



Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) North Carolina - The Update

Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Program Updates

Obligations for FY 2025

EQUIP

\$19,865,637 - Allocated

\$13,389,838 - Obligated

67% - Obligation rate

CSP

\$12,640,000 - Allocated

\$4,162,552 - Obligated

33% - Obligation Rate

Target deadline for obligating financial assistance is August 15.

General Updates

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

N.C. initially was awarded four RCPP projects, however, due to recent adjustments, only one 2024 RCPP project will be moving forward. The following RCPP project was selected: *4141 The Land of the Pines: Protecting Critical Conservation Areas and Working Lands in the Lumber River Watershed with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services* for \$12,500,000.00 over 5 years.

Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP)

The EWPP deadline request for Helene-related assistance has been extended to July 26, 2025.

TS Helene

Site Analysis

281 Initial Assessments & Funding Assessment site packets received, 262 reviewed to date.

Damage Survey Reports (DSR)

4 DSRs (covering Buncombe Co. at 64 sites, and Watauga Co. for 7 sites) submitted to NHQ and accepted totaling \$11,789,531.00 of financial assistance thus far.

General Updates Cont.

EWPP Cont.

Helene Clearing and Snagging operations

NRCS expects between 30 to 50 locally led agreements with sponsors; sponsors will be responsible for planning and procurement of these operations.

TS Debby/Cyclone 8

Approved Funding to Date

FA: \$21,848,388.21

TA: ~\$2 million but requests for additional in process

Damage Survey Reports (DSR)

Robeson Co. which includes Robeson Co., Bladen Co., Hoke Co., Scotland Co., and Lumber River (38 sites): 5 DSRs

Cumberland Co. (2 sites): 8 DSRs

Brunswick (4 sites): 5 DSRs,

City of Fayetteville (5 sites): 1 DSR

Cumberland is only sponsor moving towards agreement at this time.

North Carolina
Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

General Updates Cont.

Soil Amendment Pilot

On June 3, 2025 NRCS opened a window for applications to producers who are interested in applying Practice Code 336 (Soil Carbon Amendment) under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The application deadline closed on June 20, 2025.

The pilot program was offered for the following counties:

- Buncombe
- Haywood
- Henderson
- Madison
- Transylvania

Soil Carbon Amendments (Biochar) are derived from plant materials or treated animal byproducts used to improve or maintain soil organic matter, improve soil aggregate stability and improve habitat for soil organisms. Biochar for example, is a soil amendment that is a black carbon product produced by heating biomass to a temperature more than 350 °C under conditions of control and limited oxygen concentrations to prevent combustion. Soil Carbon Amendments are useful and may improve Soil Organic Matter (SOM) and water-holding capacity.



Contacts:

State Conservationist—Timothy A. Beard

(Tel) 919.873.2100

State Public Affairs—Joshua J. Hammond

(Tel) 919.873.2103

(Email) Joshua.Hammond@usda.gov



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

WWW.NC.NRCS.USDA.GOV