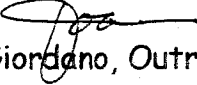


ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Public Involvement Office

MEMORANDUM

TO: Roanoke River Basin Regional Council Members

FROM:  Joan Giordano, Outreach Coordinator

SUBJ: Our Next Meeting - September 21, 2001

DATE: September 10, 2001

Hi folks,

This is a reminder that our next Roanoke River Basin Regional Council meeting is scheduled for **September 21, 2001** at **Claudine's Restaurant** in Rich Square. We will convene at **9:30 am** to conduct old business then proceed, as a group, to Lloyd Winslow's farm to tour our Riparian Zone Rehabilitation Demonstration Project. Those wishing to will then reassemble at Claudine's and have lunch.

Enclosed you will find the agenda for the upcoming meeting. Time has been scheduled for discussion on the Water Quality seminar that is tentatively scheduled for February 2002. We will review the proceedings of the seminar's planning meeting that took place at the Washington Regional office of the DENR.

Please make every effort to attend the meeting because your input and participation are important. Thank you for your continued participation and commitment to protecting the natural resources of the Roanoke River Basin and all of eastern North Carolina. I look forward to seeing you on September 21st and please drive safely.

ROANOKE RIVER BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Claudine's Restaurant
Hwy. 258
Rich Square, NC
(252) 539-2266

September 21, 2001

AGENDA

9:30 am	Welcome & Call to Order	Jerry Holloman, Chairman
9:35	Roll Call	Joan Giordano, APNEP
9:40	Consideration of Minutes from last meeting (June 1, 2001)	Chairman Holloman
9:45	Brief Discussion of Water Supply Seminar Planning Meeting Held at WaRO on August 3, 2001.	All
10:00	Lloyd Winslow Farm Tour of the Riparian Zone Rehabilitation Demonstration Project	All
11:15	Plans for Next Meeting	All
11:30	Adjourn	
12:00	Reassemble at Claudine's for Lunch (if desired)	



Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program

Public Involvement Office

MEMORANDUM

Michael F. Easley
Governor


William G. Ross Jr.
Secretary
Department of
Environment and
Natural Resources

Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D.
Acting Director
Division of Water Quality

Guy Stefanski
Program Coordinator

Joan Giordano
Outreach Coordinator

TO: Roanoke River Basin Regional Council Members

FROM: Joan Giordano  Outreach Coordinator

SUBJ: Next Meeting - November 16, 2001

DATE: October 31, 2001

This is to remind you of our next meeting scheduled for November 16th at Claudine's Restaurant in Rich Square, beginning at 9:30am. I have enclosed the agenda, and ask that you be mindful of the items dealing with nomination of officers and the discussion of proposed "collective" demonstration project ideas.

It is essential that we accomplish these things on the 16th because our by-laws state that the election of officers will occur during January of each year; and also because I would like to have your ideas for the FY '01-02 "collective" demonstration project so I can share them with the other regional councils.

Lastly, I am also enclosing the minutes of our last (9/21/01) brief meeting which was held just prior to leaving for a tour of the Winslow farm and a first-hand look at our current demonstration project.

I look forward to seeing you on the 16th and, as always, thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to protecting the natural resources of eastern North Carolina.



N. C. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

943 WASHINGTON SQUARE MALL WASHINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 27889 • PHONE: (252) 946-6481 EXT. 269 • FAX: (252) 975-3716
<http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/nep>

ROANOKE RIVER BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Claudine's Restaurant
Hwy. 258
Rich Square, NC
(252) 539-2266

November 16, 2001

AGENDA

9:30am	Welcome and Call to Order	Chairman Holloman
9:35	Acceptance of Minutes-9/21/01	Chairman Holloman
9:40	<u>OLD BUSINESS</u> Discussion: * Revisit Program of Work * Plans for Water Supply Conference	All I
10:40	<u>NEW BUSINESS</u> * Nomination of Officers * Proposed topics for Joint RC Demonstration Project	All
11:30	Public Comment	All
11:35	Plans for Next Meeting	All
11:45	Adjourn	

ROANOKE RIVER BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Claudine's Restaurant
Rich Square, NC
September 21, 2001

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jerry Holloman at 9:40am. He asked for acceptance of the minutes from the previous meeting (6/1/01) and they were accepted by acclamation following the determination of a quorum being present. (See Attachment A).

