

NC Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Report to the Environmental Review Commission



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Environmental Program Manager
NCDA&CS

**To Fund Projects To Encourage The
Preservation Of Qualifying
Agricultural, Horticultural, And
Forestlands To Foster The Growth,
Development, and Sustainability of
Family Farms....**





NC ADFP Trust Fund Advisory Committee



- Ag Commissioner Steve Troxler-
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- Garrett Wyckoff - NC Dept. of
Commerce
- Andrew Branan - NC Farm Transition
Network
- Linda Shaw– RAFI
- Jimmy Gentry - NC State Grange
- Billy Guillet - NC Rural Economic
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- Bill Holbrook - Farmer
- Anne G. Briley - Farmer
- Dr. Ed Jones - NC Cooperative
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- Erica Peterson - NC Agribusiness
Council
- James Ferguson - NC Assoc. of Soil
& Water Conservation Districts
- Gilistine Richardson - Black Farmers &
Agriculturalists Assoc.
- Robert Slocum Jr. - NC Forestry
Assoc.
- Jackie Thompson - Farmer
- Dr. Alton Thompson - NC A&T State
University
- Manly Wilder- Assistant Secretary of
NC DENR
- Steve Woodson - NC Farm Bureau



ADFP Trust Activities

- Cycle I Summary
- Cycle II Summary
- Cycle II Annual Report
- Cycle III Summary and Distribution Map
- Protected Acreage Overview
- Requested and Available Amounts Figure
- Closed and Open Grant Totals Figure
- Farmland Preservation Information and Maps
- Upcoming Cycle IV Funding Needs

2008-2009 (Cycle I) Grant Cycle

- Awarded \$7.6 million in grants to help communities across the state protect farmland or promote agricultural development.
- Received 93 applications requesting \$29 million in grants.
- A total of 41 grants were funded.

Cycle I Awarded Grant Contracts

- **Conservation Easements (Perpetual):**
Total amount awarded: \$4,345,950
Total acreage protected: 2,703
Total projects funded: 16
- **Conservation Easements (Term):**
Total amount awarded: \$820,771
Total acreage protected: 530
Total projects funded: 3 (two for 50-year terms, 1 for 25 years)
- **Agricultural Plans:**
Total amount awarded: \$877,695
Total projects funded: 14
- **Agricultural Development Projects:**
Total amount awarded: \$1,555,020
Total projects funded: 8

2009-2010 (Cycle II) Grant Cycle

- \$4 million available for funding.
- Received 70 applications.
- Over \$15 million in grant requests.
- Awarded over \$3.9 million in grants.
- Awarded 35 grants.

Cycle II Awarded Grant Contracts

- **Conservation Easements (Perpetual):**
Total Amount Awarded: \$2,946,758
Total Acreage Protected: 2,496.3
Total Projects Funded: 13
- **Conservation Easements (Term):**
Total Amount Awarded: \$428,223
Total Acreage Protected: 647
Total Projects Funded: 2 (One 15 year term and one 20 year term)
- **Agricultural Plans:**
Total Amount Awarded: \$331,392
Total Projects Funded: 14
- **Agricultural Development Projects:**
Total Amount Awarded: \$277,650
Total Projects Funded: 7

North Carolina
Agricultural Development
and Farmland Preservation
Trust Fund



2009
Annual Report

**FOR
SALE
BY OWNER**



“As our state continues to grow, we need to do what we can to protect the land that provides us food, clothing and cash crops. There is increasing pressure to sell farmland to developers as more people move to North Carolina, but when we do that we sacrifice our future. Farmland preservation is a long-term strategy to keep this state’s agriculture industry strong.”

—Joe Hackney
Speaker of the House

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North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund



2009 ***Annual Report***

Importance of Farmland Preservation

Economic

Agribusiness is the number one industry in North Carolina, which generates more than \$70 billion annually, and plays an integral part in the economic status of the state. The ADFP Trust Fund intends to preserve these agricultural areas to ensure sustainability of our state economy, in both production and employment, as well as raise awareness of the importance of farmlands to our state. The ability to purchase and consume products that are produced on local farms gives consumers the advantage of fresh food at a more reasonable cost and also supports the local economy. Active agricultural land also creates a range of job opportunities, from farming to food processing and packaging. Currently, North Carolina is the third most diversified agricultural commodity producer and leads the nation in tobacco and sweet potato production. North Carolina also has a variety of soil types and climates, which permit farmers state-wide to produce a large range of commodities throughout the year.

With 48,000 working farms, 17 percent of the N.C. labor force is in agriculture or agribusiness.

In addition, North Carolina produces more than \$3 billion in agricultural exports and is ranked 9th in US cash receipts in agriculture.

Top 10 N.C. Counties in Farm Cash Receipts

County	Thousands Dollars
Duplin	\$968,140
Sampson	\$913,228
Union	\$454,817
Wayne	\$370,547
Robeson	\$363,875
Wilkes	\$329,272
Bladen	\$326,334
Johnston	\$241,633
Randolph	\$209,857
Nash	\$206,810

*Chart above represents 2008 figures

Environmental

Farm and forestlands help protect the environment, wildlife, and also provide clean air and water. Soils and forests filter out contaminants, reducing the risk of flooding, and serving as a recharge area for water. Without proper preservation, these natural resources will be lost, and wildlife displacement will occur. These lands also house large amounts of carbon dioxide, thus helping to maintain the homeostatic nature of the environment and reducing the threat of drastic climate change.

