. Chairman Langdon would like the Martin County Board to be mindful of and improve their communication skills and behave in a healthy way. Chairman Langdon added the Commission's intentions are to help all the districts be successful and not pick on one but strengthen each community and each district.

Chairman Langdon asked each Commissioner where they traveled from to attend the Work Session and Business Meeting. Chairman Langdon appreciates the sacrifices the Commissioners face and all that the members do to take care of business.

Public Comments: Commissioner Knox with Supervisor Mike Willis presented a plaque to Commissioner Yarborough in appreciation for six years of exemplary service and representation on the NCSWCC presented by Area 2 of the NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – October 25, 2016.

Commissioner West made a comment that the districts watch what the Commission does and hopes the Commission has not sent a message to the districts that hard work, long hours, and money spent is for naught. Commissioner West added, "I hope we have not thrown the baby out with the bath water. Everyone has opinions which makes us a more rounded Commission."

Commissioner Yarborough added the Commission has the right to appoint anyone as a resident of that county and that message must go out to the districts.

Adjournment: Chairman Langdon declared the meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Patricia K. Harris, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.

Helen Wiklund, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on January 8, 2017.

NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
COMMISSION WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
November 15, 2016

NC State Fairgrounds
Martin Building – Gate 9
1025 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27607

Commission Members		
John Langdon	Julie Henshaw	Bryan Evans
Wayne Collier	Natalie Woolard	Michelle Lovejoy
Chris Hogan	Helen Wiklund	Tom Ellis
Charles Hughes	Ralston James	Richard Reich
Ben Knox	Ken Parks	
Manly West	Tom Hill	
Bill Yarborough via phone	Kristina Fischer	
	Lisa Fine	
Commission Counsel	Kelly Hedgepeth	
Phillip Reynolds	David Harrison	
	Davis Ferguson	
Guests	Rob Baldwin	
Pat Harris	Eric Galamb	
David Williams	Jeff Harris	

Chairman John Langdon opened with prayer and called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m. Chairman Langdon inquired whether any Commission members need 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. None were declared. Chairman Langdon welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

1. **Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (Item #12):** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Julie Henshaw to present.

1A. Regional Application Recommendations: Ms. Henshaw discussed item 12A and presented the AgWRAP Regional Application Recommendations. The Division's Internal Review Team discussed the applications and suggested to move forward with the recommendations. These applications were also reviewed with the AgWRAP Review Committee and concurred with the recommendations. The Division is also asking for funding of six ponds and to use the TVA AgWRAP funds, since contracts in 2014 were canceled. It would allow us to pick up these projects and use the TVA funds.

2. **Supervisor Appointment & Reappointments (Item #9):** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kristina Fischer to present items 9A-D.

2A. Conditional Reappointment from November 2015 (Item 9A): Ms. Fischer discussed item 9A and presented an update regarding Chatham SWCD Supervisor Edward McLaurin. Supervisor McLaurin's attendance has been monitored for the past year, and he has achieved two-thirds attendance at local board meetings during the monitored time period since December 2015. His appointment has changed from conditional to fully appointed.

2B. Appointments & Reappointments for 2016-2020 Terms (Item 9B): Ms. Fischer discussed the following:

i. **Recommendations for reappointments where training and attendance criteria have been met**

- Seventy-seven nominees for reappointment; all are at or above the 2/3 attendance mark
- Mecklenburg SWCD seat will go vacant
- Edgecombe's Board will meet Thursday night to request the reappointment of Supervisor Mr. Joseph A. Suggs

ii. **Recommendations for reappointments where nominee has not attended training (conditional appointment)**

- Jones SWCD Supervisor Mr. Mike Haddock has attended 100% of the meetings but not School of Government (SOG)
- Richmond SWCD Supervisor Mr. Jim Chandler has attended 100% of the meetings but not School of Government (SOG)

iii. **Recommendations for reappointments where nominee has not attended 2/3 of regularly scheduled district board meetings (conditional appointment)**

- Forsyth SWCD Supervisor Mr. Edward C. Wall
- Vance SWCD Supervisor Mr. J. G. Clayton

iv. **Recommendations for appointment where training requirement has been met**

- Alexander SWCD Supervisor Mr. Myles Payne
- Jackson SWCD Supervisor Ms. Nikki Young
- Union SWCD Supervisor Allan Baucom

v. **Recommendations for new appointments with training conditions (conditional upon attending training in February 2017)**

- Ten recommendations for appointment for 2016-2020 term

- Commissioner West recommends to remove the Martin SWCD appointment from Item 9Bv so it can be discussed and acted upon separately at the Business Meeting tomorrow
- Commissioner West recommends to remove Item 8A from the Consent Agenda so it can be acted upon separately at the Business Meeting tomorrow

2C. Alexander Appointment for Unexpired Term (Item 9C): Ms. Fischer discussed item 9C and presented the Recommendation for Appointment of Supervisor Kathy Bunton to fill the unexpired term of Myles Payne.

Commissioner Knox recommends we approve Mr. Payne as a candidate for second Vice President. His recommendation is in Item 9Biv, which is an appointed position.

2D. Election Report for 2016-2020 Terms (Item 9D): Ms. Fischer handed out preliminary election results.

Chairman Langdon suggested the Commission discuss Item 9Bv and share their thoughts at this time.

Commissioner West opened the discussion with regards to the letter in Item 8A from the Martin SWCD Chairman Richard D. Cannon. Commissioner West wanted to clear up a comment that has him quoted as saying, "you do know the Commission has the final decision on this matter." Commissioner West did not write down his thought prior to speaking at the Martin Board Meeting on August 1, 2016, and he did not know he was going to be quoted. The quote sounds like a threat and Commissioner West's intent was not threatening. Commissioner West was asked to speak on behalf of Martin Supervisor Jeff Harris and reconsider the Board's decision with regards to filling Mr. Harris's expiring seat on December 5, 2016. Commissioner West did not betray the Commission. He went as a district supervisor not a Commissioner to the meeting. Commissioner West stated this is not his character.

Chairman Langdon stated we need to be fair to ourselves, the Commission, to Martin County, the candidates, and to Mr. Jeff Harris, which is a challenge.

The Commission Members continued the open discussion with many opinions and concerns about Martin District's recommended appointment to the expiring Jeff Harris seat.

Commissioner West asked, if the Commission can reappoint Mr. Harris into his current position, send these two nominations back to the district, and ask Martin County for their recommendations on these two candidates for the unexpired term? Mr. Reynolds stated under G.S. 139-7, the Commission does have the authority to appoint a supervisor and there are two different situations in the Statute.

Chairman Langdon asked Mr. Harris to comment. Mr. Harris stated the letter from Martin County is not correct.

According to Mr. Harris, it was agreed that Mr. Harris and a local district technician would interview three candidates. Mr. Harris notified Chairman Cannon and stated he ruled out one candidate and gave a first and second choice recommendation to Chairman Cannon. Mr. Harris was not afforded the opportunity for re-election. Mr. Harris has asked for an explanation why he was not nominated for reappointment to the Board, and the Martin District Board refused to give a reason.

Chairman Langdon announced a break at 7:47 p.m., reconvening at 7:56 p.m.

3. **Supervisor Training Committee Interim Report & Recommendations (Item 15):** Chairman Langdon recognized Commissioner Knox and Deputy Director Williams to present item 15. Mr. Williams stated the updated handouts provided, at the beginning of the meeting include information that has been collected from the districts at the Area Meetings, since three meetings had not occurred at the time of the mailing. Seven out of eight Area Meetings have taken place now. Commissioner Knox stated all the feedback has been good. The Committee is requesting action from the Commission to give it direction to move forward with the programming aspects for the tracking database.

4. **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Rule Revisions (Item 10):** Chairman Langdon recognized Deputy Director Williams. Mr. Williams discussed the re-adoption with changes for Rule 02 NCAC 59F.0106 Noncompliance with CREP Agreement. The public comment period has closed, and we received one comment with regards to clarification on the intent on non-compliance on specific compliance or the easement so we added clarity to the rule. One item that is not a comment is the intent of the rule based on the title is not a Dispute Resolution. The intent is to express the intent of the Commission for compliance, which is the objective. We recommend these changes to be approved and go to the Rules Review Commission for approval.

5. **Cost Share Rules – Final Agency Determination (Item 11):** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Julie Henshaw to present. Ms. Henshaw presented G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC 59D for ACSP with no public comments received and G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC 59H for CCAP with no public comments received. We are on track with no changes to classify the rules as necessary with substantive public interest.

6. **Community Conservation Assistance Program (Item 13):** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Tom Hill to present items 13A & B.

6A. FY2017 Detailed Implementation Plan (Item 13A): Mr. Hill presented the recommendation to allocate resources through three purposes: BMP Implementation, Technical and Administrative Assistance, and Education and Outreach. The allocations for each purpose can go to districts, regions, or statewide.

For Fiscal Year 2017, the recommendation is to allocate funds for BMP Implementation at the regional level, with $10,000 allocated to the statewide level for supplement contracts. The Commission has already allocated $25,320 for technical assistance at the district level for New Hanover and Dare SWCDs.

6B. FY2017 Average Cost List (Item 13B): Mr. Hill stated there are no changes in the cost of the BMPs but there is a request for funding of engineering practices similar to AgWRAP with a Cost Share Cap of $5,000. The recommendation is to maintain the $15,000 cap.

7. **District Issues (Item 14):** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth to present item 14A. Ms. Hedgepeth introduced a letter written by Tyrrell SWCD technician, Ty Fleming, acting on behalf of Washington County SWCD. Ms. Hedgepeth will provide a copy of the letter from

Ms. Gerda Rhodes, Board Chair of Washington SWCD, to the Commission tomorrow. The letter from Mr. Fleming does not state why Washington SWCD is asking for post contract approval for water control structures. The letter from Ms. Rhodes states, the Washington SWCD technician failed to follow through with proper communication with the producer to explain that work could not be done until it was approved by the Commission. The contract value is $1,836.

8. **Consent Agenda (Item 8):** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Kristina Fischer, Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth, and Ms. Natalie Woolard discussed items 8A-C.

8A. Supervisor Appointments for Unexpired Terms:

- Stephen C. Lilley, Jr., Martin SWCD, appointed term filling the unexpired term of Eugene W. Mellette for 2014-2018
- William Y. Comninaki, Richmond SWCD, appointed term filling the unexpired term of Pat D. Dial for 2014-2018
- William Thompson, Richmond SWCD, elected seat filling the unexpired term of Jared Gainey for 2014-2018
- Edward B. Staton, Union SWCD, elected seat filling the unexpired term of R. Scott Baucom for 2014-2018

8B. Supervisor Contracts:

- Eight contracts; totaling $36,764 (see blue sheet)

8C. Job Approval Authority:

- Scott Melvin, DSWC employee, requested to obtain JAA for Pond Site Assessment and Water Needs Assessment. He has demonstrated technical proficiency.

9. **Nutrient Sensitive Waters Annual Agriculture Progress Reports (Item 7):** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Julie Henshaw to present for Mr. Joey Hester. Ms. Henshaw listed watersheds that have nutrient sensitive waters designation. Agriculture is meeting or exceeding all of our targets at this time.

10. **Reading of Statements of Economic Interests Evaluations (Item 2):** Chairman Langdon recognized Mr. Phillip Reynolds. He will read the evaluation reports from the State Ethics Commission tomorrow.

11. **Approval of Meeting Minutes (Item 3):** Chairman Langdon asked if there were any comments on the minutes. No comments.

11A. September 21, 2016, Business Session
11B. September 20, 2016, Work Session

12. **Division Report (Item 4):** Chairman Langdon recognized Director Harris to present item 4.

- JAA removals from the database

- Conservation Action Team (CAT) regarding conservation planning and Job Approval Authority (JAA)
- Rules 59E and 59G received many comments and will provide a set of recommendations at the January Commission Meeting
- Hurricane Matthew
    - Surveyed districts in the FEMA impact areas for practices not covered under the Emergency Watershed Program

Chairman Langdon asked Director Harris to comment on the Commission's letters sent to the Congressional leaders in October. Director Harris stated letters were sent in support of EWPP and there is more effort going on to get that support with our Congressional delegation. Tim Beard, from NRCS, will be in attendance tomorrow and can discuss the report. Mr. Beard is working on the EWPP side.

13. **Association Report (Item 5):** Chairman Langdon recognized Commissioner Knox to present item 5. Commissioner Knox, President of the NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, will present the report tomorrow.

14. **NRCS Report (Item 6):** NRCS State Conservationist, Tim Beard, will be in attendance tomorrow to present the report.

15. **Approval of Agenda (Item 1):** Chairman Langdon stated the agenda will be approved at the Business Meeting tomorrow. Mr. Reynolds stated to remove any individual item at that time, since the agenda is being reset.

Public Comments:

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

_____ _____

Patricia K. Harris
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.

Helen Wiklund, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on January 8, 2017

NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
COMMISSION BUSINESS SESSION MEETING MINUTES
September 21, 2016

TELECONFERENCE WITH ADOBE CONNECT

Archdale Building
4th Floor Conference Room – 425G
512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27604

Commission Members		
John Langdon	Kristina Fischer	Anne Coleman
Wayne Collier	Natalie Woolard	Tim Beard
Chris Hogan	Kelly Hedgepeth	Michelle Raquet
Charles Hughes	Ken Parks	David Harrison
Ben Knox	Tom Hill	Linda Hash
Manly West	Louise Hart	Janie Woodle
Bill Yarborough	Lisa Fine	Alexander SWCD
	Eric Pare	Avery SWCD
Commission Counsel	Davis Ferguson	New River SWCD
Phillip Reynolds	Julie Groce	Chatham SWCD
	Rob Baldwin	Caldwell SWCD
Guests	Johnny Glosson	Yadkin SWCD
Pat Harris	Susannah Goldston	Dewitt Hardee
David Williams	Pam Steuer	Martin SWCD
Julie Henshaw	Sandra Weitzel	
Helen Wiklund	Chester Lowder	
Richard Reich	Tom Ellis	

Chairman John Langdon called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Chairman Langdon stated that he appreciates Governor McCrory's sensitivity to the gas crisis in our state about suspending all non-essential travel, which requires us to meet via conference call.

He inquired whether any Commission members need 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. None were declared. Chairman Langdon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Commissioner West moved to approve the amended agenda as discussed during the work session on September 20, 2016, and Commissioner Knox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. **Approval of Minutes:**

2A. July 20, 2016 Meeting: Chairman Langdon asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Commission Business Meeting held on July 20, 2016. Commissioner Collier moved to approve the minutes, and Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2B. July 19, 2016 Meeting: Chairman Langdon asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Commission Work Session held on July 19, 2016. Commissioner Collier moved to approve the minutes, and Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2C. September 12, 2016 Meeting: Chairman Langdon asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Teleconference held on September 12, 2016. Commissioner Collier moved to approve the minutes, and Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. **Clean Water Management Trust Fund Overview:** Chairman Langdon stated item 3 is postponed to the November 16, 2016 meeting.

4. **319 Grant Program Overview:** Chairman Langdon stated item 4 is postponed to the November 16, 2016 meeting.

5. **Division Report:** Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Pat Harris, Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, and she briefly summarized the following items included in her abbreviated Director's report, which is included as agenda Attachment 5 as an official part of the minutes.

- DSWC employee, Shane Wyatt's, sudden passing and the Shane Wyatt Memorial Fund
- DSWC vacancies
- Engineering assistance strategy
- HPAI update

Chairman Langdon thanked Ms. Harris for her presentation.

6. **Association Report:** Chairman Langdon stated item 6 is postponed to the November 16, 2016 meeting.

7. **NRCS Report:** Chairman Langdon stated item 7 is postponed to the November 16, 2016 meeting.

8. **Consent Agenda:** Commissioner West moved to approve the amended consent agenda and Commissioner Hughes seconded. Motion carried. Chairman Langdon stated item 8A is postponed to the November 16, 2016 meeting.

8B. Supervisor Contracts:

- Eight contracts; totaling $28,132

The handout for agenda Attachment 8B is included as an official part of the minutes.

9. Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program: Chairman Langdon recognized Ms. Julie Henshaw to present item 9.

9A. District Financial Assistance Allocation: Ms. Henshaw called attention to item 9A and presented a request from Catawba SWCD for a district allocation of AgWRAP funds for FY2017. Catawba SWCD Board approved their 2017 Strategy Plan on May 6, 2016 and included a request of $25,000 for their district AgWRAP application. This funding request was inadvertently omitted from the online version of the document submitted to the division and used to make district allocations. Using the same parameters for AgWRAP district allocations, the division is requesting funding of $18,181 for Catawba's district AgWRAP allocation.

Commissioner Knox moved to approve the request for AgWRAP allocations, and Commissioner Yarborough seconded. Motion carried.

10. Community Conservation Assistance Program (Item #10): Chairman Langdon stated item 10A is postponed to the November 16, 2016 meeting.

10A. Detailed Implementation Plan Feedback: Ms. Henshaw will present at the November 16, 2016 meeting.

11. District Issues: Chairman Langdon recognized Chatham SWCD, and Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth introduced Susannah Goldston, staff, and Johnny Glosson, Supervisor.

11A. PY2014 AgWRAP Extension Requests: Chatham SWCD presented item 11A requesting extensions for two 2014 AgWRAP contracts (#19-2014-802 and #19-2014-803) for Mr. Russell Gilliland's projects. Ms. Goldston stated Contract #19-2014-802 is 90% complete with the sediment removed from the pond as of yesterday. The sediment that has been removed needs to be stabilized to seed, mulch, process the paperwork, and get the Job Approval Authority (JAA) done. Contract #19-2014-803 is for the same cooperator and the pond is being pumped down so we can move onto it when it is dry. Ms. Hedgepeth noted that the staff recommends granting the extension and that it will be completed before June 2017.

Commissioner Yarborough moved to approve the extension requests, and Commissioner West seconded. Motion carried.

11B. Cost Share Contract for Government Entity: Chairman Langdon stated item 11B is postponed to the November 16, 2016 meeting. Wake SWCD will present three separate ACSP contracts in November.

12. Supervisor Training Committee Report: Vice Chairman Ben Knox presented item 12

- Challenges and proposed solution to supervisor training
- Farm Act of 2016 modified district law to require training
- Supervisor Training Committee offers several locations to attend training
- Tracking continuing education credits or CEUs

- Potential training topics
- District concerns and Committee response

The handout for agenda Attachment 12 is included as an official part of the minutes.

Commissioner Yarborough offered a motion and Commissioner Knox seconded the motion that the Commission approve the following training credits for supervisor participation in various activities/events:

- Spring Area Meeting: 3 hours
- Fall Area Meeting: 3 hours
- Annual Meeting: 3 hours
- Attending 75% of district meetings: 3 hours
- Attending UNC School of Government Training: 24 hours per term

There was discussion suggesting the Commission needed to wait about making decisions until the Training Committee completes its work. Mr. Reynolds suggested the Commission may need to approve rules to implement the program. Commissioner Yarborough suggested the statute was silent on the giving the Commission a way to enforce the requirement, but Mr. Reynolds suggested that failure to complete the training as required by law could be considered neglect of duty. Mr. Reynolds pointed out that the statute does not include any particular time by which the Commission had to have the training program developed, so there is no need to act hastily. Chairman Langdon cautioned that the Commission does not need to make a knee-jerk decision. Chairman Langdon believes we can raise the bar on education and training, but equally as concerning is to not create hardship to the supervisors. Mr. Reynolds suggested that if the Commission chooses to not act on this offer today, the Training Committee may take into consideration these suggestions from Commissioner Yarborough in formulating their recommendations.

Chairman Langdon called for the question and the motion failed with 2 votes in support and 4 votes against.

Public Comments: Chairman Langdon called for any comments from the public.

Chairman Langdon thanked everyone for their time, participation and cooperation.

Adjournment: Chairman Langdon declared the meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Patricia K. Harris, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.

Helen Wiklund, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on November 16, 2016.

NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
COMMISSION WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
September 20, 2016

TELECONFERENCE WITH ADOBE CONNECT

Archdale Building
4th Floor Conference Room – 425G
512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27604

Commission Members		
John Langdon	Ralston James	
Wayne Collier	Natalie Woolard	
Chris Hogan	Rob Baldwin	
Charles Hughes	Ken Parks	
Ben Knox	Tom Hill	
Manly West	Kristina Fischer	
Bill Yarborough	Lisa Fine	
	Kelly Hedgepeth	
Commission Counsel	David Harrison	
Phillip Reynolds	Michelle Lovejoy	
	Davis Ferguson	
Guests	Julie Groce	
Pat Harris		
David Williams		
Julie Henshaw		
Helen Wiklund		

Chairman John Langdon called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Chairman Langdon inquired whether any Commission members need 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. None were declared. Chairman Langdon welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chairman Langdon appreciates Governor McCrory's sensitivity to the gas crisis and ask for non-essential travel to be reduced by participating in the conference call.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Langdon discussed postponing agenda items 3, 4, 6, 7, 8A, 10A, and 11B to the November 16, 2016 meeting.

2. **Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (Item #9):** Chairman Langdon recognized

Ms. Julie Henshaw to present item 9A.

2A. District Financial Assistance Allocation: Ms. Henshaw called attention to item 9A and presented a request from Catawba SWCD for a district allocation of AgWRAP funds for FY2017. Catawba SWCD Board approved their 2017 Strategy Plan on May 6, 2016 and included a request of $25,000 for their district AgWRAP application. This funding request was inadvertently omitted from the online version of the document submitted to the division and used to make district allocations. Using the same parameters for AgWRAP district allocations, the division is requesting funding of $18,181 for Catawba's district AgWRAP allocation.

3. **Community Conservation Assistance Program (Item #10):** ***POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER 16, 2016***

3A. Detailed Implementation Plan Feedback: Ms. Henshaw will discuss item 10A in November with regards to the allocation process, the different funding pools, and allocation strategy along with the FY2017 annual goals.

4. **District Issues (Item #11):** Ms. Hedgepeth called attention to item 11A regarding Chatham SWCD extension requests.

4A. PY2014 AgWRAP Extension Requests: Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth stated the Chatham SWCD requests were delayed since they did not appear in July and the Commission postponed the extension requests to September to update the Commission. The extension requests are provided for review. Chatham SWCD will present via conference call tomorrow.

4B. Cost Share Contract for Government Entity: ***POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER 16, 2016***

Wake SWCD will present item 11B in November asking for approval for three separate ACSP contracts (#92-2017-006-09, #92-2017-007-09, and #92-2017-014-09) on Wake County property. All three contracts are in the Little River Watershed which is a future water supply watershed and a priority watershed for the District.

5. **Consent Agenda (Item #8):** Ms. Kelly Hedgepeth discussed item 5B that will be included on the consent agenda.

5A. Nomination of Supervisors: ***POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER 16, 2016***

5B. Supervisor Contracts:

- Two contracts; totaling $5,402
- Six additional contracts added for review—these were not included in the mailout packet. Ms. Hedgepeth will e-mail to all Commission members, and Director Harris will upload to the unlinked page for the Commissioners to review before tomorrow's meeting

The handout for agenda Attachments 8B is included as an official part of the minutes.

6. **Supervisor Training Committee Report (Item #12):** Vice Chairman Knox will present the report tomorrow. The following abbreviated report included:

- Challenges and proposed solutions for supervisor attendance and training locations
- Tracking of education credits and carry forward credits to next calendar year
- Develop the same type of tracking system for the technical specialists
- Training topics, district concerns, and response by the Committee

7. **Division Report (Item #5):** Ms. Pat Harris, Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, summarized the items she will include in her Director's report with a PowerPoint presentation.

8. **Approval of Meeting Minutes (Item #2):** Chairman Langdon asked if there were any comments. Chairman Langdon stated the minutes will be approved during the Business Session tomorrow.

   8A. July 20, 2016 Business Meeting

   8B. July 18, 2016 Work Session Meeting

   8C. September 12, 2016 Teleconference Meeting

9. **Clean Water Management Trust Fund Overview (Item #3):** ***POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER 16, 2016***

10. **319 Grant Program Overview (Item #4):** ***POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER 16, 2016***

11. **Association Report (Item #6):** ***POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER 16, 2016***

12. **NRCS Report (Item #7):** ***POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER 16, 2016***

Public Comments: Chairman Langdon called for any comments from the public.

Director Harris will update the modified draft agenda, as well as e-mail the Commissioners the revised agenda, and upload the agenda to the Division's webpage.

Adjournment: Chairman Langdon declared the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Patricia K. Harris, Director
Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Raleigh, N.C.

Helen Wiklund, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission on November 16, 2016.

ATTACHMENT 4

NORTH CAROLINA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DIVISION REPORT

November 16, 2016

DIVISION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

NORTH CAROLINA

ATTACHMENT 4

Division Vacancies

- Administrative Officer II - Maegan Trimnal
- CREP Environmental Specialist - interviewing
- Eastern engineer position vacant effective June 24 - interviewing
- Western survey position - hiring package submitted

DIVISION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

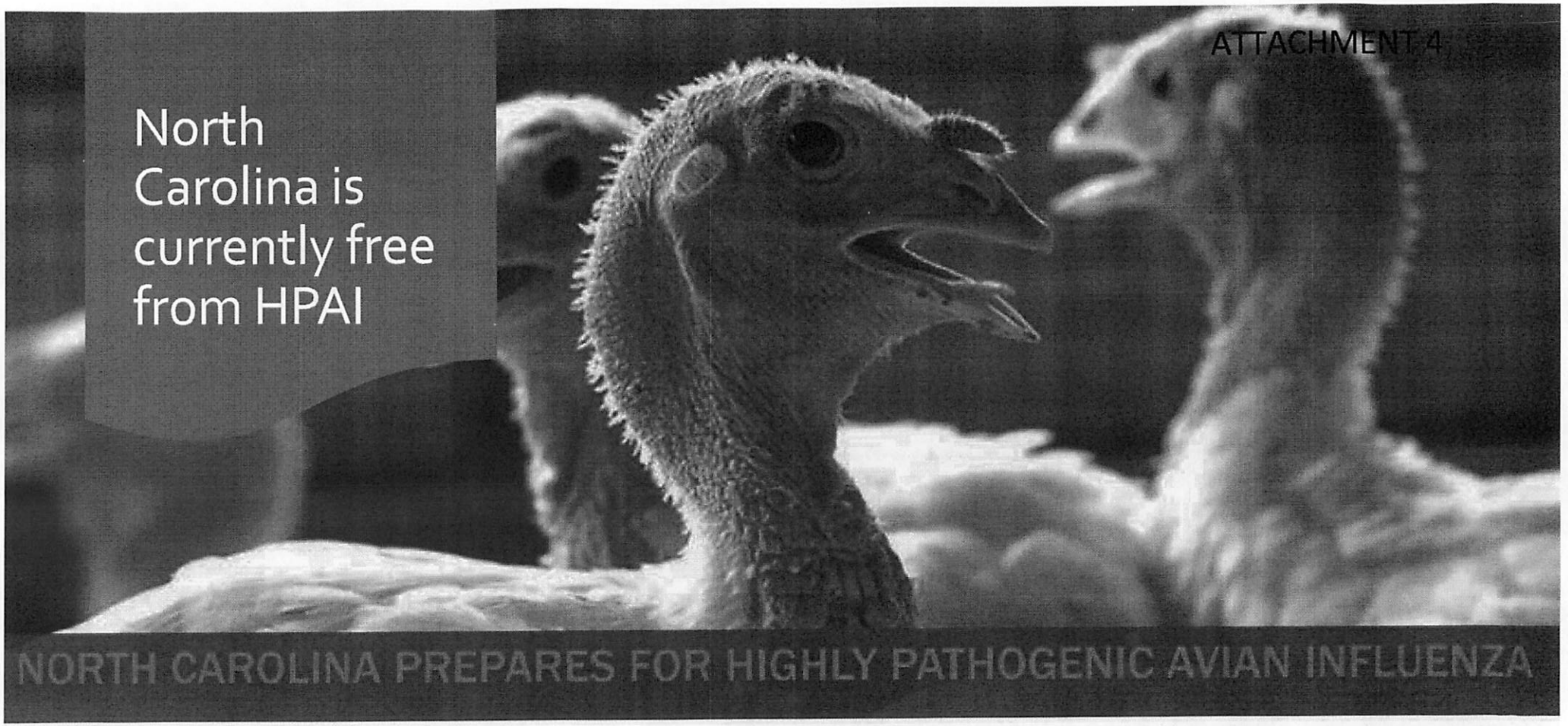
NORTH CAROLINA

ATTACHMENT 4

Division of Soil & Water Conservation – Length of Service

- Kristina Fischer – 10 yr.
- Chuck Reddick – 5 yr.
- Dottie Jones – 5 yr.
- Helen Wiklund – 1 yr.

ATTACHMENT 4



CURRENT STATUS
North Carolina is free from HPAI
The U.S. is free from HPAI

BIOSECURITY LEVEL
All N.C. poultry farms should be following STRICT biosecurity protocols

ATTACHMENT 4

Non Point Source Section Update

- Program Reviews:
  - 7 program reviews finalized since May 2016 update
  - Forsyth, Alleghany, Davie, Union, Madison, Hyde and Davidson
- 2014 Extensions
  - Since the July commission meeting, 3 extensions have been paid out

  (Cherokee, Randolph and Moore County ponds)
  - 4 AgWRAP pond extensions along with 12 other extensions remain
  - NPS staff will continue to monitor

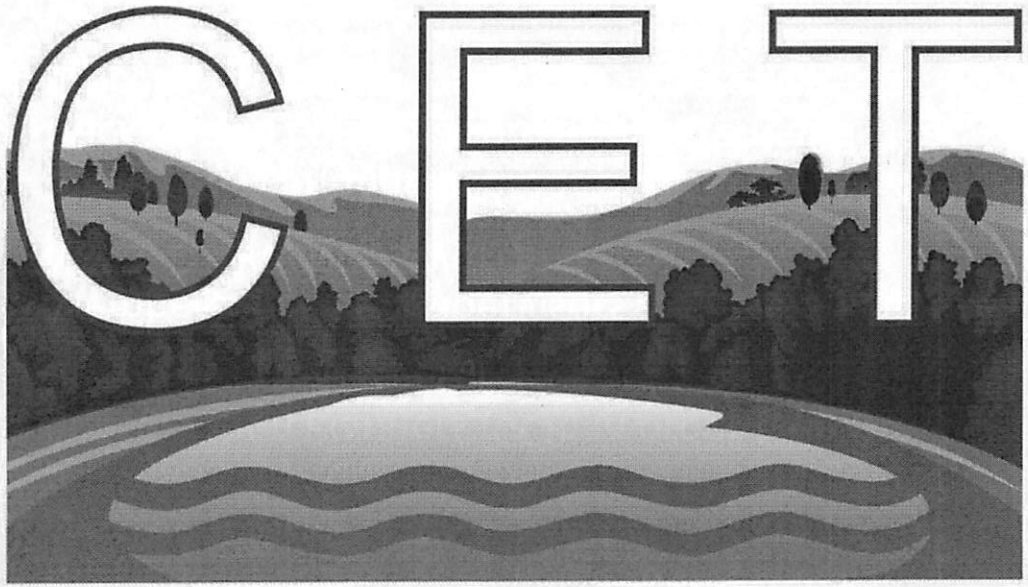
ATTACHMENT 4

Commission JAA Removals

(individuals who are no longer employed as district employees)

- Mike Bennett - Retired
- Linda Birdsong - Retired
- Anthony Hester - NRCS
- Kevin Moore - Retired
- Shaun Moore
- Bryon McMurray
- Vonnie Wescott
- Larry Williams

ATTACHMENT 4



CONSERVATION
Employee Training

2016 Conservation
Employee Training
August 22-25
Asheville, NC

Attendance Numbers

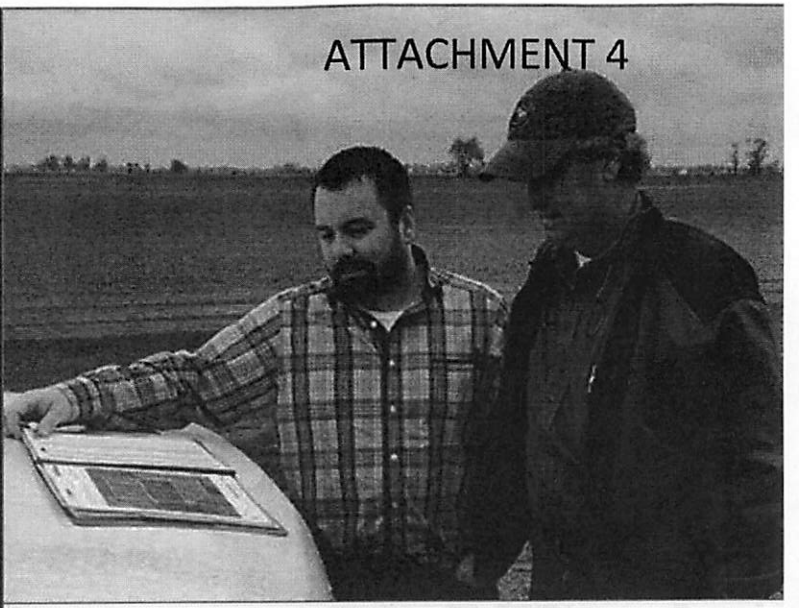
(*based on registrations*)

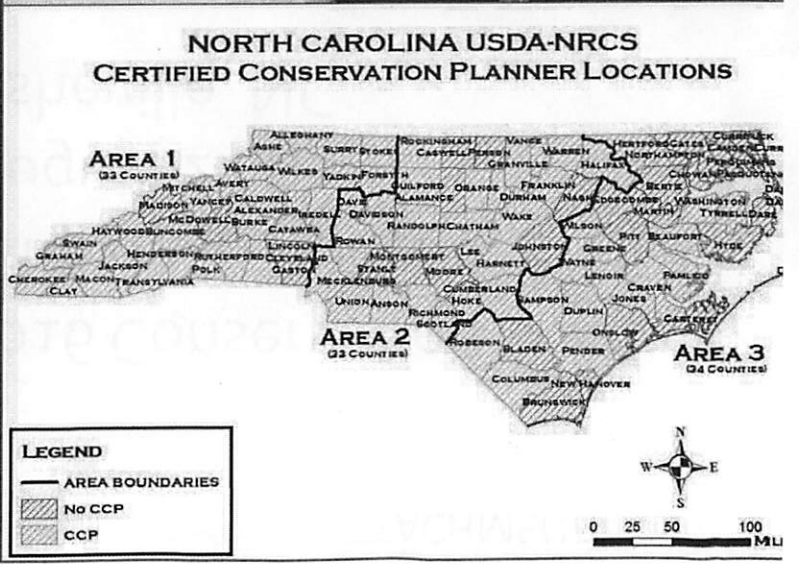
- 149 district employees
- 15 division employees
- 13 NRCS employees
- 1 partner

Conservation Action Team (CAT)

- Mission: to address challenges and establish a consistent process for all partnership staff to obtain Job Approval Authority (JAA) and become Certified Conservation Planners (CCP) in order to improve delivery of technical services at field level
- Membership – Key supervisors and leadership from NRCS, DSWC, NCASWCD and DEA
- Challenges continue in areas of training, JAA & CCP tracking and coordination, transparent and clear process, opportunities to gain experience, etc.
- Listening Sessions – Dec.-Jan.; 6 sessions
  - NRCS Area 2 – Jan. 17 and 25

ATTACHMENT 4





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ATTACHMENT 4

Subchapter 59H

Community Conservation Assistance Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution

- Commission approved proposed changes at its May 17, 2016 meeting
- Allows the Commission to specify the proportion of funds allocated to district, regional and statewide pools through its annual Detailed Implementation Plan
- Rules Review Commission approved final changes with some technical corrections on Oct. 20, 2016

NORTH CAROLINA REGISTER

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September 1, 2016

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ATTACHMENT 4

Subchapter 59E

Procedures & Guidelines to Implement Nondischarge Rule for Animal Waste Management Systems

Subchapter 59G

Approval of Technical Specialists & BMPs for Water Quality Protection

- Commission approved proposed changes at its July 20, 2016 meeting
- 60 day public comment ended Oct. 31, 2016
- Dept. received numerous comments
- Formed a committee of pertinent agencies who assist with implementation of these rules for feedback to the comments
- Anticipate summary and recommended rule revisions to be presented at Jan. 8, 2017 meeting

