



United States Department of Agriculture

Overview of USDA Small Watershed Program

Agriculture and Forestry Awareness Study Commission of the
North Carolina General Assembly

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Overview of USDA Small Watershed Program

“PL-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954”

What it is:

Provides technical and financial assistance to
Project Sponsors to develop **Watershed Work Plans**
and to **construct** the planned activities
within a specific geographic area for the benefit of the general public.



Eligible Purposes:

Flood Prevention

Watershed Protection

Ag Water Management – Drainage

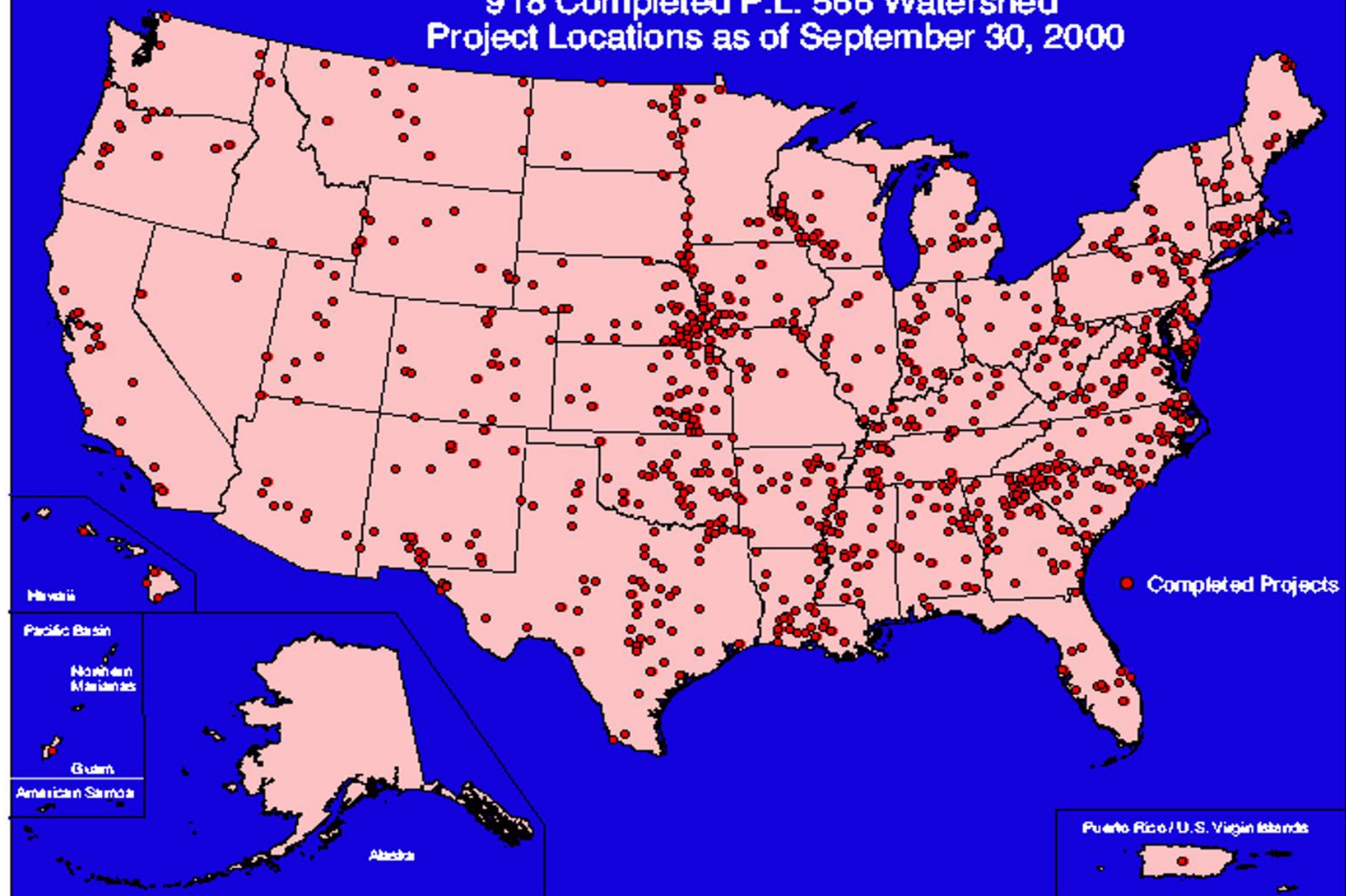
Project Scope:

