



N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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LOCAL LANDOWNERS SOUGHT TO JOIN IN WATER-QUALITY PROJECTS

RALEIGH – The N.C. Ecosystem Enhancement Program is seeking to partner with willing landowners in the Lower Creek watershed of Burke and Caldwell counties on stream-restoration opportunities to improve water quality in area streams.

Streams in the watershed include Zacks Fork Creek and Lower Creek, and all of the other streams that eventually drain into Lower Creek. EEP targets streams with eroding banks or poor fish habitat, seeking to improve the stability and health of streams at no cost to landowners.

An initiative in the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, EEP is responsible for the state's efforts to compensate for unavoidable environmental damage to streams and wetlands from transportation-infrastructure improvements and other economic development. EEP has completed a stream-restoration project on Zacks Fork Creek in Lenoir, and two more projects are being designed on tributaries to Lower Creek.

EEP carries out projects that address stream-bank erosion and improve wildlife habitat. Farm-management plans, fencing and watering structures are provided if the project is in a pasture.

For more information, contact Julie Vann, the local EEP project manager, at (828) 230-5172. For further information on EEP, visit the initiative's Web site at www.nceep.net.

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