

NCDA&CS
Division of Soil and Water Conservation
David Williams, Director



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David B. Williams, Director
January 5, 2025



Personnel

- **New Hires:**

- Engineer III (Rachel Smith) – **Starr Silvis**
- StRAP Administrative Secretary (Heather Reichert) – **Stephanie Alston**
- Soil Scientist (Patrick Mitchell) – **Pabitra Aryal**, begins 1/6/25
- CREP Specialist (Lee Cannady) – **Seth Bauguess**, begins 1/13/25
- Engineer II (Layne Owen) – **Samuel Just**, begins 3/1/25

- **Vacancies (6):**

- Engineer I (newly established), Proceeding to hire identified candidate using alternate disaster procedures
- CREP Env. Specialist II (newly established), posting closes 1/7/25
- Central Regional Coordinator (Ken Parks) – Initial recommendation declined offer, moving to 2nd candidate
- Engineer II (Vivien Zhong) – Considering options for position due to funding uncertainty
- Administrative Secretary (Casey Turlington-King) – posting submitted
- Engineer II (Starr Silvis) – Proceeding to hire identified candidate using alternate disaster procedures

- **Pending Vacancy:** Eastern Regional Coordinator (Eric Pare retiring 2/1) – Preparing to post



Legislative Request: Helene, Debby, TC- 8 (39 counties)

\$250M request submitted
for:

1. Debris removal
2. Streambank stabilization
3. Stream restoration
4. Ag road repairs
5. Ag pond repairs
6. Field and fence repairs (if not covered by FSA)
7. Match for NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program
8. FSA Emergency Conservation Program, Supplemental payments
9. Grade stabilization structures
10. BMP repair (ag and community conservation)
11. Contracts for private engineers
12. Supplemental technical assistance funds for additional district/Division staff

Will solicit estimated needs from districts using
Formsite

SB 382 - Disaster Relief-3/Budget/ Various Law Changes

- Appropriates \$227M to the Helene Fund
 - Must be appropriated to specific purposes
 - Must be spent in 29 counties in Presidential Disaster Declaration for Helene
- DSWC
 - \$2M non-recurring appropriation for technical assistance to SWCDs
 - \$25M for StRAP
 - Cannot spend for items that likely will be covered by federal funds

StRAP

- **New StRAP Admin Specialist**

- Stephanie Alston
 - stephanie.alston@ncagr.gov
 - 919-707-3773

- **2022 Contract Extensions**

- Contract deadline: December 31, 2024
- 55 grantees have completed all work and closed out contracts.
- 23 grantees requested and awarded 1-year extensions
 - New end date: 12/31/2025



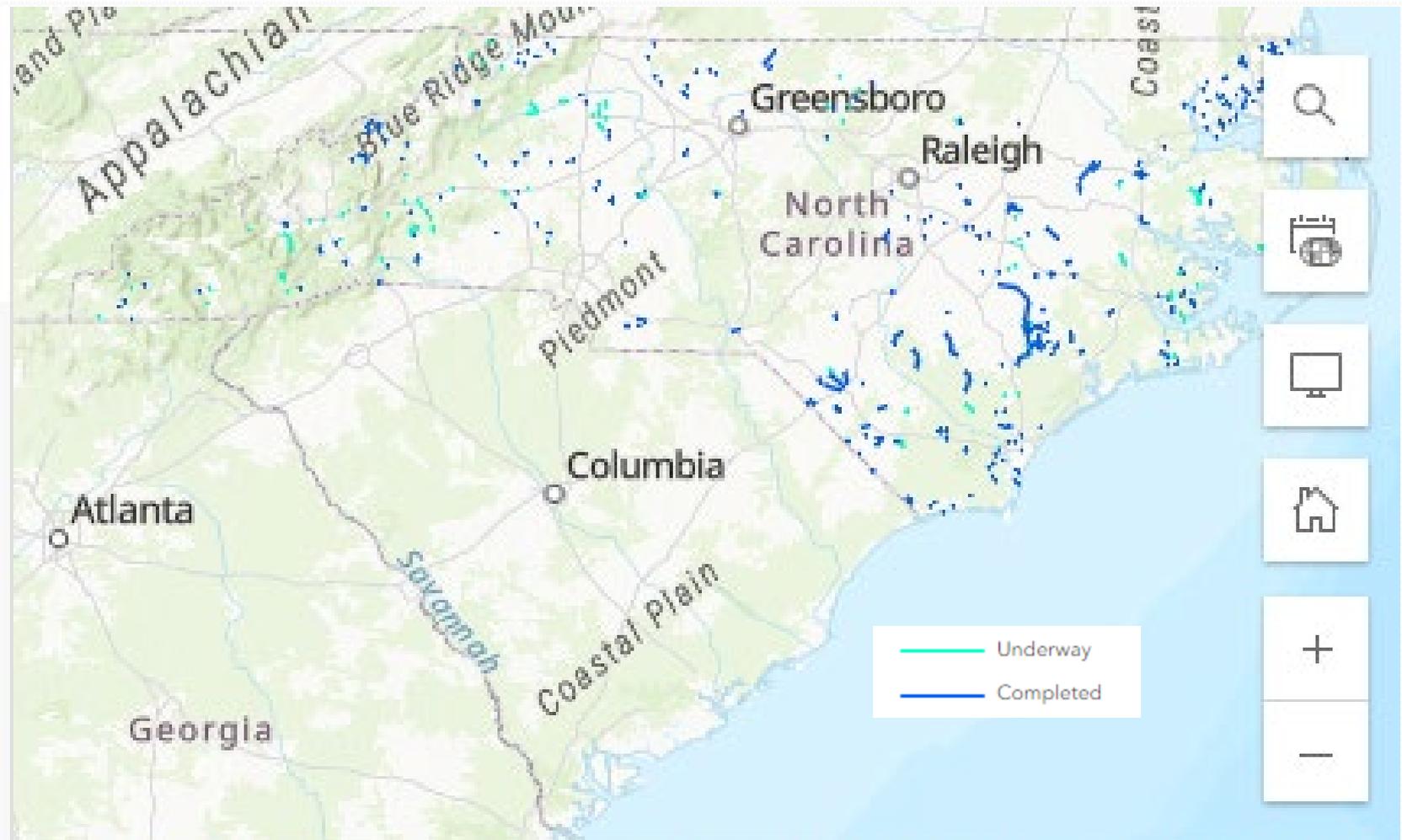
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StRAP 2022 Projects

Searchable map available at:

<https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/soil-water-conservation/programs-initiatives/strap>



StRAP- FY2024

- **Total Allocated Funds:**
 - \$19,460,705 in DSWC funds
 - \$4,721,991 in DEQ funds
- **Contract Award Status**
 - 111 organizations awarded funds
 - 106 contracts sent out
 - 86 signed contracts returned
 - 1 organization declined contract (New Hanover County)
- **Work Completed to date**
 - 7 Grantees have already completed all planned work



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September 16, 2024



Upcoming Training Events

- EWP Training
 - January 22 (virtual Pre-training)
 - January 23 Field training (Boone)
- RUSLE2 Training – January 30 (Boone)
- Division Update Meetings
 - February 4, Plymouth
 - February 12, Kenansville
 - February 18, Pittsboro
 - February 25, Statesville
 - February 26, Waynesville

Upcoming Commission meetings

- January 5, Sheraton Imperial, Durham, in conjunction with NCASWCD Annual Meeting
- March 11-12, TBD
- May 20-21, TBD
- July 22-23, Raleigh



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