

**Report to the North Carolina General Assembly's
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on
Agriculture and Environment and Natural Resources**



***Report on Quarterly Expenditures through the
North Carolina Flood Resiliency Blueprint
of Funds Allocated in SL 2021-180 Sec. 40.7***

January 31, 2025

Division of Mitigation Services

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Pursuant to SL 2021-180 Sec. 40.7(d)

**Department of Environmental Quality
January 31, 2025**

Background

This report is submitted to meet the requirements of Session Law 2021-180 Section 40.7(d), as amended by Session Law 2022-43 Section 2 and Session Law 2024-32 Section 5.2, which requires the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to report on expenditures of funds authorized for stream debris removal and other flood mitigation strategies throughout the state. Specifically, Session Law 2021-180 Section 40.7(d) states:

SL 2021-180 Section 40.7(d):

The Department shall report within 30 days of the end of each fiscal quarter in which funds are expended to the chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Environment and Natural Resources and the Fiscal Research Division regarding uses of the funds appropriated by this section. The report shall include a cumulative and quarterly listing of projects funded, counties where funded projects were located, and linear feet of streams cleared.

Report Structure

This report summarizes project expenditures through the NC Flood Resiliency Blueprint (Blueprint). The information provided is up to date as of January 31, 2025.

Blueprint staff began implementing projects with the \$96 million appropriated by the North Carolina General Assembly in 2024. To implement projects efficiently and responsibly, DEQ established project partnerships with fellow state agencies that administer programs with overlapping goals. Flood resilience is a complex challenge. Many state agencies and programs have missions that intersect with various aspects of flood resilience. Recognizing these areas of overlap has allowed the Blueprint to efficiently implement much needed resilience projects. By supporting the ongoing flood resilience work of North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM), the North Carolina Land and Water Fund (NCLWF), and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDACS), the Blueprint has made possible the implementation of 50 projects worth over \$40 million for \$17,679,395.00 in costs to the program. Over the next several months, DEQ plans to implement an additional \$16.9 million of flood resilience projects through partnerships with fellow state agencies, as well as partnering directly with local governments. DEQ is also coordinating with partners on an additional \$39.7 million in flood resilience investments expected to be expended this year.

Partner – Program	Amount	Individual Projects
Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services – Stream Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP) 2023	\$ 4,721,991.00	32
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – Land and Water Fund (21-23)	\$ 9,047,404.00	15
NC Emergency Management – 2023 Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund	\$ 3,910,000.00	3

The 32 StRAP projects funded by the Blueprint are being disbursed through StRAP in the form of grants to local governments, Soil and Water Conservation Districts and nonprofits for stream debris removal and sediment removal. This effort benefits communities across the state in preventing future flooding, restoring streams and reducing the risk to life and property. The funding provides for debris removal for over 125 miles of streams.

The 15 NCLWF projects were selected and funded by the Blueprint to implement flood reduction and floodplain protection projects. The Blueprint funded projects will provide an estimated 465 acre-feet of flood water retention, or 152 million gallons, during flood events.

The three projects funded through the NCEM 2023 Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund focus on infrastructure improvements including:

- Support drainage improvements and stream restoration, including upsizing culverts and floodplain benching, in the City of Greenville.
- Upgrading culverts and increasing conveyance capacity systematically alleviate flooding along Eutaw Creek in the City of Fayetteville.
- Reducing upstream flood risk, by adding two additional box culverts to accommodate stormwater flow and better tie into stream and floodplain restoration where the Little Buffalo Creek crosses under Weatherspoon Street in the City of Sanford.

The following table is a breakdown of projects and expenditures by county:

County	Projects	Funding (\$)
Avery	1	\$ 149,200.00
Beaufort	8	\$ 766,789.00
Brunswick	1	\$ 344,000.00
Carteret	1	\$ 800,000.00
Cumberland	1	\$ 910,000.00
Duplin	3	\$ 158,000.00
Durham	1	\$ 500,000.00
Edgecombe	1	\$ 490,000.00
Haywood	1	\$ 800,000.00
Henderson	1	\$ 604,625.00
Hyde	1	\$ 31,000.00
Johnston	1	\$ 800,000.00
Jones	2	\$ 752,414.00
Lee	1	\$ 1,500,000.00
Lenoir	2	\$ 777,956.00
Martin	4	\$ 1,060,000.00
Mitchell	1	\$ 346,000.00
New Hanover	2	\$ 885,150.00
Onslow	1	\$ 107,600.00
Pamlico	4	\$ 534,586.00
Pender	1	\$ 334,625.00
Pitt	1	\$ 1,500,000.00
Robeson	7	\$ 3,332,500.00

Scotland	2	\$	43,000.00
Wayne	1	\$	151,950.00

Continue to next page.

