

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
AUGUST 22, 1989

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Dr. Ernie Carl. The agenda was revised by adding a report from the Publications Review Subcommittee. The revised agenda was unanimously approved by the Committee. (Attendees: Attachment A)

I. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the Technical Committee minutes of May 10, 1989, was made by Mr. David Sides, seconded by Dr. B. J. Copeland and unanimously approved.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Robert Holman gave a status report on the activities of the program (Attachment B). On May 18, Mr. Wilms and Dr. Holman met with officials from Manteo and Engelhard to explore artificial wetlands wastewater treatment systems. Manteo is not suitable due to location with water classification. Engelhard is interested but is at a standstill due to the inability to obtain ~\$27,000 for a feasibility study. DEM and the A/P Study are still interested in pursuing this type of alternative wastewater management type system perhaps in another area of the Study if Engelhard is unable to come up the necessary money.

Joan Giordano reported on a variety of public involvement activities which have occurred since the last Technical Committee meeting. (Attachment C).

Dr. Holman said that the Striped Bass Study will be discussed during the round table meeting on August 30 in Williamston. Four key areas are being looked at in the Striped Bass Study: synthesize all relevant striped bass data; monitor striped bass population; determine cause of decline and identify management needs; and prepare the final report. Dr. Hogarth said the completion date for this study is 1992; however, when Congress passed the Striped Bass Act they failed to authorized any funds.

Dr. Holman and Dr. Carl briefly explained the organizational structure of the newly created Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources.

III. FUNDING STATUS FY 1989

Mr. Ted Bisterfeld explained the funding status of the original six estuary programs. The A/P Study received approximately \$300,000 less federal money this year. The total funding for the A/P Study this year is \$1,850,000 of which \$275,000 went to match the USGS survey for their

monitoring efforts and several other specific projects. Ten separate funding actions are involved of which all but one are amendments to existing agreements. Discussion occurred regarding changing project starting dates from July to October in the Call for Proposals. The next Call for Proposals will have a starting date of August 1.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Publications Review Subcommittee - Dr. Carl

There have been some problems with two public participation projects. The PRS met several times to review these public participation products. Public participation products must be correct because of the audience for whom they are produced. The process for reviewing these products must be clarified. More detailed Call for Proposals are needed. Also when contracts or awards are granted, they must state clearly what is expected.

Discussion ensued regarding the system by which the A/P Study projects are funded.

Dr. Orbach noted that the Publications Review Subcommittee has recommended that a formal, written instrument of approval go to the contractor prior to final production on any product and that this policy be communicated upfront with the contractors. Dr. Holman said he and Joan Giordano are putting together language that will be incorporated into the contracts or cooperative agreements. Dr. Holman noted that the Publications Review Subcommittee will meet following the Technical Meeting to go into this in more detail.

Standard Operating Procedures

Dr. Holman sent to the SOP a Milestones document required by EPA. Based on comments from the SOP the document was revised and sent to all committee members. EPA requires 20 milestones for the A/P Study. The A/P Study is on schedule with the milestones. However, EPA requires a Consistency Report for which there are currently no development guidelines. The A/P Study has contracted with Robert Nichols from RTI to prepare this report; however, he needs EPA guidelines on how this should be done, the CCMP outline, and the Status and Trends Report so he can mesh the three together. The Policy Committee will be asked on August 31 to request a six month extension from EPA on this milestone due December, 1989. The Consistency Report is to determine federal programs (grant, regulatory, etc.) consistency with the goals and objectives of the A/P Study. No estuary program has produced a consistency report yet. Dr. Holman indicated he is putting together an outline to send to OMEP for their consideration.

On August 11 the SOP drafted a skeleton outline of the CCMP based on what the other estuarine programs have done. The biggest gap is action plan recommendations. The schedule is late winter or early spring to complete the draft CCMP outline. The SOP is to continue work on the draft with review from the TC. This will be presented to the Policy Committee for their consideration at a later date.

Mr. Barrett said there are two problems: 1) fisheries productivity and 2) water quality. He suggested that a subset of fisheries productivity would include health of aquatic resources, changes in distribution patterns of sessile organisms, impairment of nursery area functions, and habitat loss. Subsets under water quality are anoxia related fish kills, eutrophication in shellfish closures. The current outline is too abstract. Barrett suggested coming up with the universe of issues or solutions that would address either WQ or fisheries areas and things that could be implementable by some level of government. Barrett came up with four sets: flow management, land use controls, point and nonpoint source controls and remedial actions which would include such things as dealing with contaminated sediments, dredging, wetland construction or reconstruction and perhaps isolation of in-place pollution sources.

