NEUSE RIVER BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Lenior County Cooperative Extension ServiceBldg.
1719 Hwy. 11/55
Kinston, NC

March 19, 1999
9:30am

AGENDA

9:30am	Welcome	Chairman Bill Ritchie
9:35	Self-Introductions	All
9:40	Acceptance of Minutes (10/22/98)	Chairman Ritchie
10:00	By-Laws Amendment -change of procedure for voting/decision-making	Dr. John Costlow
10:30	Resolutions: -Non-point Runoff of Silt into NC Waters -Provide Regular Testing of Groundwater within the Neuse River Basin	Chairman Ritchie
11:00	Demonstration Project Concept -Discussion of proposal entitled "Surrogate Treatment of Non-point Sources of Pollution" as presented at NRBRC Executive Committee Meeting on 3/4/99	Chairman Ritchie
12:30	Old Business -Regional Council Vacancies -Coordinating Council Update	 Joan Giordano Chairman Ritchie
	Informational Items: -Commendation Letters for Former NRBRC members E.T. Iseley and John Cook -Invitation to DENR Secretary Wayne McDevitt	Chairman Ritchie
1:00	Adjourn	

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MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Ritchie at 9:40 am. He welcomed those in attendance and asked that self-introductions be made. (See Attachment A).

The first agenda item, By-Laws Amendment (for changing the procedure for voting/decision-making) was briefly discussed. Because Dr. Costlow brought the recommendation for the amendment, and he was unable to be present at the meeting, the issue was tabled for the next meeting.

Chairman Ritchie then directed the group's attention to the two resolutions mailed in the 3/19/99 meeting packet: ***"Non-point Runoff of Silt into NC Waters" and "Providing Regular Testing of Groundwater within the Neuse River Basin."*** Discussion ensued. Not having a quorum present, the vote to endorse or amend the resolutions was put aside pending sufficient attendance to do so. A quorum was not attained at the meeting.

Chairman Ritchie then presented the draft demonstration project proposal entitled ***"Surrogate Treatment of Non-point Sources of Pollution"*** which was also included in the meeting packet. Those members present shared in the discussion offering comments on how the proposal should be devised. However, because there was not a quorum present further action was not taken. He asked that comments from those not present be communicated to him, Guy Stefanski or Joan Giordano.

Joan Giordano gave an update on the status of the Neuse Regional Council vacancies. She reported that vacancy letters were sent by DENR Assistant Secretary for the Environment, Bill Holman and Chairman Ritchie, to 14 of the 17 counties within the Neuse basin. Of the 14 counties contacted, there existed 11 municipal vacancies and 9 county vacancies. She further explained that 4 counties responded, but 3 of the 4, reappointed persons they had previously named. She added that she hoped the recent communication with the counties would induce the absent appointed members to resume their participation. The 4th response indicated that county would take up the matter of filling their vacancy during late March or early April.

Chairman Ritchie then reported on the last Coordinating Council meeting held on January 15th in River Bend, NC. He commented on the resolutions presented by the Neuse and Roanoke Regional Council chairs; the draft Memorandum of Agreement between North Carolina and Virginia; and the presentation by Drs. Hans Paerl and Joe Ramus pertaining to their proposal entitled ***"Advanced Water Quality Assessment Program"*** for which they were seeking

endorsement from the Coordinating Council.

Chairman Ritchie then circulated a draft certificate which will be sent to former NRBRC member E.T. Iseley citing his valuable participation with our Council. And lastly, Chairman Ritchie suggested that we invite DENR Secretary Wayne McDevitt to one of our future meetings to outline the organizational structure of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in order to make our inquiries and contacts more easily accomplished.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

NOTE: Immediately following the meeting Ron Fascher and Doug Greene of the US Army Corps of Engineers asked staff to distribute a letter requesting comments from agencies, interest groups and the public to identify significant water resource issues and concerns in the Neuse basin. (See Attachment B).