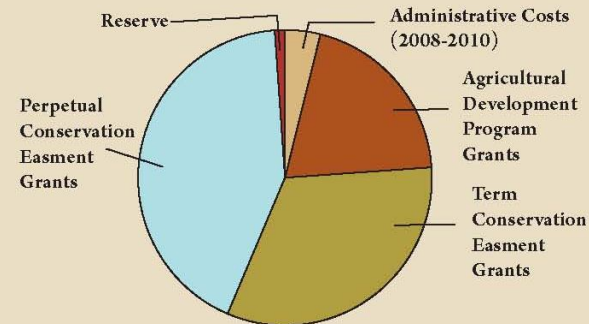
Cultural Heritage

The importance of protecting agricultural area is not only for our economic and environmental future, but the preservation of our quality of life. Working farmlands and rural scenery are a deeply-rooted aspect of North Carolina's history. This cultural heritage is what makes the state so appealing to both its residents and visitors. It is imperative that we preserve the land that is an integral part of North Carolina's heritage and ensure that legacy for future generations.

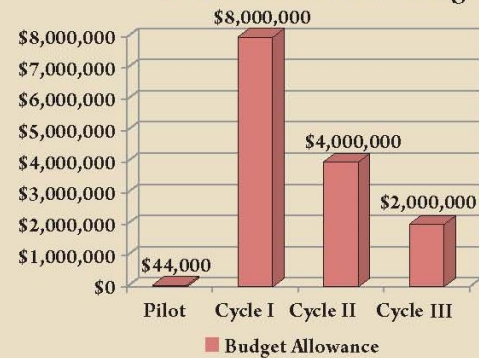
Budget

2008-09 ADFP Trust Fund Budget (Cycle II)

Administrative Costs (2008-2009)	\$80,000
Administrative Costs (2009-2010) (reserve)	\$80,000
Agricultural Development Program Grants	\$800,000
Term Conservation Easement Grants	\$1,300,000
Perpetual Conservation Easement Grants	\$1,700,000
Reserve	\$40,000
TOTAL	\$4,000,000



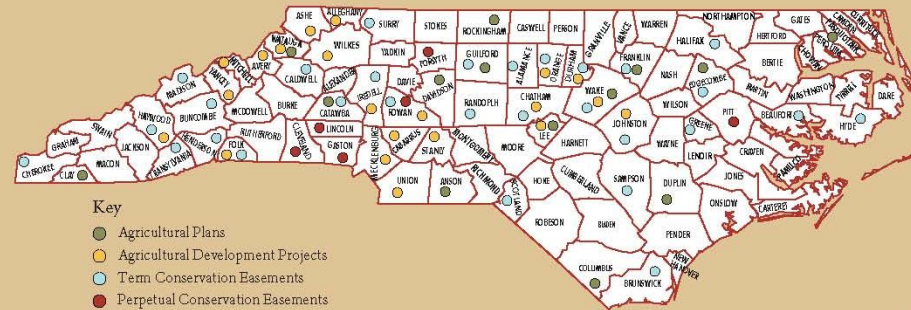
ADFP Trust Fund Budget History



A total of \$44,000 in funding was available for the Pilot Project. The ADFP Trust Fund was given a budget of \$8,000,000 in Cycle I. Since the end of Cycle I, grant allocation has subsequently been reduced due to economic conditions. At the time of publication, applications were being reviewed for Cycle III; the operating budget allotted for this upcoming grant year is \$2,000,000.

ADFP Cycle II Grant Applicants

The applicants for the ADFP 2009-2010 grant cycle propose to benefit the following counties. This map contains only specific counties named in the applications and does not include regional or statewide projects.



Key
 ● Agricultural Plans
 ● Agricultural Development Projects
 ● Term Conservation Easements
 ● Perpetual Conservation Easements

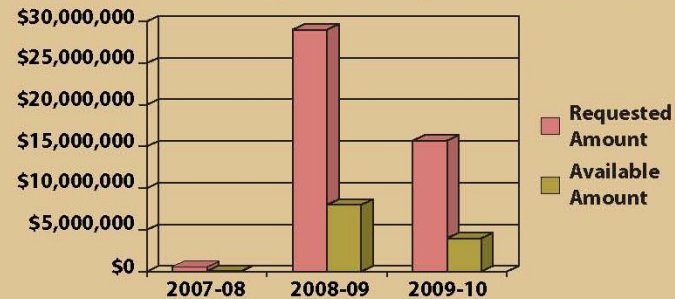
*Physical property location of easement application is noted, and location of grant applicant organization may not be represented.

