

NEUSE RIVER BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Lenior County Cooperative Extension Building
1791 Hwy. 11/55
Kinston, NC

October 22, 1998

AGENDA

9:30	Call to Order & Welcome	Chairman Bill Ritchie
9:35	Introductions	ALL
9:40	Briefing on Coordinating Council Meeting Held on 10-16-98 in Raleigh	Chairman Ritchie
9:55	Briefing on NRBRC Executive Committee Meeting Held on 9-25-98 in River Bend	Chairman Ritchie
10:05	Overview of Section 319 NPS Demonstration Projects in the Neuse Basin	Linda Hargrove (Division of Water Quality)
10:15	Introduction to the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program	Deborah Gaul (DSWC)
10:25	<u>DEVELOPING THE NRBRC's DEMONSTRATION PROJECT</u>	
	Discussion with Invited Guests from:	
	NEUSE RIVER FOUNDATION NC COASTAL FEDERATION NC ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND ENO RIVER ASSOCIATION	
12:00	Old Business: Discussion of Draft Resolution entitled, "Nonpoint Runoff of Silt into NC Waters"	Vice-Chairman Costlow
12:15	New Business/Public Comment 1- APES Conference in New Bern on November 19-20, 1998 2- Plans for Next Meeting	Chairman Ritchie
12:30	Adjourn	

NEUSE RIVER BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL
LENIOR COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION BUILDING
October 22, 1998

MINUTES

The Neuse River Basin Regional Council met on October 22nd in Lenior County. In attendance were:

Bruce Whitfield
*Andy Coburn
*Catherine Merz
*Martin Lebo
John Costlow
Bill Ritchie
*Deborah Gaul
*Doug Rader

*Joan Giordano
*Guy Stefanski
*Linda Hargrove
*Heather Beard
Caroline Parker
Norman Ricks
Sondra Riggs
*Wayne Cash

*Denotes staff or visitor

Chairman Ritchie called the meeting to order. The minutes were approved as received. Mr. Ritchie asked all attendees to introduce themselves. He then reported on the Coordinating Council meeting held in Raleigh on October 16, 1998. Chairman Ritchie then asked Joan Giordano how we are progressing with getting replacement members on the Regional Council. Joan reported that all the Regional Councils need members, and the requests for all the councils will be made at the same time which should be very soon. Sondra Riggs commented that it is very hard to get people to attend the Neuse River Council of Governments (NRCOG) meetings also.

Mr. Ritchie read a letter from Governor Hunt supporting the work of the Regional Councils. Dr. Costlow suggested we write directly to the various departments or organizations to whom our resolutions are directed. Mr. Ritchie suggested that our resolutions be written in such a manner that no response, indicates approval. Mr. Ritchie reported on the Executive Committee meeting held on September 25th in River Bend. He explained the idea developed at this meeting was that we consider forming a partnership with other groups having similar interests and concerns as ours. We will have \$25,000 for a project and we need to use this to the best advantage.

Linda Hargrove, DWQ, gave an overview of Section 319 NPS Demonstration Projects in the Neuse basin. (See Attachment A) Discussion followed relative to the idea of considering streams that enter the Neuse as "point sources" of pollutants. This would lead to a systematic investigation progressing upstream to locate problem areas for possible remediation. Discussion followed which was general in nature.

Deborah Gaul, DSWC, talked about the NC Agricultural Cost Share Program. They receive 8.7 million for statewide use each year, and 1.75 million to be used for BMPs with livestock operations in the Neuse basin.

Presentations followed by invited guests representing compatible organizations. Heather Beard of the Neuse River Foundation discussed several possible joint projects and their estimated costs. Doug Rader of the NC Environmental Defense Fund presented ideas of possible areas of cooperation with his organization, and Wayne Cash of the Eno River located close to streams. There was discussion about the need to prioritize in order to settle on a needed and do-able project. EDF is willing to help with this process.

Under Old Business Dr. Costlow suggested our draft resolution entitled "Non-Point Runoff of Silt into NC Waters" be distributed to members and voted on at our next regular meeting. Doug Rader suggested adding "and other appropriate BMPs" after the words "silt curtains" in the last paragraph of the resolution. Dr. Costlow and all present agreed with his suggestion.

