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Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP)
July 2018

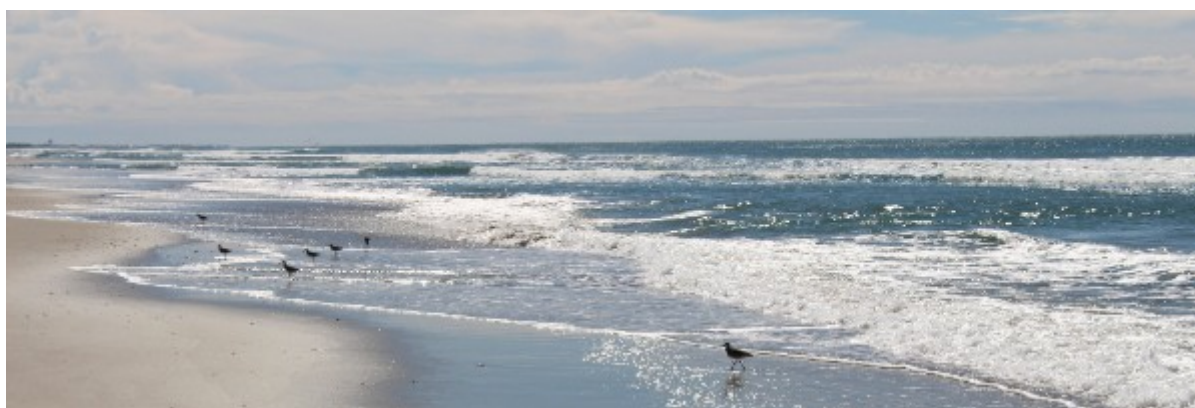
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The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership

Sound Stories

July 2018



For APNEP staff, one of the highlights of summer is the annual [Teacher Institute](#), a 4-day professional development workshop for educators led by the [UNC Institute for the Environment](#) with the support of many partners. This year's Institute brought together 4th and 5th grade teachers to learn how to utilize hands-on, interdisciplinary, outdoor environmental education in their classrooms. From salt marsh, to beach, to maritime forest, teachers discovered the diversity and importance of our coastal ecosystems as well as connections to the Albemarle-Pamlico watershed as a whole.

APNEP's [Management Conference](#) has also been hard at work this summer. Teams focusing on [oyster habitat restoration](#), [living shorelines](#), and [air resources](#) convened in

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APNEP's progress on ecological indicator development and to hear from a panel of experts about mariculture activities in the estuary. The STAC meeting and all APNEP-led meetings are open to the public. You can [visit our website](#) or contact us at apnep@ncdenr.gov for meeting details and updates.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Crowell
APNEP Director

APNEP News



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**RESOURCES FOR HANDS-ON ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

This July, APNEP staff were inspired by the dedication and passion of the The UNC Institute for the Environment's 2018 [Teacher Institute](#) attendees. This APNEP-funded program has taken place annually since 2002, and wouldn't be possible without the help and expertise of many of our partner organizations. Thanks to the many partners, including [North Carolina Sea Grant](#), [North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences](#), [North Carolina Coastal Federation](#), [North Carolina Coastal Reserve](#), and [NC Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores](#), for helping to make this summer's institute a success!

Learn more about the Teacher Institute

NORTH CAROLINA



Management plan for NC's aquatic invasive species is reinvigorated

APNEP staff have been working with the NC Department of Environmental Quality to advance North Carolina's Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Management Plan, and this month the Plan's multiagency Steering Committee reconvened for the first time since 2016 to discuss needed updates as well as a timeline for getting an updated ANS Management Plan approved at the state and federal level. The Plan's approval will facilitate the coordination of numerous state and federal agencies, as well as NGO's, to tackle management and outreach of North Carolina's aquatic invasive species.

APNEP Committee Updates

- **July 18th** - The joint APNEP/NC Coastal Federation [Oyster Habitat Restoration Action Team](#) met to discuss the NC Shellfish Initiative launch on August 2nd, as well as the purpose of the Team as it relates to the needs of APNEP and the NC Coastal Federation. A fully-vetted purpose statement will be decided on at the group's next meeting, which will likely be in January 2019.
- **July 23rd** - The [Air Resources](#) Monitoring and Assessment Team convened to finalize their list of ecological indicators for APNEP's next [Ecosystem Assessment](#).
- **July 25th** - The joint APNEP/NC Coastal Federation [Living Shorelines Steering Committee](#) met for their kickoff meeting to discuss how regional groups can better collaborate on research, education, and incentives for sustainable management of estuarine shorelines. The committee will also be looking into how to best address and manage the invasive aquatic plant *Phragmites australis*.
- **July 26th** - The Executive Board of APNEP's [Science & Technical Advisory Committee](#) met to discuss the group's 2018-2020 Action Plan and to decide on agenda priorities for the full STAC meeting on September 12th.



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.

- **August 2nd**, 10:00am - 12:00pm | [North Carolina Shellfish Initiative Launch](#) (CMAST, Morehead City)
- **August 14th**, 9:00am - 2:30pm | [Change: A Community Conversation](#) (Core Sound Waterfowl Museum and Heritage Center)

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- **September 12th**, 10:00am - 3:00pm | [APNEP Science & Technical Advisory Committee Meeting](#) (Location TBD)
- **September 19th**, 6:00pm - 8:00pm | [Stewards of the Southern Rivers Watershed Talk by APNEP staff](#), VA Beach Summer Symposium Series (Advanced Technology Center, 1800 College Crescent, Virginia Beach)

Soundings Blog



Community Knowledge Informs Coastal Resilience Efforts in NC DCM's RENA Process

July 16th - In this month's *Soundings* post, former NOAA Coastal Management Fellow for the NC Division of Coastal Management (DCM) Monica Gregory explains how the "Resilience Evaluations and Needs Assessment" (RENA) process has been a case study in how DCM and other organizations can utilize local knowledge in order to increase the resiliency of North Carolina's coastal communities.

[Read more](#)

Current Grant Opportunities

- August 7 - [NFWF/NOAA National Coastal Resilience Fund](#)

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- September 14 - [205\(j\) Water Quality Management Planning Grants](#)
- September 14 - [NC Division of Coastal Management Planning and Management Grants](#)
- September 15 - [NC Aquarium Scholars Partnership Grants](#)

[Grant Details](#)

Partner Spotlight



Virginia Beach's Sea Level Rise Symposium Series Tackles Current Coastal Resiliency Issues

This summer, the City of Virginia Beach is hosting a series of talks about sea level rise and flooding issues. On September 19th, APNEP Policy and Engagement Manager Stacey Feken will be speaking about Virginia's southern watersheds and APNEP's joint NC/VA efforts. All talks are free, and the public is encouraged to attend.

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What We're Reading

- Shark Week:
 - [NC Sea Grant's Coastwatch - Sharks of North Carolina](#)
 - [Herald-Sun - Sharks are off Carolinas coast - and in the rivers. Here's why more sharks are a good thing.](#)
 - [Smithsonian Ocean - How climate change is impacting shark mothering](#)
 - [UNC's Institute of Marine Sciences - Tracking Sharks in the Water](#)



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