

# Ecosystem Enhancement Program

2006 Report to:

*Environmental Review  
Commission*



U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Wilmington District



# Presentation Overview:

- History and Overview
- Trends
- 2005 – 2006 Financials
- Status

# The Ecosystem Enhancement Program

- 1977 Clean Water Act
- Wetlands Restoration Program est. NCGA in 1996
- Established in 2003 to assist NCDOT
- No projects delayed.
- Innovative state-federal partnership with many national awards



EEP contracts with the private sector, and partners Government Agencies, NGO's and Universities to:

- Plan
- Design and construct
- Acquire
- Inspect



# EEP oversight/coordination:

- State and Federal Agencies
- Program Assessment and Consistency Group (PACG)
- Partnerships and Councils
- NCDOT- BOT
- Policy and Oversight Committee
- Environmental Review Commission

# EEP maximizes efficiencies programmatically to:

- Restore and protect natural resources
- Reduce redundancy
- Reduce number of contracts
- Provide economies of scale (larger more effective projects)
- Provide efficient and effective use of resources

# EEP Process:

1. Receives and develops needs
  - from Customers:
  - from LWP's (Environmental/Watershed needs)
2. Develops strategies to meet statewide needs
3. Secures funds
4. Contracts work



# Demand Trends FY 05/06

NCDOT (MOA)

30% reduction

In-lieu Stream and  
Wetland (MOU)

12 to 20% reduction

Buffer

16% increase

Nutrient Offset

31% increase

# Costs

## Proposed Fee Revision

- Last fee revision occurred in 2003
  - Increased stream fee
  - Added annual adjustment for inflation
- EEP has most data ever related to restoration costs
  - DBB projects in monitoring phase
  - FD contracts awarded
- Latest data analyses reveal need for revision

# Proposed Fee Revisions

Mitigation Type	Existing Fee	Proposed Fee		
		Urban	Rural	Coastal
Stream	\$232	\$332	\$232	\$232
Riparian WL	\$27,847	\$56,000	\$32,000	\$38,000
Non-Rip WL	\$13,924	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$24,000

