### **WELCOME**

# NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

# Environmental Quality Incentives Program 2013

The program will be very similar to the 2012 program.

National Initiatives include:

Organic
On-Farm Energy
Seasonal High Tunnel
Longleaf Pine
National Water Quality

Continued emphasis on resource concerns involving:

Cropland
Pastureland
Confined Animal Systems
Forestry
Closure of Waste Lagoons
Agricultural Chemical Handling Facilities
Spill Prevention Containment Countermeasure
Irrigation Efficiency

### **Funding levels**

Organic	\$400,000
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On-Farm Energy	\$291,789
On-laini Lileigy	72 <i>3</i> 1,70

Season High Tunnel	\$500,000
Jeason riigh ruiniei	7500,000

Longleaf Pine	\$1,000,000
Longicarinic	71,000,000

National Water Quality	\$1,094,000
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- Requirement to obligate 60% to animal agricultural contracts.
- Target 10% of funds to Socially Disadvantaged and New /Beginning Farmers
- Obligation date of July 1, 2013
- Application reception dates (batching)

**February 15** General EQIP and Nat'l Initiatives

March 15 General EQIP and Nat'l Initiatives

**April 19** National Initiatives

## National Water Quality Initiative

**NWQI** 

State Technical Committee
March 1, 2013

To assist producers with addressing high priority water resource concerns in small watersheds with streams or water bodies in one or more of the following categories (henceforth called Focus Waters):

Impaired – a stream or water body documented to be impaired and identified on the state's 303(d) list of impaired waters as designated by EPA.

Threatened – A stream or water body with water quality data documenting an impairment but does not have a TMDL implementation plan and is not listed on the 303(d) list of impaired waters.

**TMDL's** – A stream or water body that has been on EPA's 303(d) list of impaired waters but may have been removed because the is a TMDL plan for implementation.

**Critical** – A stream or water body upstream of an impaired segment which is determined by the STCto be a significant contributing source of the downstream impairment for a stream in one of more of the categories above.

NWQI emphasis began in 2012 targeting up to three 12 digit HUC's. Three HUC's chosen last year were:

Upper Mitchell River **030401010501** 

Little Fisher River **030401010703** 

Big Creek **03010103106** 

Water Quality impairments for the NWQI are related to:

Nutrients (algal growth, low DO, ammonia, Chlorophyl-A)

**Sediment** (including turbidity)

Pathogens (related to animal agriculture)

The NWQI rules allow states to consider removal and replacement of up to two of these watersheds.

### Considerations for selection of watersheds:

- Existing monitoring data
- State (possibly local) watershed management plans
- Current staffing
- State WQ agency support
- Other

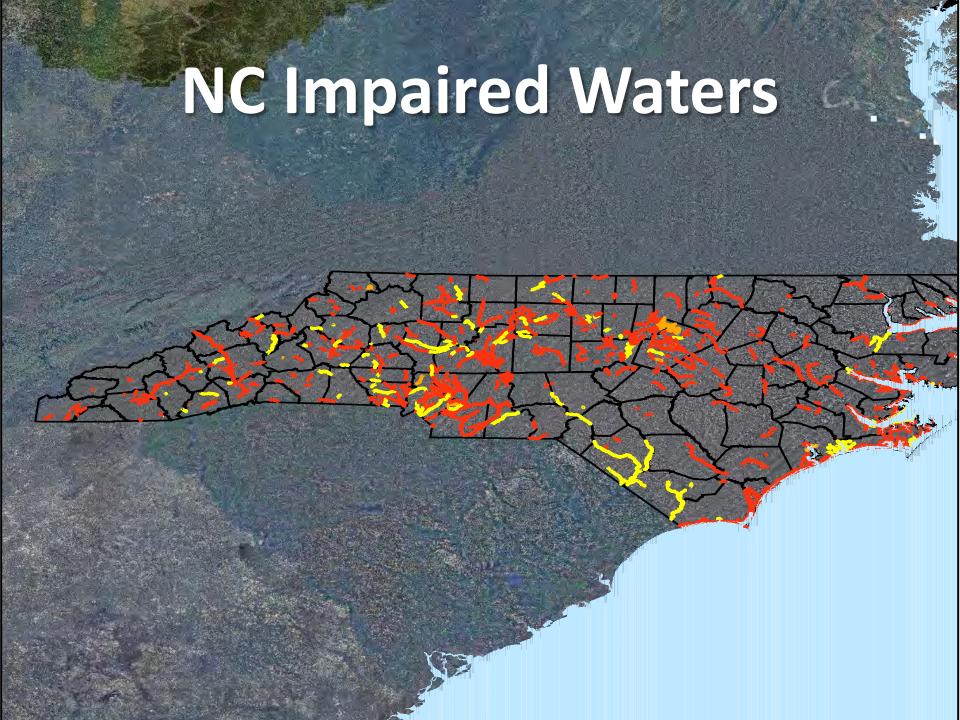
### **Decision Point**

We must decide either to stay with these three 12 digit HUC's or ask for approval to change up to two of the three watersheds.

