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Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP)  
October 2018

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## The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership

# Sound Stories

October 2018



October has been a busy month for APNEP, with a total of seven committee meetings held throughout the month on topics as diverse as aquatic fauna monitoring, low impact development, and contaminant management. This month's Monitoring and Assessment Team meetings have helped APNEP staff to narrow down our list of ecological indicators for the region; we plan to use the final set of indicators to monitor the state of Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system.

The APNEP Action Team meetings this month included a kickoff meeting for the Water

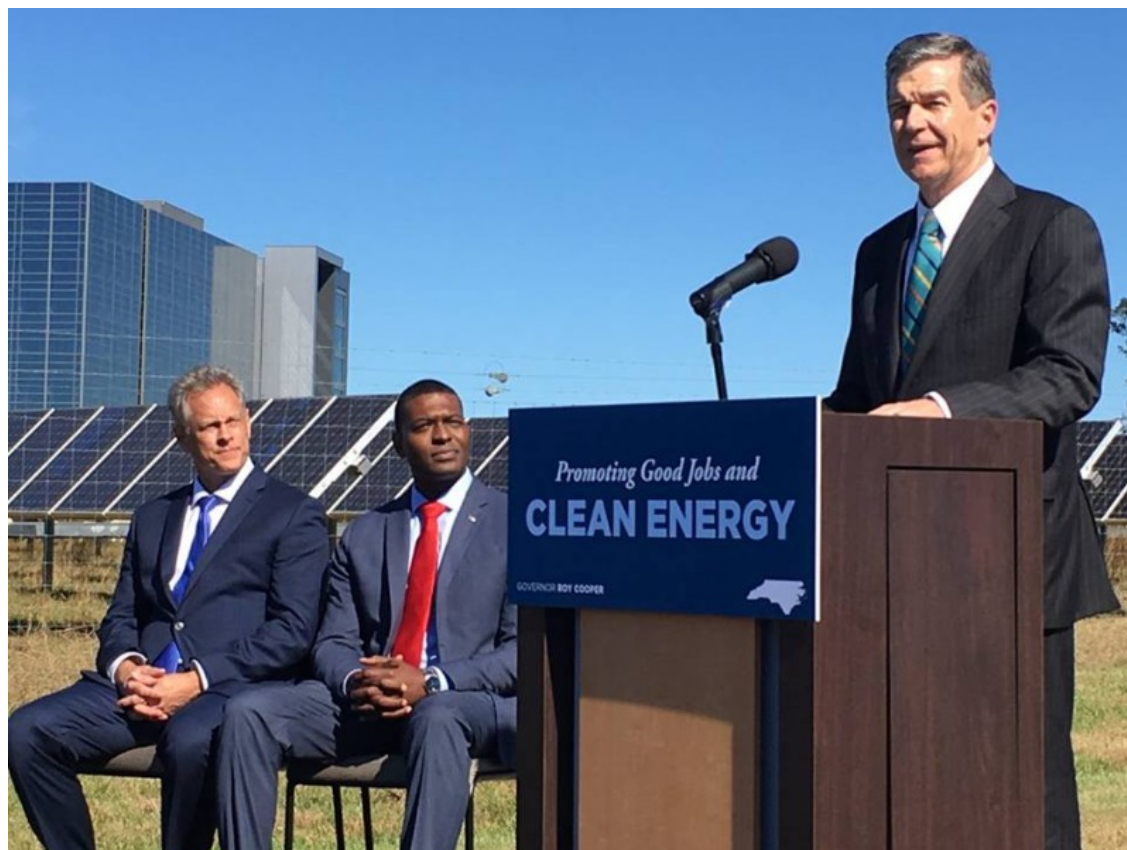
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[Stewardship](#) Teams. Using feedback from our Team members, we'll be working to develop plans for how we can implement each group's [Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan](#) Actions in a way that has the greatest positive impact for both the region and for our partners.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Crowell  
APNEP Director

## APNEP News



### North Carolina Commits to Clean Energy Economy to Combat Climate Change, Create Jobs

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to a cleaner future for all North Carolinians. In addition to creating the North Carolina Climate Change Interagency Council, the Order directs all cabinet agencies to integrate climate mitigation and resiliency planning into their policies, programs and operations.

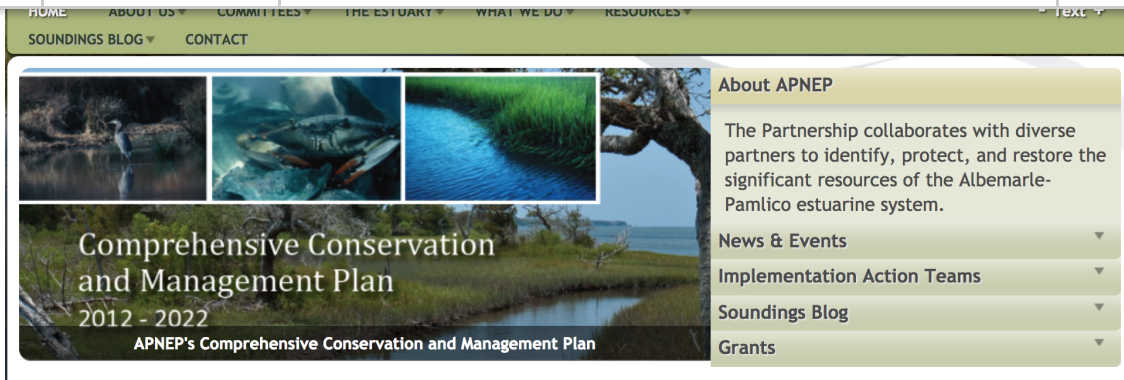
Read Executive Order #80 here: <https://bit.ly/2qhDlxt>

[Learn More](#)



## Partners Continue to Come Together for Hurricane Recovery

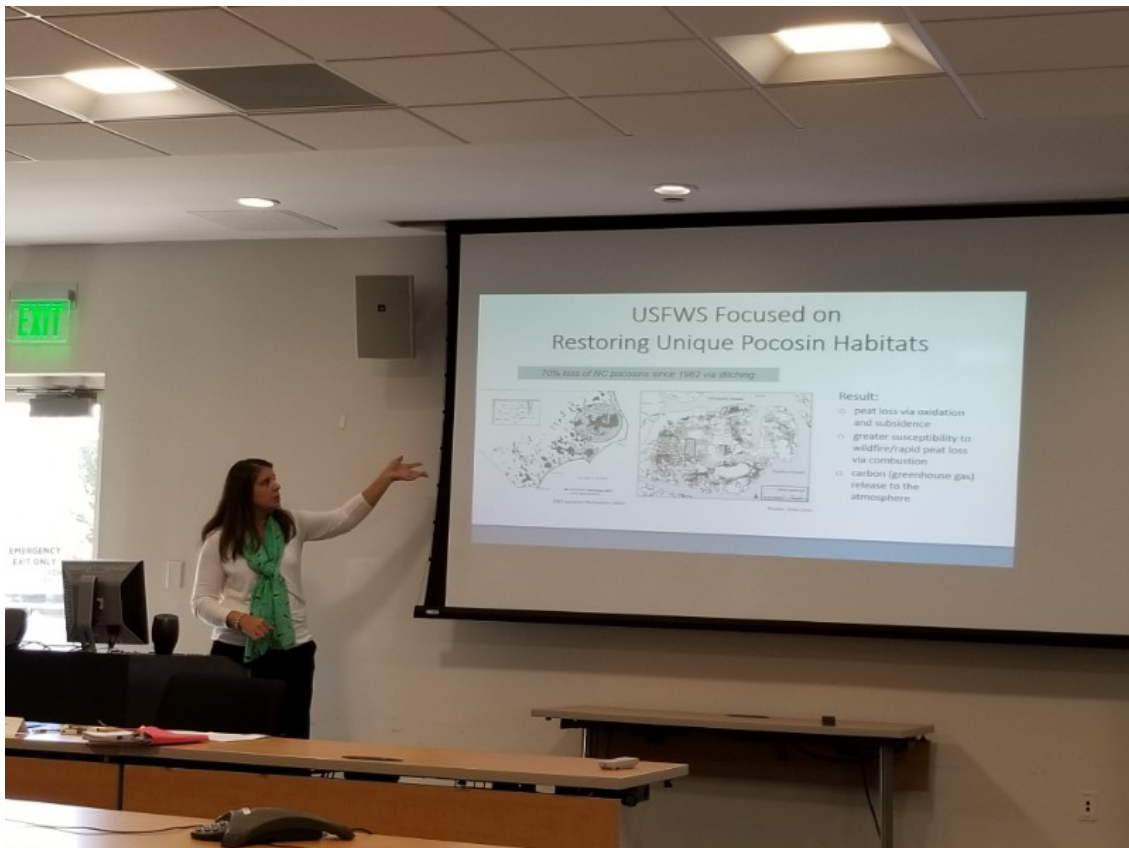
Across the Albemarle-Pamlico region, many continue to rebuild in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, our host agency, [continues to track agency efforts](#) to address hurricane-related environmental incidents and is making strides in addressing those that require urgent action. While the needs across the region continue to be great, the response from partners and individuals has been equally immense. You can visit the [State of North Carolina's Disaster Assistance webpage](#) to find ways to support those impacted by the hurricane, such as volunteer and donation opportunities, as well as a list of helpful resources.