The meeting was adjourned.

Pre-Proposal for Regional Council
Oct. 22, 1998

Background

The Neuse River Foundation is concerned with the continued and increasing threat urbanization poses to the health of the Neuse River. The executive Summary of the 1998 Draft Neuse River Basinwide Water Quality Management Plan explains our concern. "Over 80% of the freshwater streams in the basin that have been monitored are either impaired or rated as fully supporting but threatened. A major cause of this impairment, especially in the upper basin is population growth and urbanization, and every indication is that this strong growth will continue for decades to come." While growth will definitely impact water quality in the Neuse, NRF believes that those impacts can be greatly minimized by utilizing available technologies. There is a wealth of information on environmentally responsible practices and technologies that can be used by the development community to reduce their negative impact on water quality. However, this information has not broken the barrier between design and use in the Neuse River basin. Through the project detailed below, the Neuse River Foundation hopes to help the development community bridge that gap, moving environmentally friendly design and construction from the exception to status quo.

Proposal

The Neuse River Foundation will organize three workshops for members of the development community to be held in Wayne, Johnston, and Wake Counties.

Emphasis:

- Results oriented workshops where participants are actively involved in discussion that gives us a better understanding of the hurdles to river friendly development and ideas for how to overcome those hurdles.
- Focus on the practical and implementable.

Objectives:

- Introduce river friendly technologies and practices.
- Gather feedback from participants on why these practices are not currently being used.
- Identify steps that need to be taken to achieve widespread use of these practices.

Format:

- The workshops will begin with presentations of success stories- examples of innovative technologies and practices being used successfully.
- The participants will then break out into focus groups (up to 30 people per group) where they will concentrate on a specific area for improvement. For instance, potential break out groups include sediment control BMPs, reducing impervious surfaces, and stormwater runoff. A facilitator will lead each group through a discussion designed to provide feedback on what needs to be done to achieve widespread use of these practices in the development community.
- Findings will be reviewed and NRF will produce an action plan report based on the feedback. Neuse River Foundation will also perform a follow up study to see if and how practices changed after the workshop.



NC Agriculture Cost Share Program

Water Quality Improvement Purposes of Approved BMPs

Purpose: Sediment/Nutrient Delivery Reduction From Fields

BMP	Reduction of applied nutrient	Reduction of soil loss	Nutrient interception	Facilitating BMP	Life of BMP (yrs.)
Field Border	-	X	X	-	10
Filter Strip	-	X	X	-	10
Grade Stabiliz. Structure	-	-	-	X	10
Grassed Waterway	-	X	X	-	10
Nutrient Mgmt.	X	-	-	-	3
Riparian Buffer	-	X	X	-	10
Rock-lined Outlet	-	-	-	X	10
Sediment Control Basin	-	X	X	-	10
Water Control Structure	-	-	X	-	10
Streambank Stabilization	-	X	X	-	10

Purpose: Erosion Reduction/Nutrient Loss Reduction in Fields

BMP	Reduction of applied nutrient	Reduction of soil loss	Life of BMP (yrs.)
Conservation Tillage	-	X	1
Critical Area Planting	-	X	10
Cropland Conversion	X	X	10
Water Diversion	-	X	10
Long Term No-till	-	X	5
Pastureland Conversion	X	X	10
Sod-based Rotation	X	X	4 or 5
Stripcropping	X	X	5
Terraces	-	X	10

Purpose: Agricultural Chemical Pollution Prevention

BMP	Interception of chemicals	Life of BMP (yrs.)
Agri-chemical Handling Facility	X	10

Purpose: Proper Animal Waste Management

BMP	Proper mgmt. of nutrients	Reduction of soil loss	Nutrient interception	Facilitating BMP	Life of BMP (yrs.)
Animal Waste Lagoon Closure	X	-	-	-	5
Constructed wetlands	X	-	X	-	10
Controlled Livestock Lounging Area	-	X	-	X	10
Dry Manure Stack	X	-	-	-	10
Heavy Use Area Protection	-	X	-	-	10
Insect Control	-	-	-	-	5
Odor Control	-	-	-	-	1-10
Storm Water Management	X	-	-	-	10
Waste Treatment Lagoon/Storage Pond	X	-	-	-	10
Waste/animal Composter	X	-	-	-	10
Waste Application System	X	-	-	X	10