Attachment A

Neuse RC
Attendance List
3/19/99

NAME	AFFILIATION
Joan Giordano	NEP Staff
Guy Stefanski	NEP Staff
Sondra Spock Riggs	Commissioner of Jones NRB
Bruce Ramsey	River Bend Conservation D.
Bruce R. Whitfield	Person SWCD
Ron Fascher	Corps of Engineers
Doug Greene	Corps of Engineers
Catherine S Merz	Weyerhaeuser
Martin Lebo	Weyerhaeuser
Marguerite Whitfield	Lenoir Co. Commissioner Gov. Hunt's Appointee
Thomas McGee	Butner, Granville County

Attachment B

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WILMINGTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 1890
WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28402-1890

April 2, 1999

IN REPLY REFER TO

Planning and Environmental Branch

Dear Sir or Madam:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, in cooperation with the State of North Carolina Division of Water Resources and the Division of Water Quality, is conducting a reconnaissance study to identify needs and opportunities related to flood damage reduction, water quality improvements, and ecosystem restoration in the Neuse River Basin, North Carolina. The focus of this stage will be to: identify resource problems, needs, and opportunities; develop a study plan to identify solutions; and develop a cost-sharing agreement between Federal and non-Federal interests for conducting the study.

Water quality in the Neuse River Basin has become degraded from multiple causes, including: rapidly expanding urban growth with increasingly rapid runoff from storm events, deforestation, expanding high-density livestock operations, and aging wastewater infrastructure. Fish and wildlife populations have suffered declines in diversity and vigor and waterborne fish diseases have now become apparent, especially Pfiesteria. The State of North Carolina has designated water quality improvements in the Neuse River as an issue of highest priority and taken action to reduce nitrogen loading to the estuary.

Flow in the Neuse River has been regulated since 1983 through controlled releases from Falls Lake. The lake is owned and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is used for flood control, water supply, wildlife habitat, recreation, and downstream flow augmentation. Since Falls Lake controls less than one-third of the Neuse River drainage basin, considerable flooding has occurred during and after major storm events below Smithfield where the flood plain is broad and flat. Other concerns in the Neuse River Basin in recent years have been water supply, navigation, and recreation.

Water resource improvements will require a cooperative effort among local, State, and Federal governments and the public. Some potential measures to improve basin water quality may include flow modifications, restoration of riparian buffers and

wetlands, water treatment, and land use management. Possible solutions to reduce flooding damages include both structural measures such as dams, levees, and channel modifications and nonstructural measures such as relocation, flood proofing, and flood plain management.

At this time, we are requesting comments from agencies, interest groups, and the public to identify significant water resource issues and concerns. Please give serious attention to your comments, as they will be used to help develop the plan. Please provide written comments within 30 days from the date of this letter. Comments should be addressed to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District
Attention: Mr. Doug Greene
Post Office Box 1890
Wilmington, North Carolina 28402-1890

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call Mr. Doug Greene, Planning Services Section, at (910) 251-4553. We appreciate your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,

for Ronald G. Fascher
Chief, Planning and
Environmental Branch

Draft

RESOLUTION: NON-POINT RUNOFF OF SILT INTO NC WATERS

WHEREAS, development throughout North Carolina over the past two decades has resulted in significant increases in population, industry, intensive livestock operations and tourism; and

WHEREAS, statewide efforts to reduce the contamination of surface waters by nutrients and toxic chemicals resulting from these increases are currently underway by the Executive and Legislative branches of the government working with a number of citizen groups; and

WHEREAS, the continuing development throughout North Carolina has resulted in disturbance of the existing ground-cover for the construction of private dwellings, commercial establishments, and roads; and

WHEREAS, the disturbance of existing ground-cover with the subsequent exposure of the soil has resulted in large amounts being incorporated as silt into non-point source runoff associated with rain; and

WHEREAS, silt-laden runoff channeled from headwaters into major rivers throughout NC has resulted in dramatic changes in clarity and flow of surface waters; and

WHEREAS, the existing requirements for retention of silt associated with non-point runoff through proper installation of silt-curtains have not been consistently followed; and

WHEREAS, the inconsistent and inadequate use of silt-curtains, thus permitting increases in silt-laden runoff into surface waters, has resulted in continuing reduction in water clarity and flow and has had negative impacts on faunal and floral resources in both fresh water and estuarine waters throughout NC;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is:

RESOLVED, that the Neuse River Basin Regional Council requests the Office of the Governor charge the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the NC Department of Transportation to determine what measures will be taken to provide for the regular and consistent utilization of silt-curtains, and other appropriate BMPs, at all construction sites throughout the state in compliance with existing state regulations.

