



Lord Willing and the River Don't Rise

Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER Response
During Florence

Hurricane Florence

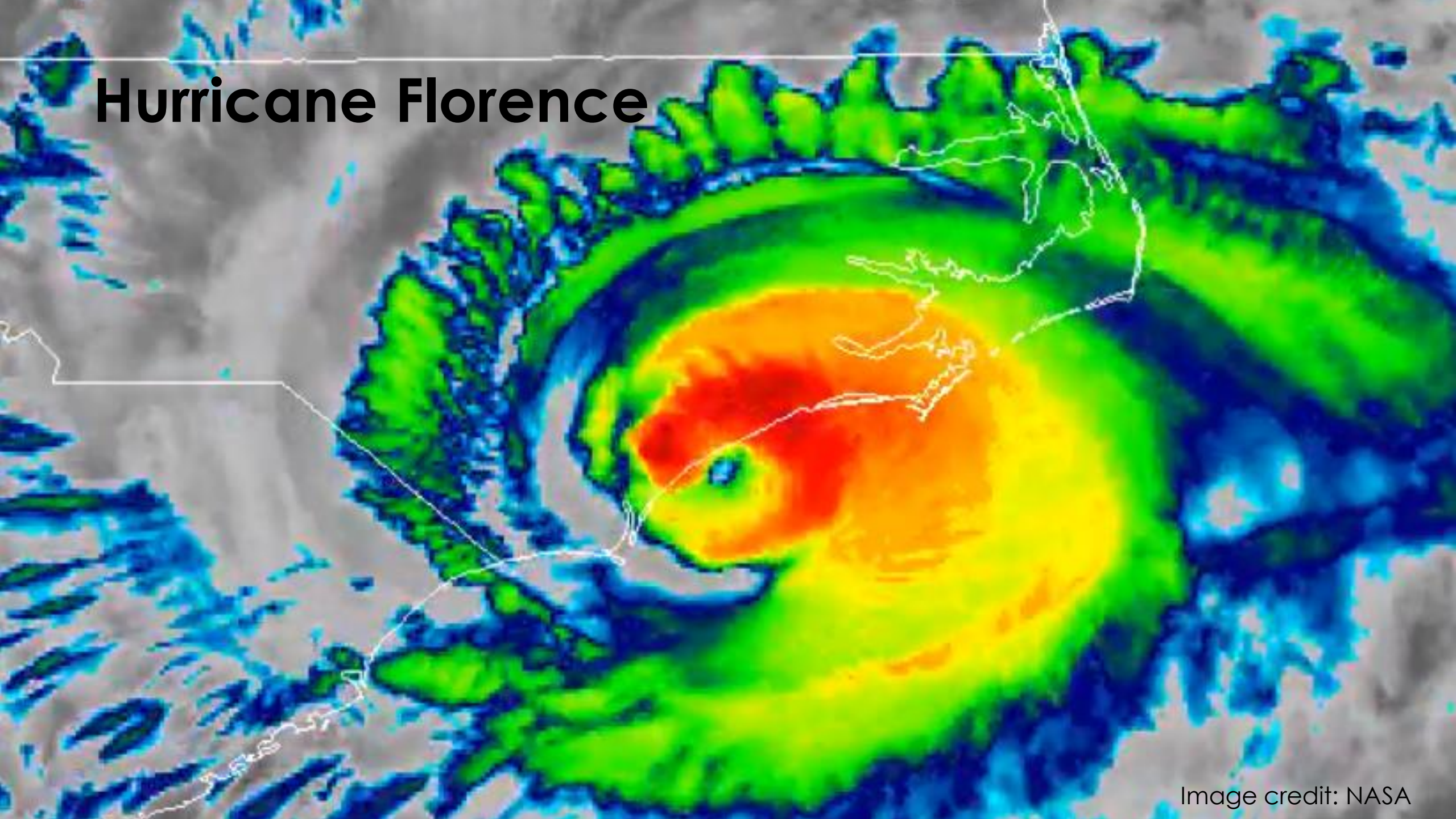


Image credit: NASA



Image credit: Master0Garfield

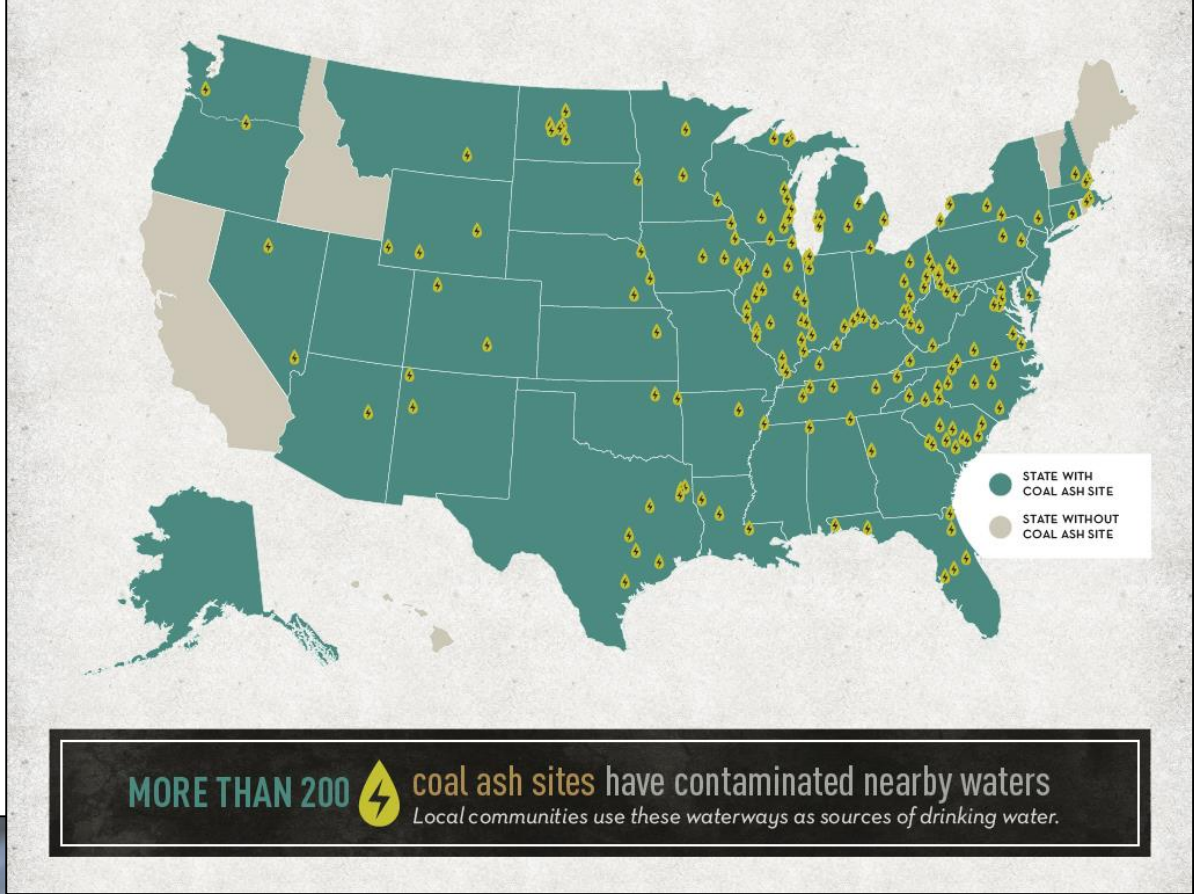
Florence Flooding on the Waccamaw Timeline

- September 1st: Florence forms in the Atlantic
- September 4th: Florence is officially a Hurricane
- September 11th: Evacuation ordered for all zones along the coast
- September 14th: Florence makes landfall as a Category 1 Hurricane
- September 18th: Waccamaw River crests at 15.57 ft at Conway
- September 19th: Florence finally dissipates
- September 26th: Waccamaw River crests at 21.16 ft at Conway
- October 30th: Waccamaw River returns to normal gage at Conway



Photo credit: Santee Cooper

Grainger Coal Ash Ponds




THE ISSUE WITH COAL ASH


 **140 MILLION TONS OF COAL ASH ARE GENERATED EACH YEAR**

Hundreds of coal power plants burn over a billion tons of coal every year.

Coal ash is the waste that is left after coal is combusted (burned).

COAL ASH IS FILLED WITH TOXIC LEVELS OF POLLUTANTS

33 As 74.921	82 Pb 207.2	80 Hg 200.59	
ARSENIC	LEAD	MERCURY	& MORE

 If you live near an unlined wet ash pond (surface impoundment) and you get your drinking water from a well, you may have as much as a 1 in 50 chance of getting cancer from drinking arsenic-contaminated water.

