



North Carolina Oyster Summit

Promoting a Healthy Coastal
Environment and Economy

March 10 & 11, 2015

N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences | Raleigh, NC

Summit Objectives:

- Explore the economic and environmental returns on investing in North Carolina oyster restoration, enhancement and production.
- Update the *Oyster Blueprint for Action* to rebuild North Carolina oyster habitat, stocks and fisheries, and to improve the state's coastal water quality and economy.
- Discuss prioritized scientific challenges to implementing successful oyster restoration strategies in North Carolina.

Agenda:

Tuesday, March 10

- 12:30 p.m. Registration Opens- Nature Research Center, Environmental Conference Center, 4th Floor
- 1:00 p.m. Welcome and Introduction to the Summit
Erin Fleckenstein, N.C. Coastal Federation
- 1:05 p.m. Keynote: Clean Water as Infrastructure
N.C. Representative Paul Tine (I), District 6
- 1:20 p.m. The N.C. Experience: The History of Oyster Management Over the Past Century
Dr. Louis Daniel, Director, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
- 1:40 p.m. The Importance of Oysters in Providing for Healthy Coastal Ecosystems
Dr. Martin Posey, University of North Carolina Wilmington
Dr. Mike Piehler, University of North Carolina Institute of Marine Sciences
- 2:00 p.m. The Importance of the Oyster Fishery to Coastal North Carolina
Bradley Styron, Quality Seafood

N.C. Oyster Summit: Promoting a Healthy Coastal Environment and Economy

- 2:15 p.m. Oyster Fundamentals: What it takes to Have Productive Oyster Populations and Fisheries in North Carolina
Facilitator: Ted Wilgis, N.C. Coastal Federation
Panelists: *Dr. Pete Peterson, University of North Carolina, Institute of Marine Sciences*
Dr. Dave Eggleston, North Carolina State University Center for Marine Sciences and Technology
Dr. Ami Wilbur, University of North Carolina Wilmington
Dr. Bill Crowell, Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership
Jason Peters and Brian Conrad, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
- 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:15 p.m. Setting Restoration Goals for the Next Decade
Dr. Brandon Puckett, National Estuarine Research Reserve, Division of Coastal Management
- 4:00 p.m. Why Restoring Oysters Makes Economic Cents
Facilitator: Tom Looney, Lenovo & N.C. Economic Development Board
Panelists: *Sara Lawrence, Research Triangle Institute*
Dr. Pete Peterson, University of North Carolina Institute of Marine Sciences
- 4:50 p.m. Looking Ahead: Key Challenges and Questions to Be Addressed
Todd Miller, N.C. Coastal Federation
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn to Daily Planet Theater- Nature Research Center, 1st Floor
- 5:15 p.m. *Rowan Jacobsen, the award-winning author of A Geography of Oysters, will offer an energizing and lively discussion about the uniqueness and varieties of oysters, how North Carolina plays a role in the global oyster market, and the conservation value of cultivating oysters and keeping waters clean to support this growing industry.*
- 6:00-7:30 p.m. Legislative Reception- Museum of Natural Sciences, 1st Floor

Wednesday, March 11

- 8:00 a.m. Coffee and Pastries- Nature Research Center, Environmental Conference Center, 4th Floor
- 8:30 a.m. Goals for the Day: Defining Goals and Objectives for the Next Five to Ten Years
Erin Fleckenstein, N.C. Coastal Federation

N.C. Oyster Summit: Promoting a Healthy Coastal Environment and Economy

- 8:45 a.m. Linking Restoration of Oysters to an Economic Development Strategy for Coastal N.C.
Facilitator: Raj Narayan, Kenan Institute for Engineering, Technology & Science
Panelists: *Rob Lamme, N.C. Coastal Federation*
Dr. Andy Keeler, Coastal Studies Institute
Simon Rich, Stevens Towing
John Preyer, Restoration Systems, LLC
- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Strategies for the Next Five Years
Facilitator: Erin Fleckenstein, N.C. Coastal Federation
Panelists: *Curt Weychert and Jason Peters N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries*
Justin Bashaw, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Dr. Troy Alphin, University of North Carolina Wilmington
Dr. Dave Eggleston, N.C. State University Center for Marine Sciences and Technology
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. Cultch Planting Strategies for the Next Five Years
Facilitator: Willy Phillips, Full Circle Crab Company
Panelists: *Chris Conoway, Conoway Marine Construction*
Jim Swartzenberg, J&B Aquafood
David "Clammerhead" Cessna, Commercial Fisherman and Collaborative Researcher with University of North Carolina Institute of Marine Sciences
Dr. Louis Daniel and Garry Wright, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
Dr. Niels Lindquist, University of North Carolina Institute of Marine Sciences
- 11:15 a.m. Oyster Mariculture Priorities for the Next Five Years
Facilitator: Sara Mirabilio, North Carolina Sea Grant
Panelists: *N.C. Senator Bill Cook (R) District 1*
Marc Turano, Pentair Aquatic Eco-Systems, Inc.
Jay Styron, Carolina Mariculture Co. University of North Carolina Wilmington, & President, N.C. Shellfish Growers Association
Brian Conrad, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
Patti Fowler, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Shellfish Sanitation
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch

N.C. Oyster Summit: Promoting a Healthy Coastal Environment and Economy

- 1:00 p.m. Managing Oysters on Public Bottoms
Facilitator: Trish Murphey, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
Panelists: *Dr. Ami Wilbur, University of North Carolina Wilmington*
Tina Moore, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
Adam Tyler, Commercial Fisherman and Collaborative Researcher with
University of North Carolina Institute of Marine Sciences
Shannon Jenkins, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Shellfish Sanitation
- 2:00 p.m. Watershed Management Priorities for the Next Five Years
Facilitator: Dr. Lexia Weaver, N.C. Coastal Federation
Panelists: *Ted Wilgis, N.C. Coastal Federation*
Dr. Mike Burchell, N.C. State University
Jamin Simmons, Mattamuskeet Management and Consulting
Hunter Freeman, Withers & Ravenel
Erin Carey, City of Wilmington
Steve Murphey, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Shellfish Sanitation
- 2:45 p.m. Break
- 3:00 p.m. Facilitated Discussion: www.ncoysters.org: Information needs and components for a working restoration database.
Facilitator: Jim Hawhee, Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership
- 3:35 p.m. Wrap-up; Charge to Audience
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn

The 2015 N.C. Oyster Summit is sponsored in part by:

