

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership

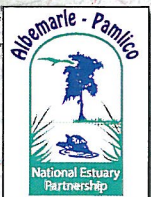
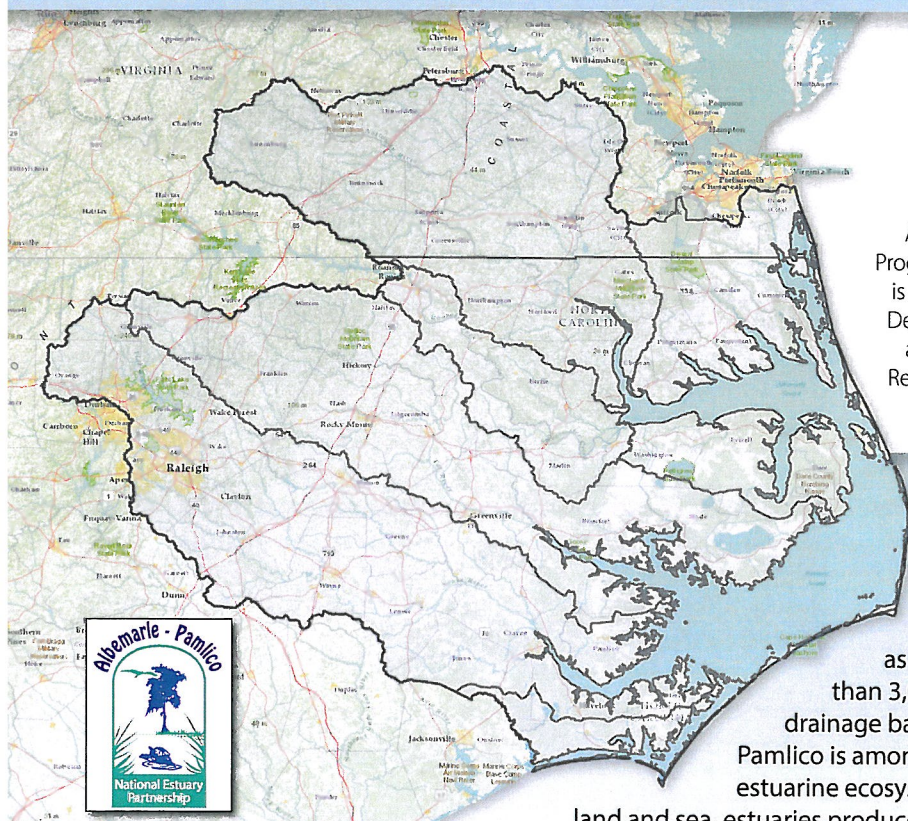
Our mission:

To identify, restore and protect the significant resources of the Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system.

Our approach:

The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership pursues its mission with guidance and support from its advisory bodies, regional partners and its ecosystem-based Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. APNEP's initiatives are guided by input from a diverse group of regional partners and stakeholders. Together, we work to protect and enhance one of the nation's most valuable estuaries.

APNEP's comprehensive approach is designed to preserve the integrity of the entire estuarine ecosystem, with a special emphasis on improving water quality in the region's rivers and sounds.



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APNEP was among the first of 28 National Estuary Programs established by the Clean Water Act. APNEP is a cooperative effort jointly supported by the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. Financial support is provided by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Albemarle-Pamlico estuary was designated as "an estuary of national significance" in 1987, and it continues to be recognized as a nationally important resource through its recent designation as one of "America's Great Waters." With more than 3,000 square miles of estuarine waters and a drainage basin of 28,000 square miles, the Albemarle-Pamlico is among the nation's largest and most significant estuarine ecosystems. Due to the mixing of nutrients from

land and sea, estuaries produce more food per acre than even the richest farmland. Estuaries provide habitat for 75 percent of America's commercial fish catch and between 80 and 90 percent of America's recreational fishing catch. In North Carolina the Albemarle-Pamlico estuary supports billions of dollars of economic activity per year through industries including commercial and recreational fishing, tourism and shipping

Science and Technology Initiatives

APNEP's science and technology initiative engages experts from many disciplines to support ecosystem-based management approaches in the Albemarle-Pamlico region.

For more information, visit portal.ncdenr.org/web/apnep/scitech.

Science & Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)

The STAC provides scientific and technical guidance to APNEP on measures to restore, protect and monitor the natural resources of the Albemarle-Pamlico region. Scientists and technical experts may indicate their interest in serving by sending a vitae or resume to APNEP's program scientist. Service on the STAC requires a moderate time commitment. Meetings are open to the public, and visiting scientists are especially welcome. For more information visit portal.ncdenr.org/web/apnep/stac.

Monitoring and Assessment Teams

APNEP's monitoring and assessment teams play a key role in APNEP's monitoring design and implementation. The teams also work with the STAC and APNEP staff to develop and review ecosystem assessments, which provide a foundation for the program's decision-making efforts. Scientists and technical experts may indicate their interest in serving by sending a vitae or resume to APNEP's program scientist. Service with a team requires a minimal time commitment, and all demonstrating appropriate levels of expertise are welcome. For more information, visit portal.ncdenr.org/web/apnep/teams.



Grants

APNEP occasionally offers grants for applied scientific research in the Albemarle-Pamlico region. For notification of grant opportunities, please join the APNEP listserv at www.apnep.org or follow us on Facebook or Twitter. APNEP also maintains a list of open grants and several grant databases at portal.ncdenr.org/web/apnep/grants.

Letters of Support

APNEP is pleased to offer letters of support for applied research initiatives that improve our understanding of the Albemarle-Pamlico region. Research objectives should align with management actions in APNEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. Please contact APNEP's program scientist for details.

Research Reports

APNEP has financed more than 100 applied research studies since its inception in 1987. These reports are viewable online and available in a searchable database. Visit portal.ncdenr.org/web/apnep/reports.



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