

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

AUGUST 20, 1991

ARCHDALE BUILDING

RALEIGH, NC

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Dr. Ernie Carl, co-chair of the Technical Committee. The attendees are listed in Attachment A. The agenda was modified to allow Mr. Bruce Lloyd, U. S. Geological Survey, to speak on the USGS National Water Quality Assessment Program.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Mr. Randy Waite suggested a clarification in the the May 8 Technical Committee minutes regarding in-direct costs. In-direct costs have been included in the APES approved budget each year (~7.2% for salaries only) but have never been shown as an expenditure in the Department's budget for APES. The Department assessed these charges at the end of each fiscal year. Dr. Carl stated he thought it had been agreed at the program's beginning that no overhead would be charged and said he would look into the possibility of reverting it back to the Study. **Mr. Cecil Settle made a motion to approve the minutes as revised; Mr. Jim Turner seconded the motion which carried.**

NATIONAL WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM/USGS

Mr. Bruce Lloyd, USGS, summarized the National Water Quality Assessment Program (NAWQA). Long-term goals are to describe the status and trends in the quality of a large, representative part of the nation's surface- and ground-water resources and to provide a sound, scientific understanding of the primary natural and human factors affecting the quality of these resources. The 60-study units which make up the NAWQA program are hydrologic systems that include parts of most major river basins and aquifer systems. The Albemarle-Pamlico drainage area is among the first 20 NAWQA units selected for study under the program (note: The study area does not extend into the sounds). Each study unit investigation will have a local liaison committee consisting of representatives who have water resource responsibilities from federal, state and local agencies, universities, and the private sector. Ms. Jennifer Steel serves on the liaison committee for the A/P Study. Specific activities of each liaison committee will include the exchange of information about water quality issues of regional and local interest, identification of sources of data and information, assistance in the design and scope of project products, and review of project planning documents and reports. NAWQA will produce for the Albemarle-Pamlico drainage area a description of water quality and trends, information on geographic distribution of contaminants, and the relationship between contaminants and other factors.

PROGRAM REPORTS

EPA Project Officer

Mr. Bowman Crum reported for Mr. Ted Bisterfeld, EPA Project Officer, who was not in attendance (Attachment B).

Mr. Crum also reported that Ms. Virginia Tippie has been named the new director for the Coastal America program. Although Congress did not appropriate funds for Coastal America, other funding sources are being investigated.

The Gulf Breeze Environmental Research Laboratory has agreed to conduct the sediment toxicity tests approved by the A/P Study for FY 91-92. Gulf Breeze should be able to complete the tests during the fall.

Program Director

Mr. Waite reported that on June 8 the Policy Committee approved the Status and Trends Report as a "living" document to be updated as warranted. Final proofing is being completed and it will soon be ready for distribution.

The Policy Committee approved the Target Environmental Goals with slight modifications. These were discussed later during the meeting. The Policy Committee directed the Technical Committee to produce more specific objectives to quantify the goals by the December 4 Policy Committee meeting. Staff has organized four objectives workgroups which have each met once.

The Policy Committee discussed the CCMP Steering Committee concept and determined that the existing 90 member management conference would all be Steering Committee members, therefore, All 90 members will review and have input into the CCMP. Ad hoc committees will be formed utilizing the 90 member management conference, plus outside experts, as issues require. It was suggested during the Technical Committee meeting that it be re-enforced to the 90 member management conference that participation is encouraged in all meetings. It was requested that meeting notices be sent in a timely manner to allow adequate planning for participation. The CCMP development schedule allows for (1) the development of specific, quantifiable goals and objectives due December 4, (2) a first draft CCMP by March '92, (3) public meetings during Spring '92, (4) a second CCMP draft by August '92, (5) public meetings during Fall '92, and (6) the final CCMP by November '92.

The Policy Committee approved the expenditure of funds to contract with two individuals to provide technical assistance to the current staff in researching and writing the CCMP. One individual is to begin work on August 26 and the selection process for the second staff member is underway.

The FY 91-92 State appropriations for APES total \$500,769.

CGIA will be transferred from DEHNR to the Office of State Planning in the Governor's Office. CGIA will become the central GIS computer agency for the State. APES views this transfer as a positive move.