ATTACHMENT 4

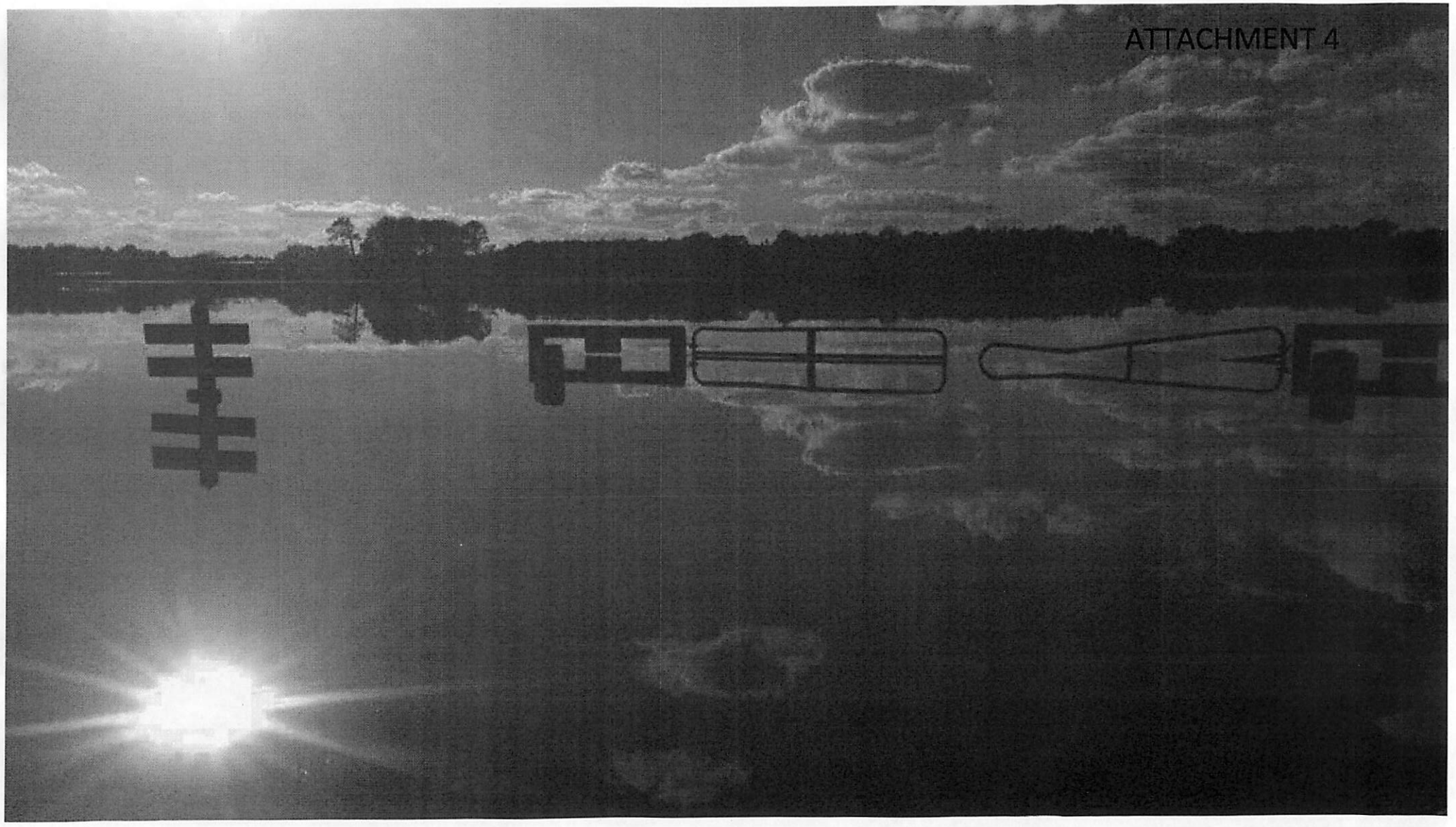
NCDA&CS Responds

HURRICANE MATTHEW

Recovery Information

ATTACHMENT 4

ATTACHMENT 4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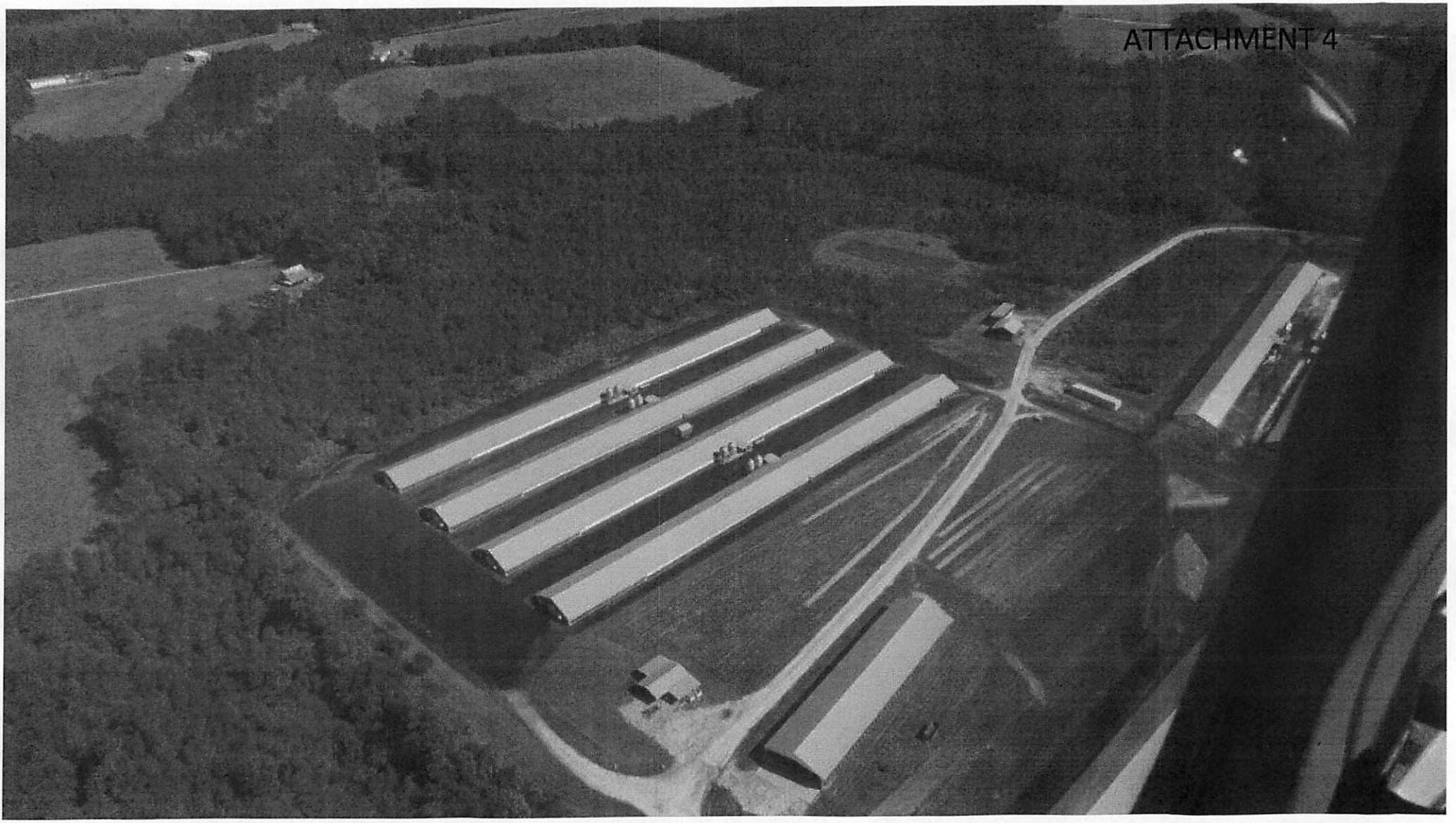
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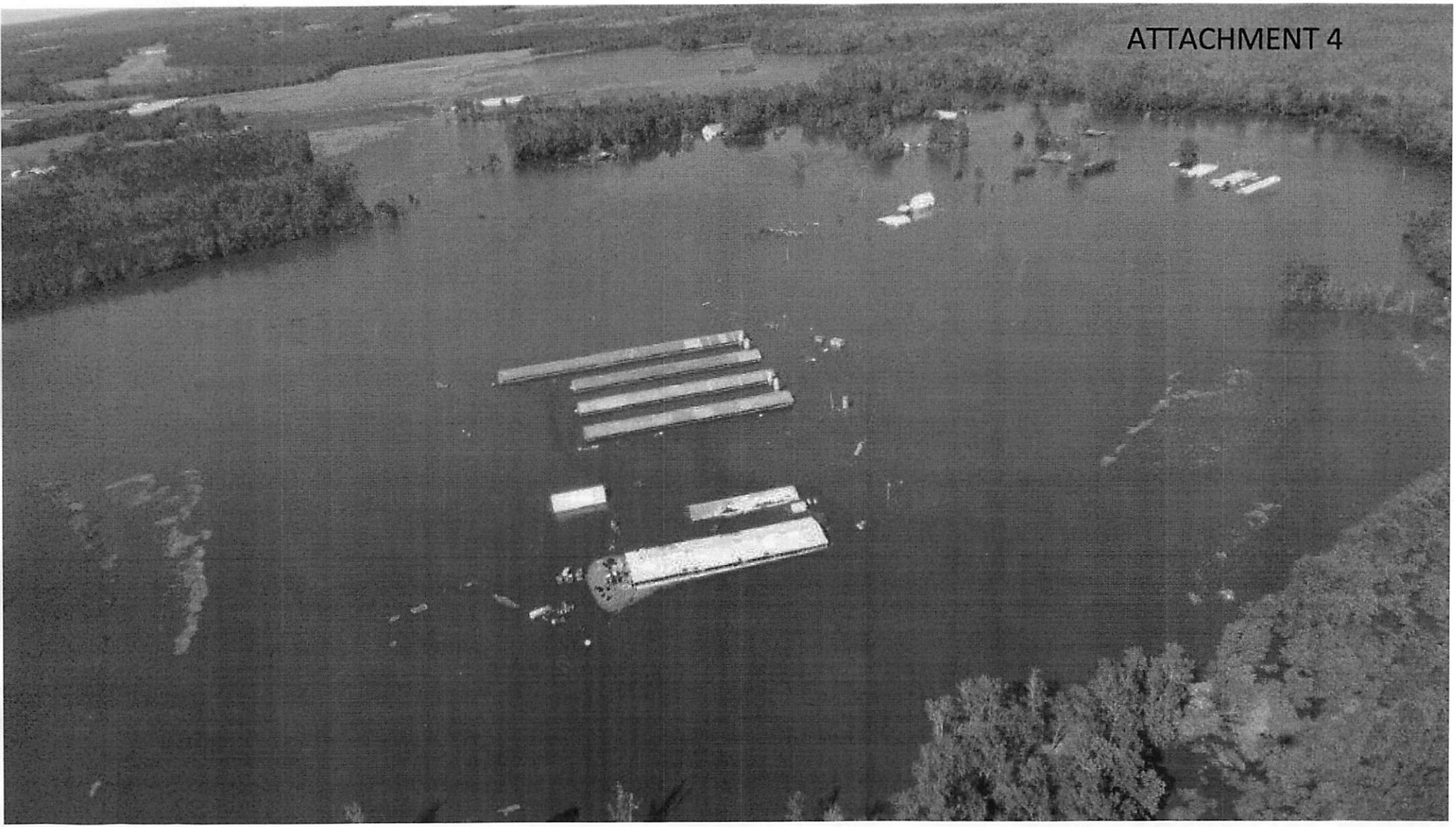
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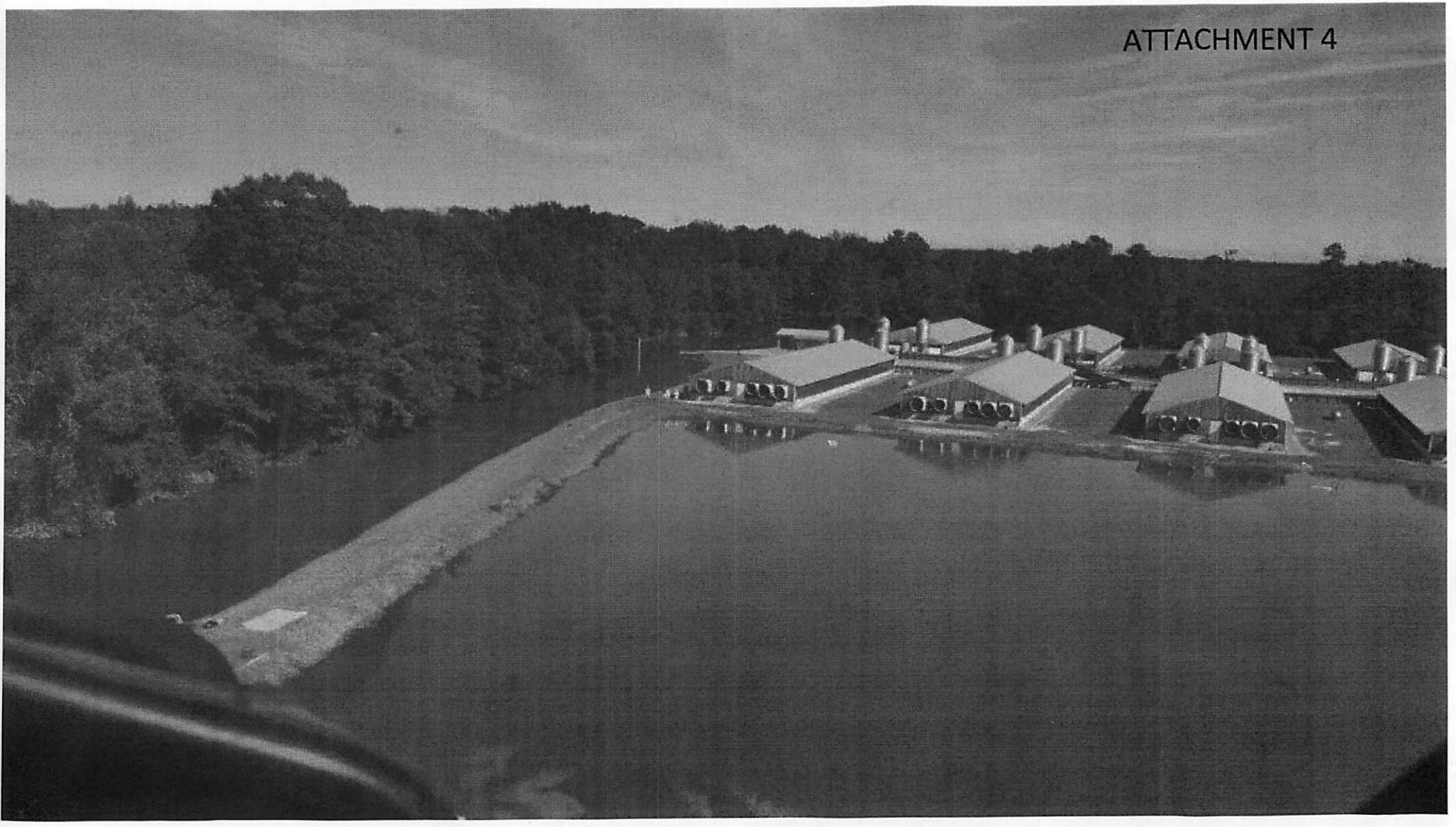

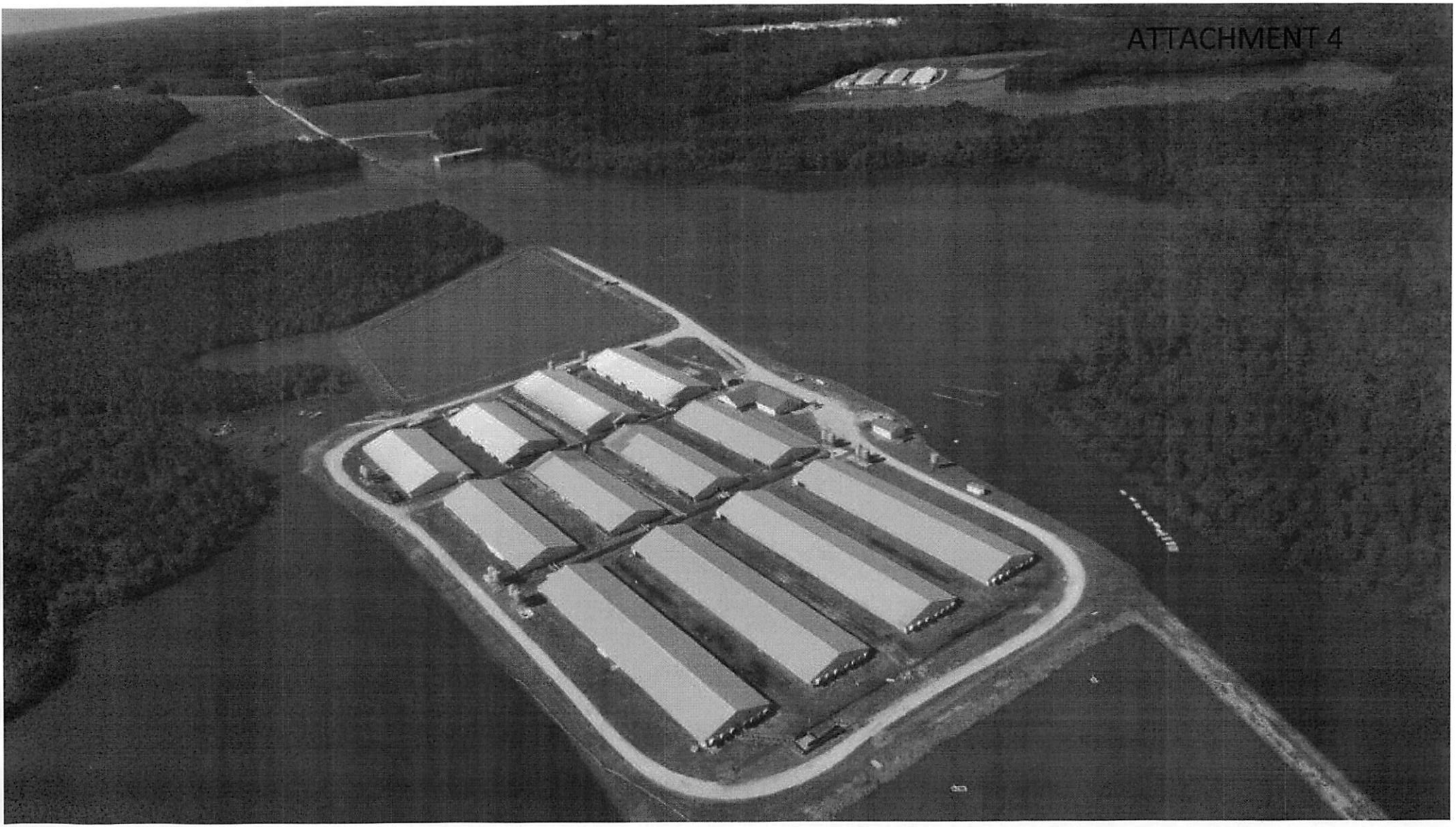
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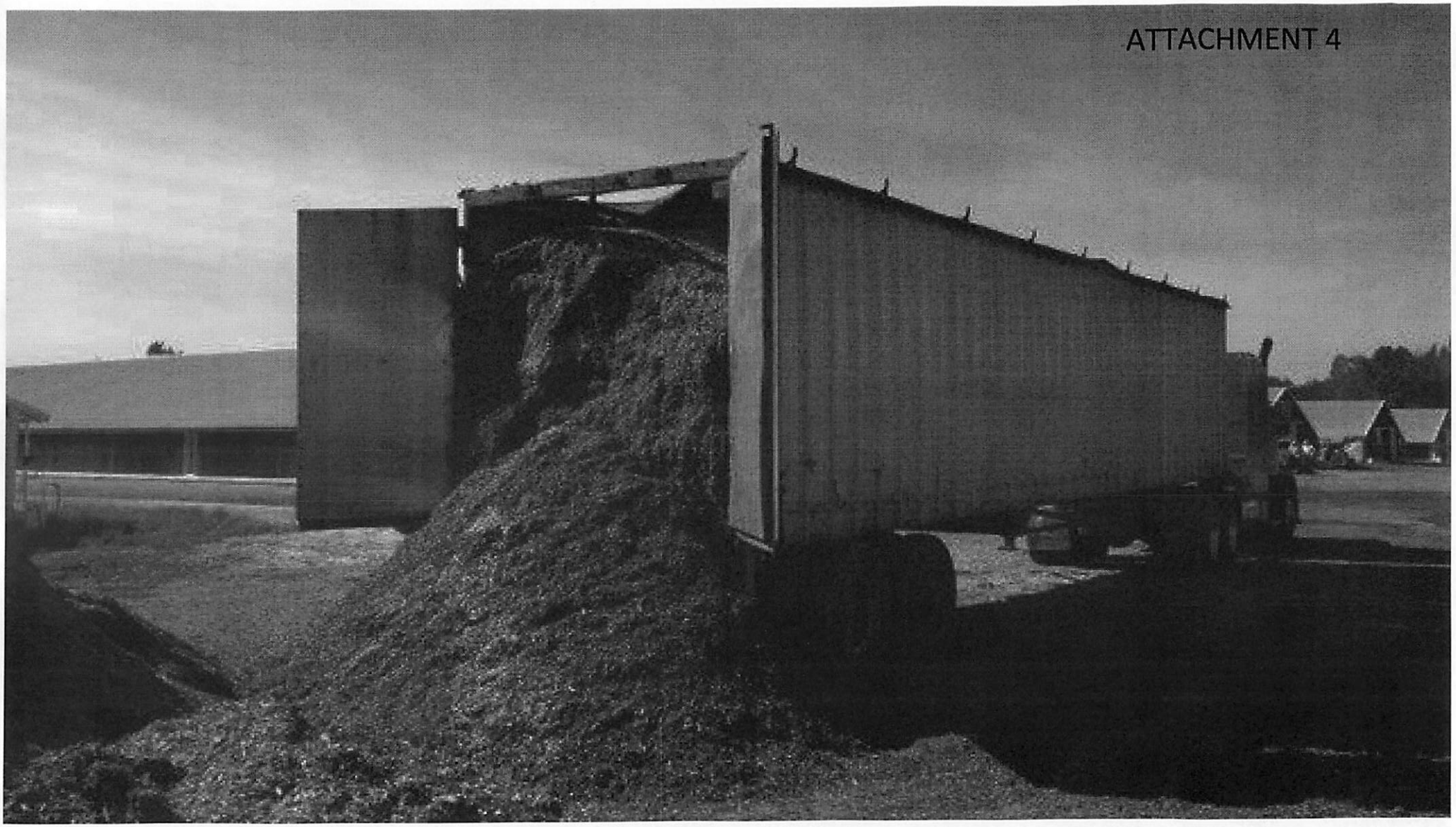
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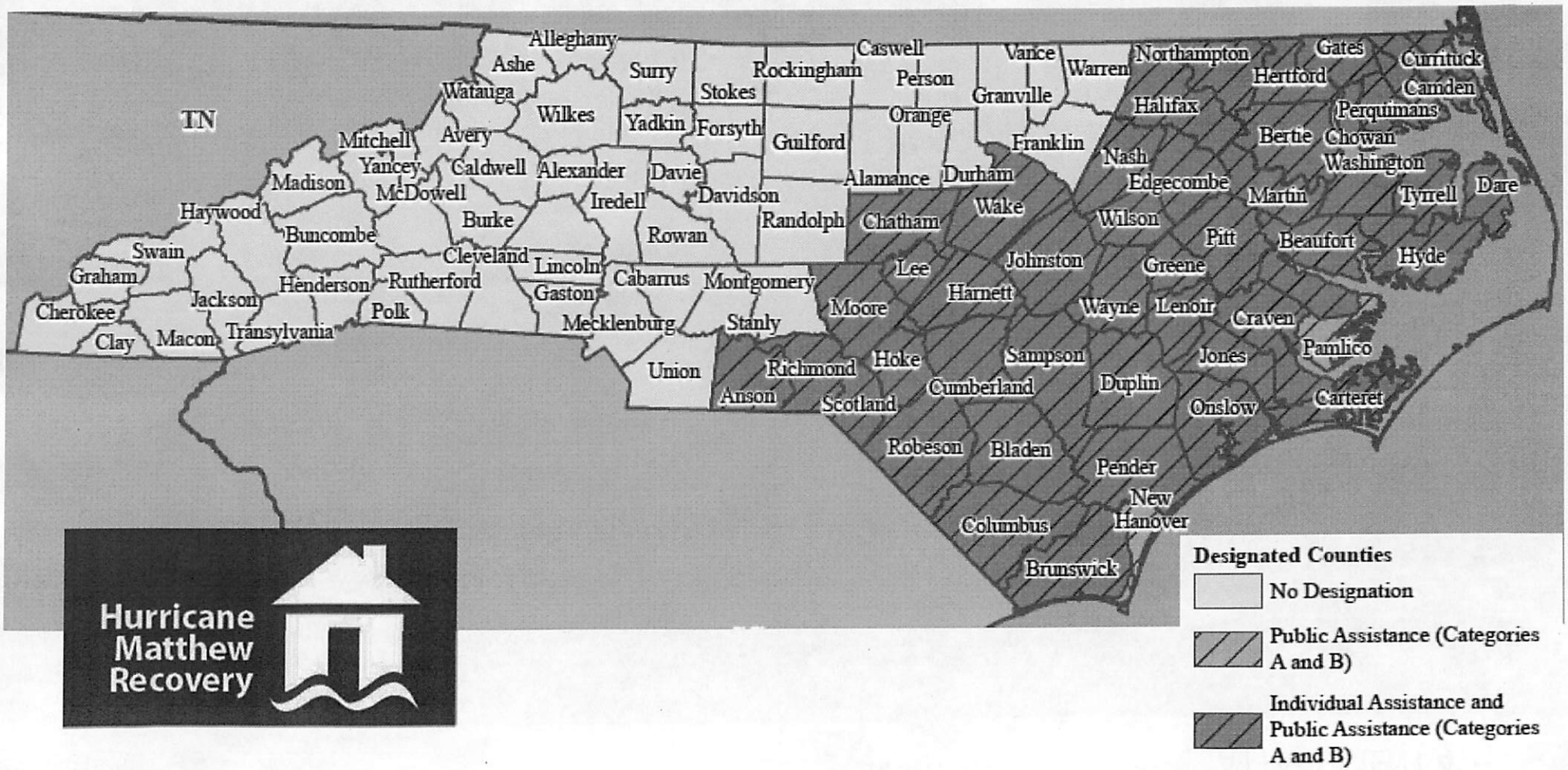
FEMA-4285-DR, North Carolina Disaster Declaration as of 11/04/2016

FEMA



Hurricane Matthew Recovery

ATTACHMENT 4

Financial Needs Assessment For Watershed Damage Caused by Hurricane Matthew

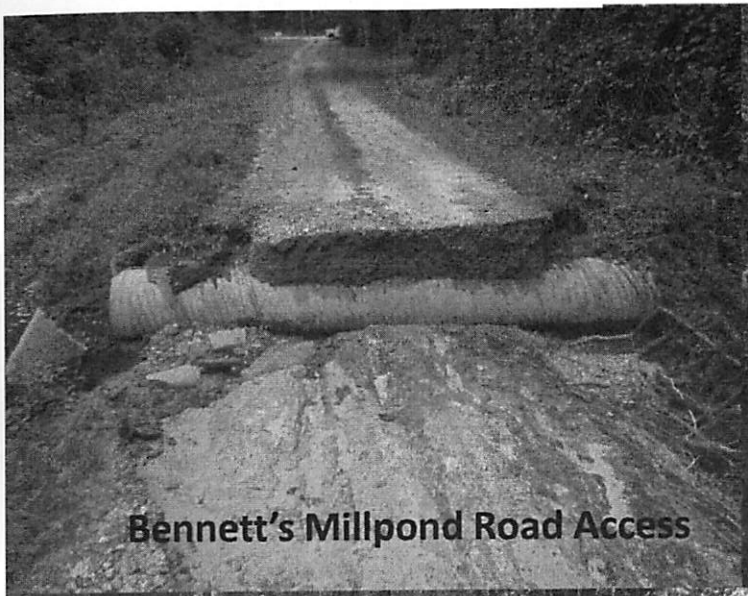
- Surveyed districts in FEMA public assistance eligible counties; Nov. 9-10
- Requested estimates for watershed recovery measures that may not be eligible for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP) because the impairment does not pose an immediate threat to life or property
- Cost estimate for the following:
  a) remove debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges;
  b) reshape and protect eroded banks;
  c) correct damaged drainage facilities;
  d) establish cover on critically eroding lands;
  e) repair conservation practices; and
  f) repair/replace "other" watershed infrastructure projects/structures

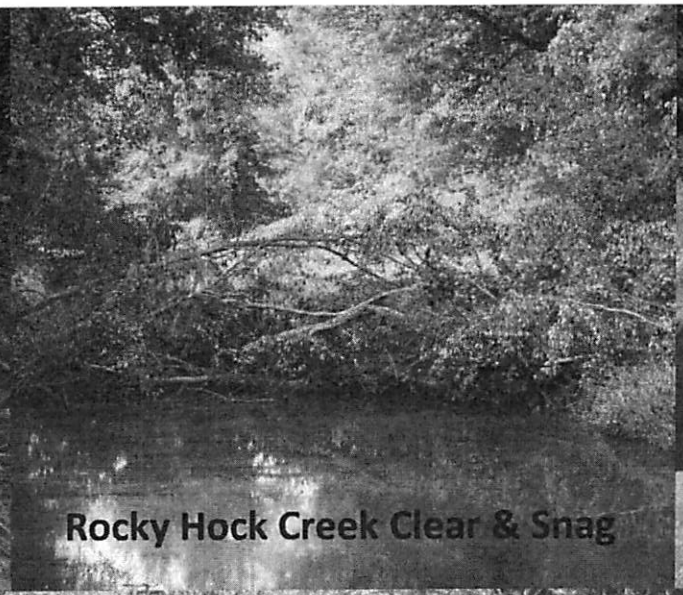
ATTACHMENT 4

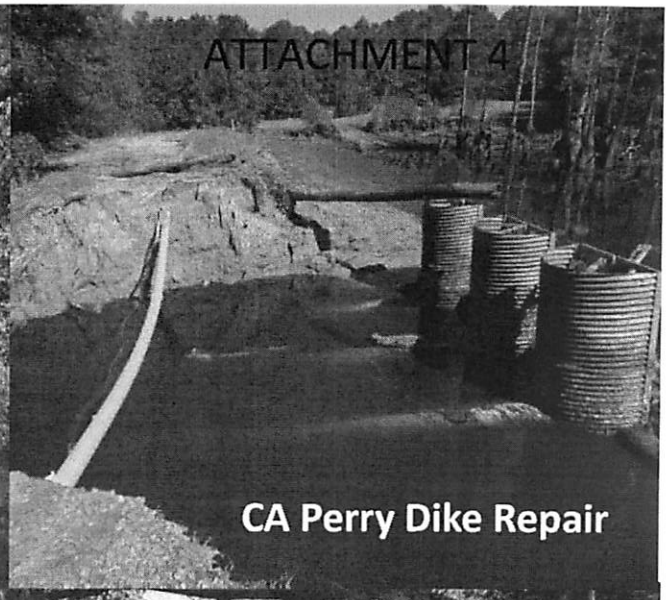
Financial Needs Assessment For Watershed Damage Caused by Hurricane Matthew

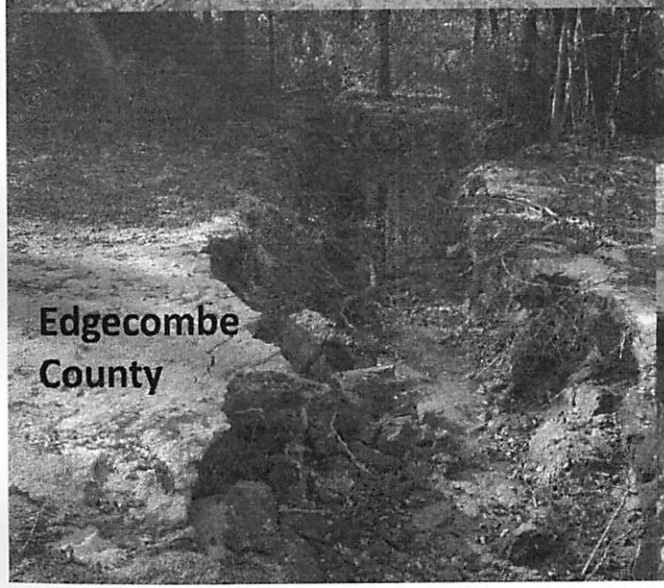
28 out of 47 FEMA public assistance eligible counties, through local soil and water conservation districts, provided watershed recovery measures estimates at *$27,357,568*

ATTACHMENT 4

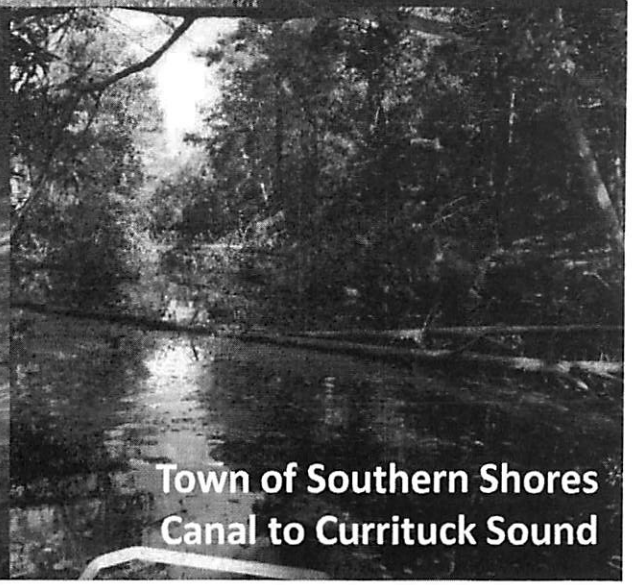

Bennett's Millpond Road Access


Rocky Hock Creek Clear & Snag


CA Perry Dike Repair


Edgecombe County

Village Creek Storm Water Pond Repair


Town of Southern Shores Canal to Currituck Sound

ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Association Report to the Commission

November 16, 2016

New Executive Director Selected

Bryan Evans has been selected as the new Executive Director for the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Bryan recently retired from the Pitt Soil and Water Conservation District where he served as the District Director for the past 11 years. A Pitt County native, his work in conservation spanned for nearly 30 years after growing up a farmhand. During his career, he obtained Certified Conservation Planner, Waste Utilization Planner, Certified Environmental Educator and USDA/NRCS Job Approval Authority and NCDA&CS Technical Specialist for multiple engineering and ecological practices.

Also during his career, he served as the NC Conservation District Employees Association President, National Conservation Employees Association secretary and was awarded the state and national Conservation Employee of the year. In 2015, Bryan was inducted into the North Carolina Envirothon Hall of Fame and has hosted the State Farm Family and State Soils Judging events within his District.

Bryan's first day was November 14. He will be reaching out to the partners to continue the work of the Association and researching ways to continue moving the Association forward.

2017 Annual Meeting –Charlotte – Hotel Overflow

The Annual Meeting of the NCASWCD will be held January 8-10, 2017 at the University Hilton in Charlotte, NC. Registration is open and an overflow hotel has been secured. The overflow hotel is the Holiday Inn Charlotte University and is approximately .2 mile from the meeting facility. Shuttles will be available. Our room block at the University Hilton is full, but is open until December 7, so cancellations should go back into our block. Those who need to cancel should do so quickly and those seeking a room should check periodically for availability.

Annual Meeting –Continued

The agenda is being finalized. The planning team continues to sure-up details to insure that the meeting attendees have an informative and enjoyable time while in Charlotte. This is an important meeting for the Association, as the direction for 2017 will be set. So, please plan to attend and participate to insure the Association continues to move forward for the future.

Vendor space is still available for the Conservation Expo. If you know of a company or organization that would like to have a display in the exhibitor's hall, please have them register online through the Annual Meeting registration site. Deadline for vendor registration is November 23. The Association thanks the Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society for assisting with this part of the meeting.

Standing Committee Meeting – December 7, 2016

The Association standing committees will meet December 7 at the Farm Bureau cafeteria located at 5301 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, NC. The meeting will start at 10 am with instructions and then the committees will meet independently to get their Policies, Positions and Action Items in order for the Annual Meeting.

State Fair Booth and Gator Raffle

This year was the second largest attendance reported for the North Carolina State Fair. The Soil and Water Conservation booth was well attended as well. Many Districts contributed to man the booth and sell raffle tickets for the Gator Raffle. The Mobile Soils Classroom was on hand to provide visitors with a hands-on soils learning experience. The Association thanks those involved with representing Soil and Water.

The Gator Raffle will continue through the Annual Meeting. The Gator was on display at the State Fair and those tending the Soil and Water booth did a great job promoting ticket sales. It will also be on display at the Annual Meeting. The Gator Raffle is an important fund raiser for our State and Employees Associations.

Supervisor Training

The Association has been working with the Supervisor Training committee to establish guidance for the 6 credits of annual Supervisor training. Tracking, training criteria, roll-out timeline and workshop approvals are some of the topics being discussed for the development of a proposal to the Commission.

Mountain Island Educational State Forest (MIESF)

As one of the Associations Education Action Items, we have been working with the planning and development committee on the MIESF. Efforts are being continued to raise the needed funds for infrastructure that is key to the area becoming a public environmental learning facility. This Forest protects 12 miles of shoreline of Mountain Lake in the Catawba River Basin.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties rely on this watershed for their drinking water. Managed by the NC Forest Service, the partnership of Lincoln and Gaston Counties along with Gastonia and several conservation groups continues to move the project forward.

Former Executive Director Appreciation

Lastly, the Association would like to thank Julie Groce for her service. Julie resigned her position with the Association near the end of September. Julie's background in marketing brought new ideas to the Association and her vision for the future sparked new interests in conservation. We wish her the best of luck in her future career.

REMINDER: Registration deadline for the Annual Meeting is December 1, 2016! A late registration fee is applied after December 1.

Message from the State Conservationist

September marks the last month in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, and October is the start of the new FY 2017. I want to thank our employees and conservation partners for another successful year. As always, we value your feedback to help us enhance and improve conservation planning delivery in North Carolina. If you have any questions about FY 16 or planning for FY 17, please feel free to contact me or any member of our State Leadership Team.

Timothy Beard
NRCS State Conservationist

Highlights

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)- The USDA-NRCS's Conservation Stewardship Program is the largest conservation program in the United States with 70 million acres of productive agricultural and forest land enrolled in CSP. This translates into thousands of farmers and ranchers who have made the choice to voluntarily enroll in the program because it helps them enhance natural resources and improve their business operation. These conservation efforts on private lands benefit all of us through improved water and air quality, increased soil health, and improved wildlife habitat, to name just a few. In North Carolina, landowners have enrolled 25,168.2 acres into CSP.

Over the last year, NRCS has retooled CSP to make it even better. We have taken input from producers, partners and employees and those comments were used to revamp the program. A new program tool, more enhancement options, greater contract flexibility and a program that is more applicable at the local level are just a few of the results of this revamp.

Changes that producers can expect to see when the program is offered in FY17 include greater flexibility at the local level to prioritize resource concerns and conservation approaches, more enhancements and almost double the conservation practices offered, and better reporting tools to tell producers the results of their conservation efforts on their land.

Now is the time to get the word out that CSP has been revised and bring awareness to all that CSP now has to offer. Our theme is "Together We Can Do More." Keeping with that theme, we want to share this information with Soil and Water Conservation Districts, state and local partners, as well as customers that may be interested. Please help us get the word out about CSP and encourage customers to learn more about the exciting opportunities that CSP provides.

