

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ADVOCATE

... the newsletter of the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study

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April 1990

From The Public Coordinator

What do the words involvement, planning, innovation, decision making and sacrifice have in common? ANSWER - They all pertain to the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study (APES)!

Long-ago we identified public involvement as a very key element in the APES program. It is the public consensus, driven by involvement, that will determine the long-term support and implementation of our five year, multi-million dollar undertaking. Consensus implies a substantive agreement among four component groups: elected officials, environmental managers, scientists and the public. These groups must concur on what is technically well-founded, fair, feasible and likely to succeed. Consensus also implies the willingness of participants to work together and to compromise, and where necessary to sacrifice, to achieve mutual goals.

Planning, as it has been occurring over the past three years, and prior to that before APES' 1987 designation as a National Estuary Program (NEP), will undoubtedly yield accurate and timely decision-making. Identification of carefully thought-out "areas of concern" have been a mainstay of APES technical data acquisition. Research called for in each of the program's Request for Proposals (4 to date) is the product of conscientious planning. The effect of this planning will contribute greatly to the protection of our fragile estuarine environment.

Innovation abounds within the APES. Early implementation projects utilizing agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) in Gates County at Merchant's Millpond, and in southeastern Virginia, demonstrate the creativity apparent in attempts to protect our precious natural heritage. Another example of innovative methods is the employment of urban BMPs in the curtailment of sediments, nutrients and other non-point source deliveries contained in storm water. This early demonstration project, in the

form of a storm water detention basin is being implemented within the city of Greenville in Pitt County.

The future is shaped by the voices and action of the people. Take full advantage of your future by contacting your APES Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) representative (see listing on pages 3 and 4), by attending CAC meetings, by getting on the APES mailing list, by joining an environmental group or most importantly, by just staying informed.

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DEHNR Secretary William W. Cobey Jr., and DPI Superintendent Bobby Etheridge display APES Environmental Education Materials.

The choice we have to serve the common good of society over individual needs will be sacrificial without a doubt. We must remember however, that we all have a stake in what happens. The alternative of doing nothing - or worse, continuing to degrade - is simply unacceptable.

Secretary of the N.C. Dept. of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, William W. Cobey, Jr., recently presented a package of environmental education materials, produced by the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study, to Dept. of Public Instruction Superintendent Bobby Etheridge.

The items consist of an environmental calendar for the year 1990; a 135 page primer on estuaries entitled "A Guide to Estuaries of the Albemarle-Pamlico Region of North Carolina," and a

37 page booklet entitled "Where the Rivers Meet the Sea."

The presentation marks the general distribution of the materials to all the public schools in the 33 counties included in the APES area. The products were produced for APES to fulfill one of the objectives of the public involvement portion of the program "... to expand educational programs to inform the public, youth and adult populations, about the values of the Albemarle-Pamlico System and the importance of good management."

For further information, or to obtain a copy of the materials, contact Joan Giordano, Public Involvement Coordinator, at the Washington Regional Office of the Dept. of EHNHR, P.O. Box 1507, Washington, NC 27889.

Also contact Mrs. Giordano, Melva Okun or Katherine Hodgkin to receive information/applica-

tion for a teacher training workshop to be held at ECU from July 9-20, 1990. The workshop, entitled "Coastal Ecology and Water quality," is being offered to 7 - 12th grade science teachers and will be an intensive lab and field course. Instruction will focus on streams, estuaries, and the surrounding landscape of terrestrial and wetland ecosystems. Teachers will be paid a \$35/day stipend and be eligible for 6 renewal credits, pending SDPI approval. They will learn how to perform basic water quality tests and how to interpret test results. Time will be split between lecture and lab instruction, and field exercises.

Dr. Hodgkin's number is 757-6885 and Melva Okun may be reached at 966-3332.

Funding for the workshop is being provided by the APES and an Eisenhower Grant.

From The Program Director

You may recall the tentative schedule for 5 statewide meetings (to gather public input) relative to the Status and Trends Report (S & TR) planned for March and April 1990. This timeframe has been altered, at the request of the Policy Committee, to allow for modifications of the technical version of the S & TR and also to change the format and add conclusions to the public version.

