



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT**



Employment First State for Individuals with Disabilities

JOSH STEIN  
GOVERNOR

KRISTIN WALKER  
STATE BUDGET DIRECTOR

December 22, 2025

TO: House Appropriations Committee  
Senate Appropriations/Base Budget Committee  
Brian Matteson, Director, Fiscal Research Division

FROM: Kristin Walker, State Budget Director *Kristin Walker*

SUBJECT: Report on Expenditures for Disaster Recovery

The attached report fulfills the reporting requirement from S.L. 2023-134, Sec. 5.6(j) regarding funds appropriated for disaster recovery. This report is for both the first quarter of FY 2026.

Please contact Mark Bondo with any questions at [mark.bondo@osbm.nc.gov](mailto:mark.bondo@osbm.nc.gov) or 984-236-0684.

CC: Anca Grozav, OSBM  
Mark Bondo, OSBM  
Sarah Grimsrud, OSBM  
Loretta Peace Bunch, OSBM

Quarterly Implementation Status Report  
State Emergency Response and Disaster Relief Funds (SERDRF)  
Allocated pursuant to Section 5.6(a) of Session Law 2023-134 for  
Various Disaster Relief, Recovery, Mitigation and Resiliency Purposes

Reporting Period: July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024  
Prepared by the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management  
Disaster Recovery Section

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

**Timber Restoration & NCFS Wildfire Response – PROGRAM CLOSED**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(1)(a) - SL 2016-124 Section 4.1(10)(a)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds for timber restoration under SL 2016-124 Section 4.1(10)(a).

**Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

**Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$388,341.00
Expended	\$388,341.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00

\*Includes June 2024 Recapture of Disaster Funds in the amount of \$288,072 from Timber Restoration and \$100,269 from NCFS Wildfire Response to the OSC General Fund.

**Contact**

Carrie Sticklin

919-707-3034

[carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov](mailto:carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov)

## **Non-Field Farm Road Repairs– PROGRAM CLOSED**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(1)(a) - SL 2016-124 Section 4.1(10)(b)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds for non-field farm road repairs under SL 2016-124 Section 4.1(10)(b).

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$178.00
Expended	\$178.00*
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00

\* Includes June 2024 Recapture of Disaster Funds per SL 2023-134, in the amount of \$178 from non-field farm road repairs to the OSC General Fund.

### **Contact**

Carrie Sticklin

919-707-3034

[carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov](mailto:carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov)

## **Cherry Research Farm Dike Repair – PROGRAM CLOSED**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(1)(a) - SL 2016-124 Section 4.1(10)(c)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds for Cherry Research Farm Dike repair under SL 2016-124 Section 4.1(10)(c).

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$250,000.00
Expended	\$250,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00

### **Contact**

Carrie Sticklin

919-707-3034

[carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov](mailto:carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov)

## **Agricultural Recovery for Farmers**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(1)(b) - SL 2018-136 Section 6.1(23)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds for agricultural recovery for farmers under SL 2018-136 Section 6.1(23).

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Public Safety

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$31,044,786.43*
Expended	\$28,486,282.94
Obligated	\$2,556,221.49
Unobligated Balance	\$2,282

### **Summary of Activities**

\*\$50M was allocated in SL 2018-136, Section 6.1(23), Per SL 2023-134, \$16,758,403 was recaptured leaving \$33,241,591. Per SL 2025-4, Section 1A.1. \$2,196,810.57 amount that was unencumbered OSBM transferred from Hurricane Florence Fund to the Savings Reserve. June 2025, \$350 returned from producer, July 2025 \$1,932 returned from producer.

### **Contact**

Carrie Sticklin

919-707-3034

[carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov](mailto:carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov)

## **Agricultural Disaster Program - PROGRAM CLOSED**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(1)(c) - SL 2018-138 Section 1.3(3)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds for the Agricultural Disaster Program under SL 2018-138 Section 1.3(3).

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Public Safety

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$6,356,027.00
Expended	\$6,356,027.00
Obligated	\$0.00
Unobligated Balance	\$0.00

### **Contact**

Carrie Sticklin

919-707-3034

[carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov](mailto:carrie.sticklin@ncagr.gov)

## **Agricultural Crop Loss Program- PROGRAM CLOSED**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(1)(d) - SL 2021-180 Section 5.9A.(c)(2)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from the Agricultural Crop Loss Program under SL 2021-180 Section 5.9A.(c)(2)

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$20,593,300.00
Expended	\$20,593,300.00
Obligated	\$0.00
Unobligated Balance	\$0.00

### **Contact**

Dr. Joe French

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Kaleb Rathbone

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## North Carolina Community College System

### **Capital Recovery Funds – Program Closed**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(2)(b) – SL 2018-136 Section 5.3(f), Committee Report 6.1(8)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from funds allocated for repair and renovation of local community college facilities damaged by Hurricane Florence.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

North Carolina Community College System

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$2,919,418.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$2,919,418.00

### **Summary of Activities**

Funding swept in S.L 2023-134, Sec. 5.6

### **Contact**

Dr. Phillip Price, CFO

919-807-7100

[pricep@nccommunitycolleges.edu](mailto:pricep@nccommunitycolleges.edu)



## **Budget Stabilization Funds – Program Closed**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(2)(b) – SL 2018-136 Section 5.3(f), Committee Report 6.1(9)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from offset an anticipated receipts shortfall at affected community colleges due to enrollment declines caused Hurricane Florence.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

North Carolina Community College System

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$478,356.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$478,356.00

### **Summary of Activities**

Funding has expired. No activity in quarter.

### **Contact**

Dr. Phillip Price, CFO

919-807-7100

[pricep@nccommunitycolleges.edu](mailto:pricep@nccommunitycolleges.edu)

## **Emergency Grants for Affected Postsecondary Students – Program Closed**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(2)(b) – SL 2018-136 Section 5.3(f), Committee Report 6.1(10)

The purpose of this program is to assist students from disaster-declared counties with paying for tuition, fees, and emergency expenses that impact a student's ability to remain enrolled.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

North Carolina Community College System

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$1,228.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$1,228.00

### **Summary of Activities**

Funding has expired. No activity in quarter.