2009-10 Grant Cycle Applications

Application Type	Number of Applications	Requested Grant Amount	Estimated Project Value
Perpetual Conservation Easements	41	\$13,150,280	\$38,902,849
Term Conservation Easements	6	\$1,833,898	\$3,164,100
Agricultural Plans	14	\$331,392	\$523,340
Development Projects	9	\$382,750	\$6,528,350
TOTAL	70	\$15,698,320	\$49,118,639

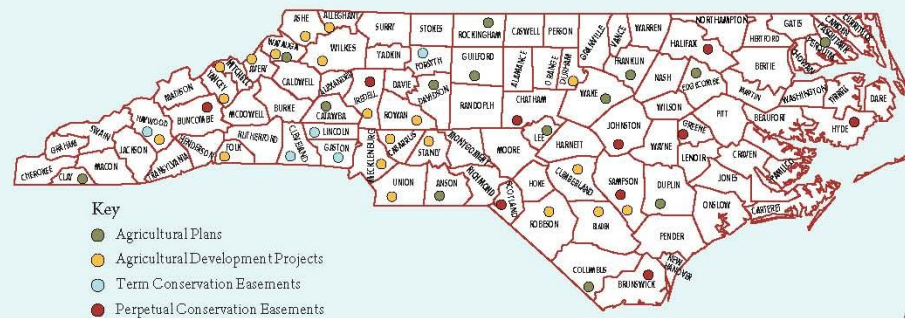
The Trust Fund received applications representing 55 counties throughout the state.

ADFP Trust Fund Application Requests 2007-Present



ADFP Cycle II Grant Recipients

The following counties have been selected for funding in the ADHP 2009-2010 grant cycle. This map contains only specific counties named in the applications and does not include regional or statewide projects. Physical property location of easement award is noted, and location of grant recipient organization may not be represented.



*This map also does not take into account the counties that have more than one proposal of each application type selected for funding (i.e. if a county has applied for funding for 3 enterprise projects then only 1 is represented on the map).

Public & Private Enterprise Programs

Awarded:	Match:	Estimated Project Total:
\$609,042	\$377,587	\$986,629
Agricultural Development Projects		Agricultural Plans
Awarded: \$277,650		Awarded: \$331,392
Match: \$192,678		Match: \$184,909
Estimated Project Total: \$470,328		Estimated Project Total: \$516,301

Easements

Awarded:	Match:	Estimated Project Total:
\$3,374,981	\$12,098,773	\$15,473,754
Term Easements		Perpetual Easements
Awarded: \$428,223		Awarded: \$2,946,758
Match: \$798,777		Match: \$11,299,996
Estimated Project Total: \$1,227,000		Estimated Project Total: \$14,246,754

Grants Awarded

Agricultural Plans

Anson County VAD/EVAD Program

Award: \$8,500

Match: \$8,545

Estimated Project Value: \$17,045

Target Area: Anson County

Grantee: Anson County

Partner: Anson County Cooperative Extension

Contact: Janine B. Rywak, County Extension Director

Description: This grant will be used to establish a VAD program and to develop a county-wide Farmland Protection plan.



Catawba County VAD Program

Award: \$5,750

Match: \$4,200

Estimated Project Value: \$9,950

Target Area: Catawba County

Grantee: Catawba County Planning, Parks and Development

Partners: Catawba County Planning, Parks and Development,

Catawba County Cooperative Extension

Contact: Mary K. George, Assistant Planning Director

Description: Catawba County adopted a VAD/EVAD ordinance and intends to advertise their newly adopted plan, as well as recruit farmers and educate the public on the VAD/EVAD program in Catawba County.



Clay County Farmland Protection Plan

Award: \$35,000

Match: \$22,250

Estimated Project Value: \$57,250

Target Area: Clay County

Grantee: Clay County Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners: Clay County, Clay County SWCD Board, Clay County Cooperative Extension,

NCDA&CS, N.C. CWMTE, Hiawasee River Watershed Coalition, Land Trust for the Little Tennessee, USDA/RC&D,

USDA/NRCS, N.C. Forest Service, US Forest Service

Contact: Leanna Staton, Administrative Assistant

Description: Clay County will use grant funds to establish a Farmland Protection Plan. Clay County Soil & Water Conservation Service is the lead agency on this project.



Development Projects

Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project

Award: \$9,250

Match: \$5,000

Estimated Project Value: \$14,250

Target Area: Western N.C.

Grantee: Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project

Partner: WK Kellogg Foundation

Contact: Charlie Jackson, Executive Director

Description: "The Mixing Bowl" is a publication that connects local food suppliers and buyers in Western N.C. The creation of this publication is due to a grant from the ADFP Trust Fund Program in Cycle I. The goal of this project is to expand the size and scope of "The Mixing Bowl" to two publications; one focused on the High Country in the state, and the other concentrating on the central mountains.



NC Farm Center Community Farming

Award: \$48,900

Match: \$22,400

Estimated Project Value: \$71,300

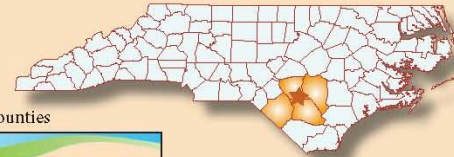
Target Area: Cumberland, Bladen, Robeson and Sampson Counties

Grantee: N.C. Farm Center

Partners: N.C. Farm Center

Contact: Richard Perritt, Executive Director

Description: The primary goal of this project is to develop 25-35 acres of farming area that is suitable for planting food crops and use by multiple local farming agencies. Each organization will be invited to manage two-acre plots of farmland. This project will assist low-income farmers continue to farm by accessing these lands and services provided by the N.C. Farm Center.



