

COASTAL REVIEW



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NEWSLETTER OF THE N.C. COASTAL FEDERATION

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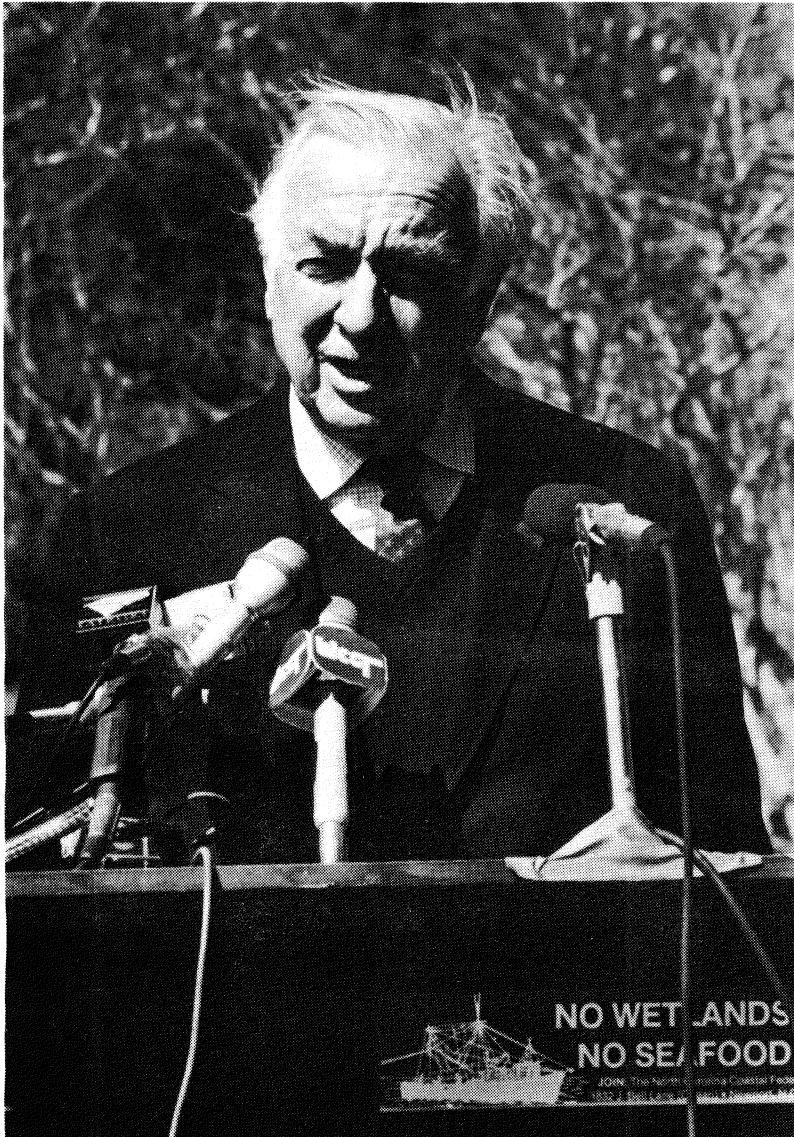


photo by Randy Davey

Cronkite Stumps For Coast

...And that's
the way it is.

(see pages 8 & 9.)

NC Coastal Federation, Inc.
1832 J. Bell Lane (Ocean)
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Public With A Special Interest

The board room is formal. Plush carpet, beautiful oak table, high back cushioned chairs, limited edition landscape prints -- the type of setting where powerful people make multi-million dollar decisions that can alter the future course of society.

It's not too hard to imagine such a board room filled with a heavy cloud of smoke -- a place where special interests meet to find new regulatory loopholes, or devise new self-serving tactics to enhance profits.

No such atmosphere develops as people fill the room. The folks sitting down at the table come from all walks of life -- retired school teacher, receptionist, technical writer, ecologist, journalist, consultant, insurance broker, high school student, private detective, and industry hunter just to describe a few. It would be hard to assemble a much more diverse group.

All are deeply concerned about what is happening to our coast. A few tell horror stories about the deteriorating shoreline and wonder why "we don't learn from the mistakes of others." However, very little time is wasted complaining.

They've come to make important decisions. For months now they have used the WRAL-TV5 board room to plan activities that will move the protection of coastal resources to the top of the public's agenda. Their activities are backed by the station's aggressive "Save Our Sounds" campaign.

Many of the participants are active members of the Coastal Federation. They are just a few of the many hundreds of people across North Carolina that are now devoting substantial time and money to participating in the management of coastal resources. They are among a growing number of people who understand that their involvement in our democratic form of government is vital if coastal resource management laws are to work as intended.

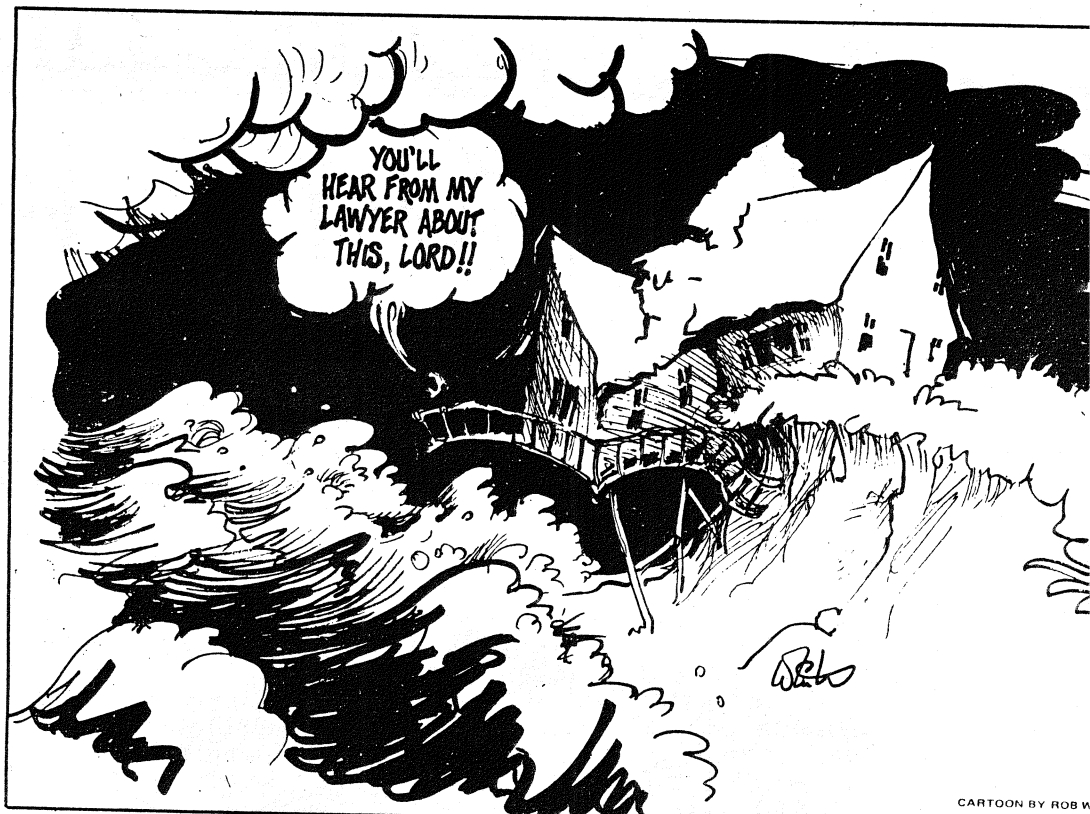
Involved people from across the state are helping to shape the future of coastal North Carolina. Their efforts are the only way to effectively counteract the influence that special interests have with our public officials. Their numbers and effectiveness are growing as public opinion turns against short-sighted resource management decisions that will leave nothing to future generations.

Many thanks to all the individuals, groups and corporations now working to protect our coast. A clean and productive coast won't happen without your participation.

We Are Here To Help

The Coastal Federation serves as a source of information and direction for individuals and organizations that want to understand and participate in coastal resource management efforts. We welcome your participation in our organization. Please understand that our time and resources are limited. In many instances, it is impossible for us to effectively address an individual's concerns even if they are extremely important. We will keep interested citizens up-to-date on issues and point concerned citizens in the right direction by explaining our resource management laws and how they actually work.

RECYCLE
This Newspaper



CARTOON BY ROB W.

Message from the President

We are happy to report that we are receiving more and more requests for educational presentations from various groups and organizations and from public schools. Eager to alert folks to our cause, we have been on the road. Recently, we've spoken to the Methodist Men's Club in New Bern, the Presbyterian Men's Club in Cape Carteret, Concerned Citizens of Ocean Isle Beach, Southport Historical Society, Brunswick County Birdwatchers Club, and the Onslow Photo Club. What a variety!

For me, the most rewarding presentations are those I've made in the schools, including one at UNC-Chapel Hill. Ken Seigler and I especially enjoyed a visit with an eighth grade class at J.S. Waters School in Goldston. Miss Hall's students had prepared a book in which each student signed a pledge to help clean up our water. This book will be on display at the NCCF booth at the Coastal Celebration in Raleigh April 8 and 9. And the class will be going to the Celebration, too.

These students are to be commended, and I also commend Steve Wolf, a member of the board of education in Martin County, who made it possible for us to speak to the eighth grade class at Jamesville School in December and then to all the health and science classes at Jamesville High School on March 7.

On February 27, Dr. Charles Jenner asked me to speak to his class at the university in Chapel Hill. If all of you could see the interest

and enthusiasm that students of all ages show for our cause, you would feel as encouraged as I do. We can't let the next generation down.

As you can see from the center spread and pictures from the oyster roast and seafood luncheon with Walter Cronkite at the Thomas Landing farm of Bill and Bernice Rice, the event was quite a success. If you or your organization were not invited, don't feel slighted. Let me explain. Invitations were limited to the fishermen who prepared the food on site and to about 50 media folks. Not even Federation board members were invited since the filming of public service announcements and interviews with Mr. Cronkite was the purpose of the event. So, if you missed meeting this very friendly and very concerned celebrity, you also missed washing and opening oysters, frying oysters, fish and hushpuppies, and cleaning up! Donating his time and speaking on behalf of water quality issues state and nationwide, Mr. Cronkite did an outstanding job, and so did WRAL-TV, who made all the arrangements for his appearance.

As old and new issues continue to arise at local and state levels, the Federation is in there doing its usual job. The staff's time is stretched thin, and we will be calling more and more on volunteers to help us out. As it is, we could never accomplish what we do without the help of volunteers.

—Lena Ritter

Coastal Review

Newsletter of the North Carolina Coastal Federation
1832 J. Bell Lane (Ocean View)
Newport, NC 28570
Telephone: (919) 393-8111

STAFF

President: Lena Ritter
Executive Director: Todd Miller
Environmental Scientist: Jim Keene
Development Director: Donna A. Butler
Newsletter: Jane Butler
Legislative Agent: Derb Carter

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The NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL FEDERATION is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to involving citizens in decisions about managing coastal resources. Its aim is to provide technical information and resources to better represent present and long-range economic, social and environmental interests of coastal North Carolina.

SPECIAL THANKS to the Mary and John Babcock Foundation; Z. S. Reynolds Foundation; Mary F. Cary Charitable Trust; Damroth Foundation; and the hundreds of private citizens that have provided generous financial support. **COASTAL REVIEW** is published quarterly. A \$10.00 membership fee provides funds to publish, distribute the newsletter and to provide special mailings about important coastal issues and events. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

NCCF BULLETIN BOARD

Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation Gives \$44,725

The Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation of Winston-Salem has awarded the Coastal Federation two grants for 1988. A grant of \$24,725 has been provided for the Federation to develop a Citizens Guide to Working with Local Governments to Enhance Coastal Resource Management. This book is being modeled after the Federation's recently published guidebook that helps citizens participate in state and federal government environmental programs.