Adopted this day of , 1999.

William H. Ritchie, Jr., Chairman
Neuse River Basin Regional Council

John D. Costlow, Vice-Chairman
Neuse River Basin Regional Council

J. Giordano
APPS
(252) 975-3716
as requested
JWC

John D. Costlow

201 Ann Street
Beaufort, N.C. 28516

(919) 728
(919) 728

RESOLUTION: TO PROVIDE REGULAR TESTING OF GROUND WATER WITHIN THE NEUSE RIVER BASIN

WHEREAS: The population and industry, commerce, agriculture, and tourism within North Carolina have expanded over the past decade; and

WHEREAS: Growth has resulted in increased utilization of ground waters for a variety of societal needs; and

WHEREAS: This increased utilization may have been accompanied by increases in discharges of potentially hazardous materials into the ground waters of the Neuse River Basin:

WHEREAS: The introduction of potentially hazardous materials, some of which may have a long residence time in the soil and provide for infusion of these elements into the aquifers of eastern North Carolina, could represent a continuing and increasing health hazard to citizens of the Neuse River Basin;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS:

RESOLVED, that the Neuse River Basin Regional Council requests the Office of the Governor charge the NC Board of Science and Technology, or any other qualified body within North Carolina, to conduct a review of the degree to which regular monitoring of the ground water within the Neuse River Basin is undertaken, indicating in bi-annual reports to the Council the presence and quantity of potentially hazardous materials which may be found, and indicating in what way the responsible authorities of the State plan to reduce or prevent the introduction of these elements into the ground waters throughout the basin.

______________________ Chairman,
William Ritchie — Neuse River Basin Regional Council — ____________ Date

____
Caroline Parker — Secretary, Neuse River Basin Regional Council — ____________ Date

Draft

SURROGATE TREATMENT OF NON POINT SOURCES DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM
Neuse River Basin Action Demonstration Project

May 1999

I Background. The Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) of the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program (A-P NEP) was officially endorsed by the Governor of North Carolina and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in November 1994. In September 1994, EPA awarded the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) a grant to demonstrate specific recommendations or action items contained in the CCMP. The Division of Water Quality (DWQ) is administering the grant and has oversight of the CCMP implementation process. The EPA grant has been extended to September 30, 1999 and the total amount of the grant is $1,755,363.

Funds from the existing EPA grant have been dedicated to help support local demonstration projects recommended by the Regional Councils. Total funds available for demonstration projects are approximately $130,400. Individual projects approved for funding are eligible to receive a total of $26,080 for a single watershed and $52,160 for a combined watershed project.

In order to be eligible for funding, proposed demonstration projects must address a priority problem identified in the CCMP and involve the demonstration of specific management or engineering strategies (not planning or assessment activities). Each Regional Council may submit its own demonstration project proposal or work with another Council(s) with similar problems and submit a combined proposal. This proposal responds to these Criteria.

II Project Introduction. Non point source pollutions continue to be the most wide spread source of water quality problems in the state and accounts for approximately two-thirds of the pollution excluding rain and air. Non point sources of pollution may include septic tanks, agricultural operations, storm runoff and naturally occurring background pollution. By definition, these non point sources are just that and as such they remain the most difficult to identify, assess, and consequently to correct. This proposal addresses that concern. The purpose of this project is to validate an additional methodology to determine its effectiveness in assisting identification of non point pollution sources. This proposed effort in no way competes with or duplicates existing efforts.