# Proposed Category Locations

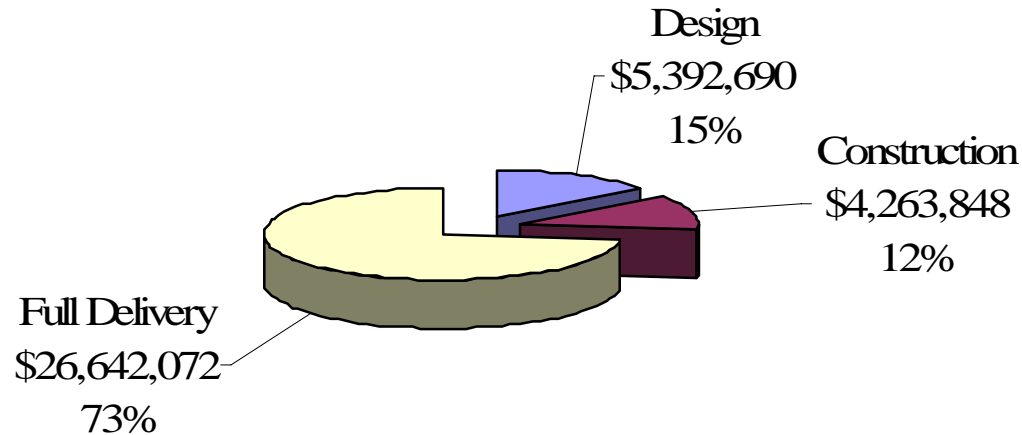


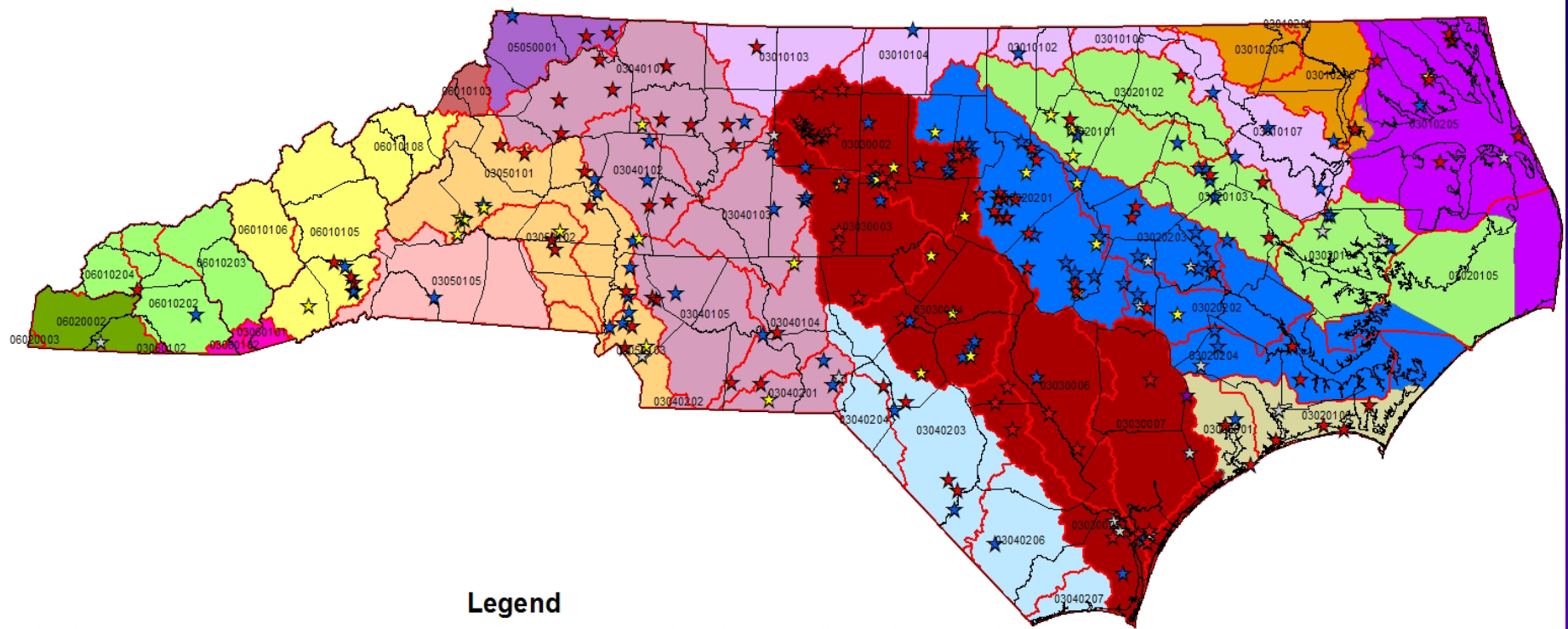
# Production contracts FY 2005-2006

Full Delivery: 35

DBB- Design and Construction: 50

FY 2005 - 2006 Payments to Vendors





### Legend

#### EEP Mitigation Projects by Status

- ★ Monitoring
- ★ Construction
- ★ Design
- ★ Full Delivery
- ★ Acquired

#### River Basins

- BROAD
- CAPE FEAR
- CATAWBA
- CHOWAN
- FRENCH BROAD

