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Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP)
December 2017

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The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership

Sound Stories

December 2017



As the year draws to a close, many of us choose to take stock of the past year's accomplishments and priorities. Here APNEP, we have been reflecting on the Partnership's major initiatives in 2017, including the [Albemarle-Pamlico Ecosystem Symposium](#), our [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) between North Carolina and Virginia](#), and our [Sound Reflections](#) interview series celebrating APNEP's 30th anniversary.

We are also looking forward to 2018 and the work we will be focusing on to continue

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[Committee](#), will move forward on developing ecological indicators for the Albemarle-Pamlico region. Additionally, we will continue to increase collaboration between North Carolina and Virginia, beginning with the formation of a task force to guide MOU implementation. Joint NC/VA efforts will also include inventories of water quality, fish passage, and wetlands data. Later in the year, our Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) partners have advised collecting another round of SAV survey data to further understanding of changes in SAV density and extent since [previous surveys](#) from 2007-2008 and 2012-2014.

We would like to thank our partners for all their time, energy, and feedback in 2017 - we hope you will join us in 2018 as we continue our work to identify, protect, and restore the natural resources of the Albemarle-Pamlico region.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Crowell
APNEP Director

Announcements



Summer 2018 Internship Opportunity at APNEP!

Attention undergraduate and graduate students - we are now accepting applications for a Summer 2018 **Communications & GIS Intern** through the State of North Carolina Internship Program!

This paid summer internship is located in Raleigh and will involve creating and updating online communications tools to help us better communicate our organization's work to a wide audience. The intern will develop skills such as webpage design, science writing,

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Internship Details



Symposium Survey Reminder

If you attended our Albemarle-Pamlico Ecosystem Symposium on November 1st and haven't had the chance to give us feedback on the event, please take a few minutes and fill out our online survey. We'll be using the results of this survey to inform and improve future APNEP symposia!

[Take the Survey](#)

APNEP News

Symposium Panel Discussion Summary Now Online

We've collected take-aways from the 2017 Albemarle-Pamlico Ecosystem Symposium's "Utilizing Partnerships to Address Regional and Community Issues" panel discussion into a pdf document, now available on our website alongside the [symposium proceedings](#). We hope that this resource, which showcases the issues faced, successes, and lessons learned by each panelist during their efforts to solve regional issues through collaboration, will help to foster further thought and discussion about how we can utilize partnerships to create a healthier Albemarle-Pamlico region.

[Read the Panel Discussion Summary](#)

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HABITAT HOTLINE *Atlantic* 2017 Annual Issue



APNEP Staff & Regional SAV Conservation Featured in 2017 *Habitat Hotline Atlantic*

The [Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's](#) annual *Habitat Hotline Atlantic* is now available! This year's issue highlights submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) and features articles by two APNEP staff members. APNEP Program Scientist Dean Carpenter writes about SAV conservation in the Albemarle-Pamlico region, and Coastal Habitats Coordinator Jimmy Johnson provides coastal updates from North Carolina.

[Read the 2017 Habitat Hotline Atlantic](#)



APNEP Committee Updates

On November 30th, APNEP staff met with our Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to discuss ongoing efforts to develop ecological indicators and to learn about the importance of wetland protection and conservation in the Albemarle-Pamlico region. [Learn more about the STAC.](#)

Our Engagement and Stewardship Action Team convened on December 11th to discuss developing an action plan, deciding that map-based inventories of current initiatives related to stewardship, educator training, outdoor experiences, and education regarding the relationship between public and ecosystem health in the Albemarle-Pamlico region are needed in order to determine where the team's efforts

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Sound Reflections

To help commemorate our 30th anniversary, we're highlighting the history of APNEP through a series of interviews with past and present partners. Check out the entire archive [on our website!](#)



Sound Reflections with Jack Thigpen

December 1st, 2017 - How do you create a document that plans for both the human and natural communities of the Albemarle-Pamlico region? NC Sea Grant's Jack Thigpen explains how he and the APNEP Ecosystem-Based Management Transition Team did just that when they helped develop APNEP's current [Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan \(CCMP\)](#).

[Read more](#)

Current Grant Opportunities

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- 12/17/17 - [North Carolina Aquarium Scholars Program Teacher Mini-Grants](#)
- 12/31/17 - [Water Resources Development Grant Program](#)
- 1/26/18 - [2018 REPI Challenge Pre-Proposals Due](#)
- 1/31/18 - [Five Star and Urban Water Restoration Grant Program 2018 RFP](#)
- 2/1/18 - [2018 Healthy Watershed Consortium Grant Program RFP](#)
- 2/5/18 - [2018 Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grants](#)
- 2/16/18 - [EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Program 2018 RFP](#)

[Grant Details](#)

Upcoming Events & Meetings

- January 4th - [Terrestrial Resources Monitoring and Assessment Team Workshop](#), Imperial Centre for Arts & Sciences, Rocky Mount (10:00am - 3:30pm)
- January 24th - [Wetland Resources Monitoring and Assessment Team Workshop](#), Location TBD (10:00am - 3:30pm)

Partner Spotlight



The Clean Water Education Partnership Publishes Stormwater Education Video

At APNEP's recent [Engagement & Stewardship Action Team](#) meeting, members heard from Jen Schmitz of the [Triangle J Council of Governments](#) about stormwater education initiatives conducted by their [NC Clean Water Education Partnership](#) in the Tar-Pamlico, Neuse, and Cape Fear River Basins, including this great new video.

[Check out the CWEP website for more tools and resources to promote watershed stewardship](#)



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