Below is a list of projects and awards funded through the Flood Resiliency Blueprint to date.

Project Name	Applicant	County	River Basin	Project Type	Supporting Partner	DEQ Award	Projected Construction Start Date	Implementation Notes
Avery SWCD	Avery SWCD	Avery	French Broad	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 149,200.00	12/17/2024	Currently awaiting feedback from grantee if planned work was affected by Hurricane Helene, and if scope of work will need to be revised based on additional damage caused by Helene.
Town of Robersonville	Town of Robersonville	Martin	Tar-Pamlico	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 255,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Town of Parmele	Town of Parmele	Martin	Tar-Pamlico	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 245,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Pender Soil & Water Cons District	Pender Soil & Water Cons District	Pender	Cape Fear	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 334,625.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Town of Rowland	Town of Rowland	Robeson	Lumber	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 500,000.00	12/23/2024	Work in progress. First quarterly report is due 1/31/2025.
Pamlico SWCD	Pamlico SWCD	Pamlico	Neuse	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 148,810.00	1/7/2025	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Edgecombe County SWCD	Edgecombe County SWCD	Edgecom.	Tar-Pamlico	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 490,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025

Project Name	Applicant	County	River Basin	Project Type	Supporting Partner	DEQ Award	Projected Construction Start Date	Implementation Notes
Mitchell SWCD	Mitchell SWCD	Mitchell	French Broad	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 346,000.00	10/29/2024	Scope of work was updated on December 20, 2024 to adjust planned work to focus on repair activities associated with Hurricane Helene damage. First quarterly report due on 1/31/2025
Martin SWCD	Martin SWCD	Martin	Tar-Pamlico	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 185,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Robeson County Church and Community Center	Robeson County Church and Community Center	Robeson	Lumber	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 140,816.00	12/17/2024	All work has been completed. First quarterly (& final) report is due 1/31/2025.
Robeson County Drainage District 1	Robeson County Drainage District 2	Robeson	Lumber	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 132,500.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Town of Pembroke	Town of Pembroke	Robeson	Lumber	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 159,184.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Town of Bear Grass	Town of Bear Grass	Martin	Tar-Pamlico	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 375,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District	Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District	Wayne	Neuse	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 151,950.00	12/23/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Town of Beulaville, N.C.	Town of Beulaville, N.C.	Duplin	Cape Fear	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 33,000.00	11/18/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025

Project Name	Applicant	County	River Basin	Project Type	Supporting Partner	DEQ Award	Projected Construction Start Date	Implementation Notes
Town of Magnolia	Town of Magnolia	Duplin	Cape Fear	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 10,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Town of Leland	Town of Leland	Brunswi.	Cape Fear	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 344,000.00	11/22/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
New Hanover County	New Hanover County	New Hanover	Cape Fear	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$ 85,150.00	N/A	<i>Award declined by grantee. Funding available for re-allocation.</i>
City of Washington	City of Washington	Beaufort	Tar-Pamlico	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 14,130.00	12/4/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Ditch ID9	Town of Vandemere	Pamlico	Neuse	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 123,495.00	1/6/2025	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Hasty beside the church Water Creek	Scotland SWCD	Scotland	Lumber	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 35,000.00	11/22/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
STRAP 1- West 9th 10th	City of Washington	Beaufort	Tar-Pamlico	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 4,650.00	12/4/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Strap 2 - West 12th 13th	City of Washington	Beaufort	Tar-Pamlico	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 5,550.00	12/4/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Azalea Behind Church Water Creek	Scotland SWCD	Scotland	Lumber	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 8,000.00	11/22/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Ditch IDs 14-31	Town of Vandemere	Pamlico	Neuse	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 171,041.00	1/6/2025	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Strap 5 - East 9th Street	City of Washington	Beaufort	Tar-Pamlico	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 12,600.00	12/4/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Ditch ID 10	Town of Vandemere	Pamlico	Neuse	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 91,240.00	1/6/2025	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025