Mr. Waite reported that Dr. Costanza attended a meeting in the APES office to discuss his proposed project on economic valuation of wetlands. It was determined that no information could be provided that would be directly applicable to APES and specifically useful in the CCMP. Dr. Costanza agreed that the most APES would get immediately from the project would be to define where gaps in information exist for economic valuations. In addition, the values would be so broad that they would be unusable for our purposes. During the meeting it was explored whether information could be developed on specific productivity of headwater wetlands instead of economics. However, discussions with DEM wetlands staff indicate more could be obtained if APES coordinates with DEM to assist DEM in studies looking at function and productivity of wetlands and classification of wetlands. Mr. Waite recommended to the Technical Committee that the Costanza project be dropped from the FY 91-92 budget.

Mr. Tom Ellis made a motion to recommend that the Policy Committee accept Mr. Waite's recommendation not to fund the Costanza project; Mr. Don Hoss seconded the motion which was approved.

Mr. Crum made a motion that the \$37,388 available as a result of dropping the Costanza project be left unspent to be used at the discretion of the Project Director with approval by the Technical and Policy Committee in order to fill information gaps in the CCMP. Mr. David Sides seconded the motion which passed.

Dr. Bill Hogarth suggested that APES provide funds (~\$5,000) to test fishing gear modification (haul nets/pound nets). The Committee suggested Dr. Hogarth submit a proposal for this work to be reviewed by the Technical Review Subcommittee for possible APES funding.

Mr. Waite reported that the "Shell Disease in Blue Crab" researchers (Noga/Engel) revised their proposal and reduced the budget as recommended by the Technical Committee. However, the revised proposal may not meet the Committee's concerns it will mostly substantiate the results found in the previous studies and will not determine what is causing shell disease. However, the researchers assumed that after revising the project and cutting costs they were approved to begin work on the project even though a final workplan has not been approved and no contract has been issued by APES. It was noted that work has begun in previous years prior to contracts being issued due to the need to start some work during certain seasons. Also, EPA funding normally does not occur until October or later which is sometime too late for seasonal work. The Technical Committee discussed this project at length. The Technical Committee asked the Technical Review Subcommittee to again review this project as soon as possible to determine if any useful information for CCMP Development will be obtained. The Technical Review Subcommittee should also determine if any funds should be paid to the researchers if the project is not accepted. Recommendations from the Subcommittee will be forwarded to the Policy Committee for action.

Technical Coordinator's Report

Ms. Jennifer Steel gave a status report on projects:

- 1) "Oyster Success in Pamlico"/Sutherland: final submitted
- 2) "Reduction in Nutrient Loading"/Kuenzler: final submitted
- 3) "Shell Disease in Blue Crab"/Noga-Engel: final submitted/typos
- 4) "Coupling Study"/Pietrafesa: final due 8/31/91
- 5) "Non-Point Source Handbook"/Hoban: final form
- 6) "Heavy Metals in Neuse"/Riggs: final due
- 7) "Striped Bass Eggs '89"/Rulifson: draft due
- 8) Status and Trends Report: final form/proofing stage
- 9) Summary Report on APES Funded Projects: draft available

Dr. Hogarth asked to review the Sutherland report before it is printed for distribution.

Public Involvement Coordinator's Report

Mrs. Joan Giordano reported on public participation activities (Attachment C). The Committee viewed the final Public Service Announcements (PSAs) targeted at specific audiences (farmers, boaters, etc.) Secretary Cobey has contacted TV stations across the state asking that the PSAs be aired. Dr. John Costlow has volunteered to make contacts in the Greensboro market. Mrs. Giordano noted assistance is welcomed in contacting Virginia stations to encourage the airing of the PSAs.

All data collected by the Citizens' Water Quality Monitoring Program has been loaded onto the CGIA system. Research is ongoing regarding remote access of the data to be demonstrated at the Annual Meeting.

The Researchers' Review Workshop will be held on October 11 in Manteo, followed by the Annual Public Meeting on October 12. Details are still being developed.

The Pamlico and Albemarle CAC chairmen have been asked to nominate five representatives from each CAC to serve on a Workgroup for Citizen Involvement in the CCMP development and implementation process.

