

## Implementation Planning Update

UNRBA staff have translated all of the approved Recommendation Sheets (brief documents that describe the strategies recommended in our Management Plan) into Local Management Strategy Reviews (LMSRs). LMSRs are brief Excel questionnaires we will be sending to appropriate local government staff and asking them to fill out. We have also developed a Microsoft Access database to help catalog, analyze, and report the data from the completed LMSRs. Once this data is in Access, it can be associated with GIS data on the local government's boundaries and overlaid with our Focus Areas for each strategy (under development). The outcome of this process will be a Gap Analysis with maps and discussion for all strategies showing where each is being implemented and where implementation needs to be advanced. UNRBA member governments will have the opportunity to review and comment on the Gap Analysis.

So far the TAC has approved 12 of 17 Recommendation Sheets. The last five are in various stages of completion, but the end is very much in sight! The most current versions are available on our website at [www.unrba.org/mgmtplan.htm](http://www.unrba.org/mgmtplan.htm) (click on Table of Recommendation Sheets).

## UNRBA Staffing Changes

The UNRBA Board of Directors unanimously approved the nomination of Sarah Bruce, formerly a Water Resources Planner with TJCOG, to replace Chris Dreps as UNRBA Coordinator. Sarah will continue to work on Upper Neuse Watershed Management Plan implementation issues and with the Technical Advisory Committee, and will now also be conducting the bimonthly meetings of the UNRBA Board of Directors.

UNRBA and TJCOG are accepting applications until November 16 for a Water Resources Planner to help staff the Technical Advisory Committee and work on technical issues (e.g., stormwater & watershed management, restoration planning) for TJCOG and UNRBA. Go to [www.tjcog.org](http://www.tjcog.org) for a description of the position and details on how to apply (click on About TJCOG, then Employment Opportunities).

## Homeland Security Proposes Biohazard Research Facility in the Upper Neuse Basin

An area near Butner is one of five locations being considered by the Department of Homeland Security for a new facility to research biologically hazardous materials such as hoof-and-mouth disease. The facility would be a biosafety level 4 facility, the highest level of facility designed to handle the most dangerous substances and pathogens.

Although the facility would have safety features and procedures to prevent incidents, some have expressed concerns about locating the facility in Granville County, such as the proposed location's proximity to Falls Lake and the number of farms with animals in the area, both of which opponents claim could be affected by safety breaches or other accidents.

Leading the opposition is the South Granville Non-violent Action Team ([www.nobio.org](http://www.nobio.org)). The NC Consortium for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility ([www.ncc-nbaf.org](http://www.ncc-nbaf.org)) is in favor of locating the facility in Butner. Both groups maintain websites with extensive links to additional resources and information on how the public can provide input.

## Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy

Not much has changed since August: Collection of data to develop models and determine the extent of the lake's impairment continues. The NC Division of Water Quality is developing a watershed model to quantify loading from different land uses, wastewater, and other inputs (to be completed in Fall 2008). North Carolina State University is developing the in-lake nutrient response model to show the response of algae levels in Falls Lake to these inputs (anticipated Fall 2009).

UNRBA and TJCOG staff will meet with the Division of Water Quality in November to strategize on how to deal with the fact that the modeling will not be complete until after the deadline for completion of the Nutrient Management Strategy imposed by Senate Bill 981. No stakeholder meetings have been scheduled. If you wish to be kept apprised of the Falls Lake NMS Stakeholder Process, please contact Sydney Miller at [smiller@tjcog.org](mailto:smiller@tjcog.org) or (919) 558-9392.

**Upper Neuse River Basin Association**

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[www.unrba.org](http://www.unrba.org)



**Who Is the UNRBA?**

The Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) formed in 1996 to provide an ongoing forum for voluntary regional cooperation on water quality protection and water resource planning and management within the 770-square-mile Upper Neuse Basin (Falls Lake watershed). We are a coalition of public entities in the watershed, including municipalities, counties, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, and South Granville Water and Sewer Authority. (See UNRBA Participants, below.)

**What Is the UNRBA's Mission?**

Our mission is to preserve the water quality of the Upper Neuse River Basin through innovative and cost-effective pollution reduction strategies and to constitute a forum to cooperate on water supply issues within the Upper Neuse River Basin.

**Upcoming Meetings**  
 UNRBA Board of Directors:  
 November 28, Durham, 11:30 am

**Upcoming Trainings**

**Nov. 16: Regulating Trees and Working Open Space in Counties and Cities, Raleigh, NC**

Differences in the regulation of trees on public versus private property provide unique challenges to planners. Participants will learn what authorities exist to protect trees, how these may be applied to private forestland, and how and why flexibility may be offered to encourage the continued management of forestland.

Registration: \$50.00; includes handouts, refreshments, luncheon, and continuing education credits.

Website: <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/nreos/forest/ordinance/new.html#workshop>

**Dec. 3-5: Stream Restoration Construction Training, Raleigh, NC**

The workshop will introduce attendees to background, construction techniques, and bidding methods on stream restoration projects. Attendees will be able to observe structure installation and ask questions. The workshop will also include a tour of several completed restoration projects.

Registration: \$925 (by Nov. 21) / \$975 (after Nov. 21), includes exam and certificate of completion

Website: [http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/programs/extension/wq/srp/construction\\_training.html](http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/programs/extension/wq/srp/construction_training.html)

**Upper Neuse River Basin Association Participants**

Jurisdiction	UNRBA Board of Directors Contact (Policy and Process Issues)		UNRBA Technical Advisory Committee Contact (Technical Issues)	
Butner	Tom McGee	tom.mcgee@ncmail.net	Tom McGee	tom.mcgee@ncmail.net
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**Upper Neuse River Basin Association Staff**

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