



# Program Updates

As of May 7, 2025:

- FY22 Contracts:
  - 720.5 miles of work completed
  - \$31,363,742.44 paid in reimbursements
  - 87 contracts closed out, 23 ongoing
- FY24 Contracts:
  - 90.4 miles of work completed
  - \$3,316,272.26 paid in reimbursements
  - 8 contracts closed out, 98 in effect
    - 1 Contract still pending acceptance
    - 1 contract declined.



## Approval for Helene-affected Districts to use Remaining 2022 funds on Different Project Types

- 23 FY22 StRAP grantees have ongoing projects.
  - 14 in Helene-affected counties.
- Grantees have requested permission to use their remaining funds (initially allocated for stream debris removal) for streambank stabilization and other eligible project types as necessary following Hurricane Helene.
  - All proposed work would fall under the umbrella of projects allowable under StRAP. At this time, proposed work is all streambank stabilization.
- Need for changing project type:
  - Streambank stabilization is higher priority.
  - FEMA/USACE/other funding sources are covering majority of needed stream debris removal.

## Helene Affected FY22 Grantees with remaining funds

Applicant's Organization:	StRAP Funds Remaining (4/28/2025)	Outlined Need for Changing Project Type	Reasons for Funding Remaining
Buncombe SWCD	\$336,649	Wants to use all remaining funds on Streambank stabilization due to USACE and EWP covering stream debris removal needs. Have an "endless need" for streambank stabilization. StRAP funds will be used on projects not funded by EWP.	Previously planned StRAP work completed with EWP and NC Emergency Management funds. Due to Helene, all sites need reevaluation and assessment. Funds will be shifted to new sites once identified.
Burke SWCD	\$80,297		Helene caused additional damage immediately up- and down-stream of the original completed work. New damaged evaluated for use of remaining funds.
Cabarrus SWCD	\$27,263		Delays due to permit applications and wet fields from Hurricane season delaying project start time.
Cherokee SWCD	\$58,898		Remaining project sites require re-evaluation following Hurricane Helene.
Haywood SWCD	\$453,353		On-the-ground work completed. Currently in process of closing out final payments.
Henderson SWCD	\$10,659		Small amount of remaining funds available for reallocation.
Macon SWCD	\$85,076	Interest in using funds on 2 potential streambank stabilization sites (1 affecting a greenway, 1 affecting site of new high school). Most of debris removal being covered by FEMA/USACE.	Reorganizing planned work in response to Helene. Primary remaining site had debris dislodged and moved downstream by hurricane. Currently in process of identifying other storm-related sites for work and gaining landowner access permission.
Madison SWCD	\$151,773	Asked for flexibility in using FY22 funds for streambank stabilization instead of debris removal. City other funding sources covering debris removal costs, but limited funding for stream restoration.	Prior to Helene, additional sites had been identified but work not begun yet. Following Helene, District is re-evaluating the sites needing work.
McDowell SWCD	\$655,193		Majority of remaining funding allocated to PL-566 dam repair. Delays due to permitting and engineering requirements before work can begin. Remaining funding will re-assessed after USACE completes their work in the county.
New River SWCD	\$26,709		Final payments pending.
Polk SWCD	\$51,206		Prior to Helene, majority of work was completed. Remaining funds will be used to repair damaged caused by Helene. USACE is currently working; new StRAP sites will be identified once USACE work is completed.
Rutherford SWCD	\$75,773		Remaining funds allocated to Hurricane Helene disaster recovery. Work currently waiting to start.
Transylvania SWCD	\$43,764		Work currently ongoing.
Watauga SWCD	\$27,707		Funds freed up by cancelled work on one planned site. Currently conducting county-wide debris assessments to identify uses for remaining funds after Helene.

## Approval for Helene-affected Districts to use Remaining 2022 funds on Different Project Types

- Grantees that have expressed interest in using funds for bank stabilization:
  - Madison SWCD
    - \$151,773 in FY22 funds remaining
    - Madison county has a \$30 million contract with Southern Disaster Recovery for waterway debris removal. Also anticipate submitting requests for funding through EWP. We are anticipating waterway debris removal to be underway and well-funded for the next two years.
  - Macon SWCD
    - \$85,076 in FY22 funds remaining
    - 2 potential streambank stabilization sites, affecting a greenway and site of new high school. Majority of debris removal being covered by FEMA/USACE.
  - Buncombe SWCD
    - \$336,659 in FY22 funds remaining
    - USACE & EWP anticipated to cover stream debris removal needs, but county has an “endless need” for streambank stabilization.

# Approval for Helene-affected Districts to use Remaining 2022 funds on Different Project Types



## Barnard Park

French Broad River

Walnut, NC

# Approval for Helene-affected Districts to use Remaining 2022 funds on Different Project Types



## Barnard Park

French Broad River

Walnut, NC

# Approval for Helene-affected Districts to use Remaining 2022 funds on Different Project Types



## Beech Glen Road

Little Ivy Creek  
Mars Hill, NC

# Approval for Helene-affected Districts to use Remaining 2022 funds on Different Project Types



## Meadow Fork Road

Meadow Fork Creek  
Hot Springs, NC



# Approval for Helene-affected Districts to use Remaining 2022 funds on Different Project Types

- Macon County greenway:





## Approval for Helene-affected Districts to use Remaining 2022 funds on Different Project Types

- This proposed change would not require a contract amendment. The 2022 contracts specify:

The Grantee shall provide the planned repairs to the named stream/drainage channels and watershed projects listed in Attachment B, Scope of Work. The Grantee shall be responsible for obtaining necessary landowner authorization for site access and all permits needed to complete the planned work.

- Once approved by the SWCC, all changes to Scope of Work would be handed by StRAP Staff & Grantees
  - Grants office not involved- contract amendment not required.
  - Similar to Scope of Work revisions regularly done on existing contracts.

# Action Item

- The Division recommends allowing 2022 StRAP grantees affected by Hurricane Helene use their remaining funds on any eligible project type as needed, regardless of what project type the funds were initially awarded for.
- The Division requests that the Soil & Water Conservation Commission vote to approve this change in project type.