

North Carolina Forest Service Forest Development Program (FDP) FY2016-17 Budget Summary July 1, 2016



FY 2015-16 Program Highlights and Accomplishments:

- In FY 2015-16 the FDP program completed **1,189** tree planting and forest stand improvement projects. Use of these funds resulted in the establishment and improvement of **46,127** acres of North Carolina timberland and **\$1,790,447** cost-share dollars paid to private landowners.
- During FY 2015-16 the FDP program funded **775** statewide projects allocating **\$2,127,188** cost-share dollars for private landowners that have the potential to improve **35,665** acres over the next 2 years.
- The FDP will operate this coming year, funded by incoming timber assessment monies and “released” monies from previously-funded projects. No new FDP applications for funding will be accepted in FY2016-2017 and all FDP program funding will be used to fund projects currently on a “waiting list”.
- The NCDA & CS, NC Forest Service, and the NC Forestry Association requested the State Legislature to fund state appropriations for the FDP in FY 2016-17. **We appreciate the continued financial support by North Carolina’s wood products companies to the FDP Program.**

FY 2016-17 Budget:

This table summarizes the anticipated FDP budget for FY 2016-17. 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 2016-17:	
“Released” funds from previous years that have already been identified:	\$509,000
“Extra” assessment funds from FY 2015-16 (Note – This figure is the amount over the estimate of timber assessment monies that was actually deposited during the fiscal year)	\$138,166
“Interest” generated from the FDP Assessment account from FY 2015-16:	\$18,384
Conservative “Projection” of timber assessment monies for FY 2016-17:	\$1,900,000
Subtract max. of 5% for administrative costs (North Carolina Forest Service):	-\$95,000
Subtract max. of 5% for administrative costs (North Carolina Department of Revenue):	-\$95,000
Anticipated FY 2016-17 FDP Budget =	\$2,375,550

FDP Project Waiting List:

- As of June 30, 2016 the FDP unfunded application “waiting list” from FY 2015-16 includes **689** landowner projects requesting **\$3,185,700** worth of FDP cost-share funding.
- This requested amount is a record high for the FDP program and resulted in the NC Forest Service suspending the use of future waiting lists and not accepting any new FDP applications for FY2016-17.
- Not all projects currently on the “waiting list” will receive funding. The FDP “waiting list” will be shared with District personnel to provide information on landowner status and the likelihood for project funding.

FDP Prevailing Rates and Updates:

- The FY 2016-17 FDP prevailing rates will be unchanged from the previous year.
- Prevailing rates will be posted on the NC Forest Service FDP webpage at http://ncforestservice.gov/Managing_your_forest/fdp.htm

FDP Program Updates

- The FDP program will not allocate separate funding in FY2016-17 for special funds (ex. “Plant Only” and “Mountain” funds), and all FDP program funding will be used to fund as many projects as annual funding allows.
- It is anticipated that a new application process, program reimbursement rates, and funding timeframes will be announced in late January 2017, along with a date when new FDP applications will be accepted. An updated FDP application is in development and will be made available when completed.
- NCFS is currently working on preparing a FDP Program Handbook to provide additional details about program administrative requirements, funding process, payment process, and responsibilities of funding recipients.

FDP Program Contacts

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