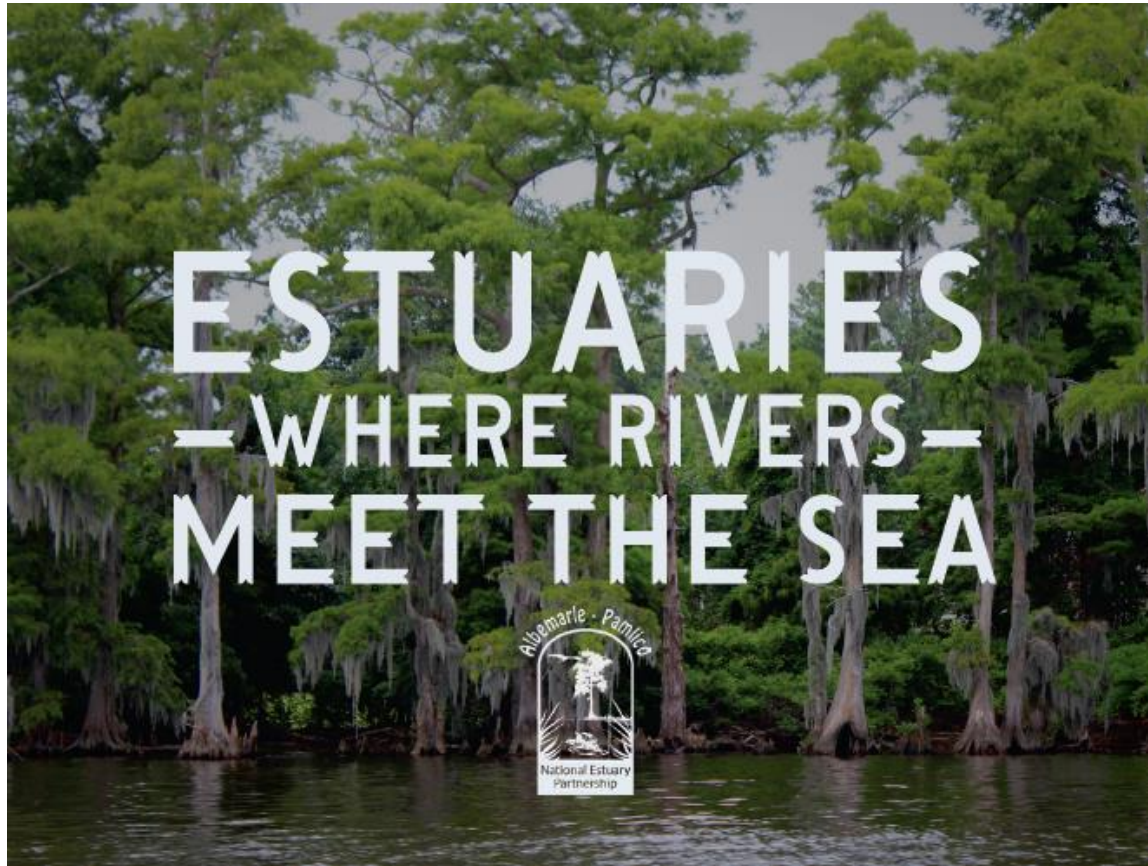


APNEP Education & Engagement Action Team

Stacey Webb Feken, M.S.
Policy and Engagement Manager
Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership

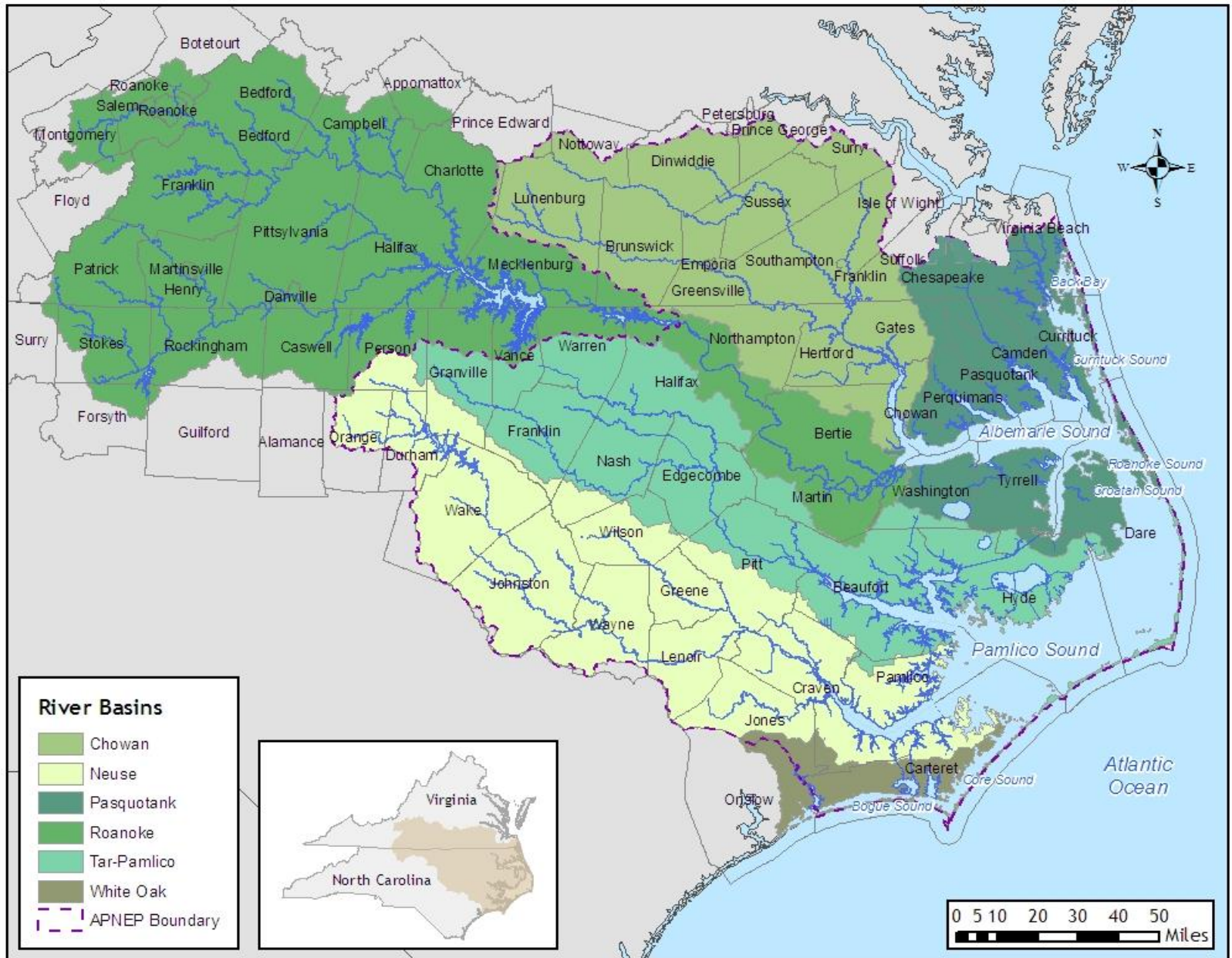
November 8, 2016
Raleigh, NC
Webinar





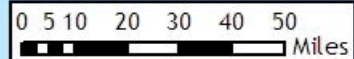
APNEP's Mission

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



River Basins

- Chowan
- Neuse
- Pasquotank
- Roanoke
- Tar-Pamlico
- White Oak
- APNEP Boundary



