



Coastal Happenings December 2014



[Crab Pot Project](#) Continues

In the state's first project of its kind, watermen worked with conservationists and law enforcement to remove derelict fishing gear from the water. Crab pots collected are then used to create oyster reefs. The second year of the project begins in 2015 and will provide jobs for fishermen who are paid through project grant funds. Thanks to Lowe's Home Improvement, which provided supplies for gear retrieval and oyster reef construction.

Dear Friend of the Coast,
We hope you've received our recent email or mailing about the federation's project to save brown pelican habitat on Beacon Island in the Pamlico Sound. As one of only nine remaining nesting sites in the state, it's a critical spot for pelicans.

But the island's shoreline is eroding and the sound is approaching the pelicans' nesting area.

By testing some shoreline stabilization methods (planting grasses and building oyster reefs) we've learned what methods might work best to protect the island. But we need to expand beyond the small test area. First, we must create a master plan to determine the best techniques and locations for restoration. We will then build a series of living shorelines along the island to

Coastal Review Online [November Summary](#)



[COMING EVENTS](#)

December

5
Volunteer lunch
Ocean

5
Oyster Roast
Back Street Pub
Beaufort

January

protect the nesting area from further erosion, restore salt marsh and the habitat it provides.

If you've already made a donation - thank you! If not, please [give today](#) to support our restoration plan. Together, we can be sure Beacon Island remains the perfect place for pelicans to nest and raise their chicks. Thank you.

N.C. Coastal Federation staff



Gov. Pat McCrory, right and John Skvarla, then-Secretary of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources attended a closed-door conference on offshore

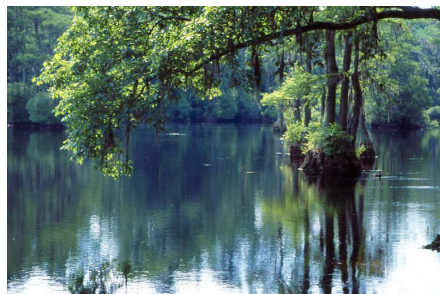
drilling. McCrory supports new tests for potential oil and gas fields in state waters off the coast. Read the full [CRO story](#).

Wood-pellet Facilities Moving Ahead

Plans to build wood-pellet export facilities are moving forward now that the required permits are in hand. Facilities are planned for the Wilmington and Morehead City ports, where tens of thousands of tons of wood pellets will be shipped by rail from pellet plants in Eastern North Carolina and exported to Europe. [CRO](#) has covered the story.

Town Ponders Sewer

The Cedar Point town board and officials with the Onslow Water and Sewer Authority (ONWASA) are discussing the possibility of



14
Coastal Speaker Series
Wrightsville Beach

17
Pickin' Pots
Land-based clean-up
Manteo*

22
Wine, Dine and Learn
About Ribbon fish
Café Lachine
Nags Head

February

7
Star-News
Volunteer Fair
Wilmington*

9
Rob Reports on
Raleigh
Nags Head

11
Coastal Speaker Series
Wrightsville Beach

21
Hatteras Island Oyster
Roast
Hatteras Village*

*Volunteers Needed

extending a sewer line across the White Oak River.

Lots of questions are on the table. Would a central sewer system in this small town in western Carteret County improve the health of the White Oak River? Or could the denser development made likely by abandoning septic tanks increase the bacterial pollution in a waterway that's already classified as "impaired"? Read [CRO](#) for more.



Greensboro Fundraiser

Salty oysters and craft beer were the features at Natty Greene's Brewing Company in Greensboro, NC last week. More than 300 guests turned out to enjoy great seafood, beer and live music while supporting the federation. Thank you to our friends at Natty Greene's for supporting our work and to our members and volunteers who joined us on Saturday. If your business or group would like to host a fundraiser for the federation, please contact Catherine Snead catherines@nccoast.org.



**King Mackerel & The Blues Are Running
Celebrating 30 years**
April 17 & 18, 2015
Joslyn Hall, Morehead City

[Advance tickets and sponsorships available now](#)

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Covering the coast with offices in Manteo, Ocean and Wrightsville Beach

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