Maximum Watershed Size = 250,000 acres

Economic Analysis for Cost/Benefit Ratios

Benefits directly related to agriculture

918 Completed P.L. 566 Watershed Project Locations as of September 30, 2000

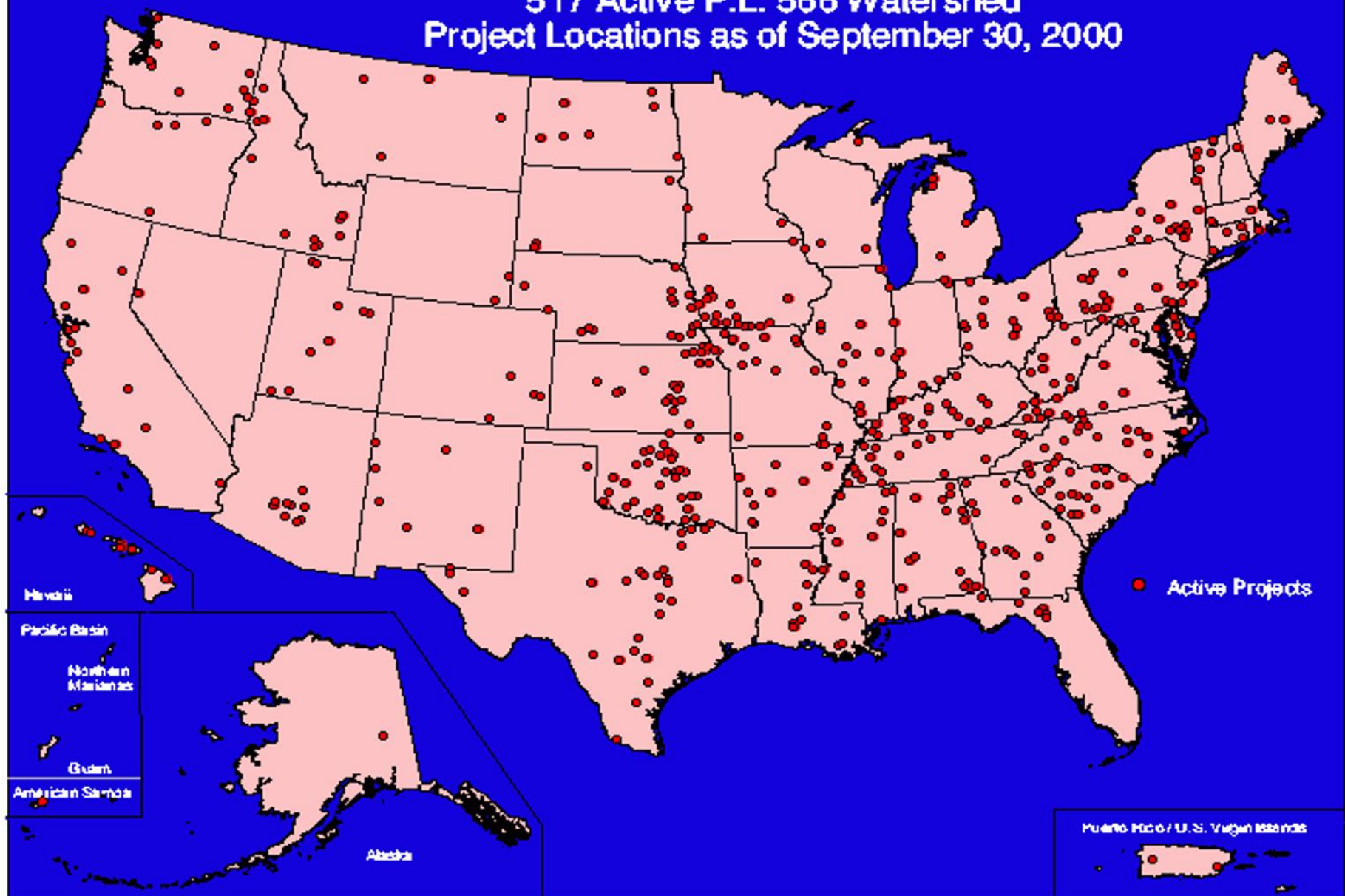


U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Resource Assessment Division
Washington, D.C. October 2000