APNEP Region

- It's BIG! 2nd largest estuarine complex in the lower 48 states
- Management region covers 28,000 square miles
- Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system over 3,000 square miles
- Watershed Approach: Headwaters to the sounds
- 6 River Basins: Pasquotank, Roanoke, Chowan, Tar-Pamlico, Neuse, White Oak
- Water from 43 NC counties and 38 VA counties & cities drain into APNEP estuaries

National Estuary Program

- Designated as an estuary of national significance by Congress in 1987.
- One of 28 National Estuary Programs established under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).
- Funded through an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant to the NC Department of Environmental Quality.
- EPA requires that each program establish a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP).
- The plan addresses water quality, habitat, and living resource challenges in each program's designated watershed.



APNEP's Management Approach

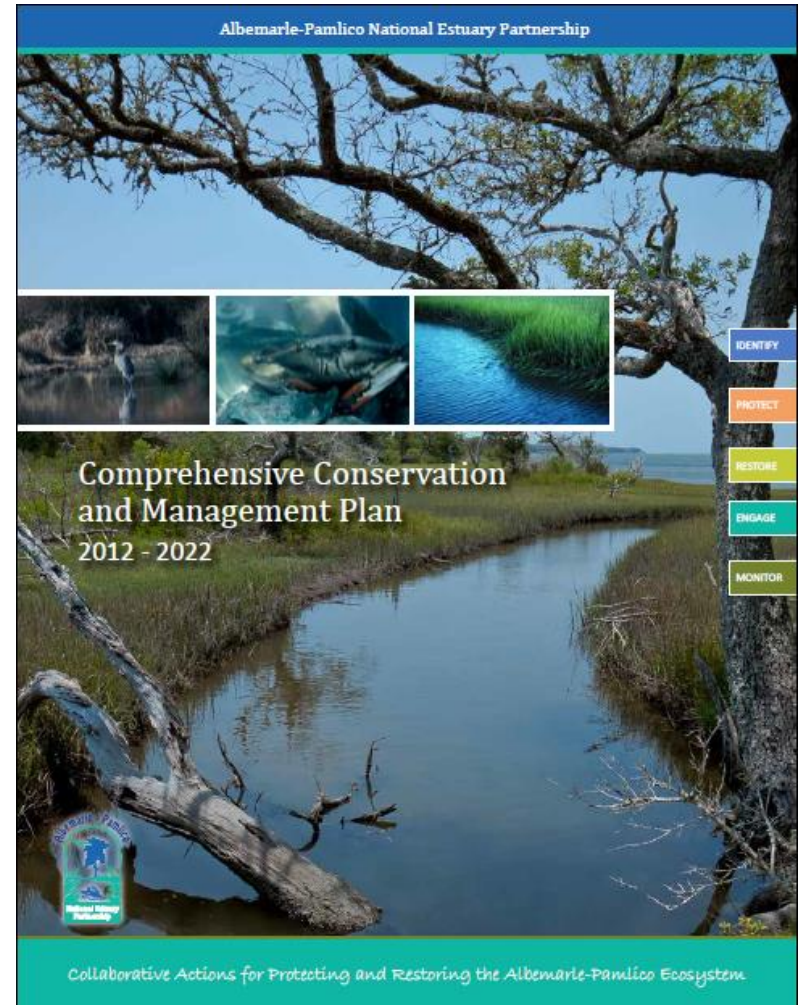


- Watershed approach: headwaters to the sounds
- Ecosystem Based Management
- Partnerships
- Leverage resources
- Collaborative initiatives
- Applied science initiatives



Implement CCMP

- Fourth CCMP question
- Ten-year horizon
- **58 CCMP actions**
- Super-Aggregated into five components