In addition, the foundation is providing the Federation with \$20,000 for basic operating costs. The funds represent the third installment of a three year grant that

the Federation was awarded in 1987. These funds will be combined with a recent \$60,000 grant (see announcement in last newsletter) that was received from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation to help support the Federation's programs.

The Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation has supported the Coastal Federation since 1983 when it made the first grant the Federation ever received. Its support has enabled the Federation to become an effective participant in coastal resource management issues.

In keeping with its mandate to promote "the well-being and betterment of mankind," the foundation traditionally provides funds to programs in education, social services, the environment, the arts, and citizen participation in the development of public policy. The foundation prefers to fund programs of two kinds: those particularly sensitive to the changing and emerging needs of society, and those that address society's oldest needs in new and imaginative ways.

Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust Gives \$10,000

The Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust of New York City has awarded the Coastal Federation a grant in the amount of \$10,000 for operating support to enable the Federation to maintain its efforts to involve citizens in the management of coastal resources.

The Trust was established in January, 1968, as a testamentary, charitable trust by the will of the late Mary Flagler Cary. Mrs. Cary had a number of interests on which the work of the Trust is based. The Trust entertains proposals for grants in two areas: for music, and for the conservation of natural resources.

Examples of other conservation groups that have been supported by the Trust include: the Natural Resources Defense Council, Coast Alliance, Connecticut Fund for the Environment, Conservation Law Foundation, Environmental Defense Fund, Pamlico-Tar River Foundation, Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, and the Southern Environmental Law Center.

Integon Holds Reception

Bringing the issues affecting the coast to people across the state as well as seeking a more diversified funding base are two duties of the NCCF staff. These duties can be successfully combined at events like the February 21 reception hosted by the Integon Corporation at their headquarters in Winston-Salem. Organized by Charlie Venable, NCCF patron, the event provided Todd, Donna, Jim and Lena an opportunity to talk to 25 area executives and community leaders on the work of the Federation and to show them the Troubled Waters documentary. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres were provided by Integon.

If you can arrange or host a similar event, contact Donna Agnew and we'll hit the road!

Damroth Foundation Gives \$1,500 Grant

Thanks to a \$1500 grant from the Damroth Foundation and the talent and skills of Raleigh photographer Peter Damroth and NCCF members Wink and Sue Winkemeier and Paul Howe, the Federation will soon have a portable display unit for use at festivals and conventions. Its debut is scheduled for the Coastal Celebration at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh April 8-9. The display will then be available for use wherever NCCF sponsors a booth.

Members Give Party

Shortly after the last issue of Coastal Review went to press, Steve, Sue and Jimmy Carroll hosted a fundraiser for the Federation at their farm in New Hill. While 125 guests dined on oysters and barbecued beef and pork, the Bait Shop Boys and Lightnin' Wells provided music and author Glenn Lawson autographed copies of his book, *The Last Waterman*. Hayrides and a campfire were both a hit at this November event, which brought in 15 new members and over \$350 for NCCF. Best thanks to the Carrolls.

Review Has New Editor

The new editor of Coastal Review is Jane Midgett Butler. A native of Kinston, Jane moved to Morehead City from Raleigh in 1986. She was senior editor of *Maritimes*, a *Spectator* publication, in 1988. She is the director of the Carteret County Rape Crisis Program.



Lena Ritter and Master of Ceremonies Skip Waters ham it up at Paradise—Not Lost fundraiser. Held in Beaufort February 11, the event raised over \$5,000.

photo by Irv Hooper

Paradise Found on Tropical Island

A week's vacation on an island in the Bahamas is not only a grand prize. It is sure proof that Paradise is not lost.

The stretches of Paradise along our coast will not be lost and gone forever if the work of the Federation continues. And that takes money. So NCCF staged a fundraiser, Paradise: Not Lost, at the Beaufort House Restaurant February 11 and raised over \$5000 from members and guests from across the state.

The first-of-its-kind event came about due to the generous offer from Lauralyn and Jonathan Gans of New Bern of a week's stay in their vacation home on Eleuthera Island. NCCF chipped in airfare for two and presto! offered a raffle prize that's hard to beat.

And the winners were . . . Roger Deese and Linda Shaw of Chapel Hill, who held tight to their raffle ticket right to the end, even when Charlie Venable of Winston-Salem offered \$100 for any one of the last five tickets to be drawn in the reverse raffle.

The final countdown was tense but throughout the evening guests relaxed and enjoyed a seafood feast while tickets were drawn for a variety of prizes, including an afghan in

ocean hues, art work, photography, pottery, a half-day fishing charter for six, a moonlight cruise for six, two half-day sailing trips, and a clamming expedition on Pender County Sound.

From the stage, President Lena Ritter and Channel 12 weatherman Skip Waters provided both laughs and serious messages about coastal issues to the 250 guests in attendance. They also recognized the many volunteers who put in months of planning and hard work to make the event so successful. These include chairperson Trish Casper of Emerald Isle, Ann Carter of Beaufort, Grace Evans of Oriental, Bill Casper and Lauralyn Gans.

Thanks from NCCF to all the merchants that provided prizes, to Copycat Print Shop for free ticket and program printing, to Body Billboards and This Week Magazine for free advertising, to radio station WZYC-Z103 for the sound system, to the Beaufort House Restaurant, and to the raffle committee for the home-made desserts.

Plans are already underway for a similar event next year. Please contact Donna Agnew if you can donate or solicit prizes or help with planning.

Volunteers Give Many Hours

In 1988, more than 1800 hours of hard work were contributed to the Federation by 95 volunteers who participated in festivals and fundraising events, helped with office work and the distribution of PSA's and the newsletter, and actively recruited new members. The staff sends heartfelt thanks to each of you.

Allow us to single out the following for special mention: Keith and

Carol Robinson, Karen Robinson, Joyce Broadway and Barbara Bain for newsletter distribution; Helen Tatum and Sarah Whisenant for organizing the resource collection and files; Phil Walker and W.L. Walker for recruiting new members; Union Camp Corporation for donating paper; and the Carteret County News-Times and This Week Magazine for running membership ads free-of-charge.

NCCF BULLETIN BOARD

Federation Receives Estuarine Study Funds

The Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study has approved a grant of \$35,000 to the Coastal Federation. The funds will enable the Coastal Federation to assist the Study and its two Citizen Advisory Committees hold an annual meeting, organize workshops, and conduct a press tour.

The grant calls for the Coastal Federation to assist in planning and conducting the Study's annual meeting. The Federation will provide a wide range of services including helping to plan the meeting's agenda, as well as publicizing and conducting the gathering. Emphasis will be placed on designing a meeting that will attract the general public.

Workshops aimed at developing a set of recommendations for managing Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds will also be organized. Three workshops are planned to: (1) evaluate existing estuarine management programs; (2) examine approaches used in other states to manage estuaries; and (3) pull together a final set of recommendations for the estuarine study. The Citizen Advisory Committees will be able to use the results of these workshops to propose implementation actions to be included in the final Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan which will be prepared by the Study.

Finally, the Federation will organize a chartered bus trip for the press similar to a tour conducted in 1988. This trip will concentrate on issues and study results that are the

Computer Program Received

The recent donation of Donor II, a slick new information management program developed specifically for non-profit organizations, enables NCCF staff to keep membership records and to correspond with members much more efficiently. Special thanks to NCCF member Brian Larson, Vice President of Systems Support Services of Charlotte, who gave the Federation this nice gift and trained the staff to use it.

centerpiece of the Study. The majority of the tour will be conducted in the Albemarle Sound area since that region was not included in the first press tour.

Anyone wishing to participate in any of these activities should contact the Coastal Federation. A request will be made that the two Citizen Advisory Committees establish committees to work with the Federation on these projects.

Booth Raises \$250 for NCCF

At the Commercial Fishing Show held on March 18 and 19 in Morehead City, \$250 was netted at the NCCF booth manned by Ted Odell, Phil Walker and Ken Seigler. Thanks to these members for volunteering their time to sign up new members and sell promotional items.

Participate in a Festival

NCCF is often asked and would like to participate in various festivals and seasonal celebrations around the state. These will be listed in Calendar each issue. If the event is in your area and you can work at the NCCF booth recruiting members, distributing brochures and selling t-shirts, sweatshirts and bumper stickers, please call Lena Ritter and volunteer your time.

Endowment Gift

An endowment fund for the N.C. Coastal Federation has been established with a gift to the Federation from Tom Quay of Raleigh in memory of Violet Wells Quay, 1914-1983. Additional gifts to the fund will be welcomed and can be arranged by contacting Donna Agnew.

New Groups Join NC Coastal Federation

The North Carolina Coastal Federation welcomes three new member groups:

People's Voice, Emerald Isle, N.C.
Western N.C. Alliance, Asheville, N.C.
Brunswick Bird Club, Shallotte, N.C.

Birth Announcement

Onslow County Environmental Action Network - O.C.E.A.N.

Date of Birth: January 10, 1989

Midwife: Lena Ritter

On January 10, NCCF President Lena Ritter brought together 10 environment-minded individuals, mostly unknown to each other, for the purpose of founding a new grass roots organization to work on the county level where many decisions affecting the coastal environment are made. OCEAN has been busy educating memberships and developing contacts and effective relationships with public agencies and officials. Already, our presence and conduct at Planning Board and commissioners' meetings have seen positive results. We are participating in a review of subdivision ordinances and plan to make the revision and upgrading of laws and regulations a priority of the highest order. The cooperative atmosphere we are finding and fostering leaves us very optimistic about future progress. OCEAN also expects to get involved in water quality monitoring. Look for our booth at area festivals this summer. For additional information, contact us through our co-chairs, Carole Robinson (327-3778) and Diane Logan (327-3733).

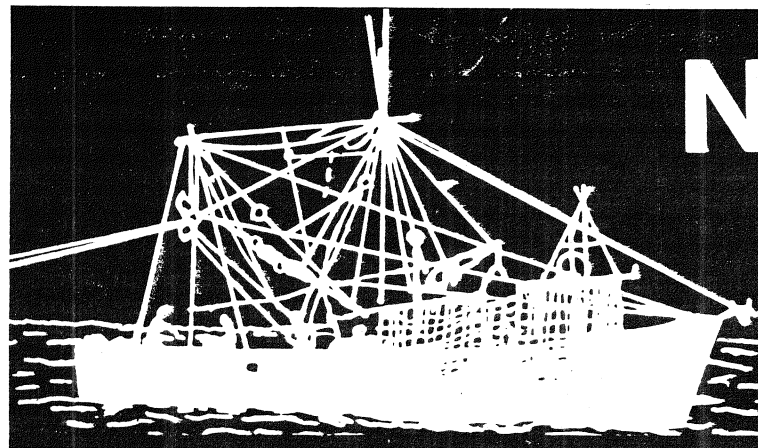
The Flying Burrito Fundraiser

Stomping snow off their boots, more than 100 hungry guests arrived at the door of the Flying Burrito Restaurant in Chapel Hill for the February 26 NCCF brunch-fundraiser. The atmosphere inside the restaurant was lively with conversation and laughter, the food was hot and spicy and the music of the Bait Shop Boys was mellow. Thanks to the warm hearts of owners and hosts Phil and Vickie Campbell who generously donated the food and space, to chief cook Jim Noonan and the restaurant staff, and to all who organized and participated in the event, \$1200 was raised for the Federation.