The program will be offered in FY17 (Oct. 1-Sept. 30, 2017). Producers interested in the program can find at more at www.nrcs.usda.gov/csp or visit their local USDA Service Center.

For more information on FY 17 CSP, please contact Greg Walker at Greg.Walker@nc.usda.gov. For more information on promoting CSP, please contact Stuart Lee at Stuart.Lee@nc.usda.gov.

Conservation Innovation Grants - U.S. Department of Agriculture will invest $26.6 million in 45 national projects to spur agricultural innovation in rural and urban communities through its Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) in fiscal year 2016. Nearly 25 percent of the funding will be used for projects to ensure historically underserved, military veterans, and new and beginning farmers, ranchers and forest landowners have equal access to USDA programs and services.

Nationally, the funding will leverage more than $32.5 million in matching funds from cash and in-kind sources from the grantees for a total of $59.1 million, more than doubling the federal investment. The 2016 projects focus on water quality, conservation finance and assistance to existing and potential historically underserved USDA customers. CIG, administered by NRCS, is funded through the popular Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

One North Carolina Projects Awarded CIG in FY 16.

Entity: North Carolina State University
Project Name: Harmonizing Southern Phosphorous Assessment Tools Based on Recent Comparisons and State Priorities
NRCS Total Funding: $104,400
Project Summary: North Carolina State University proposes to harmonize P-Index results across southern state boundaries and

CIG Continued ---

provide more robust factors in Indices. As these linkages occur across southern States, information can then be transferred to and from other regions (i.e., Heartland and Northeastern). This will allow continued coordination and communication with the other regions of the country, as well as the National P Index CIG Integration project.

Multi-State Project Awarded CIG in FY 16

Entity: Operation Spring Plant, Inc.
Project Name: Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and NRCS Agency United for Sustainable Conservation Methods
NRCS Total Funding: $450,000
Project States: NC, GA
Project Summary: Operation Spring Plant proposes to illustrate to socially disadvantaged producers the benefits of adopting and implementing innovative proven NRCS conservation measures/ technologies to address Nutrient Management, On-Farm Energy, Water Quality and Conservation Cover issues. A model of this demonstration will be made available by an on-farm installation project that addresses existing resource and production concerns that are obstacles to the success of the black small family farm. Operation Spring Plant will use these on farm demonstrations to make an impact on farmers' confidence to adopt conservation and new technology practices.

Entity: Tennessee State University
Project Name: Promoting BMPs in the nursery production systems for the Mid-South United States by providing planning and technical assistance
NRCS Total Funding: $792,504
Project States: TN, KY, NC, SC, VA, GA
Project Summary: Tennessee State University proposes to demonstrate conservation best management practices (BMP) and protect the natural resources from the adverse environmental impacts in the container plant nursery industry by enhancing the current Southern Nursery Industry "Guide for BMPs" and while offering salient modifications to NRCS Conservation Practice Standards that specifically address the resources concerns of the industry. By using the nine steps of conservation planning this project will demonstrate BMPs on nursery producer's land and land grant university experiment stations to promote the use of conservation practices. A cadre of extension and technicians will be trained to carry out the planning and implementation of these BMPs and evaluate the benefits derived. Observations during this period can then be used to develop modifications and new techniques to existing management guides, and eventually to NRCS conservation practice standards.

Timothy A. Beard
State Conservationist
919-873-2100
Timothy.Beard@nc.usda.gov
www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov

Programs Update - By the Numbers

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) - North Carolina initially received $17,021,379 in EQIP financial assistance. As the fiscal year progressed, we received an additional $1,513.929 in Climate Change Funds for specific related practices, and then additional $1,950 to support existing applications. Our total EQIP financial assistance allocation for 2016 is $20,485,308. Below you will find a program snap-shot for FY 16 that includes EQIP, CSP, and RCPP-EQIP. Additionally, you'll find obligations by NRCS Area, and acres benefited by programs delivered in FY 16 by NRCS Area.

FY 2016 Snap-Shot

Program	Acres Benefited	Obligation
CSP	25168	$456,643
EQIP	59069	$20,485,308
RCPP-EQIP	125	$625,007
Grand Total	84363	$21,566,958

NRCS Area	Acres Benefited	Obligation
1	10,353	$6,944,644
2	36, 937	$6,155,663
3	37,073	$7,450,158
Grand Total	84,363	$20,550,466

EQIP Top 5 Practices for FY 16

Practice Name	*Number Contracted*	*Amount Contracted*
1. Cover Crop Conservation	255	23,916 acres
2. Crop Rotation Prescribed	218	19,542 acres
3. Burning	172	11,227 acres
4. Critical Area Planting	114	78.4 acres
5. Fence	109	365,757 feet

Conservation Client Gateway

Conservation Client Gateway is a secure online web application that gives landowners and land managers, operating as individuals, the ability to track their payments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance, and electronically sign documents anytime, anywhere.

Conservation Client Gateway provides users the flexibility to determine when they want to engage with NRCS online and when they prefer in-person conservation planning assistance. You can access Conservation Client Gateway from our NRCS State website at www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov

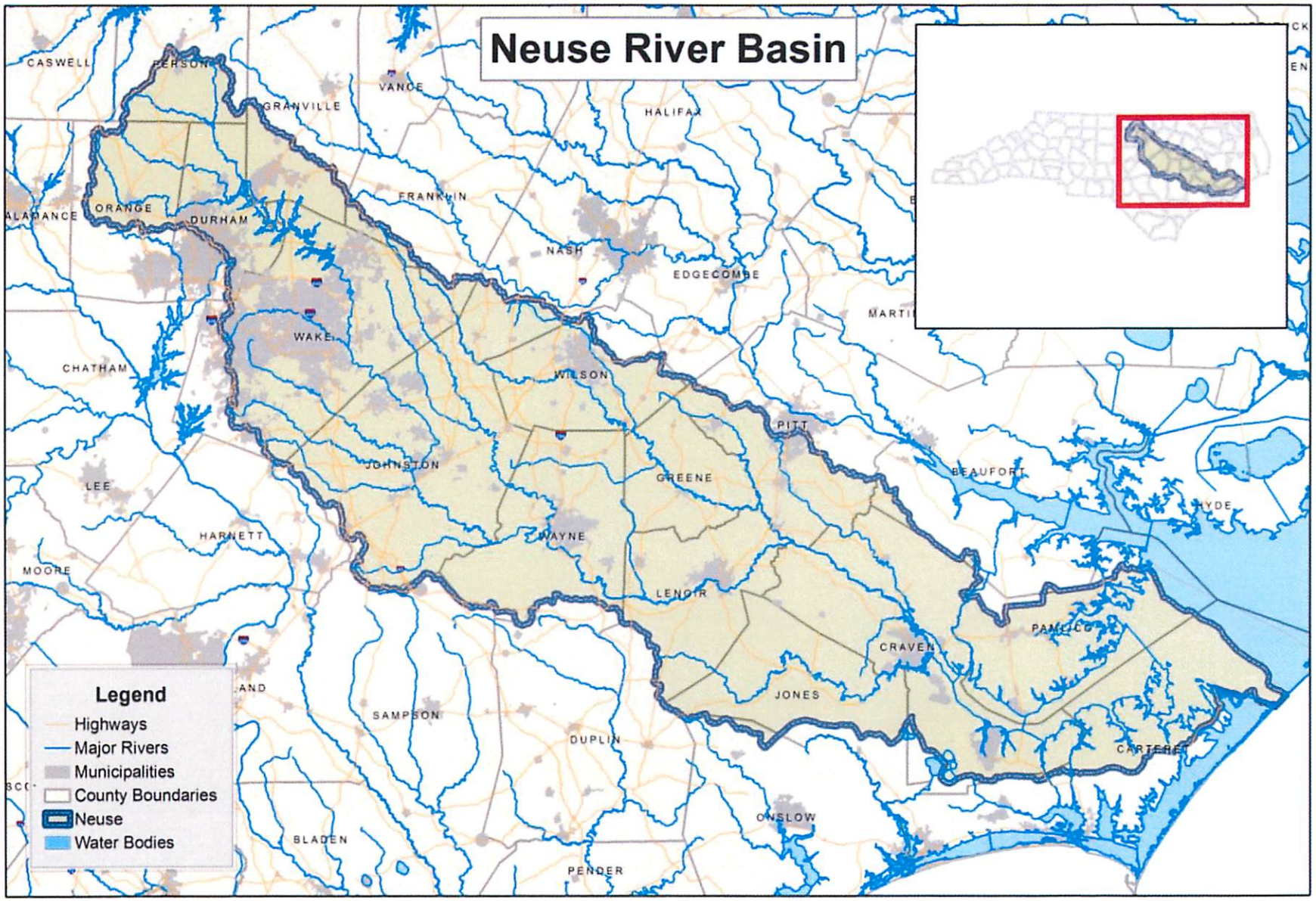
For more information, please contact your local NRCS Field Office today!

ATTACHMENT 7

NCDA&CS

2016 Annual Progress Report (Crop Year 2015) on the Neuse Agricultural Rule (15 A NCAC 2B.0238)

A Report to the Environmental Management Commission from the Neuse Basin Oversight Committee: Crop Year 2015



Neuse Basin Oversight Committee

September 19, 2014

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Summary

The Neuse Basin Oversight Committee (BOC) received and approved crop year (CY[1]) 2015 annual reports estimating the progress from the seventeen Local Advisory Committees (LACs) operating under the Neuse Agriculture rule as part of the Neuse Basin Nutrient Management Strategy. This report demonstrates agriculture's ongoing collective compliance with the Neuse Agriculture Rule and estimates further producer progress in decreasing nutrients. In CY2015, agriculture collectively achieved an estimated 53% reduction in nitrogen loss from agricultural lands compared to the 1991-1995 baseline, continuing to exceed the rule-mandated 30% reduction. Sixteen of the seventeen LACs exceeded the 30% reduction goal established by the BOC. The main reason for the greater nitrogen reduction in these counties is cropping shifts to crops with lower nitrogen demands and application rates.

Rule Requirements and Compliance History

Neuse Nutrient Sensitive Waters (NSW) Strategy

The Environmental Management Commission (EMC) adopted the Neuse nutrient strategy in December, 1997. The NSW strategy goal was to reduce the average annual load of nitrogen delivered to the Neuse River Estuary by 2003 from both point and non-point source pollution by a minimum of 30% of the average annual load from the baseline period (1991-1995). Mandatory nutrient controls were applied to address non-point source pollution in agriculture, urban stormwater, nutrient management, and riparian buffer protection. The overall 30% nitrogen loading reduction target for the Neuse River Estuary has not yet been reached.

Effective December 1997, the rule provides for a collective strategy for farmers to meet the 30% nitrogen loss reductions within five years. A BOC and seventeen LACs were established to implement the Neuse Agriculture rule and to assist farmers with complying with the rule.

All seventeen Local Advisory Committees (LACs) met as required in 2016. The LACs submitted their first annual report to the BOC in May 2002. That report estimated a collective 38% reduction in nitrogen loss with 12 of the 17 LACs exceeding 30% individually. In 2003, all LACs achieved their BOC recommended reduction goal. All counties are currently meeting their goal, with the exception of Pamlico County. Division of Soil and Water Conservation staff uses input from the LACs to calculate their annual reductions using the Nitrogen Loss Estimation Worksheet (NLEW). Adjustments are made to reflect the most up-to-date scientific research. These revisions lead to adjustments in both individual LAC and basinwide nitrogen loss reduction rates.

[1] The 2015 crop year began in October 2014 and ended in September 2015.

Scope of Report and Methodology

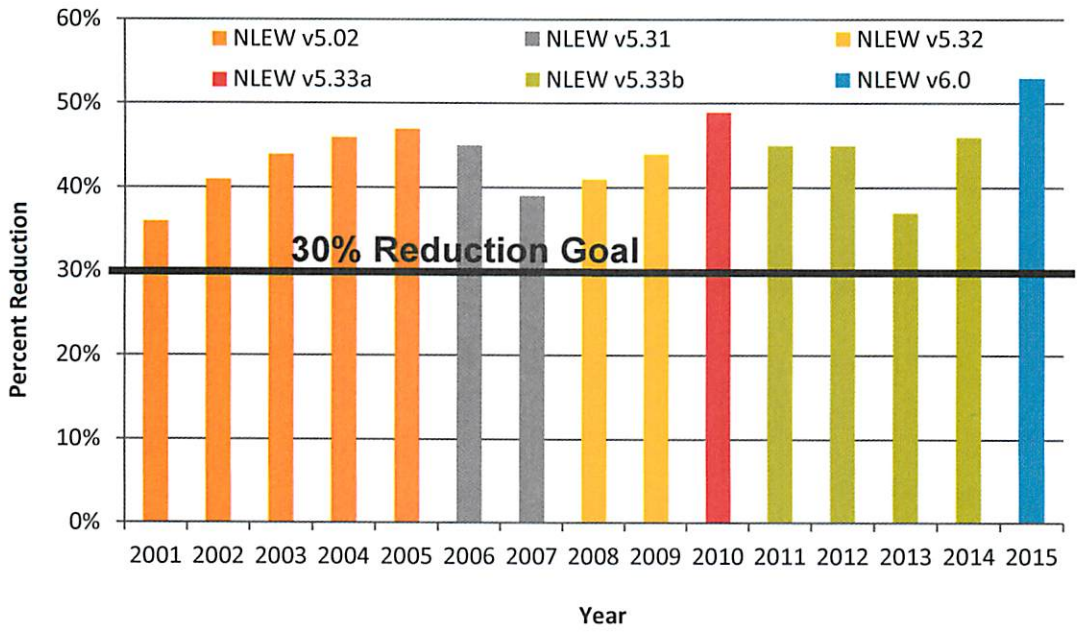
The estimates provided in this report represent whole-county scale calculations of nitrogen loss from cropland agriculture adjusted for acreage in the basin. These estimates were made by NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation (DSWC) staff using the 'aggregate' version of the Nitrogen Loss Estimation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

Annual Estimates of Nitrogen Loss and the Effect of NLEW Refinements

The NLEW software is periodically revised to incorporate new knowledge gained through research and improvements to data. These changes have incorporated the best available data, but changes to NLEW must be considered when comparing nitrogen loss reduction in different versions of NLEW. Further updates in soil management units are expected as NRCS produces updated electronic soils data. The small changes in soil management units are unlikely to produce significant effects on nitrogen loss reductions.

In 2016 the Division of Soil and Water Conservation worked with NC State University, NCDA&CS Emergency Programs staff, and the NCSU Cooperative Extension Service to update NLEW software into a web-based platform that incorporates updated yield expectations and nitrogen use efficiencies for crops. The NLEW software has been updated from outdated programming language and is now being housed on NCDA&CS servers. As a result of this change, sweet potatoes, which were excluded from CY2014 reporting, have been added back into the crop reports for current and baseline years, while other specialty crops, like white potatoes, remain excluded due to a lack of research data to determine a North Carolina-specific nitrogen use efficiency. The crops not included are grown on a small number of acres in the basin and are therefore a minimal contributor to overall nitrogen loss from agriculture. Other beneficial updates include server storage of annual reports, streamlined data export, and ongoing end-user data maintenance capabilities, which should enable DSWC and the BOC to incorporate new realistic yield expectations and nitrogen use efficiencies quickly and efficiently as future research is released and refined. Figure 1 represents the annual percent nitrogen loss reduction from the baseline for 2001 to 2015.

Figure 1. Collective Nitrogen Loss Reduction Percent 2001 to 2015 Based on NLEW, Neuse River Basin.



The first NLEW reports were run in 2001, and agriculture has continued to exceed its collective 30% nitrogen reduction goal since that time. The first NLEW revision (v5.31) marked a significant decrease in the nitrogen reduction efficiencies of buffers based on the best available research information, so baseline and CY2005 were re-calculated, and soil management units were revised. The second (v5.32) and third (v5.33a) revisions were minor updates of soil mapping units. In April of 2011 the NLEW Committee established further reductions (v5.33b) in nitrogen removal efficiencies for buffers based on additional research. As mentioned above, in 2016 NLEW software was updated (v6.0) from outdated software and transferred to a web-based platform on NCDA&CS servers. Revised realistic yield and nitrogen use efficiency data from NCSU was incorporated, and some minor calculation errors were corrected for corn, sweet potatoes, and sweet corn. Table 1 lists the changes in buffer nitrogen reduction efficiencies over time.

Table 1. Changes in Buffer Width Options and Nitrogen Reduction Efficiencies in NLEW

Buffer Width	NLEW v5.02 % N Reduction 2001-2005	NLEW v5.31, v5.32, v5.33a % N Reduction 2006-2010	NLEW v5.33b, v6.0 % N Reduction 2011-Current
20'	40% (grass)* 75% (trees & shrubs)*	30%	20%
30'	65%	40%	25%
50'	85%	50%	30%
70'	85%	55%	30%
100'	85%	60%	35%

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

Current Status

Nitrogen Reduction from Baseline for CY2015

All seventeen LACs submitted their fifteenth annual reports to the BOC for approval in July 2016. For the entire basin, in CY2015 agriculture achieved a 53% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the 1991-1995 baseline. This percentage is higher than the reduction reported for CY2014. Table 2 lists each county's baseline, CY2014 and CY2015 nitrogen (lbs/yr) loss values, and nitrogen loss percent reductions from the baseline in CY2014 and CY2015.

*Table 2. Estimated Reductions in Agricultural Nitrogen Loss from Baseline (1991-1995) for 2014 and 2015, Neuse River Basin**

County	Baseline N Loss (lb) NLEW v6.0	CY2014 N Loss (lb) † NLEW v5.33b	CY2014 N Reduction (%) †	CY2015 N Loss (lb) NLEW v6.0	CY2015 N Reduction (%)
Carteret	1,292,586	780,771	40%	654,572	49%
Craven	4,153,187	1,673,786	58%	1,574,823	62%
Durham	220,309	115,682	47%	39,312	82%
Franklin	219,209	34,929	84%	35,176	84%
Granville	193,197	7,783	96%	26,701	86%
Greene	4,439,036	1,908,293	55%	2,030,728	54%
Johnston	6,728,638	2,577,846	60%	3,162,882	53%
Jones	3,283,906	2,216,470	29%	1,859,200	43%
Lenoir	4,455,752	3,105,762	25%	2,711,731	39%
Nash	1,042,072	350,511	62%	392,916	62%
Orange	787,040	168,891	79%	109,040	86%
Pamlico	2,023,294	1,733,030	9%	1,551,263	23%
Person	616,669	290,598	53%	139,231	77%
Pitt	3,399,455	1,816,934	43%	1,604,914	53%
Wake	1,434,602	405,896	72%	347,179	76%
Wayne	8,297,408	4,751,326	41%	3,772,582	55%
Wilson	3,273,647	1,536,995	50%	1,729,865	47%
Total	45,860,007	23,475,503†	46%†	21,742,116	53%

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

† CY2014 values were calculated with sweet potato acres removed from current and baseline year figures. The numbers shown were copied from the 2015 report for the sake of consistency, but the CY2014 reductions shown cannot be compared to the baseline nitrogen loss shown in the table, which was calculated using NLEW v6.0 and includes sweet potatoes.

Nitrogen loss reductions were achieved through a combination of fertilization rate decreases, cropping shifts, and BMP implementation. In addition to wet weather, the most significant factor this year is cropping shifts to soybeans which require no nitrogen application other than the incidental nitrogen contributed by starter fertilizer applied by some farmers in the basin. This trend is most evident in Jones, Pamlico, and Lenoir counties, which showed substantial improvements from CY2014. Factors that influence agricultural nitrogen reductions are shown in Figure 3.

Pamlico County is working to improve their reduction, which increased this year compared to CY2014. From CY2014 to CY2015 Pamlico experienced a decrease of 1,642 acres of corn, 1,464 acres of cotton, and 4,520 acres of wheat. It experienced a concurrent increase of 1,695 acres of soybeans. The Pamlico Soil and Water Conservation District Board is working to meet their reduction by making nutrient reducing BMPs a higher priority in their annual NC Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) strategy plan, and they installed water control structures which achieve nutrient reductions on 400 acres in CY2015. The DSWC, LACs and additional stakeholders are working with others in the agricultural community in this county and the surrounding area to communicate the need for more BMP installation at existing commodity outreach events. The BOC will continue to focus its efforts to monitor this county's progress and encourage BMP implementation.

The NLEW outputs and staff calculations estimate the factors that contributed to the nitrogen reduction by the percentages shown in Table 3.

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

Practice	CY2012 NLEW v5.33b	CY2013 NLEW v5.33b	CY2014 NLEW v5.33b	CY2015 NLEW v6.0
BMP implementation	8%	7%	8%	9%
Fertilization management	10%	6%	8%	10%
Cropping shift	14%	11%	18%	20%
Cropland converted to grass/trees	2%	2%	2%	2%
Cropland lost to idle land	4%	4%	3%	4%
Cropland lost to development	7%	7%	7%	8%
Total	45%	37%	46%	53%

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

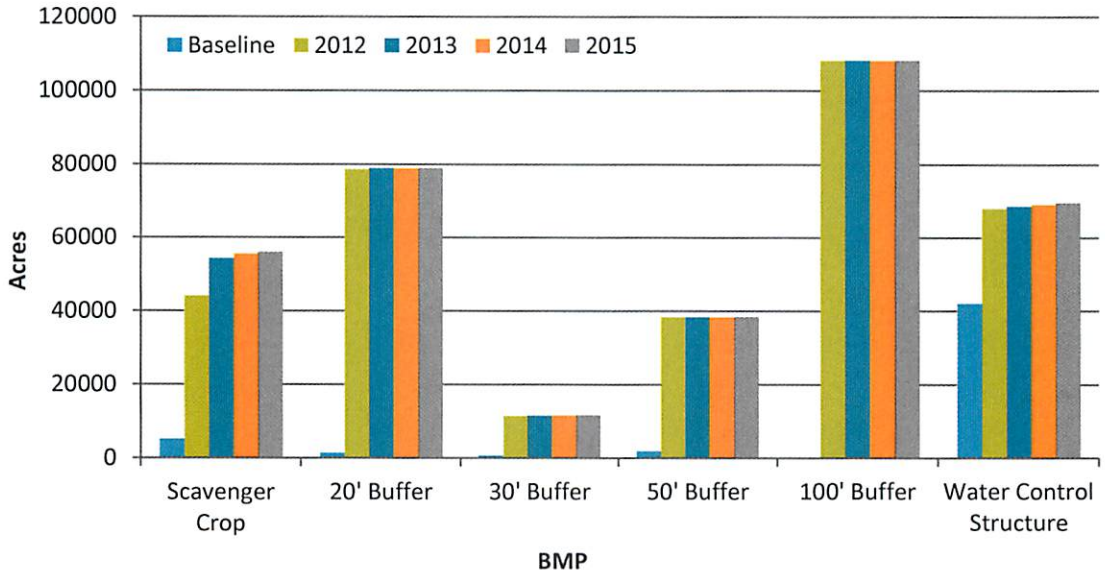
BMP Implementation

As illustrated in Figure 2, CY2015 BMP implementation yielded a net increase of 900 acres affected by water control structures, and a net increase of 1,702 nutrient scavenger crop acres, while 20 ft. buffers increased by 1 acre, 30 ft. buffers increased by 6 acres, 50 ft. buffers increased by 0.4 acres, and 100 ft. buffers increased by 5 acres.

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

Based on the comparison of total cropland acres and state or federal cost share program BMPs, it is estimated that over a third of the Neuse River Basin's cropland receives treatment from reported nitrogen reducing BMPs. However, this treatment estimate does not take into account the entire drainage area treated by buffers in the piedmont, which is generally 5 to 10 times higher than the actual acres of the buffer shown in Figure 2.[2] Overall, the total acres of implementation of BMPs have increased since the baseline, as illustrated in Figure 2. BMP installation goals were set by the local nitrogen reduction strategy, which was approved by the EMC in 1999. Agriculture exceeded all of these goals in CY2008.

Figure 2: Cumulative Nitrogen Reducing BMPs Installed on Agricultural Lands for Baseline (1991-1995) and from 2012-2015, Neuse River Basin (except for scavenger crops, which are an annual practice)



The acres of buffers listed represent actual acres. Acres affected by the buffer could be 5 to 10 times larger in the piedmont than the acreage shown above. [2]

[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

Additional Nutrient BMPs

Not all types of nutrient-reducing BMPs are tracked by NLEW. These include livestock-related nitrogen and phosphorus reducing BMPs, BMPs that reduce soil and phosphorus loss, and BMPs that do not have enough scientific research to support a nitrogen reduction benefit. The BOC believes it is worthwhile to recognize these practices. Table 4 identifies BMPs not accounted for in NLEW and tracks their implementation in the basin since CY1996.

Increased implementation numbers are evident in CY2015 across most BMP types. Some of these BMPs will yield reductions in nitrogen loss that are not reflected in the NLEW accounting in this report but will benefit the estuary.

*Table 4: Nutrient-Reducing BMPs Not Accounted for in NLEW, 1996 to 2015, Neuse River Basin**

BMP	Units	1996-2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Diversion	Feet	149,449	159,101	160,655	161,924	166,199
Cover Crops	Acres	31,826	33,712	36,808	40,132	43,118
Fencing (USDA programs)	Feet	154,885	164,202	170,501	204,869	214,748
Field Border	Acres	3,337	5,190	5,211	5,217	5,219
Grassed Waterway	Acres	2,261	2,289	2,300	2,351	2,358
Livestock Exclusion	Feet	81,389	90,633	100,860	103,121	118,178
Precision Agriculture	Acres	0	1,000	2,567	3,567	3,660
Sod Based Rotation	Acres	60,115	76,857	92,404	92,404	101,429
Tillage Management	Acres	34,072	44,011	48,649	53,634	59,057
Terraces	Feet	49,970	49,970	50,670	50,670	76,175

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

Environmental Resources, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27606. http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/theses/available/etd-03282004-174056/

Fertilization Management

Both increased fertilizer cost and better nutrient management have resulted in farmers in the Neuse River Basin reducing their fertilizer application from baseline levels. Despite annual fluctuations, fertilization rates for all major crops in the basin have been reduced from the baseline period.

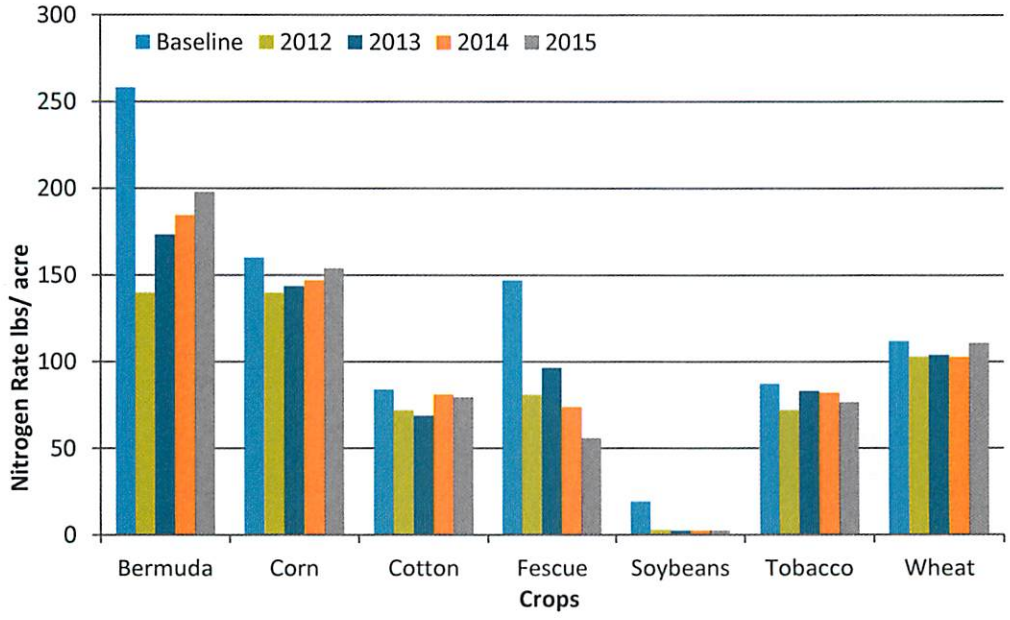
Between CY2014 and CY2015 nitrogen application rates increased by 13 lbs per acre on bermuda hay, 7 lbs per acre on corn, and 8 lbs per acre on wheat, while rates decreased by 2 lbs per acre on cotton, 18 lbs per acre on fescue hay, and 6 lbs per acre on tobacco. Figure 3 shows these corresponding application rates.

Factors Identified by LACs Contributing to Reduced Nitrogen Application Rates

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

With increasing fertilizer prices, there has been an economic incentive for producers to consider more efficient nitrogen rates, timing, and placement alternatives. Fertilizer rates and standard application practices are revisited annually by LACs using data from farmers, commercial applicators and state and federal agencies' professional estimates.

Figure 3. Average Annual Nitrogen Fertilization Rate (lbs/ac) for Agricultural Crops for the baseline (1991-1995) and 2012-2015, Neuse River Basin

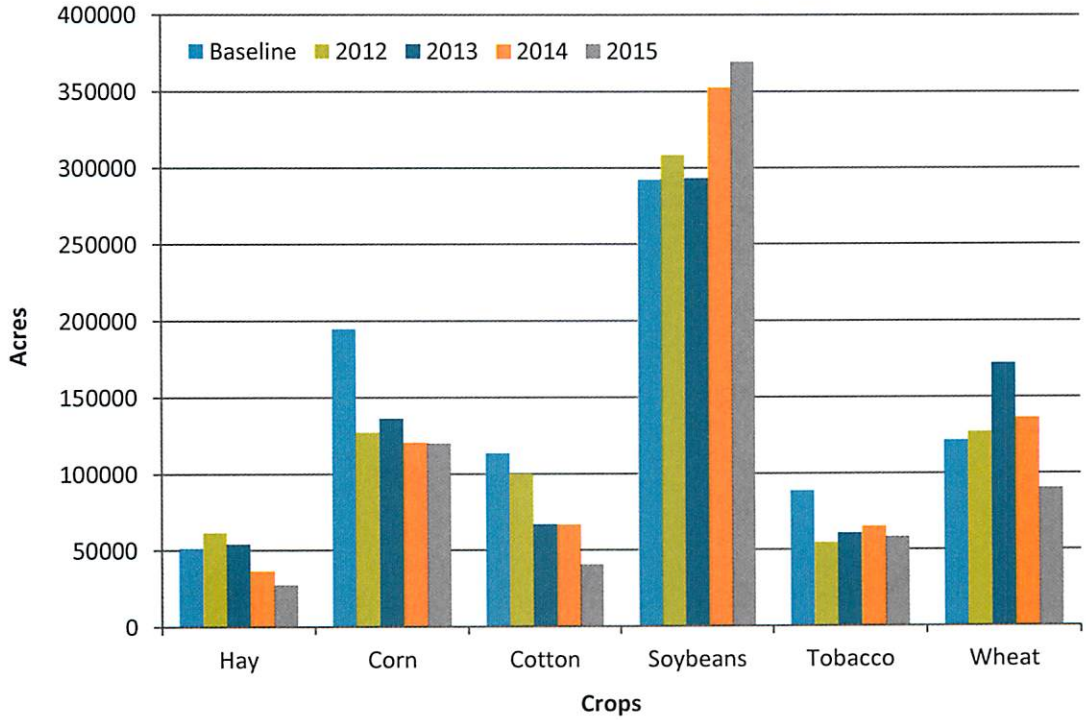


Cropping Shifts

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

The price of corn remained low in CY2015, so corn acres remained fairly stable compared to CY2014. Cotton prices have fallen almost 56% from a 2011 peak, so cotton decreased by over 25,000 acres from CY2014 to CY2015. Soybean acres, which require no nitrogen input, saw a significant increase of over 16,000 acres between CY2014 and CY2015, and this transition helped reduce overall nitrogen loss. In addition, an extremely wet fall prevented many farmers from accessing their fields in time to plant a crop of winter wheat. In most cases wheat acres are "double cropped" with soybeans, which means that wheat acres are planted on the same acreage before a spring soybean crop. In CY2015, soybean acreages were accounted for in these double cropped systems, but some of those acres were not fertilized over the winter months where a wheat crop was not planted. This resulted in an overall decrease of over 46,000 wheat acres between CY2014 and CY2015. A host of factors from individual to global determine crop choices.

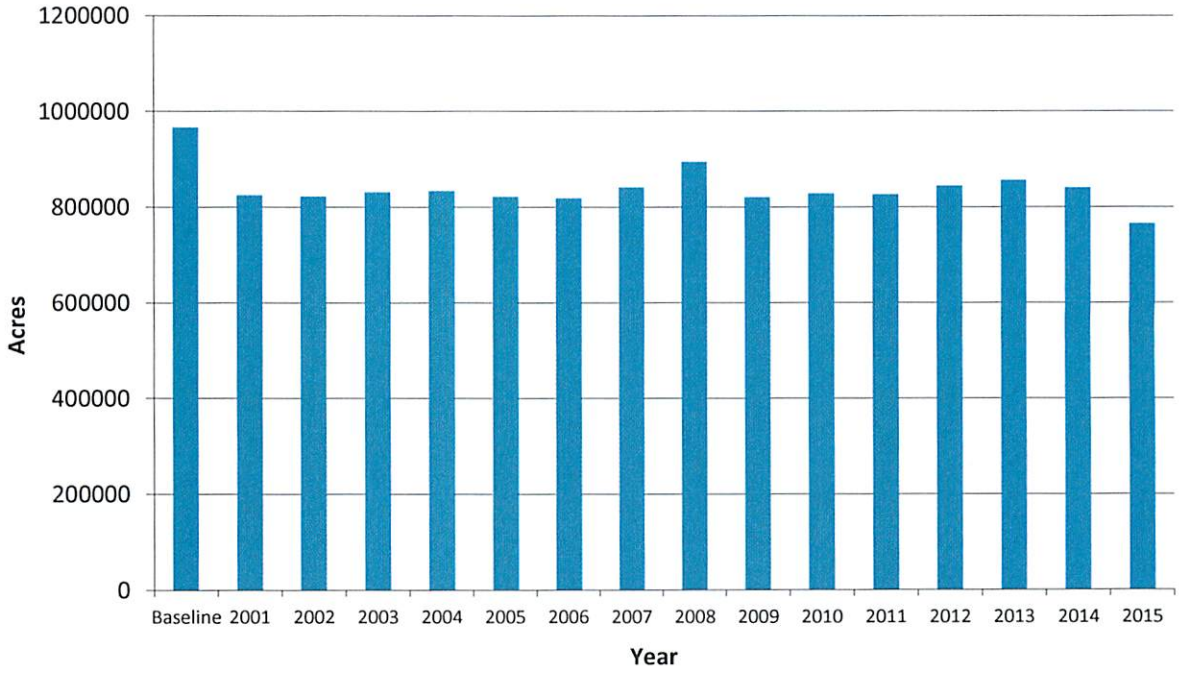
Figure 4. Acreage of Major Crops for the Baseline (1991-1995) and 2012-2015, Neuse River Basin



Land Use Change to Development, Idle Land and Cropland Conversion

The number of cropland acres will fluctuate every year in the Neuse River Basin. Each year, some cropland is permanently lost to development or converted to grass or trees. However, idle land is agricultural land that is currently out of production but could be brought back into production at any time. Cropland conversion and cropland lost to development is land taken out of agricultural production and is unlikely to be returned to production. Currently it is estimated that more than 81,078 acres have been lost to development, and more than 21,756 acres have been converted to grass or trees since the baseline. For CY2015 there are approximately 45,004 idle acres and a total of 765,898 NLEW-accountable crop acres. These estimates come from the LAC members' best professional judgment, USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) records and county planning departments. The total crop acres are obtained from USDA-FSA and NC Agricultural Statistics annual reports. Cropland acres have continued to decrease from the baseline period, and CY2015 experienced a reduction of over 74,903 crop acres from CY2014 (see Figure 5). A significant portion of this acreage reduction was due to the reduction in wheat, some of which would have been planted but for wet weather.

Figure 5. Total NLEW Accounted Crop Acres in the Neuse River Basin, Baseline (1991-1995) and 2001-2015.



Looking Forward

The Neuse BOC will continue to report on rule implementation, relying heavily on Soil and Water Conservation District staff to compile crop reports. The BOC continues to encourage counties to implement additional BMPs to further reduce nitrogen loss.

Because cropping shifts are susceptible to various pressures, the BOC is working with LACs in all counties to continue BMP implementation that provides for a lasting reduction in nitrogen loss in the basin while monitoring cropping changes. Due to an extremely wet fall growing season in late 2015, the BOC expects reported wheat acre totals in CY2016 to remain low. Indications are that corn acreage will increase in CY2016 due to a price increase.

Basin Oversight Committee recognizes the dynamic nature of agricultural business.

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

Funding is an integral part in the success of reaching and maintaining the goal through technical assistance and BMP implementation. It is also important for data collection and reporting.

In 2001, grants funded a total of ten basin technicians and two basin coordinators in the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins. The technicians' primary responsibility was to assist farmers with BMP implementation. These technicians assisted existing county staff to expedite the installation of nutrient reducing BMPs in the basin. On June 30, 2015 the last technician funding was expended, and technician funding is no longer eligible for grant awards by funding entities in the state. Therefore, less technical assistance for BMP implementation is available. Ongoing responsibility for conservation practice planning and installation now depends on local staff that also have other duties.

At the present time there is also no funding for a basin coordinator. Part of the responsibilities of the technicians and basin coordinators was to assist with the reporting requirements for the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico Agriculture Rules. In addition to his other duties, an employee within the NCSA&CS Division of Soil and Water Conservation has been assigned the data collection, compilation and reporting duties for the Agriculture Rules for all existing Nutrient Sensitive Waters Strategies.

Farmers and agency staff personnel with other responsibilities serve on the LACs in a voluntary capacity. Without funding for technicians, the annual local progress reports fall on the LACs without local technical assistance to compile the data for the annual reports. Few currently serving LAC members were active during the stakeholder process for the Agriculture Rule, so some institutional knowledge about annual reporting requirements has been lost. As a result,

training of new Soil and Water Conservation District staff and LAC members regarding rule requirements and reporting is ongoing.

