

Oral History Interviews about 1997 NC Fisheries Reform Act

Oral history interviews and a series of podcasts about the 1997 NC Fisheries Reform Act, the most significant fisheries legislation in NC history, are now available online.

The interviews and the podcasts are suitable for use in classrooms, public forums, and scholarly research, and were created under the 1997 NC Fisheries Reform Act: An Oral History Perspective project funded by the North Carolina Sea Grant Community Collaborative Research Grant program.

A podcast discussion guide providing material for thought-provoking discussion that promotes public understanding of the complexities of resource management, supports the informed engagement of the public in the management of marine resources, establishes common understandings, and introduces students to resource management concepts is also available.

The podcast series features the voices of fishermen, scientists, environmental advocates, and resource managers instrumental in shaping the Reform Act. The process leading to passage of the Act was remarkable in terms of gubernatorial, legislative and citizen engagement and bipartisan cooperation.

The series consists of three episodes capturing the environmental and social conditions that served as impetus for reform, the political path to legislative approval, and perspectives on the act twenty years after it became law. The story is told using excerpts from thirteen oral history interviews conducted last year.

The interviews, podcasts and discussion guide can be found on the project page - <https://www.raisingthestory.com/nc-fisheries-reform-act-an-oral-history-perspective/> .

The research team for the project includes Jimmy Johnson, Coastal Habitats Coordinator with the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership, Sandra Davidson, Ryan Stancil and Baxter Miller of Bit & Grain, a digital documentary project about NC, Barbara Garrity-Blake of Duke Marine Lab, oral historian and archivist Mary Williford, and Karen Amspacher with the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum and Heritage Center. I am a journalist and served as principal investigator for the project.

We hope the oral history interviews and the podcasts interest you and your colleagues.

Sincerely,

Susan West
Buxton, NC