### **Contact**

Dr. Phillip Price, CFO

919-807-7100

[pricep@nccommunitycolleges.edu](mailto:pricep@nccommunitycolleges.edu)

## **Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Losses**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(2)(c) – SL 2019-224 Section 2.1(1)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from offset the full-time equivalent (FTE) losses at affected community colleges due to enrollment declines caused Hurricane Florence.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

North Carolina Community College System

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$2.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$2.00

### **Summary of Activities**

Funding has expired. No activity in quarter.

### **Contact**

Dr. Phillip Price, CFO

919-807-7100

[pricep@nccommunitycolleges.edu](mailto:pricep@nccommunitycolleges.edu)

## Department of Health and Human Services

### **Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(3) - SL 2018-136 Section 6.1 – Committee Report Item 16

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from funding allocated for the D-SNAP program.

#### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Health and Human Services

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$1,249,245.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$1,249,245.00

#### **Summary of Activities**

DHHS does not have any activity to report.

#### **Contact**

Wayne Mohr, Director – Division of Budget & Analysis

919-865-4856

[wayne.mohr@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:wayne.mohr@dhhs.nc.gov)

## **Emergency Prescription Assistance Program (EPAP)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(3) - SL 2018-136 Section 6.1 – Committee Report Item 17

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from funding allocated for the EPAP program.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Health and Human Services

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$1,000,000.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$1,000,000.00

### **Summary of Activities**

DHHS does not have any activity to report.

### **Contact**

Wayne Mohr, Director – Division of Budget & Analysis

919-865-4856

[wayne.mohr@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:wayne.mohr@dhhs.nc.gov)

## The University of North Carolina System

### **Capital Recovery Funds – Program Closed**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(4) - SL 2018-136 Section 6.1 – Committee Report Item 7

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from funds allocated for repair and renovation of capital facilities damaged by Hurricane Florence.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

The University of North Carolina System

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$1,984,499.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$1,984,499.00

### **Summary of Activities**

Program closed under S.L. 2023-134, Sec. 5.6.

### **Contact**

Kim V Metre

919-827-8506

[kvanmetre@northcarolina.edu](mailto:kvanmetre@northcarolina.edu)

## Department of Insurance

### **Volunteer Organizations Assisting with Disasters**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(5) - SL 2018-136 Section 6.1 – Committee Report Item 26

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from funds allocated to provide financial assistance to volunteer non-profit organizations that provide shelters, housing repairs and other emergency and disaster recovery sections.

#### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Insurance

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$673,613.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$673,613.00

#### **Summary of Activities**

No money has been disbursed since July 2019.

#### **Contact**

Shirley Lofton

919-647-0091

[shirley.lofton@ncdoi.gov](mailto:shirley.lofton@ncdoi.gov)

## Department of Environmental Quality

### **Study Preventive & Protective Measures**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(6)(a) – SL 2005-1 Section 7

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from funds allocated for the study of preventive and protective measures that may prevent or mitigate potential flooding.

#### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Environmental Quality

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$7,563.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$7,563.00

#### **Summary of Activities**

Funds for this program were distributed to counties affected by Hurricanes Francis or Ivan in the sum of \$3,000,000. SL 2008-107 reduced the initial legislated funds by \$237,936. \$2,754,501 were disbursed to counties that were affected by the hurricanes of late 2004. The unused balance of \$7,563 was remitted to OSBM in FY '23-'24 from DEQ. This program has concluded, and all unused funds have been returned.

**No further reporting as unused funds have been returned.**

#### **Contact**

Beth Roberts

919-707-9015

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## Coastal Beach and Dredging Needs Assessment

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(6)(b) – SL 2018-136 Section 6.1 – Committee Report Item 19

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from funds allocated to conduct a survey of beaches and channels for hurricane related damage and to assess disposal areas for dredged material.

### Responsible Department and Agency

Department of Environmental Quality

### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$60,682.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$60,682.00

### Summary of Activities

DWR has partnered with USACE through the Planning Assistance to States (PAS) program in which USACE provided a 50% match of \$133,000 to complete the Dredge Material Management Plan (DMMP). A scope of work for the DMMP was approved by the USACE Planning and Environmental Branch. The agreement between the state and USACE has been finalized and a payment has been provided to the USACE. The USACE has begun development of the database, contacting stakeholders along the ICWW to obtain dredging needs, and contacting potential spoil site property owners. The State and USACE have begun discussions to develop the scope of work for Phase 2 of the DMMP to determine dredging needs over the next 20 years. Although pictures cannot be provided of a final product some preliminary images of the location of the marinas and numbers of marina contacted by the USACE staff are attached. The Phase 1 information.

The cost share agreement for Phase 2 has been signed and the State matching funds (\$56,000) have been distributed to the USACE. The USACE has been contacting property owners from additional potential upland dredge disposal sites. The draft report has been started by obtaining additional information regarding permitting additional sites. This report will include environmental concerns, permitting options, as well as potential beneficial use of dredge material options.

### No changes from last quarterly reporting

### Contact

Kevin Hart

919-707-3607

[kevin.hart@ncdenr.gov](mailto:kevin.hart@ncdenr.gov)

## **Commercial Fishing Assistance**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(6)(c) – SL 2018-138 Section 1.3(5)

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from funds allocated for commercial fishing assistance. The Commercial Fishing Assistance program was designed to help make up for the losses to the state's nearly billion-dollar commercial fishing industry due to the storm. Compensation based on income losses from September, October and November harvest reductions due to Hurricane Florence as documented by state harvest records.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Environmental Quality

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$59,389.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$59,389.00

### **Summary of Activities**

- a. 1,782 award letters were mailed to eligible Commercial Fisherman for September landings
- b. 728 checks disbursed for September losses totaling \$3,568,446.09.
- c. 1,829 letters were mailed to eligible Commercial Fisherman for October and November landings
- d. 1,041 checks disbursed for October and November losses totaling \$7,456,025.99.
- e. An additional final check write was sent out on 6/12/19 to 1,176 fishermen who participated in the program totaling \$450,000.

### **Performance Metrics**

- a. Average Time for Project Delivery by Program
  - o Average number of days from application to fund distribution – There was no application process for these funds. Legislation was enacted on 10/16/18 (\$1.6 million) & 12/3/18 (\$10 million). The first phase of fund distribution was for September losses and occurred over multiple check writes between 1/31/19 and 5/13/19. The second phase of fund distribution was for October and November losses and occurred over multiple check writes between 4/3/19 and 5/13/19. The third phase and final phase of fund distribution covered the months of September, October and November and was sent out to exhaust the existing funds from the assistance program on 6/12/19.
  - o Average number of days from fund distribution to project commencement – The legislation was enacted on 10/16/18 and 12/3/18 and the first funds were distributed

- on 1/31/19, approximately 60 days.
- o Average number of days from project commencement to project completion – The legislation was enacted on 10/16/18 and 12/3/18 and final checks were distributed on 6/12/19, approximately 180 days.
- b. Amount and % spent/obligated on administrative activities by Program. \$66,139.34 was expended on administrative activities/0.57%
- c. Amount and % spent/obligated on behalf of recipients by Program. \$11,474,472.08 distributed to Commercial Fishermen/98.9%

#### **Recent Activities for Current Reporting Period**

This program resulted in a total of 2,945 individual checks to 1,176 fishermen totaling \$11,474,472.08. This program was able to cover 85.4% of September losses, 91.76% of October losses, and 82.29% of November losses. (January – March 2020) The program was completed.

**No further reporting as program was completed.**

#### **Contact**

Beth Govoni

252-808-8005

[beth.govoni@ncdps.gov](mailto:beth.govoni@ncdps.gov)

## Department of Public Safety

### Local Governments Grants

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (a)(7) – SL 2019-224 Section 2.1(4)c

The purpose of this program is to recapture unused funds from funds allocated to assist financially distressed local governments with staff support and to provide grants and loans to local governments in disaster areas that need immediate cash flow assistance.

### Responsible Department and Agency

Department of Public Safety, North Carolina office of Recovery and Resiliency

### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$54,063.20
Expended	\$54,063.20
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$4,203.00

### Summary of Activities

\$54,63.20 was given back by the Department of Public Safety at the end of June 2024.

### Contact

Mary Massey, Budget Manager

919-741-7752

[mary.massey@ncdps.gov](mailto:mary.massey@ncdps.gov)

## **Long Term Recovery and Mitigation Grants**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(1)

The purpose of this program is to provide disaster mitigation grants and local matching grants to State agencies, units of local government, nonprofit organizations, and public authorities, as defined in G.S. 159-7. Budgets receipts from the State Emergency Response and Disaster Relief Fund (SERDRF) to NCEM to establish a new program to provide grants for disaster relief, general mitigation, and transportation mitigation projects.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$30,070,250.00
Expended	\$ 44,275.91
Obligated	\$ 25,629,036.59
Unobligated Balance	\$ 4,396,937.50

### **Summary of Activities**

In the process of collecting memorandum of agreements on the projects side. Minimal utilization of management costs has begun.

### **Contact**

Joe Stanton, Assistant Director for Long-Term Recovery

919-218-6325

[joe.stanton@ncdps.gov](mailto:joe.stanton@ncdps.gov)

## Department of Insurance

### **State Property Fire Insurance Fund**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(2)

The purpose of this program is to help cover the budget gap from increases in expenditures related to recent natural disasters

#### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Insurance

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$20,000,000.00
Expended	\$20,000,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00

#### **Summary of Activities**

OSFM used these funds to purchase excess property coverage and to pay insurance claims.

#### **Contact**

Latarsha Silver

919-647-0065

[latarsha.silver@ncdoi.gov](mailto:latarsha.silver@ncdoi.gov)

## Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

### Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(3)

The purpose of this fund is to be used for the Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP) for purposes consistent with Article 6 of Chapter 139 of the General Statutes. StRAP funds projects that focus on protecting and restoring the integrity of drainage infrastructure through routine maintenance to existing streams and drainage ways by removing blockages caused by accumulated debris or sediment, stabilization and restoration of streams and streambanks, and for rehabilitation or improvement of small watershed structural projects constructed pursuant to the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954, as amended.

### Responsible Department and Agency

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$20,000,000.00
Expended	\$6,407,331.19
Obligated	\$13,592,668.81
Unobligated Balance	\$00.0

### Summary of Activities

In 2024, a total of \$19,000,000 was awarded to 110 organizations. Funded projects include stream debris removal, sediment removal, streambank stabilization, stream restoration, culvert replacement, and repair of flood control structures. As of September 30, 2025, 68 grantee organizations had received reimbursement payments from StRAP for completion of part or all of their scope of work. A total of 27 organizations has completed all planned work and closed out their contracts. The remaining contracts will stay in effect until December 31, 2026.

### Contact

Matt Safford, Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program Manager

919-707-3784

[matt.safford@ncagr.gov](mailto:matt.safford@ncagr.gov)

## Department of Environmental Quality

### Coastal Storm Damage Mitigation Fund

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(4)

The purpose of this fund is to be used for the Coastal Storm Damage Mitigation Fund. These funds shall be allocated in equal amounts each year of the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium and used for the purposes set forth in G.S. 143-215.73M.

#### Responsible Department and Agency

Department of Environmental Quality

#### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$20,000,000.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$20,000,000.00

#### Summary of Activities

No updates for this quarter.

#### Contact

Kevin Hart

919-707-3607

[kevin.hart@ncdenr.gov](mailto:kevin.hart@ncdenr.gov)



## Resilient Coastal Communities Program

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(5)

The purpose of this fund is to be used for the Resilient Coastal Communities Program to provide funding for the implementation or construction of planned, prioritized, and engineered resilience projects in the 20 coastal counties of the State. These counties are listed in G.S. 113A-103(2).

### Responsible Department and Agency

Department of Environmental Quality

### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$10,000,000.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$10,000,000.00

### Summary of Activities

DCM staff released two Request for Applications (RFAs) for Phase 3 (Engineering & Design) and Phase 4 (Implementation) of the Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP) on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The application period closed on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. We received 27 applications for a total grant request amount of \$7.4M. We awarded 20 grants to communities for Phases 3 and 4 of the RCCP of a total award amount of \$6.21M.