Now that watershed technician funding has been eliminated, a more centralized approach to data collection and verification is necessary. This evolving approach will involve GIS analysis and more streamlined FSA acreage documentation. The LACs will be trained to handle the new workload to the best of their ability. Because district staff has neither the time nor financial resources to synthesize county level data, this centralized approach will come at the expense of local knowledge. Annual agricultural reporting is required by the rules; therefore continued funding for the Division's remaining position is essential for compliance.

Previously, funding was available for research on conservation practice effectiveness, realistic yields, and nitrogen use efficiencies. Due to eligibility changes and other funding constraints, it is unlikely that new data will be developed. Prior funding sources for such research, which provided much of the scientific information on which NLEW was based, are no longer available. Should new funding be made available, additional North Carolina-specific research information could be incorporated into future NLEW updates.

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

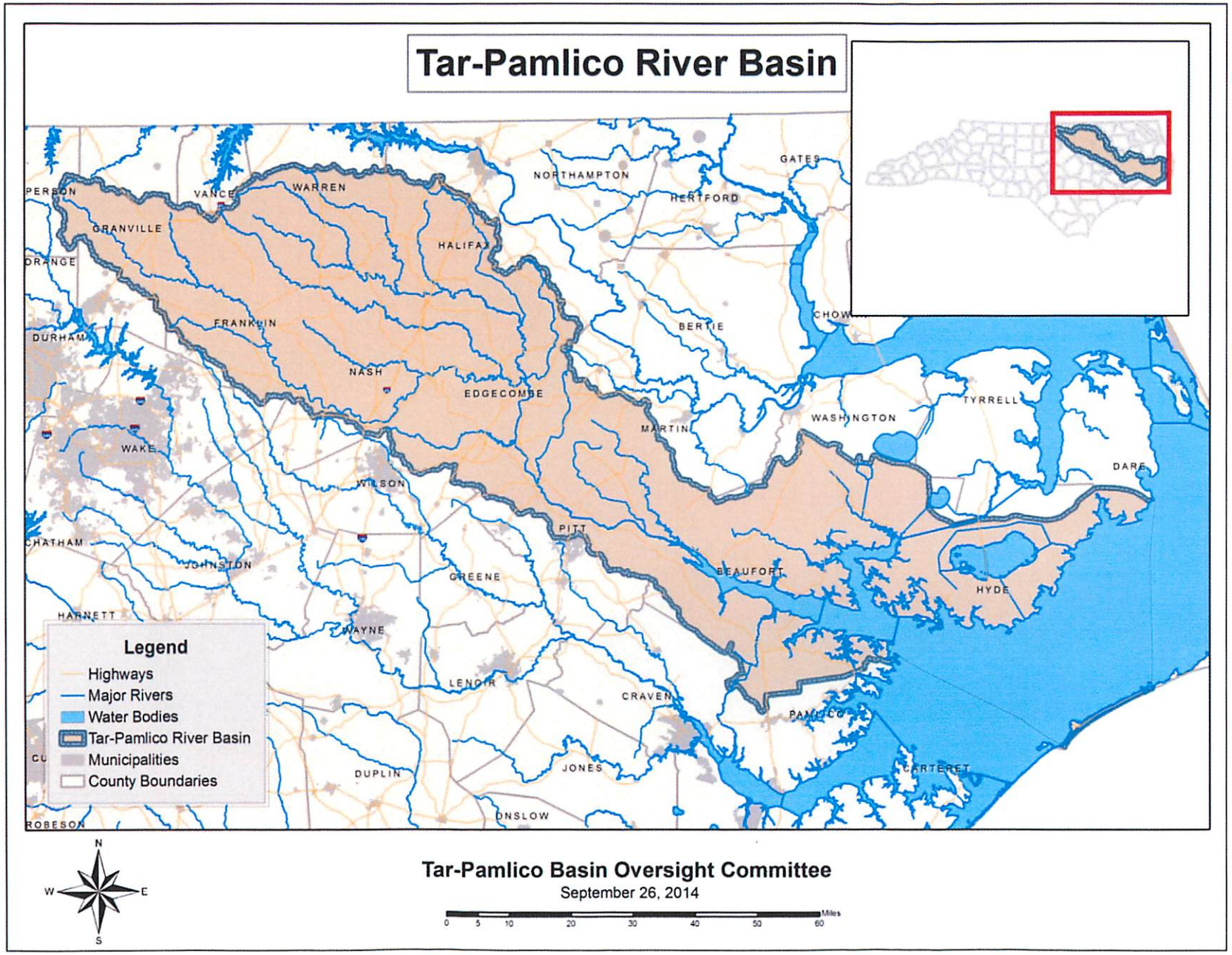
Significant progress has been made in agricultural nitrogen loss reduction, and the agricultural community consistently reaches its 30% reduction goal. However, the measurable effects of these BMPs on overall in-stream nitrogen reduction may take years to develop due to the nature of non-point source pollution. Nitrogen reduction values presented in this annual summary of agricultural reductions reflect "edge-of-management unit" calculations that contribute to achieving the overall 30% nitrogen loss reduction goal. Significant quantities of agricultural BMPs have been installed since the adoption and implementation of the nutrient management strategy, and agriculture continues to do its part towards achieving the overall goal of a 30% reduction of nitrogen delivered to the Neuse estuary.

ATTACHMENT 7

NCDA&CS

2016 Annual Progress Report (Crop Year 2015) on the Tar-Pamlico Agricultural Rule (15A NCAC 02B .0256)

A Report to the Environmental Management Commission from the Tar-Pamlico Basin Oversight Committee: Crop Year 2015



Tar-Pamlico Basin Oversight Committee

September 26, 2014

Summary

The Tar-Pamlico Basin Oversight Committee (BOC) received and approved crop year[1] (CY) 2015 annual reports from the fourteen Local Advisory Committees (LACs) operating under the Tar-Pamlico Agriculture Rule as part of the Tar-Pamlico Basin Nutrient Management Strategy. The report demonstrates agriculture's ongoing collective compliance with the Tar-Pamlico Agriculture Rule and estimates further progress in decreasing nutrient losses. In CY2015, agriculture collectively achieved an estimated 58% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the 1991 baseline, continuing to exceed the rule-mandated 30% reduction. Thirteen of the 14 LAC's exceeded the 30% reduction goal established by the BOC. The main reason for the greater nitrogen reduction in these counties is shifts to crops with lower nitrogen demands and application rates. Phosphorus tracking in the basin indicates less risk of phosphorus loss during CY2015 than in the baseline year for 8 of the 9 qualitative indicators.

Rule Requirements and Compliance History

Tar-Pamlico NSW Strategy

The Environmental Management Commission (EMC) adopted the Tar-Pamlico nutrient strategy in 2000. The management strategy built upon the precedent-setting Neuse River Basin effort established three years earlier, which for the first time set regulatory reduction measures for nutrients on cropland acres in the state. The NSW strategy goal is to reduce the average annual load of nitrogen to the Pamlico estuary by 30% from 1991 levels and to limit phosphorus loading to 1991 levels. Mandatory controls were applied to address non-point source pollution in agriculture, urban stormwater, nutrient management, and riparian buffer protection. As of 2016, the Pamlico estuary is still classified as impaired and is not meeting its 30 percent nitrogen loading reduction goals.

Effective September 2001, the Tar-Pamlico Nutrient Sensitive Waters Management Strategy (NSW) provides for a collective strategy for farmers to meet the 30% nitrogen loss reduction and no-increase phosphorus goals within five years. A BOC and fourteen LACs were established to implement the rule and to assist farmers with complying with the rule.

All fourteen Local Advisory Committees (LACs) submitted their first annual report to the BOC in November 2003, which collectively estimated a 39% nitrogen loss reduction, and 10 of 14 LACs exceeded the 30% individually. Collective reductions gradually increased in succeeding years, and by CY2007 only one LAC was shy of the 30% individually.

Division of Soil and Water Conservation staff uses input from the LACs to calculate their annual reductions using the Nitrogen Loss Estimation Worksheet (NLEW). All fourteen LACs met as required in 2016, and based on their input the collective reduction of 58% exceeded the mandated 30% in CY2015. One county fell below the 30% goal established by the BOC (Martin).

[1] The 2015 crop year began in October 2014 and ended in September 2015.

Scope of Report and Methodology

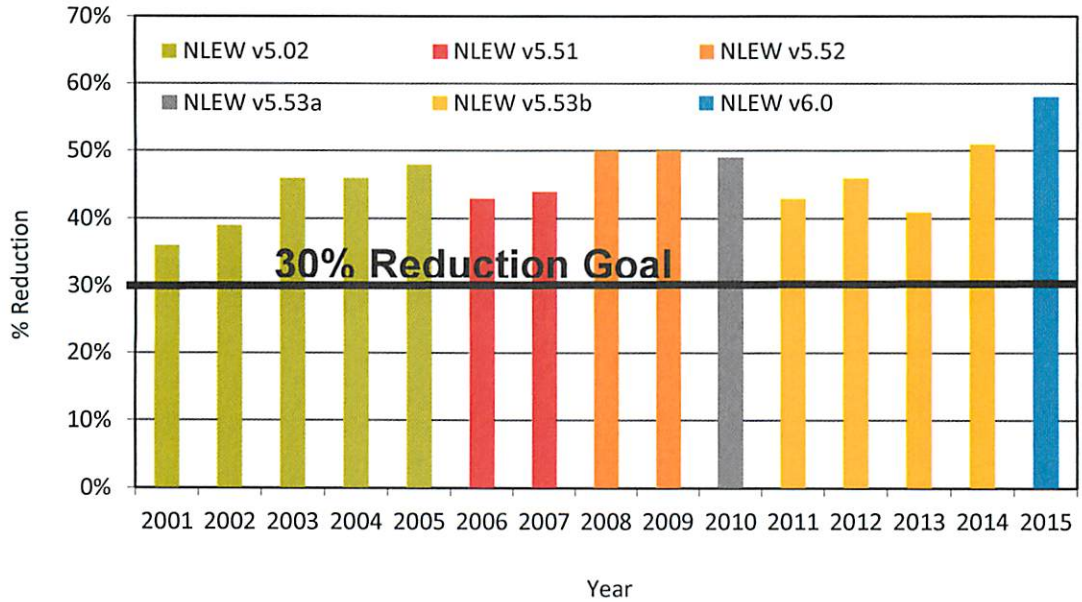
The estimates provided in this report represent whole-county scale calculations of nitrogen loss from cropland agriculture in the basin made by Division of Soil and Water Conservation staff using the 'aggregate' version of NLEW, an accounting tool developed to meet the specifications of the Neuse Rule and approved by the EMC for use in the Tar-Pamlico Basin. The development team included interagency technical representatives of the NC Division of Water Resources (DWR), NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation (DSWC), USDA-NRCS and was led by NC State University Soil Science Department faculty. NLEW captures application of both inorganic and animal waste sources of fertilizer to cropland. It is an "edge-of-management unit" accounting tool that estimates changes in nitrogen loss from croplands, but does not estimate changes in nitrogen loading to surface waters. An assessment method was developed for phosphorus, approved by the EMC, and is described later in the report.

Annual Estimates of N Loss and the Effect of NLEW Refinements

The NLEW software is periodically revised to incorporate new knowledge gained through research and improvements to data. These changes have incorporated the best available data, but changes to NLEW must be considered when comparing nitrogen loss reduction in different versions of NLEW. Further updates in soil management units are expected as NRCS produces updated electronic soils data. The small changes in soil management units are unlikely to produce significant effects on nitrogen loss reductions.

In 2016 the Division of Soil and Water Conservation worked with NC State University, NCDA&CS Emergency Programs staff, and the NCSU Cooperative Extension Service to update NLEW software into a web-based platform that incorporates updated yield expectations and nitrogen use efficiencies for crops. The NLEW software has been updated from outdated programming language and is now being housed on NCDA&CS servers. As a result of this change, sweet potatoes, which were excluded from CY2014 reporting, have been added back into the crop reports for current and baseline years, while other specialty crops, like white potatoes, remain excluded due to a lack of research data to determine a North Carolina-specific nitrogen use efficiency. The crops not included are grown on a small number of acres in the basin and are therefore a minimal contributor to overall nitrogen loss from agriculture. Other beneficial updates include server storage of annual reports, streamlined data export, and ongoing end-user data maintenance capabilities, which should enable DSWC and the BOC to incorporate new realistic yield expectations and nitrogen use efficiencies quickly and efficiently as future research is released and refined. Figure 1 represents the annual percent nitrogen loss reduction from the baseline for 2001 to 2015.

Figure 1. Collective Cropland Nitrogen Loss Reduction Percent 2001 to 2015, Tar Pamlico River Basin.



The first NLEW reports were run in 2001, and agriculture has continued to exceed its collective 30% nitrogen reduction goal since that time. The first NLEW revision (v5.51) updated soil management units and marked a significant change in the nitrogen reduction efficiencies of buffers, so both the baseline and CY2005 were re-calculated based on the best available information. The second (v5.52) and third (v5.53a) revisions were administrative and included minor updates to soil mapping units and realistic yields. In April of 2011 the NLEW Committee established further reductions (v5.53b) in nitrogen removal efficiencies for buffers based on additional research. As mentioned above, in 2016 NLEW software was updated (v6.0) from outdated software and transferred to a web-based platform on NCDA&CS servers. Revised realistic yield and nitrogen use efficiency data from NCSU was incorporated, and some minor calculation errors were corrected for corn and sweet potatoes. Table 1 lists the changes in buffer nitrogen reduction efficiencies over time.

Table 1. Changes in Buffer Width Options and Nitrogen Reduction Efficiencies in NLEW

Buffer Width	NLEW v5.02* % N Reduction 2001-2005	NLEW v5.51, v5.52, v5.53a % N Reduction 2006-2010	NLEW v5.53b, v6.0 % N Reduction 2011-Current
20'	40% (grass)	30%	20%
	75% (trees & shrubs)		
30'	65%	40%	25%
50'	85%	50%	30%
70'	85%	55%	30%
100'	85%	60%	35%

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

Current Status

Nitrogen Reduction from Baseline for CY2015

All fourteen LACs submitted their fifteenth annual report to the BOC in August 2016. For the entire basin, in CY2015 agriculture achieved a 58% reduction in nitrogen loss compared to the 1991 baseline. This year 13 of the 14 LACs achieved the at-least 30% nitrogen loss reduction goal set by the BOC. Table 2 lists each county's baseline, CY2014 and CY2015 nitrogen (lbs/yr) loss values, and nitrogen loss percent reductions from the baseline in CY2014 and CY2015.

*Table 2. Estimated Reductions in Agricultural Nitrogen Loss from Baseline (1991) for CY2014 and CY2015, Tar-Pamlico River Basin**

County	Baseline N Loss (lb)* NLEW v6.0	CY2014 N Loss (lb) † NLEW v5.53b	CY2014 N Reduction (%) NLEW † v5.53b	CY2015 N Loss (lb)* NLEW v5.33b	CY2015 N Reduction (%) NLEW v5.33b
Beaufort	9,178,262	5,526,800	40%	4,244,911	54%
Edgecombe	5,037,742	2,601,962	48%	2,630,701	48%
Franklin	2,183,680	468,974	78%	445,045	80%
Granville	890,371	160,730	82%	128,408	86%
Halifax	2,902,105	1,471,470	47%	1,488,405	49%
Hyde	5,501,161	3,222,700	35%	2,335,580	58%
Martin	782,152	567,557	27%	564,012	28%
Nash	4,693,868	1,118,526	74%	1,430,501	70%
Person	153,228	55,425	64%	70,349	54%
Pitt	6,229,921	2,706,244	56%	2,391,709	62%
Vance	419,485	131,930	69%	96,401	77%
Warren	535,517	159,204	70%	108,974	80%
Washington	939,912	453,491	47%	432,816	54%
Wilson	890,691	346,689	59%	428,189	52%
Total	40,338,095	18,991,702†	51%†	16,796,001	58%

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

† CY2014 values were calculated with sweet potato acres removed from current and baseline year figures. The numbers shown were copied from the 2015 report for the sake of consistency, but the CY2014 reductions shown cannot be compared to the baseline nitrogen loss shown in the table, which was calculated using NLEW v6.0 and includes sweet potatoes.

Nitrogen loss reductions were achieved through the combination of fertilization rate decreases, cropping shifts, BMP implementation, and cropland acreage fluctuation. In addition to wet weather, the most significant factor is shifts from crops which require high nitrogen inputs to crops which require little or no nitrogen. Martin County's individual nitrogen reduction of 28% is below the BOC's county goal of 30% due mostly to cropping shifts and the fact that the county has only reduced cropland acres by 2,212 from baseline. This county saw wheat decrease by 2,175 acres while soybeans, which require lower nitrogen inputs, increased by 1,077 acres. The Division of Soil and Water Conservation will support the LAC in encouraging

BMP implementation in order to increase their reduction. Overall, NLEW estimates the following factors contributed to the total nitrogen loss reduction according to the percentages shown in Table 3.

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

Factor	CY2012 NLEW v5.53b	CY2013 NLEW v5.53b	CY2014 NLEW v5.53b	CY2015 NLEW v6.0
BMP implementation	10%	8%	12%	14%
Fertilization Management	17%	20%	18%	15%
Cropping shift	10%	6%	10%	17%
Cropland converted to grass/trees	5%	5%	5%	5%
Cropland lost to idle land	4%	1%	5%	6%
Cropland lost to development	1%	1%	1%	1%
TOTAL	46%	41%	51%	58%

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

BMP Implementation

As illustrated in Figure 2, CY2015 yielded a net increase of 68 acres affected by water control structures and a decrease of 1,653 acres of nutrient scavenger crops, while buffer acres increased by 21.

The Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Natural Resources Conservation Service staff continue to make refinements to the NLEW accounting process as opportunities arise. The BMP data is collected from state and federal cost share program active contracts, and in some cases BMPs that were installed without cost share funding. While there is some opportunity for variability in the data reported, LACs are including data that is the best information currently available. As additional sound data sources become available, the LACs will review these sources and update their methodology for reporting if warranted.

Overall, the total acres of implementation of BMPs have increased since the baseline, as illustrated in Figure 2. When actual acres of BMPs installed through federal, state and local cost share programs are compared to the total cropland (614,715 acres), over half of all reported cropland receives some kind of BMP treatment. The treatment estimate is probably greater, however, because it does not take into account the entire drainage area treated by buffers in the piedmont, which is generally 5 to 10 times higher than the actual acres of the buffer shown in Figure 2.[2]

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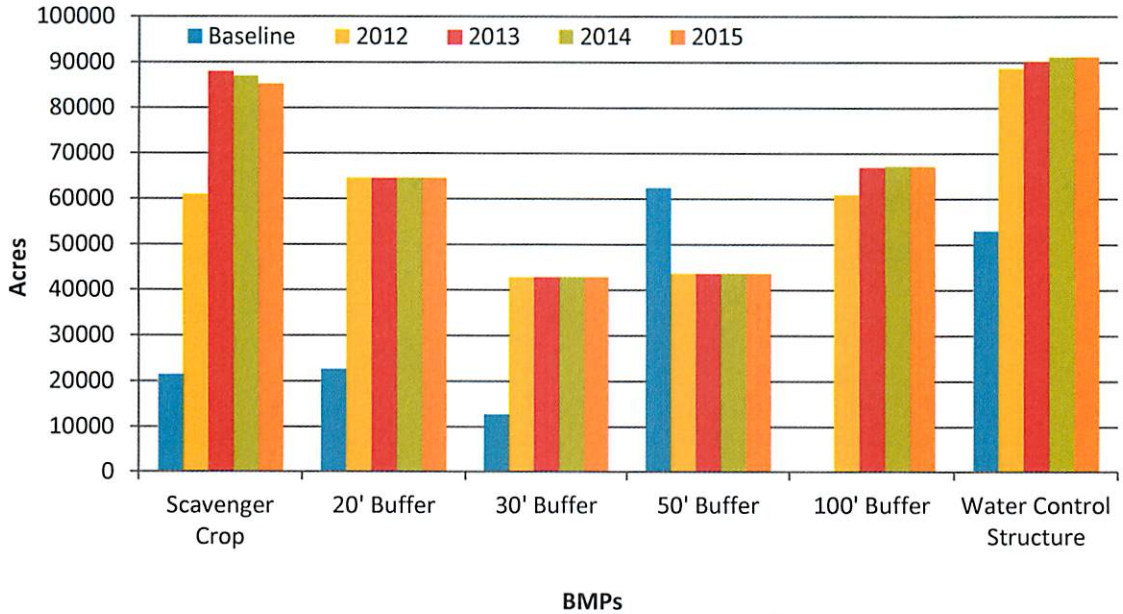
[1] **Bruton, Jeffrey Griffin. 2004. Headwater Catchments: Estimating Surface Drainage Extent Across North Carolina and Correlations Between Landuse, Near Stream, and Water Quality Indicators in the Piedmont Physiographic Region. Ph.D.**

From 2001 through 2006, the NLEW program captured buffers 50' and wider as one category. After the 2007 update, categories for 70' and 100' buffers were added. In CY2006 the buffers larger than 50' were redistributed into these new categories. If this redistribution had not occurred the 50' buffer acres would have been higher in subsequent years.

*Figure 2: Nutrient Reducing BMPs Present on Agricultural Lands for Baseline (1991) and Installed from 2012-2015, Tar-Pamlico River Basin**



**The acres of buffers listed represent actual acres. Acres affected by the buffer could be 5 to 10 times larger in the Piedmont than the acreage shown above*[1]

Additional Nutrient BMPs

At the field level, a number of BMPs contribute to nutrient reduction and subsequent water quality improvement. Not all BMP types are tracked by NLEW. These include: livestock-related nitrogen and phosphorus reducing BMPs, BMPs that reduce soil and phosphorus loss, and BMPs that do not have enough scientific research to support estimating a nitrogen benefit. The BOC believes it is worthwhile to recognize these practices. Table 4 identifies BMPs not accounted for in NLEW and tracks their implementation in the basin since CY2012.

Increased implementation numbers are evident in CY2015 across all BMP types since the baseline. Some of these BMPs will yield reductions in nitrogen loss that are not reflected in the NLEW accounting in this report but will benefit the estuary.

Dissertation. Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27606.http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/theses/available/etd-03282004-174056/

*Table 4: Nutrient-Reducing Best Management Practices Not Accounted for in NLEW, 2012-2015, Tar-Pamlico River Basin**

BMP	Units	2012	2013	2014	2015
Diversion	Feet	398,291	425,596	428,696	433,166
Fencing (USDA Programs)	Feet	241,732	256,384	256,384	261,884
Field Border	Acres	1,264	1,284	1,289	1,297
Grassed Waterway	Acres	2,475	2,518	2,524	2,569
Livestock Exclusion	Feet	233,061	238,676	238,676	239,281
Sod Based Rotation	Acres	52,502	70,456	70,596	80,836
Tillage Management	Acres	46,808	52,185	52,428	55,878
Terraces	Feet	371,936	371,936	371,936	371,936

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

Fertilization Management

Both increased fertilizer cost and better nutrient management have resulted in farmers in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin reducing their nitrogen application from baseline levels. Figure 3 indicates that nitrogen rates for the major crops in the basin have reduced from the baseline period.

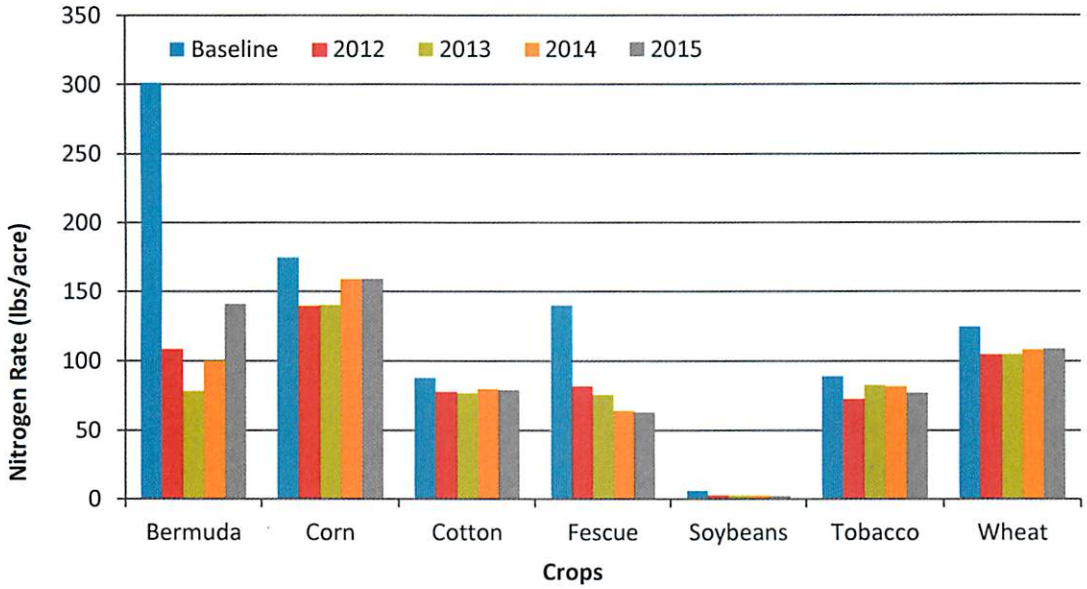
In CY2015 nitrogen rates were stable for corn, cotton, fescue, soybeans, and wheat, increased for bermuda, and decreased for tobacco compared to CY2014. Most pastures are under-fertilized throughout the Tar-Pamlico basin. The pasture and hayland are typically not supplemented with inorganic fertilizers.

With increasing fertilizer prices, there has been an economic incentive for producers to consider more efficient nitrogen rates, timing, and placement alternatives. Fertilizer rates and standard application practices are revisited annually by LACs using data from farmers, commercial applicators and state and federal agencies' professional estimates.

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

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

Figure 3. Average Annual Nitrogen Fertilization Rate (lb/ac) for the Major Agricultural Crops for the Baseline (1991) and 2012-2015, Tar-Pamlico River Basin

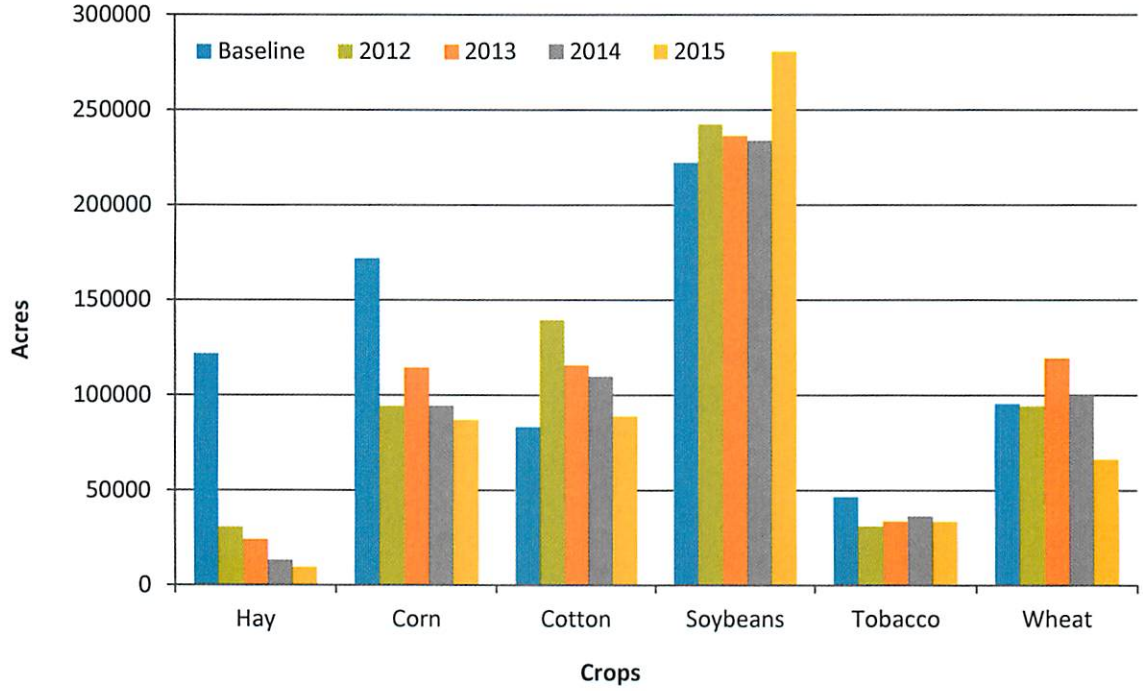


Cropping Shifts

The LACs calculated the cropland acreage by utilizing crop data reported by farmers to the USDA-Farm Service Agency. Each crop requires different amounts of nitrogen and utilizes 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. The BOC anticipates that the basin will see additional crop shifts in the upcoming year based on changing commodity prices and wet weather.

Figure 4 shows crop acres and shifts for the last four years compared to the baseline. Some crops have remained relatively stable, while others show more volatility. Cotton prices have fallen almost 56% from a 2011 peak, so cotton acreage continued a steady decline in CY2015. In addition, low corn prices resulted in a reduction of corn acreage, with some of the reduction likely resulting in a soybean increase of 46,735 acres. However, a recent corn price increase is expected to result in an increase in corn acres for CY2016, so it is unclear which of these trends will continue. In addition, an extremely wet fall prevented many farmers from accessing their fields in time to plant a crop of winter wheat. In most cases wheat acres are "double cropped" with soybeans, which means that wheat acres are planted on the same acreage before a spring soybean crop. In CY2015, soybean acreages were accounted for in these double cropped systems, but some of those acres were not fertilized over the winter months where a wheat crop was not planted. This resulted in an overall decrease of almost 34,000 wheat acres between CY2014 and CY2015. A host of factors from individual to global determine crop choices.

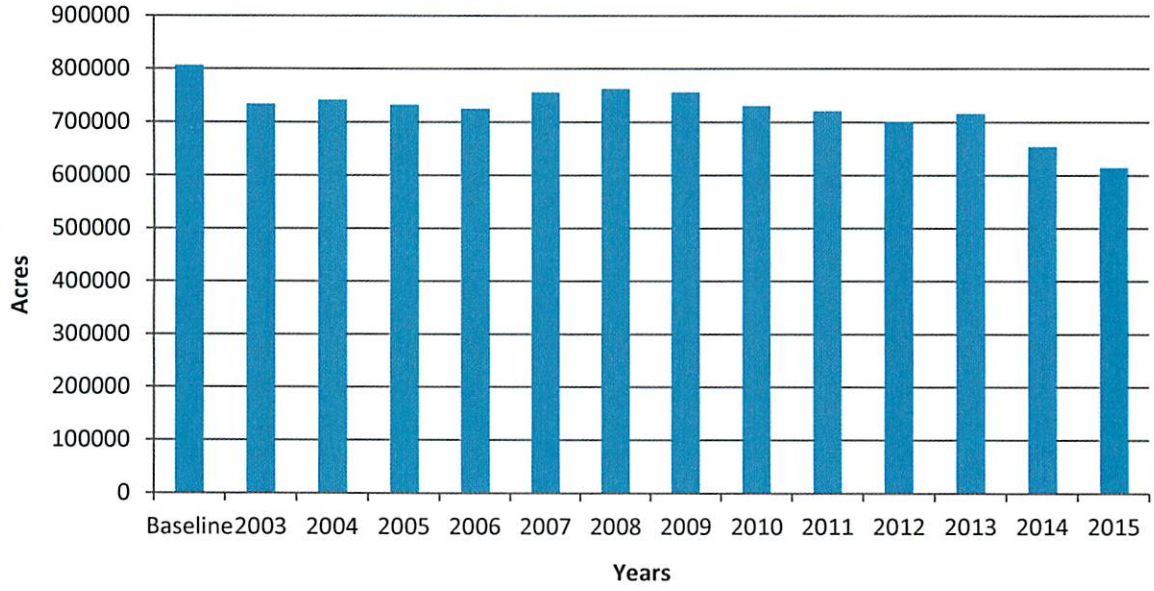
Figure 4. Acreage of Major Crops for the Baseline (1991) and 2012-2015, Tar-Pamlico River Basin



Land Use Change to Development, Idle Land and Cropland Conversion

The number of cropland acres fluctuates every year in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin due to cropland conversion, idle land and development. Each year, some cropland is permanently lost to development or converted to grass or trees and likely to be ultimately lost from agricultural production. Idle land is agricultural land that is currently out of production but could be brought back into production at any time. Currently it is estimated that approximately 12,650 acres have been permanently lost to development in the basin and more than 47,007 acres have been converted to grass or trees since the 1991 baseline. For CY2015 it is estimated that there are approximately 52,955 idle acres. There is a total of 614,715 NLEW-accountable acres of cropland (see Fig. 5). In addition to these changes, LACs have noted that over 2,556 cropland acres have been lost to newly leased and constructed solar farms. This total will be updated in future years, but it is uncertain if this should be considered a permanent or temporary loss of cropland. If a landowner terminates a lease after the 30-year contract expires, it is possible that the land may be returned to its previous use. All of the above estimates come from the LAC members' best professional judgment, USDA-FSA records and county planning department data. The total crop acres are obtained from USDA-FSA and NC Agricultural Statistics annual reports. Cropland acres have continued to decrease from the baseline period (see Figure 5).

Figure 5. NLEW-Accounted Cropland Acres in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin, Baseline (1991) and 2003-2015



Phosphorus

Phosphorus Indicators for CY2015: The qualitative indicators included in Table 5 show the relative changes in land use and management parameters and their relative effect on phosphorus loss risk in the basin. This approach was recommended by the Phosphorus Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) in 2005 due to the difficulty of developing an aggregate phosphorus tool parallel to the nitrogen NLEW tool and was approved by the EMC. Table 5 builds upon the data provided in the 2005 PTAC report, which included all available data at the time ending with data from 2003. This report adds phosphorus indicator data for CY2012 through CY2015. With the exception of animal waste P, all other parameters indicate less risk of phosphorus loss than in the baseline year.

Phosphorous Technical Assistance Committee (PTAC)

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

Contributing to the reduced risk of phosphorus loss is the increase of nutrient reducing BMPs in the basin. As indicated in Table 5, the acres affected in the basin by water control structures have steadily increased over the past three years. It should also be noted that the soil test phosphorus median number reported for the basin fluctuates each year due to the nature of how the data is collected and compiled. The soil test phosphorus median numbers shown in Table 5 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 only includes samples submitted for cropland. It does not include soil tests that were submitted to private laboratories. The soil test results from the NCDA&CS database represent data from entire counties in the basin, and have not been adjusted to include only those samples collected in the river basin area.

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

Parameter	Units	Source	1991 Baseline	CY 2012	CY 2013	CY2014	CY2015	1991 - 2015 Change	CY2015 P Loss Risk +/-
Agricultural land	Acres	FSA	807,026	702,227	716,289	653,954	614,715	-24%	-
Cropland conversion (to grass & trees)	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	660	42,330	46,647	46,837	47,007	7022%	-
CRP / WRP (cumulative)	Acres	USDA-NRCS	19,241	41,833	41,833	41,833	41,833	117%	-
Conservation Tillage * (cumulative)	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	41,415	46,808	52,185	52,428	55,878**	35%	-
Vegetated buffers (cumulative)	Acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	50,836	212,212	218,236	218,419	218,440	330%	-
Water control structures (cumulative)	Acres Affected	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	52,984	88,755	90,356	91,240	91,308	72%	-
Scavenger crop	Acres	LAC	13,272	73,177	92,269	83,700	85,380	543%	-
Animal waste P	lbs of P/ yr	NC Ag Statistics	13,597,734	16,561,052	16,880,526	14,530,827	15,013,151	10%	+
Soil test P median	P Index	NCDA&CS	83	85	85	81	79	-5%	-

** Conservation tillage is being practiced on additional acres but this number only reflects active cost share contract acres, not acres where contracts have expired or where farmers have implemented conservation tillage without cost share assistance.*
***According to the 2012 Ag Census, conservation tillage (including no-till) was practiced on 420,550 crop acres in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin.*[3]

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

[3] USDA NASS, 2012 Census of Agriculture, Census by Watershed (HUC 030201). Available at:
www.agcensus.usda.gov/ Publications/2012/Online_Resources/Watersheds/sag03.pdf

Looking Forward

The Tar-Pamlico BOC will continue to report on rule implementation, relying heavily on Soil and Water Conservation District staff to compile crop reports. The BOC continues to encourage counties to implement additional BMPs to further reduce nutrient losses.

Because cropping shifts are susceptible to various pressures, the BOC is working with LACs in all counties to continue BMP implementation that provides for a lasting reduction in nitrogen loss in the basin while monitoring cropping changes. Due to an extremely wet fall growing season in late 2015, the BOC expects reported wheat acre totals in CY2016 to remain low. Indications are that corn acreage will increase in CY2016 due to a price increase.

Basin Oversight Committee recognizes the dynamic nature of agricultural business.

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

Funding is an integral part in the success of reaching and maintaining the goal through technical assistance and BMP implementation. It is also important for data collection and reporting.

In 2001, grants funded a total of ten basin technicians and two basin coordinators in the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins. The technicians' primary responsibility was to assist farmers with BMP implementation. These technicians assisted existing county staff to expedite the installation of nutrient reducing BMPs in the basin. On June 30, 2015 the last technician funding was expended, and technician funding is no longer eligible for grant awards by funding entities in the state. Therefore, less technical assistance for BMP implementation is available. Ongoing responsibility for conservation practice planning and installation now depends on local staff that also have other duties.

At the present time there is also no funding for a basin coordinator. Part of the responsibilities of the technicians and basin coordinators was to assist with the reporting requirements for the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico Agriculture Rules. In addition to his other duties, an employee within the NCSA&CS Division of Soil and Water Conservation has been assigned the data collection, compilation and reporting duties for the Agriculture Rules for all existing Nutrient Sensitive Waters Strategies.

Farmers and agency staff personnel with other responsibilities serve on the LACs in a voluntary capacity. Without funding for technicians, the annual local progress reports fall on the LACs without local technical assistance to compile the data for the annual reports. Few currently serving LAC members were active during the stakeholder process for the Agriculture Rule, so some institutional knowledge about annual reporting requirements has been lost. As a result,

training of new Soil and Water Conservation District staff and LAC members regarding rule requirements and reporting is ongoing.