Joan Giordano gave a brief overview of the meeting held at her office in Washington relative to the proposed Water Supply Conference tentatively scheduled for February or March 2002. She agreed to the request of inviting a representative of the NC Source Water Protection Program within the Division of Environmental Health. **NOTE:** This will occur at the RRBC meeting following the November 16th meeting.

Joan also mentioned the current issue of *Coastlines*, a national publication, which featured an entire insert devoted to the RRBC demonstration project. (See Attachment B).

Following Joan's comments, Chairman Holloman gave a brief overview of the demonstration project at Lloyd Winslow's farm and what we were expected to see during the tour.

The membership adjourned to Mr. Winslow's farm for the tour.

Following the tour the group reassembled at Claudine's and debriefed. It was decided that the next meeting would occur on November 16, 2001 and that the agenda should include revisiting the RC's Program of Work to determine whether any modifications needed to be made.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10pm.

ATTENDANCE

ROANOKE RIVER BASIN
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Claudine's Restaurant
Rich Square, NC
September 21, 2001

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
1. Jerry L. HOLLOWAN	USFWS / RRMR
2. Jean Giordano	APNEP
3. Jerry Coker	Weyerhaeuser
4. Betty Sandow	APNEP
5. Jim Early	Bertie Co Prep.
6. Michael Taylor	Northampton Soil/Water Sup.
7. Wey McKeenan	Halifax County
8. James Clusland	Northampton County
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	
16.	



Albemarle-Pamlico Estuary Program

Attachment B

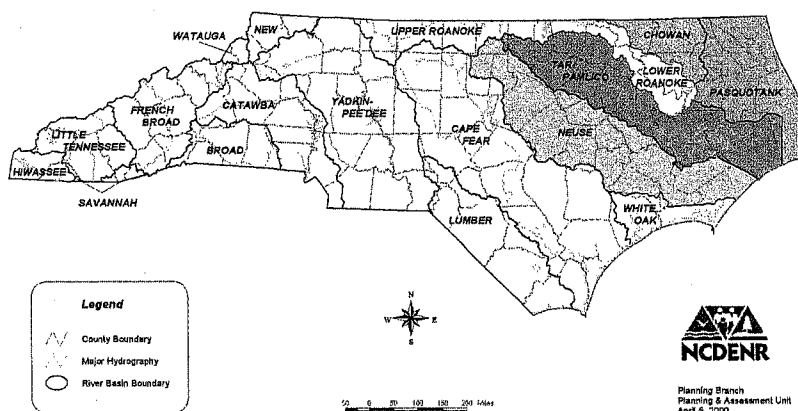
Taking Control of Nonpoint Source Pollution

BACKGROUND

The Albemarle and Pamlico Estuary forms a complex and dynamic ecosystem that provides a bounty of natural resources, essential for North Carolina's economy. The rivers, creeks, wetlands, and watershed supply food, recreation, jobs, transportation, and a vital habitat for fish and shellfish. Economically, the Albemarle and Pamlico sounds represent the region's key resource base through commercial fishing, tourism, recreation and resort development, while the watershed supports mining, forestry and agriculture. Additionally, the diverse ecological communities provide a rich natural heritage for people living in the region.

Several signs of environmental stress have been recognized in the Albemarle-Pamlico system. Among these are declining fisheries, frequent algal blooms, closure of shellfish waters, losses of historic submerged aquatic vegetation beds, and degradation of wetland, fish and upland habitats. Much of this stress can be linked to declines in water quality, due to nonpoint source pollution.

RIVER BASINS IN THE ALBEMARLE / PAMLICO REGION



The National Estuary Program

Estuaries and other coastal and marine waters are national resources that are increasingly threatened by pollution, habitat loss, coastal development, and resource conflicts. Congress established the National Estuary Program (NEP) in 1987 to provide a greater focus for coastal protection and to demonstrate practical, innovative approaches for protecting estuaries and their living resources.

As part of the demonstration role, the NEP offers funding for member estuaries to design and implement Action Plan Demonstration Projects that demonstrate innovative approaches to address priority problem areas, show improvements that can be achieved on a small scale, and help determine the time and resources needed to apply similar approaches basin-wide.