One county and fourteen municipalities will receive engineering and design funds for the completion of Phase 3 of the RCCP:

1. **Ahoskie:** Stormwater Action Plan-Upgrade the Stormwater System - \$500,000
2. **Aulander:** Permeable Pavement and Green Stormwater Infrastructure Implementation Projects - \$173,250
3. **Beaufort:** Development Ordinance Resilience Updates - \$100,000
4. **Belhaven:** Stormwater Action Plan and Easement Acquisition Plan - Upgrade the Stormwater System - \$500,000
5. **Burgaw:** Rain Garden Installation and Educational Demonstration - \$55,000
6. **Creswell:** Reduce Flooding Impacts in the 1st-4th Street Area - \$500,000
7. **Dare County:** Salvo Flood Mitigation Project - \$234,000
8. **Elizabeth City:** Resilient Stormwater Ordinance Project - \$140,000
9. **Holly Ridge:** Multi-Use Greenway Connection Feasibility Study - \$143,000
10. **Nags Head:** Designing Living Shorelines to Restore and Protect Coastal Community Infrastructure in the Roanoke Sound - \$500,000

11. **Ocean Isle Beach:** Living Shoreline Feasibility Study and Demonstration Project - \$170,000
12. **Plymouth:** Stormwater Action Plan-Upgrade the Stormwater System - \$500,000
13. **Vandemere:** Vandemere Waterfront Park Living Shoreline - \$57,800
14. **Washington:** Living Shoreline and Levee at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) - \$500,000
15. **Washington Park:** Living Shoreline at Public Shoreline Areas - \$237,300

Two counties and three municipalities will receive implementation funds for the completion of Phase 4:

1. **Aurora:** Wetland Restoration and Berm Improvements at Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) - \$1,071,250.00
2. **Beaufort County:** Low Impact Development Demonstration Site- Beaufort County Community College - \$194,166
3. **Dare County:** Hatteras Village Bioswales - \$160,000
4. **Duck:** Teresa Court Stormwater Management Improvements - \$144,000
5. **Surf City:** Roadside Infiltration Resilience Project - \$331,535.00

These projects will be funded by SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(5) and a federal grant award we received through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's National Coastal Resilience Fund titled: "Pipeline: Efficiency, Effectiveness & Equity in Final Design & Permitting (NC)". The contracting process is underway.

## Contact

Mackenzie Todd

252-515-5434

[mackenzie.todd@deq.nc.gov](mailto:mackenzie.todd@deq.nc.gov)

## Wildlife Resources Commission

### Lake Mattamuskeet

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(6)

The purpose of this program is for the Lake Mattamuskeet outfall canal.

### Responsible Department and Agency

Wildlife Resources Commission

### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$10,000,000.00
Expended	\$160,150.80
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$9,839,849.20

### Summary of Activities

As of 6/30/25, \$160,150.80 has been expended towards design consultation. No construction activity has begun.

### Contact

Jason Cottle, CFO, NCWRC

919-707-0081

[jason.cottle@ncwildlife.org](mailto:jason.cottle@ncwildlife.org)

## Department of Public Safety

### Local Disaster Shelter Capacity Grant Program

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(7)

The purpose of this program is to provide grants to support local communities in upgrading structures identified by the community as an emergency shelter location.

#### Responsible Department and Agency

Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management

#### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$5,000,000.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$5,000,000.00

#### Summary of Activities

In the process of collecting memorandum of agreements.

#### Contact

Joe Stanton, Assistant Director for Long-Term Recovery

919-218-6325

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## State Floodplain Mapping Program

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(8)

The purpose of this program is to conduct flood studies, risk assessment, and building mitigation strategies through the State Floodplain Mapping Program. Funds will be prioritized to map non-encroachment areas of the State and to provide for information sharing through the State's Flood Risk Information System.

### Responsible Department and Agency

Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management

### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$5,000,000.00
Expended	\$220,881.65
Obligated	\$4,779,118.35
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00

### Summary of Activities

Task 1: Rain-on-Grid 2-D Base Level Engineering

- Production teams are in the data collection and model setup phase.
- Production teams have provided their basin shapefiles and proposed schedule.
- Master schedule has been created.
- AGOL Dashboard has been created.

Task 2: FLOOD Rosters, Draft FIRM database and CNMS

Task 3: Calculate Flood Hazard Risk

Task 4: Evaluation of Building-Level Mitigation Strategies

Task 5: NEA Mapping

- Group 1 has been submitted and 1st round of comments (NCEM) has been provided back to contractor. Group 1 was resubmitted on 6/24. Group 2 was submitted on 7/1.

### Contact

Gary W. Thompson, NC Geodetic Survey Chief

919-948-7844

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## **Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(9)

The purpose of this program is for detailed mapping and risk impact studies for 250 existing flood gauges to provide baseline information on those gauges for use in the Division's Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$3,327,500.00
Expended	\$413,144.79
Obligated	\$2,914,355.21
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00

### **Summary of Activities**

Task 1: Development of Inundation Libraries for Riverine and Coastal Gauges

- Thirteen groups of libraries (132 sites) are submitted for QC reviews.
- Eight Groups (80 Sites) have been reviewed and comments are provided to the mapping contractors.
- Questions about the data, models and modeling approach are being addressed.
- Master schedule updated with inputs from the consultants.

Task 2: FIMAN Building Risk Databases and Transportation Layers

Task 3: Final Reports

### **Contact**

Gary W. Thompson, NC Geodetic Survey Chief

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## Department of Environmental Quality

### Time-Limited Staff Positions

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(10)

The purpose of this program is for six time-limited positions beginning on January 1, 2024, to continue implementation of the Flood Resiliency Blueprint described in Section 5.9(c) of S.L. 2021-180, as amended. Four hundred ninety-three thousand nine hundred fifty-three dollars (\$493,953) of these funds are allocated for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, and the remaining funds for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Office of State Human Resources shall allow the Department to post these positions up to 180 days prior to their starting date.

### Responsible Department and Agency

Department Environmental Quality

#### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$1,481,859.00
Expended	\$162,698.48
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$1,319,160.52

### Summary of Activities

#### Contact

Summer Lowe

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## Wildlife Resources Commission

### **The Nature Conservancy**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(11)

The purpose of this program is to provide a grant to the Nature Conservancy, a nonprofit corporation, for a pilot project to protect and restore critically important peatlands in eastern North Carolina for the purpose of increasing community flood resilience, improving water quality and wildlife habitat, and reducing wildfire risk.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Wildlife Resources Commission

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$1,000,000.00
Expended	\$1,000,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00

### **Summary of Activities**

As of 6/30/25, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) utilized the full \$1,000,000 allocation as part of a \$3.2M land purchase of over 2,700 acres in Pamlico County called Light Ground Pocosin. Once the property is restored, TNC will convey the property to WRC as an addition to the Light Ground Pocosin Game Land, more than tripling the size of the Game Land.

