



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT



JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

KRISTIN WALKER
STATE BUDGET DIRECTOR

December 15, 2025

TO: Senator Phil Berger
President Pro Tempore

Representative Destin Hall
Speaker of the House

FROM: Mark Bondo
Assistant State Budget Officer

SUBJECT: Disaster Grant Award Report for Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

Pursuant to Session Law 2024-51, Sec 6.2 the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) submit the attached Notification of Grant Award for the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (Department), Division of Land and Water Stewardship. The Grant, FY 2025 Good Neighbor Agreement Hurricane Helene Recovery, awarded by United States Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$10,196,600.

The State and the Forest Service will enter into this agreement as a collaborative effort to assess impacts of Hurricane Helene on the unique biological and ecological resources of the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests and adjacent lands with the focus on documenting rare species populations. This agreement will support staff assessment and monitor damage impacts over a 10-year project period. Assessments will inform recommendations for restorations and managements actions for long term resilience of rare species and their natural habitats.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Budget Analyst Unika Ashe-Valentine at unika.valentine@osbm.nc.gov or Mark Bondo mark.bondo@osbm.nc.gov.

Thank You.

CC:
Anca Grozav, OSBM
Unika Ashe-Valentine, OSBM
Josh Davis, DNCR
Arielle Edgerton, DNCR
Veronica Butcher, NCGROW

Notification of Grant Application/Award, FY 2025-26

Office of State Budget and Management 984-236-0600.

Instructions at <https://www.osbm.nc.gov/budget/common-agency-requests/agency-reporting-grant-applicationsawards>

Please indicate if Notification is for a **GRANT APPLICATION** or **GRANT AWARD**

Application

Grant Award

1 Department

Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

2 Division (*except in DHHS*).....

Land and Water Stewardship

DHHS only, choose division from drop down list.....

3 Contact person (*name*)

Stephanie Horton

4 Phone number

919-707-9430

5 E-mail

stephanie.horton@dncr.nc.gov

6 Funding Entity (grantor)

USDA Forest Service

7 CFDA number.....

10.691

8 Grant title

Good Neighbor Helene Recovery

9 Grant application deadline (MM/DD/YY)

05/18/25

10 Start date of grant (MM/DD/YY)

06/24/25

11 End date of grant (MM/DD/YY)

6/23/2035

12 Application type

New

13 Is this grant already in agency's base budget?

No

14 Budget Code the grant will be expended in (XXXXX)....

14800

15 Budget Fund (XXXXXX or NA)

105136

16 Is there a state matching requirement?

No

17 If yes, what is the matching requirement?

18 If yes, what is the source of state funds being used
to match grant funds.

19 Is there a maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement?

No

20 If yes, what is the MOE?

21 Is an additional General Fund appropriation required to meet the state
match requirement?

No

22 Will any of these funds be passed through to local govern-
ments or non-state entities?

No

23 If yes, identify affected entities by type

24 Will additional state funds be required to continue the
program if grant expires or is reduced?

No

25 If yes, is this a requirement of the grant?

26 Are new FTEs funded through the grant?.....

Yes

27 If yes, give the number by type for each year: *Permanent*
Time-Limited

SFY 2024-25 Actual	For 2025-26 Complete <i>either</i> Authorized or Proposed		SFY 2026-27 Proposed	SFY 2027-28 Proposed	SFY 2028-29 Proposed
	SFY 2025-26 Authorized	SFY 2025-26 Proposed			
	9.000		8.000	8.000	8.000
\$0.00	\$936,654.44		\$897,407.69	\$919,677.88	\$972,479.43

28 Amount of grants funds applied for in each year

29 Amount of grants funds awarded in each year

30 Purpose of grant or amendment	Under this agreement, the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program will partner with the US Forest Service to assess impacts of Hurricane Helene on the unique biological and ecological resources of the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests and adjacent private lands, with focus on documented rare species populations, natural heritage areas, and USFS Special Interest Areas. The agreement will support eight new Natural Heritage Program permanent time-limited FTE's for a 10-year period. In addition, one hourly position (hired through Temp Solutions) will work in Croatan and Uwharrie National Forests for 6 months supporting recovery from Hurricane Florence.
31 Comments	The full budget code is: 4600 105136 4600621 4605700 3025 4G0006001

Return completed form as email attachment and indicate in message that proper agency sign-offs have been obtained. Contact your OSBM budget analyst if you have questions.