#### HIWASSEE

- LITTLE TENNESSEE
- LUMBER
- NEUSE
- NEW
- PASQUOTANK

#### ROANOKE

- SAVANNAH
- TAR-PAMLICO
- WATAUGA
- WHITE OAK
- YADKIN
- CUs

## Project Locations

# EEP funds are managed under four programs:

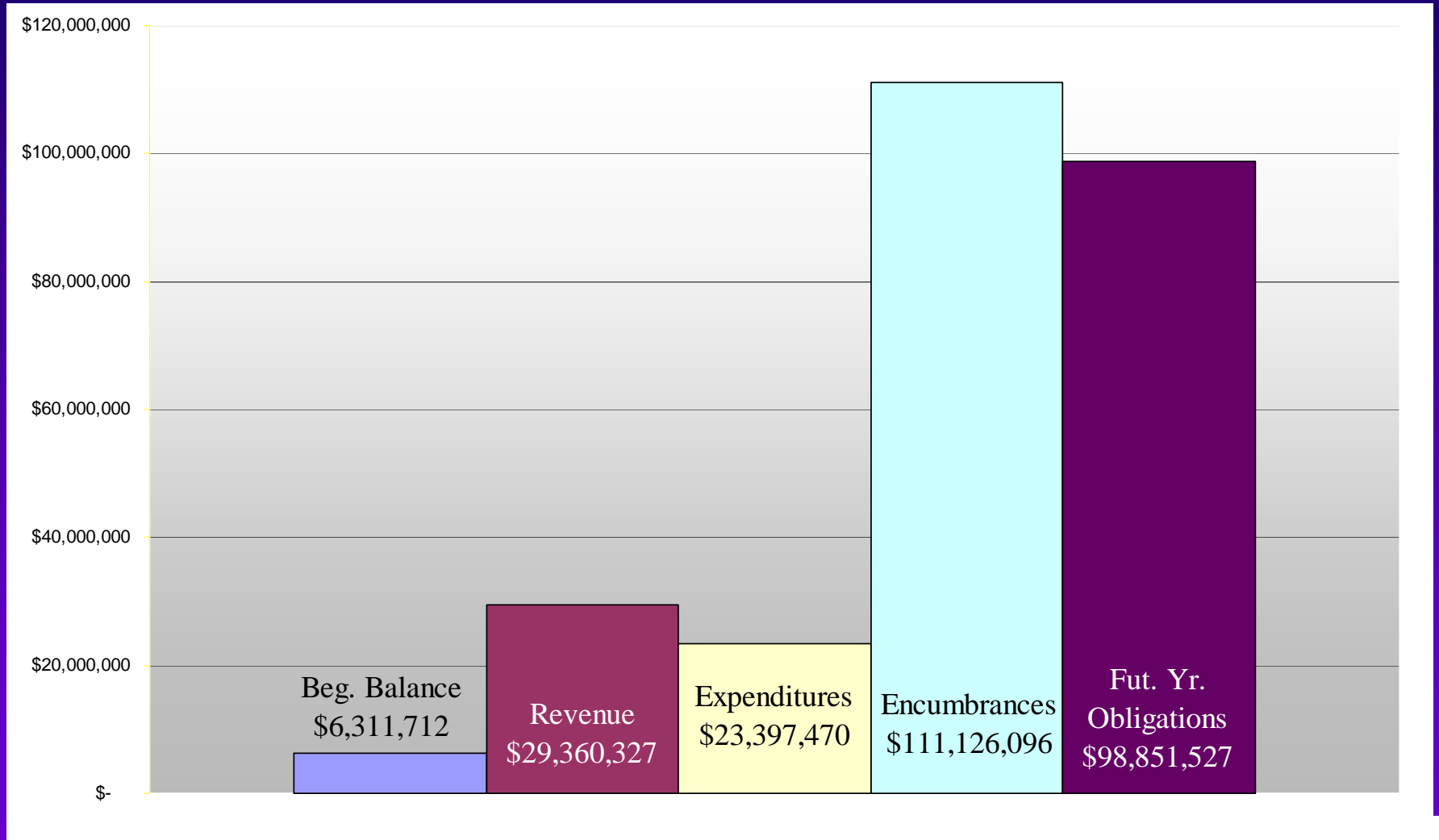
## NCDOT

- MOA program

## Developers, Local Governments, Citizens (voluntary)

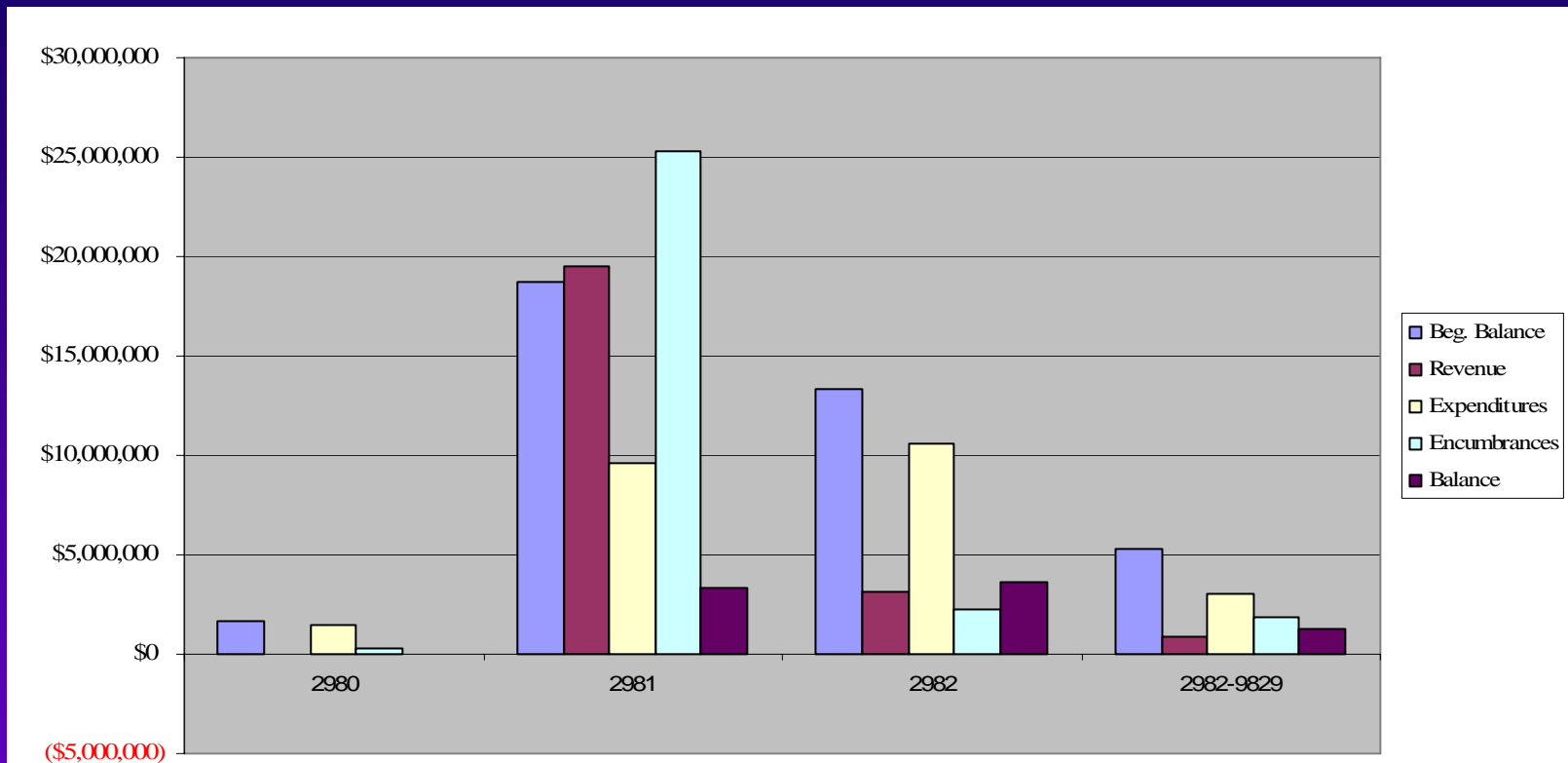
- MOU in-lieu program
- Buffer program
- Nutrient Offset program

