

Networks & Complementary Strategies

CFRW is a member of numerous networks, coalitions, and collaborations. Our roles vary, but we bring several strengths to any group.

- I) We are the experts on the <u>Cape Fear River</u>. Our staff and board know the river like very few others. We are the Riverkeepers, biologists, geologists, captains, anglers, paddlers, environmental attorneys, retired regulators, and lifetime residents of the watershed. We know the river and the people that rely on it.
- 2) We understand how to monitor and patrol the river and document conditions, whether by land, water, or air. We have significant training on data collection, mapping, and data analysis.
- 3) We are trusted by our community as the authority on all things Cape Fear River related.
- 4) We have over a thousand members whom we rely on when legal standing is required for legal action. These members depend on the river, they live in the watershed, and because of our education and communication work, they are invested in protecting water quality.

We are also well connected to other groups across the state including other Riverkeeper organizations; legal organizations like Southern Environmental Law Center, Earth Justice, National Resources Defense Council, Waterkeeper Alliance, the Julius L. Chambers Center for Civil Rights, and the Duke Law Clinic; numerous academic institutions, environmental justice groups like NC Environmental Justice Network and REACH (Rural Empowerment Association for Community Help); national nonprofits like Food and Water Watch and Sierra Club; statewide groups like NC Conservation Network and the League of Conservation Voters; and countless smaller citizen groups.

Many of the battles that will determine the future of North Carolina's environment will be fought in the Cape Fear Basin. Cape Fear River Watch will be on the front lines of those fights and as we win those battles, all of NC will win as well.

We are grateful for your support and involvement.

Being an advocate for the Cape Fear River is a job we take seriously. We speak up to help influence policy makers to effect change, to fight polluters that abuse river resources, and to restore our once abundant fishery. We support CAPE FEAR RIVERKEEPER® and we are a member of the WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE®, an international clean water advocacy organization. We feel it is important to protect the Cape Fear River for future generations to come.