The restored peatlands on the property will: reduce wildfire risk and protect public health; mitigate localized flooding, improve water quality, reduce CO2 emissions annually by 21,255mt, and preserve critical wildlife habitat.

### **Contact**

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# The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

## FerryMon Program

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(12)

The purpose of this program is to provide funding to the North Carolina Collaboratory at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Collaboratory) for the FerryMon Program. These funds will be allocated in equal amounts to each year of the 2023-2025 biennium

## Responsible Department and Agency

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$170,000.00
Expended	\$30,970.78 (Q4)
	\$72,360.82 (Total)
Obligated	\$97,639.18
Unobligated Balance	\$0

## Summary of Activities

1. Salaries and fringes for Technician (Jeremy Braddy) maintaining ferry-based sampling and monitoring equipment.
2. Calibrating ferry-based sensing and sampling equipment.
3. Replacement of ferry-based sensors and associated parts
4. Construction of portable vessel-based water quality monitoring modules.
5. Costs for laboratory analyses of nutrients, algal photopigments, total organic carbon and nitrogen analyses.
6. Data analysis, website management.
7. Travel costs

## Contact

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## **ModMon Program**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(13)

The purpose of this program is to provide funding to the North Carolina Collaboratory at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Collaboratory) for the ModMon Program. These funds will be allocated in equal amounts to each year of the 2023-2025 biennium

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$160,000.00
Expended	\$17,003.10 (Q4)
	\$26,810.34 (Total)
Obligated	\$133,189.66
Unobligated Balance	\$0

### **Summary of Activities**

1. Salaries and fringes for Technician conducting biweekly monitoring activities on the Neuse River Estuary
2. Costs for laboratory analyses of nutrients, algal photopigments, total organic carbon and nitrogen analyses.
3. Supplies and replacement environmental sensors for field water quality monitoring.
4. Costs of boat time, fuel and transportation for water quality monitoring and sampling of bioassay water.
5. Travel costs.
6. Data management and reporting (via internet) water quality conditions. Preparation of publications. Maintenance of website.

### **Contact**

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## The University of North Carolina Board of Governors

### **North Carolina School of Science and Math Storm Damage**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(14)

The purpose of this program is to provide funding for North Carolina School of Science and Math Storm Damage

#### **Responsible Department and Agency**

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$264,000.00
Expended	\$264,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00

#### **Summary of Activities**

NCSSM rented a temporary Chiller starting in November of 2023 to address the issues with our current Chiller that is in the process of being replaced. NCSSM also repaired one of the columns at our main entrance that was damaged during the storm. The total cost of these two storm related expenditures was \$267,537. As of 6/30/24 the \$264,000 allocation has been fully expended.

#### **Contact**

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## **North Carolina Central University Storm Damage**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(15)

The purpose of this program is to provide funding for North Carolina Central University Storm Damage

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$50,000.00
Expended	\$00.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$50,000.00

### **Summary of Activities**

No funding was spent in this quarter.

### **Contact**

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## Department of Public Safety

### **Pilot View Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. (PVRC&D)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(16)(a)

The purpose of this program is for stormwater and stream rehabilitation

#### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Office of State Budget and Management – Disaster Recovery

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$7,000,000.00
Expended	\$7,000,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00
PVRC&D Expenditures	\$00.00

#### **Summary of Activities**

All funds have been disbursed to the grantee as required by SL 2023-134. During this reporting period, Pilot View Recourse Conservation and Development, Inc. reports they are in the process of issuing Requests for Quotes for stormwater and stream rehabilitation projects, but have not yet expended any funds under this directed grant.

#### **Contact**

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## **Baptists on Mission (BOM)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(16)(b)

The purpose of this program is to respond to natural disasters within the State of North Carolina

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Office of State Budget and Management – Disaster Recovery

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$5,000,000.00
Expended	\$5,000,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00
BOM Expenditures	\$360,502.17

### **Summary of Activities**

All funds have been disbursed to the grantee as required by SL 2023-134. During the previous quarter, Baptists on Mission reported significant activity in disaster housing recovery. \$273,819.25 was expended in Fair Bluff and Lumberton, with 41 properties being repaired. \$23,655.66 was expended repairing four properties in Rose Hill and an additional \$63,027.26 was expended to repair thirteen homes in New Bern. The impacted properties sustained damage from Hurricanes Matthew and Florence.

### **Contact**

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## **Blue Ridge Resources Conservation and Development Council (BRRC&D)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(16)(c)

The purpose of this program is for stormwater and stream rehabilitation

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Office of State Budget and Management – Disaster Recovery

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$3,000,000.00
Expended	\$3,000,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00
BRRC&D Expenditures	\$10,105.85

### **Summary of Activities**

All funds have been disbursed to the grantee as required by SL 2023-134. During the previous quarter, Blue Ridge Resource Conservation and Development Council reports completion of procurement for stream restoration, to include issuance of contract with vendors and execution of MOAs with landowners. Expenditures for the reporting period total \$10,105.85.

### **Contact**

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## **North Carolina Insurance Underwriting Association (NCIUA)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(16)(d)

The purpose of this program is for North Carolina Insurance Underwriting Association's Coastal Resilient Roof Grant Pilot Program, consistent with the purposes set forth in Section 5.9(i) of S.L. 2021-180.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Office of State Budget and Management – Disaster Recovery

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$2,000,000.00
Expended	\$2,000,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00
NCIUA Expenditures	\$00.00

### **Summary of Activities**

All funds have been disbursed to the grantee as required by SL 2023-134. During the previous period, North Carolina Insurance Underwriting Association reports no expenditures, as the launch of this program begins on July 31, 2024. Additionally, priority has been given to programming the remainder of funds appropriated for the Coastal Resilient Roof Grant Pilot Program under SL 2021-180, which is ongoing and has a reversion date of June 30, 2025.

### **Contact**

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## **Southwest North Carolina Resource Conservation and Development Council (SNCRC&DC)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(16)(e)

The purpose of this program is for dam removal and stream restoration

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Office of State Budget and Management – Disaster Recovery

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$1,500,000.00
Expended	\$1,500,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00
SNCRC&DC	\$00.00
Expenditures	

### **Summary of Activities**

All funds have been disbursed to the grantee as required by SL 2023-134. Southwest North Carolina Resource Conservation and Development Council reports that all projects are currently in the procurement phase and no funds were expended during the reporting period.