Project Name	Applicant	County	River Basin	Project Type	Supporting Partner	DEQ Award	Projected Construction Start Date	Implementation Notes
Strap 4 - E 12th 13th	City of Washington	Beaufort	Tar-Pamlico	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 4,500.00	12/4/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Strap 6 - Bennett Street	City of Washington	Beaufort	Tar-Pamlico	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 8,550.00	12/4/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Strap 3 - East 13th 14th	City of Washington	Beaufort	Tar-Pamlico	Sediment Removal	NCDACS	\$ 12,000.00	12/4/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Swamp Road Ditch	Hyde SWCD	Hyde	Tar-Pamlico	Infrastruct.	NCDACS	\$ 31,000.00	12/13/2024	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Nickelson Branch	Town of Wallace	Duplin	Cape Fear	Infrastruct.	NCDACS	\$ 115,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Beaufort SWCD	Beaufort SWCD	Beaufort	Tar-Pamlico	Stream Debris Removal	NCDACS	\$132,500	1/7/2025	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Little Buffalo Creek MIT	Sanford	Lee	Cape Fear	Infrastruct.	NCDPS	\$ 1,500,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
Lyon & Ivy Culvert Replacement	Fayetteville	Cumberl.	Cape Fear	Infrastruct.	NCDPS	\$ 910,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
East Fire tower Rd Drainage & Stream Resto.	Greenville	Pitt	Tar-Pamlico	Infrastruct.	NCDPS	\$ 1,500,000.00	TBD	First quarterly report due 1/31/2025
2022-FRR20 Upper Pigeon River Flood Mitigation	Haywood Waterways	Haywood	French Broad	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 800,000.00	7/31/2025	Appraisal under review for spring closing.
2022-FRR26 Adkin Branch Flood Mitigation Phase I Construction	Kinston	Lenoir	Neuse	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 472,750.00	1/10/2025	Permitting and design underway.

Project Name	Applicant	County	River Basin	Project Type	Supporting Partner	DEQ Award	Projected Construction Start Date	Implementation Notes
2022-FRR12 South Ellerbe Restoration Project	Durham	Durham	Neuse	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 500,000.00	4/1/2025	Design plans, specifications, bid documents complete.
2022-FRR28 Lumberton Loop Five Mile Branch and Saddletree Swamp Confluence	Lumberton	Robeson	Lumber	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 800,000.00	7/31/2025	Appraisals being prepared.
2022-FRR29 Maple Street Green Stormwater Improvement Project	Maysville	Jones	White Oak	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 355,600.00	2/6/2026	Permitting complete.
2024-051 TCF Schoolfield	The Conservation Fund	Robeson	Lumber	Acquisition	NCLWF	\$ 800,000.00	Closing date to be determined.	Contract effective 12/30/2024.
2024-428 Wilmington - Wisteria and Clearbrook - Restoration	City of Wilmington	New Hanover	Cape Fear	Restoration	NCLWF	\$ 800,000.00	3/1/2026	Contract drafted and under review by grant recipient.
2024-056 TLC Lowgrounds	Triangle Land Conservancy	Johnston	Neuse	Acquisition	NCLWF	\$ 800,000.00	Closing date to be determined.	Contract drafted and under review by grant recipient.
2024-038 WRC Big Swamp	NC Wildlife Resources Commission	Robeson	Lumber	Acquisition	NCLWF	\$ 800,000.00	Closing date to be determined.	Contract awaiting signatures.
2022-FRR02 Bailey Creek Nature-Based Tributary Improvements	Aurora	Beaufort	Tar- Pamlico	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 704,809.00	10/21/2025	Permitting and design underway.

Project Name	Applicant	County	River Basin	Project Type	Supporting Partner	DEQ Award	Projected Construction Start Date	Implementation Notes
2022-FRR35 Newport River Restoration Initiative Phase II	NCCF	Carteret	White Oak	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 800,000.00	1/4/2025	Permitting and design underway.
2022-FRR03 Caswell Farm Water Farming Demonstration and Research Project	NCSU	Lenoir	Neuse	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 305,206.00	10/2/2025	Design plans complete. Bid package underway.
2022-FRR16 Hofmann Forest Water Farming Demonstration and Research Project	NCSU	Onslow	White Oak	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 107,600.00	2/28/2026	Approval for expanded scope (DEQ funds) to City Council in February.
2022-FRR61 Whiteville Stormwater Park	Whiteville	Columb.	Lumber	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 396,814.00	1/10/2025	Permitting and design underway. Rezoning complete.
2022-FRR24 Lower Mud Creek Floodplain Restoration and Flood Reduction Project	Hendersonville	Henders.	French Broad	Flood Risk Reduction	NCLWF	\$ 604,625.00	2/28/2026	Appraisal review complete, spring closing anticipated.