Citizens' Advisory Committees

Mr. John Stallings reported that a joint CAC meeting was held in Williamston on August 6. Mr. Stallings and Dr. Ernie Larkin noted the CACs expressed concern over the lack of adequate notice of meetings and adequate time to review materials. APES staff was requested to notify the CACs of all meetings scheduled and to provide them with the names of individuals on the various workgroups in order for information or concerns to be shared since not everyone can attend all meetings. Those attending the Williamston meeting felt the Target Environmental Goals and Objectives were too general, needed more specificity, detailed standards listed, and more quantifiable objectives. The CACs were concerned that they were being left out of the CCMP process but that concern should have been alleviated with the development of the Ad hoc Subcommittees.

PUGET SOUND MANAGEMENT PLAN/CCMP FORMAT

Mr. Waite distributed for discussion an abbreviated sample of the Puget Sound CCMP. Funding and structure of the Puget Sound CCMP were discussed by the Technical Committee. The Committee felt the Puget Sound CCMP only sets up a system to analyze problems and find solutions which is the function of the Management Conference. Mr. Waite noted there are many program-specific recommendations in the Puget Sound plan. Also, the CACs have suggested establishing a geographic approach in the APES management plan; Puget Sound only touched on in one or two sections.

ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Puget Sound CCMP format lead to discussion on the Target Environmental Goals and Objectives. Mr. Waite said the objectives are set up to establish specific, quantifiable, targets; however, much of the information necessary to develop the objectives is lacking. IN general, the Committee supported the direction of the objectives. Dr. Orbach cautioned setting industry, economic, or social configuration goals as opposed to environmental quality goals. Dr. Orbach commented that the goals and objectives are a good beginning; however, there are gaps (public trust rights and public access are not addressed). Also, an outline and format should be developed quickly which will help determine direction. A workgroup will be convened after the Policy Committee meeting to develop the CCMP outline. Mr. Waite asked the Committee to submit comments on the Target Goals and Objectives by September 10. Dr. Larkin suggested staff send a follow-up letter to the CACs to let them know the importance of their comments and to ask explicitly for written comments.

Mr. Waite also noted that all comments received are considered and weighed for inclusion. It was suggested that the staff compile all comments as a formal record.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.

Technical Committee Attendees

August 20, 1991

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>
JOAN GIORDANO	APES
TOM ELLIS	N.C. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
JIM TURNER	U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DAVID SIDES	EHNR DIVISION OF SOIL & WATER
CECIL SETTLE	USDA-SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
O. BRUCE LLOYD, JR.	U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
ANN DEWITT BROOKS	VA COUNCIL ON THE ENVIRONMENT
BOB HOLMAN	WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
WILLIAM W. COLE, JR.	U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
BILL HOGARTH	EHNR DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
TOM QUAY	PAMLICO CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TOM STROUD	PAMLICO-TAR RIVER FOUNDATION
ROBBIE BLINKOFF	ECU/CITIZENS' MONITORING NETWORK
MIKE WICKER	U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
DON HOSS	NOAA/NAT'L MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
ERNIE LARKIN	PAMLICO CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JOHN STALLINGS	ALBEMARLE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMM.
JENNIFER STEEL	APES
BOWMAN CRUM	U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
RANDALL G. WAITE	APES
ERNIE CARL	EHNR
KATHY NORRIS	APES
MIKE ORBACH	ECU/TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
EVAN BRUNSON	EHNR DIVISION OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT

PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 20, 1991

1. FUNDING FOR FY-91 - All grant applications were submitted to the Grants Administration Office by August 1. All work covered in the Annual Work Plan will be funded through three mechanisms:

Cooperative Agreement w/ Research Triangle Institute
Interagency Agreement w/ National Marine Fisheries
Cooperative Agreement w/ DEHNR.

RTI and NMFS agreements have been issued or should be very soon. Additional information is being supplied before the DEHNR agreement can be issued.