NCCF board member Bob Hall gave a rousing speech about the

work of the Federation before introducing President Lena Ritter, who arrived with a peck of Stump Sound oysters which sold for \$20 at auction. Lena's remarks, delivered with her special brogue and forthright manner, made as tangible as her oysters the sense of urgency felt not only by those who earn their livelihood on coastal waters but by all citizens aware of the threats to our coastal environment. A showing of the WRAL documentary, Trouble Waters, concluded the program.

Door prizes for the event were donated by Blue Sky Fish Company, Squids Fish Market, Fishmonger and The Bag Lady. NCCF members who organized the fundraiser included Michael Mason, Shirle Enebrad, Julie Rice, Margaret and Robert Brown, Laura and David Celski, Charles and Joyce Jenner, Bill and Mary Sue Roach, Jenn Miller, and Odie Kimball. Thanks to each one, and to UNC's Environmental Action Coalition - Wetlands Project, Body Billboards, and A Better Image for their help in staging a successful event.



NO WETLANDS NO SEAFOOD

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Display Your NCCF Bumper Sticker — Share One with a Friend!
Available by writing or calling NCCF!

COASTAL NEWS ROUNDUP

The Towers, West Onslow Beach.

Two 16 story condominium buildings were proposed on a 12 acre tract on West Onslow Beach at a site that drains to Alligator Bay, which is class SA shellfishing waters, designated primary nursery areas, and nominated as Outstanding Resource Waters.

In December, the Wilmington office of DEM ruled that the high rise towers complied with the low density requirements for the State's most stringent water quality protection. The Coastal Federation submitted written comments that the developer and State had erred in calculating percent built upon by including beach area draining to the ocean and areas covered by water.

In March DEM rescinded its approval of the stormwater plans for the project. The developer responded by adding some adjacent property to project. At press time, DEM is reviewing the new application.

West Onslow Beach. A new study of the impacts of growth on West Onslow Beach recommends that the County consider changing the set backs, building height limits, and zoning requirements on the beach and take the lead in assuring adequate roadways.

The report notes "With current County policy to allow high rise buildings on the beach front with no limit on height, the combination of high erosion rates and high rise buildings could be devastating."

The lack of effective government planning so that market forces alone control development is reflected in the statement, "Current zoning patterns and current beach policy have the potential of creating a very high density beach environment over night, with only the market place controlling how quickly this will take place."

The study points out that the current relocation of State Road 1568 "fails to address the areas of existing SR 1568 that are most likely to be affected by overwash during a storm. Since the County has permitted a private developer to take the initiative in designing the new road alignment and right-of-way width, the road presently proposed may not be in the County's best long-range interest."

The County has ignored previous studies recommending increased planning and controls on beach development. A 1984 study on hurricane evacuation concluded that "loss of life is almost certain to occur" during storms given development trends. A 1980 study of environmental effects of development also recommended greater land use planning and controls on the beach.

The new report entitled "1988 West Onslow Beach Carrying Capacity Study" is available from the Onslow County Planning Department.

Marinas. The Commission for Health Services on February 23 adopted as regulations a weakened



The Towers were first classified as low density development by the N.C. Division of Environmental Management. The findings were reconsidered after NCCF objected. Architect rendition supplied by developers.

version of the already severely compromised policy for closing shellfish waters near marinas. Under the new regulations a marina that rents boat slips to the public has the same requirements as a marina serving an adjacent housing project, as long as fuel is not sold. This misplaced focus on fuel rather than threat of discharge changes the previous policy, which recognized that marinas for boat owners without a nearby residence are a much greater threat since people are much more likely to spend the night on their boats.

State Environmental Impact Statements. The Department of Natural Resources and Community Development held a public hearing in February on draft regulations that would exempt many projects from the State requirement to carry out an environmental impact statement. At present, all projects involving both expenditures of public money and some kind of State approval must have an environmental impact study unless a preliminary environmental assessment shows no significant impact.

The proposed regulations would have exempted waste water discharges less than one million gallons per day and other major activities from the need to do either the EIS or the environmental assess-

ment. According to staff who worked on the draft regulations, concerns about increased work load were a major factor in the recommendations.

In written comments, the Coastal Federation recommended that the exemption criteria be greatly reduced and the short environmental assessment studies should be the basic means of determining that a full EIS is not needed for a project because of no significant impact. NRCD Secretary Bill Cobey has not made the final decision on the proposed regulations as this edition goes to press.

Septic Tanks. The Division of Health Services is developing proposed modifications to the septic tank regulations. A discussion group with representatives from developers, environmentalists, septic tank businesses, local health departments, and state agencies has been meeting to suggest ideas for the regulations and review drafts. NCCF's Jim Kennedy is on the discussion group.

The discussion so far has focused on possible septic tank systems in fill material and on the need for proper operation and maintenance of alternative on-site systems. Proposed regulations are not expected before next summer.

Air Toxics. The North Carolina Environmental Defense Fund reported in February that enormous quantities of toxic air pollution are being released in North Carolina, with some of the largest polluters on the coast (see article this issue). The preliminary findings of an EPA investigation also verify that nationwide toxic air pollution is much higher than previously thought. North Carolina has the tenth highest toxic pollution releases in the nation.

On March 1 Governor Martin issued an executive order that the Environmental Management Commission expedite development of air toxic standards. The Commission has been working for five years on proposed regulations without getting to the stage of public hearings. An ad hoc committee with both industry and environmentalists represented recently developed proposed compromise regulations covering 117 substances. The Air Quality Committee of the Environmental Management Commission and the full Commission must approve the proposed regulations for public hearings.

The lack of air toxic standards is hurting long term economic development because the State cannot reasonably assure protection from

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COASTAL NEWS ROUNDUP

Continued from previous page

air toxics for communities considering new industrial facilities. In addition, industries looking for new sites are faced with the great burden of uncertainty about the needed air standards. The Department of Commerce, in particular, has shown self-defeating, short sightedness in working to delay the air toxics regulations.

Loophole in Wetland Rules. Effective March 23, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has notified landowners and developers that they may no longer drain a freshwater wetland without obtaining a federal permit. As was reported in the last issue of **Coastal Review**, there have been numerous cases in the past where developers have constructed drainage ditches or lakes in wetlands, being careful to avoid discharges that may be subject to the Corp's permit requirements, and over time, have drained the land to a point that it can no longer be classified as a wetland.

The Corps has found that ditching or excavation can rarely be accomplished without causing a discharge of fill material to the wetlands in violation of the Clean Water Act. It has warned that those who persist in attempts to carry out such work in the future without first obtaining the required federal permits will be subject to criminal charges from the U.S. Attorney.

Water Quality Standards. Public hearings on proposed changes to the State's water quality standard regulations will be held in May (see Calendar). The deadlock created by strong opposition by industry and local governments to the initially proposed regulations was broken by a special ad hoc technical committee headed by Environmental Management Commission member Charles Brady with members from industry, local government, scientists, the Division of Environmental Management, and environmental organizations. Coastal Federation Environmental Scientist Jim Kennedy was one of the environmental representatives. The proposed regulations emphasize federal requirements for toxic substances and that water with quality better than the assigned standards can be degraded down to the standards only where necessary for important economic or social development.

The Coastal Federation recommends supporting the proposed provision for (a) protecting waters with quality better than the standards, (b) numerical standards for toxic substances, (c) cancer risk level of no greater than one in a million, and (d) increased applicability of the turbidity standard.

The Federation recommends opposition to the proposed provision on "zones of initial dilution" that

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Protection Proposed For Coast

Report Recommends Action for 8 Areas

By Tom Mather
(Reprinted from the News and Observer, March 17, 1989)

Eight of 10 coastal areas nominated as "outstanding resource waters" qualify for the special protective classification, according to a preliminary state study released March 16.

The report recommends that the state Environmental Management Commission enact stricter controls on industries that discharge wastes into those waters and limit the density of new development within a 575-foot buffer zone.

But a commission spokesman said the recommendations were not set in stone.

"This is by no means any kind of a final decision," said James D. Sheppard, spokesman for the state Division of Environmental Management.

"Essentially this is a staff report that has not been fully reviewed internally," he said. "It is a draft report that has been sent out for comments."

Before the report is final, the division must hold public hearings on the recommendations and the commission must approve them.

"We hope to go to public hearing some time in June," Mr. Sheppard said. "And we will come up with our formal draft recommendations for those outstanding resource waters by that time."

The commission can designate areas with pristine water quality and other valuable resources, such as highly productive fisheries and sensitive natural areas, as outstanding resource waters.

So far, it has designated only one—the Roosevelt Natural Area in Carteret County. But the commission, with urging from environmental groups and Gov. James G. Martin, agreed last fall to consider 10 other coastal areas.

The Alligator River in Dare, Tyrrell and Hyde counties.

Swan Quarter Bay and Juniper Bay in Hyde County.

Southeastern Pamlico Sound in Hyde and Carteret counties.

Core Sound and Back Sound in Carteret County.

Western Bogue Sound in Carteret County.

The Intracoastal Waterway northwest of Bear Island in Onslow County.

Stump Sound in Onslow County.

Masonboro Sound in New Hanover County.

The report did not support nominations in two areas: Lockwoods Folly River in Brunswick County and the Topsail Middle sounds in Pender County.

Water quality in Lockwoods Folly is not clean enough to warrant the outstanding resource water designation, although the area supports outstanding fisheries, according to the report. The Pender County waters are generally clean, but lack sufficient fisheries to warrant the designation, the report said.

Environmental groups said they were generally pleased with the report, and commended the environmental management division for recommending the expansion of nominated waters in Back Sound, Masonboro Sound and the Bear Island area.

"We would have expected politics to have played a much bigger role in the recommendations," said Todd L. Miller, executive director of the N.C. Coastal Federation. "We're happy to

see that the department was able to put out good technical recommendations without too much massaging.

"I think it's good news for most of the coast, but bad news for a few areas."

The Lockwoods Folly area probably did not qualify, Mr. Miller said, but he disagreed with the Pender County recommendations.

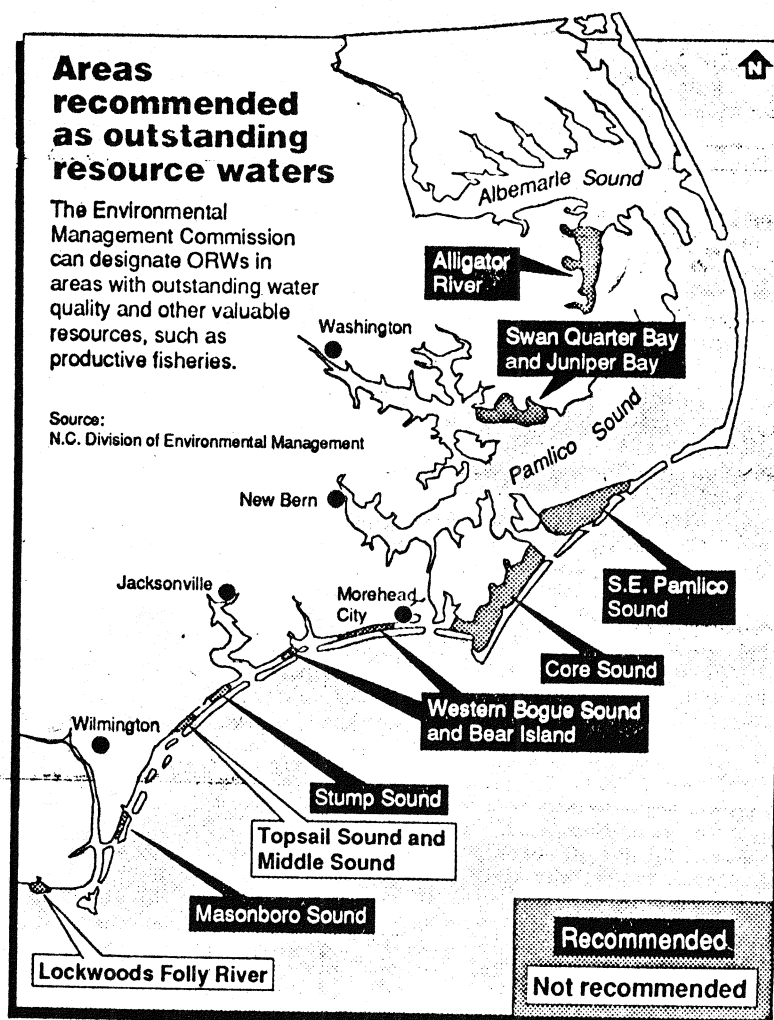
"What happened [with Lockwoods Folly] is that we waited too long to come to grips with the problems of the river," he said.