5 Components

IDENTIFY

PROTECT

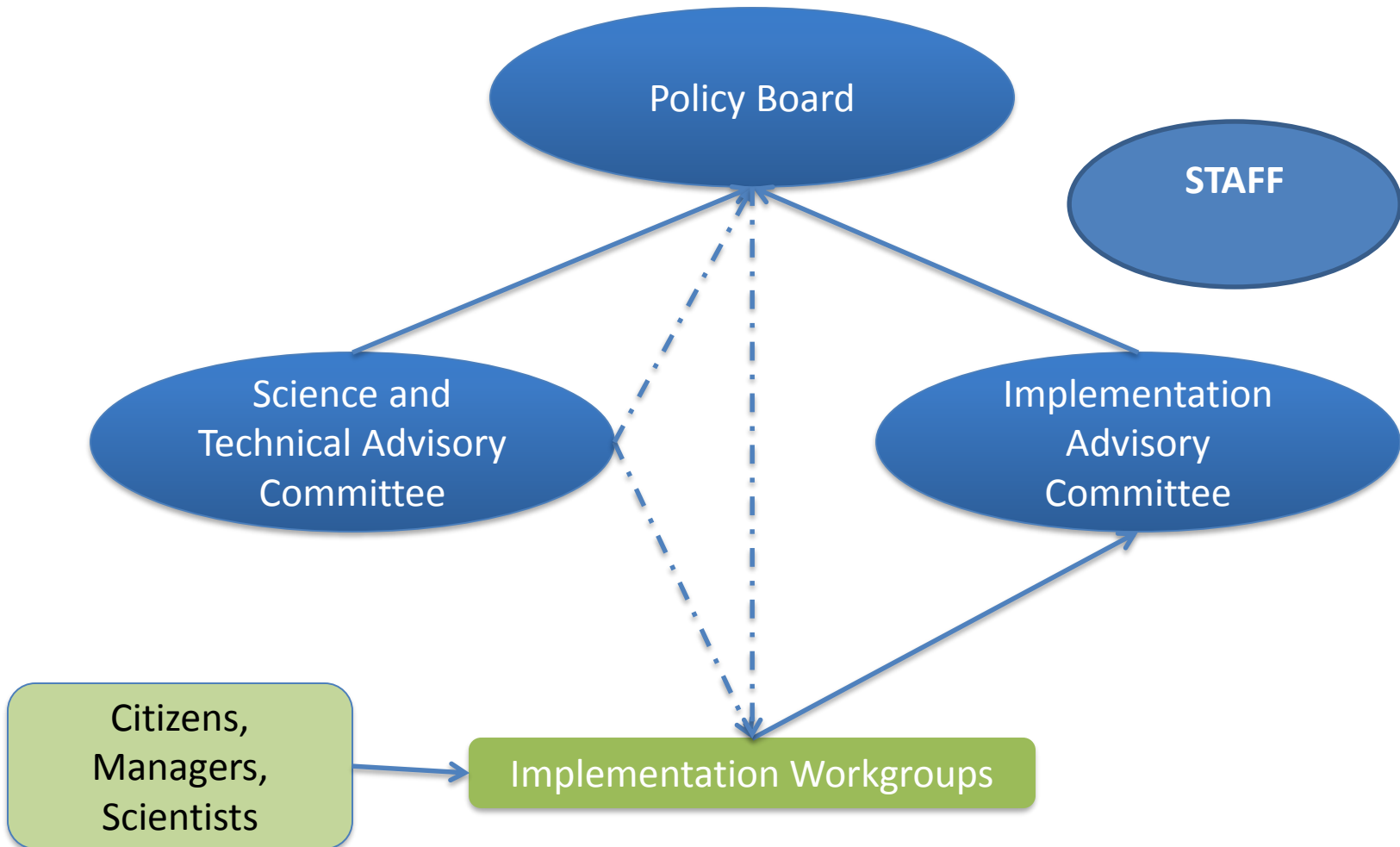
RESTORE

ENGAGE

MONITOR



Advisory Committee Structure





Action Teams

- Education & Engagement
- Contaminant Management
- Albemarle Nutrient Pilot Workgroup
- Freshwater Habitats and Fish Passage
- Ecological Flows
- Decision Support Tools
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
- Public Access
- Policy & Economics
- Restoration Strategies
- Water Quality Improvements
- Shorelines
- *External:*
 - Oysters
 - Invasives

APNEP CCMP Outcomes

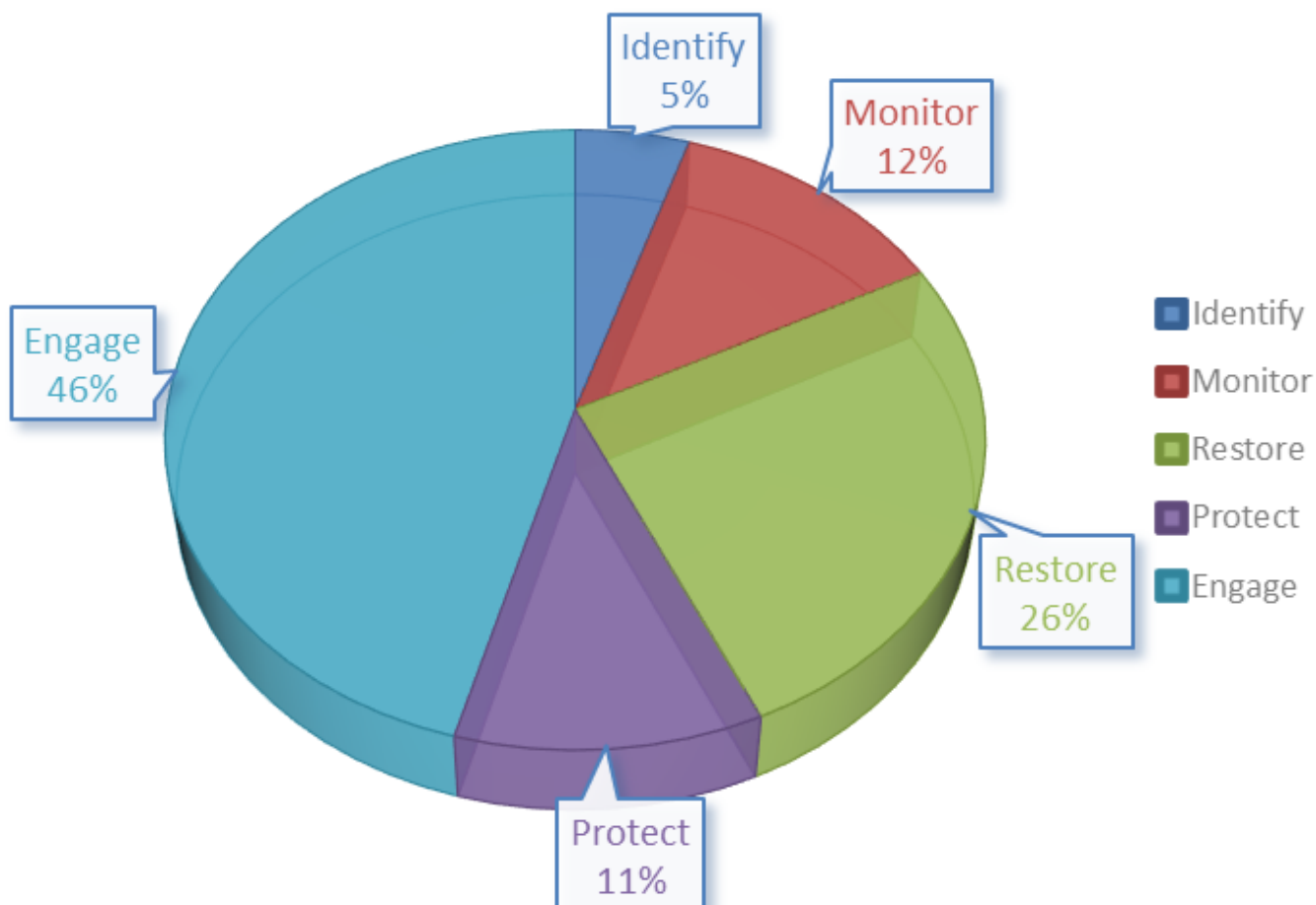
- Highlighting indicates actions and workgroups responsible for each outcome (p. 10-11 of CCMP)
- Actions are color-coded to indicate the responsible workgroups
- Education & Engagement example: Fish & game are safe for human consumption