North Carolina Farm Transition Network

Award: \$35,500

Match: \$13,500

Estimated Project Value: \$49,000

Target Area: Statewide

Grantee: North Carolina Farm Transition Network

Partners: N.C. Risk Management Agency, California Farmlink

Contact: Andrew Branan, Executive Director

Description: This grant will provide funding to develop a program for financing beginning farmer loan applications as well as set up an agricultural Individual Development Account Program in North Carolina. This will help enhance the role local and community banks play in beginning and local farmer financing.



North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund

WNC Communities

Award: \$50,000

Match: \$50,000

Estimated Project Value: \$100,000

Target Area: Haywood, Buncombe, Madison, Rutherford, Yancey, Henderson, Cherokee, Macon, Burke, Clay, Transylvania, Polk, Mitchell, Jackson, Graham, Swain, McDowell and Avery Counties

Grantee: WNC Communities

Partners: N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission

Contact: L.T. Ward, Vice President

Description: The goals of this project are to serve the needs of Western NC's livestock producers by designing, building and operating a livestock marketing facility. Grant funding will aid in the site design phase of the project. The new facility goals will include more profitable livestock operations and farmland preservation.



Easements

The Meadowlark Farm

Grantee: Brunswick Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners: N.C. Foundation for Soil & Water

Award: \$17,000

Match: \$1,320,500

Estimated Project Value: \$1,337,500

Acreage: 104

County: Brunswick

Production: Hay, corn

Description: Brunswick SWCD was awarded \$17,000 to assist in the purchase of 104 acres of the Meadowlark Farm in Brunswick County, which produces hay and corn.



Snelson Sycamore Valley Farm

Grantee: Buncombe County

Partners: Buncombe County, USDA-NRCS, Soil & Water Foundation

Award: \$345,206

Match: \$194,667

Estimated Project Value: \$539,873

Acreage: 140

County: Buncombe

Production: Livestock, produce, hay and timber

Description: Buncombe County was awarded \$345,206 to assist in purchasing 140 acres of the Snelson Sycamore Valley Farm. This farm is a 150-year-old, six-generation, working farm that produces livestock, produce, hay and timber, and includes a produce store on-site.



Grant Cycle III Overview

***All applications for funding cycle III are currently under review.**

Cycle III Applicant Summary

- **Easements:**

- 30 Perpetual Easement Applicants (29 Perpetual, 1 term)
- Total Requested Grant Amount: \$6,262,598 (Perpetual: \$6,067,598; Term: \$195,000)

- **Plans and Projects:**

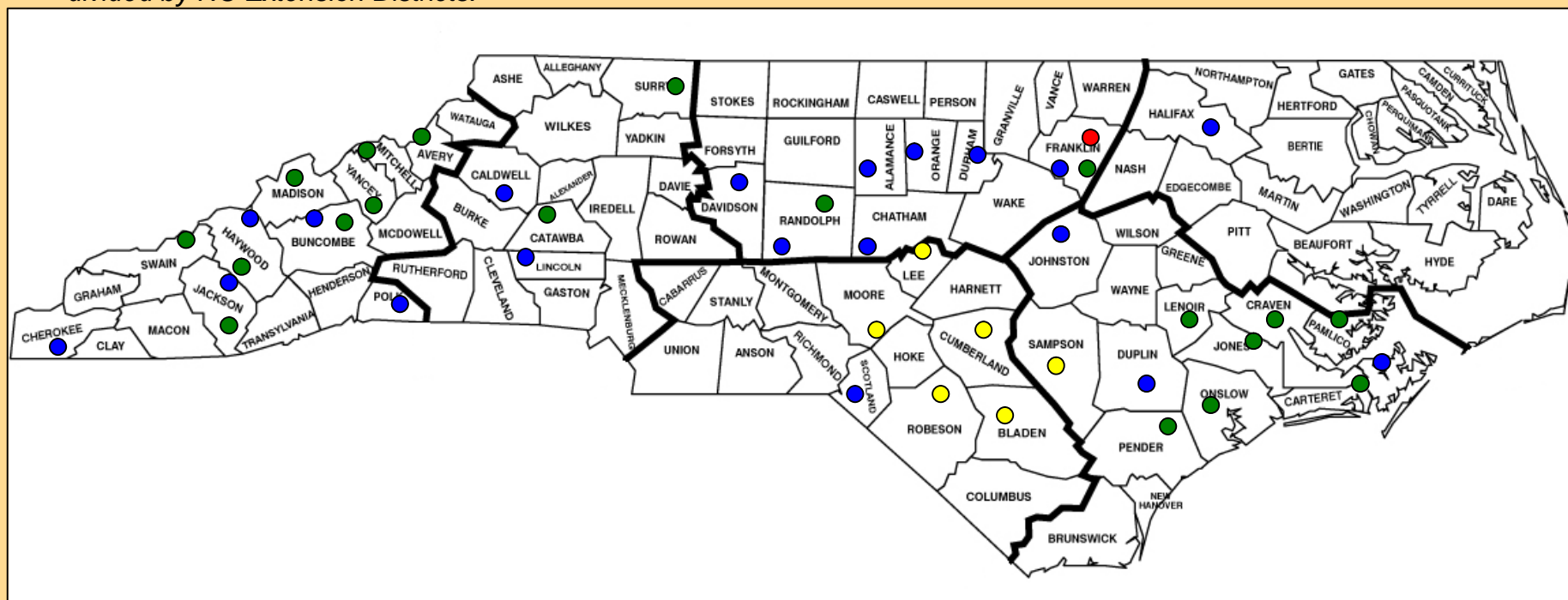
- 10 Plan Applicants Total
- 5 Project Applicants Total
- Total Requested Grant Amount: \$676,499