In Pender County, environmentalists said the state underestimated the value of fisheries in Topsail and Middle sounds because few commercial fishermen use the area. But they said it supports valuable recreational fishing.

"Why punish us because we're recreational?" said Howard R. Winkemeier of the PenderWatch & Conservancy in Hampstead. "There are a lot of fish that come out of those areas. Most of the clamming and oystering are done by the people who live here, like myself, right in front of their houses."

Mr. Sheppard, of the environmental management division, said the agency could change its recommendations if environmental groups could document the value of recreational fishing.

"That's the kind of information we need," he said. "If someone can demonstrate to us that the resource is there, and the water quality is a little bit iffy, then certainly we could change our recommendation on that."



COASTAL NEWS ROUNDUP

Continued from previous page

allow areas with water quality exceeding chronic toxicity levels. Such zones should rarely, if ever, be needed in North Carolina and should be handled as variances or have specific limitations specified in the regulation.

Federal Paper Board. The Coastal Federation, with legal representation from the Southern Environmental Law Center, joined the N.C. Environmental Defense Fund in asking DEM to issue a special order that reverses the trend of increased pollution from Federal's paper mill on the lower Cape Fear River.

Although a 1984 study by DEM concluded Federal was the major cause of summer violations of the dissolved oxygen standard in the lower Cape Fear, the company has steadily increased discharge of oxy-

gen demanding substances and paper production.

The permit issued after the 1984 study limited the discharge of oxygen demanding substances to an average of 3,500 pounds per day during the summer, but a special order by consent (SOC) allowed discharge of an average of 8,000 pounds per day. SOC's are a legal mechanism intended to set a schedule for dischargers to come into compliance with their permit limits.

Early this year the Wilmington office of DEM proposed to increase the SOC limits to 12,000 pounds per day. When the conservation organizations objecting to the SOC pointed out that the trend in pollution was going up instead of down toward the permit limits, DEM agreed to draft a new SOC that included an immediate reversal of the trend and a schedule to achieve compliance. The new SOC is currently being developed.

Maritime Forests Are Almost Gone

Due to steady development along the coast, only 13,000 acres remain of the maritime forests that once covered North Carolina's entire

barrier island coastline. Only 25 of these forests are larger than 20 acres, and if immediate action is not taken to protect these tracts from developers, they, too, will disappear.

These findings, and recommendations for the preservation of the remaining maritime forests, were presented December 1 to the Coastal Resources Commission by Duke University botanists Jonathan Evans and Michael Lopanzanski and Richard Shaw of the N.C. Division of Coastal Management. The 2 year study was commissioned by CRC. For copies, contact J.P. Evans, Dept. of Botany, Duke University, Durham, 27706.

NCCF Wish List

(New or Used)

- ☐ Filing cabinets
- ☐ Computer table
- ☐ CB radios
- ☐ Dot matrix printer
- ☐ Desktop publishing system, hardware & software

Contact Donna Agnew if you are interested in making donations.

Albemarle Report

Environmental issues continue to dominate news from counties surrounding the Albemarle Sound and its tributaries.

The Ash Wednesday storm replayed on Mar. 7, 1989, caused serious erosion and millions of dollars in property loss and damage along the Outer Banks in Dare County. The storm also rekindled a debate over "hardening" the shoreline, as the state has proposed building a groin into the Atlantic and other measures to protect the Bonner Bridge over Oregon Inlet.

And a proposal by Nags Head town planners to restrict growth by banning the construction of high-density housing on the ocean front got a cool reception from property owners at a public meeting on March 22.

The sticky point was a provision that would prevent owners of existing hotel, motel and condominium rentals from rebuilding if natural disasters, such as a hurricane, destroy more than half of the property. The town's planning commission still has the policy under study.

Mobil Oil, meanwhile, has announced plans to delay by two months or more its plans to file for federal permits to explore for gas in

the Atlantic about 40 miles east of Manteo.

Mobil and eight other oil companies hold leases on a 189-square mile block considered promising as a major gas field find.

A more inland location, Hertford County, considered for some weeks offering itself as a volunteer for a hazardous waste treatment facility. The county faces serious budgetary problems, and the facility was seen by some as a way to bring income into the county and increase the tax base.

As originally proposed, the plant would be a comprehensive facility to treat 89,000 pounds of waste a year by incineration, distillation or chemical treatment. Opposition developed quickly as many county residents perceived the plant as a threat to public health and the environment.

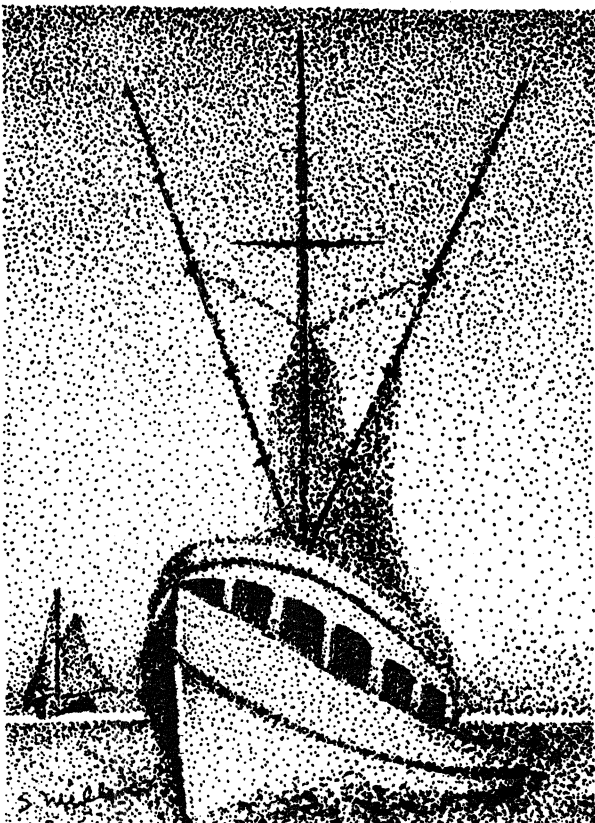
A citizens task force appointed by the County Commission gave a favorable recommendation for the plant on Mar. 16, but just four days later hundreds of citizens packed the county courthouse to witness the commissioners vote to withdraw the county from consideration.

While Hertford was weighing the wisdom of offering a site, it was the only county in the state to even say "maybe" to the idea. Responses to letters sent out by the state's Hazardous Waste Treatment Commission last year resulted in more than 75 counties saying "no", while the remaining counties did not respond. Citizen opposition had already bushwhacked the idea in several counties (Anson, Rutherford and Lee), before Hertford took itself out of the picture.

Also in Hertford County, an investigation began in March to determine how the site on the Chowan River formerly occupied by CF Industries will rank on the Superfund list. EPA studies in 1984 indicated the presence of heavy metals and other pollutants in monitoring wells, and some question remains about the effectiveness of a slurry wall constructed in the early 1970s to hold nitrogen-laden waters in an underground impoundment.

Several fertilizer products were manufactured at the facility that was operated first by Farmers' Chemical and then by CF Industries. The plant, which was Hertford County's largest industry, became the focus of complaints and investigations when algae blooms began to clog the lower Chowan in the late 1960s and a nutrient sensitive waters designation was made for the slow-moving river, the first such classification in the state.

In Perquimans County, a CAMA permit has been issued for the first phase of a large golf course and residential development called Albemarle Plantations on Yeopin Creek near the Albemarle Sound. However, the permit contained a condition that the developers may not dig up freshwater wetlands to create a 13-acre lake for the golf course. A marina may be in the future for this development.



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Photo by Tom Grossman

Against Pollution

Cronkite Asks Individuals to Fight

By Jimmy Williams
(Reprinted from the Tideland News,
March 15, 1989.)

He's been called the most respected man in America and for 20 years we invited him into our homes nightly.

Walter Cronkite isn't reporting the news these days, he's making it. On Saturday, at the invitation of the N.C. Coastal Federation, the former CBS news anchor was in Onslow County to rally support for WRAL-TV's Save Our Sounds Campaign.

Save Our Sounds is a campaign designed to make the public aware of North Carolina's environmental problems.

"We are daily destroying one of our most important natural resources - our coastal rivers, sounds, estuaries and the ocean," a press release on the campaign states.

The intent of the project is to educate the public in ways to alleviate the dilemma - from conserving water to reducing the use of lawn fertilizer.

Cronkite, a noted sailor, is in a unique position to make observations on ecology.

Standing in the shade of an oak tree in the front yard of Bill and Bernice Rice's Thomas Land farm, Cronkite had to look just above the heads of the reporters in front of him for a glimpse of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Topsail Island and the beach homes clustered along its sandy ridge.

He called the development of North Carolina's barrier islands a disaster. He listed pollution as a problem created by pollution and asked that individuals join the fight against global devastation from pollution.

"The effort to do that has to start at home," he said. "We all have to be involved."

Overdevelopment, he said, has ruined the fragile ecological balance on the state's barrier islands. But the problem isn't in that area alone. All pollutants are contributing to the demise of the environment.

"It's all one picture," Cronkite said. "It's all one problem."

He cited non-biodegradable plastics, acid rain and carbon monoxide discharge as all contributing to the problems with the environment.

Cronkite alluded to the memorable shots of Earth taken from the Apollo aircraft which landed on the moon. From that spacecraft, Earth was "the only bright spot in space."

He termed the balance of nature which allows our existence, "An envelope we live within. If we destroy it, it's gone."

To illustrate how tenuous the balance is, he cited the fact that fish and crabs in the Pamlico Sound are plagued with gaping sores. He pointed to last year's red tide which devastated coastal North Carolina's fishing industry. Finally, he said that he was told the oyster catch on Saturday's lunch depended on how much rain fell. The problems have reached unprecedented proportions, according to Cronkite.



My memories of sailing in North Carolina are very happy ones.

Or at least they were until recently. Because lately things have changed. Nowadays, you see more people, more houses, more development—on the barrier beaches and the coastline. You see oil scum and gasoline floating on the surface. And all the detritus of so-called civilized living—the throwaway wrappings and containers—above all, the PLASTICS.

* * * *

To put it bluntly: your shoreline is now a DISASTER zone.