Dr. B. J. Copeland, who led the original working group of 40 in the creation of the S & TR, will again convene the group to review their conclusions and identify trends for each section of

the report, beginning on April 25th.

The S & TR Review Group on May 1st will then review the comments forthcoming from Dr. Copeland's work groups and develop the comments into specific recommendations for the comprehensive Conservation Management Plan outline.

When the revised version of the S & TR is ready the statewide public meetings will be rescheduled. An approximate timeframe will probably be late summer to allow for vacations and holidays. Watch for more in subsequent issues of the Albemarle Pamlico Advocate.

Citizens' Advisory Committee Chairman's Message

As I write these comments, on Earth Day, the sun is setting over an expanse of marsh in coastal North Carolina. The still waters of the tidal creeks which meander through the marsh reflect the red light of the late afternoon sky. Snow white egrets rise from the marsh and slowly flap by. In the distance, a wooden skiff glides to a stop and the occupant, with sure motions, sets a gill net.

Earth Day 1990 was a day of celebration and dedication: a celebration of nature and a rededication to solving the growing threats to our environment. It is projected that 400 million

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Coming together is a beginning;

people worldwide will participate in Earth Day activities. I chose to spend the day on the coast, to celebrate the return of Spring to our coastal waters and marshes.

I also finished reading a book I had started several weekends before, The End of Nature by Bill McKibbin. The book explores many of the threats to our planet: global warming, acid rain, ozone depletion, and deforestation. The central theme of the book is that we can no longer consider nature to be indefinitely resilient, to be able to withstand all the environmental insults society can impose. We have overpowered nature and we will determine the future of the planet.

Since I am writing these comments on Earth Day, and since the book is fresh on my mind, it is difficult not to draw some relevance to the Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study. Two observations stand out.

First, it is clear that the future of the water quality and living resources of the Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds is in our hands. The decisions we make and the actions we take will determine whether the sounds are clean and productive for future generations to enjoy. Although this is the second largest estuary in the nation, it does not have the infinite capacity to absorb the impacts of all our activities. Already there are clear warning signs we have overpowered the natural system.

Second, we must rededicate ourselves to acting environmentally responsible. This includes the decisions we make as individuals, corporations, and government. The Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study can be, and should be, a focus for those decisions. It provides a unique opportunity, at a critical time, to

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Keeping together is progress;

Chairman's Message Continued

bring together all the diverse interests with a concern for the future of our sounds to develop a management plan to help shape that future.

As the last light of Earth Day

1990 fades over the marsh, I wonder what the future holds for these waters. So much depends on the commitment and involvement of those concerned about that future.



Pamlico Citizens' Advisory Committee

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Working together is success.

Project Highlights

The careful planning that goes into directing the acquisition of APES technical data was mentioned earlier. That same procedure is used in directing the public involvement portion of the study as well. Below are listed the projects selected for the program's 4th funding cycle.

4th Year Technical & Public Participation Projects

Technical Subject	Investigator/Institution	Technical Subject	Investigator/Institution
Resource Critical Area		Human Environment	
Regional Inventory (C)	Roe (DPR)	Public Attitudes Toward	Hoban/Clifford
Delineation of SAV (C)	Ferguson (NOAA)	WQ/Mgmt. (C)	(NCSU)
Water Quality		Environmental Mgmt Strategies	Bartholomew (CPN)
Citizens' Monitoring (C)		Federal Programs (C)	Nichols (RTI)
Nutrient Budgets	Dodd (RTI)		
Mgmt. Plan: Currituck Sound (C)	Overton/Adams (NCSU)	* Funding Pending Further Peer Review	
Blue Crab-Hemocyanin	Engel/Brouwer/Noga	(C) Continuation Projects from FY 1989	
Concentrations	NMFS/Duke/NCSU		
Open Sound Monitoring (C)	Bales (USGS) *	TOTAL: \$862,327.00	
Flows/Hydrdynamics in			
Albemarle Sound	Bales (USGS) *	Public Participation Subject	Investigator/Institution
Determine Flows/Flow Patterns (C)	Bales (USGS) *	Newsletter	Staff
Toxicant Inventory	Cunningham (RTI)	Water Quality Awards Program	Burns (ARC)
Baseline WQ Monitoring (C)	Tedder (DEM)	Assisting A/P CACs in Organizing	Tursi (NCCF)
Fisheries		an Annual Meeting & Produce 10	
Blue Crab Fishery (Pamlico)	McKenna (DMF)	Fact Sheets, 5 Educational	
Ulcerative Mycosis		Pamphlets & reprint Citizen's	
(Menhanden) (C)	Noga (NCSU)	Guide	

