

# ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Science and Technical Advisory Committee

Quarterly Meeting - Summer

Chowan University

Murfreesboro, NC

August 2, 2006

## MINUTES

Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) Co-Chair, Michael Rikard, called the meeting to order at 10:20 am. He welcomed those present and asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting (May 3). STAC Board member Peter Kalla moved to accept the minutes as written, and STAC Board member Kirk Havens seconded. The motion carried.

Dr. Rikard called upon STAC member Heather McGuire for welcoming remarks. Dr. McGuire is a faculty member of this meeting's host institution, Chowan University.

Dean Carpenter, APNEP Science Coordinator, briefed the attendees on APNEP activities since the last meeting:

- STAC Co-Chairs Nancy White & Michael Rikard have both agreed to have their names placed in nomination to serve a second consecutive two-year term (2006-2008). No other nominations were forwarded in response to Dr. Carpenter's earlier email request to STAC members. Ten STAC members whose terms expired on June 30 have agreed to serve a new three-year term.
- STAC Members Hasan Pourtaheri and Jeff Furness resigned from the STAC on June 30 and July 25 respectively: currently four Committee seats are vacant.
- No STAC Executive Board Meeting was held since the spring STAC meeting.
- Autumn STAC meeting is scheduled for November 8 in concert with the Policy Board and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)—location TBD. Likely discussion topics will be indicators and Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan (CCMP) review. The Winter 2007 STAC meeting is scheduled for February 7.
- The APNEP Policy Board on June 15 approved \$140K reallocation to submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) mapping.

- CAC did not meet during the past quarter.

Following Dr. Carpenter's remarks, STAC Board Member and Indicator Coordinator, Doug Rader, provided an indicator development update and gave STAC indicator teams their breakout session objectives. Utilizing data compiled by team members prior to the meeting, four STAC indicator teams (Terrestrial Habitats, Wetland Habitats, Water Quality & Hydrology, and Living Aquatic Resources) met in breakout sessions to evaluate their respective sets of indicators. The Air Quality & Atmospheric Processes and Social teams did not require a breakout session because each had only one team member present at the meeting.

The teams then reconvened and indicator team representatives Steve Smutko (Social), Robin Dennis (Air Quality & Atmospheric Processes), Martin Lebo ( Water Quality & Hydrology), Dr. Rader (Living Aquatic Resources), Bob Christian (Wetlands), and Dr. White (Terrestrial) briefed members on progress of their respective teams.

STAC member Stan Riggs, a member of the North Carolina's Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change, urged STAC members to recommend indicators to the legislative commission in light of the fact that APNEP coastal zone is particularly susceptible to stressors related to climate change.

Dr. Rader completed the indicator discussion with reminders of the challenge of developing "cross-cutting" indicators that address issues that transcend a single indicator team.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

Produce an indicator recommendation report for review by the APNEP Policy Board and CAC in concert with the STAC-Policy Board-CAC meeting on November 8.