* * * *

Since we are deeply concerned about the environment—and are willing to make sacrifices to restore it—beyond passively accepting changes in life-styles and higher costs, we must all let our public officials know how strongly we feel, and demand action. The governmental mechanisms for change are largely in place, but it's an illusion to think we can sit back and let them do the job for us. Let the public become apathetic, and it's all too easy for a government agency like the E.P.A. to become a mediator between private environmentalists and polluters, or even the polluters' anti-environmental ally, instead of a zealous environmental advocate, as it's supposed to be. Only with an aroused, active constituency will public officials be able to make the hard decisions required to turn this thing around.

—excerpts from Walter Cronkite's speech

When asked how much time was left before clean-up efforts must begin, he said there was no time.

"There really isn't any time," Cronkite said. "We've got to move now."

"Lack of leadership" at the federal level has hurt the country's battle against pollution, according to the veteran newsman.

Cronkite said the environmental cause suffered terribly under Ronald Reagan's eight years as president.

The country took a "know-nothing, head-in-the-sand approach" to the environment under Reagan. In fact, the country refused to discuss with the Canadians the problem of acid rain, an act he called "unconscionable."

To get things moving in the right direction, Cronkite suggested people join groups such as the Coastal Federation ("Groups like this...know the problems) and write letters to their congressmen ("They don't read them, but they count them.")

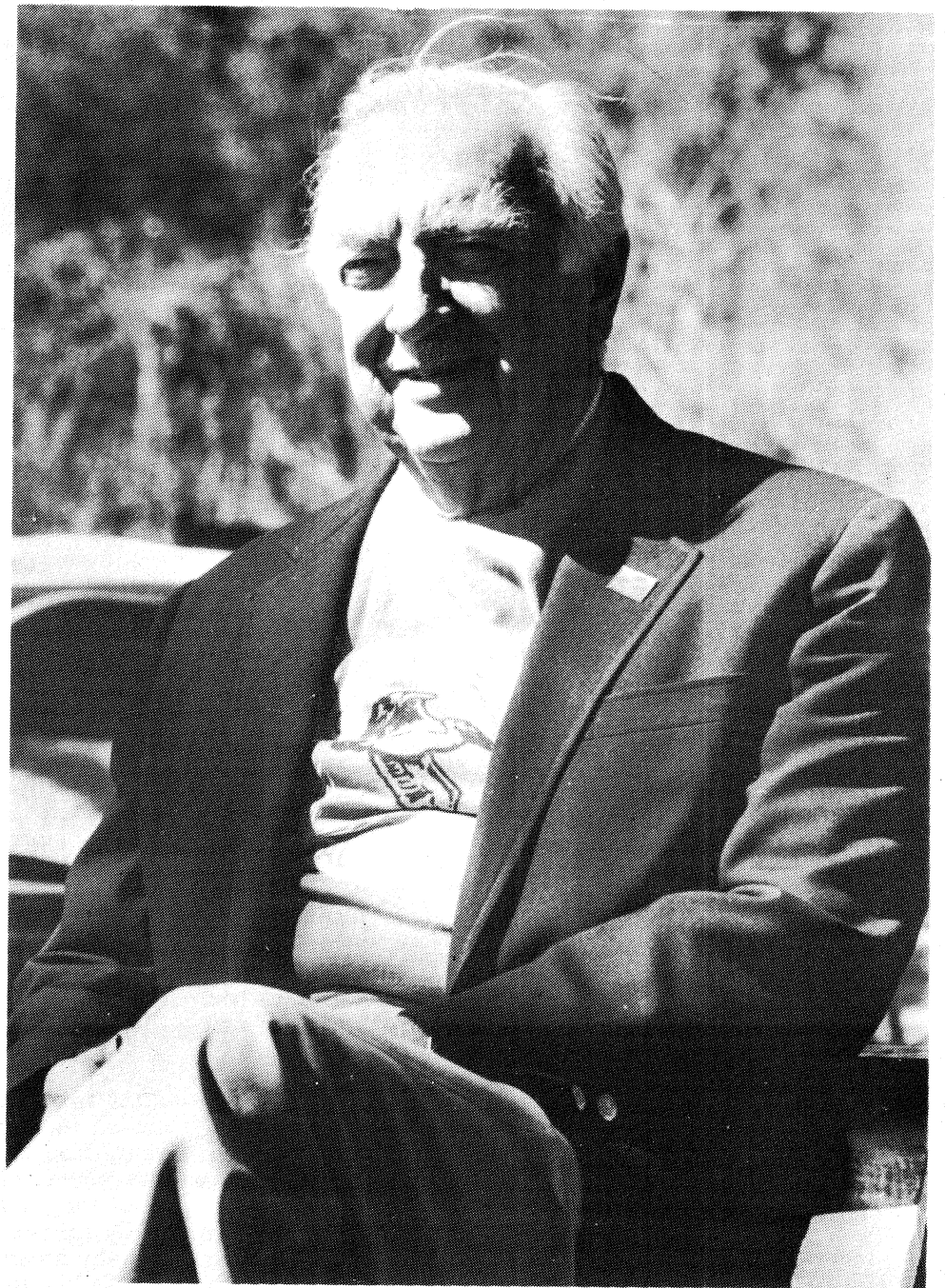
It's important the people are heard from," he said. "We all have to get involved."

Former Swansboro resident Bruce Ethridge, who represents Onslow and Carteret counties in the N.C. House of Representatives, also attended the Saturday press conference.

Ethridge, who now lives in Beaufort, told the crowd about steps being taken at the state level to deal with storm water runoff and water quality.

The Coastal Federation, which is based in Ocean, is a non-profit groups representing a variety of coastal interests.

Photos by Randy Davey



Shellfishing Educates Us

By Monty Montgomery
(Reprinted from The
Carolina Adventure,
February 1989.)

Mark Hooper, a commercial fisherman who lives in Smyrna, recommends taking children shellfishing. "It's the easiest thing to catch," he says. "There is no equipment required. I don't know anything else you can say that about."

Not only are shellfish easy to catch, they are also "a real high value product." In the summer an individual clam can bring 15 cents.

"You can take your kids clamming and they can experience the thrill of finding this valuable thing," Hooper says. In the midst of enjoying a true Carolina adventure, a child can also begin to learn about the value of work. The 15 cent clam is part of a \$50 million business on the whole east coast.

Hooper isn't recommending we begin training our young'uns as business people at an early age. Shellfishing is more than a business. It is also a way to learn a true appreciation for the nature which supports us and to learn a little history as well.

We can learn and teach this sense of appreciation by "following through." After

the clams are caught, "take them home and prepare and eat them. You'll get some sense of where food came from."

Not incidentally, you'll also "get the taste of salt water. The salty little clam is just as natural as any food you could eat." Hooper's enthusiasm for the salty little clam was very evident during our talk.

Catching and eating shellfish in their natural habitat puts our young'uns and parents smart enough to go with them, right smack in the middle of the history of our area. "People have been eating clams since the Indians," Hooper says.

He wasn't content to just talk about this history; he took his family out to see for themselves. There are 500-year-old Indian shell piles (oysters, clams, conchs) on Davis Island. "We went there, saw the bank. It was eroded." They could see the shell piles and the broken Indian pottery bowls (Hooper's wife, Penny, is a potter of note). Somebody has since removed the pottery, Hooper laments.

There is a real history lesson. For hundreds of years "Indians sat on this bluff and the water sustained them. Then the white man came



Mark Hooper of Smyrna takes his young'uns Royal and Katy shellfishing. They stay when they were two or three years old. Mark won't tell where his favorite spots are; it's part of the fun.

and the water sustained him. Now the same body of water is supporting more people."

The more people unfortunately lead to problems for the body of water and for the shellfish which live there. "It's sad but true, there is more and more acreage closed to shellfishing each year," Hooper says. "Some of the places closed are very good for shellfishing, especially up the little creeks in marshy areas. This is where people like to live."

"People have to realize," Hooper insists, "we essentially cause the pollution and we could stop it if we make it a priority." If we all had gone shellfishing with the Hooper family when we were young, we might have a

better understanding of how to stop polluting.

Hooper began taking his kids clamming when they were two or three years old. "Any time we'd go swimming, we'd go clamming," he says. First he took them signing clams on the mudflats when they lived in Beaufort. The old-timers say there are seven signs, but the easiest to find is a small keyhole shape. "That was fun!"

Now they go swimming "and then we feel around with our hands, at the edge of the grass, in sand, on shelly bottom (but a rake is better for that). And we find a clam. So we try to find a few more."

"We instinctively get into trying to figure out where

they are—and that's good cause you're getting into environmental differences. You're asking what clams like best, where do they grow?"

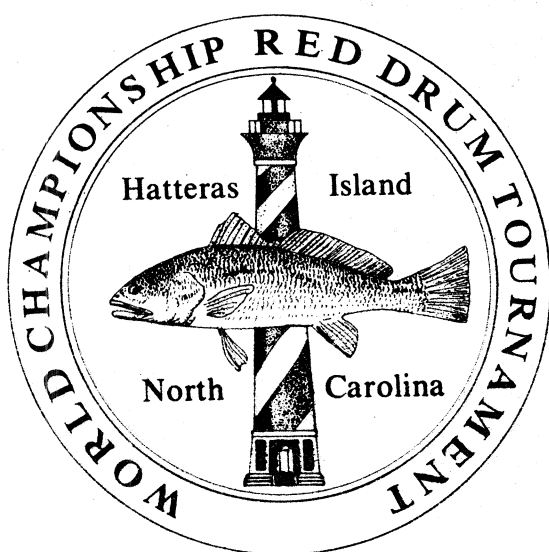
"People should learn that there are places that are good for clams and places where they won't grow. They're like animals, even though they look like rocks."

Shellfishing is a Carolina adventure with everything. It's a family outing with a taste of business, a taste of history, a taste of environmental science, a taste of current political action against pollution, and a taste of clean water.

"What you're after is the taste—the taste of good water," Hooper says.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Joe Moore
148 South DuPont Parkway
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Donna Agnew, NCC
1832 J. Bell Lane (Ocean View)
Newport, NC 28570
(919) 393-8185

Stronger Ethics Code Urged for Coastal Panel

By Tom Mather
(Reprinted from the News and Observer, March 18, 1989.)

The state Board of Ethics recommended March 17 that the Coastal Resources Commission strengthen its newly adopted policy on conflicts of interest for its members.

Ethics board members said the CRC policy, adopted in January, would set less-stringent conflict-of-interest standards for CRC members than the ethics board had established for other state commissions. The ethics board objected to a portion of the policy that states: "A

Commissioner may vote on any matter unless the matter being voted upon would have a direct and substantial impact on the economic interest of the Commissioner, which impact is greater than the impact that could reasonably be anticipated to others on the coast similarly situated."

That requirement would be less stringent, board members said, than an ethics board guideline that states "the subject should use caution to avoid appearances of conflict of interest as well as actual conflict of interest. . .The subject should disqualify himself or herself from voting on or discussing situations that could affect private interests."

The board's recommendation does not require the CRC to revise its policy. But the commission is likely to go along with the recommendation because it had asked the ethics board to review the policy.

The CRC guides local governments in managing development in 20 counties along the coast. Commission members represent various interests, including agriculture, fishing, environmental science and development.

CRC member Arthur W. Cooper, head of the forestry department at N.C. State University, said the policy statement in question was intended to resolve apparent in-

consistencies between state law and conflicts-of-interest guidelines.

State law requires the governor to appoint CRC members representing various interests or backgrounds, such as coastal development and banking, he said. But dilemmas arise, he said, when commissioners are faced with broad issues that could potentially affect their businesses.