Now that watershed technician funding has been eliminated, a more centralized approach to data collection and verification is necessary. This evolving approach will involve GIS analysis and more streamlined FSA acreage documentation. The LACs will be trained to handle the new workload to the best of their ability. Because district staff has neither the time nor financial resources to synthesize county level data, this centralized approach will come at the expense of local knowledge. Annual agricultural reporting is required by the rules; therefore continued funding for the Division's remaining position is essential for compliance.

The BOC will consider data from relevant studies as they are completed and become available and will consider the results as they relate to nutrient loadings from land based sources and uses. Previously, funding was available for research on conservation practice effectiveness, realistic yields, and nitrogen use efficiencies. Due to eligibility changes and other funding constraints, it is unlikely that new data will be developed. Prior funding sources for such research, which provided much of the scientific information on which NLEW was based, are no longer available. Should new funding be made available, additional North Carolina-specific research information could be incorporated into future NLEW updates.

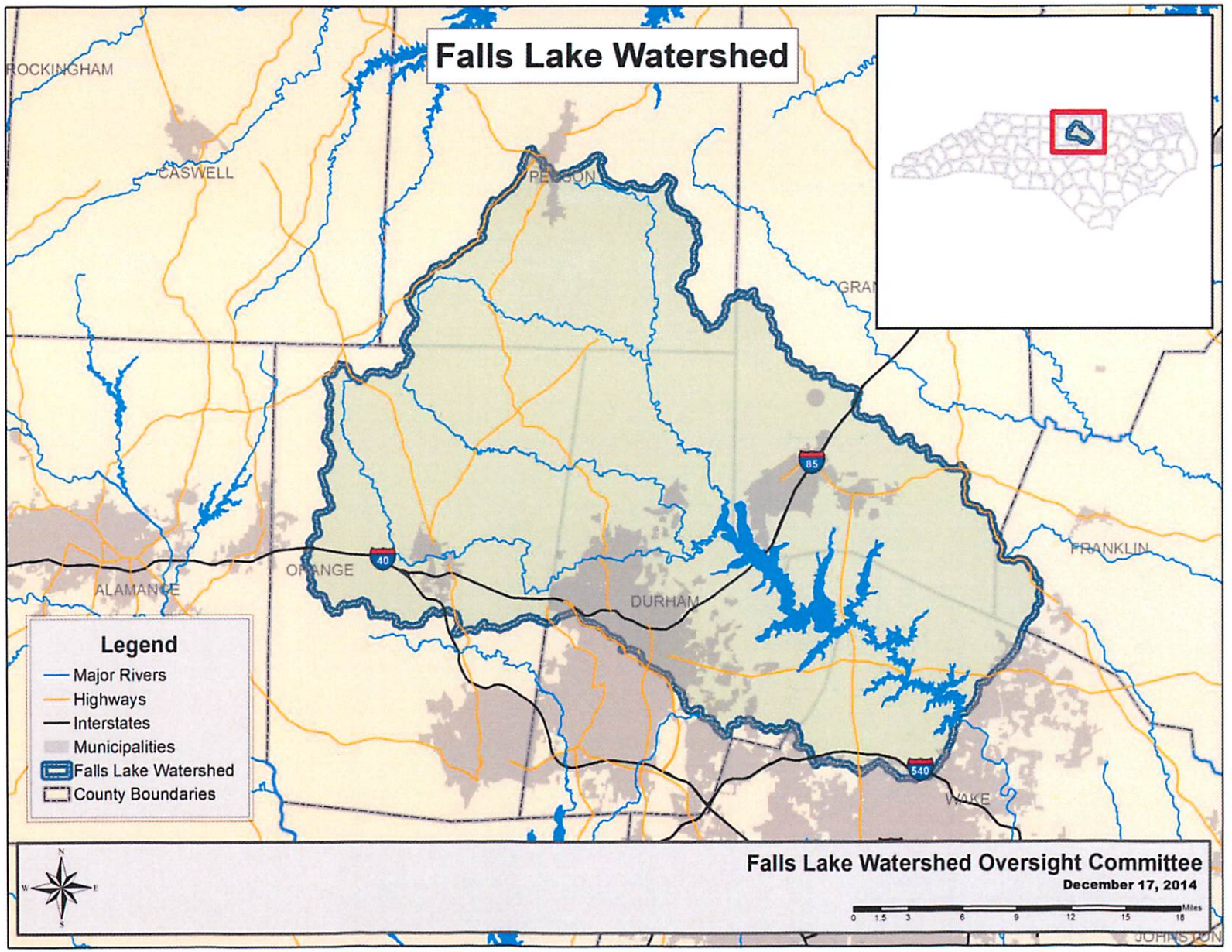
Significant progress has been made in agricultural nitrogen loss reduction, and the agricultural community consistently reaches its 30% reduction goal. However, the measurable effects of these BMPs on overall in-stream nitrogen reduction may take years to develop due to the nature of non-point source pollution. Nitrogen reduction values presented in this annual summary of agricultural reductions reflect "edge-of-management unit" calculations that contribute to achieving the overall 30% nitrogen loss reduction goal. Significant quantities of agricultural BMPs have been installed since the adoption and implementation of the nutrient management strategy, and agriculture continues to do its part towards achieving the overall goal of a 30% reduction of nitrogen delivered to the Pamlico estuary.

ATTACHMENT 7

NCDA&CS

2016 Annual Progress Report (Crop Year 2015) on Agricultural Operations' Stage 1 Reductions for the Falls Lake Agriculture Rule (15 A NCAC 02B.0280)

A Report to the Environmental Management Commission from the Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee: Crop Year 2015


Falls Lake Watershed
ROCKINGHAM
CASWELL
PERSON
GRAN
FRANKLIN
ALAMANCE
ORANGE
DURHAM
WAKE
JOHNSTON
40
85
540
Legend
Major Rivers
Highways
Interstates
Municipalities
Falls Lake Watershed
County Boundaries
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Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee
December 17, 2014
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Summary

This report provides the annual progress report of collective progress made by the agricultural community to reduce nutrient losses toward compliance with Stage 1 of the Falls Lake Agriculture rule. For this report, the Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee (WOC) oversaw the application of accounting methods approved by the Environmental Management Commission's Water Quality Committee in March 2012 to estimate changes in nitrogen loss and phosphorus loss trends in the Falls Lake Watershed. This report is for the period between the strategy baseline (2006) and the most recent crop year (CY)[1] for which data was available, 2015. The Falls Lake WOC received and approved crop year CY2015 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 CY2015, agriculture collectively exceeded its 20% Stage I nitrogen reduction goal for cropland, with a 70% reduction compared to the 2006 baseline. All six counties exceeded the mandated 20% reduction goal this year.

Falls Lake Watershed Oversight Committee Composition, Falls Agriculture Rule:

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

Reductions in nitrogen have been achieved through an overall decrease in cropland in production, a decrease in nitrogen application rates, and an increase in best management practices (BMPs) such as 20 and 50-foot riparian buffers. Since the baseline, reported cropland acres decreased in the watershed by 24,761, of which an estimated 4,708 acres of agricultural land were lost to development. Phosphorus qualitative indicators demonstrate that there is no increased risk of phosphorus loss, with a 17% and 3% decrease in animal waste phosphorus production and tobacco acreage, respectively, and a 45% increase in cropland conversion to grass and trees since the 2006 baseline.

[1] The 2015 crop year began in October 2014 and ended in September 2015.

Rule Requirements and Compliance

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

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 modeled after similar strategies for the Neuse River, Tar-Pamlico River, and Jordan Lake.

All county Local Advisory Committees (LAC) submitted their fifth annual reports to the WOC in August 2016. Collectively, agriculture in the six counties is meeting the cropland nitrogen loss reduction goal, with a 70% reduction. Qualitative indicators for phosphorus suggest there is no increased risk of phosphorus loss from agriculture in the watershed.

In August 2016 the WOC accepted the recommendation of the Pasture Points Committee to revise the pasture accounting method. The "pasture point" system was replaced with a system that utilizes the Nitrogen Loss Estimation Worksheet (NLEW) to estimate reductions in nitrogen loss over time. This calculation is based on data collected from the USDA Census of Agriculture, the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, researchers at NC State University, the Interagency Nutrient Management Committee, and local field staff.

Scope of Report and Methodology

The estimates provided in this report represent county-scale calculations of nitrogen loss from cropland agriculture in the watershed made by the NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation (DSWC) using the 'aggregate' version of NLEW and adjusted for the percentage of each county in the Falls Lake Watershed. 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 NLEW development team included interagency technical representatives of the NC Division of Water Resources (DWR), 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. NLEW captures application of both inorganic and animal waste sources of fertilizer to cropland. It is an "edge-of-management unit" accounting tool that estimates changes in nitrogen loss from cropland and pastureland, 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 phosphorus, and are described later in the report.

In 2016 the Division of Soil and Water Conservation worked with NC State University, NCDA&CS Emergency Programs staff, and the NCSU Cooperative Extension Service to update NLEW software version 5.33b to a new version 6.0, which is a web-based platform that incorporates updated yield expectations and nitrogen use efficiencies for crops. The NLEW software has been updated from outdated programming language and is now being housed on NCDA&CS servers. Revised realistic yield and nitrogen use efficiency data from NCSU was incorporated, and some minor calculation errors were corrected for corn, sweet potatoes, and sweet corn. Beneficial updates include server storage of annual reports, streamlined data export, and ongoing end-user data maintenance capabilities, which should enable DSWC and the WOC to incorporate new realistic yield expectations and nitrogen use efficiencies quickly and efficiently as future research is released and refined.

Nitrogen Reduction from Cropland from 2006 Baseline for CY2015

All counties submitted their fifth progress reports to the WOC in August 2016. In CY2015 agriculture achieved a 70% reduction in nitrogen loss from cropland compared to the average 2006 baseline. Table 1 lists each county's baseline, CY2014 and CY2015 nitrogen (lbs/yr) loss values from cropland, along with nitrogen loss percent reductions from the baseline in CY2014 and CY2015, and Figure 1 shows annual loss percent reductions per year since CY2011, calculated with the two different versions of NLEW.

Figure 1. Collective Nitrogen Loss Reduction Percent 2011 to 2014, Falls Lake Watershed.

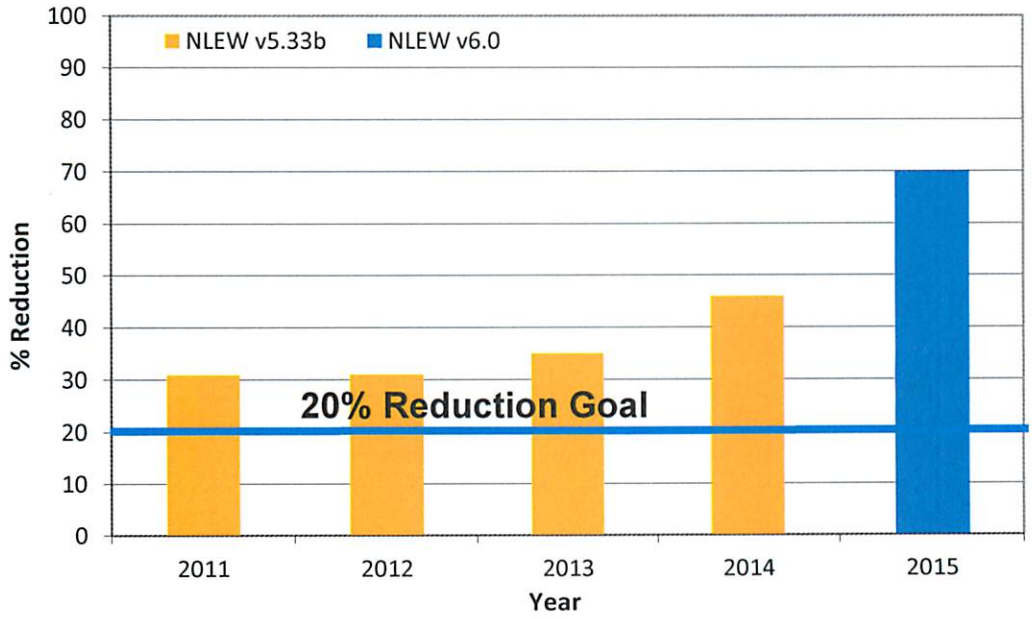

Table 1. Estimated reductions in agricultural (cropland) nitrogen loss from baseline (CY2006) for CY2014 and CY2015, Falls Lake Watershed

County	Baseline N Loss (lb) NLEW v6.0	CY2014 N Loss (lb) † NLEW v5.33b	CY2014 N Reduction (%)†	CY2015 N Loss (lb)* NLEW v6.0	CY2015 N Reduction (%)
Durham	146,090	115,682	15%	39,312	73%
Franklin	11,772	3,496	70%	3,528	70%
Granville	127,704	7,783	94%	26,701	79%
Orange	347,402	168,891	51%	109,040	69%
Person	484,123	290,598	40%	139,231	71%
Wake	52,405	41,358	10%	34,766	34%
Total	1,169,495	627,808†	46%†	352,578	70%

**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.*

† CY2014 values were calculated with sweet potato acres removed from current and baseline year figures. The numbers shown were copied from the 2015 report for the sake of consistency, but the CY2014 reductions shown cannot be compared to the baseline nitrogen loss shown in the table, which currently includes sweet potatoes.

Notably, Durham, Franklin, Granville, and Person Counties are currently reporting more than 70% nitrogen loss reduction from baseline. These counties have lost 71%, 81%, 76%, and 74% of their hay acres, respectively. Some of these acres may have been lost to development, or they may currently be idle and not receiving fertilizer application. It is possible that some of these acres are now grazed as pasture, which means that they are now accounted for in the pasture NLEW reporting framework described later in this report. Only non-grazed hay acres are accounted for in the cropland NLEW reduction calculation. In addition, Granville and Person Counties have lost 61% and 73% of their corn acres, respectively. Both of these crops generally receive higher nitrogen inputs, so the loss of this acreage is likely to significantly impact annual nitrogen loss reduction calculations. Overall, the Falls Lake Watershed is reporting a cropland nitrogen loss reduction of 70% for CY2015.

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. NLEW versions 5.33b and 6.0 for the Neuse River Basin provide 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 (see Table 2). Note that these percentages represent the net or relative percent improvement in nitrogen removal resulting from riparian buffer implementation.

Table 2. Buffer Width Options and Nitrogen Reduction Efficiencies in NLEW

Buffer Width	NLEW % N Reduction
20'	20%
30'	25%
50'	30%
100'	35%

Figure 2 illustrates the amount of buffers on cropland in the baseline (2006) and CY2015. Overall, total acres of buffers have slightly increased since the baseline (4.4%). Acres of buffers of 20 and 50 foot widths have increased, while 30 and 100 foot buffers have remained unchanged. The reported buffer acres do not take into account the entire drainage area treated by buffers in the piedmont which is generally 5 to 10 times greater than the actual acres of the buffers shown in Figure 2.[2] Riparian buffers have many important functions beyond being effective in reducing nitrogen.[3] 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.[4] In addition, riparian buffers can reduce phosphorus and sediment as they move through the buffer and provide other critically important functions such as wildlife habitat and stream shading.[5]

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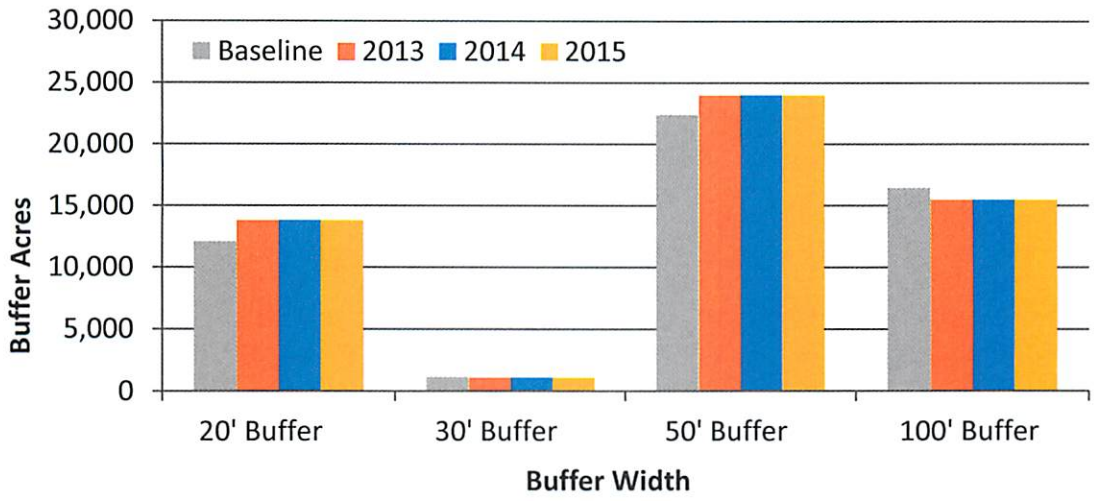
[2] Bruton, Jeffrey Griffin. 2004. Headwater Catchments: Estimating Surface Drainage Extent Across North Carolina and Correlations Between Landuse, Near Stream, and Water Quality Indicators in the Piedmont Physiographic Region. Ph.D. Dissertation. Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, North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

[3] B. Sweeney et al., 2004, Riparian deforestation, stream narrowing, and loss of stream ecosystem services, PNAS 101:39, 14132-14137; Sweeney and Newbold, 2014.

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

[5] T.B. Spruill, 2004, Effectiveness of riparian buffers in controlling ground-water discharge of nitrate to streams in selected hydrogeologic settings of the North Carolina Coastal Plain, Water Science and Technology 49:3, 63-70;

Figure 2. Nitrogen Reducing Buffers installed on Croplands from CY2013 through CY2015, compared to Baseline (CY2006), Falls Lake Watershed*



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 bermuda and fescue hay are 73 and 54 pounds/acre lower, respectively, than during the baseline. Nitrogen rates on corn decreased from CY2014, and tobacco and wheat application rates remained relatively unchanged from CY2014. Fertilizer rates will be revisited annually by county local advisory committees using data from farmers, commercial applicators and state and federal agencies' professional estimates.

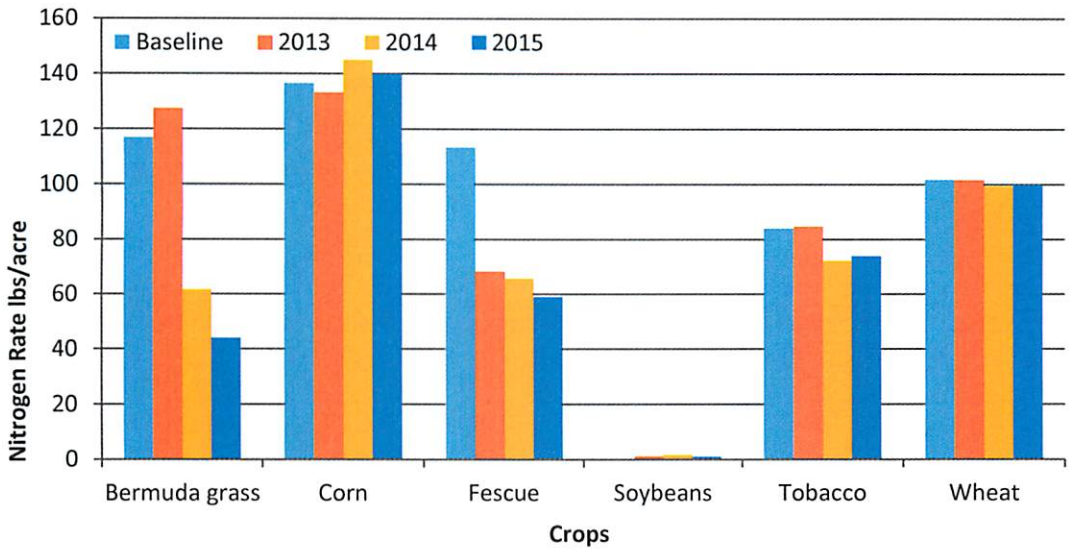
Factors Identified by LACs Contributing to Reduced Nitrogen Application Rates since the Baseline Year:

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

Agriculture in the six counties within the Falls Lake watershed is focused primarily on pasture-based systems, with hay and/or pasture ranging from 42-74% of the agricultural land use. On hay and pasture nitrogen application rates are significantly less than NC State University recommendations and only small amounts of phosphorus are added. Thus, it appears that hay production acres are underfertilized in the Falls Lake Watershed.[6]

[6] Osmond, D.L., K. Neas. 2011. Delineating Agriculture in the Neuse River Basin. Prepared for NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR), Division of Water Quality. http://content.ces.ncsu.edu/delineating-agriculture-in-the-neuse-river-basin

Figure 3. Average annual nitrogen fertilization rate (lb/ac) for agricultural crops for the baseline (2006), 2012, 2013, and 2014, Falls Lake Watershed

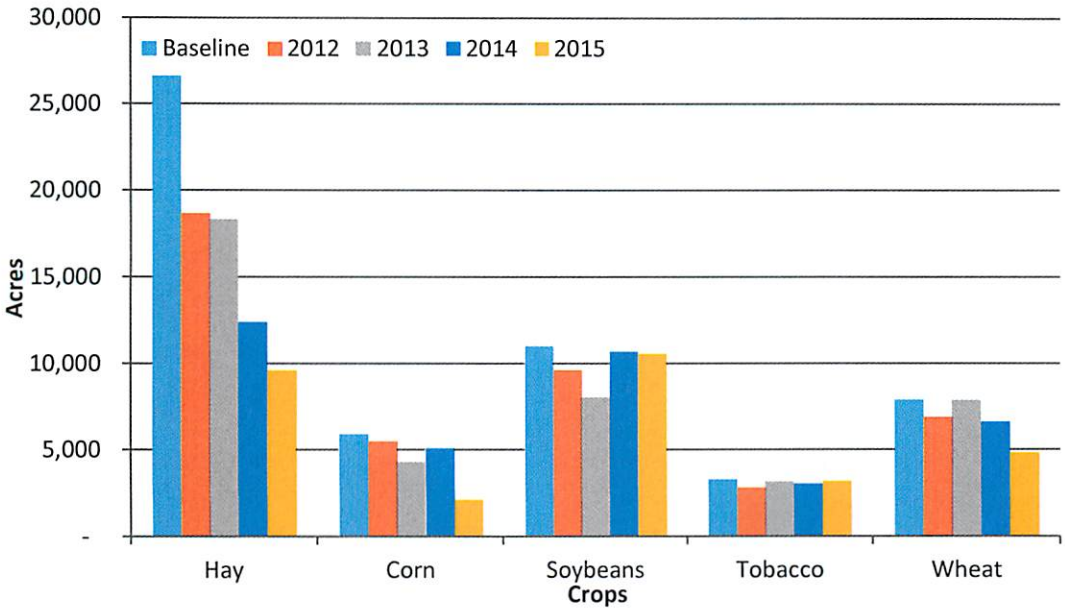


Cropping Shifts

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 BOC anticipates that the basin will see additional crop shifts in the upcoming year based on changing commodity prices and wet weather.

The price of corn remained low in CY2015, so corn acres, which require higher nitrogen inputs, decreased compared to CY2014. Soybean acres, which require no nitrogen input, remain very close to baseline. These trends have helped reduce overall nitrogen loss. In addition, an extremely wet fall prevented many farmers from accessing their fields in time to plant a crop of winter wheat. In most cases wheat acres are "double cropped" with soybeans, which means that wheat acres are planted on the same acreage before a spring soybean crop. In CY2015, soybean acreages were accounted for in these double cropped systems, but some of those acres were not fertilized over the winter months where a wheat crop was not planted. This resulted in an overall decrease of over 1,700 wheat acres between CY2014 and CY2015. A host of factors from individual to global determine crop choices. Figure 4 shows crop acres and shifts for CY2015 compared to the baseline. The reported acres of all major crops have decreased by over 24,328 acres in the watershed since the baseline. None of the hay acres reported in this table are grazed by livestock.

Figure 4. Reported Acreage of Major Crops for the Baseline (2006), 2012-2015, Falls Lake Watershed



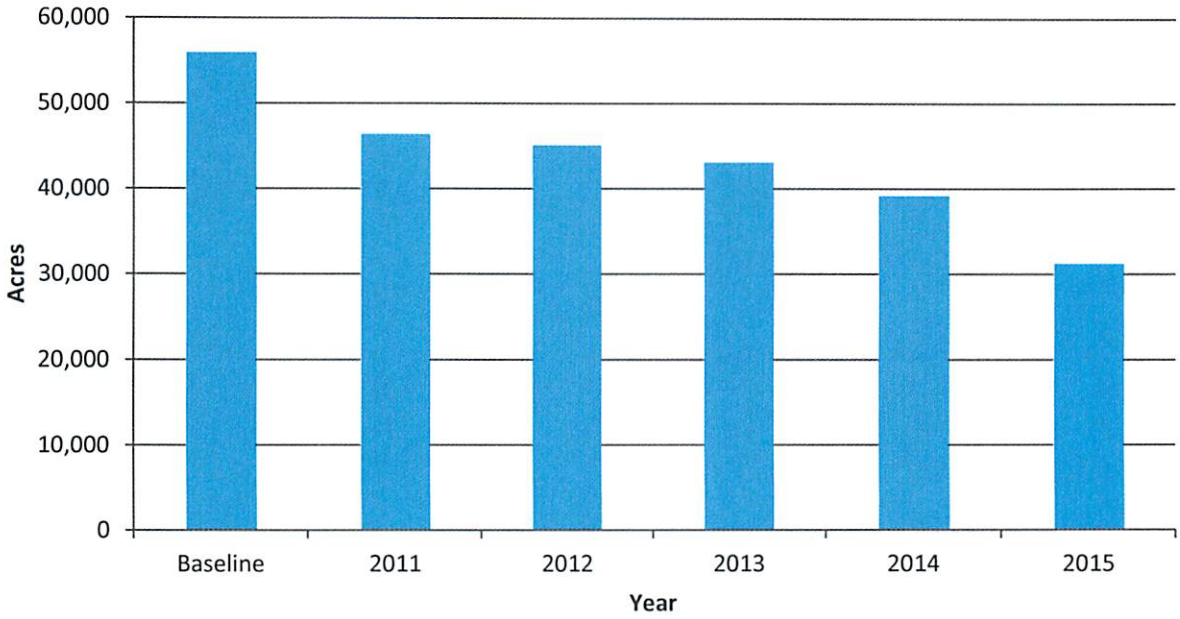
Land Use Change to Development and Cropland Conversion

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 24,761 reported acres (44% of total cropland). Of that, 4,708 (19% of cropland loss) agricultural acres have been permanently lost to development. Through state and federal cost share programs, 2,207 cropland acres (8% of cropland loss) were converted to grass or trees. The remaining 28% cropland reduction, which includes 10,060 acres of idle land, could potentially be brought back into agricultural production.

The estimates for agricultural land 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. These estimates do not separate the amount of cropland versus pastureland lost; the number reported is agricultural land converted to development.

Figure 5. Total Reported Cropland Acres in the Falls Lake Watershed, Baseline (2006), 2011-2015



Phosphorus Indicators for CY2015

The qualitative indicators included in Table 3 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), CY2013, CY2014 and CY2015. 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 3%
- Animal waste P was reduced by 17% from livestock and poultry
- Cropland conversion to other uses

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 3 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 watershed, 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 3. Relative Changes in Land Use and Management Parameters and their Relative Effect on Phosphorus Loss Risk in the Falls Lake Watershed

Parameter	Units	Source	Baseline 2006	CY2013	CY2014	CY2015	Percent '06-'15 change	CY2015 P Loss Risk +/-
Reported Cropland	acres	FSA, LAC	55,969	43,136	39,179	31,208	-44%	-
Cropland conversion (to grass & trees)	acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	1,527	1,853	1,853	2,207	45%	-
CRP / WRP (cumulative)	acres	USDA-NRCS	0	0	0	0	0%	N/A
Conservation tillage*	acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	26,787	19,228	19,607	19,874	-26%	+
Vegetated buffers (cumulative)	acres	USDA-NRCS & NCACSP	52,139	54,419	54,420	54,420	4%	-
Scavenger crop	acres	LAC	0	605	599	1,190	1,190%**	-
Tobacco	acres	FSA, LAC	3,288	3,145	3,036	3,202	-3%	-
Animal waste P	lbs of P/ yr	NC Ag Statistics	586,612	546,008	487,203	489,061	-17%	-
Soil test P median	P Index	NCDA& CS	77	67	65	68	-12%	-

** 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. Based on field office reports, conservation tillage acres remain high even after contracts expire due to farmer satisfaction with the practice after initial implementation.[7] Despite the reduction in reported tillage acres, a higher percentage of agricultural land is currently being cultivated with reduced tillage than was reported during the baseline due to the overall reduction in agricultural acres. By this metric, the phosphorus loss risk remains negative.*
***The percent change for scavenger crop acres is assumed to have increased from 1 due to the problem with calculating a percentage difference from zero.*

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.

[7] Osmond, D.L., K. Neas. 2011. Delineating Agriculture in the Neuse River Basin. Prepared for NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR), Division of Water Quality. http://content.ces.ncsu.edu/delineating-agriculture-in-the-neuse-river-basin

2. Phosphorus Loss Assessment Tool (PLAT): The PLAT has been developed to assess potential P loss from cropland to water resources. A survey of the Falls Lake watershed counties was conducted in 2010, with the next survey to be conducted in the future if funding is available. The results of the 2010 survey demonstrated that the potential for phosphorus loss is very low (< 0.35 lbs/ac/yr) for four of the five counties surveyed. Phosphorus loss in Orange County is rated at the low end of the medium range (> 1 lb/ac/yr). Even with the installation of buffers along all streams and the discontinuation of phosphorus application (fertilizer, biosolids, or animal waste), there would be limited potential for additional phosphorus loss reduction.
3. Improved understanding of agricultural phosphorus management through studies using in-stream monitoring: quantitative in-stream monitoring should be conducted. Such monitoring is contingent upon the availability of funding and staff resources. An appropriate water quality monitoring design would be a paired-watershed study of subwatersheds with only agricultural land use. This design would allow estimates of phosphorus loading for different management regimes and load reductions after conservation practices have been implemented. However, funding for this study is currently unavailable.

The WOC recommends that no additional management actions be required of agricultural operations in the watershed at this time to comply with the phosphorus goals of the agriculture rule. The WOC will continue to track and report the identified set of qualitative phosphorus indicators to the Division of Water Resources (DWR) annually, and as directed by the rule to the Environmental Management Commission. 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 Accounting

The Falls Lake WOC adopted pasture accounting methodology developed during the Jordan Lake Agriculture Rule reporting process and first implemented this methodology for the 2013 Falls Lake Agriculture Rule Progress Report. In recent years the Pasture Points Committee was reconvened with membership 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 Resources (DWR), NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS), and Orange Soil and Water Conservation District. After reviewing newly available data sources and scrutinizing existing research findings, the subcommittee recommended a methodology change for the 5-year accounting process. The pasture point subcommittee found that:

- The pasture point system was adopted separate from NLEW due to data limitations in the applicability of NLEW to pasture systems. New research and a better understanding of USDA data sources, however, have enabled more accurate documentation of animal waste nitrogen content across the state.
- Because pasture acre and animal number totals are still reported only on a 5-year basis in the Census of Agriculture, pasture accounting will continue to be reported every 5-years. For Falls Lake, the baseline period has been accepted as 1997-2007.
- Nitrogen rates will be a combination of fertilizer nitrogen plus nitrogen deposited from pastured animals. Inorganic fertilizer application rates are determined by local field staff. Animal-derived

nitrogen will be calculated based on animal type from animal waste generation values developed by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers and volatilization coefficients of the animal nitrogen source developed by NC State University. Total nitrogen inputs will be calculated at the county scale. Total nitrogen loss estimates will be calculated using NLEW and compared against the 1997-2007 baseline period.

- 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 acres within livestock exclusion systems which have been implemented during each 5-year period.
- Livestock exclusion systems will be assigned the nitrogen reduction rates specified in Table 4[8]. These reduction percentages include the elimination of direct deposition of waste into surface waters by livestock in addition to the filtration of nitrogen by vegetated buffer areas.

Table 4. Points nitrogen reduction from pastureland for different BMPs, Pasture Point System

Pasture BMP	N Reduction
Exclusion fencing with a 10' stream setback	30%
Exclusion fencing with a 20' buffer	35%
Exclusion fencing with a 30' buffer	40%
Exclusion fencing with a 50' buffer	45%
Exclusion fencing with a 100' buffer	50%

Nitrogen loss estimates for the 1997-2007 and 1997-2012 periods are presented in Table 5. The percent of each county in the Falls Lake Watershed, determined by GIS analysis, was used to calculate the number of pasture acres and pastured animals within the watershed. Despite the fact that hay acres can be grown for both hay and livestock production, grazed pasture acres have never been reported under the cropland category for NLEW nitrogen loss accounting, and only acres which are grazed are reported under the pasture category for NLEW nitrogen loss accounting.For 2012, counties in the Falls Lake Watershed are reporting a 32% nitrogen loss reduction from baseline, which exceeds the rule-mandated 20% goal.

[8] Line, D.E., D.L. Osmond, & W. Childres. 2016. Effectiveness of Livestock Exclusion in a Pasture of Central North Carolina. Journal of Environmental Quality. doi:10.2134/jeq2016.03.0089

Table 5. Estimated reductions in pasture land nitrogen loss from baseline (CY1997-CY2007) for CY2012, Falls Lake Watershed

County	2007 Nitrogen Loss (lbs)	2012 Nitrogen Loss (lbs)	2012 N Loss Reduction (%)
Durham	107,134	81,189	24%
Franklin	8,433	9,384	-11%
Granville	298,607	193,961	35%
Orange	293,720	170,676	42%
Person	198,832	125,725	37%
Wake	26,110	17,271	34%
Total	932,836	598,206	36%

The reduction percentages reported above result from a combination of pasture land loss, fertilization decreases, stocking rate changes, and BMP implementation. Table 6 shows how these factors have changed in the Falls Lake Watershed since the 2007 baseline.

Table 6. Pasture operation changes from baseline (CY1997-CY2007) for CY2012, Falls Lake Watershed

Factor	2007	2012	2012 % Change
Pasture Land	40,565 acres	29,816 acres	-27%
Fertilization	92 lbs N/acre	80 lbs N/acre	-13%
Stocking Rate	0.53 animal units/acre	0.56 animal units/acre	+6%
Livestock Exclusion System Implementation	30 acres*	40 acres*	+33%

**In order to ensure consistency between pasture and cropland NLEW accounting, the livestock exclusion acres reported above represent actual setback and buffer acres. The area draining through these exclusion systems is likely substantially higher.*

BMP Implementation Not Tracked by NLEW

Not all types of nutrient and sediment-reducing BMPs are tracked by NLEW such as: livestock-related nitrogen and phosphorus reducing BMPs, BMPs that reduce soil and phosphorus loss, and BMPs that do not have enough scientific research to support estimating a nitrogen benefit. The WOC believes it is worthwhile to recognize these practices. Table 7 identifies BMPs and tracks their implementation in the watershed since the end of the baseline period.

Table 7: Nutrient and sediment-reducing installed best management practices, Falls Lake Watershed*

BMP	UNITS	BMPs Installed (CY2006-CY2015)
Critical Area Planting	Acre	270
Composting Facility	Number	4
Diversion	Feet	18,313
Dry Stack	Number	8
Fencing (USDA programs)	Feet	57,684
Field Border	Acre	26,722
Grassed Waterway	Acre	8,654
Nutrient Management	Acre	1,209
Pasture Renovation	Acre	326
Stream Crossing	Number	1
Sod-Based Rotation	Acre	12,482
Tillage Management	Acre	19,874
Terraces	Feet	4,163
Trough or Tank	Number	62
Waste Storage Facility	Number	7

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

Looking Forward

The Falls Lake WOC will continue to report on and encourage 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. Due to an extremely wet fall growing season in late 2015, the WOC expects reported wheat acre totals in CY2016 to remain low. Indications are that corn acreage will increase in CY2016 due to a price increase.

Funding is an integral part in the success of reaching and maintaining the goal through technical assistance and BMP implementation. It is also important for data collection and reporting.

The WOC recognizes several factors affecting agriculture:

- Urban encroachment
- Market Fluctuations
- 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)

In 2001, grants funded a total of two watershed technicians and a Neuse River Basin Coordinator. The technicians' primary responsibility was to assist farmers with BMP implementation. These technicians assisted existing county staff to expedite the installation of nutrient reducing BMPs in the basin. On June 30, 2015 the last technician funding was expended, and technician funding is no longer eligible for grant awards by funding entities in the state. Therefore, less technical assistance for BMP implementation is available. Ongoing responsibility for conservation practice planning and installation now depends on local staff that also have other duties.

At the present time there is also no funding for a basin coordinator. Part of the responsibilities of the technicians and basin coordinator was to assist with the reporting requirements for the Falls Lake and Neuse Agriculture Rules. In addition to his other duties, an employee within the NCSA&CS Division of Soil and Water Conservation has been assigned the data collection, compilation and reporting duties for the Agriculture Rules for all existing Nutrient Sensitive Waters Strategies.

Farmers and agency staff personnel with other responsibilities serve on the LACs in a voluntary capacity. Without funding for technicians, the annual local progress reports fall on the LACs without local technical assistance to compile the data for the annual reports. As a result, training of new Soil and Water Conservation District staff and LAC members regarding rule requirements and reporting is ongoing.

Now that watershed technician funding has been eliminated, a more centralized approach to data collection and verification is necessary. This evolving approach will involve GIS analysis and more streamlined FSA acreage documentation. The LACs will be trained to handle the new workload to the best of their ability.

Because district staff has neither the time nor financial resources to synthesize county level data, this centralized approach will come at the expense of local knowledge. Annual agricultural reporting is required by the rules; therefore continued funding for the Division's remaining position is essential for compliance.