Purpose: Stream Protection from Animals

BMP	Reduction of applied nutrient	Reduction of soil loss	Facilitating BMP	Life of BMP (yrs.)
Heavy Use Area Protection	-	X	-	10
Livestock Exclusion System	X	X	-	10
Spring Development	-	-		10
Stock Trail	-	X	-	10
Stream Crossing		X	-	10
Trough or Tank	-	-	X	10
Well	-	-	X	10
Windmill	-	-	X	10

Active Section 319 Neuse River Projects

Fiscal Year	Project	Cooperator	Description	Total budget	Began	Will End
96	Goose Creek Proj	Durham SWCD	Urban stream rehabilitation in Durham	70,000	09/30/96	09/30/99
96	Stormdrain Stenciling Proj	NC CES	Statewide pollution prevention initiative to educate public on surface water pollution	102,883	06/01/96	05/31/99
96	Nutrient Management Proj	NCSU	Evaluation of fertilizer use on non-ag lands in the Neuse	66,667	09/30/96	09/30/99
96	Vermicomposting Proj	NCSU	Demonstration of the composting of swine waste with earthworms	66,667	09/30/96	09/30/99
96	Buffers, Borders, and Pastures Demo Proj	NCSU	Evaluation and demonstration of riparian buffers, field borders, and pasture management (6 sites)	378,520	09/30/96	09/30/99
97	Sedimentation Basin Design Proj	NCSU	Demonstration of an innovative sedimentation basin in Orange County	101,750	05/01/97	09/30/00
97	Upper Neuse Watershed Proj	NC CES	Analysis of the impacts of land uses on water quality in Crabtree and Swift Creeks	317,812	05/01/97	09/30/00
97	Landowner BMP Survey	NCSU	Evaluation of the adoption and public awareness of BMPs in the Neuse	113,667	05/30/97	09/30/00
97	Comprehensive Farm Planning Proj	NCSU	Development of the whole farm planning process for the three geographic regions of NC	99,918	05/01/97	09/30/00
97	Riparian Buffers and Controlled Drainage Proj	NC CES	Demonstration of riparian buffers and controlled drainage on beef and dairy land in Wayne County	332,938	05/01/97	09/30/00
97	Lower Neuse and Cape Fear Wastewater Demo Proj	NC CES	Investigation of innovative on-site wastewater BMPs in Craven and Pender Counties	361,833	08/15/97	08/14/00
98	Nutrient Loading to Septic Tanks Demo	NCSU	Inventory (mapping) and demonstration of on-site wastewater systems	257,746	TBA	TBA
98	Private Well Protection Proj	NC CES	Education of homeowners about proper well protection and groundwater quality	57,592	TBA	TBA
98	Rocky Branch Streambank Stabilization Proj	NC Sea Grant	Use of innovative bioengineering techniques on an urban stream	92,840	08/15/98	08/14/01

NC CES = NC Cooperative Extension Service

Total budget includes 40% non-federal match

(For more information contact Linda Hargrove, DWQ, at 919-733-5083 ext. 352)

Highlighted = sedimentation control

10/21/98

Active Section 319 Neuse River Projects

Section 319 is a federal source of funding for nonpoint source (NPS) pollution abatement. Section 319 has been part of the Clean Water Act since 1987. North Carolina has had a Section 319 grant program since 1989.

Grants are given for NPS water quality related projects including watershed improvement, education, and best management practice demonstration. Currently, there are five grants open with a total of thirty-five active projects statewide.

There are fourteen active projects in the Neuse River Basin. Below, you will find a table of each of those projects. Each of these projects underwent a competitive selection process through the NPS Workgroup, a multi-agency NPS management group led by DWQ. The project cooperators are required to provide 40% of the total budget. The highlighted projects have sedimentation control elements.

For further information on Section 319 or any projects mentioned below, contact Linda Hargrove of the NC Division of Water Quality at 919-733-5083 extension 352.

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 at all construction sites throughout the state in compliance with existing state regulations.

and other appropriate BMPs

Adopted this day of , 1998.

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

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