"The case can be made that there is a statutory problem," Dr. Cooper said. "To state that commissioners cannot vote on any matter in which they have any potential interest could render some commissioners voteless."

But the ethics board chairman, K. D. Kennedy Jr., said it was better to limit the authority of some commissioners than to weaken existing conflict-of-interest guidelines.

"You have to lose certain individual rights for the greater good," Mr. Kennedy said. "If we're going to err, we should err on the side of the greater good."

The N.C. Coastal Federation, an environmental group, supported the ethics board's recommendation. The federation said the new CRC policy would let commissioners vote on virtually any matter unless it specifically applied to a permit they were requesting for themselves.

Neither the ethics board nor the Coastal Federation objected to other portions of the CRC policy.

The commission had considered the policy since last summer, when an environmental group charged that a CRC member had violated conflict-of-interest standards.

Hold Your Breath

By Ed Norman

Industry reports for North Carolina made public in 1988 under a new federal law show that nearly 100 million pounds of toxic chemicals were released to the air statewide, including 12.7 million pounds of cancer-causing air pollutants. The coastal region contributed heavily to the statewide total. Forty-seven facilities from the 20 coastal counties reported a total of 15.5 million pounds of toxic air emissions under the new federal law. Thus, coastal industries accounted for 15.6% of the statewide total.

Toxic air pollutants can cause cancer, birth defects, and many acute and chronic diseases. They also contribute to ozone pollution, which can cause severe respiratory problems and damage forests, agricultural crops, and other vegetation. In addition, little is known about the effects of air pollution on surrounding water quality.

Federal air pollution laws and regulations have effective limits for only seven toxic chemicals that contaminate the air, and the federal EPA has set standards for only some of the sources of those seven chemicals. Although states have the power to fill in the gaps, North Carolina, unlike most other states in the southeast, has no toxic air pollutant policy or regulations.

For five years the state Division of Environmental Management has been trying to adopt air toxics standards. So far, efforts have been blocked by industry representatives who have complained about the cost and feasibility of controlling toxic air emissions. Yet, an economic impact assessment carried out for the state showed that a wide majority of existing industry would not even be affected by proposed regulations, and that fewer than 3% of the industries surveyed would experience significant economic impacts.

Until recently, North Carolinians were not able to get the facts about how much and what kind of toxic contaminants were being released into their air. But in 1986, the United States Congress passed the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act, also

known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986. Title III requires major producers and users of toxic chemicals to complete annual toxic chemical release inventories. For each of 328 chemicals, facilities covered by the new law must report the amounts they released to the environment (via air, water, or land) or shipped off site to waste facilities during the previous year. The first of these reports had to be filed by July 1, 1988.

According to reports filed for 1987, three coastal counties ranked in the top ten statewide for total toxic air emissions. Beaufort County was fourth overall (5.1 million pounds), Brunswick was sixth (4.3 million pounds), and New Hanover was eighth (4.2 million pounds). These three counties each had greater quantities of toxic air emissions than more populated counties such as Mecklenburg and Guilford. Other coastal counties with large toxic air emissions include Craven (1.1 million pounds), Chowan (420,000 pounds), Onslow (200,000 pounds), and Pasquotank (150,000 pounds).

Three facilities in the coastal region ranked among the top ten emitters statewide. Texasgulf's phosphate mining and fertilizer manufacturing plant in Beaufort County reported the greatest quantity of toxic air emissions of any facility in the state (4.5 million pounds). Four million pounds of ammonia accounted for much of Texasgulf's emissions, yet Texasgulf officials have reported tremendous reductions in their ammonia emissions since this data was released (ammonia is a valuable raw material which can be captured and reused in the production process). Still there is much concern over the possible contribution of ammonia emissions to nitrification in nearby estuaries.

DuPont's Cape Fear Plant in Brunswick County ranked second statewide (4.1 million pounds). This facility emitted the greatest quantity of benzene (a known human carcinogen) in the state. Cape

Industries in New Hanover County was ninth overall (1.8 million pounds). Other major air polluters along the coast include Federal Paper Board in New Hanover County, thirteenth overall, (1.4 million pounds) - the Federal Paper Board facility in Columbus County was seventh overall (3.4 million pounds) - and Weyerhaeuser Plymouth Mill in nearby Martin County, 24th overall, (720,000 pounds). Also of great concern is the routine air release of chromium (a known human carcinogen) by Occidental Chemical of New Hanover County. This facility reported the largest air emissions of chromium in the state.

Swift action is needed to protect public health and the environment. Industries can often achieve major reductions in emissions at modest cost, but without enforceable standards they have little incentive to stop polluting. The Environmental Management Commission is expected to address this issue at an upcoming meeting, and we all need to let them know our concerns.

For more information about toxic air pollution or to receive a copy of a statewide report on toxic air emissions, "Drawn with the Wind", contact Ed Norman of the North Carolina Environmental Defense Fund, 128 E. Hargett St., Raleigh, NC 27601, (919) 821-7793.

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Oil & Fishing

By Jan DeBlieu

Lately there's been a lot of discussion about the proposed plan by Mobil Oil to drill offshore for natural gas, and how it might affect the Outer Banks fishing industry.

Some commercial and charter boat fishermen seem to believe that putting gas rigs on the rim of the Gulf Stream will ease the burden of a difficult and dangerous profession.

Proponents of the drilling point to the Gulf of Mexico, where hundreds of fishermen ply their trade in the shadows of oil and gas rigs that reach to dizzying heights. In many cases the rigs attract valuable species of fish, such as dolphin and red snapper.

I can understand why some fishermen find nothing wrong with the Mobil proposal as it has been presented by company officials. But I'd like to raise several points the men from Mobil are not so quick to mention.

The floor of the Gulf is generally muddy and flat, with few structures but oil rigs to draw fish. In comparison, the Manteo wildcat well would be located in an area of the continental slope known to fishermen as The Point. The rugged, rocky bottom already attracts large schools of fish. No one knows whether or not gas rigs will draw in more.

If Mobil finds gas, it will have to lay pipeline to bring the product ashore. In the Gulf trawlers cross pipelines at their own risk; insurance companies generally do not

cover them over known obstructions. A Fisherman's Contingency Fund has been set up to compensate for losses, but filing claims takes time that could be better spent fishing.

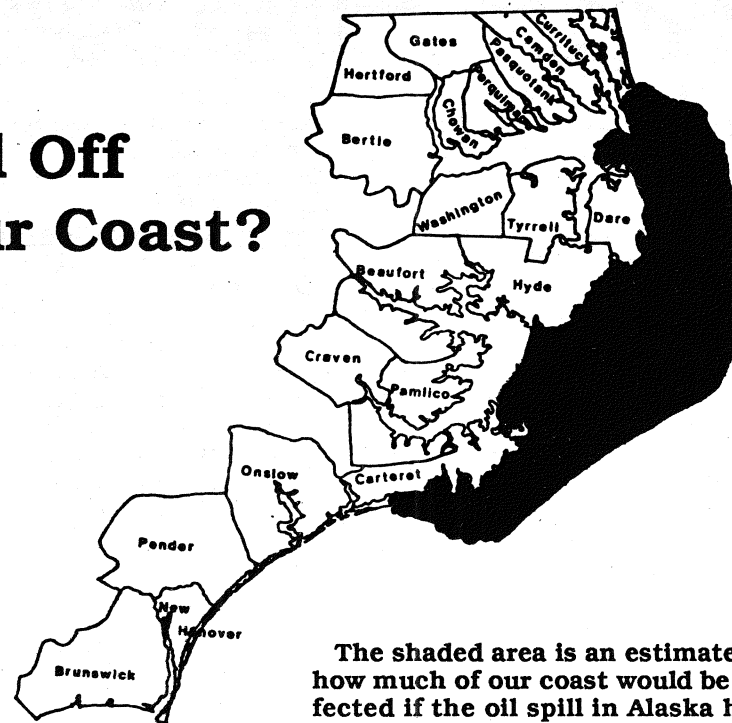
Trawlers may also hang up on abandoned well heads, cables, anchors and debris from rigs. In 1985 the Santa Barbara Fishermen's Association in California reported that 40 percent of their trawl grounds had become unusable because of oil and gas drilling. In 1981 fishermen in Scotland estimated they lost 12 percent of their trawl grounds after two pipelines were installed.

The ocean around the well site is thick with the larvae of commercial species, including bluefish, croaker and spot, throughout the year. Once Mobil begins to drill, it will dump drilling muds and produced water—water trapped inside the geologic formation with the gas—directly into the ocean. These by-products contain heavy metals, carcinogens known to be toxic to fish eggs and significant amounts of oil and grease.

If there is only one well discharging such substances, the Gulf Stream will probably disperse them. But if a major gas reservoir is found, company officials estimate that as many as five drilling rigs would be placed offshore. Each rig would have the capacity to drill 48 wells, giving us a total of more than 200 wells—and billions of barrels of discarded pollutants each year.

Drilling muds contain solid ma-

Oil Off Our Coast?



The shaded area is an estimate how much of our coast would be affected if the oil spill in Alaska had occurred off of North Carolina.

terials that would remain suspended in the water column for some time. Since species like tuna and marlin feed by sight, murky water would adversely affect the fishing.

Recent studies have shown that there is much more exchange of water from the ocean through the inlets than was believed a few years ago. Any pollutants from gas wells may very well end up in Albemarle and Pamlico sounds.

Finally, Mobil officials claim that no one has proven the by-products of oil and gas wells to be harmful to the marine environment. The oil industry occasionally funds its own scientific studies, which generally find drilling operations to have little effect on offshore waters. However, an independent critique by scientists at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution concluded that several frequently cited

industry studies were severely flawed.

Three or four decades ago offshore oil rigs had sprung up like fence posts in the Gulf, thought to go out and measure the productivity of those waters; how they might be harmed by spreading petrochemical industry.

What a shame. If we knew the Gulf has lost or not lost its biological richness over the years, perhaps we would have a better chance of predicting our future in the shadows of the Mobil rigs. As it is, the only hope that, 20 years from now, it will still be possible for North Carolina to support a thriving industry of fishermen.

Jan DeBlieu, the author of "Hatteras Journal," is currently working on a new book about endangered species.



Clip and Mail

Governor James G. Martin
State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor
Raleigh, N.C. 27603-8001

DEAR GOVERNOR MARTIN:

As a concerned citizen I am writing to urge your involvement in the proposed offshore drilling by Mobil Oil in the following ways:

☐ To demand that a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is prepared by the Minerals Management Service (MMS) for the Manteo Well Project.

☐ To take legal action against the Department of Interior (DOI) if the Plan of Exploration (POE) is approved without a new EIS.

☐ I am not in support of offshore oil and gas development.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____ Zip _____
Signature _____
Date _____

The Honorable Walter B. Jones
U.S. House of Representatives
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

DEAR CONGRESSMAN JONES:

As a concerned citizen I am writing to urge your involvement in the proposed offshore drilling by Mobil Oil in the following ways:

☐ To demand that a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is prepared by the Minerals Management Service (MMS) for the Manteo Well Project.

☐ To support a moratorium on the Manteo Well Project in order to prevent the MMS from spending funds to review the Plan of Exploration (POE) until a new EIS is prepared.

☐ I am not in support of offshore oil and gas development.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____ Zip _____
Signature _____
Date _____

Mr. Ralph Ainger
Mid-Atlantic OCS Lease Sales
Minerals Management Service
1951 Kidwell Drive
Vienna, VA 22180

DEAR MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE:
☐ I demand that a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is prepared on the Manteo Well Project.

