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May 2018

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP)

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National Estuary Partnership

#### **The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership**

## **Sound Stories**

May 2018



Through our <u>Leadership Council</u> meeting in late April and <u>EPA Program Evaluation</u> site visit in May, APNEP had the opportunity discuss our challenges and successes, and to reflect on our mission to identify, protect, and restore the natural resources of the Albemarle-Pamlico region. We would like to thank our many partners who contributed their time and energy towards making these meetings a success and look forward to using the feedback we've received to inform our future initiatives and partnerships.

Out in the wider world of APNEP, the arrival of warmer weather means that two APNEPfunded projects will soon be underway. UNC Institute for the Environment's <u>ExPLORE NC</u>

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engagement and water quality monitoring alongside the APNEPsupported <u>NCDMF Recreational Water Quality Monitoring Program</u>.

If you need a break from the summer sun, check out <u>We Are the River</u>, a short film created for the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences and funded in part by APNEP as a part of the <u>Shad in the Classroom program</u>. This video, which tells the story of North Carolina's Roanoke River, recently won a <u>2018 Gold Telly Award</u> for Non-Broadcast Video in the Nature/Wildlife category. Carol Shields of <u>Roanoke River Partners</u>, as well as Chuck Peoples of <u>The Nature Conservancy</u>, are two partners featured in the film!

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Crowell APNEP Director

## **APNEP News**



#### EPA Program Evaluation Site Visit Highlights APNEP Projects and Partnerships

EPA representatives and the Executive Director of the <u>Indian River Lagoon National</u> <u>Estuary Program</u> met with APNEP staff from May 15th through 17th for the site visit component of APNEP's 5-year <u>Program Evaluation</u>, which is required of APNEP as part of its status as an EPA-funded <u>National Estuary Program</u>. EPA and APNEP staff met with

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#### APNEP and NC Sea Grant Announce Joint Fellowship

APNEP is excited to announce that we are once again partnering with North Carolina Sea Grant to fund a joint 2018 <u>Graduate Fellowship in Estuarine Research</u>. The Fellowship is open to graduate students in North Carolina and Virginia for conducting applied research within the North Carolina portion of Albemarle-Pamlico region. Applications are due July 27th.

**Fellowship Details** 



#### APNEP Welcomes Communications & GIS Intern

APNEP would like to welcome <u>Abigail Brewer</u>, our summer Communications and GIS Intern. Abigail is a Master's student at the UNC School of Media and Journalism, where she studies strategic communication with a focus in science communication. This summer, Abigail will be utilizing ArcGIS Online and ESRI Storymap tools to showcase our past and present projects, as well as assisting with communication and outreach activities.

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#### APNEP-funded Shad in the Classroom Featured in Coastal Review Online

"American shad are a schooling fish, and North Carolina is taking that literally. This spring, students across the state are raising and releasing American shad as part of the Shad in the Classroom program."

**Read more** 

#### **APNEP Committee Updates**

This month, APNEP staff and partners participated in an APNEP-hosted NOAA workshop on planning and facilitating collaborative meetings. APNEP's <u>Water Resources Monitoring</u> <u>and Assessment Team</u> also met in May to refine their list of ecological indicators for future monitoring and assessment efforts in the Albemarle-Pamlico region.



#### **Upcoming Events & Meetings**

All meetings associated with APNEP's committees, Action Teams, and Monitoring &

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  - June 4th, 10:00am 4:00pm | <u>APNEP Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Action</u> <u>Team Meeting</u> (Washington, NC)
  - June 6th-7th | <u>NC Aquatic Data Hub Eastern NC Workshop</u> (Edgecombe Cooperative Extension, Tarboro NC)

# **Soundings Blog**



#### Managing North Carolina's Coastal Fisheries

May 22nd - How in the world are North Carolina's coastal Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs) developed? APNEP Watershed Manager Trish Murphey explains the process in our newest Soundings blog post.

**Read more** 

### **Current Grant Opportunities**



- June 29 <u>Community Forest and Open Space</u> <u>Conservation Program</u>
- July 10 Reducing Marine Plastic Pollution
- July 29 <u>NOAA Fisheries Saltonstall-Kennedy</u>
  <u>Program</u>

**Grant Details** 



#### Sound Rivers' Swim Guide Initiative Combines Water Quality Monitoring and Citizen Science

APNEP is providing funding to <u>Sound Rivers</u> to help initiate Swim Guide, a regional, citizen science water quality monitoring program, in high-traffic swimming areas along the Tar-Pamlico and Neuse Rivers not currently monitored for harmful bacteria. Swim Guide interns and volunteers will test 20 sites weekly from June 1st to August 31st and notify the public of any health concerns.

Learn more

#### What We're Reading

- <u>ASMFC Habitat Committee Revisits 20-year Policy on Submerged Aquatic</u>
  <u>Vegetation</u>
- <u>'We're going to have a different river.' Without Milburnie Dam, the Neuse</u> comes alive.
- EnviroAtlas in the Classroom: New K-16 Lesson Plans that Empower Tomorrow's Decision-Makers
- <u>Two decades of tropical cyclone impacts on North Carolina's estuarine carbon,</u> <u>nutrient, and phytoplankton dynamics: implications for biogeochemical cycling</u> <u>and water quality in a stormier world</u>



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