Dr. Orbach suggested considering the four areas originally conceptualized in the workplan: fisheries, critical habitats, WQ and human environment.

Mr. Barrett said this is a critical document--the basis for five or six years of work and the importance of doing this right cannot be overstated.

Dr. Orbach said there has been talk of an outside authority organized to develop the CCMP and that the approach for its development should be agreed upon. Dr. Holman said the final program milestone is the CCMP.

A motion was made by Dr. Orbach to support the approach outlined under the modified January 1990 milestone as the recommended approach in developing the CCMP outline; that is, the SOP committee take responsibility for producing further drafts of the CCMP that will then be treated by the TC and outside advice, if necessary, in the aim for a draft outline document to submit to EPA in the spring of 1990. Tom Ellis seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. Dr. Holman is to send out a memo regarding this to the entire TC.

Technical Review Committee - Holman

The TRC met on August 18 to develop a list of proposed technical recommendations for FY 1990 CFP based on Committee input at this point and some input from the Status and Trends

Report (Attachment D). The Public Affairs Subcommittee met earlier to discuss public participation needs. The CFP will be sent out around November 17.

Information Management Subcommittee - Randy Waite

There are five documents the data management section is to produce.

- 1) Data Requirements document, a semi-technical listing and brief description of the map and tabular data to be included in the system, has been prepared in draft form and reviewed by the subcommittee. Comments have been given to Tim Johnson and LRIS will be incorporating these and getting a draft to the TC for review.
- 2) Functional Description Document is also a non-technical system overview and design manual. It is in early draft form and should be coming to the subcommittee for review soon. Once reviewed and revised it will go to the TC for review.
- 3/4) Subsystems specification document and data base specifications document are both to be technical documents. These were scheduled for September 1989 but have been delayed until December.
- 5) Users Manual or manuals for the entire system this will be completed around September 1992. User manuals will come out as software is released.

Monitoring Subcommittee - Paul Wilms

The Monitoring Subcommittee met on July 25 to review the status of various projects in the Baseline Water Quality Monitoring program. Elements include: citizens monitoring, emergency response, continuous monitoring and ambient/synoptic biological primarily done by DEM. Emergency response capability is basically the Pamlico Emergency Response Team (PERT). DEM bought a new vessel for them and dedicated it on July 27, 1989. DMF is maintaining it in Washington. Their annual plan will be available by the Annual Meeting. Under the USGS continuous monitoring system, 38 of 40 sites have been permitted; two sites were not permitted basically because of the lack of tripod pylons; 32 of the 38 sites are operational; 6 will be shortly. The expanded ambient water quality network is in place. The survey of fish tissue toxicants is complete. The data should be available in final form by early September. The synoptic water quality studies were done on July 25, 1989. There was only marginal cloud cover and should provide an opportunity to correlate that with the satellite overflight data. The SOD work has been done. Some of those data are now available and all will be available probably in September. Mr. Wilms

discussed the status of the various demonstration projects. The Merchants Mill Pond Study has experienced some wet weather delays but it is now ongoing (\$175,000). Both the Chowan River Basin (NC/Solid Set Waste Management Systems) and the Chowan River Basin/VA Animal Waste Management project contracts were signed in May and are ready to go. The Committee is going into the field as a group to visit some of the demonstration projects, especially the solid set waste management system. This will probably occur in September.

Dr. Holman said the TC reviewed the Baseline Monitoring Plan and comments have been incorporated by the Monitoring Subcommittee. The document was put together to bring all committees up-to-date on this area.

Dr. Holman also said in negotiations with researchers, \$100,000 was saved which was provided to USGS to keep their project ongoing. Dr. Holman has worked out an arrangement with Paul Wilms and Steve Tedder to get the ambient monitoring effort continued. The ambient networking program is covered for this year only.

Citizens Affairs Subcommittee - Mike Orbach

The CAS met prior to the TC meeting to begin the process for developing the CFP. Some ideas were developed. The CAC chairmen will ask the CACs to begin to develop ideas for items to add to the citizen involvement call for proposal. Dr. Orbach will send a formal letter to them to solicit their ideas. The committee will meet prior to the November meeting to put those proposals together. The public participation CFP will be separate from the Technical CFP. A recommendation will be submitted for approval by the TC.

V. REVIEW PRELIMINARY STATUS/TRENDS

EPA sent NCSU the Cooperative Agreement in April. Work groups were organized in May. Dave Adams headed up Critical Habitats; Copeland - Water Quality; Hogarth - Fisheries; and Dave Brower - Human Use Conflicts. By mid-July the draft sent to the TC was ready. The second draft is now in process. Comments have been received from most work groups on each chapter. Approximately 45 people have been involved in the project. Technical experts, citizen members and VA representatives have been involved in developing draft STR. Jeri Gray from WRRRI is the technical editor for the STR. There also will be developed a smaller document for public distribution which will give a general sketch of what is seen as being the status and trends of the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study.