Outcomes	Actions					Workgroups
1a	A1.1	B1.1	C1.1	D1.1	E1.1	Freshwater Habitats and Fish Passage
1b	A1.2	B1.2	C1.2	D1.2	E1.2	Policy & Economics
1c	A2.1	B1.3	C1.3	D1.3	E1.3	Decision Support Tools
1d	A2.2	B1.4	C1.4	D1.4	E2.1	Education & Engagement
1e	A2.3	B1.5	C1.5	D1.5	E2.2	Water Quality Improvements
2a	A2.4	B2.1	C2.1	D2.1		Shorelines
2b	A2.5	B2.2	C2.2	D2.2		Contaminant Management
2c	A3.1	B2.3	C2.3	D2.3		Invasives
3a	A3.2	B2.4	C3.1	D3.1		Restoration Strategies
3b	A3.3	B2.5	C3.2	D3.2		Monitoring Networks
3c		B2.6	C3.3	D3.3		Oysters
3d		B3.1	C4.1			SAV
		B3.2	C4.2			Flows
		B3.3	C4.3			Public Access
			C4.4			
			C5.1			
			C5.2			
			C5.3			



Overall CCMP Implementation

CCMP IMPLEMENTATION 2012-2016



2015 E&E Action team Grants

- Seeds of Inspiration: Mano al Hermano & NCCF
 - Sea Wolves: CMAST
 - Sound Choices in EE: EENC conference
 - Secrets of the Swamp: Museum of Natural Sciences
 - We Are Nature Heroes: NC Aquarium-Roanoke Island
 - Cistern and Wildflower Meadow: NC Aquarium—Roanoke Island
- Measuring outcomes & impacts of environmental education



Atlantic Ocean

Shad in the Classroom / Roanoke River Days



UNC At Water's Edge Teacher Institute, Project WET Facilitator Workshops



Atlantic
UNC
INSTITUTE FOR
THE ENVIRONMENT

Recent APNEP Outreach



- SciRen Triangle, September 2016
- Kids River Fest: Sound Rivers, May 2016
- Let's G.O. Williamston, May 2016
- NC Coastal Envirothon, March 2016

Education and Engagement CCMP Goals

- Primary: D1.1, D2.2, D2.3
- Secondary: D1.3, D1.4, D3.1; E2.2
- Access Primary: D1.5, D2.1



Education and Engagement

Primary CCMP Goals

- D1.1: Communicate the importance of stewardship and offer opportunities for volunteerism to further APNEP's mission.
- D2.2: Provide environmental education training opportunities for educators in the region.
- D2.3: Increase public understanding of the relationship between ecosystem health and human health advisories relating to water, fish, and game.

Education and Engagement Public Access Subgroup Goals

- D1.5: Increase opportunities for public access to waterways, public lands, and trails.
- D2.1: Provide & promote opportunities for outdoor experiences that connect individuals with the A-P ecosystem.

Education and Engagement

Secondary CCMP Goals

- D1.3: Coordinate outreach and engagement efforts regarding the impact of invasive species.
- D1.4: Coordinate outreach efforts regarding the proper application of fertilizers to reduce nutrient runoff.
- D3.1: Develop and implement a strategy to improve decision-maker's understanding of the costs and benefits of environmental protection, restoration, planning, and monitoring.
- E2.2: Develop and maintain an online resource that clearly conveys regional information in support of ecosystem-based management.

D1:1 Outputs: Education & Engagement Materials

PASQUOTANK RIVER BASIN

What North Carolina river basin is 41 percent water, contains more national wildlife refuges than any other and has the fewest people? If you guessed the Pasquotank River Basin, you're right. But these facts probably escape the notice of the millions of visitors who flock to the basin's Outer Banks every year. They need only the region's reputation for unsurpassed beauty and rich natural heritage to entice them.



profile:

Total miles of streams and rivers: 2,000
 Total acres of estuary: 918,500
 Total miles of coastline: 107
 Municipalities within basin: 11
 Counties within basin: 10
 Size: 3,366 square miles
 Population: 118,913 (2000 U.S. Census)

Bodie Island Lighthouse,
 Cape Hatteras National
 Seashore (left); Jockey's
 Ridge, the tallest natural

NC CATCH

REAL LOCAL SEAFOOD

Fresh from local fishermen to you

Local fisherman approved

Select N.C. seafood from the experience of Curritore County

Caught today the traditional way

Do you love great seafood? You're in luck! North Carolina offers a variety of local seafood par excellence!

Our coastal waters supply shrimp, blue crabs, oysters, clams, scallops and more types of fish for your dining pleasure. Some of our seafood comes from our inland estuaries and some from the Atlantic Ocean.

Whether you enjoy seafood prepared at your favorite restaurant, prepared at your local market, or like to catch your own, opportunities abound to celebrate the coastal bounty of North Carolina's estuary.

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING NORTH CAROLINA ESTUARIES, PLEASE VISIT: WWW.AFNEP.ORG

Where It All Begins: The Estuary

Estuaries are partially enclosed coastal water bodies where freshwater from inland rivers mix with saltwater from the ocean. North Carolina's estuary system consists of about 3,000 square miles of surface water area.

Estuaries are shallow, so sunlight penetrates the water allowing plants to grow. The rivers flowing into the estuaries carry nutrients rich in nutrients that settle into the estuary floor. These nutrients create a rich habitat for marine species to hatch and to grow. Some of these species migrate to the ocean.

More than 100 species of fish and invertebrates live in North Carolina's estuaries.

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

- *About 30 types of seafood caught by commercial fishermen live in NC estuaries, including oysters, clams, blue crabs, shrimp, spotted sea trout, red drum, and flounder.
- *The peak months in NC for blue crab landings are May through October.
- *The blue crab fishery is the most valuable in NC in terms of landings and dollars.
- *The crab pot was developed in the Chesapeake Bay in 1928 and first used in NC in 1935.
- *Oysters filter impurities out of water as they eat. One oyster can filter 25 gallons of water per day.
- *Crabs are named for the crawling sound produced by the vibration of their swim bladder and muscles.
- *Southern flounder are lefteye flounders and have both of their eyes on the left side of their body.



Meherrin River
 The Meherrin River is the westernmost river in the Chowan River basin. It travels more than 100 miles in Virginia, flowing past Lawrenceville and through Emporia. It meets the Chowan River 12 miles below the North Carolina state line, just east of Murfreesboro. 70 percent of the Meherrin River watershed's 1 million acres is forested, with 25 percent used for farming and another 10 percent comprised of wetlands.



Sun over the peaceful Meherrin River in Hertford County, North Carolina.

The Meherrin River is famed for its herring runs, which supported a vibrant fishing industry through much of the 1900s. In Lawrenceville, the river flows by Historic Fort Christanna, which once served as a frontier outpost during the early colonial era. Below Emporia, where it is tapped for hydroelectric power, the river is flanked by some of Virginia's most extensive floodplain forests. The river takes its name from the Iroquois tribe that once inhabited the area.