- **Total:**

- 45 Applicants
- Requested Grant Funds: \$6,939,097

Cycle III (2010-2011) NC ADFP Grant Applicants

The applicants for the NC ADFP 2010-2011 grant cycle propose to benefit the following counties. This map contains only specific counties named in the applications and does not include regional or statewide projects. This map has been divided by NC Extension Districts.



Key

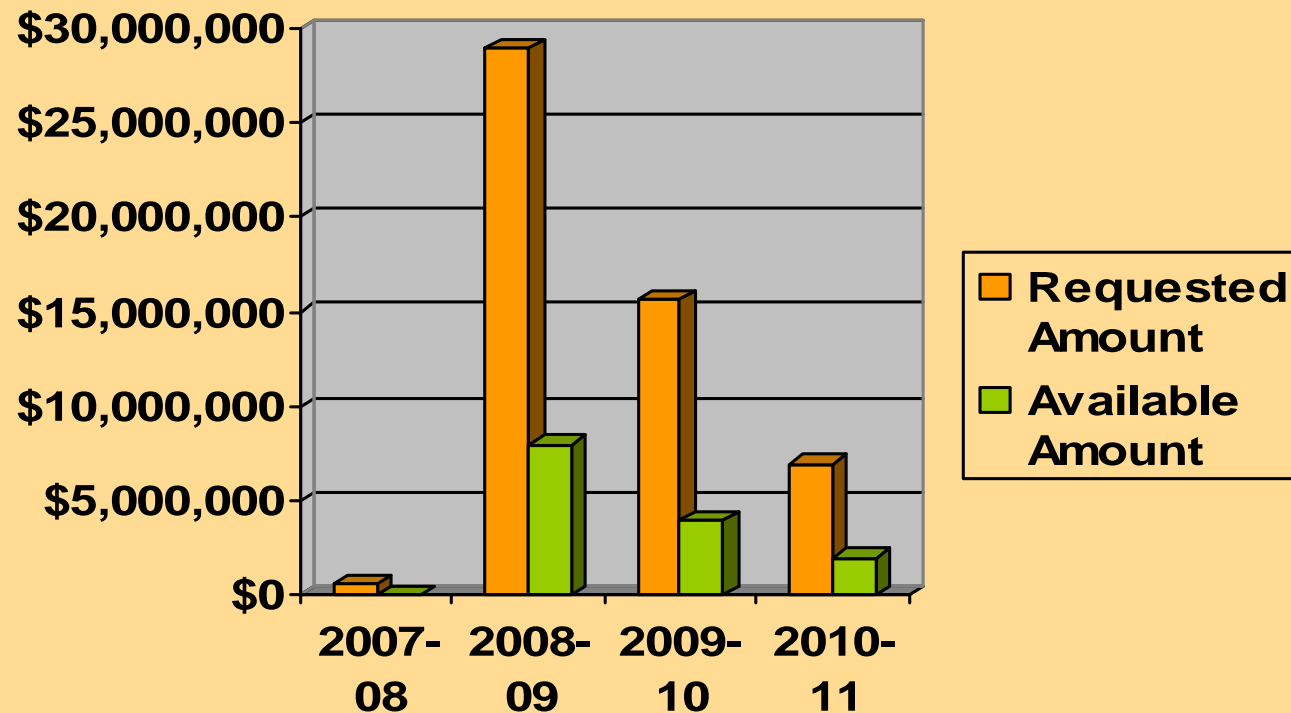
- Agricultural Plans
- Agricultural Development Projects
- Perpetual Conservation Easements
- Term Conservation Easements

**This map does not represent the regional and statewide applicants in the 2010-2011 grant cycle. This map also does not take into account the counties that have more than one proposal of each application type selected for funding (i.e. if a county has applied for funding for three perpetual conservation easements then only one is represented on the map. Physical property location of easement application is noted, and location of grant applicant organization may not be represented.*