Previously, funding was available for research on conservation practice effectiveness, realistic yields, and nitrogen use efficiencies. Due to eligibility changes and other funding constraints, it is unlikely that new data will be developed. Prior funding sources for such research, which provided much of the scientific information on which NLEW was based, are no longer available. Should new funding be made available, additional North Carolina-specific research information could be incorporated into future NLEW updates.

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 are needed every five years, but it is unlikely that funding will be available for this activity. Additionally, understanding of agricultural phosphorus management could be improved through in-stream monitoring contingent upon the availability of funding and staff resources.

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

Financial constraints will affect future reporting:

- The Falls Lake Watershed has lost all funding for watershed technicians. LACs are being asked to take on a more active role in the data collection and synthesis that these positions conducted previously. It should be noted that farmers and agency staff personnel with other responsibilities serve on the LACs in a voluntary capacity.
- The Neuse/Tar-Pam Basin Coordinator position is no longer funded, and the Division of Soil and Water Conservation has had to restructure current staff workloads to ensure that Falls Lake reporting can be completed. Therefore, less time is available to support local efforts to do the reporting and assist with BMP implementation and outreach.
- Periodic land use surveys critical to understanding watershed agricultural activities are contingent upon future funding.

The Falls Lake WOC will continue to monitor and evaluate crop trends. The current shift to and from crops with higher nitrogen requirements may continue to influence the yearly reduction. Significant progress has been made in agricultural nitrogen loss reduction, and the agricultural community is achieving its 20% phase I reduction goal. However, the measurable effects of these BMPs on overall in-stream nitrogen reduction may take years to develop due to the nature of non-point source pollution. Nitrogen reduction values presented in this annual summary of agricultural reductions reflect "edge-of-management unit" calculations

that contribute to achieving the 20% phase I nitrogen loss reduction goal. Significant quantities of agricultural BMPs have been installed since the adoption and implementation of the nutrient management strategy, and agriculture continues to do its part towards achieving the overall nutrient reduction goals of Falls Lake.

ATTACHMENT 8A

MARTIN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
104A Kehukee Park Road - Williamston, NC 27892
Phone: (252) 792-4350 ext.3

November 8, 2016

Dear NC Soil and Water Commission Member,

The Martin Soil and Water Conservation District board feels the need to contact you regarding the actions taken by our board. We held our regular monthly board meeting on August 1, 2016. One of our agenda items was to fill the recently vacated appointed seat held by Mr. Eugene Mellette. We also have an expiring term currently held by M. Jeff Harris that will end December 5, 2016. Candidates for the appointed seat were discussed at the June board meeting and Mr. Harris volunteered to interview and help select the individuals that would best serve our local board. Mr. Harris contacted Chairman Cannon with two recommendations that he considered to be excellent. The two candidates meet the new guidelines for supervisor selection. Diversity, education, and leadership skills are qualities found in both individuals. They are both involved in agriculture with row crop farming and poultry production experience.

The elected membership of our local board made a decision that both of these young farmers would be an outstanding addition to our local board and decided to move them into the appointed seats. Mr. Stephen Lilley was selected to fill the unexpired term that was held by Eugene Mellette and Corris Jenkins was selected to fill the seat held currently by M. Jeff Harris when it expires in December 2016. The September Commission meeting agenda had the vacant appointment on the agenda but for some reason it was skipped and Mr. Stephen Lilley is not yet officially on our board.

We held our regular monthly board meeting on September 6, 2016 with the main agenda item being Mr. Harris speaking to the board about their decision to fill the expiring appointed seat currently held by himself. Mr. Harris had David Williams from the Division of Soil and Water come to speak on his behalf and Commission member Manly West spoke to the board also. The board felt there was not a need for conflict so they chose to listen without making a response. Mr. West finished his comments and turned to Chairman Cannon and said "you do know the Commission has the final decision on this matter".

This and the fact that our selection of Mr. Lilley to fill the vacant seat has not come to fruition causes concern that the wishes of our board may not be taken seriously. This matter has not been taken lightly by us. It has been discussed at length and debated. We know that our decision is in the best interest of our local board, as well as the public that we serve. The General Statute 139-7 has been followed and the Commission policy that was updated on May 17, 2016 was used as a guideline. We expect the wishes of the Martin Soil and Water Conservation District to be followed. You will also find a letter of support from our Martin County Commissioners whom are aware of the circumstances aforementioned.

Thank you for your support,

Chairman Richard D. Cannon

ATTACHMENT 8A

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RONNIE SMITH, CHAIRMAN
ELMO "BUTCH" LILLEY, VICE CHAIRMAN
TOMMY BOWEN
DEMPSEY BOND, JR.
JOE AYERS

MARTIN county

DAVID B. BONE
COUNTY MANAGER

MARION B. THOMPSON
CLERK TO THE BOARD

November 8, 2016

Mr. Steve Troxler
NC Agriculture Commissioner
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001

Re.: Support for Martin County Soil & Water Conservation District Board

Commissioner Troxler,

The Martin County Board of Commissioners has a strong relationship with the Martin County Soil and Water Conservation District Board. The two bodies have worked well over the years, to the benefit of Martin County citizens, property owners and farmers. The Martin County Board of Commissioners fully supports the Martin County Soil and Water Conservation District Board and its service to the community.

Thank you for your support and service.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Smith
Chairman
Martin County Board of Commissioners

cc: Elmo "Butch" Lilley, Vice Chair, Martin County Commissioners
Tommy Bowen, Martin County Commissioner
Dempsey Bond, Martin County Commissioner
Joe Ayers, Martin County Commissioner

PO BOX 668, WILLIAMSTON, NC 27892 • PHONE (252)-789-4300 • FAX (252)-789-4309 • EMAIL martin@martincountyncgov.com

Mr. Chairman:

I have a prepared statement as I do not want to be miss quoted:

I want to clear something up. The members of this commission received a letter dated November 8, 2016 from the Martin Soil & Water Conservation District. In that letter, it stated that I turned toward their Chairman Mr. Cannon and said, "you do know the Commission has the final decision on this matter." Well the fact of the matter is we do have final decision, but what I said to the best of my recollection, because I didn't write down my comments, is that the Commission would be considering this appointment for their district. I **did not** say we have final decision and certainly not in the tone that is trying to be portrayed in this letter. That is not my demeanor nor my character.

I would also like to answer "why" I was at the Martin District Meeting. I was asked by Mr. Harris to go and speak on his behalf. Franklin Williams was also asked to attend, but was unable to attend and sent an e-mail. Our Association President Ben Knox also sent an email asking the Martin District to reconsider their decision and re-appoint Mr. Harris. I could have told Jeff that I rather not get involved in local district business, but after he told me the details; how the board had taken this action while he was at the SE NACD meeting; how it was not on the agenda; and that his appointment would not normally have been considered until a later meeting, I went. Did I go as a Commission member, did I go as Past President of the Association, and did I go as past Chairman of Area 5? I would like to think that I went as a concerned Supervisor who like Mr. Harris wants what is best for Soil & Water Conservation.

I encouraged the District to reconsider Mr. Harris' appointment and to consider the impact his "not" being re-appointed would have on the local, state, and national level as Mr. Harris is a NACD officer who holds positions on the national level.

Commissioner Manly West

Dear Commissioners,

I offer the following comments on behalf of Mr. Jeff Harris. He did not ask me to do this and is unaware that I have. As I'm sure you know, Jeff and I work together as the connection between our national association and our state association. I serve as NACD board member and Jeff serves as NACD board alternate. Though "alternate" may suggest subordinate, I assure you that is not the case. Jeff and I work together as a team. Jeff is highly respected by the other NACD members across the nation. They know he takes the responsibility seriously as he represents NC's Conservation Districts.

Jeff and I don't work for NACD. We serve NC Districts, each District, as their voice to their national association. But that is a 2-way street in that we bring back information from the national association for the benefit of our local Districts. I've often said that whatever happens in Washington, DC eventually comes back home to Districts to deal with. The reverse can also be true. We've cultivated relationships and built trust with our counterparts from other states... not always an easy process. Losing part of that connection would be a definite setback with NACD on one end, and for our local NC Districts on the other.

The Commission has many responsibilities, and I'm sure none of you take them lightly. One of these responsibilities is to serve as oversight for Districts' actions. Falling under that would be having final say in appointing District Supervisors. We pride ourselves in being "locally led", and from that we derive our strength. But that comes with the expectation that Districts will act according to what's best for them. And by "them" I'm referring to the landowners and citizens of that county/District... not the board, the office staff, or any individuals therein. In our vigilance to hold true to "locally led"... we must be careful not to be "locally led astray". Once upon a time there were 5 "locally led" Districts in Florida that now no longer exist. They created their own demise, and the Florida association was either unable or unwilling to intervene. Now those local communities have no voice in conservation, and the Florida Districts are weakened locally and nationally because of it.

As I understand it Mr. Harris has not been in any violation of his stated duties and responsibilities as a District Supervisor of the Martin District. He is willingly and ably serving his community, his District, his state, and his nation. His local board voted him out with a unanimous vote of 2... TWO! The meeting was held while Jeff was out of town representing the state association, as well as his own District, at the NACD SE Region meeting in Cherokee, NC. Jeff's seat on the board and pending appointment was not even on the agenda. Furthermore, no one from the Martin District has given Jeff any reason why they wish him removed from the board. Has the Martin District explained to the Commission why they wish to sever their relationship with Mr. Harris? Mr. Harris wishes to continue to serve his local community and his state association. He is an asset to Martin District and to conservation in NC. Until there is a reasonable answer to "Why?", then I feel Mr. Harris has earned the opportunity to remain serving in his current capacity. We can't allow to happen here what's happened in Florida.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Frank Williams
NACD Board Member

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

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 14-18

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Martin Soil and Water Conservation District of Martin 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 12/01/2014 and ending 12/03/2018 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Eugene W. Mellette.

Name of nominee: Stephen C. Lilley, Jr.
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 4607 US Highway 17, Williamston, NC 27892
Email address of nominee: stephenclilley@gmail.com
Home phone:
Mobile phone: 252-217-9748
Business phone:
Occupation: Farmer (row crop)
Age: 29
Education: NC State
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Father
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Board Member of the Roanoke Cotton Gin
Other pertinent information: Attended the NC Ag Leadership Program through the Tobacco Trust Fund
Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable:
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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] 8-1-16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
Printed name: Richard D. Cannon

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x [signature] 8-1-16
Individual recommended for appointment Date
Printed name: Stephen C. Lilley

ATTACHMENT 8A

Dear Supervisors and staff 5/29/16

After carefully weighing and considering the direction and responsibilities of a supervisor, I believe this fine organization would be better served if I stepped down. I thank each of you for allowing me this opportunity and always making me feel welcome. I hope this will not be a lengthy process on replacing me. I have several people in mind for my position that I will submit to Lynn. Again thank you for allowing me to serve.

Gene Mellette

Gene Mellette

ATTACHMENT 8A

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

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 2014-2018

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Richmond Soil and Water Conservation District of Richmond County, North Carolina have recommended the individual listed below for APPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing Nov 2016 and ending Dec 2018 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Pat D. Dial - kaf.

Name of nominee: William Y. Comninakis
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 198 Belwen Farm Lane Hoffman, N.C. 28347
Email address of nominee: comnphc@pinehurst.net
Home phone: (910) 281-4753
Mobile phone: (910) 639-1484
Business phone: N/A
Occupation: Farmer
Age: 68
Education: College
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: NONE
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Farming and construction management
Other pertinent information:

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable:
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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] — Oct 20-2016
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: Jeff W Joigner

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

X [signature] — October 18, 2016
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: William Y. Comninakis

Jackie G. McAuley

From: pat daystar dial [pddial@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2016 11:12 PM
To: Jeff Joyner; jaredgainey@yahoo.com; tdeesesr@carolina.rr.com; jim chandler; Jackie G. McAuley; Vilma.Mendez; Hart, Louise
Subject: FWI

5/25/2016

Richmond Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Supervisors

Dear SW Team Members,

As of May 30th, 2016, I will be resigning from my post as Supervisor. My soul journey has taken me into another direction at this moment in my life; and I'm following my bliss.

Thank you for the opportunity of serving our county, state, and our great Mother Earth. My passion for preserving our soil and water will never end. This is the only Earth we have; together, we can take care of her!

With best regards,
Pat Daystar Dial

ATTACHMENT 8A

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

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 2014-2018

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Richmond Soil and Water Conservation District of Richmond County, North Carolina have recommended the individual listed below for APPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing Nov 2016 and ending Dec 2018 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Jared Gainey - kaf.

Name of nominee: WILLIAM THOMPSON
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 143 THOMPSON FARM RD.
Email address of nominee: 13TDIA1@GMAIL.COM
Home phone: ~~910-206~~
Mobile phone: 910-206-1801
Business phone: 910-895-2378
Occupation: FARMER
Age: 72
Education: 2 YEARS COLLEGE
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee:
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications:

Other pertinent information:

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable:
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Jeff W Joyner — Oct 20th 2016
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: Jeff W Joyner

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

X William Thompson — 10-19-16
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: WILLIAM THOMPSON

Jackie G. McAuley

From: Jared Gainey [jaredgainey@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2016 9:00 AM
To: jim27306@gmail.com; Jeff Joyner; Jackie G. McAuley; tdeesesr@carolina.rr.com; Lori L. Tadlock; Vilma.Mendez@nc.usda.gov
Subject: Resignation

To all,
Please accept this as my formal resignation from the Richmond County Soil and Water Board. My current position does not allow me to support the board the way a Vice Chairman should. My schedule varies drastically day to day. Therefore it is unfair to those who can plan ahead and put their due diligence into the board. I will continue to support the board until you find someone if need be. Let me know. Again, thanks for the opportunity but I didn't not realize the impact of my new position at Duke.

Thank you all,
Jared Gainey

Sent from my iPhone

ATTACHMENT 8A

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

INTERNAL USE ~~ONLY~~:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 14-18

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original 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 2014 and ending 2018 to fill the expired or un-expired term of R. SCOTT BAUCOM.

Name of nominee: EDWARD B. STATON.
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 9406 Olive Branch Rd. Marshville NC 28103
Email address of nominee: n/a
Home phone: (704) 385-9374
Mobile phone: (704) 219-7455
Business phone: n/a
Occupation: Farmer
Age: 65
Education: highschool, Associates in civil engineering
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Proprietor of farm
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: 32 years experience as a licensed general contractor.
Other pertinent information: n/a

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: _____
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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] 9-1-16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
Printed name: Kelvin Baucom

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x [signature] 9-1-16
Individual recommended for appointment Date
Printed name: EDWARD STATON

ATTACHMENT 8A

August 16, 2016

Dear Board Members and others it my concern,

I have thoroughly enjoyed serving on the Union County Soil and Water Conservation District, Board of Supervisors the last year and a half. It has been my pleasure to not only serve our county and district, but to also get to know each one of you more personally.

Please let this letter serve notice that I, R. Scott Baucom am resigning my position on the board effective immediately in order to serve my Lord and Savior as a minister or the gospel.

I wish you all great success in the future and I will attempt to help in any way possible until a replacement supervisor is on board.

God Bless,

R. Scott Baucom

NC Cost Share Programs Supervisor Contracts
Soil and Water Conservation Commission

ATTACHMENT 8B

County	Contract Number	Supervisor Name	BMP	Contract Amount	Comments
Clay	22-2017-005	Salvador Moreno	chemigation backflow prevention	$3,000	
Granville	39-2017-020	Ronnie Burnette	sod-based rotation	$1,505	
Harnett	43-2017-004	John Gross	field borders/grassed waterways	$7,462	
Hertford	46-2017-002	Sammy Howell	rock-lined outlet	$3,951	
McDowell	59-2017-001	Neil Brackett	stock trail	$9,713	supplement
Orange	68-2017-002	Roger Tate (Tate Inc)	field borders/grassed waterways	$3,470	
Tyrell	89-2017-003	Wesley Hopkins	water control structure	$2,663	

Total Number of Supervisor Contracts: **7**

Total **$31,764**

11/7/2016

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ATTACHMENT 8B

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the __Clay_____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: Ag Cost Share

Best management practice: Chemigation backflow prevention

Contract number:22-2017-005 Contract amount: $ 3,000

Score on priority ranking sheet: 60

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

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 3rd out of 4

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: Salvador Moreno

(District Supervisor's signature) 9/7/16 Date

Approved by:

(District Chairperson's signature) 10/4/2016 Date

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

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

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

ATTACHMENT 8B

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the ___Granville___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: Sod-Base Rotation

Contract number: 39-2017-020 Contract amount: $1505

Score on priority ranking sheet: 130

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

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): ranked 2 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: Ronnie D. Burnette

Ronnie D. Burnette 9-7-16
(District Supervisor's signature) Date

Approved by:

Randall W Guthrie 9-12-16
(District Chairperson's signature) Date

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

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

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

NCDA&CS
DSWC

ATTACHMENT 8B
NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION 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 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: Field Borders / Grassed Waterways

Contract number: 43-2017-004 Contract amount: $ 7462

Score on priority ranking sheet: 200 points

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

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

(District Supervisor's signature) 10-20-16 Date

Approved by:

Gerald Temple (District Chairperson's signature) 10/20/16 Date

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

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

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

NCDA&CS
DSWC

ATTACHMENT 8B
NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

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

Program: NC ACSP

Best management practice: Rock lined outlet

Contract number: HL-2017-002 Contract amount: $ $3951.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 150

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

Relative rank (e.g., ranked 8th out of 12 projects considered): 1 out of 5

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: Sammy Howell

Samuel A. Howell
(District Supervisor's signature)

10/6/16
Date

Approved by: John O. Simons III

John O. Simons III
(District Chairperson's signature)

10/6/16
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

ATTACHMENT 8B
NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the McDowell County 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: Cattle trail --- Supplement to finish project

Contract number: 59-2017-001 Contract amount: $ 9,713

Score on priority ranking sheet: 43

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

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

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: Neil Brackett

Neil Brackett
(District Supervisor's signature)

9-16-16
Date

Approved by:

(District Chairperson's signature)

9/2/16
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.

ATTACHMENT 8B

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 Orange 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 Waterways + Field Borders

Contract Number: 68-2017-002 Contract Amount $ 3470

Score on priority ranking sheet: 470

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

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

TATE inc by [signature] 10/27/16
(District Supervisor's Signature) Date

Approved by:

W. Chris Hogan 10/27/16
(District Chairperson's Signature) Date

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

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

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

ATTACHMENT 8B

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the _____Tyrrell_____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: Water Control Structure

Contract number: 89-2017-003 Contract amount: $2,663.00

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): 3 out 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: WESLEY HOPKINS

_____ 9-12-16
(District Supervisor's signature) Date

Approved by:

_____ 10-31-16
(District Chairperson's signature) Date

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

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

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

ATTACHMENT 8B

NC Cost Share Programs Supervisor Contracts
Soil and Water Conservation Commission

County	Contract Number	Supervisor Name	BMP	Contract Amount	Comments
Clay	22-2017-005	Salvador Moreno	chemigation backflow prevention	$3,000	
Cumberland	26-2017-004	Reuben Cashwell	cover crops	$5,000	
Granville	39-2017-020	Ronnie Burnette	sod-based rotation	$1,505	
Harnett	43-2017-004	John Gross	field borders/grassed waterways	$7,462	
Hertford	46-2017-002	Sammy Howell	rock-lined outlet	$3,951	
McDowell	59-2017-001	Neil Brackett	stock trail	$9,713	supplement
Orange	68-2017-002	Roger Tate (Tate Inc)	field borders/grassed waterways	$3,470	
Tyrell	89-2017-003	Wesley Hopkins	water control structure	$2,663	

Total Number of Supervisor Contracts: 8

Total **$36,764**

11/15/2016

ATTACHMENT 8B

NCDA&CS
DSWC

NC -CSPs-1B
(11/2012)

ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION COST SHARE PROGRAMS

As a Soil and Water District Supervisor, for the ___Cumberland_____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: Cover Crops

Contract number: 26-2017-004 Contract amount: $5,000.00

Score on priority ranking sheet: 50

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

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

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: Reuben Cashwell

Reuben Cashwell
(District Supervisor's signature)

11-4-16
Date

Approved by:

Clifton McNeill Jr.
(District Chairperson's signature)

11-4-16
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.

ATTACHMENT 8C

SWCC Job Approval Authority Recommendations

November 16, 2016

The following individual has requested to obtain Commission Job Approval Authority for the respective categories.

1. Pond Site Assessment
   Scott Melvin – Division of Soil and Water Conservation

2. Water Needs Assessment
   Scott Melvin – Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Mr. Melvin has successfully completed the requirements and has acquired confirmation of demonstrated technical proficiency from a Division Engineer, therefore I recommend that his job approval authority requests be approved.

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

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

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

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Update on conditional supervisor reappointment from November 2015 meeting

At the November 19, 2014, meeting the commission made seven conditional reappointments to local soil and water conservation district boards; four appointments were conditional upon attendance at the 2015 UNC School of Government, and three appointments were conditional upon improved attendance (at least two-thirds of their district's local meetings). Six of the supervisors that were conditionally appointed fulfilled the requirements in 2015 and were fully appointed.

At the November 18, 2015, meeting the commission received a report regarding Chatham SWCD Supervisor Edward McLaurin, and his attendance at local district board meetings from December 2014 through November 2015. During this time period his attendance was at 50%. Correspondence from Supervisor McLaurin and Chatham SWCD indicated that some of his absences in 2015 were health related, and the Chatham SWCD supported Supervisor McLaurin remaining on the district board.

Given this information, in November 2015, the commission acted to make Supervisor McLaurin's appointment conditional for another year. The division has monitored Supervisor McLaurin's attendance; below is a summary of his attendance since November 2015:

	Edward McLaurin Chatham SWCD
December 2015	*No meeting*
January 2016	**Attended**
February 2016	**Attended**
March 2016	*No meeting*
April 2016	**Attended**
May 2016	**Attended**
June 2016	*No meeting*
July 2016	*No meeting*
August 2016	Did not attend
September 2016	**Attended**
October 2016	**Attended**
November 2016	Did not attend
Current Total	6/8 = **75%**

Supervisor McLaurin has achieved two-thirds attendance at local board meetings during the monitored time period - it can also be noted that Supervisor McLaurin attended the NCASWCD Area 3 Spring Meeting. Given the attendance at local meetings, Mr. McLaurin has fulfilled the requirement of at least two-thirds attendance, and his appointment has changed from conditional to fully appointed for the remainder of the term (through December 3, 2018).

NOMINATED FOR REAPPOINTMENT AND HAVE ATTENDED SOG TRAINING AND AT LEAST 2/3 OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED DISTRICT MEETINGS

	SWCD Name	Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	Reappointment			
				Date Attended SOG Training	Meetings Attended	Meetings Scheduled	Percentage
1	Alamance	Roy	Stanley, Jr.	1993	35	35	100.00%
2	Alleghany	Alvin	Dixon	2015	17	17	100.00%
3	Avery	David L.	Banner	1995	31	40	77.50%
4	Bertie	Henry	Matthews, Jr.	2003	17	18	94.44%
5	Brown Creek	Billy E. "Eddie"	Edwards, Jr.	2001	35	38	92.11%
6	Buncombe	David	Snelson	2003	29	42	69.05%
7	Burke	J. Wayne	Packard	2016	7	9	77.78%
8	Cabarrus	Ned Y.	Hudson	2000	40	42	95.24%
9	Caldwell	Jack S.	Adams	2009	47	47	100.00%
10	Carteret	Herbert F.	Page	2009	32	32	100.00%
11	Caswell	William R.	Boaz	2005	45	46	97.83%
12	Catawba	Susan	Devine	2014	28	30	93.33%
13	Chatham	Keith	Stanley	2006	26	29	89.66%
14	Cherokee	Edgar A.	Wood, III	2009	35	35	100.00%
15	Clay	Tammy W.	Mull	2011	45	47	95.74%
16	Cleveland	D. Randy	McDaniel	2008	28	33	84.85%
17	Columbus	Bobby N.	Stanley	2009	35	40	87.50%
18	Craven	Dietrich	Kilpatrick	2009, 2010, 2015	23	24	95.83%
19	Cumberland	Wingate	Collier	2007	40	42	95.24%
20	Dare	Erin	Fleckenstein	2016	9	10	90.00%
21	Davidson	Jerry	Hilton	2009	44	46	95.65%
22	Davie	Kevin	Marion	2006	28	38	73.68%
23	Duplin	Louis	Howard	2013	46	48	95.83%
24	Durham	Curtis John	Richardson	2008	32	45	71.11%
25	Fishing Creek	Kenneth	Brantley	2008	24	25	96.00%
26	Franklin	Charles F.	Mitchell	2009	37	42	88.10%
27	Gates	Felton J.	Outland, Jr.	2004	25	25	100.00%
28	Graham	Allen C.	DeHart	2008	31	37	83.78%
29	Granville	Henry B.	Hagwood	2009	28	33	84.85%
30	Greene	Jerry	Jones	1999	25	30	83.33%
31	Guilford	Harold Woody	Alexander	2013	42	45	93.33%
32	Harnett	Gerald R.	Temple	2007	38	40	95.00%

ATTACHMENT 9Bi

NOMINATED FOR REAPPOINTMENT AND HAVE ATTENDED SOG TRAINING AND AT LEAST 2/3 OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED DISTRICT MEETINGS

SWCD Name		Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	Reappointment			
				Date Attended SOG Training	Meetings Attended	Meetings Scheduled	Percentage
33	Haywood	James M.	Ferguson	2009, 2013	30	31	96.77%
34	Henderson	Wayne S.	Carland	2001, 2013	35	42	83.33%
35	Hoke	Joanne H.	Hendrix	2009	12	18	66.67%
36	Hyde	Earl	O'Neal	1999	16	21	76.19%
37	Iredell	Jimmy	Gray	2003	36	38	94.74%
38	Johnston	Jerry Dennis	Durham Jr.	2007	39	46	84.78%
39	Lee	David L.	Dycus	2001	31	34	91.18%
40	Lincoln	Roy	Hoyle	2007	31	32	96.88%
41	Macon	Melinda	James	2005	36	40	90.00%
42	Madison	Jeremy P.	Fox	2013	39	47	82.98%
43	McDowell	Terry	English	2013	23	31	74.19%
44	Mitchell	Doug	Harrell	2009	30	38	78.95%
45	Montgomery	Don	Thompson	2000	47	48	97.92%
46	Moore	Harold	Brady	2009	25	26	96.15%
47	Nash	John W.	Finch	2005	39	42	92.86%
48	New Hanover	Sue Y.	Hayes	2013	48	51	94.12%
49	New River	Gary	Bare	2001	40	42	95.24%
50	Northampton	Gene	Bennett	2003	31	37	83.78%
51	Onslow	Timothy C.	Huffman	2009	34	36	94.44%
52	Orange	Karen J.	McAdams	2012	24	32	75.00%
53	Pamlico	Patrick K.	Baker	2009	23	26	88.46%
54	Pender	Trent A.	Talbert	2003	20	28	71.43%
55	Pitt	Adolphus Thomas "Tom"	Best, Jr.	2015	16	16	100.00%
56	Polk	John	Vining	2016	15	16	93.75%
57	Randolph	William Craig	Frazier	2011	36	37	97.30%
58	Robeson	Walter K.	McGirt	2009	23	28	82.14%
59	Rockingham	Kate	Campau	2001	51	60	85.00%
60	Rowan	James F.	Summers	2011	31	44	70.45%
61	Sampson	Curtis Greylon	Barwick	2010	27	35	77.14%
62	Scotland	Aaron F.	Stack	2009	39	42	92.86%
63	Stanly	John S.	Pickler	2009	41	46	89.13%
64	Stokes	James D.	Booth	2006	42	46	91.30%

ATTACHMENT 9Bi

NOMINATED FOR REAPPOINTMENT AND HAVE ATTENDED SOG TRAINING AND AT LEAST 2/3 OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED DISTRICT MEETINGS

SWCD Name		Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	Reappointment			
				Date Attended SOG Training	Meetings Attended	Meetings Scheduled	Percentage
65	Surry	Gordon	Holder	2009	30	31	96.77%
66	Swain	Mitchell A.	Jenkins	2006	48	48	100.00%
67	Transylvania	Richard W. "Dick"	Bragg	2005	35	38	92.11%
68	Tyrrell	Eric	Brown	2009	25	36	69.44%
69	Wake	Thomas R.	Dean	2007	39	43	90.70%
70	Warren	Stephen G.	Young	2016	8	10	80.00%
71	Washington	Ernest Wayne	Grimes	2002	26	31	83.87%
72	Watauga	Denny	Norris	2004	46	46	100.00%
73	Wayne	Dennis R.	Waller	2010	28	32	87.50%
74	Wilkes	Zach	Myers	2009	38	43	88.37%
75	Wilson	Alan David	Sharp	2015	30	30	100.00%
76	Yadkin	Jo R.	Linville	1998	32	40	80.00%
77	Yancey	Dwight H.	Johnson	2007	29	32	90.63%

Districts with seats that will go vacant - appointment for unexpired term (2016-2020) will be presented at future commission meeting

1	Mecklenburg	Jason Lee	Cathey	2006

Not yet received - request for reappointment anticipated

1	Edgecombe	Joseph A.	Suggs	1999

ATTACHMENT 9Bi

NOMINATED FOR REAPPOINTMENT AND HAVE NOT ATTENDED SOG TRAINING

	SWCD Name	Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	Reappointment			
				Initial Appointment Date	Meetings Attended	Meetings Scheduled	Percentage
1	Jones	Mike	Haddock	January 2016	5	5	100.00%
2	Richmond	Jim	Chandler	March 2016	3	3	100.00%

ATTACHMENT 9Bii

ATTACHMENT 9Bii

NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION

Jones County
134-A Industrial Park Dr.
Trenton, North Carolina 28585

February 15, 2016

The Honorable John Langdon
Chairman
NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission
C/o NCDA&CS Division of Soil & Water Conservation
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

Dear Chairman Langdon,

I am writing to you in reference to the mandatory supervisor's training at The School of Government for newly elected/appointed supervisors. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend this year's training due to prior commitments to the Jones County Board of Commissioners'. However, I'm committed to attending next year in 2017.

Thank you and I look forward to being a member of the Jones County Soil and Water Board and working with the Soil and Water family.

Sincerely,

Mike Haddock
Commissioner
Jones County Board of Commissioners

Cc: file

NOMINATED FOR REAPPOINTMENT AND HAS NOT ATTENDED AT LEAST 2/3 OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

	SWCD Name	Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	Reappointment			
				Date Attended SOG Training	Meetings Attended	Meetings Scheduled	Percentage
1	Forsyth	Edward C.	Wall	2006	23	42	54.76%
2	Vance	J.G.	Clayton	2009	21	37	56.76%

ATTACHMENT 9Biii

ATTACHMENT 9Biii

Toby Bost, Chair
Wes Schollander, Vice Chair
Ed Wall, Secretary/Treasurer

NORTH CAROLINA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
Yours for Life

James Knox, District Supervisor
Beth Tucker, District Supervisor

FORSYTH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

10-12-2016

To the members of the Soil & Water Commission:

On August 6, 2015, the Forsyth SWCD Board changed it's meeting day and time from the 2nd Thursday at 9 a.m. to the 2nd Monday at 5 p.m. This change in schedule caused me to miss several meetings, as I had previously scheduled arrangements to deal with. Attendance at 28 of the 42 meetings would have put me within the required 2/3 attended. As it turns out, I was able to attend 23 meetings, and I realize that I fell short of the requirement by a total of 5 meetings. I will strive to attend the majority of the meetings in my next term, should you choose to reappoint me. I have been a Supervisor with the Forsyth District since the year 2000 and have never failed to meet the requirement in any of my previous terms. I ask you to consider the totality of my service in your decision making process.

Thank You,

Edward C. Wall

Edward C. Wall

1450 Fairchild Road, Room 11 ♦ Winston-Salem, NC 27105 ♦ 336-703-2840

ATTACHMENT 9Biii

Vance Soil and Water Conservation District

853 S. Beckford Drive, Suite C - Henderson, North Carolina 27536

October 28, 2016

Soil & Water Conservation Commission
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

To The Commission:

I would like to ask the Commission to consider me for reappointment as a Vance Soil & Water Conservation District Board Supervisor. I have served on the board since 2008. As a full time farmer of Vance County, I am able to help make decisions from their perspective. Soil and water conservation is not only important to me, it is my way of life.

During my present term in office, I realize I have had some board meeting attendance issues. Several factors played a role in that, of which I have worked out and overcome. Private family issues and meeting times have been two of the reasons for my low attendance. Our board has changed the meeting time this year to more accommodate the lifestyle and schedule of the full time farmers on the board. With that being said, I have attended 6 out of the 8 meetings in 2016.

I understand the requirements of being a Soil & Water Conservation Board Supervisor, and I would like the opportunity once again to be a part of such a great organization. Being more active and involved with Vance Soil and Water Conservation District and its affiliates will be my priority during the upcoming term. I believe my knowledge and experience will be an asset to the board as we move forward in Vance County.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely, J.G. Clayton

J.G. Clayton
Vance SWCD Supervisor

ATTACHMENT 9Biii

Vance Soil and Water Conservation District

853 S. Beckford Drive, Suite C - Henderson, North Carolina 27536

SUPERVISORS

Wilton Lee Short, Jr., Chairman

Betty Hamm, Vice Chairman

J.G. Clayton, Secretary

Samuel Green, Jr., Treasurer

Thomas Farmer, Member

STAFF

Byron Currin, DT

Carolyn Stevenson, Admin Sec

Diana Lewis, DC

Rusty Renshaw, SCT

To The Commission:

The Vance County Board of Supervisors re-appointed J.G. Clayton as a supervisor for the Vance County Soil and Water Conservation District and fully supports his re-appointment.

The board just recently sat down with Mr. Clayton to discuss the matter of re-appointment. Mr. Clayton expressed a willingness to continue serving as a supervisor for our district and is eager to do so if the commission will so allow. The board also made clear that all board members need to be active, present, and more involved in the business of our district, area, and state.

Mr. Clayton is a well-respected man within our community and brings a lot of valuable knowledge and leadership to the Soil and Water Board. He is currently an active organic tobacco grower within Vance County and brings a quality farmers perspective to our well diverse board. Mr. Clayton understands the importance of implementing and maintaining conservation best management practices that benefit soil erosion and water quality. He has lead by example and has been a big proponent of cover crops, grassed waterways, field boards, and proper crop rotation.

Mr. Clayton was re-appointed because he has been a vital board member with a strong farming background, extensive conservation work on his property and other landowner's property, community leader, involved with our local Farm Bureau, and an active supporter of the NC Tobacco Growers Association. Our board voted unanimously in favor of Mr. Clayton's re-appointment.

Please consider re-appointing Mr. Clayton with his strong background and support as a District Supervisor for Vance County.

FOR THE SUPERVISORS

Byron Currin

Byron Currin

District Technician

Department Head

NOMINATED FOR APPOINTMENT AND PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED SOG TRAINING

	SWCD Name	Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	New Appointment		
				First Name	Last Name	Date Attended SOG Training
1	Alexander	*Wendell*	*Kirkham*	Myles	Payne	2004
2	Jackson			Nikki	Young	2009
3	Union	*J. Kenneth*	*Mills*	Allan	Baucom	2005

ATTACHMENT 9Biv

ATTACHMENT 9Biv

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

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 2016-2020

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Alexander Soil and Water Conservation District of Alexander 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 2016 and ending December 2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Wendell Kirkham.

Name of nominee: Myles Payne
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 4642 Paul Payne Store Road, Taylorsville, NC 28681
Email address of nominee: mylopayne@bellsouth.net
Home phone: 828-635-1637
Mobile phone: 828-312-5245
Business phone: same
Occupation: Dairy Farmer
Age: 39
Education: Alexander Central High School
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Vice-chair Alexander Board of Supervisors, NCASWCD Hall of Fame Com, ASWCD Dept Head
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: NC Coop Ext. Ag Advisory Board, NC American Dairy Assoc. Board of Directors, Dairy Farmers Spokesperson Network, Alex. Co. Farm Bureau Board of Directors
Other pertinent information: Hosts Annual 5th Grade Environmental Field Days, Served as an elected supervisor since 2003, Area 2 Chair (2009) and Vice-chair (2008), Area 2 Audit Com Chair, 2009 Mtn Region Farm Family, Water Resources Com, CCAP Com Alt, 2010 Foundation Leadership Training, Certified Waste Operator and Pesticide Applicator
Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: 2004
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Bill Chapman — 10-27-16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: Bill Chapman

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x Myles Payne — 10-27-16
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: Myles Payne

ATTACHMENT 9Biv

DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1614 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614
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INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 2016-2020

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District of Jackson County, North Carolina have recommended the individual listed below for APPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing 2016 and ending 2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of _____

Name of nominee: Nikki Young
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 374 Roy Tritt Rd, Cullowhee NC 28723
Email address of nominee: nyoung-sm@yahoo.com
Home phone: 828-293-0486
Mobile phone: 828 506 4183
Business phone: 828-293-1514
Occupation: self employed business owner
Age: 44
Education: Master's Degree Agriculture Education, Bachelors in Landscape Architecture
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Jackson Co / District / Rep for NCSU Wolfpack Club
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: taught HS Agriculture, FFA advisor, volleyball coach, track coach
Other pertinent information: _____

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: 2009
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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] 8-3-16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
Printed name: John Wittekind

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x Nikki Young 8/3/16
Individual recommended for appointment Date
Printed name: Nikki Young

ATTACHMENT 9Biv

DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1614 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614
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Current Term: 2016-2020

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original 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 2016 and ending 2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Kenneth Mills.