### **Contact**

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## **North Carolina Resource Conservation and Development Association (NCRC&DA)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(16)(f)

The purpose of this program is for flood mitigation projects

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Office of State Budget and Management – Disaster Recovery

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$1,000,000.00
Expended	\$1,000,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00
NCRC&DA	\$00.00

### **Summary of Activities**

All funds have been disbursed to the grantee as required by SL 2023-134. North Carolina Resource Conservation and Development Association reports that all projects are currently in the procurement phase and no funds were expended during the reporting period.

### **Contact**

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## **Montreat Conference Center Development Foundation, Inc. (MCCDF)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(16)(g)

The purpose of this program is for Lake Susan dredging and flood control

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Office of State Budget and Management – Disaster Recovery

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$1,000,000.00
Expended	\$1,000,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00
MCCDF	\$32,917.34

### **Summary of Activities**

All funds have been disbursed to the grantee as required by SL 2023-134. During the reporting period, Montreat Conference Center Development Foundation, Inc. reports they have completed the engineering phase for the Lake Susan dredging and flood control projects, spending \$32,917.34 during the quarter. They are in the process of obtaining final permits and anticipate beginning work in the latter part of August 2024.

### **Contact**

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## **The Methodist University, Inc. (MU)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(16)(h)

The purpose of this program is for resilience.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Office of State Budget and Management – Disaster Recovery

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$1,000,000.00
Expended	\$1,000,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00
MU Expended	\$00.00

### **Summary of Activities**

All funds have been disbursed to the grantee as required by SL 2023-134. Methodist University reports that no funds were expended during the previous quarter. Funds from this appropriation are to be used as a supplement to other grants to complete stream restoration and flood control for an unnamed tributary of the Cape Fear River. It is anticipated that the initial grant will be exhausted, and SL 2023-134 funds will be expended in October or November of 2024.

### **Contact**

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## **United Way of Coastal Carolina, Inc. (UWCC)**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(16)(i)

The purpose of this program is to support the Pamlico County Disaster Recovery Coalition

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Office of State Budget and Management – Disaster Recovery

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$755,000.00
Expended	\$755,000.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00
UWCC Expenditures	\$47,862.25

### **Summary of Activities**

All funds have been disbursed to the grantee as required by SL 2023-134. United Way of Coastal Carolina reports that they have been continuing case management services for disaster clients in conjunction with Pamlico County Disaster Recovery Coalition. In addition, there have been seven completed assessments for roofing repairs and replacements and one roof completion to date. Expenditures for the reporting period total \$47,862.25.

### **Contact**

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## Department of Environmental Quality

### Stormwater Retrofit Pilot Cost-Share Program

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(17)(a)

The purpose of this program is to provide a directed grant to North Carolina Coastal Federation, Inc. for the Stormwater Retrofit Pilot Cost-Share Program.

#### Responsible Department and Agency

Department of Environmental Quality

#### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$5,000,000.00
Expended	\$242,686.56
Obligated	\$439,847.07
Unobligated Balance	\$4,317,466.37

#### Summary of Activities

##### 1. Overview

The Stormwater Retrofit Pilot Cost-Share Program Project, funded by the North Carolina General Assembly, is designed to enhance coastal water quality protection and reduce chronic flooding by addressing widespread non-compliance with state-issued Coastal Stormwater Permits in the 20 coastal counties. The project team, which includes the North Carolina Coastal Federation, Ward and Smith, PA, McAdams Co. Engineering, Resource Environmental Solutions (RES), and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), has completed several key actions this quarter to inform the development of a comprehensive Stormwater Retrofit Pilot Cost-Share Program.

This initiative focuses on testing methods to provide technical and legal assistance to existing or soon-to-be permit holders who are dealing with various issues that have rendered their stormwater systems non-compliant. The goal is to develop a cost-share program that supports permit holders facing financial stress, helping them address compliance issues and reset their stormwater permit requirements. The pilot will establish a cost-effective strategy to manage the thousands of compliance issues affecting this state program, particularly those problems inherited by permit holders through no fault of their own.

## 2. Dashboard Tool Development

To facilitate site identification and management, McAdams Co. Engineering developed an interactive web map dashboard. This GIS tool provides detailed information on permitted stormwater systems in the 20 coastal counties, including:

- **Density Classification:** High or Low
- **Permit Status:** Active or Expired
- **Compliance Status:** Compliant or Not Compliant

The dashboard also includes field notes, photos, and classifications of potential disadvantaged communities as identified by the EPA and NCDEQ. This tool has been instrumental in identifying sites for field testing retrofits and will continue to be a valuable resource for future site selection and management.

## 3. Property Management Firm Collaboration

The project team engaged with local property management firms to identify potential sites for retrofitting. Key engagements include:

- **Real Estate Plus, Inc. Mgt. Services**, who provides residential rental and community management services, including Affordable Housing in the Craven County region identified a dozen properties in Craven County requiring stormwater retrofits.
- **Community Association of Management Services (CAMS):** Assisted in identifying additional sites in the southeastern coastal region, which have been added to the dashboard inventory.

These collaborations are crucial in ensuring that the most impactful sites are selected for the pilot program.

## 4. Pilot Project Site Selection, Design, Permitting, and Contracting

Through rigorous site visits and consultations, the team has selected several pilot project sites to test various retrofit approaches:

- **Christopher Downs and Courtyard West Developments**
- **Havelock Community Missionary Baptist Church**
- **Town of Morehead City Police Department**

Resource Environmental Solutions (RES) has developed concept designs for these sites, focusing on improving and upgrading existing stormwater systems. Additionally, Ward & Smith, PA, has finalized contract agreements to formalize the retrofits. The final design, permitting, and construction of these demonstration sites are scheduled for the next two quarters.

## 5. Outreach and Education

The project team has actively engaged in outreach efforts to raise awareness of the program:

- A presentation was delivered at the Local Programs Annual Erosion and Sedimentation Control Workshop on April 23, 2024, at the Sturgeon City Environmental Education Center.

- Two additional professional presentations are planned for the upcoming quarter. These outreach efforts are essential for educating stakeholders and gaining support for the program.

## 6. Lessons Learned

Early findings from field investigations and discussions with property owners have highlighted several challenges:

- Many stormwater permit holders are facing unexpected and costly maintenance issues that they did not cause.
- Inadequate permit transfer processes between developers and property owners are exacerbating non-compliance rates, leading to significant financial and legal burdens for the current owners.
- Some corporate commercial property owners with multiple properties have expired and/or non-compliant permits, indicating systemic issues that need to be addressed at the corporate level.

