

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP)  
February 2020

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# Albemarle - Pamlico

## National Estuary Partnership



# Sound Stories

February 2020



This spring, APNEP staff will be preparing to share findings from some of our ongoing collaborative initiatives and embarking on outreach across the Albemarle-Pamlico region. From the [NC Water Resources Research Institute's Annual Conference](#) to the [NC Indian Unity Conference](#), we will be bringing together the expertise of our partners to highlight initiatives such as ecological flows and building climate resilience in tribal communities.

We will also be participating in regional outreach events, including [SciREN Coast](#) at the end of February, to the [Coastal Envirothon](#) and [Love Your River](#) events in March and April. We're also excited to support another [At Water's Edge Summer Teacher Institute](#) this July - applications are due March 13th for this free workshop, so don't forget to share with high school teachers and encourage them to apply!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Bill Crowell  
APNEP Director



## Applications Now Being Accepted for 2020 Summer Teacher Institute

North Carolina-based 8th-12th grade science teachers are invited to apply between now and March 13th for the UNC Institute for the Environment's *At Water's Edge* Teacher Institute! Explore our state's coastal ecosystems through this **free**, multi-day professional development workshop. APNEP is proud to have supported the UNC-IE teacher institute for over a decade!

[Learn more and apply for the summer teacher institute](#)



## Learn About Critical Coastal Habitats in NC Division of Marine Fisheries Newsletter

Learn about the importance of water quality, seagrasses, and more in NC DMF's newest newsletter, which focuses on the importance of our coastal habitats to the health of the Albemarle-Pamlico's fisheries. APNEP staff work closely with the NC Division of Marine Fisheries to implement the state's [Coastal Habitat Protection Plan](#) (CHPP), which is a guidance document that addresses the habitat and water quality efforts needed to protect, enhance, and restore fish habitat in North Carolina.



## March WRRI Conference to Feature APNEP-facilitated session about coastal ecological flows

APNEP will be facilitating a session at the WRRI Conference on March 19th that highlights its [Ecological Flows Action Team](#) efforts to support the development of ecological flows for the coastal plain. Team members will discuss the basics of ecological flows, progress towards developing recommendations for the coastal plain, and competing water demands in coastal streams and rivers. The team hopes to gain insight from statewide water resources partners as they flesh out a proposal for pilot studies to inform flow recommendations in coastal systems, so come join the discussion!

### 2020 WRRI Conference Details



## APNEP Partners with the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs to Facilitate Discussion of Climate Impacts on Tribal Communities in NC & VA

APNEP staff have been working with partners from the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, UNC American Indian Center, North Carolina State University, the Virginia Coastal Policy Center of William & Mary Law School, and representatives from tribal communities in Virginia and North Carolina to develop a proposal to build capacity for Indigenous participation in coastal climate resilience planning. Staff are honored to

Raleigh March 12-14.

Learn more

## APNEP Meeting Updates

- **January 31st:** The [APNEP-NC Coastal Federation Living Shoreline Action Team](#) (Living Shoreline Steering Committee) met in Newport to discuss the development of a status report that would highlight the many accomplishments of its partners/members. The group was given several updates, including the incorporation of living shorelines in the upcoming NC Oyster Blueprint. The group also provided input on an ongoing APNEP/Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences Natural and Nature-Based Features project.
- **February 18:** The [APNEP Air Resources Monitoring and Assessment Team](#) met at USEPA's Research Triangle Park campus to discuss (1) updating a deliverable timeline for APNEP air resources indicator reports, (2) determining a protocol to develop a metadata database for air resources monitoring programs in the Albemarle-Pamlico region, and (3) briefing USEPA-Office of Research and Development Air and Energy Program Directors on opportunities to apply science and technology research tools with APNEP stakeholders.



## Upcoming Events & Meetings

All meetings associated with APNEP's committees, Action Teams, and Monitoring & Assessment Teams are free and open to the public. For more information, please contact [apnep@ncdenr.gov](mailto:apnep@ncdenr.gov).

- **March 12, 10:00am - 3:00pm** | [APNEP Science and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting](#) (Greenville, NC)

*Water Availability in the Coastal Plain* session (Raleigh, NC)

- April 18, 10:00am - 4:00pm | [Love Your River](#) Festival (Elizabeth City, NC)

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## Current Grant Opportunities



- March 26: [NOAA Environmental Literacy Grants](#)
- May 4: [2020 319\(h\) Grant RFP](#)
- Ongoing: [NC Community Foundation Disaster Relief Fund](#)
- Ongoing: [NC Sea Grant Minigrants Program](#)

Grant Details

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## Partner Spotlight



### NC Coastal Federation and NC Sea Grant Unveil Marine Debris Action Plan

In late January, a team made up of representatives from organizations across the North Carolina coast rolled out a plan for reducing the amount of marine debris and their impact on the state's coastlines. The plan outlines collaborative actions that can be implemented to prevent marine debris, remove debris, prevent and remove derelict vessels, and conduct research. APNEP's Watershed Manager Trish Murphey will be working to move forward with these goals as part of the Plan's Implementation Team.

## What We're Reading

- [Wetlands in the Winter: What's Happening?](#) (Carolina Wetlands Association)
- [NC Historian's Nine-Part Series in Honor of Black History Month](#) (David Cecelski)
- [The efforts to save the Great Dismal Swamp](#) (BBC)
- [During Black History Month, We Celebrate 12 Environmental Leaders](#) (Environmental Defense Fund)



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