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Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP) November-December 2019 View this email in your browser



## **Sound Stories**

**November-December 2019** 



As this decade comes to a close, we at the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership want to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of the people who have worked alongside us to protect and restore our estuary over the last ten years. I firmly believe that maintaining a healthy Albemarle-Pamlico estuary is possible only through our collaborative efforts and look forward to continuing to work towards our shared goals in 2020 and beyond.

One forthcoming opportunity we are excited about is the recent announcement of the National Estuary Program (NEP) <u>Coastal Watersheds Grant Program</u>. This partnership between the <u>U.S. EPA</u> and <u>Restore America's Estuaries (RAE)</u> will fund projects that tackle urgent and emerging issues in watersheds - such as the <u>Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system</u> - that are part of the EPA's National Estuary Program. We hope to foster discussions with organizations in our region about how we can best partner to apply for these funds; please contact <u>apnep@ncdenr.gov</u> to learn more about how we can help.

Sincerely,

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### **APNEP News**



Applications due 1/13 for 2019 APNEP Science Communication and Outreach Internship

We're excited to announce that we're looking for a Science Communication and Outreach Intern to join us for summer 2020! The intern will create content and assist with communications activities that contribute to our mission of protecting and restoring the Albemarle-Pamlico region. Undergraduate and graduate students attending a North Carolina-based university are eligible to apply. Applications are due by January 13th and details are available on our website.

Learn more and apply for the internship

# Two-Part Series Highlights APNEP and Partner Efforts to Protect NC's Underwater Grasses

We've been excited to see our Partnership's efforts to map and monitor North Carolina's submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) featured in recent months - this two-part series from *Coastal Review Online* highlights how the health of our underwater grasses mirrors that of the estuary and can alert us to water quality issues in our

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region!

Read Part I: Submerged Vegetation Mirrors Coast's Health

Read Part II: Seagrass A 'Canary in a Coal Mine'

#### **APNEP Meeting Updates**

- November 19-20: APNEP staff coordinated and facilitated a panel at the NC Sea Grant Coastal Conference about the importance of <u>ecological flows</u>, water resources, and water availability in the coastal plain.
- November 25: APNEP's <u>SAV Team</u> met to review the Team's choice of indicators for APNEP's overall monitoring strategy and to reevaluate the group's SAV monitoring plans. We were also excited to welcome EPA staff to the meeting who have been assisting other National Estuary Programs with SAV monitoring issues.



**Upcoming Events & Meetings** 

All meetings associated with APNEP's committees, Action Teams, and Monitoring &

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- January 14-15, 2020 | APNEP Leadership Council Meeting (Beaufort, NC)
- March 12, 2020 | APNEP Science and Technical Advisory Committee

  Meeting (TBD)

## **Soundings Blog**



Power to the People: Part I

December 9th, 2019

In our newest blog post, learn how <u>Chowan-Edenton</u> <u>Environmental Group</u> citizen scientists are working alongside scientists to research recent algal blooms in northeastern North Carolina.

Check out the blog post

### **Current Grant Opportunities**



- 01/06/2020: <u>2020 EPA Environmental Education</u> Grants RFP
- 01/08/2020: NOAA Coastal and Marine Habitat Restoration Project RFP
- 01/20/2020: NC Sea Grant Community
   Collaboration Research Grants
- 01/30/2020: <u>Five Star and Urban Waters</u>
   <u>Restoration Grant Program 2020 RFP</u>
- 03/26/2020: NOAA Environmental Literacy Grants
- Ongoing: <u>NC Community Foundation Disaster</u> <u>Relief Fund</u>
- Ongoing: NC Sea Grant Minigrants Program

**Grant Details** 

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# **Partner Spotlight**



## Opportunities Abound for Volunteerism in the Albemarle-Pamlico Region

This holiday season, we're grateful for all the people who work to protect the land, waters, and communities of the Albemarle-Pamlico, including our many partner organizations throughout the region. If you're looking for ways to help out, take a moment check out our interactive map of organizations with volunteer opportunities in the region. If you know of a volunteer opportunity that should be added to the map, just shoot us an email at <a href="map.engenceanr.gov">apnep@ncdenr.gov</a>.

View our map of volunteer opportunities

#### What We're Reading

- <u>To Encourage Climate Action, Talk Up the Benefits of Adaptation</u> (Scientific American)
- <u>Long-term Aerial Surveys of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Support</u>
   <u>Science, Management, and Restoration</u> (Estuaries and Coasts)
- About NC Native Communities (UNC American Indian Center)
- Saving Sturgeon (Hakai Magazine)
- <u>Pay More Attention to Climate Perils People with Disabilities Face, Experts</u>
   <u>Warn</u> (Scientific American)

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