

North Carolina Forest Service Forest Development Program (FDP) FY2015-16 Budget Summary July 1, 2015



FY 2014-15 Program Highlights and Accomplishments:

- During FY 2014-15 the FDP program funded **1,197** statewide projects that included **1,940** practices allocating **\$3,370,650** cost-share dollars for private landowners that have the potential to improve **52,115** acres over the next 2 years.
- In FY 2014-15 the FDP program completed **894** tree planting and forest stand improvement projects that included **1,281** practices. Use of these funds resulted in the establishment and improvement of **47,755** acres of North Carolina timberland and **\$1,751,390** cost-share dollars paid to private landowners.
- The FDP will continue to operate this coming year, funded by incoming timber assessment monies and “released” monies from previously-funded projects (see budget table below). The NC State Legislature did not fund state appropriations for the FDP for FY 2015-16. **We appreciate the continued financial support by North Carolina’s wood products companies to the FDP Program.**

FY 2015-16 Budget:

This table summarizes the anticipated FDP budget for FY 2015-16. These figures will be adjusted in the future based on actual timber assessments paid into the FDP fund and monies “released” from previous projects.

Anticipated Forest Development Program budget for FY 2015-16:	
“Released” funds from previous years that have already been identified:	\$155,000
“Extra” assessment funds from FY 2014-15 (Note – This figure is the amount over the estimate of timber assessment monies that was actually deposited during the fiscal year)	+160,794
Conservative “Projection” of timber assessment monies for FY 2015-16:	+\$1,820,000
“Interest” generated from the FDP Assessment account from FY 2014-15:	+\$12,204
Subtract max. of 5% for administrative costs (North Carolina Forest Service):	-\$91,000
Subtract max. of 5% for administrative costs (North Carolina Department of Revenue):	-\$91,000
Anticipated FY 2015-16 FDP Budget =	\$1,965,998

FDP Project Waiting List:

- As of June 30, 2015 the FDP unfunded application “waiting list” from FY 2014-15 stood at **555** landowner projects. These landowners were requesting **\$2,249,482** worth of FDP cost-share. Of that total amount, \$172,605 will be funded from the “Mountain Fund” (65 applications) leaving **\$2,076,877 remaining** or (**490 applications**) to be funded from the “Base Funds”.
- The FDP program separates its funds into three “pots of money” each year. The funds allotted to each of those for FY 2015-16 are as follows:
 - **“Mountain Fund”** = \$250,000 (\$172,605 to be immediately used for backlogged applications) leaving **\$77,395** funding for new applications.
 - **“Plant-only Fund”** = \$750,000 (in FY 2015-16 to utilize this special fund, **with a clearly communicated “cut-off” date that will be announced when funds will no longer be available**).
 - **“Base Fund”** = **\$965,998** (which will be used immediately to fund backlogged applications, leaving **\$1,110,879** on the FY 2014-15 waiting list requesting additional funds). Signed FDP applications received from this point forward will be added to this current unfunded backlog waiting list and will be funded as “released monies” become available following any project cancellations or payment processing.

FDP Prevailing Rates and Updates:

- The FY 2015-16 FDP prevailing rates have been approved and will be posted on the NC Forest Service FDP webpage at http://ncforestservice.gov/Managing_your_forest/fdp.htm
- All FDP applications from July 1, 2015 on should utilize these updated prevailing rates. The FDP website also contains a summary document of the rate changes and any practices that were changed or added that are available for FY 2015-16.

If you have specific questions about the FDP Program administration, please contact Connie Christian, FDP Program Administrator at 919-857-4832 (Connie.Christian@ncagr.gov) or Ron Myers, FM Branch Head at 919-857-4811 (Ron.Myers@ncagr.gov.)