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Upcoming Events

April 2 Return Selected Proposals to Authors for Revisions	June 5 CAC Workshop on Recommendations for CCMP Williamston Community Center 1:00pm	September 13 Annual Researchers' Review Workshop
April 11 Revised Proposals to Director/Subcommittees	June 6, 7 & 8 APES Media-tour of Albemarle Area	September 18 Technical Review Subcommittee Meeting
April 22 Outdoor Celebration Down East (Earth Day) River Park North - Greenville 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	June 12 P. C. Merchant's Millpond Tour Gates Co.	October 5 Annual Public Meeting
April 24 P-CAC Meeting - Rocky Mount Tax Office 7:00 pm	June 13 Policy Committee Meeting - Ramada Inn Ahoskie	November 5/9 CAC Meetings
April 26 A-CAC Meeting - College of the Albemarle Elizabeth City 7:00 pm	July 9-20 Teacher Training Workshops at ECU	November 20 Technical Committee Meeting
May 4 CAC Workshops on Recommendations for CCMP Holiday Inn - Washington 11:00 am	August 1 Projected EPA Award of Funding	November 27 Policy Committee Meeting
May 5 CAC Workshops on Recommendations for CCMP Holiday Inn - Washington 9:00 am	August 6/10 CAC Meetings	November 28 Call For Proposals to be Sent Out (5th Cycle)
May 9 Technical Committee Meeting	August 21 Technical Committee Meeting	Contact Joan Giordano, Public Involvement Coordinator at (919) 946-6481, for time and locations
May 15 Final Cooperative Agreement Packages	August 29 Roundtable Meeting of All Committees	Please note the Teacher Training Workshops in July and the CAC CCMP Recommendation Workshops in May & June
	August 30 Policy Committee Meeting	

Public Participation Subject

Radio Outreach Program
 Public Education Program in
 the Albemarle Sound Area
 Five Fact Sheets
 Precious Waters Display
 Estuarine Resources Center
 Institutional Enhancement
 for SE VA
 Yes, In Your Backyard: TV PSA
 Model Education Curriculum
 Community Education Outreach III

Investigator/Institution

Cleary (BF)
 Powers (AEA)

 Powers (AEA)
 Conoley (NCAS)
 McNaught (PTRF)
 Carlock (SEVPD)

 Willard (WP)
 Schultz (EC/PCS)
 Stroud (PTRF)

Early Demonstration Subject

Merchant's Millpond (C)
 Urban BMPs - Detention
 Basin - Greenville

 (C) Continuation Projects from FY 1989

 TOTAL: \$151,261.00

Investigator/Institution

Cummings (Div of S&W)
 Stanley/Bales (USGS)

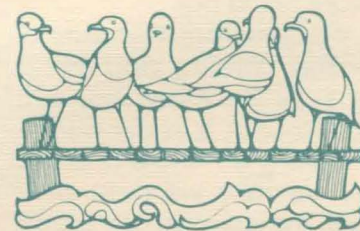
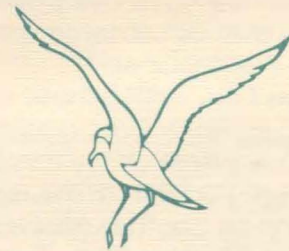
TOTAL: \$278,714.00

The Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study is a joint effort of the state, federal government and local interests, intended to facilitate effective management of the very valuable, productive resources in the major estuaries of northern and central North Carolina.

The Albemarle-Pamlico Advocate is the quarterly newsletter of the APES. For questions or comments, contact Joan Giordano, Editor, 1424 Carolina Avenue, Washington, NC 27889 or call (919)946-6481.

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North Carolina Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources
 James G. Martin, Governor William W. Cobey, Jr., Secretary



The Albemarle-Pamlico Advocate
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