Name of nominee: Allan Baucom
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 9611 Morgan Mill Rd Monroe, NC 28110
Email address of nominee: allan@baucomservice.com
Home phone: 704.753.1414
Mobile phone: 704.221.7190
Business phone: 704.753.4264
Occupation: Farmer
Age: 67
Education: NC State Univ. AgronomyDave Stroh Gangwish Seed Farms 53862 130th Road Shelton, NE 68876 308-647-5301
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee:
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications:
County Commissioner, NC Pork Producers--President, NC Wheat Growers Assoc Dir., NC Soybean Growers Assoc. Dir.,
Other pertinent information:

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: 2005
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Kelvin L Baucom — 10-27-16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: Kelvin Baucom

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

X [signature] — 10/24/16
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: Allan Baucom

http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/districts/forms.html

Version 05.17.16

NOMINATED FOR APPOINTMENT

	SWCD Name	Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	New Appointment	
				First Name	Last Name
1	Albemarle - Pasquotank	*Rodney W.*	*Johnson*	Rufus A.	Jackson, Jr.
2	Beaufort	*Hyram O.*	*Paul, Jr.*	Sid M.	Cayton
3	Bladen	*Ray*	*Allen*	Albert C.	Beatty
4	Brunswick	*Bryan R.*	*Smith*	Samuel C.	Smith
5	Gaston	*Michael L.*	*Ferguson*	Robin	Armstrong
6	Hertford	*Robert E.*	*Brinkley*	Clint	Brinkley
7	Lenoir	*Steven*	*Putnam*	Becky Lynn	Hines
8	Martin	*M. J. "Jeff"*	*Harris*	Corris J.	Jenkins, III
9	Person	*Harold "Ricky"*	*Carver, Sr.*	Hunter R.	Thomas
10	Rutherford	*David*	*Migala*	Bill	Eckler

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 2016-2020

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Albemarle Soil and Water Conservation District of Pasquotank 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 12/05/2016 and ending 12/05/2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of _____.

Dec 2020 - kaf

Name of nominee: Rufus A Jackson, Jr. (Chuck)
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 137 N Light Drive, Hertford, NC 27944
Email address of nominee: _____
Home phone: 264-4610
Mobile phone: 252-333-7507
Business phone: 333-7507
Occupation: Farmer
Age: 47
Education: 2yrs Agriculture Institute NC STATE
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: _____
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Farmer

Other pertinent information: _____

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: _____
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Stephen Harris — 10/6/16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: Stephen Harris

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x Chuck Jackson — 10/6/16
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: Chuck Jackson

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1614 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614
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INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 2016-2020

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District of Beaufort 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 12-05-2016 and ending 12-07-2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Hyram O. Paul, Jr.

Name of nominee: Sid M. Cayton
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 625 Oak Bay Road, Aurora, NC 27806
Email address of nominee: N/A
Home phone: 252-322-4347
Mobile phone: 252-943-7126
Business phone: 252-322-7198
Occupation: Self Employed Farmer
Age: 54
Education: Associate's Degree in Ag Related Field, Beaufort County Community College, Washington, NC 27889
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Member of South Creek Drainage District
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Life Long Self Employed Farmer and Former Beaufort County Farm Bureau Board Member
Other pertinent information: N/A

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: New Recommendation
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Joe Rogers — October 24, 2016
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: Joe Rogers

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

X Sid M. Cayton — October 24, 2016
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: Sid M. Cayton

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

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

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 2016-2020

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the BLADEN Soil and Water Conservation District of BLADEN 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 12/1/16 and ending 12/1/20 to fill the expired or un-expired term of RAY ALLEN ~~5 kaf~~ 7 kaf

Name of nominee: ALBERT C. BEATY
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 6089 NC Hwy 210 EAST, HARRELLS, NC 28444
Email address of nominee:
Home phone: 910 - 532 - 4974
Mobile phone: 910 - 874 - 3137
Business phone: 910 - 874 - 3137
Occupation: FARMER
Age: 71
Education: High School — 1 YEAR COLLEGE
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: BLADEN Community COLLEGE - TRUSTEE
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: FORMER - BLADEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER
Other pertinent information:

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: N/A
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Earl Storms — Date 11/1/16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated)
Printed name: EARL STORMS

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

X Albert C. Beaty — Date 9-26-16
Individual recommended for appointment
Printed name: ALBERT C. BEATY

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1614 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1614
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INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 2016-2020

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Brunswick Soil and Water Conservation District of Brunswick 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 2016 and ending December 2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Bryan R. Smith.

Name of nominee: Samuel C. Smith
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 2206 Ash Little River Road Ash, NC 28420
Email address of nominee: sam@atmc.net
Home phone: 910-287-3478
Mobile phone: 910-512-5951
Business phone: 910-512-5951
Occupation: Self Employeed - Farmer
Age: 58
Education: Campbell University - BA Business Administration
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Church Deacon and Treasurer
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications:
Farmer for the past 38 years - Various church leadership roles
Other pertinent information: Father - SWCD Suoervisor for 57 years. Very familiar with soil and water conservation districts.

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable:
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 R. Gene Ward — 8-15-16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: R. Gene Ward

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x Samuel C Smith — 8-29-16
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: Samuel C. Smith

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original 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 12/5/16 and ending 12/7/20 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Michael Ferguson.

Name of nominee: Robin Armstrong
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 704 Union New Hope Rd., Gastonia, NC ~~28056~~ 28056
Email address of nominee: Pecangrovefarms@gmail.com
Home phone:
Mobile phone: 704-860-2538
Business phone:
Occupation: Horticulture
Age: 40
Education: BS in Horticulture from NC State
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee:
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications:
Secretary of Farm Bureau Board Of Directors, Extension employee
Other pertinent information: Cattle farmer

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable:
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Michael Ferguson Vice Chairman 10/18/15
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
Printed name: Michael Ferguson

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x Robin Armstrong 9/21/16
Individual recommended for appointment Date
Printed name: Robin Armstrong

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Hertford Soil and Water Conservation District of Hertford 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 5, 2016 and ending December 2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Robert E. Brinkley.

Name of nominee: Clint Brinkley
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 421 Jackie Brinkley Road, Aulander, NC 27805
Email address of nominee:
Home phone: 252-345-0618
Mobile phone: 252-287-9245
Business phone: 252-345-1866
Occupation: Farmer
Age: 47
Education: High School
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: President of St. Johns Fire Department, Inc.
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: FSA County Committee, North Carolina Peanut Growers Board, Farm Bureau Board
Other pertinent information:

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable:
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 John D. Simons III — 9/20/2016
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: John D. Simons, III

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x [signature] — 9/20/16
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: Clint Brinkley

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Lenoir Soil and Water Conservation District of Lenoir 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 12-01-16 and ending 12-01-2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Steven Putnam kaf kaf

Name of nominee: Becky Lynn Hines
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 605 Darden Drive, Kinston, NC 28504
Email address of nominee: ncsugrad2002@hotmail.com
Home phone: 252-560-4641
Mobile phone: 252-560-4641
Business phone: 252-527-8591
Occupation: Agricultural Education Teacher
Age: 36
Education: B.S. Agriculture + Extension Education, N.C. State University
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: School district committees
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Past-President, Kinston Rotary Club; Founder + Past Chair, Lenoir County Young Professionals
Other pertinent information: STEM Coordinator at Contentnea-Savannah K-8 School, N.C. Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Curriculum Specialist
Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: N/A
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Chr Ch — 10-31-2016
SWCD Chair (*or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated*) — Date
Printed name: Charles Hughes

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x Becky Hines — 10/28/16
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: Becky L. Hines

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Martin Soil and Water Conservation District of Martin 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 12/05/2016 and ending 12/07/2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of M. Jeffery Harris.

Name of nominee: Corris J. Jenkins, III
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 1364 Seymore Price Road, Jamesville, NC 27846
Email address of nominee: corrisjenkins3@gmail.com
Home phone:
Mobile phone: 252-217-4815
Business phone:
Occupation: Poultry Farmer
Age: 36
Education: High School, and a Batchelor Degree
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee:
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications:

Other pertinent information:

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable:
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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] 8-1-16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) Date
Printed name: Richard D. Cannon

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x [signature] 8-1-16
Individual recommended for appointment Date
Printed name: Corris J. Jenkins III

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

TO: Chairman John Langdon
Commissioner Wayne Collier
Commissioner Chris Hogan
Commissioner Charles Hughes
Commissioner Ben Knox
Commissioner Manly West
Commissioner Bill Yarborough

FROM: Jeff Harris

CC: Phillip Reynolds, DOJ Commission Counsel
David Williams, DSWC Deputy Director
Kristina Fischer, DSWC Eastern Regional Coordinator

DATE: September 11, 2016

SUBJECT: Request to be re-appointed to the Martin Soil & Water Conservation District

I respectfully request to be re-appointed to the Martin Soil & Water Conservation District when my term expires in December 2016. I'm making this request because when I was participating in the 2016 Southeastern NACD meeting in Cherokee on August 1, I learned that the Martin District Board voted to recommend Corris Jenkins to take my appointed seat on the board at the end of my term. I was totally blindsided by my board's action.

At the September 6 board meeting, I ask the board for an explanation of why they chose not to re-appoint me. They would not respond. Commissioner Manly West and Division Deputy Director David Williams were both in attendance.

I've attached the following supporting documentation for your review:

- August 17 email from me to Corris Jenkins making him aware of the board's action and my intent to pursue re-appointment. *Please note that I did invite Mr. Jenkins to attend the September 6 board meeting but he did not attend nor did he respond to my email.*
- August 29 email from North Carolina NACD Board Member Frank Williams to the Martin District Board requesting reconsideration of their action not to re-appoint me.
- September 2 email from NCASWCD President and Commissioner member Ben Knox to the Martin District Board requesting reconsideration of their action not to re-appoint me.
- *Nomination of Supervisor for Reappointment* form filled out by me and provided for comparative purposes.
- An overview of my service and accomplishments as a district supervisor.

To this day I have not received an official explanation of my board's action. I've only advocated for changes that would the improve the district and staff performance in delivery of the commission's state programs to our cooperators. I hope my service and accomplishments merit your consideration to re-appoint me to the Martin Soil & Water Conservation District.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Harris, Vice Chairman
Martin Soil & Water Conservation District

Gmail

ATTACHMENT 9B

Jeff Harris <mjeffh@gmail.com>

Martin Soil & Water Conservation District

Jeff Harris <mjeffh@gmail.com> Wed, Aug 17, 2016 at 9:01 PM
To: corrisjenkins3@gmail.com, bevric@embarqmail.com
Cc: David Williams <david.b.williams@ncagr.gov>, John Langdon <johnlangdon5@gmail.com>, Manly West <mmwest@mchsi.com>, Charles <cwhughes@embarqmail.com>, Bill Yarborough <billyar10@bellsouth.net>

Corris,

It has come to my attention that the Martin Soil & Water Conservation Board of Supervisors, on August 1, voted to recommend to the NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission that you be appointed to the board as a district supervisor. This meeting occurred while I was away participating in another soil and water regional function. Much to my surprise you were nominated to take my seat on the board and a second individual was recommended for the vacant seat. I've never asked to be replaced on the board.

This action was taken by three board members while I was away, unannounced, not usually done in August, never placed on the agenda, occurred after the filing period had passed to be elected, and totally blindsided me. I feel obligated to let you know that I plan to appeal what I perceive as a disingenuous action, and will ask the board on September 6th to reconsider its action in hopes that I will be recommended for re-appointment to the seat I've held for several terms. Chairman Rickie Cannon has been advised verbally and by copy of this letter of my request to be placed on the agenda. I will have others present to speak on my behalf. I want to be upfront with you in that my upcoming actions have nothing to do with you personally. When we met I felt you had the qualities to make a good district supervisor and I had recommended both you and a second candidate as good potential district supervisors. I can't express enough how disappointed I am in that you were placed in this controversial situation and I was never afforded the opportunity nor the courtesy to defend myself as a contributing, dedicated, and active district supervisor.

To tell you more about myself, I'm a very active supervisor on local, area, state and national levels, including:

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Board of Directors as North Carolina Alternate Delegate, 2009-present

Currently serving on the NACD Strategic Planning Committee representing the 9-state Southeast Region, 2016-present; District Operations and Member Services Committees, 2009-present

Martin Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor, 1990 – Present; Chairman (2009-2011)

North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (NASWCD), 2nd Vice President (2008)

NCASWCD annual meeting perfect attendance since 1991

NCASWCD Area V Chair & Vice Chair 2 terms, serving for a total of 8 years

NCASWCD Natural Environment Chair for approximately 5 years

NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission; appointed by Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. 1997 – 2000

UNC School of Government participant in 1993 & 2013; served as guest speaker on two other occasions to present District Supervisor duties and responsibilities

Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society Outstanding Layman Award 2002

2016 Southeast NACD Meeting Planning Committee Member, Session Moderator & Presenter

Representing NACD, Area meeting average attendance at 4 per year since 2009

Mid East RC&D Council 2007- Present

I would welcome your attendance at the September 6th district meeting. Thank you for your understanding. Jeff Harris 252.809.2422 mjeffh@gmail.com

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

Gmail

Jeff Harris <mjeffh@gmail.com>

Letter to Martin SWCD

FRANKLIN O <fowilliams@centurylink.net> Mon, Aug 29, 2016 at 8:54 AM
To: bevric@embarqmail.com, djbleggett@yahoo.com
Cc: Manly West <mmwest@mchsi.com>, Jeff Harris <mjeffh@gmail.com>, John Langdon <johnlangdon5@gmail.com>, Ben Knox <jbk1959@att.net>, Julie Groce <ncaswcd@gmail.com>

Martin SWCD board,

I write this letter on behalf of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and in support of Mr. Jeff Harris, NACD Board Alternate for NC and Martin District Supervisor.

I have served alongside Mr. Harris on our NACD board for more than 5 years now representing North Carolina's 96 conservation districts and our state association. Together we work with the other states and territories to craft a national conservation agenda which NACD takes to Washington, DC. I've often said that whatever decisions are made on Capitol Hill eventually come back home for us to deal with, so we should be proactive rather than reactive. NACD allows the opportunity for locally led conservation to be proactive. NACD is the "national voice for conservation", and what better representation than to have someone local as part of that voice? Representing NC on the national board is a two-way street. We represent our state and local districts, taking our issues to NACD, and represent NACD to keep our state and local districts informed of national issues.

Mr. Harris has been involved and active with NACD and has earned respect from his fellow national associating board members. Along with our other responsibilities, we both serve on the NACD District Operations and Member Services Committee, and Mr. Harris is currently involved on the Strategic Planning Team looking to the future as to how NACD can better serve its constituents and the citizens of America. He is a credit to the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Martin SWCD. Mr. Harris has always put the greater good ahead of self interests. He's a proponent of "locally led" conservation programs and practices, and he is able to express that at a national level.

I request that the Martin SWCD board reconsider the actions taken in the August board meeting, and choose to reappoint Mr. Harris to the Martin board. For you see this is not just a local appointment. To not reappoint Mr. Harris will have a ripple effect across the state of North Carolina, and across the nation... and not in a good way.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Franklin Williams
NACD board member for NC
Duplin District Supervisor

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

Gmail

Jeff Harris <mjeffh@gmail.com>

Martin Soil & Water District Board

Ben Knox <jbk1959@att.net> Fri, Sep 2, 2016 at 11:20 AM
To: bevric@embarqmail.com, djbleggett@yahoo.com
Cc: mmwest@mchsi.com, Jeff Harris <mjeffh@gmail.com>, johmlangdon5@gmail.com, ncaswcd@gmail.com

To Martin Soil & Water District Board members,

It is my understanding that the Martin Soil & Water District Board has decided not to reappoint Mr. Jeff Harris as a supervisor. It is also my understanding that this was done without his knowledge and without his presence at the board meeting. It was also done without conferring with him before this decision was made by the board.

With this said, I think that the board should not have made this decision without Mr. Harris presence at the board meeting and conferring with him about this matter. I would hope that you would reconsider this decision at your next board meeting with Mr. Harris being present.

Mr. Harris presently serves as the Association's alternate NACD board member. He is a strong representative for soil and water conference districts in North Carolina and the nation. His work is vital in making sure that legislative issues for NC and the country are considered in a proper manner. The decisions made at the national level do come back to the state and have an effect on what your district can do for your local clientele.

I hope that you reconsider the decision and will reappoint Mr. Harris to your district board.

Sincerely,

J Ben Knox

President, NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

***Note:* The Martin District is not nominating Jeff Harris for reappointment; this form is provided for comparative purposes**

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NOMINATION OF SUPERVISOR FOR REAPPOINTMENT

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The Martin Soil and Water Conservation District of Martin County, North Carolina, nominates the individual listed below for REAPPOINTMENT as a district supervisor in accordance with N.C.G.S. 139-7 for a term of office commencing Dec. 2012 and ending Dec. 2016.

Name of nominee: Jeff Harris
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 1541 Fairway Drive, Williamston, NC 27892
Email address of nominee: mjeffh@gmail.com
Home phone:
Mobile phone: 252.809.2422
Business phone:
Occupation: Sales
Age: 60
Length of service as a supervisor: 26 yrs.
Attendance at district meetings during **present term** of office.
Number of district meetings scheduled: 38
Number of meetings attended by nominee: 30; *Missed 5 meetings due to participation in NACD meetings scheduled on same dates*
Date last attended UNC-School of Government training: 2013

The NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission generally will not give favorable consideration to the reappointment of an incumbent district supervisor unless he/she has attended, except when prevented by sickness, at least 2/3 of all regularly scheduled district meetings during his/her present term of office (past 4 years), and has attended training at the UNC School of Government.

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. I also certify that 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 N/A
SWCD Chair (*or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated*) Date
Printed name:

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

X Jeff Harris 9.11.2016
Individual recommended for reappointment Date
Printed name: Jeff Harris

Mark Jeffery "Jeff" Harris
Soil & Water Conservation Service and Accomplishments
September 11, 2016

I. Martin Soil & Water Conservation District
- District Supervisor, 1990 - present
- Current Vice Chairman
- District Chairman, 2009 - 2011
- UNC School of Government's Basic Supervisor Training participant, 1993 and 2013
- UNC School of Government's Basic Supervisor Training presenter on district supervisor duties on 2 separate occasions

II. North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission member, 1997 - 2000

III. North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- Second Vice President, 2007
- Annual meeting perfect attendance since 1991
- Annual Meeting Memorial Service presenter, 2010 - present
- Strategic Planning Committee member, 2010
- Natural Environment Committee Chair, 5 yrs.
- Working Lands Conservation Summit, committee chair 2003 - 2004
- Area 5 Chairman & Vice-Chairman - served two 2 yr. terms in each office; 8 yrs. total

IV. National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)
- National Board of Directors' NC Alternate Board Member, 2009 - present
- District Operations and Member Services Committee, 2009 - present
- North Carolina Agriculture and Forestry Adaption Committee, 2014 - present
- NACD Southeast Region Meeting's planning committee member, session moderator and presenter, 2016
- NACD Strategic Planning Committee's Southeast Representative, 2016
- Presented NACD report at ~14 NCASWCD area meetings

V. Mid East RC&D Council member, 2007 - present

VI. Soil & Water Conservation Society, Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter
- Chapter Member, 1993 - 2005
- Outstanding Layman Award, 2002
- National Meeting participant, 1994, 1995, 2015, 2016

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

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Appointed
2016-2020

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Person Soil and Water Conservation District of Person 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 2016 and ending December 2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Harold R. Carver, Sr.

Name of nominee: Hunter R. Thomas
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 8181 Oxford Road, Timberlake, NC 27583
Email address of nominee: hrthomas92@gmail.com
Home phone: 336-364-1520
Mobile phone: 336-504-9468
Business phone: 336-504-9468
Occupation: Field Crops Specialist Thomas Family Farms, Inc.
Age: 24
Education: NC State University - BS Ag Science
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Person Co. Farm Bureau Young Farmer & Rancher
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications:

Other pertinent information:

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: n/a
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that this recommendation has been considered and approved by a majority of the members of the board of supervisors and entered in the official minutes of the board.

x Bruce R. Whitfield — Oct 12, 2016
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: Bruce R.Whitfield

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x Hunter Thomas — 10/10/2016
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: Hunter R. Thomas

ATTACHMENT 9Bv

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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Rutherford Soil and Water Conservation District of Rutherford 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 2016 and ending December 2020 to fill the expired or un-expired term of David Migala.

Name of nominee: Bill Eckler
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: 1696 Clark Road, Rutherfordton, 28139
Email address of nominee: billeckler311@gmail.com
Home phone: 828-287-8724
Mobile phone: 828-429-5747
Business phone:
Occupation: Self-employed
Age: 74
Education: BS in Agriculture and ornamental Horticulture
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Trustee Board for Isothermal Community College
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: County Commissioner, 30 in ornamental horticulture
Other pertinent information:

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable:
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Shanna Buckley — 10-20-16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: Shanna Buckley

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x Bill Eckler — 10/20/16
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name:

ATTACHMENT 9C

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

INTERNAL USE ONLY:
Appointed / Elected Seat
Current Term: 2014-2018

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR

Complete and submit online on your district's SharePoint page; keep original for your file

The supervisors of the Alexander Soil and Water Conservation District of Alexander 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 5, 2016 and ending December 2018 to fill the expired or un-expired term of Myles Payne.

Name of nominee: Kathy Bunton
Address of nominee, City, State, Zip: P.O. Box 339, Taylorsville, NC 28681
Email address of nominee: kbunton@carolinafarmcredit.com
Home phone: 704-592-2011
Mobile phone: 704-437-2814
Business phone: 828-632-7046
Occupation: Carolina Farm Credit, Taylorsville Branch
Age: 57
Education: Masters of Agriculture Education, Clemson University
Positions of leadership NOW held by nominee: Sec/Treas Wilkes Area Poultry Association, Sec/Treas NC Broiler Breeder Hatchery Association
Former occupations or positions of leadership contributing to nominee's qualifications: Cooperative Extension Area Specialized Agent (Poultry) for 14 years (Alexander, Iredell, Wilkes), Livestock/Poultry Agent for 10 years (Alexander), Agriculture Education Teacher for 8 years
Other pertinent information:

Dates of previous attendance at UNC School of Government training, if applicable: n/a
Is nominee willing to attend a training session at the UNC School of Government 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. I also certify that 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 Bill Chapman — 10-28-16
SWCD Chair (or Vice Chair if Chair is being nominated) — Date
Printed name: Bill Chapman

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate.

x Kathy Bunton — 10-28-16
Individual recommended for appointment — Date
Printed name: Kathy Bunton

ATTACHMENT 9C

ALEXANDER SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

374 1st Avenue SW
Taylorsville, North Carolina 28681-2429
Phone (828) 632 – 0638 * Fax (828) 632-7533

October 28, 2016

Alexander SWCD
Attn: Mr. Bill Chapman
374 1st Ave. SW
Taylorsville, NC 28681

Re: Resignation from Elected Seat

Mr. Chapman,

Since the Alexander Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors has voted to recommend me for an appointed position on the Board, I am resigning from my current elected position to be effective on December 5, 2016, contingent upon the Soil & Water Commission's approval of my appointment. Please accept this as my official notice.

Sincerely,

Myles A. Payne

Myles Payne
Vice-chairman, Alexander SWCD

PRELIMINARY ELECTION REPORT FOR 2016-2020 TERMS

SWCD Name		2012-2016 (if different)		2016-2020	
		Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix
1	Alamance			David M.	Spruill
2	Albemarle - Camden			Don Lee	Keaton
3	Albemarle - Chowan	Mark H.	Powell	Carey Y.	Parrish IV
4	Albemarle - Currituck			Manly M.	West
5	Albemarle - Pasquotank	Brian	Stallings	Doug	Temple
6	Albemarle - Perquimans			H. Wayne	Hurdle
7	Alexander			Kent	Herman
8	Alleghany			Bobby Page	Evans
9	Avery	Jeffery	Pollard, Jr.	*write-in*	*write-in*
10	Beaufort			Tracy B.	Warren
11	Bertie			John M.	Griffin
12	Bladen			McCrae	Dowless
13	Brown Creek			John C.	Springer
14	Brunswick	Alan	Robinson	Anthony (Tony) Wayne	Street
15	Buncombe			Jeff	Foster
16	Burke	William F.	Brown, III	Donald	Chapman
17	Cabarrus	Robert	Brown	Thomas E.	Porter, Jr.
18	Caldwell			Allen B.	Tolbert
19	Carteret			S. Clayton	Garner, Jr.
20	Caswell			Tim	Yarborough
21	Catawba			David	Caldwell
22	Chatham			J. Lynn	Mann
23	Cherokee			Johnny	Shields
24	Clay			Glen	Cheeks
25	Cleveland			Michael	Underwood
26	Columbus			Harold Dean	Register
27	Craven			Marlene	Salyer
28	Cumberland	Reuben W.	Cashwell, Sr.	Cathy	Dickens
29	Dare			Ricki	Shepherd

ATTACHMENT 9D

PRELIMINARY ELECTION REPORT FOR 2016-2020 TERMS

SWCD Name		2012-2016 (if different)		2016-2020	
		Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix
30	Davidson	Dennis C.	Loflin	Kevin	Briggs
31	Davie			I.H. "Cokie"	Jones
32	Duplin			William "Billy"	Kilpatrick
33	Durham			Danielle	Adams
34	Edgecombe			K. Renee Anderson	Long
35	Fishing Creek	R. Brent "Rob"	Fleming, Jr.	Matthew	Whitehead
36	Forsyth	James Lee	Knox	Timothy "Tim" Lee	Disher
37	Franklin	N. Thomas	Gulley	Brent	Strickland
38	Gaston	William N.	Craig	Roger	Hurst
39	Gates			E. B.	Hudgins, Jr.
40	Graham			Brian	Wood
41	Granville			Ronnie D.	Burnette
42	Greene			Michael	Hardy
43	Guilford			Ray	Briggs
44	Harnett	Carl H.	Johnson	Ryan	Patterson
45	Haywood			Bill	Yarborough
46	Henderson			Daniel R.	McConnell
47	Hertford			Stuart Pate	Pierce
48	Hoke			Gary A.	Hendrix
49	Hyde			Darren	Armstrong
50	Iredell			Andrew	Allison
51	Jackson	Nikki	Young	Randy	Cabe
52	Johnston			Charles D.	Hill
53	Jones			Michael L.	Shepherd
54	Lee			John "Tommy"	Dalrymple
55	Lenoir	Randy	Smith	Rodney (Rod)	Smith, Jr.
56	Lincoln			Pamela M.	Stroupe
57	Macon	Calvin C.	Conley	Matt	Mason
58	Madison			Harold L.	Hunter

ATTACHMENT 9D

PRELIMINARY ELECTION REPORT FOR 2016-2020 TERMS

SWCD Name		2012-2016 (if different)		2016-2020	
		Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix
59	Martin			Richard D. "Ricky"	Cannon
60	McDowell			Wayne	Parker
61	Mecklenburg			Bradley	Johnson
62	Mitchell			Ed	Terrell
63	Montgomery			Charles	Lucas
64	Moore			Art	Williams
65	Nash			Robert	Glover, Jr.
66	New Hanover	Anthony E.	Mills	David	Dowdy
67	New River			Russell F.	Vannoy
68	Northampton			William M.	Stephenson
69	Onslow			Jerome	Shaw
70	Orange			Roger	Tate
71	Pamlico			James B. "Bossy"	Hardison
72	Pender			Don M.	Rawls
73	Person			John R.	Gray
74	Pitt	Charles S.	Davenport	Brooks	Bunn
75	Polk			Frank	Smith
76	Randolph	Shane	Whitaker	*confirm after 11/18*	*confirm after 11/18*
77	Richmond			Jeff W.	Joyner
78	Robeson			Joseph Neill	Howell, Jr.
79	Rockingham			Brian Pender	Grogan
80	Rowan			Bruce	Miller
81	Rutherford			Ronald	Hawkins
82	Sampson			Thomas D.	Hobbs, Jr.
83	Scotland			Bryan	Hagler
84	Stanly			Aaron L.	Burleson
85	Stokes	Willis	Overby	Michael	Booth
86	Surry			Glenn	Pruitt
87	Swain			Clint "Cam"	Carson, Jr.

ATTACHMENT 9D

PRELIMINARY ELECTION REPORT FOR 2016-2020 TERMS

SWCD Name		2012-2016 (if different)		2016-2020	
		Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix	Supervisor First Name / Middle Name	Supervisor Last Name / Suffix
88	Transylvania			Scott	Galloway
89	Tyrrell			Wesley L.	Hopkins
90	Union	Allan Lee	Baucom	Jerry	Davis
91	Vance			Samuel	Green, Jr.
92	Wake	David	Adams	Marshall	Harvey
93	Warren			David Mike	Hight
94	Washington	Milton V.	Cahoon, III	*write-in*	*write-in*
95	Watauga	Angela D.	Gragg	Todd	Combs
96	Wayne			Thomas P.	Uzzell
97	Wilkes			Gwen T.	Minton
98	Wilson			A. Carroll	Coleman
99	Yadkin			Van	Hemric
100	Yancey			Fred	Woodby

ATTACHMENT 9D

RULE READOPTION WITH CHANGES FOR RULE 02 NCAC 59F.0106
DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Department received one comment on the proposed language for the CREP Dispute Resolution Rule (59F.0106). The commenter stated that it was not clear whether the rule was addressing noncompliance with the easement or noncompliance with practices. The Division has proposed to revise the proposed text to clarify that the rule is addressing noncompliance with the CREP agreement. The commenter also asked to specify what procedures the Division will follow and the remedies that are available under the law to address the noncompliance, but Department Counsel has advised to not revised that language so as to keep all remedies open to respond to specific noncompliance incidents.

The Division is also suggesting to change the title of the rule to more accurately reflect the subject of the rule being to address noncompliance with the CREP agreement.

The text shown in red below are the changes recommended from the rule language that was published in the State Register for public comment.

SUBCHAPTER 59F – CONSERVATION RESERVE ~~ENHANCEMENY~~ ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) – STATE PORTION OF THE PROGRAM

SECTION .0100 - CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) -- STATE PORTION OF THE PROGRAM

02 NCAC 59F .0106 NONCOMPLIANCE WITH CREP AGREEMENT ~~DISPUTE RESOLUTION~~

(a) If noncompliance with any CREP agreement is determined, the landowner must return the enrolled area to the condition that meets the guidelines of the CREP upon receiving written notification to do so. The notice, from the ~~appropriate CREP agency~~ Division, will contain:

(1) a detailed description of the enrolled area;
(2) a description of the area in noncompliance;
(3) recommended measures to correct the noncompliance ~~for repair of the practice~~; and
(4) a time frame for repair.

Any expense incurred ~~due~~ to correct the noncompliance ~~of a practice~~ will be the responsibility of the landowner. ~~Landowners are not responsible for repayment of cost-share due to a failure of a practice through no fault of their own.~~If the noncompliance involves a cost-shared practice that is within the state cost share contract maintenance period, then the requirements in .02 NCAC 59D.0107 shall be followed.

(b) From the date of the notice of noncompliance, the landowner will be given 30 days to reply in writing to the Division with a plan for repairing the easement area. The Division will work with the landowner to ensure that the plan of repair meets the CREP objectives. Once a plan is approved in writing by the Division, the landowner has 90 days from the date of said approval to complete restoration of the easement area. For vegetative practices, applicants are given one calendar year to re-establish the vegetation. An extension may be granted by the Division if it is determined that compliance cannot be met due to circumstances beyond the landowner's control.

(c) In the event that an easement has been found to be noncompliant and the landowner does not agree to correct the noncompliance ~~repair or re-implement the cost shared practice, the landowner and the Division may jointly request the Commission to mediate the case as set forth in the NC-CREP contract between the parties. To invoke this method, both parties must stipulate that said mediation is binding.~~~~practice(s)~~, the

Division may invoke procedures to achieve resolution to the noncompliance, including any and all remedies available to it under the easement and/or applicable law.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 106-840; 106-850(a); 139-4;*
Temporary Adoption Eff. October 1, 2000;
Eff. August 1, 2002;
Transferred from 15A NCAC 06G .0106 Eff. May 1, 2012.

G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC 59D, AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM FOR NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL

Agency - Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services/Soil & Water Conservation Commission

Comment Period - September 1, 2016 - October 31, 2016

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Implements or Conforms to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(e)]
	SECTION .0100 - AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM	02 NCAC 59D .0101	PURPOSE	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06E .0101 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59D .0102	DEFINITIONS FOR SUBCHAPTER 59d	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06E .0102 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59D .0103	ALLOCATION GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06E .0103 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59D .0104	BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ELIGIBLE FOR COST SHARE PAYMENTS	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06E .0104 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59D .0105	COST SHARE AND INCENTIVE PAYMENTS	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06E .0105 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59D .0106	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06E .0106 Eff. May 1, 2012.	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59D .0107	COST SHARE AGREEMENT	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06E .0107 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59D .0108	DISTRICT PROGRAM OPERATION	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06E .0108 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No

ATTACHMENT 11

Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One

G.S. 150B-21.3A Report for 02 NCAC 59H, COMMUNITY CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL

Agency - Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services/Soil & Water Conservation Commission

Comment Period - September 1, 2016 - October 31, 2016

Date Submitted to APO - Filled in by RRC staff

Subchapter	Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Date and Last Agency Action on the Rule	Agency Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Implements or Conforms to Federal Regulation [150B-21.3A(e)]
	SECTION .0100 – COMMUNITY CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	02 NCAC 59H .0101	PURPOSE	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06I .0101 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59H .0102	DEFINITIONS FOR SUBCHAPTER 59H	Amended Eff. November 1, 2016	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59H .0103	ALLOCATION GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES	Amended Eff. November 1, 2016	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59H .0104	BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ELIGIBLE FOR COST SHARE PAYMENTS	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06I .0104 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59H .0105	COST SHARE AND INCENTIVE PAYMENTS	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06I .0105 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59H .0106	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06I .0106 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59H .0107	COST SHARE AGREEMENT	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06I .0107 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No
		02 NCAC 59H .0108	DISTRICT PROGRAM OPERATION	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06I .0108 Eff. May 1, 2012	Necessary with substantive public interest	No

Federal Regulation Citation	Public Comment Received [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	Agency Determination Following Public Comment [150B-21.3A(c)(1)]	RRC Determination of Public Comments [150B-21.3A(c)(2)	RRC Final Determination of Status of Rule for Report to APO [150B-21.3A(c)(2)]	OAH Next Steps
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One
	No	Necessary with substantive public interest	Select One	Select One	Select One

AgWRAP Regional Application Recommendations

County of Pond Site	Cooperator Name	AgWRAP Best Management Practice	Amount requested for BMP construction	Amount requested for private engineering to complete design	Proposed funding source
Bertie	Harden	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	AgWRAP
Cleveland	Michael Underwood	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	AgWRAP
Cleveland	Guansen Ou	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	AgWRAP
Cleveland	Ronald Marvin Hamrick	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	AgWRAP
Gaston	Joel D Stroot	New pond (90% cost share - new farmer)	$ 30,000	$ -	AgWRAP
Harnett	LD Black	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	AgWRAP
Harnett	Steve W. Thomas	New pond	$ 25,000	$ 10,000	AgWRAP
Harnett	Brian Stafford	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	AgWRAP
Stanly	Rodney Huneycutt	New pond	$ 25,000	$ 10,000	AgWRAP
Richmond	William McRae	Pond repair/retrofit	$ 25,000	$ 10,000	AgWRAP
Rockingham	Dwain Strader	Pond repair/retrofit	$ 25,000	$ 7,500	AgWRAP
Gates	Dennis Trotman	Conservation Irrigation Conversion (installing a low pressure center pivot)	$ 8,400		AgWRAP
Clay	Shane Gibson	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	TVA AgWRAP
Clay	Paul Garrett	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	TVA AgWRAP
Henderson	Bradley Barnes	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	TVA AgWRAP
Henderson	Phillip Whitaker	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	TVA AgWRAP
Henderson	Phillip C Whitaker DBA Whitaker Farms	New pond	$ 25,000	$ -	TVA AgWRAP
Henderson	James T Woods	New pond	$ 25,000	$ 10,000	TVA AgWRAP
Totals			**$ 438,400**	**$ 47,500**	

Proposed Allocation Recommendation	
AgWRAP	$ 325,900
TVA-AgWRAP	$ 160,000
Total Batch 1	**$ 485,900**

Fiscal Year 2017 Detailed Implementation Plan
November 2016

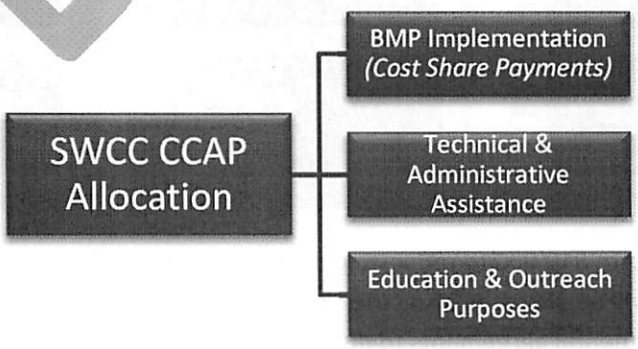
Background

The North Carolina Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) was authorized through Session Law 2006-78, and became effective on July 10, 2006. CCAP is implemented in accordance with the rules as published 02 NCAC 59H. The purpose of CCAP is to reduce the delivery of nonpoint source (NPS) pollution into the waters of the State by installing best management practices (BMPs) on developed lands not directly involved in agricultural production. Through this voluntary, incentive-based conservation program, interested parties are provided educational, technical and financial assistance. District personnel provides educational resources to the general public, municipalities, and other cooperators regarding the effects CCAP practices can have on water quality.

CCAP is administered by the North Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Commission and implemented through local soil and water conservation districts. The commission meets with stakeholders to gather input on CCAP's development and administration through the CCAP Advisory Committee. CCAP annually receives $136,937 in appropriations and support for one position in the Division of Soil and Water Conservation.