Nottoway River
 The Nottoway River stretches for 155 miles across southeastern Virginia from its Piedmont headwaters in Prince Edward and Lunenburg counties to its entry into the Chowan River along the state line in Southampton County. Near the fall line, exposed rocks form Class I rapids during periods of higher flow. At 3.1 million acres, the Nottoway sub-basin is the Chowan's largest. Nearly 55 percent of its land is forested, 10 percent is wetlands and 19 percent is farmland.

The Nottoway watershed supports diverse populations of freshwater mussels, including several rare varieties, and more than 90 fish species. It is considered one of the most intact Piedmont/Coastal Plain river systems of its size in the southeastern

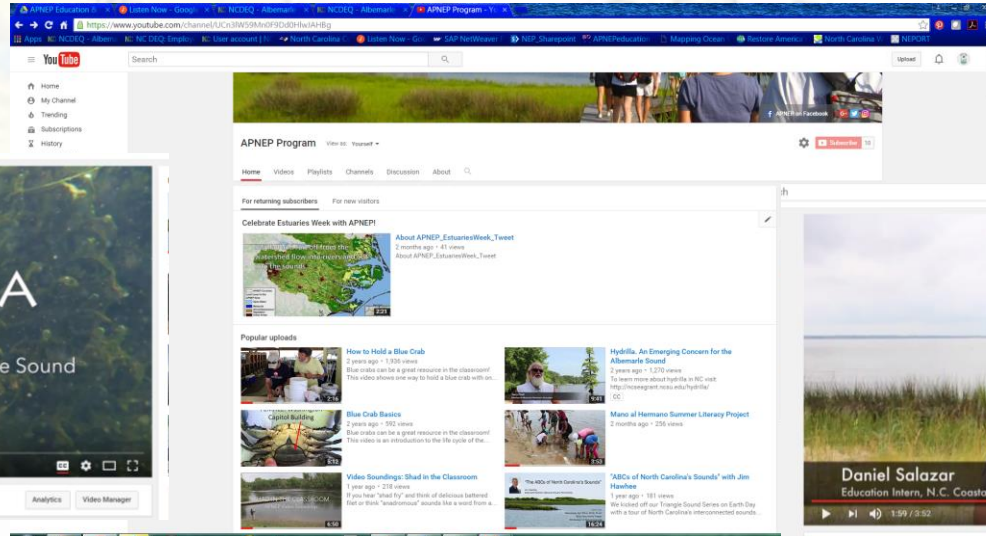
Blackwater River
 The Blackwater River, the easternmost river in the basin, falls entirely within the coastal plain. Originating south of Petersburg and meandering southeast for 105 miles, the Blackwater meets the Nottoway River at the North Carolina state line. Extensive cypress and cypress swamps flank the river, including a number of 1,000-year-old specimens. Sandy



NC BAYS AND ESTUARIES



D1.1 Outputs: Video Production



D1.1 Outputs: Engagement Opportunities



A Peek at Pocosins
Saturday, April 5th
12:00-1:30 p.m.
Walnut Creek Wetland Center
950 Peterson St, Raleigh, NC 27610

Come visit Raleigh's Walnut Creek Wetland Center for hands-on activities to learn all about the unique peatland pocosin habitat.

Absorb a lesson on some of North Carolina's most unique wetland environments. Pocosin! This program features hands-on stations including make your own mini moss terrarium. Also, learn about black bears, red wolves, and the many other species who call the pocosin habitat home. At the "Meet Peat" station find out why this habitat's soil is such an amazing natural resource. At the "Restoration Station" explore the role of fire in the ecosystem and steps that are being taken to restore the natural hydrology of many acres of peatland pocosin.

Event Details:

Activities designed for grades 4-8, but all ages are welcome!

This is a free event. Materials are provided. Come prepared to go outside.

*For more information, contact Marie English at marie.english@nodenr.gov



Registration is required at least one week in advance. Space is limited. To sign up:

Visit Raleigh's RecLink: "A Peek at Pocosins" barcode #159478
Or call the Wetland Center at (919) 831-1960

This is an official NC Science Festival Event.



Photo Credit: Bruce Sorrie, NHP



D2.2 Outputs: Teacher Workshops



D2.2 Outputs: Educator Resources




Ecosystem Monitoring and Assessment

North Carolina's Underwater Grasses:

A Lesson Plan on Ecosystem Monitoring and Assessment

Lesson Overview and Standards.....	2
<i>For teachers</i>	
Introduction to the Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine System.....	5
<i>For teachers</i>	
Introduction to Monitoring and Assessment.....	6
<i>For teachers</i>	
Introduction to Submerged Aquatic Vegetation	7
<i>For teachers</i>	
Pre-lesson discussion.....	8
<i>Introduce students to the assignment</i>	
Student worksheets.....	10
<i>Reading questions based on indicator report</i>	
Worksheet answers.....	12
<i>For teachers</i>	
Indicator report.....	16
<i>Assignment reading material</i>	

Lesson plan developed by:



1

D2.3: Public Understanding SAV Boat Signs

HELP PROTECT AQUATIC GRASSES

Have you ever noticed patches of underwater grass in the shallows?

Those grasses are called submerged aquatic vegetation, or SAV. SAV occurs in shallow protected waters and needs light and calm water to grow. These grass beds are important for healthy water quality because they:

- help trap sediment that runs off from land
- absorb nutrients that can fuel algal blooms and
- deter fish kills by releasing oxygen

How can you help protect aquatic grasses today?

- Avoid boating over shallow grass beds. Running aground can damage your engine and the grass.
- If you must boat in the shallows, trim your propeller up and slow down.
- Do not drop or drag your anchor through grass beds.
- To reduce the spread of invasive species, remove loose grass from the prop before trailering your boat.
- Stay off the grass! Walking through grass beds damages roots.

Enjoy North Carolina's beautiful water resources responsibly and help save critical aquatic wildlife habitat.