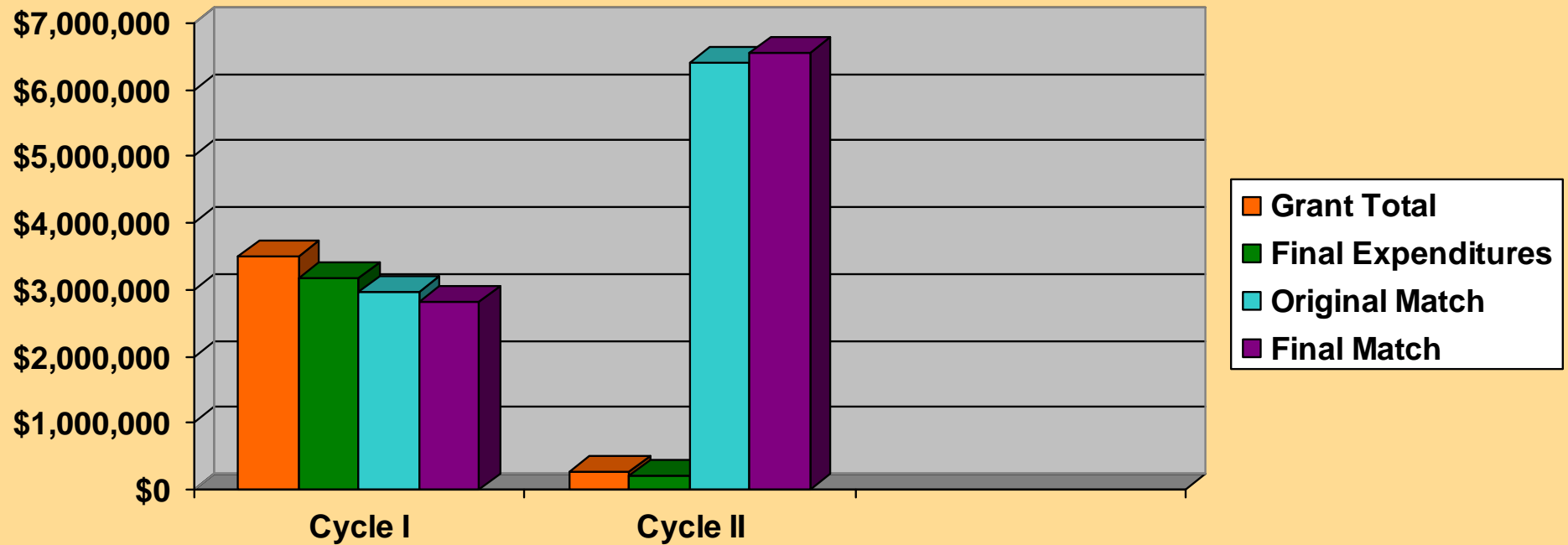
Protected Acreage Overview

Cycle	Acreage Under Review for Contract	Acreage Currently Under Contract	Acreage Placed in Easement
I		1,202	2,100
II		2,515	393
III	3,936		
Total	3,936	3,717	2,493

