

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP)
June 2019

[View this email in your browser](#)



The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership

Sound Stories

June 2019



This June has seen APNEP engaged in a variety of activities, including field work, outreach events, and partner workshops. To facilitate aerial mapping of the region's submerged aquatic vegetation, APNEP staff utilized weather forecasts and water clarity measurements to identify ideal conditions for the collection of aerial images of our sounds by the Department of Transportation. The photographs taken during these DOT flights will be translated into a new map of the region's seagrasses, increasing our understanding of how this valuable resource is changing over time.

This month APNEP participated in the NC Cooperative Extension's Hyde, Seek, and Discover day camp at Lake Mattamuskeet, where we talked with attendees about the importance of a healthy watershed. We also facilitated a panel discussion on strategies for

Graduate students conducting research within the Albemarle-Pamlico region are still eligible to apply for the joint [APNEP-NC Sea Grant Graduate Fellowship in Estuarine Research](#) - applications will be accepted until July 29th. The focus areas for this year's fellowship include submerged aquatic vegetation, harmful algal blooms, riparian buffers and living shorelines, and social science approaches to community resilience.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Crowell

APNEP Director

APNEP News

Summer 2019 Spotlight on Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

APNEP and many other partners, including the NC Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Marine Fisheries, the US Coast Guard, and citizen scientists, have been working this month in a collaborative effort to collect data that will "groundtruth" (or watertruth, as the case may be) aerial photographs of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) taken by Department of Transportation flights over the Albemarle-Pamlico region in June. This aerial imagery will be used to create a map of SAV extent and density in the region, which will be compared with earlier maps to help us to assess if the extent or density of seagrass is changing over time.

North Carolina's "Best-kept secret for protecting shorelines" was also featured in a radio segment by the Public News Service earlier this month! [Check out the PNS article](#) or [read our blog post](#) about collaborative efforts to protect this unique resource.



[Learn more about SAV monitoring in the Albemarle-Pamlico region](#)



Climate Ready Estuaries Highlighted at Coastal Resilience Summit

"Protect the coast and it will protect us." Leadership Council member Todd Miller summed up the Climate Ready Estuaries panel during the Coastal Resilience Summit held June 11-12 in Havelock. The value of estuarine ecosystems and coastal habitats in building coastal resilience was highlighted during an APNEP-facilitated panel that included Casey Knight of the Division of Marine Fisheries, Dr. Carolyn Currin of NOAA, Steve Weeks of the NC Fisheries Association, and Todd Miller of the North Carolina Coastal Federation. Panelists showcased the importance of maintaining healthy and productive estuaries as part of any resilience strategies adopted by state and local governments.

[Learn more about the Summit](#)



Albemarle - Pamlico
National Estuary Partnership



APNEP and NC Sea Grant Announce Joint Fellowship

APNEP & North Carolina Sea Grant are now accepting applications for our 2019 Graduate Fellowship in Estuarine Research. Fellows must conduct their research within the North Carolina portion of the Albemarle-Pamlico region and address one or more of the Fellowship's focus areas. **Applications are due July 29th.**

Learn more and apply for the Fellowship



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.

- **July 22nd, 9:00am-3:00pm** | [Discovering Our Southern Watersheds Teacher Workshop](#) (Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, VA)
- **September 12, 10:00am-3:00pm** | [APNEP Science and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting](#) (Murfreesboro, NC)
- **October 8-9** | [RAE & NCCF Living Shorelines Tech Transfer Workshop](#) (Beaufort, NC)



NC Coastal Reserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve Celebrates 30th Anniversary

If you haven't yet made it out to one of the ten [NC Coastal Reserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve](#) sites along North Carolina's coast, the 30th anniversary of the program this year is a great reason to do so! [NC DEQ Secretary Regan spoke at the program's anniversary celebration in Beaufort](#), saying "Because of the foresight of state and local leaders 30 years ago, North Carolina Coastal Reserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve protects 10 sites and 44,000 acres of critical coastal ecosystems and serves the purpose of both science and discovery."

Discover how to visit the Reserve sites

What We're Reading

- [As Sea Level Rises, Wetlands Crank Up Their Carbon Storage](#) (Smithsonian Environmental Research Center)
- [Study Demonstrates Seagrasses' Strong Potential for Curbing Erosion](#) (Phys Org)
- [As Climate Change Erodes US Coastlines, an Invasive Plant Could Become an Ally](#) (Conversation)



Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

