Goal

The NCNERR is recognized as a leader in coastal and estuarine ecosystem research, training, education, and stewardship through effective administration and communication strategies.
Coastal Area Management Act

• Establishes NC Coastal Reserve
• Administered by DEQ
  • Define the areas to be included and set standards for use
  • Consult with and seek the ongoing advice of the NC Coastal Resources Commission
• Carry out Coastal Reserve in coordination with NERRS
• Dedicate lands and waters as state nature preserves per State Nature Preserves Act
How We Operate

Guiding Documents
• 2020-2025 NCNERR Management Plan
• DEQ rules in NC Administrative Code
• Nature Preserve Articles of Dedication

Input
• Local Advisory Committees
• NC Coastal Resources Commission
Organizational Chart

Reserve Program Manager
DCM
Central Office

Northern Sites Manager
DCM
Northern Office

Buckridge Site Manager
DCM
Columbia

Central Sites Manager
DCM
Central Office

Stewardship Coordinator/
South Sites Manager
UNCW
Southern Office

Research Coordinator
DCM
Central Office

CTP Coordinator
DCM
Central Office

Education Coordinator
DCM
Central Office

Northern Sites Assistant
Temporary Solutions (part-time)

Stewardship and Education Specialist
Temporary Solutions

Research Specialist
UNCW
Southern Office

Research Specialist
UNCW
Southern Office

Research Assistant
Temporary Solutions (part-time)

Communications Specialist
Temporary Solutions

Office locations are color coded
- Green = Northern office
- Orange = Columbia office
- Blue = Central office
- Tan = Southern office

Rectangles = FTEs (DCM or UNCW contractors)
Circles = temporary positions
Currituck Banks Reserve
North Carolina
National Estuarine Research Reserve
Designated in 1985
965 Acres
Rachel Carson Reserve
North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve
Designated in 1985, Middle Marshes in 1989
2,315 Acres
Masonboro Island Reserve
North Carolina
National Estuarine Research Reserve
Designated in 1985
5,653 acres
Zeke’s Island Reserve

North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve

Designated in 1985
1,655 Acres

Vicinity Map
Office: National Park Service
Staff Focus: Stewardship
Office: NOAA Beaufort Lab
Staff Focus: Admin, Research, K-12 and General Public Education, Training, Stewardship

Office: UNCW
Staff Focus: Research, Stewardship, General Public Education

Office: National Park Service
Staff Focus: Stewardship

N.C. Coastal Reserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve
- National Reserves
- State Reserves
- Reserve Offices
## FY20-21 Budget Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Match Sources</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal 315</td>
<td>$728,214</td>
<td>NCNERR</td>
<td>State Appropriations from NCNERR + coastal program; Waived indirect from UNCW contract positions; Volunteer hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal 306 (Task 4)</td>
<td>$56,694</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Portion of Reserve Program Manager and Buckridge Site Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Appropriations</td>
<td>$290,902</td>
<td>NCNERR + State</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,075,810</strong></td>
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*does not include 306/309 rebudgets, external funding, Friends of the Reserve support*
External and Leveraged Funding

<table>
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<tr>
<th># of Projects</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>External Funding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leveraged Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funding Sources
- NERRS Science Collaborative
- NERRS PAC
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Coastal and Recreational Fishing License
- APNEP
- General Assembly
- Clean Water Management Trust Fund

Topics
- Resilience
- SWMP station characterization and communication tools
- Utility of drones to monitor wetlands
- Bird monitoring
- Disaster recovery
- Acquisition
- Site signage
Program Changes

• **Staffing**
  - Created the Central Sites Manager position within DCM (2011)
  - Transferred the Coastal Training Program Coordinator position to DCM (2011)
  - Loss of Education Specialist position (2011)
  - Secured state appropriations to fully fund the Research Coordinator position (2012)

• **Increased use of temporary employees to address gaps:** Communications Specialist, Stewardship and Education Specialist, part-time positions Northern Sites Assistant and Research Assistant (Beaufort)

• **Northern office move from Kitty Hawk to Manteo**
Highlights

• Dedicated team, recognized as experts
• Strong administrative and programmatic partnerships
• Expanded work on coastal program and broader policy initiatives
• Community connections
• External/leveraged funding
• Program visibility
• DEQ support and resilience funding
Challenges

- Dispersed geography
- Limited staff and funding to cover geography and program areas
- Limited staff and funding for Coastal Reserve strains NCNERR resources
- Reliance on temporary employees to conduct critical work
  - Stewardship and Education Specialist, Communications Specialist, GIS Specialist
- No dedicated administrative assistance
- High turnover in Northern Sites Manager position
- State match – coming soon
- Cost of NOAA Beaufort Lab lease – coming soon