SUBMERGED
AQUATIC
VEGETATION

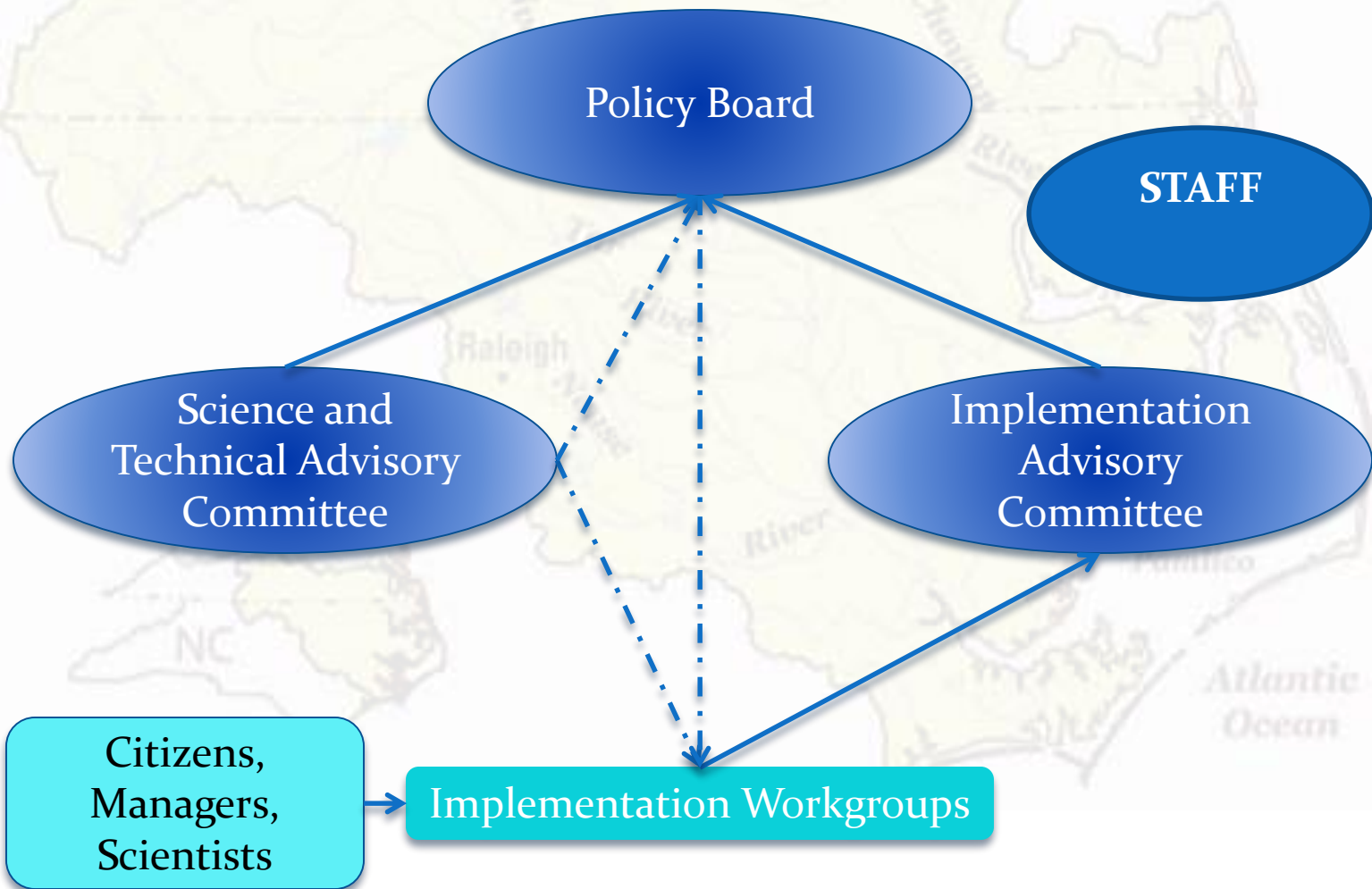
Seafood anyone?

Aquatic grasses are an important nursery habitat for fish, providing food and cover for more than 150 species of fish in our sounds and rivers, such as:

- red drum
- bay scallop
- shrimp
- hard clam
- spotted sea trout
- black sea bass
- river herring
- Atlantic croaker
- blue crab
- yellow perch
- gag

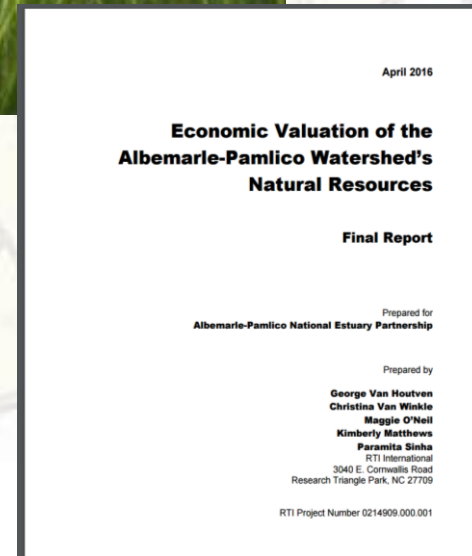
North Carolina has approximately 150,000 acres of aquatic grasses, and every acre is important. Scan the QR code for more information.

Advisory Committee Structure



Opportunities for Integration with Other Action Teams

- Nutrients
- Contaminants
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
- Policy & Economics



Opportunities for Integration with Other Partners

- Integration with planned initiatives
- What are the needs? Fill gaps.
- New Campaign for A-P system?



Ecosystem Services

Ecosystem services benefit us in myriad ways.

- **Provisioning services:** drinking water, oil, and natural gas
- **Regulating services:** climate regulation, decomposition, and water purification
- **Supporting services:** nutrient cycling, photosynthesis, and soil creation
- **Cultural services:** recreation and creative inspiration

Gross Domestic Product

In 2009, the ecosystem services value (ESV) was an estimated \$149.61 trillion for the entire biosphere. (The world GDP was approximately \$71.75 trillion.) Marine systems contributed approximately 75.15% of the ESV.

Drinking Water
Plants act as natural water filters, removing pollutants and sediments before they reach reservoirs. Forests and vegetation determine how much water is available locally.

Urban Trees
In 2002, field data from 10 US cities indicated urban trees stored 700 million tons of carbon (\$14.3 billion value), with a gross sequestration rate of 22.8 million tons annually (\$460 million).

Flood Prevention
By soaking up floodwater, wetlands reduce the height of peak flow and slow the movement of water to mitigate floods, making damage less likely to occur.

Farmers Market
The total production value of pollination in the United States is estimated to be \$2 billion dollars. In other words, through insect pollination, farmers can save \$2 billion dollars in required pollination annually.

Pollination
From national parks to your local city park, natural areas provide opportunities for some of the best recreation. Walking, running, and biking, for instance, promote both physical and mental wellness.

Recreation
From national parks to your local city park, natural areas provide opportunities for some of the best recreation. Walking, running, and biking, for instance, promote both physical and mental wellness.

Fishing
From 2008 to 2010, fishing represented a \$4 billion dollar industry in the United States and contributed to 1 million jobs around the country.



