



North Carolina Shore & Beach Preservation Association

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Professors and scientists confirmed for closing panel at North Carolina Shore & Beach Preservation Association Annual Conference in Atlantic Beach

Participants in the headline panel at the 4th annual conference of North Carolina Shore & Beach Preservation Association (NCSBPA) have been announced. The conference will take place on Monday and Tuesday, November 18 and 19 at the Sheraton Atlantic Beach. Members of the panel, which is entitled “**Biological Impacts of Beach Nourishment – What We Know and What We Need To Know**” will be **Dr. Charles H. (Pete) Peterson**, Alumni Professor at the UNC Institute of Marine Sciences in Morehead City; **Dr. Michelle Duval**, a scientist in the Ocean and Ecosystems Restoration section of the Raleigh office of Environmental Defense; **Mr. Rick Spadoni**, Senior Vice President of Coastal Planning and Engineering, Inc. of Boca Raton, FL; and **Dr. Bart Baca** of Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale FL, who is actually overseeing the ongoing permit-required environmental monitoring of the Bogue Banks beach nourishment projects. The panel will be moderated by Caswell Beach (NC) **Mayor Harry Simmons**, who is also executive director of NCSBPA.

One of the highlights of this panel will likely be a discussion on “How do we resist the urge to make premature public statements on the success or failure of the biological aspects of a beach nourishment project before the mandated recovery time has been allowed, all the needed data has been collected, the fact-based results have been scientifically processed with proper documentation, and finally, all the conclusions have been peer-reviewed and substantiated by a group of competent experts.” Audience participation will be encouraged.

The 2002 NCSBPA conference, entitled “**The Ecology and Economy of North Carolina’s Beaches,**” will be open for onsite registration at 11:00am on **Monday, November 18**. The program begins that day at 1:00pm and runs through 5:00pm on **Tuesday, November 19** at the **Sheraton Atlantic Beach** which is situated at Mile Marker 4.5 in Atlantic Beach, NC near its border with Pine Knoll Shores. As previously announced, **Congressman Walter B. Jones (3rd-NC)** will be the keynote speaker for the Tuesday luncheon during the conference.

North Carolina Shore & Beach Preservation Association is a statewide non-profit organization whose mission is to conserve, restore and preserve North Carolina’s public beaches, a most beneficial renewable resource. NCSBPA is governed by a diverse, coast-wide board of directors which counts state and local officials, academicians, engineers, economists, geologists and other scientists among its members. The NCSBPA website is <http://www.ncshoreandbeach.org>.

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Any member of the working press wishing to attend the conference need only contact Executive Director Harry Simmons by email at ncsbpa@mindspring.com in advance or at his cell phone number 910-200-7867 up until the morning of the event. We’ll be happy to arrange for your conference credentials.
