

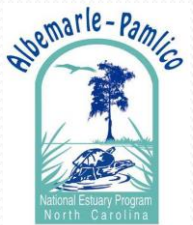
Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership and the 2012-2022 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan Management Plan

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Director



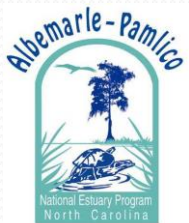
APNEP's Mission

*To identify, restore, and protect
the significant resources of the
Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system.*



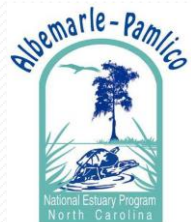
APNEP and the National Estuary Program

- The Albemarle-Pamlico estuary was designated as an “estuary of national significance” by Congress in 1987.
- APNEP is part of the National Estuary Program, which was established by §320 of the Clean Water Act.
- APNEP is funded through an EPA grant to the host entity: the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources.
- Each program establishes a **Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)** to meet the goals of §320.

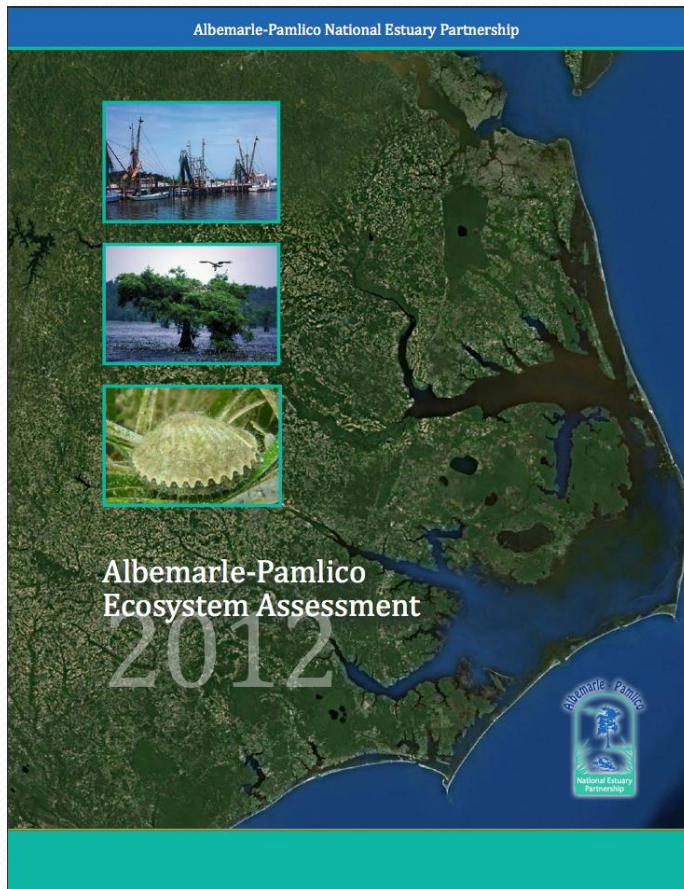


APNEP's Management Approach

- Historically, APNEP's approach to its mission has included:
 - a watershed approach to environmental management
 - support of applied science initiatives to support environmental decision-making
 - Inclusive, collaborative, and consensus-driven initiatives
 - Engagement and partnerships with citizens, scientists, interest groups, NGOs, and all levels of government
- Through this update to its management plan, APNEP also incorporates the framework for ecosystem-based management:
 - systems-based approach, including both human and environmental considerations
 - adaptive management
 - Accountability



Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan & 2012 Ecosystem Assessment



Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan

Structured around addressing **four questions**:

Question 1: What is a healthy Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine System?

Question 2: What is the status of the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine System?

Question 3: What are the greatest challenges facing the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine System?

Question 4: What actions should be taken to move toward healthier Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds by 2022?



Question 1: What is a healthy Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine System?

- Goal 1: A region where human communities are sustained by a functioning ecosystem
- Goal 2: A region where aquatic, wetland, and upland habitats support viable populations of native species .
- Goal 3: A region where water quantity and quality maintain ecological integrity.

Each goal is supported by several environmental outcomes, which are more specific.

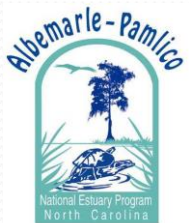
These goals are qualitative descriptions of what we want the environment to look like, with associated numerical indicators to be developed.