It is anticipated that assessment of non point sources will be assissted by the isotope study, which should provide qualitative guidance as to the make up and composition sources of pollution. It will not be able to define the quantitative amounts of these of the

various sources of pollution. The offending sources must still be located if corrective action is to be taken. To assist the accomplish of this we propose a surragate treatment of non point sources. Briefly stated, each tributary of each branch (seasonably wet or dry), stream, creek and river is to be treated as a point source thereby isolating by a process of elimination the probable source or sources of pollution.

III. Management Options Considered

No action: This action relies only on funded or exisisting programs. While several programs such the isotope have a great deal of potential, there is a need to expand identitification efforts if the greatest benifits are to be derived from limited resources. Timeliness demands concurent and complimentory action.

The proposed action should result in an increase in the discovery and detection of non point sources of pollution and requires no technilogical break throughs. This is a tactical approach which relies primarily on relative changes in each tributaries contribution to the pollution or lack of same to the recieving body of water. The cost and risk are modest, the potential payoff is great.

I V .

Project Plan

WHO:

The project will be a joint effort between the Neuse River Basin Regional Council, the Neuse River Basin Foundation DWQ and the _____ . The River Basin Foundation River and Creek Keepers will provide additional assistance with on going monitoring.

WHAT:
Respective creek keepers will gather monthly samples from their areas.... deliver to ...assist in review of data.

WHERE:
Various locations in the Nuese River Basin plus another River Basin if teamed.

WHEN:

It will require approximately _____ months for site selection. Sample monthly. Entire project to take _____ years.

HOW:
Need to describe sampling and other procedures.

The project leader (manager) will submit quarterly reports documenting costs,, problems, and monitoring results. It is anticipated that this report will include extensive documentation

which should be useful in promoting other such projects if the proposed project is deemed successful. A Final Report will include methods, results, costs, and estimates of region-wide implementation.

V. Review

A team member will be designated as the project manager, and will coordinate volunteer efforts, document project progress.