2. ACTION PLAN DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS - We received supplemental funding from EPA Headquarters for just one of three projects submitted (Composting Animal Carcasses and Seafood Processing Wastes). Headquarters agreed to recommend the By-catch Reduction Gear Implementation Project proposal to the NOAA Coastal Ocean Program at our request.
3. Project Officer participated in the series of meetings on setting objectives, and commented on the draft list.
4. COASTAL AMERICA - Three projects with relevance to the A/P Sounds Work Plan were selected by the multi-agency Regional Implementation Team. The RIT must select five of 24 proposals (list available) to submit to EPA Headquarters. If no FY92 funds become available, the selected projects will be used as a basis for 1993. Despite uncertain funding and shortage of time, the parties involved considered the exercise worthwhile because of the collaborative effort.
5. Headquarters comments on our Annual Work Plan indicated concern about meeting commitments for finishing the CCMP in 1992. A minor comment was made about confusing tables summarizing funding.
6. A number of expired grants have all work completed and are candidates for being closed-out. The Project Officer will be working on them soon.

Public Involvement Coordinator's Report
August 1991

1. Citizens' Advisory Committees (CACs)
 - Continue to meet quarterly
 - Meeting jointly
 - Meeting notices sent to public officials, interested citizens and newspapers in area
 - CAC members continue to share program information with community, civic and educational organizations; also are accompanying outreach personnel on local government presentations

2. Exhibits
 - Free standing (depicting Early Demo Projects) and Nursery Area Model will be used at EHNR Regional Office Building Dedication on Sept. 6 in Washington
 - Both exhibits will be used during Swampfest in Gatesville on Saturday, Sept. 28
 - Free standing exhibit will be used at the Marine Expo in Wilmington, Oct. 3-6
 - Exhibits are available for use around the study area upon request
 - APES contribution to the EHNR State Fair exhibit this year will be the Bottomland-Hardwood section of the Forest Stewardship exhibit

3. Outreach
 - General
 - * Ryland Puritans - June 10
 - * APES Policy Committee Meeting, Chesapeake, Va. - June 11
 - * APES Financial Planning Seminar, Greenville - June 12
 - * NC Aquarium, Manteo - June 12; July 24; August 21
 - * Beaufort County Arts Council Camp - June 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21
 - * Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium - June 20; 26; August 26
 - * APES Financial Planning Meeting, Greenville - August 8
 - * Presentation, Fuquay-Varina - August 10
 - * APES Roundtable, Kill Devil Hills - August 28
 - * APES Policy Committee, Kill Devil Hills - August 29

 - Education
 - * John Small School, Washington - June 3, 4, 5 & 6
 - * Tayloe School, Washington - July 1 & 3, 17
 - * Goose Creek Camp at Goose Creek State Park - July 15-19
 - * Goose Creek Field Trip - July 24

 - Local Government Liaison
 - * Washington County Commissioners - June 7
 - * Pamlico County Commissioners - August 5
 - * Chowan County Commissioners - August 5

 - Projects

All 4th cycle projects are on schedule except Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium which needs extension due to budget cutbacks, position freezes and timing of construction, Fall 1991 to Spring 1992; new target date

- Print

- * "A Citizens' Guide to Coastal Water Resource Management" at update stage
- * "Guide to Estuaries" and "Where the Rivers Meet the Sea" continue to be demanded
- * Fact Sheets - total 33 - in varying degrees of copywriting stage - format, style, color, etc., plans having been completed

- Electronic

- * Video PSAs for targeted audiences (6) are completed
- * Radio spots - within established structure of daily syndicated radio program - "Weekdays with Barbara King"
- * "Eye on Carolina" - WNCT-TV noon news - 1 minute spot on occasion

4. Meetings and Events

- Bi-State Coordination-Virginia - Roanoke-Chowan Technical College, Ahoskie - Sept. 11
- "Down to Earth Workshop" - East Carolina University, Greenville - August 8 & 9 (for teachers)
- CGIA - Use of GIS for county planning (video) July 10 & 15
- Episcopal Diocese Environmental Ed Program - Trinity Center - June 5; July 9
- State Fair - Raleigh - June 4; July 16
- Aquarium Society Members Night - N.C. Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores June 14
- CCMP Work Groups: Fisheries & Human Environment - July 17, Washington
- Critical Areas & Water Quality - July 18 & 19, Raleigh
- Researchers Review, Manteo - October 11
- APES Annual Meeting, Manteo - October 12

5. Newsletter

- Mail list is constantly updated
- New format has been used for June and July issues; next issue - August

