

# Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Workgroup

## All Hands Meeting

River Park North - Greenville, NC

June 7, 2006

### Meeting Notes

#### Attendees:

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Joan Giordano     | APNEP   |
| Jimmy Johnson     | APNEP   |
| Dean Carpenter    | APNEP   |
| Gloria Putnam     | DWQ     |
| Rob Breeding      | NC EEP  |
| David Knowles     | ECU     |
| Joseph Luczkovich | ECU     |
| Scott Chappell    | DMF     |
| Chuck Wilson      | COE     |
| Don Field         | NOAA    |
| Jacquie Ott       | NC NERR |
| Joe Fuller        | WRC     |
| Stephanie Kudyba  | ECSU    |
| Liz Noble         | ECSU    |
| John Stanton      | USFWS   |
| John Gallegos     | USFWS   |
| Michelle Baker    | USFWS   |

Dean Carpenter called the meeting to order at 1:15pm. He asked for self-introductions of those present and for consensus approval of the meeting notes from the previous meeting (3/15/06). Liz Noble requested a correction of wording under Session I, on page 2: Instead of reading "digital aerial imagery", the wording should read "aerial imagery" only.

Dean Carpenter updated the group on the number of signatories to the SAV Memorandum of Understanding saying he had approximately one-half of those sought. Expected to be added in the very near future are Elizabeth City State University, the NC Division of Coastal Management, East Carolina University and the US Fish & Wildlife Service (Region 4).

Dean Carpenter referenced the Goals, Strategies, and Tasks document sent to SAV workgroup participants in October 2004 and asked that responsible parties update the group according to their category.

**Mapping/Monitoring:**

Don Field reported that through a NOAA and ECSU grant he as principal investigator is leading a 2006 project to map SAV in Core and Bogue Sound region using Digital Mapping Camera imagery from an aircraft platform. Because of the very limited number of days this spring when weather conditions met the minimum criteria for taking photos, the images were acquired only within the past week and for only 70% of the target area. Dr. Field plans to display some of these images at the next meeting.

Liz Noble reported that ECSU's SAV website has been improved by the installation of a portal which allows ease of data manipulation. She then introduced Stephanie Kudyba, the new SAV Habitat Mapping Coordinator at ECSU. Ms. Kudyba outlined and explained the map products ECSU prepared for the USFWS and mentioned that they were available on the ECSU website.

Liz Noble reported that ECSU future flight efforts would center on Core and Bogue Sounds and that the NC DMF would continue in Albemarle Sound. John Stanton made inquiry as to when the southern districts would be flown, as he is required to write up the next phase of work within the next six weeks.

Ms. Noble reviewed last year's agreement and chronicled past years' and planned future work:

2002 - ECSU flies aerial photography of Albemarle Sound's north shore

2003 - Phase I - Currituck Sound, Backbay, and Kitty Hawk Bay

2004 - Phase II - North shore of Albemarle Sound (digital aerial photography) showing no sign of SAV

2006 - Phase III - new areas never flown before in Albemarle Sound with aerial photography

October 2006 - September 2007 - Phase IV - Southern estuaries

Discussion ensued pertaining to the issue of flying the southern estuaries resulting in mixed opinions. Gloria Putnam made a motion to endorse north to south flight lines with payment coming from current funding, and then flying the southern estuaries as money becomes available. Joe Luczkovich seconded. Discussion of the

motion resulted in Chuck Wilson offering help through the COE's oyster work and Dean Carpenter said he would send Dave Eggleston's (NCSU) mapping work to SAV workgroup members. The motion carried.

**Assessment Discussion:**

Historical Accounts Committee Chair, Kevin Dockendorf, was unable to attend the meeting. Scott Chappell reported there was nothing new to report at this time, but that he would add Ms. Noble's work.

**Restoration Discussion:**

Restoration Committee Chair, David Knowles, reported that committee members were all in agreement about getting data together and that a good literature review needed to be done; that all experienced people should be involved; and that different methodologies be employed. He added that a matrix should be set up to determine which areas have the most potential for restoration, and that Jud Kenworthy (NOAA and APNEP STAC) wants to participate on this committee.

**Policy/Outreach:**

Dean Carpenter asked for volunteers to populate a Policy/Outreach Committee. Gloria Putnam, Jacquie Ott, and David Knowles agreed to serve. Posters, boating guides and flyers were all mentioned as outreach tools, as was NC Wildlife magazine's "Back Porch" section and Sea Grant's "Coastwatch".

In closing, the Goals and Objectives of the SAV Partnership were reviewed. Under Goal I, it was decided to combine Strategies I and II; Strategy III was a work in progress; and that a small group should be developed to work on Strategy IV.

The date of the next (summer) meeting was TBA, with a target of the latter part of September mentioned.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm