

ANNUAL MEETING

YRK 2021 Annual Membership Meeting Agenda

- I. Welcome, Introductions and Thank Yous
- II. Announcement of New 2021 YRK Board Members
- III. Success Story - Update on the Shallowford Crossing Acquisition
- IV. 2020 YRK Milestones
- V. YRK Organizational Highlights
- VI. 2021 Priorities to Protect and Enhance the Yadkin River
- VII. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiatives
- VIII. Q&A
- IX. Discussion



Yadkin Riverkeeper 2021 Annual Membership Meeting

**Via Zoom
January 26, 2021**

2020 SPONSORS



CUBE HYDRO™
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TRUST IN THE DRIVE



BOB PATE MEMORIAL FUND
FOR THE YADKIN RIVER



2021 INCOMING YADKIN RIVERKEEPER BOARD MEMBERS



**STEVE
ILDERTON**



**DR. KYANA
YOUNG**



**KELLY
IRWIN**

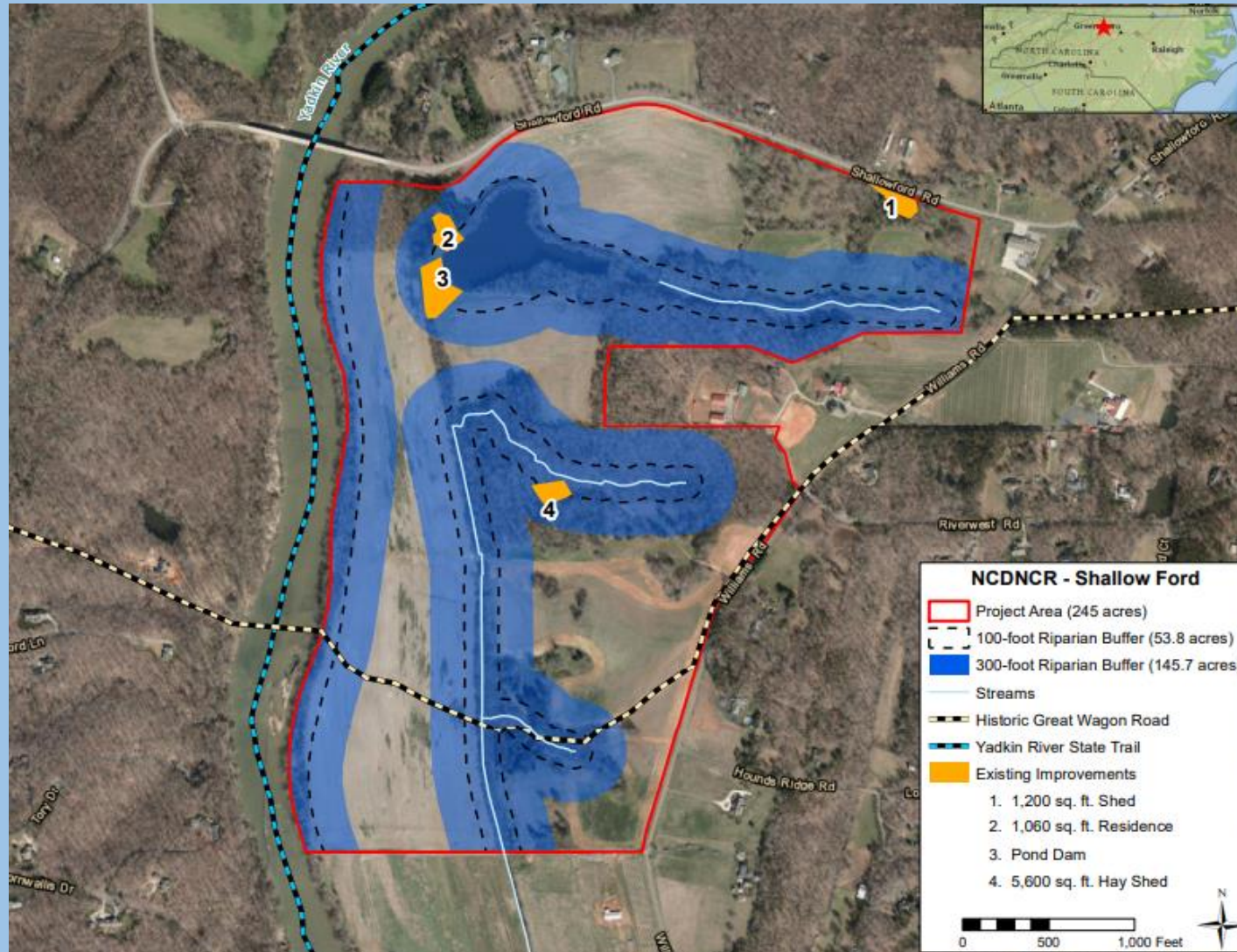


**KERRY
CASLOW**

Shallowford Historic Site Acquisition-The Conservation Fund-December 2020



Shallowford Riparian Buffers/Existing Uses



Yadkin River at Shallowford – West Bend, Forsyth County



2020 YRK Milestones

- Duke Energy's Removal and Recycling of Coal Ash from the Buck Power Station on the River in Rowan County
 - NCDEQ ruling statewide excavation
 - Air, wastewater discharge and coal ash removal plans approved
 - Review of discharge monitoring reports and fish tissue sampling
- Release of "Roadmap for a Cleaner Yadkin"
 - Comprehensive, basinwide strategies for reducing nonpoint source pollution
 - Closed out 2016 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Wells Fargo Resilient Communities Grant
 - Yadkin River Basinwide Plan update 2021



Roadmap to a Cleaner Yadkin

August 2020

PREPARED BY:
The Piedmont Triad Regional Council
for The Yadkin Riverkeeper

FUNDED BY:
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's
Wells Fargo Resilient Communities Program

2020 YRK Milestones - Continued

- River ReConnect Program
 - Launched Swim Guide Program
 - Monthly E-news
 - Forsyth, Rowan and Davidson Creek Week Programs
 - High Rock Lake Clean Sweep
 - Educational Offerings
 - Historic Paddle Series
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiatives
 - Diversity Communications Specialist
 - Board and Staff Racial Equity Training
 - Racial Inequality and Justice Statement



YRK Organizational Highlights

- 285 Members
- New Members/Renewed Lapsed Members - 100
- Retention Rate – 57 percent
- Finished 2020 w/ Surplus
 - Payroll Protection Program Loan
 - Major Donors (24 % increase)
 - Reduced costs
 - Communities of the River Auction/Wine Pull
 - Timberlake Print Sales
 - Sustainable Charity BBQ
- Ongoing Foundation Support
 - Z. Smith Reynolds
 - The Winston-Salem Foundation
 - The Clemmons Community Foundation-Shore Community Grant Program



Clemmons Community Foundation – Shore Community Grants Program

- YRK Received 2 Shore Community Grants from CCF
- Focus on Yadkin County
 - \$10,500 – Emergency Response Plan/Mapping/Signage
 - \$7,500 – Sustainable Farming Outreach
- Integrated Into Sustainable Farming Initiative and YRST Mapping Project



2021 Priorities

Protecting and Enhancing the Yadkin River



Alcoa Badin Business Park (ABPP) Stormwater Permit and Hazardous Waste Clean Up

- YRK Opposed to Special Order by Consent (SOC) for ABBP NPDES stormwater permit
- Generated more than 200 public comments requesting public hearing on SOC
- Represented by Southern Environmental Law Center on water quality issues
- Recommending excavation of most dangerous hazardous waste sites near Badin Lake and Little Mountain Creek