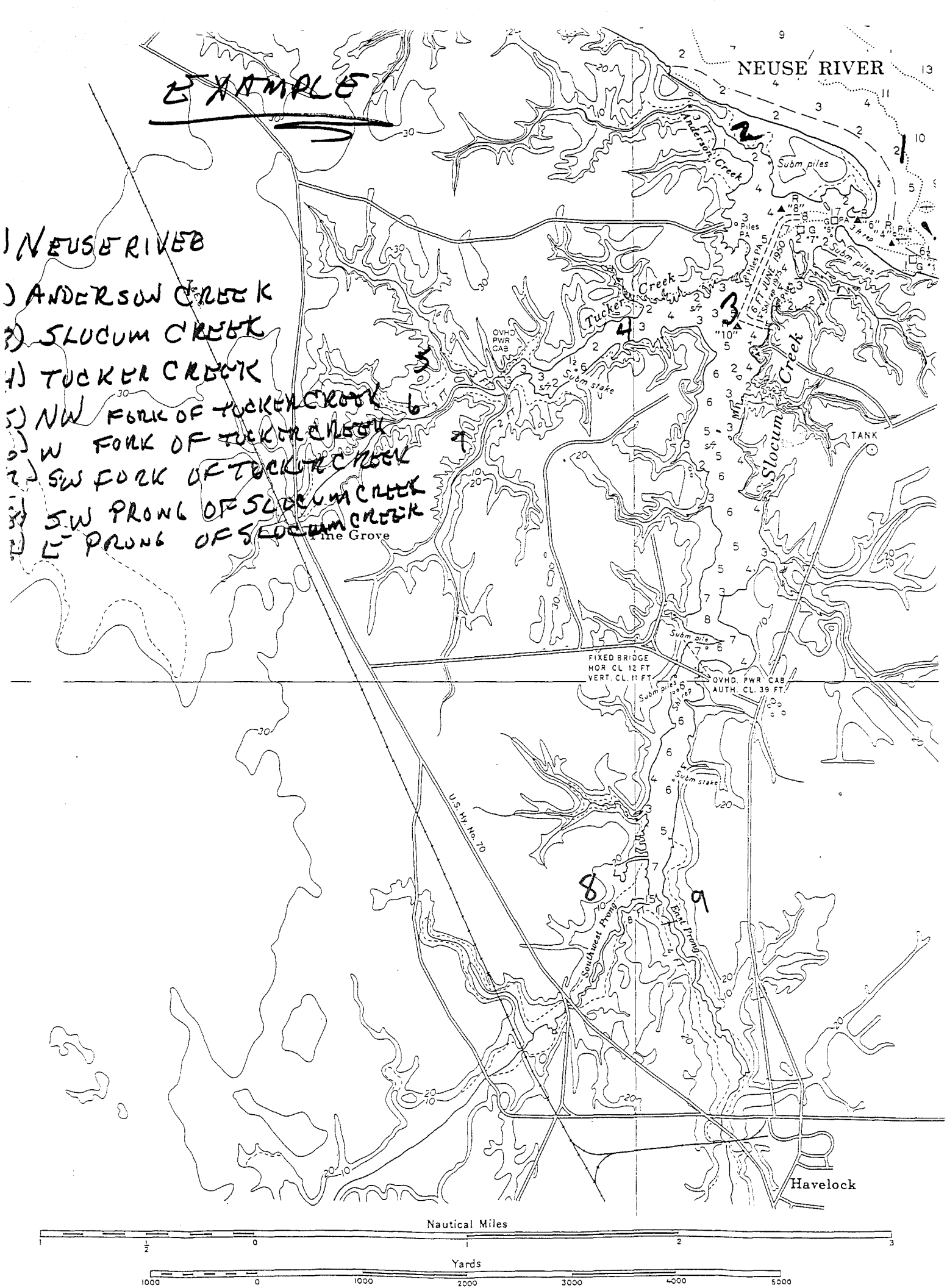
VI. Basinwide and National Application

VII. Cost Estimate for Basinwide Application

Costs for individual installations are minimal, River Keeper has boat will travel. It is also likely that several larger projects will have to be implemented and monitored so that the scientific community would openly and enthusiastically endorse such measures. The proposed annual report would attempt to arrive at basinwide cost estimates for use on both a wide and selective basis depending on the results.

VIII Project Budget (To be determined)

Testing	$20,000
Monitoring and Volunteer Supplies	950
Project Oversight, Volunteer Training, Annual Report	4,000
Contract Administration	250
Total	$ 25,200
Request	$ 25,200
Match (in-kind)	$ 4,000


EXAMPLE
1) NEUSE RIVER
2) ANDERSON CREEK
3) SLOCUM CREEK
4) TUCKER CREEK
5) NW FORK OF TUCKER CREEK
6) W FORK OF TUCKER CREEK
7) SW FORK OF TUCKER CREEK
8) SW PRONG OF SLOCUM CREEK
9) E PRONG OF SLOCUM CREEK
NEUSE RIVER
Anderson Creek
Subm piles
Piles PA
Tucker Creek
OVHD PWR CAB
Subm stake
Slocum Creek
TANK
Pine Grove
FIXED BRIDGE
HOR CL 12 FT
VERT CL 11 FT
OVHD. PWR CAB
AUTH. CL. 39 FT.
U.S. Hy. No. 70
Southwest Prong
East Prong
Havelock
Nautical Miles
Yards

Number of Test areas	Cost Per Test	Length of Test months	Samples Per Test Area	Total $
3	25	36	10	27000
6	25	18	10	27000
9	25	12	10	27000
6	25	36	5	27000
12	25	18	5	27000
18	25	12	5	27000
3	50	18	10	27000
2	50	36	8	28800
3	50	24	8	28800
6	50	12	8	28800

400 tests @ $50 per test = $20,000
800 tests @ $25 per test = $20,000

03/03/99

Gantt chart for NRBRC	1999							2000												2001												2002					
	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J