



U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure

Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment

Hearing: The Water Resources Development Act of 2020 Status of Essential Provisions

March 23, 2021

Written Testimony of:

Dr. Michael F. Piehler

Director, UNC Institute for the Environment

Professor, Marine Sciences and Environmental Sciences and Engineering

Chief Sustainability Officer and Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Sustainability

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Biography

Michael F. Piehler

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Professional Preparation

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Biology B.S.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Environmental Sciences and Engineering, M.S.P.H.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Ph.D.

Appointments

2018- Director, UNC Institute for the Environment

2016- Professor, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Institute of Marine Sciences, Department of Marine Sciences, Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, and the Environment, Ecology, and Energy Program

July 2020- Chief Sustainability Officer and Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Sustainability, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2017-2018 Interim Executive Director, UNC Coastal Studies Institute

2011- 2016 Associate Professor, UNC at Chapel Hill Institute of Marine Sciences

2005-2011 Assistant Professor, UNC at Chapel Hill Institute of Marine Sciences

Most Relevant Publications (of 92 total)

Gold, AC, SP Thompson & MF Piehler. 2019. The effects of urbanization and retention-based stormwater management on coastal plain stream nutrient export. *Water Resources Research*, 55 (8), 7027-7046.

Gold, AC, SP Thompson & MF Piehler. 2019 Nitrogen cycling processes within stormwater control measures: A review and call for research. *Water Research* 149:278-287.

Gold, AC, SP Thompson & MF Piehler. 2017. Water quality before and after watershed-scale implementation of coastal plain stormwater wet ponds. *Ecological Engineering*, 105:240-251.

Smyth, AR, MF Piehler, and JH Grabowski. 2015. Habitat context influences nitrogen removal by restored oyster reefs. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 52 (3): 716-725.

Piehler, M.F. and A.R. Smyth. 2011. Habitat-specific distinctions in estuarine denitrification affect both ecosystem function and services. *Ecosphere* 2(1):art12.

Synergistic Activities

North Carolina Sea Grant Advisory Board, 7/18-

Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association Board of Directors, 6/18-

Associate Editor, *Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science* (2014-2017)

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership Science and Technical Advisory Committee (2006-2018)

National Oyster Goals Project Science Advisory Team, The Nature Conservancy, 1/11-17