☐ I hereby offer negative nominations for all oil and gas leases in Lease Sale #121 area. The risks of oil spill and gas leaks are a threat to marine life.

☐ Please enter my name on your mailing list for MMS NEWSLETTER and notice of all public hearings, documents, or opportunity for comment on any step for mid-Atlantic OCS lease sales.

☐ Please notify me of any permit application or EIS proceedings related to the Manteo Well Project.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____ Zip _____
Signature _____

Various Opinions Surface On Lockwoods Folly River

By Stan Welch

Many theories are being offered about why the Lockwoods Folly River in Brunswick County continues to be closed by high bacterial counts.

At a recent meeting of the local conservation group formed to seek solutions, Save Our Shellfish, area resident John Holden drew a parallel between the river's increased bacteria counts and the growth of a sand bar across the river's mouth over the past several years. Holden, whose family was among the first to live on the barrier island named for them, said that the shoaling that has built up in the river's mouth has restricted the flow to the point that it prevents normal tidal flushing of the river.

Holden's theory, which follows months of testing by the state in an attempt to identify the source of the pollution, raised some hopes that relief for the area might be obtainable. However, Save Our Shellfish president and Varnamtown resident Annie Smiegal says that it will still be important to find the sources of pollution to the river if shellfishing is to be completely restored.

The controversy over the river's future grew last year following the closure of 153 acres of shellfish beds in August. Fueling the dispute is the proposal by Channelside Corporation to build a marina along the river's banks as part of their Lockwood Folly golf and residential development. Residents along the river's basin protested, stating concerns that the marina would be the final blow.

The original proposal called for a 100 slip, in-water marina. That was later changed to a dry stack facility. The change was seen by many as an attempt to relieve political pressure on Chris Chappell, the manager of the development, and a county commissioner who was facing reelection. Chappell was defeated in November.

The theory offered by Holden runs

counter to the latest opinions issued by state officials. Mary Joan Pugh, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, said at a recent public meeting that septic tanks pose the greatest threat to the river even though she had no conclusive data to substantiate her opinion. The Division of Environmental Management has looked at surface wastewater, stormwater runoff, animal waste, influx from the Intracoastal Waterway, and septic tanks in an effort to identify the source of pollution. It is suggesting the construction of multimillion dollar wastewater treatment plants for the area's growing developments even though such facilities are likely to encourage even higher density development.

This study seems to contradict the findings of a septic tank survey conducted earlier this year by the Division of Health Services. That survey involved the introduction of dye into more than 400 septic tanks in the area. Only five of the four hundred tanks were found to leak. Tanks tested were those suspected of possible leakage. At the time of the testing, public health officials expressed the opinion that other factors such as land clearing and wetland drainage were probably involved in the bacterial problem.

Congressman Jones Asks

Coastal Water Quality: Going from Bad to Worse?

(Washington, D.C.)—The summer's medical waste beach washups were only the most obvious symptom of a pervasive, national assault on the quality of our coastal waterways and estuarine areas. The magnitude of this problem and a discussion of possible remedies are the topic of a report released today by the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee entitled "Coastal Waters in Jeopardy: Reversing the Decline and Protecting America's Coastal Resources."

Two years and nine hearings after beginning their investigation, the Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment and the Subcommittee on Oceanography have drawn several conclusions, chief among them is that "our coastal waters are in many areas in poor shape and risk further decline unless current trends are reversed."

More aggressive enforcement of compliance with existing federal statutes such as the Clean Water Act and the Coastal Zone Management Act is called for in the report, as is the need to control non-point source pollution (such as run-off from streets and farms), and identify and protect sensitive habitat and nursery areas.

"The report eloquently makes the point that things are bad, getting worse, and will get worse still if immediate and serious attention is not paid to improving water quality along our coasts. It will serve as a

foundation for the Committee and Congress to build upon in the coming year as we review improvements to existing statutes and consider the need for new initiatives to clean up and keep clean coastal waterways. I commend the hard work of the two Subcommittees, especially that of the Chairmen, Gerry Studds and Mike Lowry, who have led this effort," stated full Committee Chairman Walter B. Jones.

"While there are a few bright lights, like the National Estuary Program, which are dealing with the concerns of specific waterbodies such as the Chesapeake Bay and Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds in North Carolina, we must mount a national response to a national problem. This report will help us choose the paths we should follow," Chairman Jones concluded.

Copies of the Report can be obtained from the Committee offices at 1334 Longworth HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515, or by calling 202-225-4047.



Trawlers rest during a bright winter day at a fish house dock on the causeway across the White Oak at Swansboro. A white heron peeks over the crab pots at the photographer, George Hall.

Reprinted from the Carolina Adventure, March, 1989.

Governor Orders Waste Reduction

RALEIGH—Governor Jim Martin issued an executive order on March 2 directing all state environmental control agencies to require permit applicants to consider waste reduction and to restrict waste to the lowest levels possible.

"We cannot afford in North Carolina to ignore the warning signs that are showing up in ever increasing numbers in our environment," Martin said. "Surface and ground waters, the air, vegetation and wildlife are all reacting adversely to the stress we place upon them."

The Governor also urged the N.C. Environmental Management Commission to expedite the development and implementation of rules to control emissions of toxic air pollu-

tants and to set ambient air standards for toxic pollutants.

Martin pointed out that any long-term solution to the state's waste problem is an emphasis on waste stream reduction. The executive order states, "No law, regulation or program aimed at the environmentally safe disposal of wastes of any sort will ultimately be successful if it does not include as its fundamental basis a vigorous and sustained conservation effort, including incentives, education, market development and source reduction techniques such as recycling, recovery and reuse."

Martin said the state's nationally recognized Pollution Prevention Program and its Solid and Hazardous Waste Section will provide the technical assistance to industries with waste disposal problems.

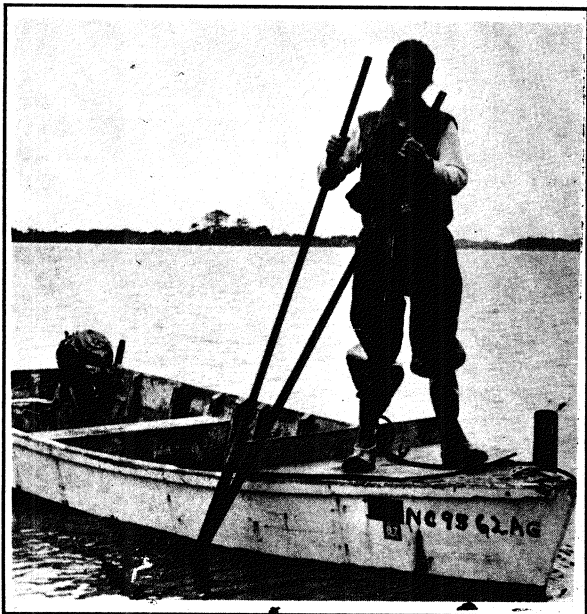
The Last Waterman

By Glenn Lawson

A true story of a Chesapeake waterman, struggling to keep a way of life his family had passed on for 11 generations and fighting for water quality in the bay where the oysters are no longer so abundant.

Available through NCCF for \$10 plus \$2.40 shipping and handling. \$5 from each sale is donated by the author to NCCF.

The North Carolina Coastal Federation
Serves Old Timers, Newcomers And Guests
Strengthened By Thousands Of Members
Who Represent The Coastal Interests:
Fishing, Farming, Tourism, Small Business
And Clean Industry.



Why Should I Join?

- Because clean waters, good fishing, unspoiled beaches and healthy industries can't be taken for granted.
- Because members speaking together are heard more clearly by public officials and decisions benefiting the few over the many are less likely to occur.
- Because "the Coastal Federation helped us defeat a development on Permuda Island that would have polluted our oyster beds," says Lena Ritter of Stump Sound (pictured left).
- Because pressures on our inviting coast are mounting: already a fourth of North Carolina's waters are closed to the taking of shellfish.

NCCF SERVICES INCLUDE

Information

- Members get newsletters and special mailings which alert them to public hearings, while explaining coastal laws, and exploring development issues.
- Members support and attend educational workshops, and enable NCCF personnel to offer technical advice to concerned citizens and public officials on critical issues.

Action

- When needed, NCCF calls members and the public out to public meetings via competerized mailings, telephone trees, and personal contacts, and lines up the necessary experts to testify, as well.
- NCCF assists members and organizations working to seek the enforcement of laws and regulations that protect coastal resources..

Take Your Stand, But Don't Stand Alone.
Join The North Carolina Coastal Federation

NCCF MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ New Member
☐ Renewing Member

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
OCCUPATION/AFFILIATION _____
SPECIAL INTEREST AREA _____

I enclose my tax deductible dues payment of:

TYPE:	Annual Regular	Annual Sustaining	Annual Patron
INDIVIDUAL:	☐ \$10	☐ \$25	☐ \$100
ORGANIZATIONAL:	☐ \$25	☐ \$100	☐ \$200
CORPORATE:	☐ \$100	☐ \$200	☐ \$500
OTHER:	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____

CLIP AND MAIL TO NC COASTAL FEDERATION, 1832 J. BELL LANE (OCEAN), NEWPORT, N.C. 28570

Watching O
For Pender

(Reprinted from the Wilmi
Morning Star, January 18,

Pender County is lucky. hundred people have gottenized to protect themselves their neighbors from pollution planning and general ruin. You don't have to agree PenderWatch and Conservation every issue to admire what members are trying to do as they are going about it.

The basic idea is to study, sue, speak at public meetings with public officials, and—most important of all—careful watch on those who PenderWatch sends members every meeting of the planning and the county commission.

Recognizing that the court depends in large part on state policies and regulations PenderWatch also keeps those issues and makes it known.

Those of us who grew up here sometimes are reluctant involved in politics. We disagree with people. We're that expressing an opinion as us friends or business.

grumble in private about the big building near the water bulldozing of trees, or the regulations that allow pollution the oyster beds.

Private grumbling doesn't bit. What helps is getting out going to meetings, talking politicians and writing People in Pender County know. More important, they're getting of their easy chairs and something about it.

Order
WRAL-TV

SOUND
ADVICE

A Resource Guide
to Reducing
Water Pollution
at Home.

Send check for \$3
made payable to "Sound
Advice" to NCCF, 1832
Bell Lane (Ocean),
Newport, NC 28570

Department of Interior Releases Report Coastal Barrier Resources System

The Coastal Barrier Resources Act was passed by Congress in 1982. It is specifically designed to restrict federally subsidized development of undeveloped barrier islands along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts in order to: (1) Minimize the loss of human life; (2) Reduce the wasteful expenditure of Federal revenues; and (3) Reduce the damage to fish and wildlife habitat and other valuable natural resources of coastal barriers.

The Act prohibits, within areas designated as undeveloped by Congress in 1982, most expenditures of Federal funds which encourage development. The intent of the Act is to remove from undeveloped barrier islands Federal incentives for new development, such as National

Flood Insurance, structural stabilization projects, and Federal assistance for construction of sewer systems, water supply systems, airports, highways, and bridges. The Department of Interior, which is responsible for administering the Act, has now recommended changes to the legislation for Congress to consider.

Key findings of Interior's new report include: (1) There are now over seven million people exposed to potential hurricane storm surges and flooding along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts; (2) The National Flood Insurance Program is one of the largest single financial obligations the U.S. carries. About 70 percent of the over 2 million properties with

coverage are in coastal communities; (3) It is estimated that the costs to the Federal Government of extending its current development programs to remaining undeveloped coastal barriers would be more than five times greater than the costs of public acquisition; and (4) Federal subsidies support reconstruction of development after storms, often increasing the Federal investment in coastal communities that experience repeated destruction by storms.