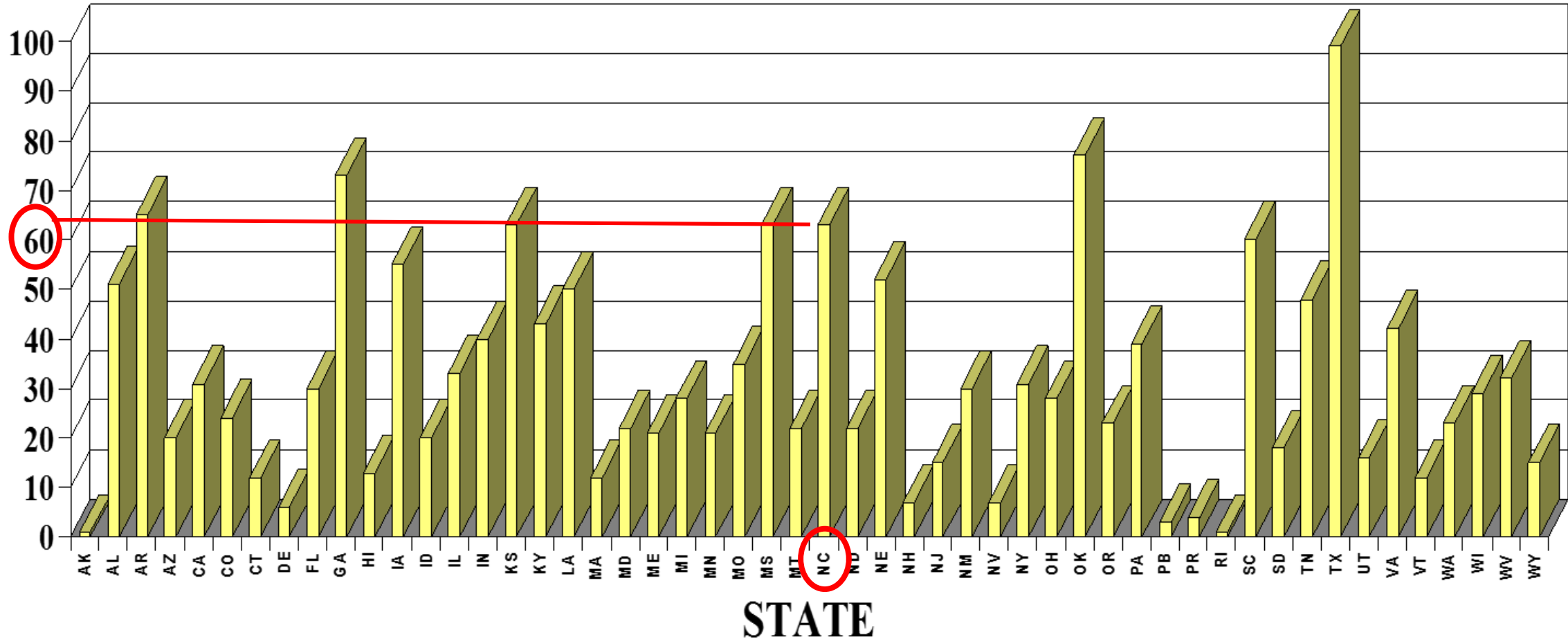
Map ID: m5736
For Proper interpretation, see Explanation of
Analysis for this map at our web site. Search
for "USDASOTL" to locate our map index.

Source: NRCS Watersheds and
Wetlands Division, Sept. 30, 2000

517 Active P.L. 566 Watershed Project Locations as of September 30, 2000



PL-566 Authorized Projects by State





A “**Sponsoring Local Organization**” is required.

SLO responsibilities:

- 1 - Power of Eminent Domain to acquire land rights,
 - 2 - Authority to Levy Taxes or provide other funding for financing local share of project and construction costs.
- AND
- 3 - **Operate and Maintain** all works of improvement for the evaluated life of the project (typically 50 years).



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Ahoskie Creek
Hertford Co.



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Ahoskie Creek
Hertford Co.

Maintenance



North Carolina:

- 13 Projects include >100 “dams” for Flood Prevention
- 25 Projects include “channels” for Ag Water Management
- 4 Projects include “dikes” for Ag Water Management
- 7 Projects include “land treatment” for W/S Protection



Channels: Approx. \$20 M Federal Investment

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Completion</u>		
Ahoskie Creek	1964	Folley Ditch	1959
Back Swamp	1971	Grindle Creek	1962
Bear Swamp	1980	Hobbsville-Sunbury	1975
Broad Creek	1966	Horse Swamp-Flat Swamp	1961
Bryant Swamp	1982	Johnson's Milltail	1964
Burnt Mill Creek	1960	Lyon - White Oak Swamps	1968
Caw Caw Swamp	1967	Meadow Branch	1980
Chicod Creek	1984	Moccasin Creek	1964
Conetoe Creek	1966	Mosley Creek-Tracey Swamp	1971
Cutawhiskie Creek	1963	Moss Neck	1986
Dunn & Cedar Branch	1973	Muddy Creek (Duplin)	1991
Flea Hill	1974	Pollock Swamp	1964
		Swift Creek	1983



Dikes: Approx. \$12.5 M Federal Investment

- Gum Neck 1970
- Creswell 1986
- Jacob Swamp 1987
- Swan Quarter 2012



Post Installation Assistance:

- Annual Inspection and Reporting-
 - Performed by SLO, may request NRCS assistance.
- O&M Agreement -
 - Operate non-maintenance activities needed to keep the practice safe and functioning as planned.
 - Perform recurring activities to retain practice in a safe and functioning condition, including vegetation, replacement of failed components, treatment of deterioration, and repair of damages, including sediment removal.
- SLO obligation for Federal Maintenance –
 - Complete when it reaches evaluated life – typically 50 years (100 for dams).
 - SLO may have continued O&M to remain in compliance with laws.



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Questions ?

Thank you.

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