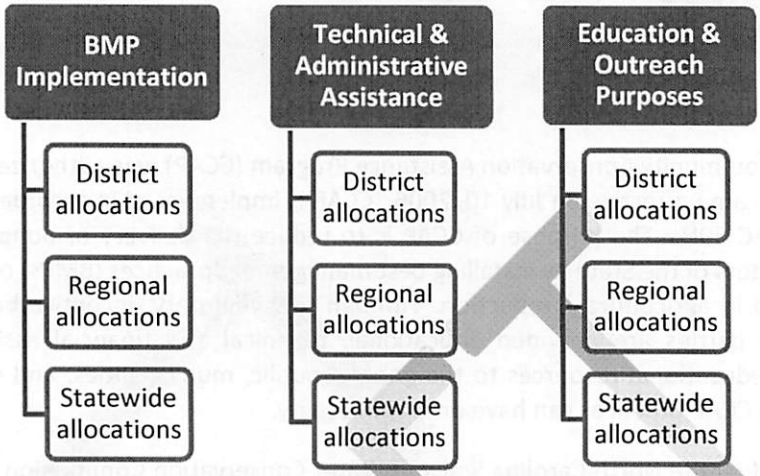
Last fiscal year, the Commission proposed revisions to the existing CCAP Definition Rule (02 NCAC 59H .0102) and Allocation Guidelines and Procedures Rule (02 NCAC 59H .0103). The Commission developed these changes to improve program efficiency, district delivery and water quality improvements made by this program. These rules were approved and became effective on November 1, 2016. The revisions allow the Commission to specify in this document, the CCAP annual Detailed Implementation Plan, the proportion of available funds to allocate for cost share payments, technical and administrative assistance, and education and outreach purposes and the proportion of those funds to be allocated to district, statewide, and regional allocations pools. This is particularly important given the limited amount of recurring funding currently available in this program. This Detailed Implementation Plan follows this new format. The allocation process is depicted in figures 1 and 2.

Figure 1: Soil and Water Conservation Commission CCAP allocation process



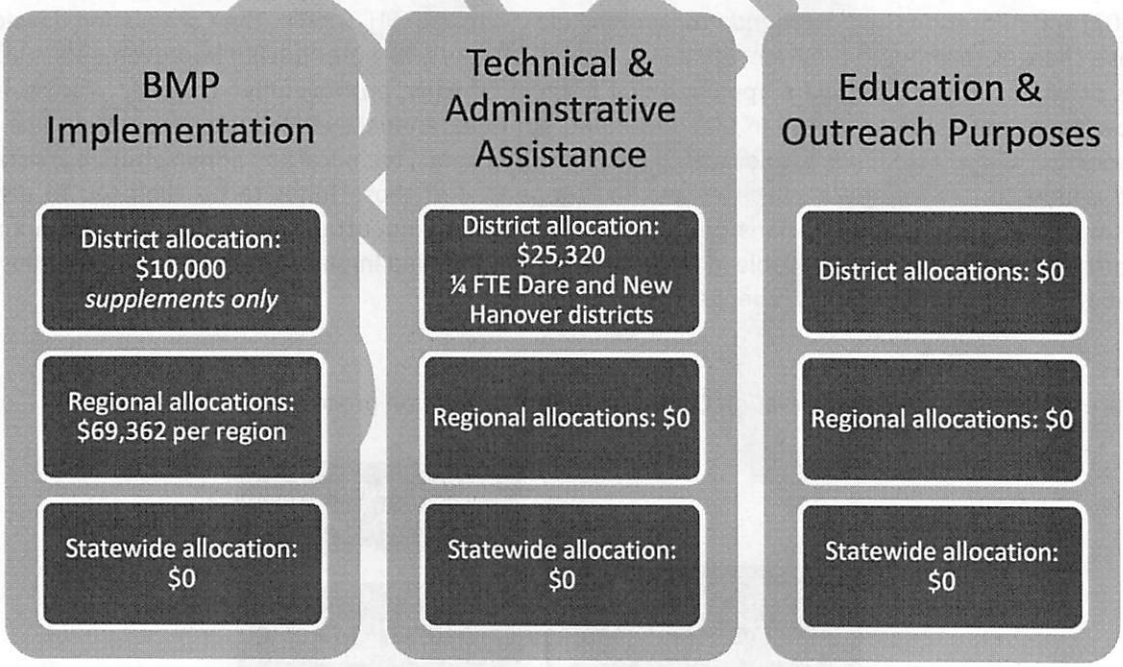
DRAFT

Figure 2: Soil and Water Conservation Commission CCAP allocation process for different funding pools



Fiscal Year 2017 Allocation Strategy

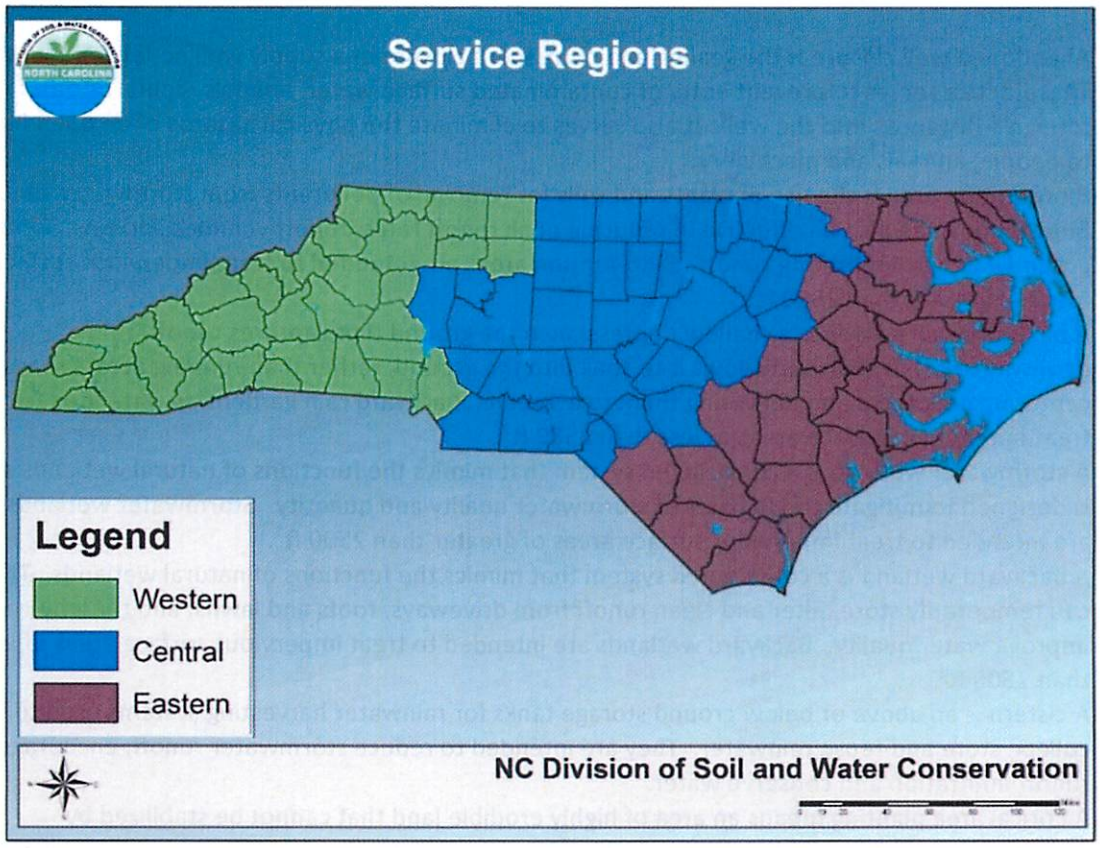
Figure 3: Proposed Soil and Water Conservation Commission FY2017 CCAP Allocation Strategy



The Commission will allocate $10,000 to requesting districts specifically for supplements for current active contracts. Funds will be allocated to districts on a first come, first serve basis until all funds allocated for 2017 supplemental agreements to districts are exhausted.

The Commission will allocate remaining BMP funding, including this year's appropriation and remaining funding from previous fiscal years from completed or cancelled contracts through a competitive regional application process for any of the approved 2017 CCAP conservation practices. Each of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation's (DSWC) three regions, as depicted in figure 4, will receive an equal allocation. Applications will be approved using the same ranking criteria for each region. Should a region not have sufficient applications to fund, the Commission will allocate the remaining funds by approving applications in other regions, funding applications by highest score. The maximum CCAP cost share for an application will be limited to a $15,000, so that at least four applications can be approved in each region.

Figure 4: Division of Soil and Water Conservation Service Regions for CCAP allocations



Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Goals

I. Conduct a competitive regional allocation process for CCAP BMPs.
   a. Fund projects in each of the division's regions: western, central and eastern.
   b. Distribute funding for BMPs consistent with the ranking form with those of the highest ranking in each region receiving allocations until depleted.

II. Allocate funds to soil and water conservation districts for supplementing existing CCAP contracts to enable their successful completion.

III. Continue to implement the program
   a. Maintain the CCAP website with all relevant information.
   b. Maintain the job approval database.
   c. Implement CCAP education and outreach efforts

Best Management Practices

Additional practices may be adopted by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission and introduced during the program year. Sites must have been developed for three years or more to be eligible for cost share assistance, and must be released from sedimentation erosion control permits. Unless otherwise specified, the minimum life of all practices is 10 years. For single-family home sites, the minimum life of all practices is five years because these properties change owners more frequently.

(1) Abandoned well closure is the sealing and permanent closure of a supply well no longer in use. This practice serves to prevent entry of contaminated surface water, animals, debris or other foreign substances into the well. It also serves to eliminate the physical hazards of an open hole to people, animals and machinery.
(2) Bioretention area is the use of plants and soils for removal of pollutants from stormwater runoff. Bioretention can also be effective in reducing peak runoff rates, runoff volumes and recharging groundwater by infiltrating runoff. Bioretention areas are intended to treat impervious surface areas of greater than 2500 ft^2.
(3) A backyard rain garden is a shallow depression in the ground that captures runoff from a driveway, roof, or lawn and allows it to soak into the ground, rather than running across roads, capturing pollutants and delivering them to a stream. Backyard rain gardens are intended to treat impervious surface areas of less than 2500 ft^2.
(4) A stormwater wetland is a constructed system that mimics the functions of natural wetlands and is designed to mitigate the impacts of stormwater quality and quantity. Stormwater wetlands are intended to treat impervious surface areas of greater than 2500 ft^2.
(5) A backyard wetland is a constructed system that mimics the functions of natural wetlands. They can temporarily store, filter and clean runoff from driveways, roofs and lawns, and thereby improve water quality. Backyard wetlands are intended to treat impervious surface areas of less than 2500 ft^2.
(6) A cistern is an above or below ground storage tanks for rainwater harvesting systems used to collect, store and reuse rainwater. They are intended to reduce stormwater runoff, encourage runoff infiltration and conserve water.
(7) A critical area planting means an area of highly erodible land that cannot be stabilized by ordinary conservation treatment on which permanent perennial vegetative cover is established and protected to improve water quality.
(8) A diversion means a channel constructed across a slope with a supporting ridge on the lower side to control drainage by diverting excess water from an area to improve water quality.
(9) A grassed swale is a natural or constructed channel that is shaped or graded to required dimensions and established in suitable vegetation for the stable conveyance of runoff to improve water quality.

(10) Impervious surface conversion is the removal of impenetrable materials such as asphalt, concrete, brick and stone. These materials seal surfaces, repel water and prevent precipitation from infiltrating soils. Removal of these impervious materials, when combined with permeable pavement or vegetation establishment, is intended to reduce stormwater runoff rate and volume, as well as associated pollutants transported from the site by stormwater runoff.

(11) Permeable pavement is an alternative to conventional concrete and asphalt paving materials that allows rapid infiltration of stormwater. Stormwater infiltrates into a porous material that provides temporary storage until the water infiltrates into underlying permeable soils or through an underground drain system.

(12) A pet waste receptacle is a receptacle designed to encourage pet owners to pick up after animals in parks, neighborhoods and apartment complexes so as to prevent waste from being transported off-site by stormwater runoff.

(13) A riparian buffer is an area adjacent to a stream where a permanent, long-lived vegetative cover (grass, shrubs, trees or a combination of vegetation types) is established to improve water quality.

(14) A stream restoration system is the use of bioengineering practices, native material revetments, channel stability structures and/or the restoration or management of riparian corridors to restore the natural function of the stream corridor and improve water quality by reducing sedimentation to streams from streambanks.

(15) Streambank and shoreline protection is the use of vegetation to stabilize and protect banks of streams, lakes, estuaries or excavated channels against scour and erosion.

(16) Marsh sills protect estuarine shorelines from erosion, combining engineered structures with natural vegetation to maintain, restore, or enhance the shoreline's natural habitats. A sill is a coast-parallel, long or short structure built with the objective of reducing the wave action on the shoreline by forcing wave breaking over the sill. Sills are used to provide protection for existing coastal marshes, or to retain sandy fill between the sill and the eroding shoreline, to establish suitable elevations for the restoration or establishment of coastal marsh and/or riparian vegetation.

(17) A structural stormwater conveyance includes various techniques to divert runoff from paved surfaces where a vegetated diversion is not feasible. The purpose is to direct stormwater runoff (sheet flow or concentrated) away from a direct discharge point and divert it to an approved BMP or naturally vegetated area capable of removing nutrients through detention, filtration, or infiltration.

DRAFT

DRAFT FY2017 Average Costs

Best Management Practice	Components	Unit Type	All Areas Unit Cost	Cost Type	Share Rate	Cost Share Cap *	Notes
Abandoned well closure		Each		Actual Cost	75%	$ 1,500	
Backyard rain garden							
	Excavation (including mobilization)	CuYd	$ 67.50	Average Cost	75%	$ 1,000	
	Bioretention soil amendment	CuYd	$ 28.00	Average Cost	75%		
	Triple shredded hardwood mulch	CuYd	$ 25.00	Average Cost	75%		
	Bioretention plants (installed)	SqFt	$ 1.50	Average Cost	75%		
	Brick - 8"	Each	$ 0.51	Average Cost	75%		
	Concrete block - 6" or 8'	Each	$ 1.90	Average Cost	75%		
	Concrete block - 12"	Each	$ 2.30	Average Cost	75%		
	Catch basin	Job		Actual Cost	75%	$ 1,000	
	Sod (Bermuda, Centipede, Fescue)	SqFt	$ 0.25	Average Cost	75%	$ 25	Inlet & outlet only
	Sod (Zoysia)	SqFt	$ 0.37	Average Cost	75%	$ 25	Inlet & outlet only
	Matting - excelsior, installed	SqYd	$ 0.95	Average Cost	75%		Includes pins & installation
	Turf Reinforced Matting	SqYd	$ 5.50	Average Cost	75%		Includes pins & installation
	Vegetation (grass) - minimum	Job	$ 15.00	Average Cost	75%		only necessary if adjacent areas are disturbed during installation
Backyard wetland							
	Excavation (including mobilization)	CuYd	$ 67.50	Average Cost	75%	$ 1,000	
	Wetland plants (installed)	SqFt	$ 2.30	Average Cost	75%		
	Wetland outlet structure	Each	$ 50.00	Average Cost	75%		
Cisterns							
	Cistern 250-3,000 gallons installed	Gallon	$ 1.00	Average Cost	75%		
	Cistern above 3,000 gallons installed	Gallon		Actual Cost	75%		
	Accessories package	Each		Actual Cost	75%	$ 700	
	Cistern gravel foundation	CuYd	$ 37.80	Average Cost	75%		
	Concrete pad for cistern	CuYd	$ 123.00	Average Cost	75%		
	Shipping charge	Each		Actual Cost	75%	$ 500	
	Cistern (3,000+ gallons) - engineering	Job		Actual Cost	75%	$ 5,000	
Critical area planting							
	Grading - minimum	Job	$ 25.00	Average Cost	75%		
	Grading - light, 1" - 3" avg	SqFt	$ 0.04	Average Cost	75%		
	Grading - medium, 3" - 6" avg	SqFt	$ 0.05	Average Cost	75%		
	Grading - heavy, 6" - 9" avg	SqFt	$ 0.06	Average Cost	75%		
	Grading - extra heavy, 9" - 12" avg	SqFt	$ 0.07	Average Cost	75%		
	Grading - max heavy, more than 12" avg	SqFt	$ 0.08	Average Cost	75%		
	Vegetation (grass) - minimum	Job	$ 15.00	Average Cost	75%		
	Vegetation (grass)	SqFt	$ 0.03	Average Cost	75%		
	Vegetation (trees/shrubs)	SqFt		Actual Cost	75%		
	Vegetation - mulch, netting	SqFt	$ 0.07	Average Cost	75%		
	Vegetation - mulch, small grain straw	SqFt	$ 0.02	Average Cost	75%		

NC CCAP

DRAFT FY2017 Average Costs

Best Management Practice	Components	Unit Type	All Areas Unit Cost	Cost Type	Share Rate	Cost Share Cap *	Notes
	Compost Blanket (see notes)	SqFt	$ 0.20	Average Cost	75%		Includes mulch & seed
	Compost Sock (see notes)	LFt	$ 3.00	Average Cost	75%		Includes mulch & seed
	Bioretention soil amendment	CuYd	$ 28.00	Average Cost	75%		
	Triple shredded hardwood mulch	CuYd	$ 25.00	Average Cost	75%		
	Sod (Bermuda, Centipede, Fescue)	SqFt	$ 0.25	Average Cost	75%	$ 250	
	Sod (Zoysia)	SqFt	$ 0.37	Average Cost	75%	$ 250	
	Hydroseeding	SqFt	$ 0.12	Average Cost	75%		
	Matting - excelsior, installed	SqYd	$ 0.95	Average Cost	75%		
Diversion		Feet					
	Excavation (including mobilization)	SqFt		Actual Cost	75%	$2.50/SqFt	
	Vegetation (grass)	SqFt	$ 0.03	Average Cost	75%		
	Filter cloth-geotextile fabric	SqYd	$ 2.25	Average Cost	75%		Includes pins & installation
	Vegetation - mulch, netting	SqFt	$ 0.07	Average Cost	75%		
	Vegetation - mulch, small grain straw	SqFt	$ 0.02	Average Cost	75%		
	Matting - excelsior, installed	SqYd	$ 0.95	Average Cost	75%		Includes pins & installation
	Sod (Bermuda, Centipede, Fescue)	SqFt	$ 0.25	Average Cost	75%		
	Sod (Zoysia)	SqFt	$ 0.37	Average Cost	75%		
	Turf Reinforced Matting	SqYd	$ 5.50	Average Cost	75%		Includes pins & installation
	Temporary liners	SqYd		Actual Cost	75%	$5.50/SqYd	Includes pins & installation
	Rip rap (based on PE design)	Ton	$ 24.00	Average Cost	75%		includes Class A,B,1,2
	Pipe (based on PE design)			Refer to ACSP			
	Diversion - engineering	Job		Actual Cost	75%	$ 5,000	
Grassed Swale		SqFt					
	Excavation (including mobilization)	SqFt		Actual Cost	75%	$2.50/SqFt	
	Vegetation (grass)	SqFt	$ 0.03	Average Cost	75%		
	Filter cloth-geotextile fabric	SqYd	$ 2.25	Average Cost	75%		Includes pins & installation
	Vegetation - mulch, netting	SqFt	$ 0.07	Average Cost	75%		
	Vegetation - mulch, small grain straw	SqFt	$ 0.02	Average Cost	75%		
	Matting - excelsior, installed	SqYd	$ 0.95	Average Cost	75%		Includes pins & installation
	Sod (Bermuda, Centipede, Fescue)	SqFt	$ 0.25	Average Cost	75%		
	Sod (Zoysia)	SqFt	$ 0.37	Average Cost	75%		
	Turf Reinforced Matting	SqYd	$ 5.50	Average Cost	75%		Includes pins & installation
	Temporary Liners	SqYd		Actual Cost	75%	$5.50/SqYd	Includes pins & installation
	Rip rap (based on PE design)	Ton	$ 24.00	Average Cost	75%		includes Class A,B,1,2
	Pipe (based on PE design)			refer to ACSP PY13 cost list			
	Earth fill - hauled	CuYd		Actual Cost	75%	$9/CuYd	
	Grassed swale - engineering (if PE required)	Job		Actual Cost	75%	$ 5,000	

ATTACHMENT 1

DRAFT FY2017 Average Costs

Best Management Practice	Components	Unit Type	All Areas Unit Cost	Cost Type	Share Rate	Cost Share Cap *	Notes
Impervious surface conversion	conversion to trees	SqFt	$ 6.00	Average Cost	75%		
	conversion to grass	SqFt	$ 4.00	Average Cost	75%		
Permeable pavement		SqFt	$ 12.00	Average Cost	75%		
	Permeable pavement - engineering	Job		Actual Cost	75%	$ 5,000	
Pet waste receptacle		Each					
	Receptacle (installed)	Each		Actual Cost	75%	$ 400	
	Receptacle (retrofit of existing trash can)	Each		Actual Cost	75%	$ 100	
	Plastic bags (per receptacle at time of original contracts)			Actual Cost	75%	$ 75	
Riparian buffer		SqFt		Actual Cost	75%		
Stream restoration		Feet		Actual Cost	75%		
	Stream restoration - engineering	Job		Actual Cost	75%	$ 5,000	
Streambank and shoreline protection		Feet		Actual Cost	75%		
Bioretention areas		SqFt		Actual Cost	75%		
	Bioretention areas - engineering	Job		Actual Cost	75%	$ 5,000	
Stormwater wetlands		SqFt		Actual Cost	75%		
	Stormwater wetlands - engineering	Job		Actual Cost	75%	$ 5,000	
Marsh sills		Feet		Actual Cost	75%	$ 5,000	
Structural Stormwater Conveyance		Each		Actual Cost	75%	$ 4,000	
	Structural stormwater conveyance - engineering	Job		Actual Cost	75%	$ 5,000	

The cost share cap listed above is the maximum amount of cost share reimbursement allowed.

ATTACHMENT 14A

NORTH CAROLINA
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
Yours for Life

Washington County Soil and Water
P.O.Box 218
Roper, NC 27970

To Commission Members:

I am writing this letter asking for post contract approval for the water control structures (that work with subsurface tile drainage), that were put in on Doug Maxwell's farm. NC State University reached out to soil and water districts wanting to implement these structures. There were AIM funds earmarked for this work. Doug Maxwell was willing to implement the structures and was told by our technician that there were funds to assist with the cost. A note in the file (May, 2016) indicates that the project was pending waiting for division approval.

I believe that after that initial work, our technician failed to follow through with proper communication with the producer to explain that work could not be done until it was approved by the commission. I apologize for the over site, but am asking that you honor the work that has done. It is documented that they were properly installed and Doug even went beyond what was needed in installation. The units were designed and built by Agri Drain Corporation.

Thank you,

Gerda D. Rhodes
Board Chair of WCSWCD

ATTACHMENT 14A

Tyrrell Soil and Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 162 - Columbia, NC 27925 - Phone (919) 796-3891 - Fax (919) 796-1963

9/13/2016

Soil & Water Conservation Commission
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

RE: AIM Project 94-2016-010

Dear Members of the Commission,

This letter is on the behalf of the Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District. As technician for the Tyrrell Soil & Water Conservation District, I have Job Approval Authority for the design, construction, and implementation of Water Control Structures. I have been asked to inspect and evaluate the Water Control Structures for contract 94-2016-010 installed by Doug Maxwell in Washington County, NC. For some background on the construction competency of Mr. Maxwell, part of his business is designing and installing sub surface drain tile systems for farmers across the state as well as in various states. He has sophisticated equipment that allows him to survey and install this tile with great precision. I myself have observed this process on multiple occasions.

As for my evaluation of the installation of the structures, the two structures are level and installed very well. On my observation, they had a few boards inside the risers and were holding water the height of the boards as designed. They are both tied into the sub surface drain tile systems and seem to function as designed. Mr. Maxwell has also gone beyond the call by getting a bulkhead/headwall structure installed around both of the structures to prevent erosion and the possibility of compromising the integrity of the designed systems at his own cost which is $2,000+ extra.

In conclusion, it is my opinion that these structures were installed and tied into the existing systems correctly and competently, and will function and serve their purpose. I have included some photos of both of the sites.

Thank you for your time,

Ty Fleming
Tyrrell SWCD Technician

ATTACHMENT 14A

Structure near 30' Canal Rd. (Note: Large black pipe in picture above is not Part of structure, but was blown in ditch from adjacent property by Hurricane Hermine.)

Structure 2 installed at far end of field.

Training Committee Report

BEN KNOX, PRESIDENT
NC ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

DAVID WILLIAMS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
NC DIVISION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Association District Operations and Legislative Action Item

The Association President will work with the Commission Chair and Division Director to obtain legislation requiring all district supervisors, both elected and appointed, to participate in Commission-approved supervisor training at the UNC School of Government or equivalent training. Training will be on an approved schedule and will ensure supervisors are current with their knowledge of information pertinent to their roles and responsibilities. **In addition, the Commission Chair will appoint a work group to define supervisor roles and responsibilities, and develop a structure for supervisor professional development to include <u>continuing education credits</u> and a training approval process.**

Farm Act of 2016 modified District Law to require training

SECTION 5.(a) G.S. 139-4(d) reads as rewritten:

"(d) In addition to the duties and powers hereinafter conferred upon the Soil and Water Conservation Commission, it shall have the following duties and powers:

(13) To establish a training program required for all district supervisors."

SECTION 5.(b) Article 1 of Chapter 139 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 139-7.2. Training of elective and appointive district supervisors.

All district supervisors, whether elected or appointed, shall complete a minimum of six clock hours of training annually.

The training shall include soil, water, and natural resources conservation and the duties and responsibilities of district supervisors.

The training may be provided by the School of Government at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, or other qualified sources as approved by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission."

Likely avenues for providing training

- Presentations at District Meetings
- Association Area and State meetings
- Association and District sponsored field days
- Online Training (e.g., training modules, AgLEARN)
- Cooperative Extension Service
- Commission Meetings
- Conservation Employee Training
- NRCS Training
- NACD National and Regional Meetings
- Classroom Training (e.g., UNC School of Government)
- Other Sources

Potential Training Topics

- Supervisor Roles & Responsibilities
- Ethics
- Leading Effective Meetings
- Managing Personnel
- Budget/Fiscal Control Requirements
- Developing Staff Capabilities
- Federal/State Conservation Programs
- Conservation Planning
- Environmental Laws/Rules
- Job Approval Authority
- Effective Local Work Groups
- Conservation Easements
- Securing grant funding
- The Value of Diversity
- Public Meetings/Open Records
- Promoting your District's Activities
- Conservation Practices

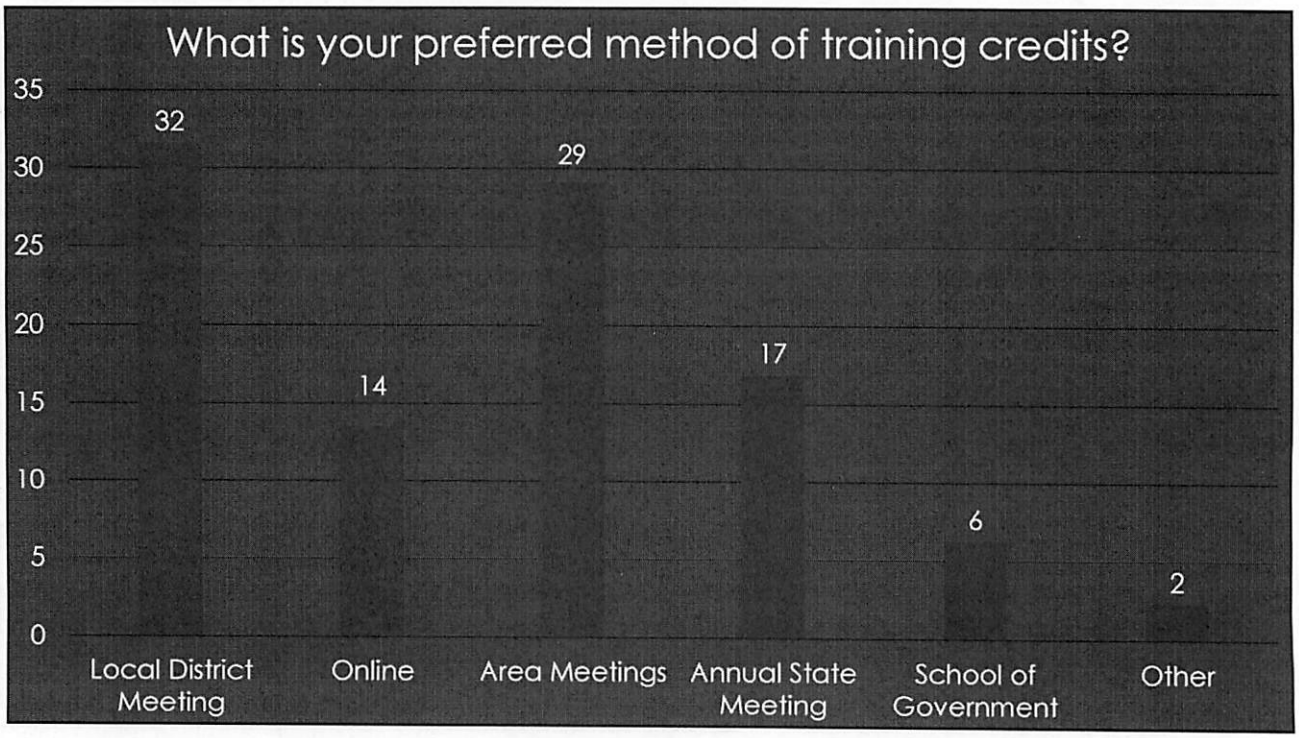
Proposed Timeline

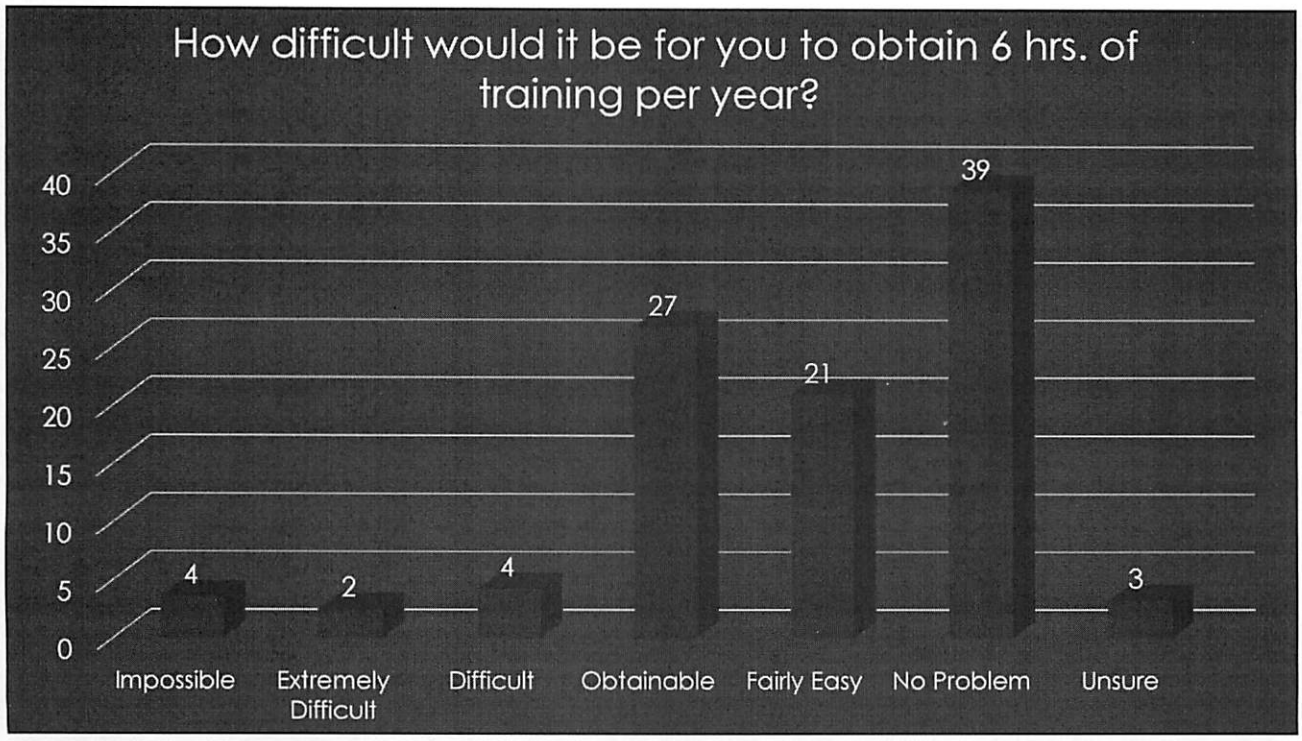
- Training program currently in development phase
- Law currently does not specify when training program is to be implemented
- Once Commission is satisfied with program criteria, guidelines and tracking database, it will approve and implement a 12-18 month pilot
- Program will remain as pilot until Commission is satisfied with program performance
- Commission will then approve training program with official start date to fall on January 1st

DRAFT

Next Steps

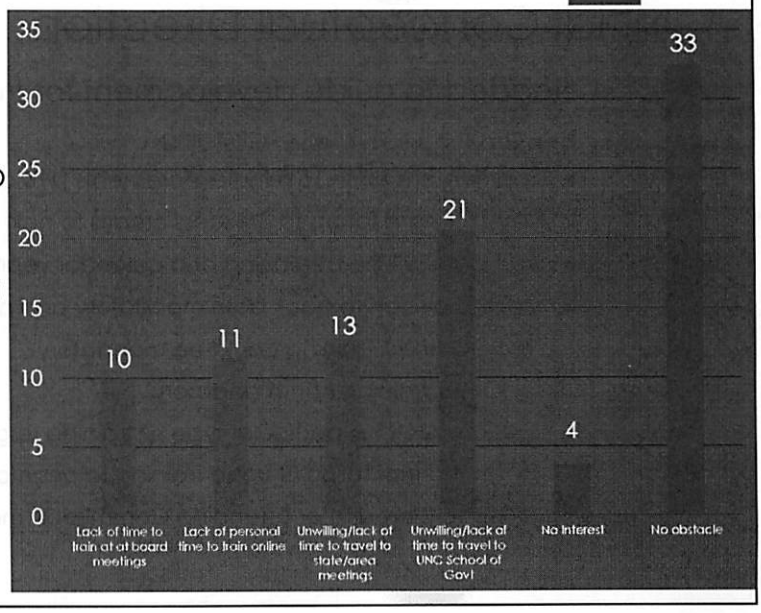
- Outreach at Area Meetings (Ongoing)
- Try out DRAFT Request Form for proposed training credits.
- Develop logistics for offering SOG Basic Training for SWCD Supervisors regionally
- Develop criteria to determine what types of activities are eligible for training credits
- Develop scenarios to demonstrate criteria.
- Develop tracking methodology
  - Initial Commission approval for conceptual direction

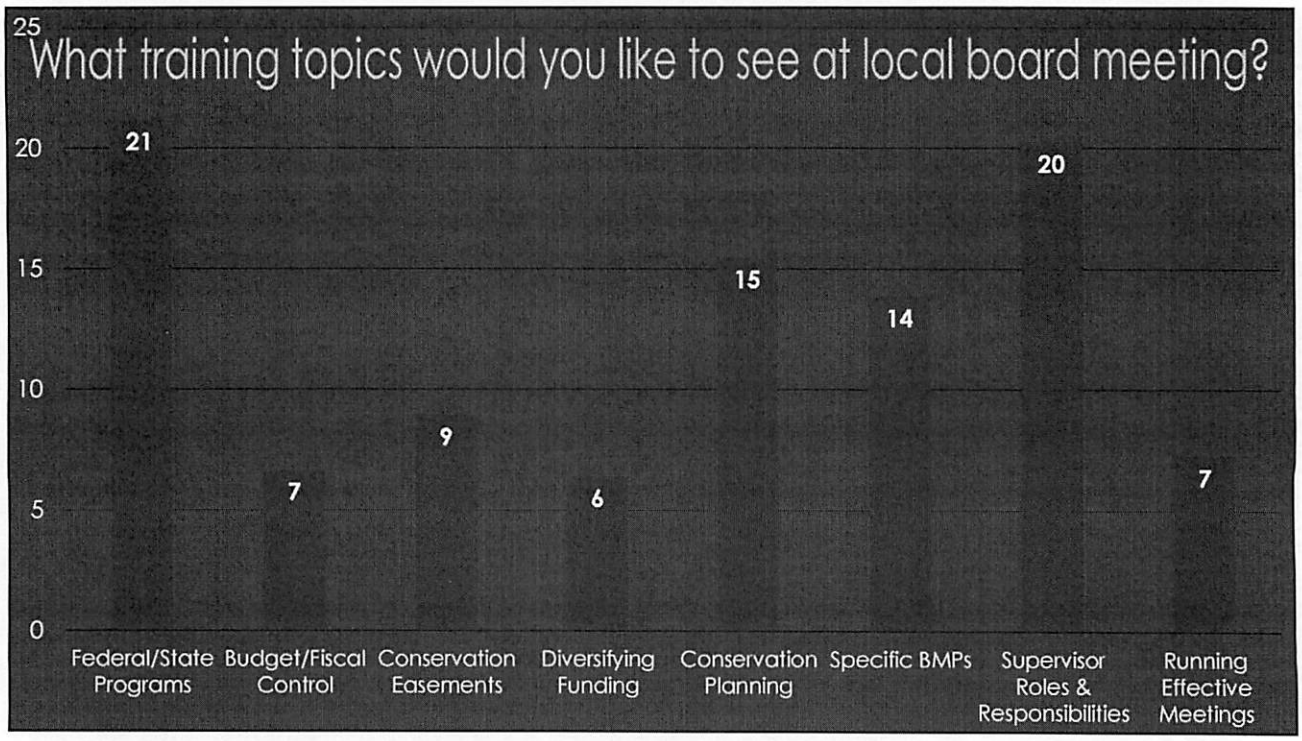




What do you view as your biggest challenge to obtain training credits?

A. Lack time to train at board meetings
B. Lack of personal time to train online
C. Unwilling/lack time to travel to state and area meetings
D. Unwilling/lack time to travel to UNC School of Government
E. No interest
F. No obstacle





Requesting Commission Approval for Initial Conceptual Direction

Needed to guide development for tracking system

- 1 credit = 1 clock hour of training
- Approve credits in 15 minute increments (1/4 credit)
- Carry forward for up to 3 excess credits to next year
- Start date will be beginning of a calendar year
- Make provision to track both mandatory and non-mandatory training
  - SOG Basic Training could be mandatory
  - Other training non-mandatory
- Limit credits for a particular type of training (e.g....)
  - Limit credit for SOG Basic Training to once per term
  - Up to 2 credits for attending Commission meetings