Caldwell Soil and Water Conservation District

- NC legislature approved $40 million in StRAP funding for Hurricane Helene affected counties.
- Helene affected counties were separated into low, medium, and high need
- Caldwell County is considered a "High Need" county
- "High Need' counties have the opportunity to apply for up to $ 1,496,250 in StRAP funding.
- This round of funding is a rolling application which is years before we had to apply for one lump sum.
- Caldwell County Soil and Water would like to run the StRAP funding through Caldwell County finance, just like years before, and apply for up to the cap of $1,496,250.

Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP) Funding announcement

November 20, 2025

On December 8th, the Division of Soil & Water Conservation will begin accepting applications for the Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP) in counties affected by Hurricane Helene. This allocation of funding will make $38 million available for projects to repair stream damage caused by Hurricane Helene. This follows approval by the Soil & Water Conservation Commission. Please visit the StRAP website for more information on the program and eligible projects.

A series of webinars will be held to provide additional information on this application cycle and guidance on completing applications. The first 2 webinars are:

- Tuesday, December 2nd at 10am- **Join the meeting now**
- Thursday, December 4th at 2pm- **Join the meeting now**

Projects Funded

The following types of projects are eligible for StRAP funding on streams and waterways damaged by Hurricane Helene:

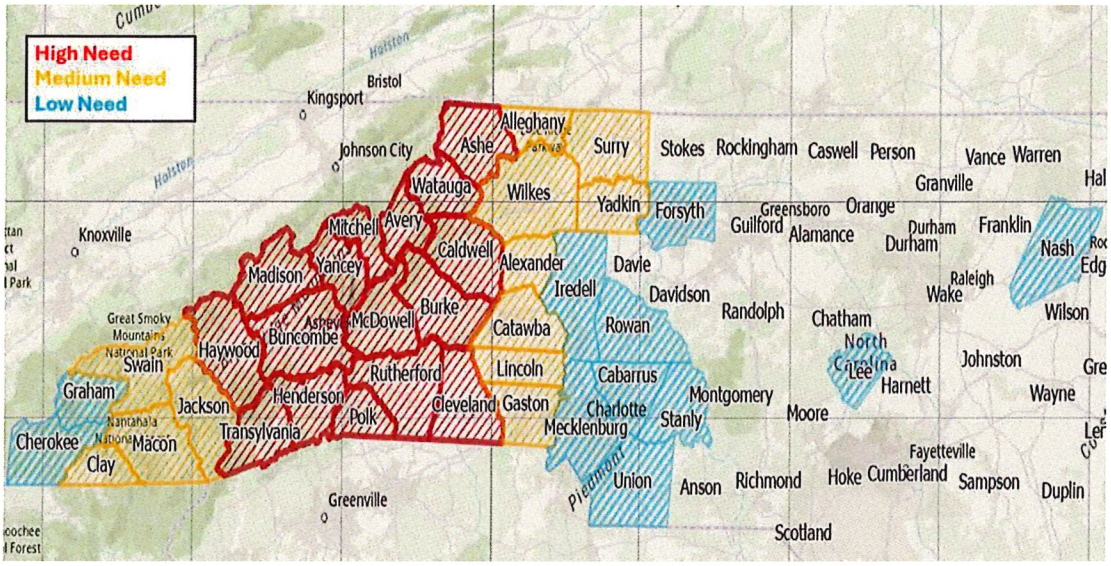
- Streambank stabilization
- Stream debris removal
- Stream restoration
- Sediment removal
- PL-566 Small Watershed structure repair
- Other types of stream repair projects may be approved on a case-by-case basis.

Eligibility

The following organizations are eligible to apply for StRAP funding:

- Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- Political subdivisions (city/county government, water/sewer district, municipal service District, sanitary district, drainage district)
- Non-profit organizations

We will accept applications from eligible organizations in the 39 counties (and Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) identified by the FEMA disaster declaration for Hurricane Helene. Counties are divided based on total impact, with 70% of funds allocated for High-need counties, 20% for medium-need counties, and 10% of funds for low-need counties. The breakdown of counties in each category is available on the map below.



High-Need Counties	Medium-Need Counties	Low-Need Counties
Ashe	Alexander	Cabarrus
Avery	Alleghany	Cherokee
Buncombe	Catawba	Forsyth
Burke	Clay	Graham
Caldwell	Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	Iredell
Cleveland	Gaston	Lee
Haywood	Jackson	Nash
Henderson	Lincoln	Rowan
Madison	Macon	Stanly
McDowell	Surry	Union
Mitchell	Swain	Mecklenburg
Polk	Wilkes	
Rutherford	Yadkin	
Transylvania		
Watauga		
Yancey		

Please note that the list of high-need counties is contingent on enrollment in the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) through NRCS. Any individual organization is not required to apply for EWP funding, but if no organizations in a High-need county apply for EWP, the county will be reclassified as medium-need. The above map will be updated as needed.

Award Amounts

County caps will determine the total amount that can be awarded within each county:
High-need county: $1,496,250
Medium-need county: $526,154
Low-need county: $310,909

Please note that this is a per-county cap, not a per-grantee cap. If multiple organizations within a county apply and receive funding, the total amount awarded across multiple organizations will not exceed the county cap. Supplemental funding will be awarded to a small number of high-priority projects after initial awards have been made in all eligible counties.

Application Process

StRAP funds will be awarded in a rolling application process, with counties becoming eligible to apply for StRAP funds once all EWP enrollment in that count is completed (or if no organizations in the county are applying for EWP). StRAP staff will post information announcing when organizations in each county can apply for funding. Once an application window begins, organizations in that county (or counties) will have 8 weeks to submit applications. Please pay attention to updates on the StRAP website for more information.

The first application window will begin on December 8th. A list of counties to be included in the first application window will be published shortly.

The applications will be collected using the Disaster Assessment & Reporting Tool (DART). Use DART in the field or the office to record information on each stream segment to be included in your application, including site location, description, photos, and cost estimate. Each different stream segment/project will be a separate entry in DART. Please note that once a stream segment is submitted in DART, you cannot edit the entry. If corrections need to be made, please resubmit the stream segment as a new entry in DART. Access DART and learn more about the tool here.

Once you enter all sites for your application in DART, you will submit a brief FormSite poll to provide contact information and notify the Division that you have finished submitting your application.

Questions

More information will be posted on the StRAP website shortly.

For questions and more information about the application, reach out to me directly at
Matt Safford, matt.safford@ncagr.gov or (919) 707-3784

For technical questions about using DART, please review the resources at "Training & Support". If you have additional questions, contact Steven Porson at steven.porson@ncagr.gov