

Coastal Happenings June 2014



Calling All Birders

Birding expert JoAnne Powell is leading two-hour birding cruises through the estuaries of the White Oak River. Visit our [calendar](#) to learn about [other cruises](#) and great summer programs up and down our coast.

Dear Friend of the Coast,

Coastal Happenings is typically filled with news about our restoration projects and special educational events to encourage you and other members to join us for a coastal experience. Hard news is reported each day on our daily news feed, the [Coastal Review Online \(CRO\)](#).

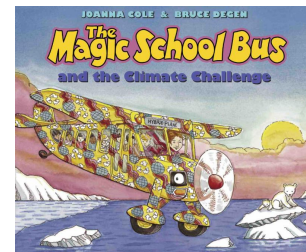
But this month so much is taking place that we're bringing you news updates. Thousands of acres of coastal forested wetlands are being ditched without permits, and the N.C. General Assembly is looking to virtually wipe out safeguards for the small remaining parcels of coastal wetlands. (Remember - "No Wetlands - No Seafood.") A developer wants to build a new subdivision on a former inlet. And proposed budget cuts would curtail a water quality sampling program that keeps our shellfish and swimming waters safe to use, and severely cut the state's capacity to attract millions of dollars in grants for

Coastal Review Online

[May Summary](#)

[COMING EVENTS](#)

June



7

Magic School Bus
Ice Cream Party
Wrightsville Beach

9, 16, 23, 30

Local Bites: Market
Crawl and Cooking Class
Wrightsville Beach

10, 24

Marsh Cruise
Swansboro



10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26

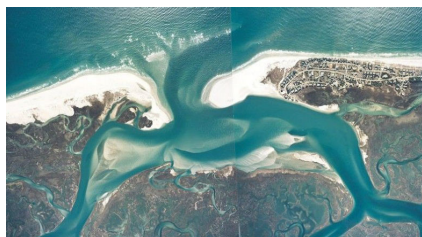
Coastal Cruises
Hammocks Beach State
Park

coastal research.

While it sometimes seems overwhelming, we can do something. It begins with learning more about the issues. CRO is an easy way to stay informed.

Please take a few minutes, if you haven't already, to read about these important issues. We've highlighted some of them below. And then let the people who represent you in Raleigh know what you think about all this news. Thank you for caring about your coast.

North Carolina Coastal Federation staff



Army Corps of Engineers photo

Rich Inlet Threatened with Groin

Figure Eight Island is one of four beach communities planning to build terminal groins along the state's coast. All are in various stages of the environmental review process required by federal law. Several homeowners on the island's north end near Rich's Inlet will not allow the groin to be built on their properties. This has resulted in a new proposal to move the groin further into the inlet in an attempt to bypass these landowners. The new proposed location of the groin is no ordinary place. It would destroy salt marsh, and cause the low sand spit that provides critical habitat for birds to nest and a place for people to land their boats to erode away. Meanwhile, the erosion problems for some oceanfront houses that originally prompted interest in building the groin no longer exist.

Corps Alleges Illegal Ditching in Hofmann

After a three-month investigation instigated by the federation, the Army Corps of Engineers thinks illegal ditching may have affected 6,500 acres of wetlands in Hofmann Forest.

Swansboro

11
Coastal Speaker Series
Wrightsville Beach

11
Huggins Island Cleanup
Hammocks Beach State
Park
Swansboro*

11 ,18,25
Coastal Birding Trips
Wrightsville Beach

12, 26
Boat the Bay
Manteo



16, 30
Summer Day Camp
Jones Island
Swansboro

17
TouchTank Tuesdays
Wrightsville Beach

18
Oyster Reef
Construction
Jones Island
Swansboro*

24-27
Service in Science
Summer Camp
Jennette's Pier
Nags Head

25
Huggins Island Cleanup
Hammocks Beach State
Park
Swansboro*



Sunset Beach Turtle Patrol

Jim Barber photo

Proposed Development on Sunset Beach

It used to be a tidal inlet, but now a developer is eyeing the pristine oceanfront property that stretches more than 1,600 feet between the west end of Sunset Beach and Bird Island.

Many Sunset Beach property owners are outraged at the idea of a 23-lot, single-family home development in an area once home to an inlet.

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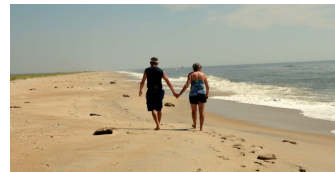
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28
Kayak/Yoga Trip
Jones Island
Swansboro

* Volunteers Needed

[Visit the federation calendar for full details.](#)



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North Carolina Coastal Federation

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

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