



Habitat Restoration

State of North Carolina

What Are the Problems?

- **Coastal wetlands** More than 450,000 acres have been lost or degraded.
- **Native oyster population** The state has seen 90% declines in commercial landings.
- **Anadromous (migratory) fish** More than 4,000 miles of coastal plain streams are partially or completely obstructed.
- **Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)** North Carolina has experienced up to 50% decline in the extent of SAV coverage.

Background

North Carolina has the largest estuarine system of any Atlantic Coast state. This expansive network of wetlands, rivers, and streams provides productive and diverse habitats for finfish, shellfish, and other wildlife.

What We Do

- Re-establish tidal flow in coastal wetlands
- Remove or modify dams, locks, and road fills that impede migratory fish
- Remove and dispose of derelict fishing gear
- Remove hardened shorelines and replace with habitat-friendly protection techniques
- Replant SAV beds at strategic locations
- Restore floodplains along streams
- Create oyster reef sanctuaries
- Educate citizens about the value of coastal habitat and restoration

How We Do It

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) achieves science-based habitat restoration through community involvement and stewardship. We build powerful partnerships among North Carolina's public, private, and non-profit organizations. Our projects continually demonstrate the effectiveness and benefits of locally based habitat conservation throughout North Carolina.



Our Accomplishments

Since 1999, we have:

- Awarded more than \$1.9 million and leveraged more than \$4 million
- Funded 39 projects
- Completed 21 projects
- Restored more than 350 acres of habitat
- Engaged roughly 1,100 volunteers for 10,000 service hours through partnered activities

Our Partners

NOAA works with 45 local, private, and public partners in North Carolina, including the North Carolina Coastal Federation, The Nature Conservancy, and North Carolina Department of Water Resources.

Our Focus

Manage and counter-balance coastal zone impacts that threaten North Carolina's productive fish habitats

Contact

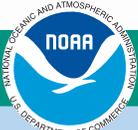
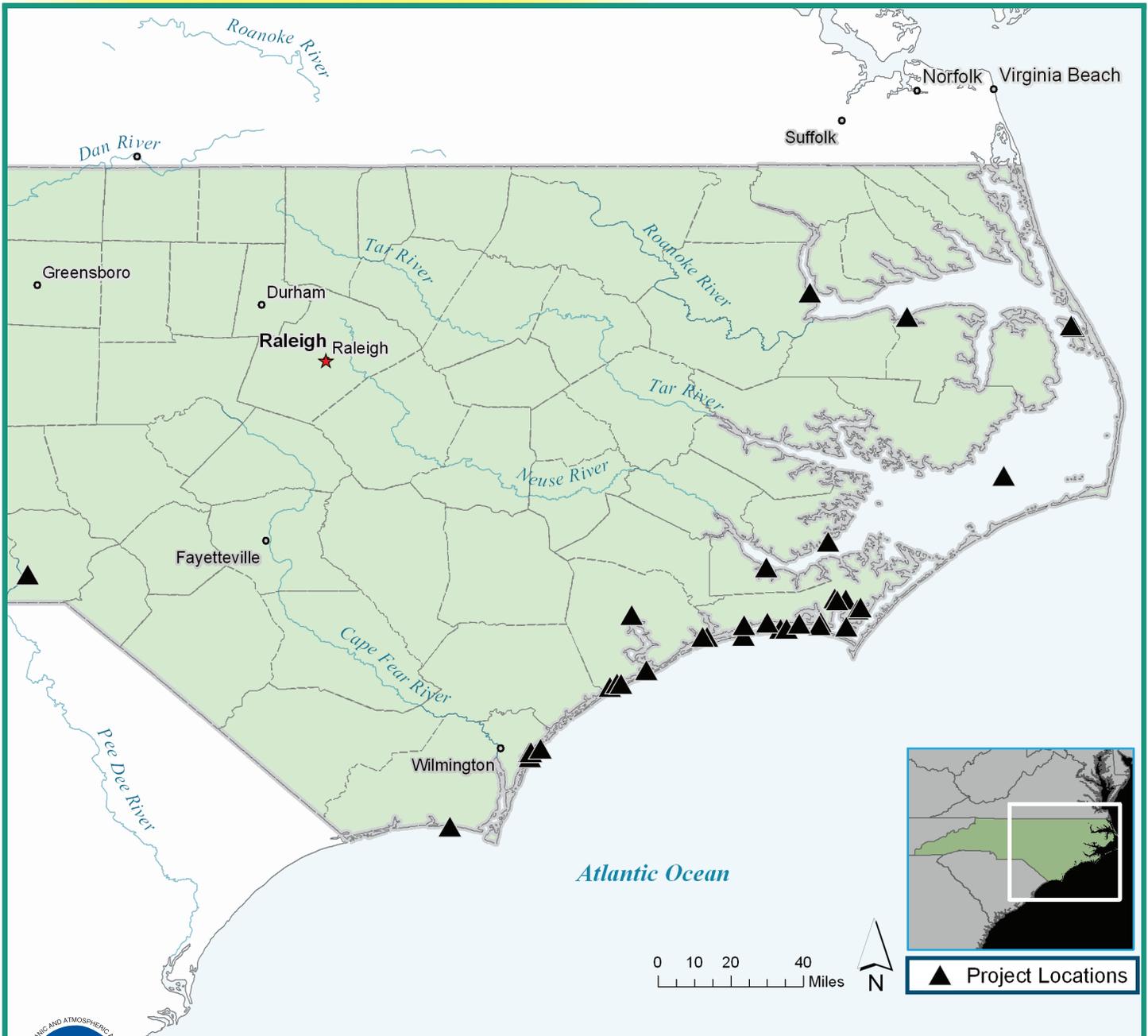
Howard Schnabolk
NOAA Restoration Center
NOAA Fisheries Service
2234 South Hobson Ave.
Charleston, SC 29405-2413
843.740.1328
Howard.Schnabolk@noaa.gov

www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/

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NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP)

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SELECT COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION PROJECTS:

Airlie Gardens Salt Marsh Restoration, Wilmington
Bradley Oaks Shoreline Restoration Demonstration, Wilmington
Chaney Creek Urban Restoration, Jacksonville
Hammocks Beach State Park Shoreline Restoration, Swansboro

Ice Plant Island Marsh Restoration, Manteo
NCCF Wetland Nursery Program, Newport
North Carolina Maritime Museum Shoreline Restoration, Beaufort
North River Wetland Restoration, Beaufort
Pamlico Sound Subtidal Oyster Reef Habitat

Restoration, Kill Devil Hills
Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium Shoreline Restoration, Pine Knoll Shores
Shorekeeper Program, Swansboro
Steele's Mill Dam Removal, Cordova
Yaupon Reef Restoration, Oak Island