## APNEP's Website is Getting a New Look and Feel!

APNEP is excited to announce that we'll be updating the look, feel, and content on our website over the next few months! We expect to unveil our new site sometime in February 2019. To start us off, we're asking for your help - we've created a short survey that will help us make sure our site is easy to navigate. If you have a moment, please help us out by taking the survey!

[Take the Survey](#)



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## Holds Kickoff Meeting

As part of the state's new climate initiatives, NCDEQ will be collaborating with interdisciplinary partners to build community and ecosystem resiliency. The carbon sequestration potential of coastal wetlands was highlighted in the inaugural meeting of NCDEQ's Natural & Working Lands Stakeholder group, which met October 22. Pocosin wetlands were featured due to their role as carbon sponges, and opportunities associated with ongoing restoration efforts led by the USFWS and other partners in the region was discussed.

Over the next year, the Stakeholder Group will develop a plan that identifies [opportunities](#) for natural and working lands, prioritizes pathways for public and private lands, and identifies resources needed to implement the various pathways. We look forward to coordinating with APNEP partners to identify priorities and focus areas in our region.

[Learn more](#)

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## APNEP Committee Updates

**October 5th** - APNEP's [Wetland Resources Monitoring and Assessment Team](#) met to determine which wetland indicators are highest priority for drafting APNEP assessments during this quarter.

**October 16th** - APNEP's [Contaminant Management Action Team](#) reconvened to discuss gaps and needs in the Albemarle-Pamlico region related to their CCMP Actions.

**October 18th** - APNEP's [Decision Support Tools Action Team](#) met and discussed needs for data management tools, including regional LiDAR data as well as the possibility of a collaborative database to house regional monitoring data.

**October 19th** - APNEP's [Aquatic Fauna Monitoring and Assessment Team](#) met to determine which aquatic fauna indicators are highest priority for drafting APNEP assessments during this quarter.

**October 23rd** - APNEP's [Engagement & Stewardship Action Team](#) met to provide feedback on an inventory of ongoing efforts in the region related to the Team's CCMP Actions, as well as to discuss APNEP's plans to develop an evaluation rubric for funding engagement & stewardship proposals.

**October 24th** - APNEP's Water Quality - Low Impact Development Action Team met for their kickoff meeting. The Team discussed regional needs related to the Team's CCMP Actions, including outreach and engagement strategies for LID projects.

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discussed plans for Phase II which could include data analysis and pilot studies.



## 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](mailto:apnep@ncdenr.gov).

- **November 20th, 9:00am - 4:00pm** | [APNEP Leadership Council Meeting](#) (Corolla, NC)

## Current Grant Opportunities



November 20 - [NC Sea Grant Community Collaborative Research Grant Program](#)

December 3 - [SARP Aquatic Habitat Restoration Program FY2019 USFWS/NFHP Funding Opportunity](#)

February 4 - [2019 Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grants](#)

[Grant Details](#)

## Partner Spotlight

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## NC Clean Water Trust Fund Grants Management System Training

Interested in applying for a [N.C. Clean Water Management Trust Fund](#) grant this upcoming year? Save the date for their Grants Management System Training on Monday, December 3rd - available both in-person in Raleigh or remotely!

[Read more about the Training](#)

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## What We're Reading

- [Sea level rise impacts on rural coastal social-ecological systems and the implications for decision-making](#) (Environmental Science & Policy)
- [Protecting wetlands helps communities reduce damage from hurricanes and storms](#) (The Conversation)
- [In Canada, the Search for a 'Phrag' Destroyer](#) (Undark Magazine)
- [North Carolina Wetlands Website](#) (NC Division of Water Resources)



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