The NEP is managed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It currently includes 28 estuaries: Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds, NC; Barataria-Terrebonne Estuarine Complex, LA; Barnegat Bay, NJ; Buzzards Bay, MA; Casco Bay, ME; Charlotte Harbor, FL; Columbia River, OR and WA; Corpus Christi Bay, TX; Delaware Estuary, DE, NJ, and PA; Delaware Inland Bays, DE; Galveston Bay, TX; Indian River Lagoon, FL; Long Island Sound, CT and NY; Maryland Coastal Bays, MD; Massachusetts Bays, MA; Mobile Bay, AL; Morro Bay, CA; Narragansett Bay, RI; New Hampshire Estuaries, NH; New York-New Jersey Harbor, NY and NJ; Peconic Bay, NY; Puget Sound, WA; San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary, CA; San Juan Bay, PR; Santa Monica Bay, CA; Sarasota Bay, FL; Tampa Bay, FL; and Tillamook Bay, OR.

and least disturbed bottomland hardwood and cypress-tupelo ecosystems on the Atlantic coast of North America.

Forestry and cultivated cropland account for approximately 22 percent of the land use in the basin. Cotton, peanuts, tobacco and soybeans are among the most commonly grown crops, and only six percent of land use falls within the urban/developed category.

Because surface waters in North Carolina are classified according to their best-intended uses, water quality is determined by how well the intended uses are being met. This is known as "use support status" and is expressed as FS, for fully supporting; PS, for partially supporting; NS, for not supporting; and NR for not rated. Intended use categories include aquatic life protection/secondary recreation, primary recreation, fish consumption, shellfish harvesting, and water supply. Data are derived through water quality monitoring, fish tissue studies, benthic macroinvertebrate and fish community sampling, and are compared to use criteria. These comparisons determine the use support status or condition of the water. Water bodies receiving NS or PS ratings are considered to be impaired.

One of the greatest causes of degraded or impaired fresh or salt water is nonpoint source pollution. Forestry, construction, and urban/agricultural waste runoff all contribute significant nonpoint source pollution to the Roanoke River. The river has approximately 178 miles of streams that are impaired with respect to fish consumption and aquatic life/secondary recreation protection. While some loading of mercury and dioxin can be traced to point sources and contributes to the fish consumption impairments, the majority of the river miles are impacted by nonpoint source contributions.

Because nonpoint source pollution had been implicated in water quality impairment in this particular area of the Roanoke, the Roanoke River Basin Regional Council (RRBRC), a member of the APNEP, chose to address it in a demonstration project involving agricultural practices. Detrimental agricultural practices in this area included allowing cattle to enter the riparian zone for water, grazing and shade. The consequences of this practice resulted in cattle excrement being deposited either directly into the river or immediately adjacent to upgradient riverbank slopes. At the same time, allowing cattle access to the river resulted in severe streambank erosion and sedimentation, which further contributed to water quality degradation.

Project Implementation

The "Roanoke River Riparian Zone Rehabilitation Demonstration Project," begun in the summer of 2000 at a cost of \$42,000, consisted of fencing cattle to exclude them

from a two-mile stretch of the Roanoke River in order to reduce stream bank erosion, sedimentation and nutrient loading. To form a 150-foot buffered area extending back from the river and a 75-foot buffered area on both sides of a tributary stream, hardwood plantings were established in winter, 2001 to restore approximately 21 acres of riparian habitat. Water quality will be monitored over the next four years, in conjunction with twice-yearly ground cover inspections.

This project is a joint effort among the Fishing Creek Soil and Water Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, North Carolina Division of Water Quality, North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program, and a private landowner. As a cost-shared, cooperative effort, the project created cooperation between participating agencies and the landowner. The US Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the landowner installed project fencing in September, 2000. An existing stream crossing with eroded banks caused by cattle use was restored; this involved removing the old pipe, replacing it with new pipe measuring 42 inches, hauling soil, and placing filter fabric and gravel on the site. In addition, an existing but unused water well was repaired and new water lines were installed to new watering troughs to provide a new water source to the cattle.

Project Benefits

The landowner, cattle and the environment will all benefit from the project. The cattle will retain more of their weight by not having to travel as far to their water supply. Rotational pasture grazing is now available, drinking water for cattle will be cleaner, and there will be an annual per acre payment from the USDA for each acre of riparian buffer installed. Benefits accruing to the environment will also be realized through improved water quality and aquatic habitat downstream, and will help to forestall costlier future remedies.



ROANOKE RIVER BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Claudine's Restaurant
Rich Square, NC
September 21, 2001

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