# MOA Fund – current (NCDOT)





# Fund Status (In-lieu, Buffer, N.O.) current



	General	MOU Wetland and Stream	Buffers	Nutrient Offset
<b>Beg. Balance</b>	\$1,697,493	\$18,753,441	\$13,309,732	\$5,305,207
<b>Revenue</b>	\$20,168	\$19,516,426	\$3,177,602	\$898,042
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$1,435,002	\$9,592,097	\$10,599,926	\$3,038,466
<b>Encumbrances</b>	\$287,808	\$25,309,671	\$2,229,764	\$1,841,864
<b>Balance</b>	(\$5,149)	\$3,368,099	\$3,657,644	\$1,322,919

# Statewide Stream Status (July 22, 2006 in credits):

Credit requirements (July 22, 2006):	508,323
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Projected needs (2008):	<u>871,230</u>
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Total requirements (through 2008)	1,379,553
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Statewide (EEP Managed Assets*):	1,471,107
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\*EEP Managed (DOT, WRP and self generated)



# Stream Permit Compliance

98.43%

# Statewide Wetland Assets (July 22, 2006 in credits):

Credit requirements (July 22, 2006):	902
Projected needs (2008):	<u>2,200</u>
Total production requirements:	3,102

Statewide EEP Managed Assets\*: 13,087

\*EEP Managed assets come from transferred DOT and WRP projects, along with EEP produced projects



# Wetland Permit Compliance

95.60%

# Buffer Program (acres)

	Cape Fear	Neuse	Tar- Pamlico	TOTAL
Accepted	61.56	303.69	21.45	386.71
Provided	61.66	410.95	103.90	599.91

# Nutrient Offset ILF Program Status

## FY 05—06 (Mitigation Nitrogen Pounds)

Neuse

Mitigation Due	526,373.04
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Mitigation Instituted	527,339.68
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And for the past 42 months:

*Has supplied mitigation to  
permitees with no project  
delays.*

*Helped NCDOT toward awards  
totaling \$2.2 billion in  
transportation construction.*





# Restored, Enhanced or Protected

Streams	500 miles
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Restoration lands	13,800 acres
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<u>HQP lands</u>	<u>35,700 acres</u>
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Total Acreage	49,500 acres
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# Future Actions

- Meet customer needs
- Quality mitigation
  - for the environment
  - cost effective
- With regulatory partners, continue to seek new means and methods to advance our environmental mission

# Data Sources

- Annual Report for FY 2005-2006
- Quarterly reports to USACE

[www.nceep.net](http://www.nceep.net) – follow links to  
News/EEP Publications