

Proceedings of
Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study
Technical Committee Meeting
Raleigh, N.C.
May 22, 1987

Submitted to:
Douglas N. Rader, Ph.D.
Program Coordinator
Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study

Submitted by:
Marguerite A. Duffy
SCI Data Systems, Inc.

May 26, 1987

Proceedings of Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study (APES)
Technical Committee Meeting
May 22, 1987

I. Opening Remarks

The meeting began at 1:00 p.m. chaired by Mr. Bruce Barrett, EPA Region IV. He announced the purpose of the meeting as hearing the results of the peer review subcommittee on proposals. Dr. Dirk Frankenberg, chairman of the subcommittee, gave the following report.

II. Proposal Review

Dr. Frankenberg described the procedures taken to ensure adequate review of the 99 proposals received. Two Policy Committee members (Dr. Frankenberg and Dr. Costlow) and three Technical Committee members (Dr. Carl, Mr. Turner, and Ted Bisterfeld for Bruce Barrett) comprised the subcommittee. The day after the proposal submittal deadline, Ted Bisterfeld, Dr. Frankenberg, and Doug Rader mailed proposals to appropriate external peer reviewers. Each subcommittee member was assigned specific proposals as his responsibility. Subcommittee members were asked to review all proposals but were charged with preparing a brief synopsis and evaluation of specifically assigned proposals for presentation during the review meeting. External peer reviews were logged-in and presented during the proposal review meeting.

On May 11th and 12th the subcommittee met to review and to rank proposals for funding. The proposals were reviewed by priority categories assigned in the workplan: resource critical areas, water quality and estuarine relationships, fisheries dynamics, and human environment and public involvement. Every external peer review received was considered along with comments from each committee member. After ranking proposals, the subcommittee met again the morning of May 22nd, to determine if anything was omitted and to finalize recommendations to the Technical Committee for their submission to the Policy Committee. The recommendations are as follows.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE

1. Information acquisition proposals have been exhaustively reviewed (400+ reviews for 99 proposals). Eighteen projects are recommended for funding with only modest adjustments from original form. Those are listed in Attachment A. A meeting of principal investigators is required after projects are funded, to chart-out where sampling is taking place and to coordinate overall Program direction.
2. Several subject areas require further refinement before specific funding decisions can be made: fish diseases; land use/land cover and remote sensing; hydrologic and hydrodynamic modelling; and natural areas/NWI/ endangered species habitat. The first three should be explored in workshops conducted by WRRI. Three working groups should also be convened; one to plan an approach to NWI/natural area evaluations; a second to evaluate the impact of larval recruitment processes on the functional role of nursery areas; and, a third to assess data and hypotheses on striped bass declines in the Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds. These topics should be considered for December funding, depending on the outcome of the workshops, working groups, and proposals resulting therefrom.
3. Other areas of program emphasis also need to be addressed for December funding. Some of these may result from modification of proposals received or newly solicited proposals. Those include:
 - A. effects of land conversion on nursery habitats
 - B. procedures for management of fecal contamination.

4. Action on public involvement proposals should be deferred until the Citizens' Advisory Committees can be convened and presented with lists of possible program options. Staff should identify a funding pathway to reserve funds for later funding. However, a second public meeting should be held in the Albemarle region during the summer.
5. All projects will furnish a short (1-3 pp) nontechnical summary of yearly results in addition to quarterly reports, draft summary reports and final summary report.

Bruce Barrett complemented the subcommittee for its excellent review and recommendations. Questions then followed. Tom Ellis asked for an explanation of the projects listed by asterisk on the attachment. Dr. Frankenberg explained that the asterisks reflect those proposals as needing slight modification or coordination with other proposals before funding. Rather than fund these projects on June 1st, the subcommittee is recommending that they be funded after requested modifications are made.

Mr. Barrett asked if point/non-point source pollution related projects were considered for funding. Bisterfield replied that no proposal was received to inventory and compare these sources. However, Bisterfield stated that other proposals do address point/non-point source issues. These proposals were reviewed by the subcommittee and flagged for the scoping study listed in item two of the recommendations.

Dr. B. J. Copeland suggested that when the meeting of the principal investigators is held, that principal investigators from other regions (e.g. Rhode Island) are invited as well. Dr. Copeland stressed the importance of sharing the experiences of scientific experts involved in similar studies.

Sally Turner asked how it would be determined which of the proposals to fund, if the projected budget was ultimately reduced. Frankenberg answered that in such a situation, proposals with the lowest ranking would be cut.

Copeland asked how rejected proposals would be handled. Frankenberg explained that the proposal submitter would be notified. Copies of the peer reviewers evaluations (anonymous) will be sent, only if a submitter requests.

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Motion: Bruce Barrett made a motion that the Technical Committee recommend to the Policy Committee that the proposed funded projects and recommendations be submitted for approval.

Dr. Carl seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous approval.

III. Budget

Doug Rader presented a very rough budget for the APES program for 1987-1988. Doug is to provide a detailed budget by category as soon as possible. Rader then presented a proposed Administrative Budget and a proposed Data Management Budget.

Mr. Barrett stated that data management needs must be coordinated with on-going funded projects. He said that APES must ensure that it is not funding projects for data that already exists and asked if the data identification subcommittee considered this issue. Mr. Barrett requested that the data identification subcommittee convene as soon as possible to begin looking at available data.

Sally Turner asked if there is enough money proposed to build the computer system proposed by LRIS. Rader replied that it may be necessary at some point to modify the LRIS concept to meet the objectives. For instance, as a necessary initial step, LRIS may put efforts into a communication link with NCC rather than to all systems proposed.