These insights are being incorporated into the development of the final Stormwater Retrofit Pilot Cost-Share Program recommendations.

## 7. Next Steps

The next two quarters will focus on the completion of the following tasks:

- **Final Design and Permitting:** Completion of designs and securing necessary permits for pilot sites.
- **Construction:** Begin construction of the selected demonstration sites.
- **Select Additional Test Projects:** Identify at least 20 additional test retrofit projects that will be implemented to design the cost-share program.
- **Continued Outreach:** Presentations and engagements with key stakeholders.
- **Program Development:** Finalizing the recommendations and structure for the Stormwater Retrofit Pilot Cost-Share Program.

## Contact

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## **Living Shoreline Projects Funds Match**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(17)(b)

The purpose of this program is to provide a directed grant to North Carolina Coastal Federation, Inc. to provide up to 50% match for federal, State, or private funds for living shoreline projects in coastal counties.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Environmental Quality

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$2,000,000.00
Expended	\$7,681.95
Obligated	\$1,708,200.00
Unobligated Balance	\$284,118.05

### **Summary of Activities**

During this reporting period, seven living shorelines were constructed. One by Total Marine Services in Stumpy Point (Hooper - 225 ft using granite rock). Four by Native Shorelines in Newport (King – 190 ft using oyster shell bags), in Pine Knoll Shores (Shedd – 100 ft using oyster shell bags), in Beaufort (Trask – 150 ft using QuickReef), and in Marshallberg (Canon – 255 ft using QuickReef). One by Bentley Brooks Construction in Beaufort (Ramsey – 205 feet using granite rock). One built by the landowner in Hubert (Poe – 50 ft using oyster shell bags).

Two additional living shorelines are under construction in Emerald Isle (Mangum – 105 ft using QuickReef) and Hubert (Woodruff – 200 ft using QuickReef).

Twelve additional living shorelines are contracted and being permitted (Bald Head Island, Morris Landing, Gehring, Kaplan, Cullipher, Puriani, McGrew, Flannagan, Weise, Town of Duck, Wrights Creek Park, and Schiffman). Nine sites are being contracted. Eighty-four living shoreline projects are in discussion and design with the landowners.

Copies of designs, permits, landowner and contractor contracts are available upon request.

### **Contact**

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## Lost Fishery Gear Recovery Program and Derelict Vessel Removal

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(17)(c)

The purpose of this program is to provide a directed grant to North Carolina Coastal Federation, Inc. (Federation) for the Federation's Lost Fishery Gear Recovery Program and the investigation, removal, and disposal of abandoned and derelict vessels in public trust waters of the State located in Coastal Counties

### Responsible Department and Agency

Department of Environmental Quality

### Funding Allocation Update

Appropriated	\$500,000.00
Expended	\$98,144.06
Obligated	\$335,965.75
Unobligated Balance	\$65,890.20

### Summary of Activities

#### Project Summary

The North Carolina Coastal Federation (Federation) was allocated \$500,000 from the N.C. General Assembly through the N.C. Division of Environmental Quality to continue its marine debris, lost fishing gear and Abandoned and Derelict Vessel (ADV) removal program and projects. The Federation is partnering with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) to address and remove abandoned and derelict vessels across the North Carolina coast through WRC's legislative authority. The Federation and WRC are coordinating the ADV removal efforts with the N.C. Division of Coastal Management to ensure regulatory compliance. The Federation also received a four-year \$4.5 million grant from N.O.A.A through the Inflation Reduction Act to remove marine debris and ADVs along the coast. The appropriation funding is being used to supplement the NOAA funding, and it is being used to remove the numerous ADVs that are not eligible to be removed with the federal funding.

#### Work Completed During the Project Reporting Period (4/1/24-6/30/24)

(1) Project Coordination and Administration: DEQ fully executed the project contract with the Federation on 2/23/24 which allowed project activities to begin. The Federation set up its internal team and held a series of meetings with staff from WRC, DCM and DMF to coordinate and plan implementation of the marine debris project.

The Federation is working with numerous stakeholders to update the N.C. Marine Debris Action Plan (2020-2024). Since the Action Plan was launched, more than 76% of items outlined have been accomplished, with an additional 14% in progress or ongoing, thanks to the involvement of many marine debris stakeholders along the N.C. coast. The Action Plan partners are updating the

plan for 2025-2029, and they are working to prioritize marine debris strategies, assess coastal community needs, identify barriers and continue creating a coast that is free of marine debris.

The Federation is also working with the WRC, DCM, DEQ and local governments to update and strengthen current ADV authority into a more efficient and effective permanent state led ADV program.

(2) Lost Fishing Gear: A total of 60 commercial watermen and women collected 2,463 crab pots from the northeast, central and southeast coasts during the January and March crab fishery closures in 2024 as part of the Lost Fishing Gear project. The project was primarily funded by the N.C. Commercial Fishing License Resource Fund. The N.C. state appropriation funding was used to extend the project into the southeast coast, hire additional crews and cover the costs for dumpsters and disposal fees for the crab pots. The Federation coordinated with the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries and N.C. Marine Patrol for this project.



Figure 1, Commercial watermen unloading recovered crab pots

#### Regional breakdown

- In Marine Patrol District 1, which covers the northeast region of the North Carolina coast from the Virginia line to Ocracoke, 20 boats made up of 40 commercial fishers picked up 1,650 crab pots.
- In Marine Patrol District 2, which spans from Ocracoke to Emerald Isle, 5 boats made up of 10 commercial fishers removed 577 crab pots.
- In Marine Patrol District 3, which spans from Cape Carteret to the South Carolina state line, 5 boats made up of 10 commercial fishers removed 236 crab pots.



Figure 2, Commercial watermen recovering lost crab pots

(3) Abandoned and Derelict Vessels (ADV)s: The Federation, WRC and local governments are collaborating to investigate, conduct owner notification, remove and dispose of abandoned and derelict vessels. The WRC and local governments with adopted ADV ordinances are using their legislated authority to authorize the removal of designated ADVs.

The appropriation funding has been critical in enabling the timely removal of ADVs once they are authorized. The NOAA ADV funding requires federal NEPA consultation for each ADV prior to removal. This environmental review process can take three to six months, during which time an ADV can sink or be further damaged, greatly increasing the removal costs and potential harm to the environment.

