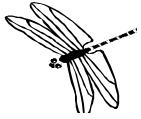


# White Oak River Watershed Advisory Board



# January 14 2001 MINUTES

www.ces.ncsu.edu/WECO

For Monday, Jan. 14, 2001 held at the Carteret County Annex

**Reminder: The WORAB will be meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 11 in the parking lot at Captain Ed's to conduct a Watershed Assessment Survey.**

**Due to the watershed assessment survey occurring on the same day, the WORAB will NOT meet on Monday night for our regular board meeting at the Carteret County Annex.**

## Attendance:

### *WORAB members:*

Thurman Upchurch	Jane Hoveland
Bill Norris	J.D. Potts
Bob Wolfe	

### *Guests:*

Al Fox	Bob Fox
Todd Kelly	Frank Tunsi

### *CES and supporting agency attendees:*

Christy Perrin, WECO, NCSU  
Jason Jolley, WECO, NCSU  
Nancy White, NCSU College of Design  
Kat Oury, NCSU College of Design  
Michael Holmes, NCSU College of Design  
Lisa Wimpfheimer, CES Carteret

## Updates:

### Wild and Scenic River Designation

Christy reminded the board that we agreed to support the wild and scenic river designation for the White Oak River. Jane Hoveland signed and sent letters of support from the WORAB to: Onslow, Carteret, and Jones County, the Town of Swansboro, and the Wild and Scenic River Committee.

Some landowners along the White Oak River complained to the Onslow County Commissioners causing them to rescind their endorsement of Wild and Scenic River designation for the White Oak River. The endorsement was made in October and recently rescinded at the January meeting. The landowners cited concerns about limitations on land use and not being informed about the designation. The Onslow County Commissioners are leaving the issue open for consideration once a public hearing has been held and more information provided. Jones County Commissioners were waiting for Onslow County to act, so the board is unsure what action they will take at this time. The Town of Swansboro also previously endorsed Wild and Scenic River designation, but it is an agenda item for their January meeting as well. It could be brought up for discussion by a board member and rescinded.

Frank Tunsi from the N.C. Coastal Federation informed the group that an information session will be held regarding Wild and Scenic River designation to clear up any misconceptions. The meeting will be held on Saturday, January 26 from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. at the Community Building in Maysville. Notices have been sent out to landowners along the White Oak.



*Continued on Page 2*

## County Commissioners Meetings

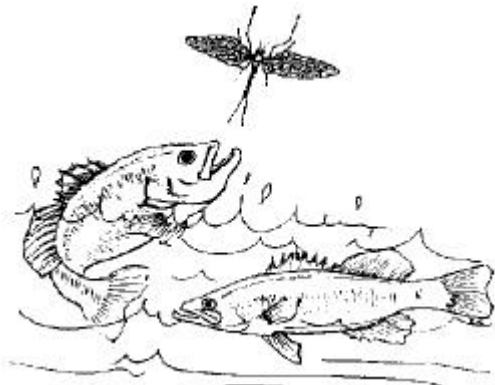
Jason Jolley from WECO informed the board that he is making a presentation to the Onslow County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, January 22, 2002 requesting their support for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reconnaissance study of the White Oak River. Draft letters of support to Congressman Walter Jones and the Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District were included in the packets sent to the Onslow Clerk to the Board.

Christy Perrin informed the board that she is working with Ray Harris, Carteret County Extension Director, to get on the Carteret County Board of Commissioners agenda. They are only having one meeting in February.

**Update:** Jason Jolley from WECO gave a presentation to the Onslow County Board of Commissioners on January 22, 2002 requesting they send letters of support to the US Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District and to Congressman Walter Jones expressing their support for the Reconnaissance Study of the White Oak River. The matter was tabled and no action was taken. Several questions occurred related to the Wild and Scenic River Designation and the commissioner decided to take no action on the White Oak River without having a public hearing first. The county manager was instructed to contact the liaison in Congressman Walter Jones' office and determine if the Congressman still supported the study.