Key recommendations included in the report are: (1) Expand the areas included in the Coastal Barrier Resources System to include wetlands and coastal sounds behind the existing systems. In North Carolina, this includes portions of the estuaries behind Currituck Banks, Topsail Island, Lea Island Complex in Pender County, Wrightsville Beach, Masonboro Sound and Waites Island Complex in Brunswick County. The report recommends estuarine additions behind North Topsail Island, in Pender County and behind Masonboro Island coincide with waters nominated by the NC Environmental Management Commission for Classification as Outstanding Resource Waters.

(2) Military and Coast Guard lands are excluded from the Act. Barrier islands that are privately owned but protected are also recommended for removal (such as Nature Conservancy holdings on Currituck Banks).

(3) Additional options be devised for reducing federal subsidies to developed islands that are now not part of the Barrier Island Resources System. This might include a gradual phasing out of subsidies over the next 20 years.

A workshop is planned for June 9 at the Duke Marine Lab by the Coast Alliance and the Federation to provide more information about Interior's report.

Hold Onto Those Balloons

The next time you release a helium-filled balloon and watch it rise and drift out of view, consider this: it will travel for days, across hundreds of miles, and chances are good that it will come down in the ocean. Wherever it lands, it will be litter. If it falls into the ocean and is eaten by sea turtles or other marine species; if it washes ashore and is eaten by gulls and ducks, it will be litter that kills.

Balloons have their own category in the catalog of trash collected along the coast during Beach Sweep. There are that many of them littering the beaches. And no wonder! Balloon launches have become somewhat of a tradition at celebrations and festivals. Hundreds are often launched on a single occasion.

Help call attention to the reasons for not launching litter.

And keep your balloons to yourself!

Three National Groups Merge

Three national environmental organizations have combined forces in an effort to focus more attention on global issues such as ocean pollution. The merger will consolidate the Environmental Policy Institute (EPI), Friends of the Earth (FOE) and the Oceanic Society into what leaders hope will be a more powerful voice on environmental issues.

The merger is unusual among Washington-based conservation groups, most of which have built a base of support by specializing in issues such as wildlife preservation, coastal resource management, or wilderness protection. The new organization will be known for now as EPI/FOE.

Plastic Litter

After a discouraging summer filled with news of beach closings because of man-made debris washing ashore, some positive steps will be taken in 1989 to help clean up the marine environment and protect its wildlife.

Two important laws go into effect this year that boaters should be aware of—the U.S. has ratified an international treaty on ocean dumping and also outlawed plastic pollution within the U.S., including inland lakes, rivers and bays.

Effective January 1, it is illegal to dump overboard any plastic trash, no matter how small. This applies to all boats, from small recreational vessels up to ocean liners and commercial freighters, and outlaws plastic trash from a single baggie or monofilament fishing line to a shipload of refuse. Since the treaty, referred to as MARPOL, is an international one, there are no territorial limits to this law. Dumping plastic trash is illegal from coastal estuaries, rivers and bays to the deep ocean waters hundreds of miles out.

The law also allows up to a \$25,000 fine for violators and a citizen "bounty" program. If an individual sees an illegal dumping of trash and reports it to the Coast Guard, he can collect up to half the fine money that may be incurred by the violator. All ports are now required to have adequate trash reception facilities for boats and ships.

Entangled in Six-pack Rings

Strong action against plastic litter is now being taken because it is recognized as one of the most destructive man-made products polluting the nation's waterways. It does not deteriorate after it is discarded and it causes suffering and death to numerous species of marine wildlife. Waterfowl and other animals become entangled in discarded fishing line or plastic six-pack ring holders and die of starvation or strangula-

tion; seals, whales and sea turtles ingest plastic bags they mistake for food and die.

Some 16 states have passed legislation requiring six-pack rings be made of photodegradable plastic that breaks up after exposure to sunlight, and the Congress has followed suit, passing a bill at the end of the last session requiring the EPA to prepare regulations on degradable six-pack holders.

Recreational boaters are the third largest cause of marine litter, discarding an estimated 227 million pounds of trash into our waters each year, according to the National Academy of Science. Merchant ships and commercial fishing ships are the two biggest sources of ocean trash.

A "Highway of Trash"

And the pollution is not just coastal. In *Adrift*, author Steve Callahan writes of survival in a life-raft for 76 days across 1,800 miles of the Atlantic. He tells of drifting into a "highway of trash" stretching as far as the eye could see, of bottles, fishnets, ropes, and polystyrene debris and thought he must finally be near civilization. He was still more than 300 miles from land.

Twenty-two states are part of a marine wildlife stranding network where citizens can call to report an animal in danger and the member agencies will coordinate a response. Some 20 groups have also formed an Entanglement Network to share information and coordinate work to prevent marine wildlife entanglement.

An excellent booklet listing the names, addresses and phone numbers of these groups, along with details on the relevant laws, and what's being done locally is: "A

Citizen's Guide to Plastics in the Ocean" available through CEE, 1725 DeSales St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Lessons from the Grassroots

Institute for Southern Studies in Durham has recently published **Environmental Politics: Lessons from the Grassroots**. The collection of articles about major environmental controversies in North Carolina 1982-87 includes two articles by Robin Epstein on examples of successful organizing in two coastal areas where alliances prevented peat mining in wetlands and the development of Permuda Island. When you order your copy, enclose the coupon below and NCCF will receive half the purchase price.

NCCF

Please send me ___ copies of this unique book about what ordinary North Carolinians are doing at the local and state level to tackle environmental problems that threaten their health, jobs, and way of life.

Enclosed is \$7 for each book ordered. Total enclosed \$_____

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make check payable to Institute for Southern Studies (ISS) and mail to:
"Environmental Politics," ISS, P.O. Box 531, Durham, NC 27702

NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL FEDERATION

SPRING 1989 CALENDAR

APRIL

- 8-9** Carolina Coastal Celebration
A showcase of traditional entertainers, educational exhibits, coastal trades and crafts, seafood. Kerr Scott Building, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh. Sponsored by WRAL-TV.
- 15** Between People and the Earth, experiential workshop.
Kenan Center, Chapel Hill. For more information, call Bibby Moore, 919-967-2246 or Kay Scott, 704-433-6123.
- 22** Topsail Island Festival (NCCF booth)
- 29** Western North Carolina Environmental Summit
With keynote speaker David Morris, Institute for Local Self-Reliance. Morning workshops on groundwater contamination, clearcutting, pesticides, low cost energy, hazardous waste, nuclear waste, solid waste, and recycling, and afternoon panel discussion on land use. Bill Holman, lobbyist for Sierra Club and Conservation Council of NC, will address current legislative issues. 9AM-4PM, Warren Wilson College. Registration fee, \$5; picnic lunch, \$3.50. Call 704-298-3325, ext. 250
- 29** Spring Arts Show, New Bern, NCCF booth

NCCF Annual Meeting

June 10, 1989, Beaufort

You don't want to miss this special day! The schedule for the 7th Annual Meeting includes events that promise to be both informative and recreational, all with a coastal flavor.

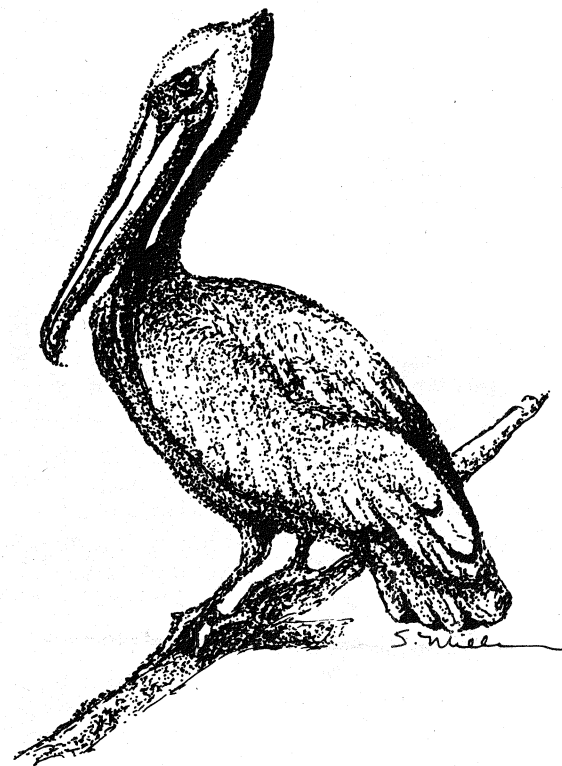
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| 9-10AM | Registration, coffee, fruit and pastries |
| 10-10:30 | Annual update on NCCF activities |
| 10:30-11 | Keynote Speaker Bill Cobey, Secretary, NC Dept. Natural Resources and Community Development |
| 11-11:15 | Break |
| 11:15-12:15 | Press panel with moderator John Greene, Senior VP and General Manager of WRAL-TV5 and journalists from across the state will address the role of the press in coastal management issues and offer advice on working effectively with the press |
| 12:15-1:15 | Lunch, DUML |
| 1:15-2:15 | Success stories from 4 member groups |
| 2:15-2:30 | Wrap-up |

From 2:30-5, the following options will be offered on a first-register, first-reserved basis:

- Informal roundtable discussion with a panel of experts on current legislation, CAMA and CRC updates and other coastal issues.
- Trawl trip on First Mate, Duke Lab research vessel.
- Tour of six historic houses guided by the Beaufort Historical Association.
- Boat trip, birdwatching and beachcombing on Carrott Island with Joanne Powell, NC Maritime Museum.
- Coastal Birdwatching with John Fussell.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 5:15-7 | Shrimperoo dinner prepared by the Carteret Wildlife Club |
| 7:30-9:30 | Special entertainment from a couple of Coastal Cohorts, Bland Simpson and Jim Wann |
| 9:30-11PM | Coffee and dessert cruise of the Beaufort waterfront on the tourboat Mystery for NCCF patrons |

Registration forms for the 7th Annual Meeting will be mailed May 1. JOIN US!



MAY

- 8, 10 & 11** Public Hearings on Water Quality Standards Revisions:
May 8 at Simpson Administration Building, Asheville-Bucombe Technical Institute, Asheville, NC; **May 10** at Archd. Building, Ground Floor Hearing Room, 512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh; and **May 11** at the North Carolina Aquarium, Pine Knolls Shores. All public hearings are at 7:00 p.m.

JUNE

- 9** Coastal Protection Workshop, Duke Marine Lab, Beaufort.
Join national, regional and state conservationists to address proposed additions to the protective Coastal Barrier Resource System along N.C. and the South Atlantic. The U. S. Congress will soon consider a proposal to add another 364,000 acres along the South Atlantic coast to the system, protecting coastal areas from tax-payer funded development that destroys important wildlife and fisheries habitat, impairs water quality, and reduces public access to the coast. Hosted by the Coast Alliance, National Wildlife Federation, and NCCF, the workshop will be held at Duke Marine Lab in Beaufort from 9:30AM-4:30 PM. Registration fee of \$10 covers lunch and all printed materials. Contact Melissa Sagun, Coast Alliance, 1536 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20036, (202)265-5518, or Todd Miller at NCCF.

- 10** Annual NCCF Meeting, Duke Marine Lab, Beaufort.

JULY

- 4** Festival for the Eno, Durham (NCCF booth)
- 7** Croaker Festival, Oriental (NCCF booth)