The second draft will be completed during the week of August 24. The goal is to have the conclusion section written by the Annual Researchers' Review Workshop on

September 14. The final preliminary draft document will be ready for print in October.

Some overall conclusions have been determined.

1. There is more known about the Pamlico than the Albemarle. The amount of information available for the Albemarle Sound area is relatively limited.
2. Very little is known about cause and effect relationships for anadromous fish.

Dr. Copeland continued with a brief overview of the preliminary Status and Trends Report. He will make similar presentations to the Albemarle CAC on August 23 and the Pamlico CAC on August 24.

The second draft is to be completed the week of August 28. A final draft will be printed in October. This will be a preliminary document to be presented at public meetings. Comments will be incorporated, along with research efforts, particularly land use, into the final document to be ready by October 1990.

VI. MEETING SCHEDULE

Dr. Holman reviewed the meeting schedule for the remainder of 1989 and the proposed schedule for 1990 (Attachments E/F). He noted that the annual public meeting has been delayed from October 6 to November 4 in Edenton. Also the Call for Proposals is to go out tentatively on November 17. Dr. Orbach suggested that Dr. Holman point out to the Policy Committee on August 31 that the CFPs will go out before they will have a chance to review them as a group.

Ted Bisterfeld said that Dr. Bud Cross has requested a presentation on the Ambient Monitoring Program during the Policy Committee meeting on August 31.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

(B2/tc8-22.min)

August 22, 1989

Attachment A

A/P Study - Technical Committee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Tom Ellis	NC Dept. of Agriculture
MIKE ORBACH	NC MARINE SCIENCE COUNCIL
CHUCK NUSSON	A/P STAFF
Fred Harris	wildlife Resources Comm.
Cecil W. Dault	Soil Conservation Service
DAVID W. Sides	EHNR - Soil & Water
R. Paul Williams	DEHNR - DEM
Bill Hogarth	DEHNR - DMF
Jeri Gray	WRRI
Heeme Schultz	Albemarle Commission
Don Hoss	NOAA / NMFS
B J Copeland	UNC Sea Grant
RANDALL G. WAITE	U.S. EPA, REGION III
Ted Bisterfeld	US EPA, Region IV Atlanta
Harry Minock	Virginia Council on the Environment
Robert Holman	A/P Study - Staff
Bruce Barnett	EPA, Reg IV
Ernie Carl	EHNR
George Everett	DCM
Grace Giordano	A/P Study Staff
Karon Donnelly	A/P Study Staff
Kathy Davis	A/P Study

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY
DIRECTOR'S REPORT

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
August 22, 1989

1) EARLY DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

- a) Greenville Urban BMP project approved by OMEP on June 6, 1989
- b) Possibility of other funds available for one of the remaining four projects

2) INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- a) A companion document to the Users' Needs Assessment Report (UNAR) entitled "Functional Description" will be sent to the subcommittee in August, 1989, for review. This second document provides a conceptual view of the software functions and interaction of the geographic information system from a user's perspective. It is a more detailed description of system design than is defined in the A/P Study Work Plan (1987).
- b) Land Resources Information Service (LRIS) is developing an atlas of all the information layers that are currently available from the geographic information system (GIS) for the A/P Study area. The atlas will be available at the Researchers' Annual Workshop (September 14, 1989).

3) TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEES

All six subcommittees have been active; all committees have had at least one meeting since the last Technical meeting on May 10, 1989. The information management subcommittee has been communicating by telephone and mail.

4) MEETINGS

- a) May 22 - VA/NC Chesapeake, VA - Status and Trends
- b) May 23 - Meet with three COGs - Early Demonstration
Mid-East/8/17--Albemarle/8-28--Neuse River/9-11
- c) May 18 - Artificial Wetland Wastewater Treatment (Manteo/Engelhard)
- d) June 13 - Presentation Pulp & Paper Industry
- e) June 14 - Press Conference - Washington Update Program Status
- f) July 11 - Presentation Coastal Zone '89, Charleston, SC
Also at least three researcher presentations

- 5) STATE/FEDERAL INTERACTION MEETING - September 13, 1989
- ANNUAL RESEARCHERS' REVIEW WORKSHOP - September 14, 1989

- 6) UPDATE ON DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT:
Tar/Pamlico Basin Designation (EMC-Sept.)
Chowan River Water Quality Plan - Dec. 1982 (Internal & Virginia Review Stage)

