**Coastal Wetlands**

**A 1.1 Facilitate mapping the distribution of significant ecological, bathymetric, geologic, demographic, and cultural features. (BIL Priority)**

Work with partners to map the distribution of significant natural and cultural features to support accurate and timely information in support of environmental management decision-making. Activities will focus on mapping SAV, estuarine shorelines, oyster habitat, coastal wetlands, impaired waters, disadvantaged communities, and resilience attributes.

**B 1.2 Protect, restore, and manage targeted natural communities, habitats, and ecosystem processes. (BIL Priority)**

Work with the Management Conference and other partners to identify areas and assist in the development and implementation of plans to protect, restore, and manage targeted natural communities, habitats, and ecosystem processes. Focal habitats include SAV, coastal wetlands, primary nurseries, oyster habitats, floodplains and riparian areas, wetland buffers, and Significant Natural Heritage Areas. Given that land ownership within the Albemarle-Pamlico region is dominated by the private interests (homeowners, farmers, foresters, and businesses) , their interest and action, supported by government expertise and resources, is critical to protect and restore the estuarine ecosystem.

**C 2.2 Facilitate the hydrologic restoration of floodplains and streams.**

Floodplain restoration will include restoring wetland function and planting riparian vegetation. Removing channelization and improving stream banks can restore streams that have been altered. APNEP will continue to work with partners to support hydrologic restoration of floodplains and streams, including the offer of project support letters and grants. Additionally, APNEP will participate in the development of the [NC Flood Resilience Blueprint](https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/mitigation-services/flood-resiliency-blueprint) that will also contribute to the success of this action.

**E 1.1 Facilitate the development and implementation of an integrated monitoring network through the guidance of regional monitoring and assessment teams. (BIL Priority)**

APNEP resource-themed teams (SAV, aquatic fauna, water, wetlands, terrestrial, air, human dimensions) will help assure that the results of environmental management efforts can be measured, and that management initiatives can be tailored based on the results of environmental assessments (Action A 1.3). APNEP will continue its collaborative development of integrated ecosystem monitoring to support CCMP implementation.

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