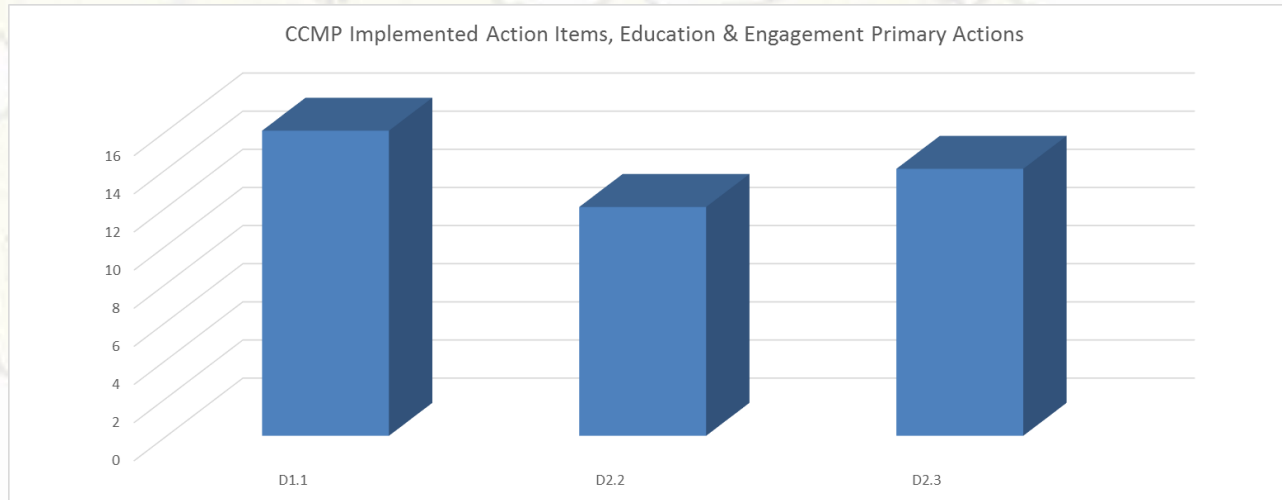
Imagine a Day Without Water



Action Team Set Up

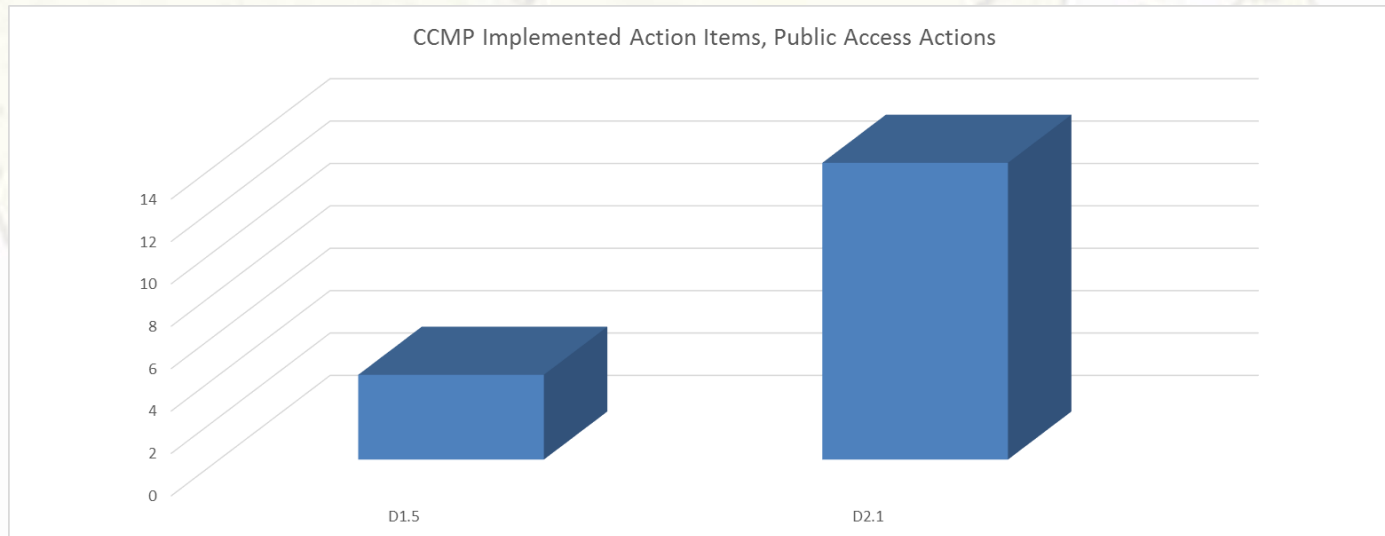
- Members—who is missing?
- Subcommittees?
- Develop an action plan
- Select team chair(s)

Education and Engagement Implementation



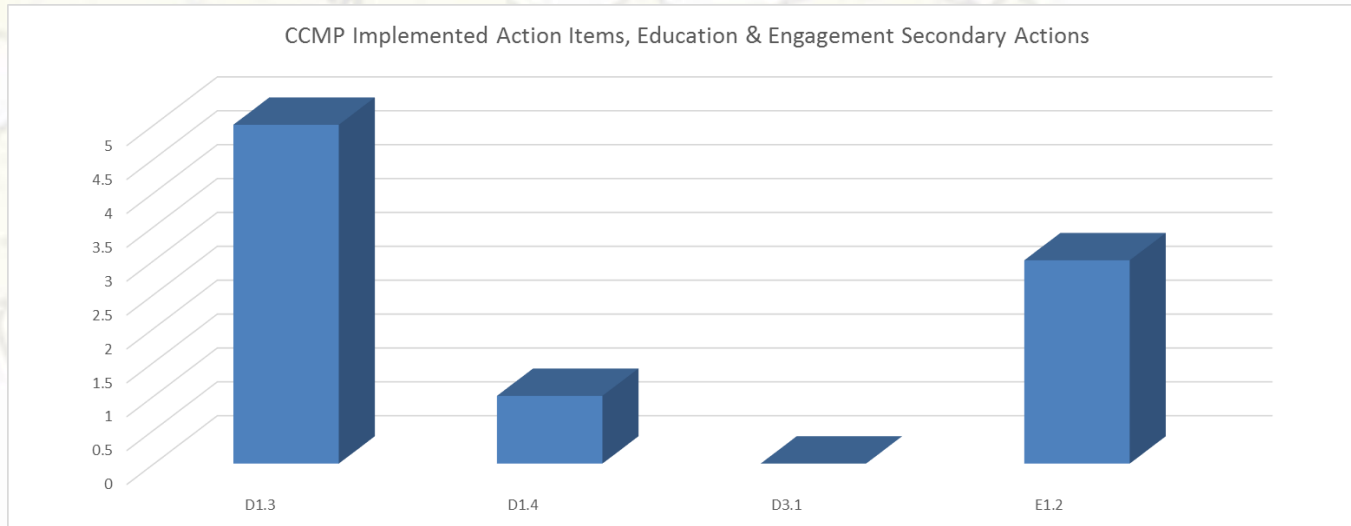
- D1.1: Communicate the importance of stewardship and offer opportunities for volunteerism to further APNEP's mission.
- D2.2: Provide environmental education training opportunities for educators in the region.
- D2.3: Increase public understanding of the relationship between ecosystem health and human health advisories relating to water, fish, and game.