IV. Public Participation

Doug Rader reported that the EPA, Office of Marine and Estuarine Protection (OMEP), has directed that a certain amount of money be put aside for public participation. In this effort, Rader said that numerous proposals were received. The plan is to allow the Citizen Advisory Committee (CACs) to consider the program elements and then reconsider the proposals based on CAC comments. Rader also reported that 59 of the 60 persons notified have accepted positions on the CACs.

Rader announced that there are two meetings scheduled of the CACs, for June 8th and 9th. Barrett stated that this initial meeting is important and perhaps the EPA Regional Administrator, Jack Ravan, or Secretary Rhodes should be present. Due to

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conflicts in the schedules of both individuals and the need to submit proposals (regarding public participation) to EPA, it was determined that these meetings should take place as scheduled. These meetings will allow discussion on the public participation issue. If Secretary Rhodes and Mr. Ravan cannot attend the initial CAC meetings, it was recommended that they be scheduled for the subsequent meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

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List of Attendees

Policy Committee Members

John Costlow
Dirk Frankenberg
Mike Gantt

Technical Committee Members

Jim Turner
Jim Stewart
B.J. Copeland
Tom Ellis
Sharon Shutler
Bruce Barrett
R. Paul Wilms
Dr. Ernie Carl

Program Coordinator

Doug Rader

Other Attendees

Ted Bisterfield
Sally Turner
Marguerite Duffy
Fred White
Carroll Pierce
Don Baker
Jerad Bales

PROPOSED FUNDED PROJECTS
(By Program Area)

\$

I. RESOURCE CRITICAL AREAS

A. PNA Analyses	(Street, DMF)	\$ 34,934
B. NWI	(Pending workgroup)	(December)
C. Natural Areas	(Pending workgroup)	(December)
D. SAV Surveys	(Thayer, NMFS)	73,841*
	(Davis, ECU)	30,288*
E. Fringe Wooded swamps	(Brinson, ECU)	23,995
F. Wetland Protection	(Adams, NCSU)	6,952
G. Anadromous Obstructions	(Collier, FWS)	<u>32,059(-)*</u>
		= \$ 202,069 (27.9%)

II. WATER QUALITY & ESTUARINE RELATIONSHIPS

A. Land Use Map	(Pending workshop)	\$ (December)
B. Pt. Source Map	(To administration)	(December)
C. Hyde Co. Soil Survey	(Philen, DSWC)	10,000
D. WQ Data Evaluation	(Bales, USGS)	65,910
E. Flow Evaluation	(Bales, USGS)	(Pending match to 143,040)
F. N/P Removal in Swamps	(Kuenzler, UNC)	43,739
G. Sediment Dynamics	(Wells, UNC)	21,355
H. Algal Blooms	(Paerl, UNC)	34,119
I. Mud Pollutants	(Riggs, ECU)	34,968*
J. BMP's & WQ	(Bales, USGS)	<u>115,400</u>
		= \$ 325,491 (45.0%)

III. FISHERIES DYNAMICS

A. Stock Assessment	(Mercer, DMF)	\$ 11,356
B. Environmental Effects on Oysters	(Sutherland, DURL)	51,534
C. Excluder Devices	(Pearce, MM)	<u>66,361</u>
		= \$ 129,251 (17.9%)

IV. HUMAN ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Demographic Trends	(Tschetter, ECU)	\$ 32,201
B. Resource Management	(Nichols, RTI)	(December)
C. Rec. Fishing Values	(Smith, NCSU)	<u>34,669</u>
		= \$ 66,870 (9.2%)
		= \$ 723,681

*July-December funding

-Adjust funding with Principal Investigator

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Draft

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On May 11th and 12th the subcommittee met to rank proposals. The proposals were reviewed by priority categories assigned in the workplan: resource critical areas, water quality and estuarine relationships, fisheries dynamics, and human environment and public involvement. After voting on proposals, the subcommittee met again the morning of May 22nd, to determine if anything was omitted and to finalize recommendations to the Technical Committee for their submission to the Policy Committee. The recommendations are as follows.

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5. At the end of the funded project, each principal investigator should be required to submit a summary (three pages) stating the objectives and conclusions of the project, written for the non-technical audience.

Bruce Barrett complemented the subcommittee for its excellent review and recommendations. Questions then followed. Tom Ellis asked for an explanation of the asterisked projects listed

on the attachment. Dr. Frankenberg explained that the asterisks reflect those proposals as needing slight modification or coordination with other proposals before funding. Rather than fund these projects as is on June 1st, the subcommittee is recommending that they be funded after requested modifications are made.

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Motion: Bruce Barrett made a motion that the Technical Committee recommend to the Policy Committee that the proposed funded projects and recommendations be submitted for approval.

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Mr. Barrett stated that the data management needs must be coordinated with on-going funded projects. He said that APES must ensure that it is not funding projects for data that already exists and asked if the data identification subcommittee considered this issue. Mr. Barrett requested that the data identification subcommittee convene as soon as possible to begin looking at available data.

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Rader announced that there are two meetings scheduled of the CACs, for June 8th and 9th. Barrett stated that this initial meeting is important and perhaps EPA Regional Administrator, Jack Ravan, or Secretary Rhodes should be present. Due to conflicts in schedules and the need to submit proposals (regarding public participation) to EPA, it was determined that these meetings should take place as schedule. These meetings will allow discussion on the public participation issue. If neither Secretary Rhodes nor Mr. Ravan can attend the initial CAC meetings, it was recommended that they be scheduled for the subsequent meeting.

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