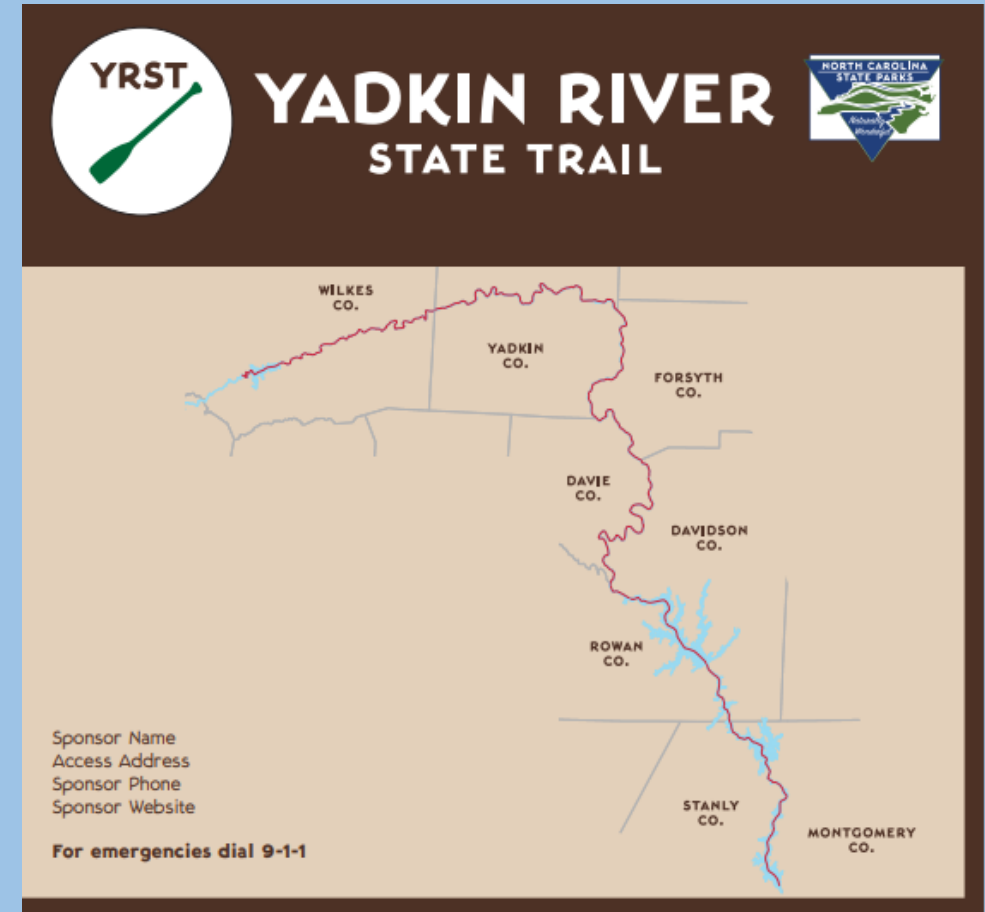
Water Quality Advocacy

- NC EMC - Chlorophyll – a standard
- Waterkeepers Alliance Animal Agriculture Agenda
 - Agronomic rate for phosphorous
 - Increased funding for BMPs
 - Poultry siting/waste management criteria
- Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB)
 - Statewide Taskforce
 - HAB Monitoring and Response
 - HAB Guidance for Riverkeepers
- YRK Executive Director to Register as Lobbyist



Yadkin River State (YRST) Trail Blueway Map

- YRK \$40K contract w/ NC Division of State Parks to update YRST blueway map/signage
- YRK contracting w/ PTRC to do online and printed YRST map
- Needs Assessment
- Mini-grants for access area improvements
- Signage at access/take out areas
- Mile Markers/Emergency Access



Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs)

- Riverkeeper HAB Guide to be published in early 2021
- Statewide Taskforce
 - Define HABs
 - Recommend monitoring program
 - Develop response protocol
 - Numerical criteria for nutrients, chl-a, cyanotoxins



YRK Sustainable Farming Initiative

- Establish network of sustainable, river-friendly farmers
- Pledge to Implement Sustainable, River-Friendly Farming Practices
- Advocate for Policies and Programs that Support Sustainable Farms
- Expand to Yadkin County
- Virtual Farmer Networking Meeting – February 25



Water Quality Monitoring

- Monthly nutrient and bacteria sampling on HRL
- Weekly E.coli sampling for Swim Guide sites in Summer months
- Bacterial, turbidity & chlorophyll-A sampling as needed
- Monthly flights and aerial surveys of watershed
- Involvement with YPDRBA and YPDWVG



Waterkeepers Carolina Plastics Project

- \$188 K NC Attorney General Environmental Enhancement Grant (EEG) to Waterkeepers Carolina
- 2-Year Grant for Sampling Streams and Sediments for Microplastics
- Year 2 - Installation of “Litter Getter” on small stream
- YRK 1 of 15 NC Waterkeeper Organizations Participating



YRK Historic Paddle Series 2021

- May 22: Yadkin River Park
- June 19: Falls Reservoir
- July 24: Crater Park Elkin to Carolina Heritage Winery
- August 28 – Kayak Demo-Rowan Creek Week
- October – Bonus Paddle



2021 River/Lake Cleanups

- March 27 – Salem Creek, Forsyth Creek Week
- April 17-18 – Great Yadkin River Bridge Earth Day Clean Ups (Basinwide)
- June 4 – NC Trail Days River Clean Ronda to Elkin
- September 18 – High Rock Lake Clean Sweep



YRK JEDI Initiatives

- Kristan Pitts – Diversity Communications Specialist
- Environmental Justice Mapping Project
- Community Outreach
- River ReConnect Educational Initiatives
- NC Environmental Justice Network Liaison
- Waterkeeper Alliance JEDI Quality Standard



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