Education and Engagement Access Subgroup Goals



- D1.5: Increase opportunities for public access to waterways, public lands, and trails.
- D2.1: Provide & promote opportunities for outdoor experiences that connect individuals with the A-P ecosystem.

E&E Secondary Actions Implementation



- D1.3: Coordinate outreach and engagement efforts regarding the impact of invasive species.
- D1.4: Coordinate outreach efforts regarding the proper application of fertilizers to reduce nutrient runoff.
- D3.1: Develop and implement a strategy to improve decision-maker's understanding of the costs and benefits of environmental protection, restoration, planning, and monitoring.
- E2.2: Develop and maintain an online resource that clearly conveys regional information in support of ecosystem-based management.

Measuring outcomes & impacts of environmental education

- Develop metrics for APNEP sponsored projects
- Tie back to CCMP Outcomes
- Currently developing surveys & follow up materials for workshops, teacher institutes, & related initiatives

Roundtable Updates



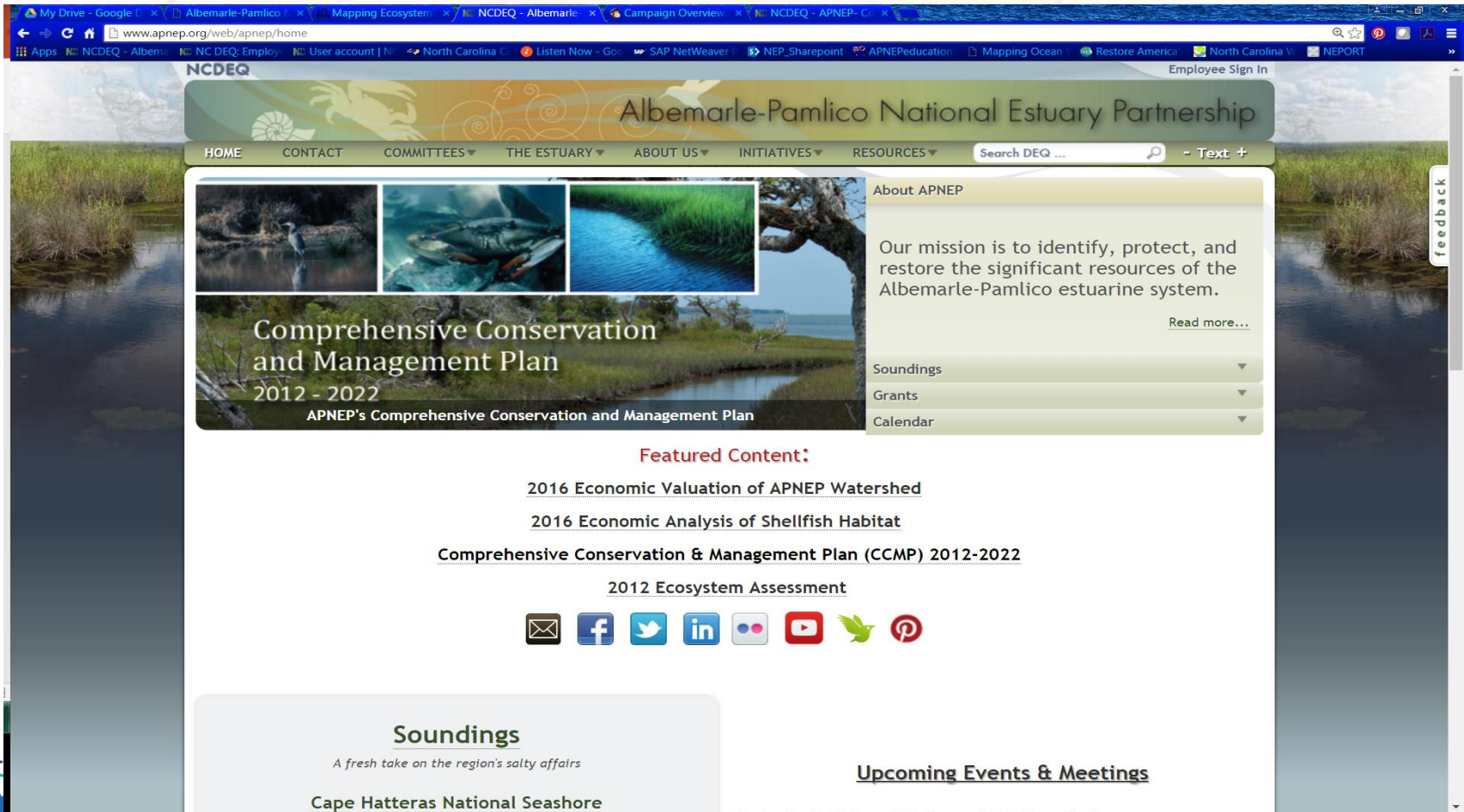
Upcoming Events

- SciREN Greenville Educator Open House

November 15, Go Science

- APNEP / NEP 30th Anniversary 2017

APNEP Communications



The screenshot shows the APNEP website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the NCDEQ logo and the text "Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership". Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links for HOME, CONTACT, COMMITTEES, THE ESTUARY, ABOUT US, INITIATIVES, and RESOURCES. A search bar and a "Text" link are also present. The main content area features a large banner for the "Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan 2012 - 2022" with a "Read more..." link. To the right, there is a "About APNEP" section with a mission statement and a "Read more..." link. Below this is a "Featured Content" section listing several reports and assessments. At the bottom, there are sections for "Soundings" and "Upcoming Events & Meetings".

NCDEQ Employee Sign In

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership

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

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:

[2016 Economic Valuation of APNEP Watershed](#)

[2016 Economic Analysis of Shellfish Habitat](#)

[Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan \(CCMP\) 2012-2022](#)

[2012 Ecosystem Assessment](#)

Soundings

A fresh take on the region's salty affairs

[Cape Hatteras National Seashore](#)

Upcoming Events & Meetings



Contact Information:

www.apnep.org

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252-948-3952
- Marygrace Rowe, Education and Outreach Coordinator
marygrace.rowe@ncdenr.gov
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