Field assessments have been conducted by boat by the Federation, WRC and local governments on over 40 vessels that are under priority for removal. These vessels are currently spread from Currituck county to Brunswick county. The WRC and local governments have established a notification procedure for ADVs that include placing a sticker on each ADV and sending a letter via registered mail to the last registered owner of each ADV. This initiates a time stamp for those vessels where the owner has been difficult to get in touch with. After the 30-day waiting period, if there is no change in the vessel status, it is authorized for removal. The relevant authority, WRC or local government, notifies the Federation so it can begin the removal efforts.

The Federation works with a list of specialized and recommended ADV removal and disposal third party contractors. Vessel information along with the DCM's and the Federation's Requirements for Removing Abandoned and Derelict Vessels and NOAA's Environmental Best Management Practices (BMPS) / Project Design Criteria (PDC) Checklist NOAA Funded Marine Debris Removal Projects – North Carolina are provided to the contractors. They use these guidelines to assess each vessel, provide approved removal and disposal methods, and develop cost estimates. These are provided to the Federation for review and consideration. Federation staff use their experience from coordinating 106 ADV previous removals along with the cost, methods and contractor's experience to select the best estimate package.

The selected contractor is provided a copy of the DERELICT VESSEL SALVAGE AND DISPOSAL AGREEMENT (Attachment A) which contains the BMPs and Checklist listed above along with a Vessel Removal Form (VRF). Federation staff fill in the vessel information for each VRF and submit these to the contractor. The contractor fills in the proposed removal method on the VRF for each vessel and submits the form to Federation staff who then forward the VRF to DCM and WRC for review and approval. Upon receipt of the approval for each vessel, federation staff notify the contractor they may proceed with the removal. The contractor provides a schedule for each ADV removal, and the Federation notifies the appropriate local, state and federal agencies.

Once the contractor arrives on site to each vessel, they send Federation staff a photo and/or description of the target vessel, location and any identifying registration and/or sticker information. Federation staff verify the information against the WRC Working Vessels master list and give the contractor the green light to proceed with removal. The contractor inspects the vessel and site and remove any hazardous materials.

Federation staff monitor the removal, site conditions and dismantling of each ADV by being on site or through photo documentation provided by the contractor. Any minor removal site remediation is done by using hand rakes and tools to smooth out any minor grooves or depressions and “fluff up” any flattened marsh grass. Once the vessel is towed and hauled into the laydown yard, it is dismantled with an excavator, recyclable materials (keel, rigging, metal) are separated, and the remaining portion of the vessel is placed into a dumpster. The dumpster is hauled to a nearby municipal landfill and emptied. Weight tickets are provided for each dumpster. This represents the final disposition for each vessel.

The contractor provides Federation staff with an invoice, completed VRF and photo/text documentation of each vessel removal, dismantling and disposal. Federation staff verify all the information and add in any additional information and photos and sign the VRF. The VRF’s and supplemental documentation for each vessel is submitted to WRC or the local government authority and are attached to each report.

The Federation coordinated the removal and disposal of three ADVs (described below) during the reporting period:

Date Removed	ADV #	County	Latitude	Longitude	WRC ADV #	Date Authorized	Description
6/19/24	SA24-15	Brunswick	33.88497	-78.57021	010-20240320-344	4/24/24	Cabin Cruiser, on bank of dredged canal into private marina off of Calabash River
6/18/24	SA24-16	Brunswick	33.885191	-78.570573	010-20240320-345	4/24/24	Skiff, sunk next to marsh bank of dredged canal into private marina off of Calabash River
5/21/24	SA24-13	New Hanover	34.064531	-77.889576	065-20240221-336	4/10/24	Blue sailboat on marsh bank, near Snows Cut & ICW, Seabreeze, vessel is now full of water

Figure 3. Descriptions of ADVs removed during the current reporting period.



Figure 4. Photos of the removal of ADVs SA24-15, SA24-16 and SA24-13 respectively.

(4) Marine Debris Site Inventory: Federation staff worked with community partners including local, state and federal government agencies, other NGOs, and local boat captains to conduct a site assessment to update the locations of concentrations of marine debris in public trust areas from Brunswick to Currituck counties. This survey will help to focus the use of additional federal and state funds as well as the current cleanup.

(5) Marine Debris Cleanup: The Federation has executed contracts with third party contractors, primarily commercial watermen/women to collect marine debris from public trust waters and lands along the coast. Currently this effort is primarily supported through the NOAA IRA grant. The contractors are formed into 2-4 person field crews, each with a shallow draft 21' – 24' skiff. They collect the debris by hand due to the remote location and sensitive habitats where the debris is located. The debris is hauled by skiff to the mainland where it is loaded into a dumpster for disposal in a landfill. The federation also worked with WRC to secure a general special use permit to stage dumpsters and collect debris at WRC Boat Access Areas (BAA) and ramps throughout the project area. The majority of the debris removed by hand is pressure treated wood from pilings and docks, construction material and floating dock pieces that broke up during Hurricane Florence. The remaining debris has consisted of tires, plastics, floating baskets, containers, and consumer debris.

## Contact

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## Department of Public Safety

### **Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(18)

The purpose of this program is Budgets receipts from the SERDRF to provide a direct grant through NCEM to Hyde County to continue deployment of the emergency communications systems for Ocracoke Island.

#### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management

#### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$842,592.00
Expended	\$842,592.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$00.00

#### **Summary of Activities**

As of June 30, 2024, The Department of Public Safety Controller's Office has expended \$842,592.00 of the appropriated \$842,592.00. These funds are being used to continue deployment of emergency communications systems for Ocracoke Island.

#### **Contact**

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## **Directed Grants**

SL 2023-134 Section 5.6 (f)(19)

The purpose of this fund is for directed grants for recipients as listed in the Committee Report described in Section 43.2 of this act.

### **Responsible Department and Agency**

Department of Public Safety

### **Funding Allocation Update**

Appropriated	\$131,203,342.00
Expended	\$130,803,342.00
Obligated	\$00.00
Unobligated Balance	\$400,000.00

### **Summary of Activities**

As of June 30, 2024, The Department of Public Safety Controller's Office has expended \$130,803,342.00 of the appropriated \$131,203,342.00. The remaining unobligated balance of \$400,00.00 has not been expended as of this date due to no established contract between grant recipient and DPS.

### **Contact**

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