ADFP Trust Fund Grant Application Requests 2007- Present



Closed Grant Totals



Cycle I Amounts

Grant Total: \$3,497,715

Original Match: \$2,968,955

Final Match: \$2,825,535

Final Expenditures: \$3,185,111

Cycle II Amounts

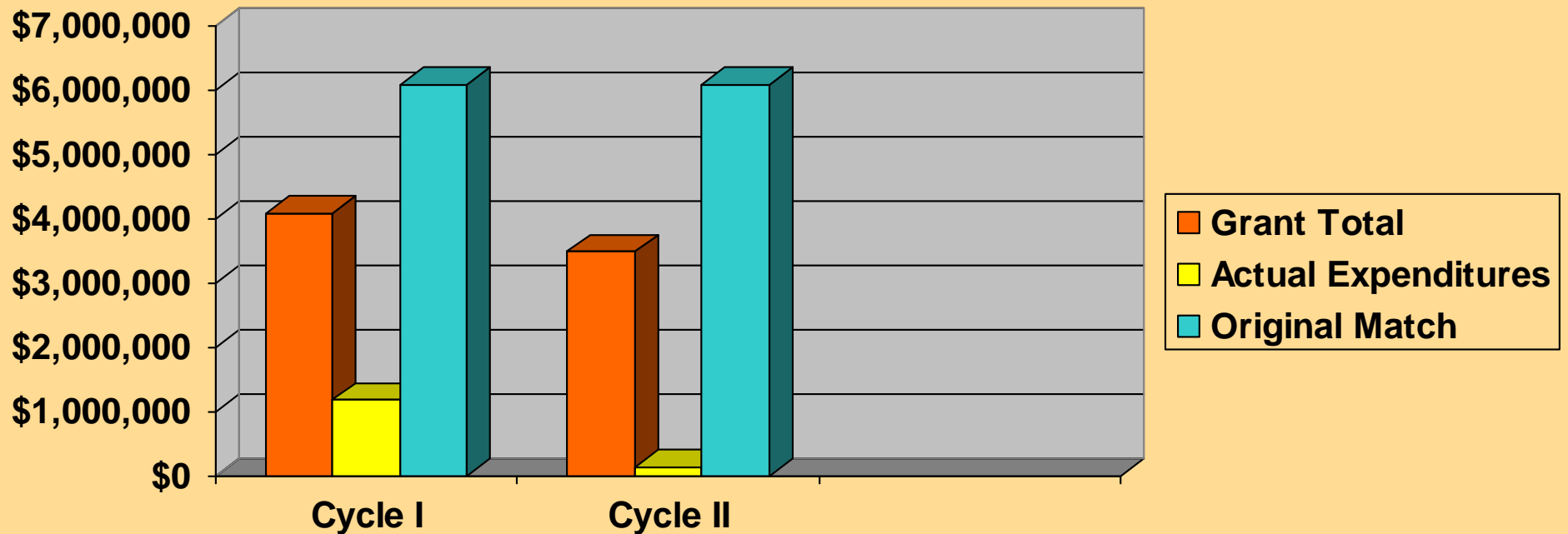
Grant Total: \$256,500

Original Match: \$6,413,150

Final Match: \$6,559,263

Final Expenditures: \$220,000

Open Grant Totals



Cycle I Amounts

Grant Total: \$4,085,221

Original Match: \$6,080,334

Actual Expenditures: \$1,189,876

Cycle II Amounts

Grant Total: \$3,486,285

Original Match: \$6,084,048

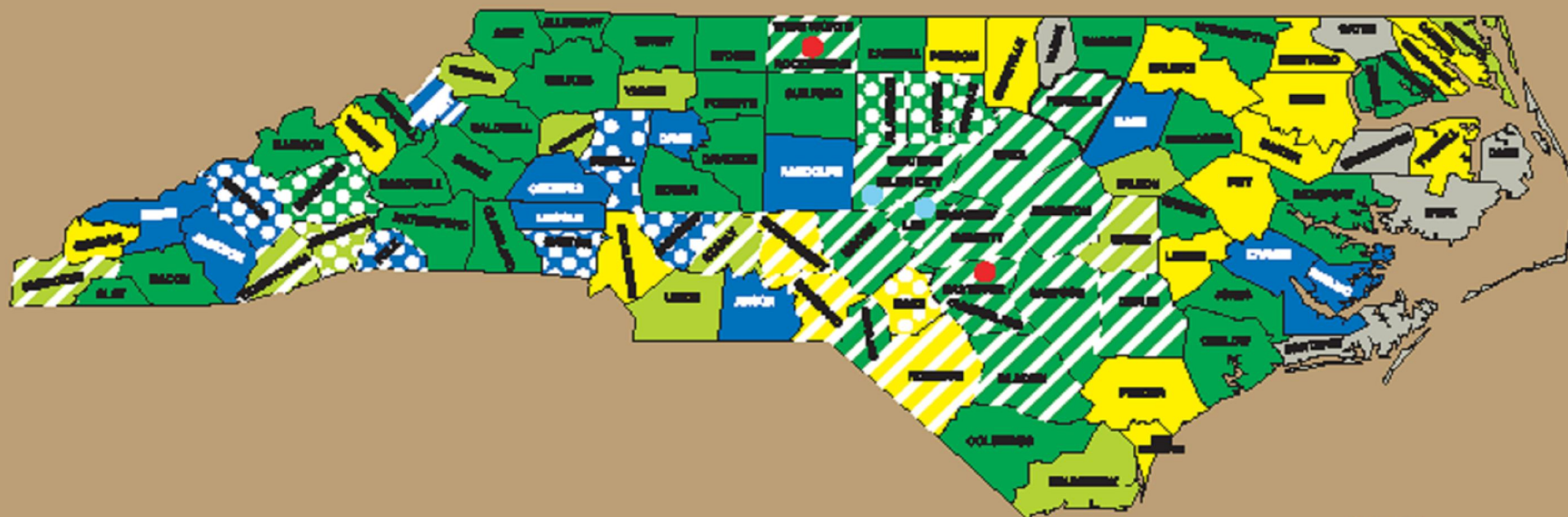
Actual Expenditures: \$145,376

**Amounts listed are the most current information available at this time. All amounts are subject to change at time of contract signing and closing.

Other Farmland Preservation Efforts

- There are currently 76 counties with Voluntary Agricultural Districts in place.
- 16 counties have developed Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural Districts.
- 11 county-wide Farmland Protection Plans have been written and implemented.

VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURE DISTRICTS



Legend

County Agriculture District

- VAD
- EVAD
- Revitalizing VAD
- Potential VAD

Approved Farmland Protection Plan

Working on Farmland Protection Plan

Municipal Agriculture District

Resolution in Accordance with County Ordinance



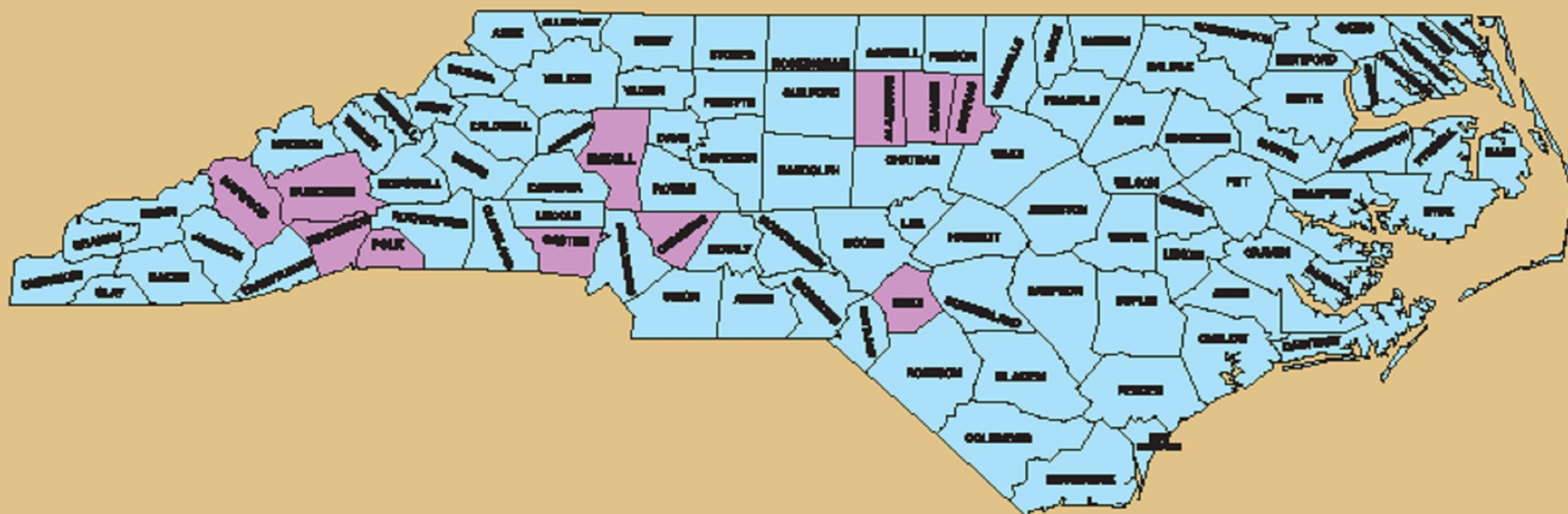
Steven W. Troxler, Commissioner
Sharon Stewart, Director of Emergency Programs

NOTICE

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information, but errors and omissions affecting both printed sources used in developing the database may be included in the data supplied. The user must be aware of data availability and ultimately bear responsibility for the appropriate use of the information with respect to pending cases, original map scale, collection methodologies, currency of data, and other variables specific to certain data layers containing national health information are not collected for duplication or distribution within the State's Voluntary, in his judgment, believes the disclosure of information will assist in the implementation of animal health programs. Source: NCDA & Consumer Services Emergency Programs Division, TRIM/Line Drawing Files, 1998, UNHIS 1:250,000 Digital base maps, and OMA. Prepared by Alan Stewart, NCDA & Consumer Services Emergency Programs Division, 8/2008.

Revised 3-26-2010

FARMLAND PROTECTION PLANS



Legend

**NCDA Approved Farmland
Protection Plan in place?**

☐ Yes
☐ No



Steven W. Troxler, Commissioner
Sharon Stewart, Director of Emergency Programs

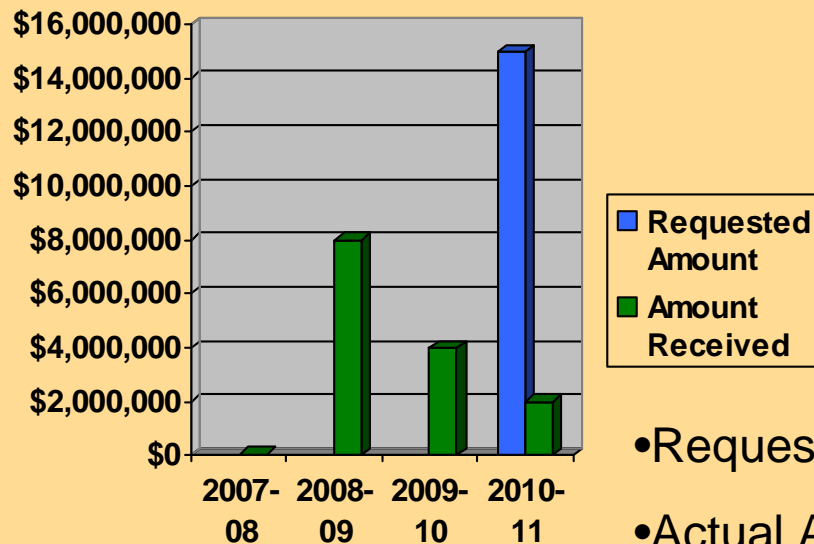
NOTICE

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Revised 3-26-2019

Cycle IV Grant Year

For the upcoming fiscal year July 2010-June 2011, the Commissioner and ADFP Advisory Committee are requesting \$5 million for Cycle IV grant applications, based upon unfulfilled requests from Cycle III.



- Requested Amount for Cycle III funding: \$15 million
- Actual Amount Received for Cycle III funding: \$2 million

Questions?