7) FY 1989 BUDGET

- a) Annual Work Plan for OMEP approved June 12, 1989, and files/funds being transferred to EPA IV Office
- b) Expansion Funds - Legislative Committee

Public Involvement Report for Technical Committee
August 22, 1989

1. Public Involvement Plan has been sent to all committees.
2. Newsletter - July edition has been mailed. The next edition will be in September.
3. Lib Willard's PSAs, 5 @ 30 seconds each, are running in Raleigh, Fayetteville, and Greenville. Responses are being recorded and info sent to respondents.
4. The Citizens' Advisory Committees are meeting regularly.
5. A/P Study exhibit was displayed at NC Coastal Federation's Annual Meeting in June. The exhibit is presently on display at Ft. Fisher Aquarium in Wilmington.
6. Public Involvement office has completed contacts for collection of photos needed for State of the Estuary Booklet. Scheduled date of completion for booklet is September.
7. Contract on State Fair Exhibit on Primary Nursery Areas has been let. We will share the cost of the exhibit with Divisions of Soil & Water and Coastal Management. State Fair meetings are held monthly in Raleigh.
8. A/P Study's first of several planned press conferences was held in Washington on June 14th. Three networks, NBC, CBS, and ABC were in attendance as were five newspapers.
9. All P.I.s for third funding cycle attended an informational meeting at Public Involvement Office to become acquainted and apprised of each other's work.
10. A meeting with three COGs in A/P Study area was held at Public Involvement Office for purpose of involving them in the governmental liaison network proposed in the Public Involvement Plan.
11. Public Involvement Coordinator made a presentation on the Public Involvement portion of the A/P Study to the Mid-East Commission.
12. Public Involvement Coordinator has met with Community Outreach Representative from the Pamlico-Tar River Foundation and the Albemarle Environmental Association (3rd Cycle funded projects) for the purpose of designing local government liaison network.

13. Public Involvement Coordinator has met with Lee Wing and Sid Baines of the Agency for Public Telecommunications and NC Wildlife Resources Commission respectively, for the purpose of A/P Study participation in their educational efforts. A similar meeting with Ag Extension Service is planned for the near future.
14. Public Involvement Coordinator attended a seminar on Aquatic Project Wild which demonstrated varied techniques for educating students about enviromental issues pertaining to water and wildlife.
15. Plans for the next Rountable/Policy Committee meetings (Aug 30 & 31), State and Federal Researchers Review meeting (Sept 13 & 14) have been completed. Preliminary planning meetings for the Annual Meeting have taken place. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 4th probably in Edenton.

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY

Technical Review Subcommittee

Call for Proposal Recommendations - FY 1990

- 1) Identify submerged aquatic vegetation beds
- 2) Compile existing data on toxicants in the water, sediment and animal tissue
- 3) Develop nutrient loadings and budgets for all major tributaries including land use based nonpoint source loadings.
- 4) Flow and flow patterns for the Albemarle Sound Estuary
- 5) Fisheries issues
 - fish and crab disease
 - anoxic conditions
 - competition for the resource
- 6) Social and economic factors
 - alternative strategies including costs
 - public input statewide not just A/P Study area
- 7) Currituck Sound Watershed Management Plan

*Legislative and local government interaction with study

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY - 1990

<u>DATES FOR 1990</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
JANUARY 12	REVIEW CALL FOR PROPOSALS (SUBMITTAL DUE DATE)
FEBRUARY 5/9	CAC MEETINGS TO EVALUATE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS
FEBRUARY 20	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING TO CONSIDER SUBCOMMITTEES' PROPOSAL RECOMMENDATIONS
FEBRUARY 27	ROUNDTABLE MEETING OF ALL COMMITTEES
FEBRUARY 28	POLICY MEETING TO CONSIDER TECHNICAL COMMITTEES' PROPOSALS AND ANNUAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS
MARCH 2	RETURN SELECTED PROPOSALS TO AUTHORS FOR REVISIONS
MARCH 16	REVISED PROPOSALS TO DIRECTOR/SUBCOMMITTEES
APRIL 13	FINAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT PACKAGES
APRIL 23/27	CAC MEETINGS
MAY 9	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 1	PROJECTED EPA AWARD OF FUNDING
AUGUST 6/10	CAC MEETINGS
AUGUST 21	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 29	ROUNDTABLE MEETING OF ALL COMMITTEES
AUGUST 30	POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13	ANNUAL RESEARCHERS' REVIEW WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 18	TECHNICAL REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 5	ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING
NOVEMBER 5/9	CAC MEETINGS
NOVEMBER 16	CALL FOR PROPOSALS SENT OUT
NOVEMBER 20	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 27	POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

8/21/89