

Environmental Sustainability Policy

The City of New Bern has a Regional Land Use Plan, which was developed in collaboration with the towns of River Bend and Trent Woods. The City received grants from the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (DCM) to complete this planning project. The DCM requires coastal communities to adopt a local land use plan in accordance with guidelines established by the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC). Under these guidelines, a set of standards and requirements that must be addressed during the planning process is required.

One such standard is natural resource protection. Within this plan, Chapter IV. Natural System Analysis addresses natural resource protection. “This section provides an inventory of the major natural resources and features within the project study area along with an assessment of the environmental conditions and features.” The natural features assessed include the following categories:

- Areas of Environmental Concern (AECs)
- Soils
- Water Quality Classifications and water quality conditions
- Flood and Natural Hazard Areas
- Storm Surge Areas
- Non-coastal Wetlands
- Water Supply Watershed/Wellhead Protection Areas
- Primary Nursery Areas
- Environmentally Fragile Areas and Natural Heritage Areas