## Swansboro BMPs

Christy Perrin informed the committee that WECO was investigating the potential BMP sites with help from the Town of Swansboro and others. Bill Norris and Pete Lewis of the NRCS and Danny Krisman from the Town of Swansboro joined WECO in looking at the potential BMP site located on Town owned land near the bridge and the condo that was formerly a school. After digging with a backhoe and finding burnt materials, bricks, and other debris, we will need to explore our options further before recommending this as a BMP site



## Pettiford Creek Watershed Survey

Presented by Michael Holmes  
NCSU College of Design

Michael reminded the group that they would be conducting a watershed survey in Pettiford Creek. He distributed a survey to be used for comment and review and began preparing participants for the survey.

### What is a watershed survey?

An assessment of land use (i.e. residential, commercial, industrial), land cover (i.e. ag, impervious cover), hydrology (i.e. streams, wetlands) and examination of potential pollutants (i.e. pets, wildlife, or manmade).

### Steps:

We will divide up into teams with 2-3 per team. We will try to pair a community member and environmental specialist in each team to have an even distribution of knowledge. Each team will be assigned an area and given maps and a clipboard with watershed survey. Each parcel is marked on a map. A survey should be complete for as many parcels as possible. Some of the data (approximately 75%) can be complete without contacting the residents; the other 25% require team members to speak with residents living on the parcel. This helps in finding out information regarding flooding, wildlife presence, sewer line location, etc.

### Why is a watershed survey important?

We are interested in identifying areas of concern and/or opportunities. It is important to identify land use on the ground to examine how it may affect hydrology. We can also discover important information by speaking with residents in an area.

### Review of field assessment/survey form

Michael reviewed the field assessment/survey form and asked the group to comment.

First, the team is asked to complete the parcel id and street address information for a site.

### General Development Information

Teams should note the land use (residential, commercial, industrial, ag, or other) and the street type. Under comments the team should give more information. For example, if the land use is residential, note single family, apartments, etc.

### Landcover

Teams are asked to note impervious cover for an area. It is recommended that team members "pace off" the driveway at

their first couple sites to determine the driveway square footage. These can be estimates and most driveways will be similar in size in a subdivision.

It was recommended that the form include a box to check for a small, medium, or large house with average corresponding square footage for each size. This should make estimating easier. Mobile homes should also be considered impervious cover.

Under *landcover*, teams should also estimate percentages of *disturbed area* and *vegetation patches*. A note will be added to the final version of the survey form instructing team members that *disturbed area* and *vegetation patches* should equal 100% when added. The percentage of estimated impervious cover should be considered *disturbed area*, as well as any land that has been cleared, such as grass, bare dirt, or a field. In some subdivisions, 100% of the land will have been disturbed. For *vegetation patches*, it was recommended that “pine trees” be noted as an example of a natural pocosin and “hardwoods” be added to the mixed oak designation.



#### *Hydrology*

Under this section team members are asked to note creeks and ditches and include a sketch of the parcel with ditches, direction of flow, and hydrology. It was also suggested that you guess topography or height above sea level where possible. A category will be added to describe the land in one of four basic categories, such as bowl, hump, etc.

Team members should also ask residents how deep they have to dig before hitting ground water or clay. It was suggested that a question be added to ask residents where their septic tank is located and mark on the sketch if they know.

#### *Potential pollutants*

Team members can gather this by asking residents and/or observing pets in the area. Ask the residents if they see wildlife, for example geese, which can contribute to fecal coliform.

#### *Comments/Questions:*

*Question: Do you plan to send out flyers before? I think people would be more amenable. Do we need identification*

*badges?*

No, in the past people have just ignored the flyers. Most people are friendly, just avoid houses which do not appear friendly. We need enough data to predict we do not need every house. Also, you can gather some information without talking to residents.

In the past we have carried business cards. Christy can provide business cards as contact information for anyone with questions.

#### *Where and When?*

The WORAB selected residential areas because Bill Kirby-Smith noted pollution “hot spots” near residential areas. We hope to survey in areas that will be flowing to monitoring stations.

Because of the meeting on Saturday, Jan. 26, concerning the wild and scenic river designation for the White Oak River, the committee elected to conduct the survey on a weekday. The group will meet on Monday, February 11 at 10:00 A.M. at Captain Ed’s. We will not have a regular WORAB meeting because of the survey taking place that day.

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*The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased; and not impaired in value.*  
-Theodore Roosevelt

Contact Christy Perrin with questions or comments concerning the White Oak River Advisory Board Meeting Summary  
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christy\_perrin@ncsu.edu