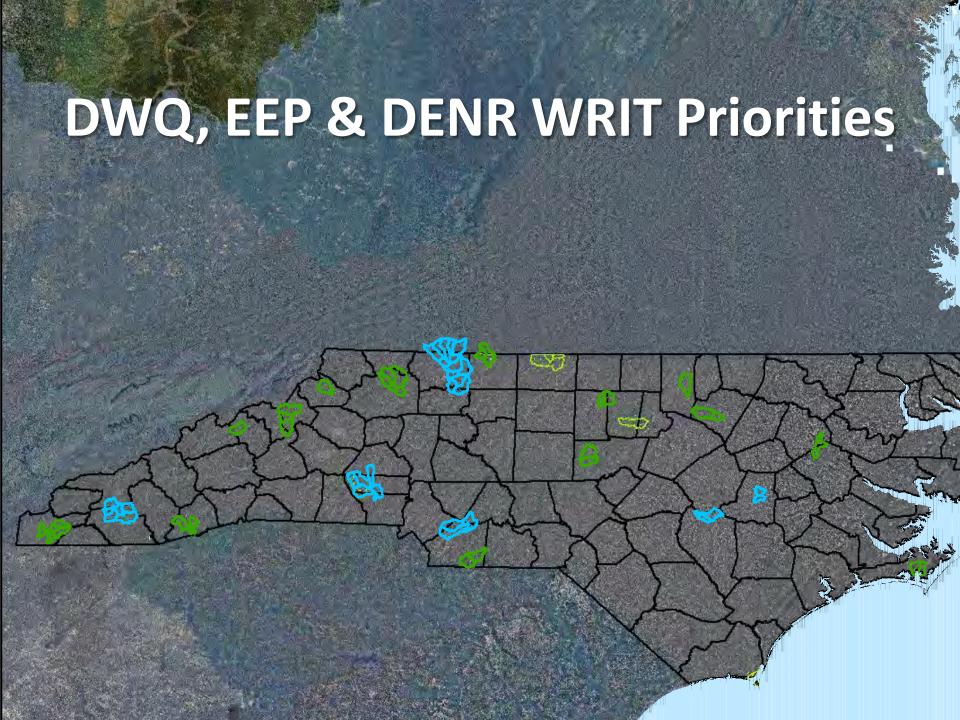
**Decision Timeframe** – March 15, 2013 **Set timeline** in order to meet the July 1, 2013 obligation date.

# **Discussion Maps**

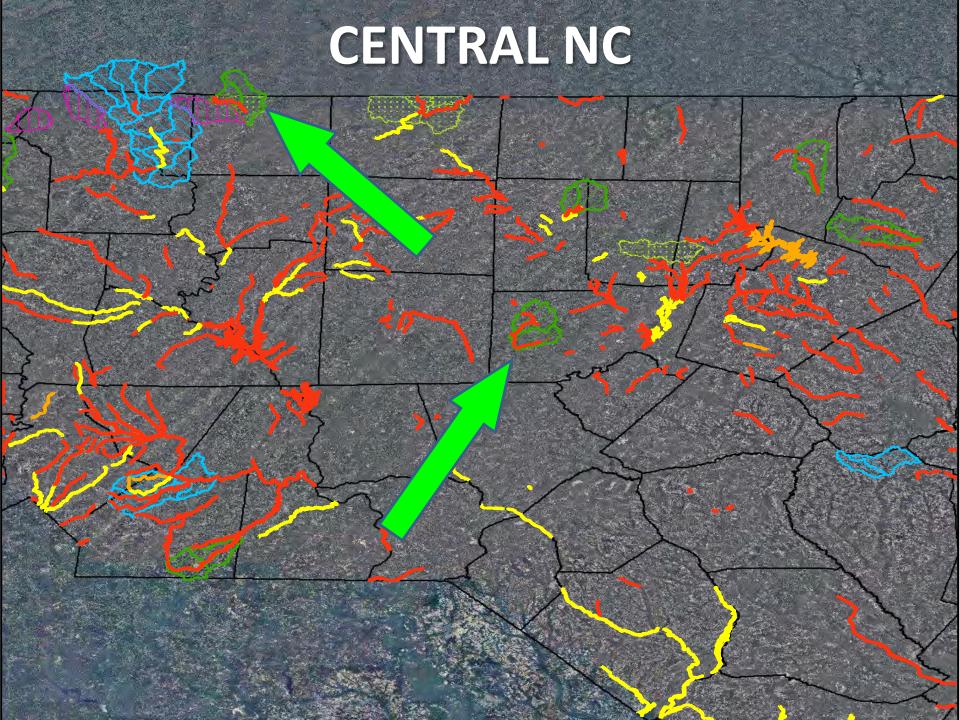
**GIS Layers Provided by NC Partners** 



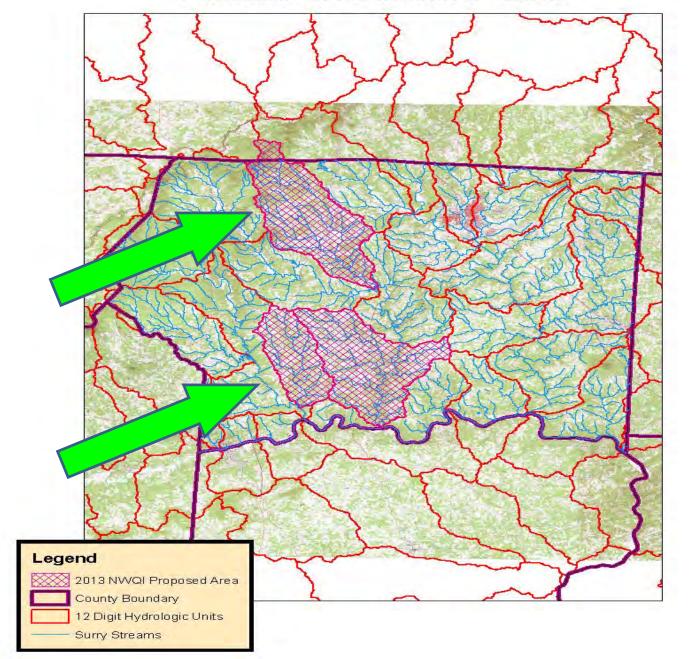
# 2012 NWQI Watershed Selections



# WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

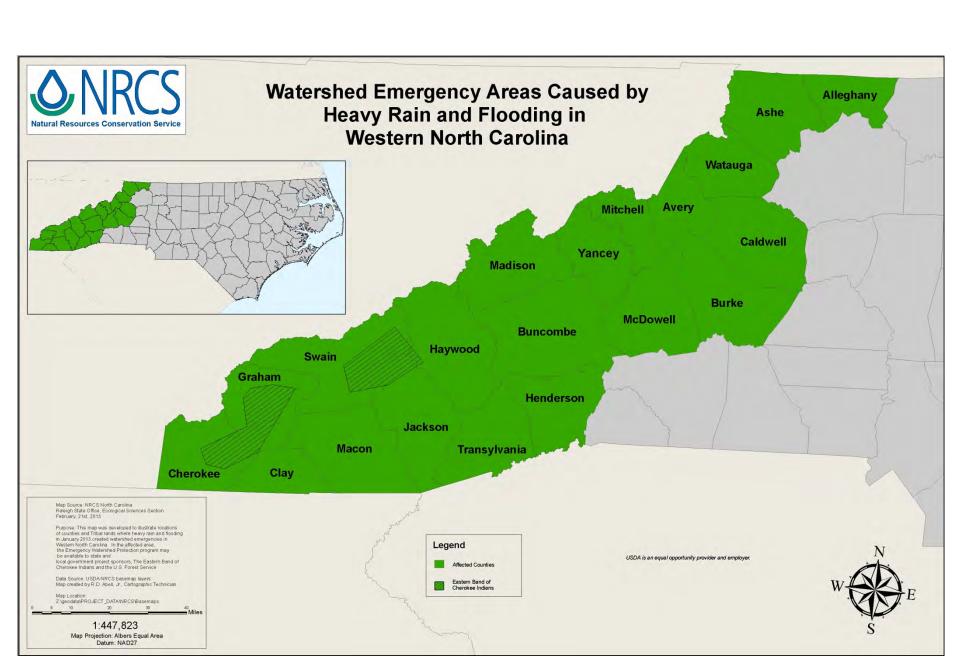


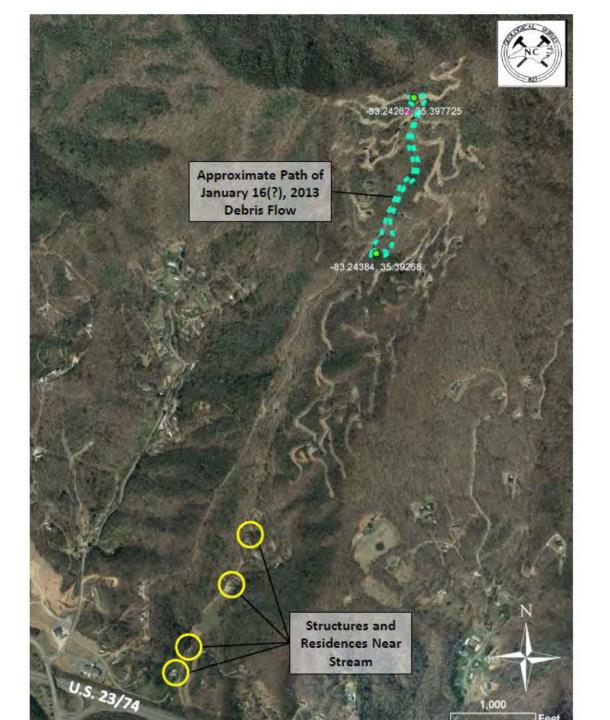
### Potential NWQ Initiative - 2013



# EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM

Presentation to NRCS
North Carolina State Technical
Committee
March 1, 2013







January 17, 2013 photograph of the main debris deposit on the slope above the stream.









Mount Noble (BIA) Road; Concee and Jeff Gertie



















