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

# **Sound Stories**

September 2018



While Hurricane Florence is long gone, large portions of the Albemarle-Pamlico region are still dealing with the storm's aftermath. Our partners have been hard at work dealing with Florence, from risk communication before, during, and after the event, to identifying short-and long-term impacts to communities and ecosystems. Many have been personally impacted by the storm, yet they persevere in their unwavering professional commitment to protect and restore the Albemarle-Pamlico region.

Our thoughts are with the communities impacted by the storm as they begin to rebuild

of the hurricane, or to <u>other organizations</u> looking for donations, supplies, or volunteers. Many of our partners are continuing their work to restore and protect the estuary, and they can always use support as well.

Long-term environmental impacts to the Albemarle-Pamlico region due to Hurricane Florence are still unknown, although water quality issues from a myriad of sources continue to come to light. An online tool, the NC Department of Environmental Quality's Dashboard, hosts the latest information about reported issues, including a map tracking the status of hurricane-related environmental incidents. We at APNEP will continue to do our best to assist our partners in their work dealing with impacts from this storm event, as well as their long-term planning efforts to ensure that the communities of our region can be as prepared as possible for future storms.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Crowell

APNEP Director

## **APNEP News**



Introduction and panel discussion from "Sea Level Rise and Security in the Southeast" event.

## Sparks Discussion about Military and Civilian Resilience Efforts

"People, water, and change." Those three words were how retired Rear Admiral David W. Titley, US Navy, summarized the components of climate change at September 24th's "Sea Level Rise and Security in the Southeast: Implications for the Military and Coastal Communities" event, which was organized by the NC Department of Environmental Quality, Center for Climate and Security, NC Sea Grant, and APNEP.

After an introduction by NC DEQ's Chief Deputy Secretary and APNEP Leadership Council member John Nicholson, participants watched a screening of the film *Tidewater*, which explores the efforts of military and civilian leaders in Hampton Roads, Virginia, to deal with the effects of sea level rise in their community. Afterwards, panelists, including APNEP Leadership Council Co-Chair and Town of Nags Head Principal Planner Holly White and STAC member Dr. Reide Corbett, discussed issues at the intersection of sea level rise and coastal communities, including the need in long-term planning to consider sea level rise in concert with other physical, environmental, and cultural factors, as well as the need for community buy-in before implementing on-the-ground resiliency projects.

If you weren't able to attend in person, *Tidewater* is <u>available for viewing</u> and the panel discussion <u>has been recorded</u>. For details, including panelist biographies, visit <a href="http://bit.ly/2DhX3aZ">http://bit.ly/2DhX3aZ</a>.

Watch the panel discussion



# What has APNEP been up to? View our 2012-2018 funded projects in our new interactive map!

Our new ArcGIS Online-based map of APNEP-funded projects from 2012-2018 is up and running on our website! Thanks to our 2018 Summer Intern Abigail Brewer for creating this great resource for us. With this map, APNEP hopes make information about the diverse and innovative projects we've helped to fund throughout our watershed available to the public.

Check out the map

#### **APNEP Committee Updates**

**September 12th -** APNEP's <u>Science & Technical Advisory Committee</u> meeting in Beaufort was canceled due to preparations for Hurricane Florence. The STAC meeting will be rescheduled in the coming months.

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#### **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 <a href="mailto:apnep@ncdenr.gov">apnep@ncdenr.gov</a>.

- October 5th, 1:00pm 2:00pm | <u>APNEP Wetland Resources Monitoring & Assessment Team Meeting</u> (Teleconference, contact <u>apnep@ncdenr.gov</u> for details)
- October 19th, 10:30am 12:00pm | <u>APNEP Aquatic Fauna Monitoring & Assessment Team Meeting</u> (Teleconference, contact <u>apnep@ncdenr.gov</u> for details)
- October 23rd, 10:00am 3:00pm | <u>APNEP Engagement & Stewardship</u>
   Action Team Meeting (University of Mount Olive, New Bern)
- October 30th, TBD | <u>APNEP Ecological Flows Action Team Meeting</u> (Location TBD)
- November 20th, 9:00am 4:00pm | <u>APNEP Leadership Council Meeting</u> (Corolla, NC)

## **Current Grant Opportunities**



November 20 - NC Sea Grant Community Collaborative
Research Grant Program
February 4 - 2019 Healthy Watersheds Consortium
Grants

**Grant Details** 

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# Soundings Blog



September 26th - APNEP is excited to announce that an interactive map of funded projects from 2012 through 2018 is now available on our website! Through this ArcGIS Online-based map, APNEP hopes to showcase the diverse and innovative projects we've funded throughout the watershed.

Read the blog post

# **Partner Spotlight**



Come to APNEP's Upcoming Ecological Flows Meeting to Hear the Results of Recent Coastal Plain

At the APNEP Ecological Flows Team meeting this October 30th, Dr. Michael O'Driscoll of East Carolina University's Coastal Water Resources Center will present the results of an APNEP-funded study synthesizing available ecological flow-related data for the Albemarle-Pamlico drainage basin. The report, commissioned by the Team in 2016, is unique because none of the existing studies from the southeast were conducted in the Albemarle-Pamlico drainage basin. The Team will discuss the report's findings and then identify next steps. Better knowledge of stream flows will help local and regional decision-makers protect the region's communities and aquatic ecosystems. For more information and details about the meeting, contact apnep@ncdenr.gov.

Read more about the Ecological Flows Team

#### What We're Reading

- <u>Speaking Mattamuskeet And Saving A Research Project</u> (NC State University)
- <u>Testing and cleaning North Carolina's water supply post-Florence could prove</u> <u>tricky.</u> A microbiologist explains why (Science)
- Surrendering to Rising Seas (Scientific American)
- Florence's Floods Reveal Exposure of Rural Areas to Climate Change (Scientific American)
- <u>Drones help ODU researchers examine Hampton Roads' changing shorelines</u> (Virginian Pilot)











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