

Coastal Review Online Monthly

A summary of stories that appeared last month in [Coastal Review Online](#), the daily news service of the N.C. Coastal Federation.

Our Work

August 1. [2014 Pelican Award Winners](#). A fisherman, a realtor and a former senator are among the 15 recipients of this year's awards, which honor exemplary efforts to preserve and protect the coastal environment.

August 6. [Restored Coastal Marshes Fight Climate Change](#). That's what researchers found at the N.C. Coastal Federation's wetland restoration project in Carteret County. It's all about the blue carbon. But what is blue carbon?

August 12. [Community Farm Takes Root in Carteret](#). The N.C. Coastal Federation's EarthWise farm started with a seed -- first planted in the imagination of an old man and then in the soil by his children.

August 15. [Neighborhood Gets a Runoff Refit](#). Some driveways have been repaved and other steps will be taken to reduce polluted runoff in Raintree, an existing housing subdivision in Wilmington.

Coastal People

August 5. [Honoring the Last "Old Salt" of Ocracoke](#). Maurice Ballance, a waterman and musician who died recently, will be remembered with love and respect. He is considered the last of a generation of Ocracoke men who were true "old salts."

August 11. [Pelican Award: Allen Propst](#). A Realtor and occasional developer first raised the alarm about possible illegal ditching of wetlands in Pamlico County.

August 26. [Pelican Award: Sue Weddle](#). Find out why this Sunset Beach resident won an award for being a dedicated, persistent and effective advocate for our coast.

Coastal Lifestyles

August 13. [Coastal Culture: Miss Blanche of Ocracoke](#). Blanche Howard Jolliff is 94 and an island treasure. She remembers, for instance, the shipwreck that led to the first road on Ocracoke and the first road collision.

August 20. [Our Coast: Sea Pansies and Blue Buttons](#). Our naturalist Sam Bland spotted these two unusual finds that washed up from the deep ocean on a beach walk in Emerald Isle.

August 21. [N.C. Fishermen Star in New Reality Show](#). Outer Banks fishermen are pitted against Yankee rivals in the chase for bluefin tuna, the most valuable fish in the world and maybe the most vulnerable.

August 28. [Coastal Culture: A New Clue into the New World](#). A historic document could unlock leads about the mysteries of English colonization on Roanoke Island, perhaps even the fate of the so-called "Lost Colony."

August 29. [Our Coast's Food: Dining Over the Century](#). Dining culture at Wrightsville Beach wasn't always flip flops and ice-cold white wine. Our food columnist tells how it's changed over the last 100 years.

Coastal Policy

August 7. [Bald Head Seeks Permit for Terminal Groin](#). Bald Head Island could become the first N.C. community to build a terminal groin since lawmakers reversed the ban on such structures. First, they must clear a number of hurdles.

August 25. [Coastal Primer: 'Critical Habitat'](#). The federal Endangered Species Act requires the protection of habitat that listed species need to recover. But the creation of so-called "critical habitat" almost always leads to conflicts and usually lawsuits.

Legislature

August 8. [Now You See It... Now You Don't](#). Some controversial coastal provisions that were included in earlier versions didn't make it into the final state budget that Gov. Pat McCrory signed yesterday.

August 14. [A Bridge over Muddled Waters](#). The latest court decision involving the Bonner Bridge over Oregon Inlet has both sides claiming victory.

August 18. [Lawmakers Weaken Wetlands Protections](#). In what has become an annual rite, the N.C. General Assembly Friday passed more regulatory changes that weaken environmental protections. Small pockets of coastal wetlands were in the crosshairs this time.

Coastal Preservation

August 4. [More Room for Memories at Hammocks Beach](#). Find out what makes the state park our naturalist Sam Bland's favorite place and why he's glad it's getting bigger.

August 19. [State Provides Some Money for Hammocks Beach](#). The state budget recently signed into law includes \$3 million for the purchase of the long-sought 289-acre mainland addition to Hammocks Beach State Park in Onslow County.

August 27. [Rallying for Hofmann Forest](#). Two rallies -- one in Onslow County and the other in Raleigh -- were held Monday to protest N.C. State University's proposed sale of the Hofmann Forest.

Water Pollution

August 22. [Wet Weather Brings Swimming Warnings](#). Yes, it's rained. A lot. With the incessant rain has come a slew of state advisories about swimming in some coastal waters because of high bacteria levels.