Question 2:

What is the status of the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine System?

- The answer to this question helps us understand where we are in relation to our environmental goals.
- This question is currently being addressed by APNEP's *2012 Ecosystem Assessment*,
- The assessment analyzes 24 environmental indicators to give a status and trends overview for the ecosystem.
- The assessment is primarily a volunteer effort, with contributions from regional scientists regarding their areas of expertise.
- The assessment also identifies information gaps and deficiencies.



Question 3:

What are the greatest challenges facing the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine System?

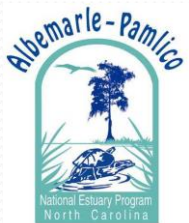
- This question was addressed by APNEP's EBM team, who identified significant challenges to be addressed.
- Significant challenges include:
 - Alteration and loss of habitat
 - Ongoing pollution inputs
 - Land use changes
 - Increasing population in some areas
 - Relative sea level rise and other climate pressures



Question 4:

What actions should be taken to move toward healthier Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds by 2022

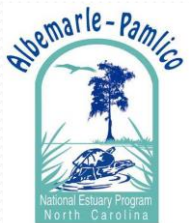
- Management actions are divided into five components: **Identify, Protect, Restore, Engage, and Monitor.**
- Partner organizations and agencies are identified to highlight complimentary strengths and promote accountability.
- Each management action is linked directly to one or more environmental outcome identified in Question 1.
- Indicators will be developed to track the implementation of management actions.



Example management action in plan:

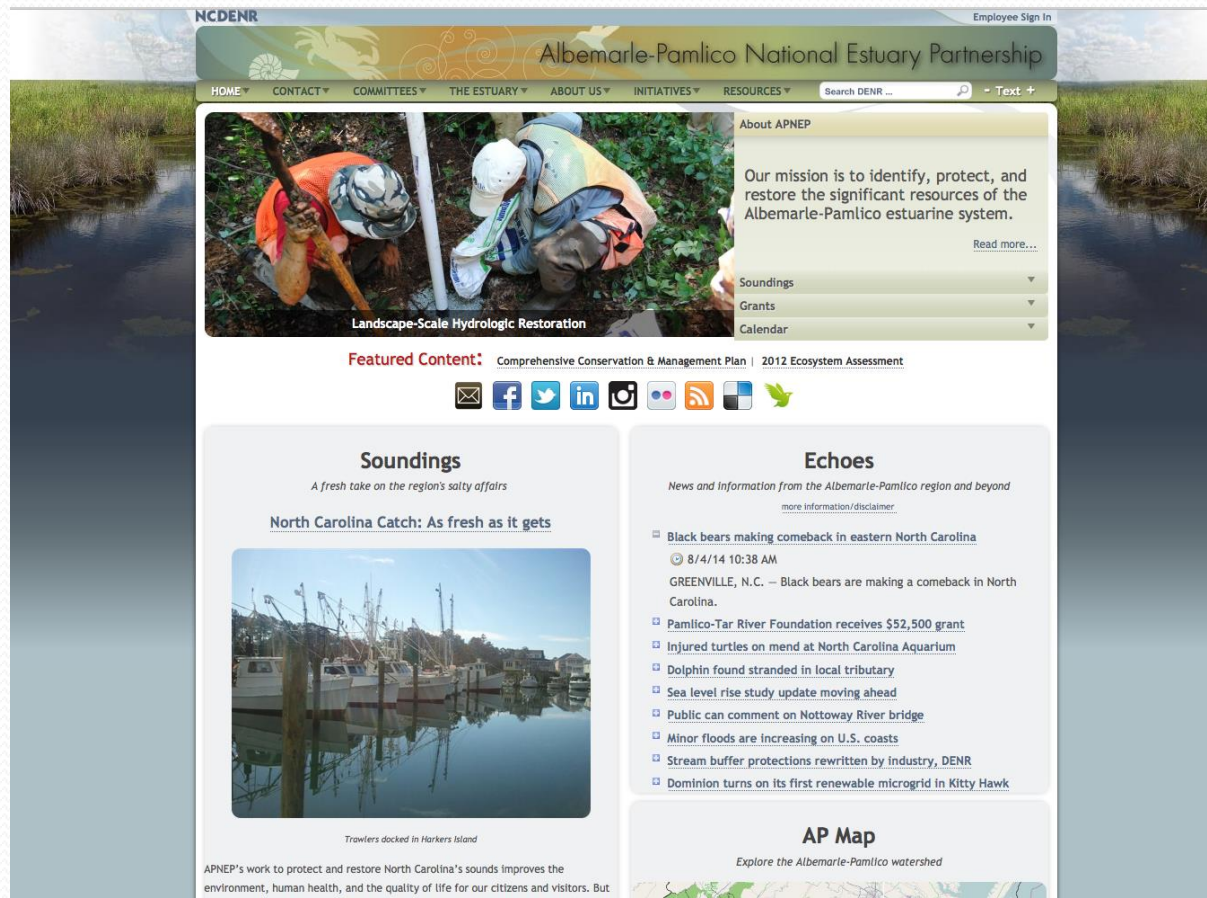
Action B1.2: Minimize the introduction of pathogens from targeted sources. By reducing pathogens, we also improve ecosystem integrity. Aging infrastructure and rising sea levels are two challenges which must be addressed to prevent bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms from entering public waters through identified sources. APNEP will provide support for upgrades to wastewater treatment facilities and associated infrastructure that account for future risks.

