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





## Personnel

#### New Hires:

- Sr. Eastern Regional Coordinator (Kristina Fischer) Ken Parks
- Engineer II (Cindy Safrit) Vivien Zhong
- Engineering Services Chief (Scott Melvin) Rachel Smith

#### • Vacancies (11):

- Engineer Tech I (Taryn Hendrickson), Engineer Tech I (Matt Hall) Merging to establish new Engineer I
- CREP Surveyor (Jacob Berry), Engineer Tech I (Ben Wilkins) Due to lack of eligible applicants, now contracting surveying services, Reallocating position to Environmental Program Consultant
- Engineer II (Layne Owen) Preparing to repost
- Soil Scientist (Patrick Mitchell) Scheduling interviews
- Admin. Officer (Maegan Trimnal) Recommended candidate submitted
- Central Regional Coordinator (Ken Parks) Scheduling interviews
- Administrative Secretary (Helen Wiklund) Posting closed June 7, awaiting referred candidates
- Engineer II (Vivien Zhong) Considering options for position due to funding uncertainty
- Engineer III (Rachel Smith) Submitted for posting





### **StRAP**

#### • 2022 Funding:

- 101 out of 108 grantees have been reimbursed for at least a portion of their project
- 42 contracts completed & closed out

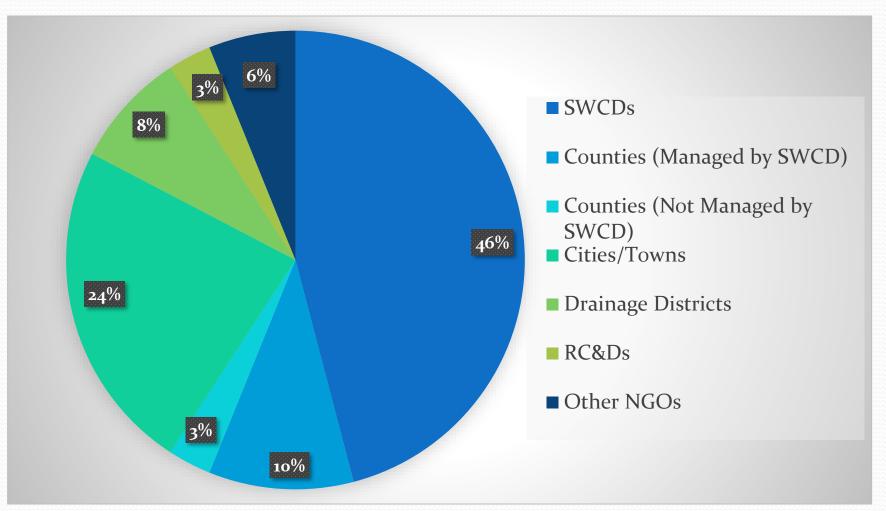
#### • 2024 Funding:

- First round of contracts being prepared by DACS Grants
   & Contracts Office
- Thus far all funded applicants have accepted their awards.
- Deadline to submit pre-contract paperwork: August 16th
- Plan to have a contract review session with each grantee





## StRAP Awards by Applicant Type



NCDA&CS Division of Soil and Water Conservation David B. Williams, Director July 24, 2024

## **StRAP**

- DEQ Funding
  - **Farm Act** (S.L. 2024-32) signed on July 3
    - Adds French Broad to list of DEQ priority river basins
    - Authorizes DEQ to fund stream debris removal projects through StRAP
  - Memorandum of Understanding between DSWC & DEQ
    - Currently being drafted
    - Enables possibility of future DEQ funding for StRAP





# **NRCS** Agreements

- IRA Technical Assistance Agreement:
  - Submitted application for \$1.8M over 3 years
  - Technical assistance payments to be made to SWCDs for new or existing staff
  - Payments proposed for seven different deliverable items associated with IRA Implementation
    - Field visits
    - Application processing
    - Cost estimates
    - Survey & design
    - Contract development & management
    - Practice implementation oversight
      - Practice check out & certification



# **NRCS** Agreements

#### ATAC Phase IV

- Submitted application for \$250K for estimated 6-months of five-year agreement
- Funds support part-time temporary employees in local SWCD offices across NC
- Temporary employees provide accelerated technical assistance for partnership activities
- Currently, 12 positions funded through 2020 Agreement





# Recent and Planned Training

#### **Recent Trainings**

GrowMore, July 9, Fletcher

#### **Upcoming Trainings**

- RUSLE2 Workshop, August 1, Raleigh
- Advanced Training for SWCD Supervisors, August 13, Raleigh
- Critical Area Planting (Part 1), August 15, Goldsboro
- Conservation Employees Training, Sept. 16-19, Atlantic Beach

# **Upcoming Commission meetings**

- September 16, Doubletree Atlantic Beach, in conjunction with Conservation Employees Training
  - Overflow hotel is Hotel Alice (hotelalicenc.com)
- November 19-20, Guilford County, TBD
- January 5, Sheraton Imperial, Durham, in conjunction with NCASWC Annual Meeting
- March 18-19, TBD
- May 20-21, TBD