- **Key Partner Organizations:** DWQ, DEQ, DCR, DWQ, DMF, DCM, EPA, CWMTF, WQIF, SRF
- **CCMP Outcomes Supported:** 1a, 1b, 1d, 2b, 3b
- **Outputs:** Pollution control measures, BMPs
- **Results:** Reduction in pathogens within targeted water bodies



Partnering with APNEP

www.apnep.org



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP). At the top, there is a navigation bar with the NCDENR logo on the left and 'Employee Sign In' on the right. The main header features the APNEP name and a search bar. Below the header is a main content area with a large image of two workers in safety gear performing hydrologic restoration. To the right of this image is a sidebar with 'About APNEP' text and a 'Read more...' link. Below the main image is a 'Featured Content' section with links to 'Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan' and '2012 Ecosystem Assessment'. A row of social media icons follows. The page is divided into three columns: 'Soundings' (a 'fresh take on the region's salty affairs'), 'Echoes' (news and information from the region), and 'AP Map' (a map of the watershed). The 'Soundings' column features a photo of trawlers docked at Harkers Island. The 'Echoes' column lists several news items, including black bears making a comeback, a grant to the Pamlico-Tar River Foundation, injured turtles, a stranded dolphin, sea level rise study updates, public comment on a river bridge, increasing minor floods, stream buffer protections, and a renewable microgrid. The 'AP Map' column includes a map of the watershed.

NC DENR Employee Sign In

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership

HOME CONTACT COMMITTEES THE ESTUARY ABOUT US INITIATIVES RESOURCES Search DENR ... Text +

Landscape-Scale Hydrologic Restoration

About APNEP

Our mission is to identify, protect, and restore the significant resources of the Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system.

Read more...


Soundings ▾
Grants ▾
Calendar ▾

Featured Content: [Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan](#) | [2012 Ecosystem Assessment](#)

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Soundings
A fresh take on the region's salty affairs

North Carolina Catch: As fresh as it gets



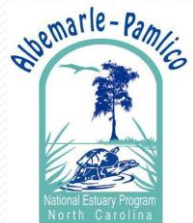

Trawlers docked in Harkers Island

APNEP's work to protect and restore North Carolina's sounds improves the environment, human health, and the quality of life for our citizens and visitors. But

Echoes
News and Information from the Albemarle-Pamlico region and beyond
[more information/disclaimer](#)

- Black bears making comeback in eastern North Carolina
8/4/14 10:38 AM
GREENVILLE, N. C. — Black bears are making a comeback in North Carolina.
- Pamlico-Tar River Foundation receives \$52,500 grant
- Injured turtles on mend at North Carolina Aquarium
- Dolphin found stranded in local tributary
- Sea level rise study update moving ahead
- Public can comment on Nottoway River bridge
- Minor floods are increasing on U.S. coasts
- Stream buffer protections rewritten by industry, DENR
- Dominion turns on its first renewable microgrid in Kitty Hawk

AP Map
Explore the Albemarle-Pamlico watershed



Questions or Comments?