1,425 COAL ASH SITES IN 37 STATES

 **70%** of coal ash dumps are located in low income communities



Data from The EPA & Earth Justice



Impacts of Coal Ash

Santee Cooper's Response

- Pumping water from the Waccamaw into both ash ponds to reinforce dam walls
- Staging heavy equipment, sand and other materials in place for use as needed
- Heavy-lift helicopter on standby to move 1.5-ton sack of gravel if needed
- Installing a portable, water-inflated AquaDam around the entire 6,000-foot perimeter of Pond 2
- Adding a layer of 30-inch-high silt fencing around the Pond 2 dike perimeter
- Placing approximately 11,000 feet of floating environmental containment boom
- Collecting baseline surface water and sediment samples and conducting daily upstream and downstream river and sediment sampling



Photo credit: Santee Cooper



Photo credit: Santee Cooper



Photo credit: Santee Cooper



Photo credit: Santee Cooper



Photo credit: Santee Cooper

Waccamaw Riverkeeper Actions

- Monitoring by air, land, and river
- Coordinating with Santee Cooper for monitoring and information
- Coordinating with Waterkeeper Alliance Rapid Response
- Developing sampling plans
- Doing interviews by phone, camera, email, and text
- Using social media to deliver information to the public
- Coordinating volunteers

September 22, 2018
River gage 18.5 ft

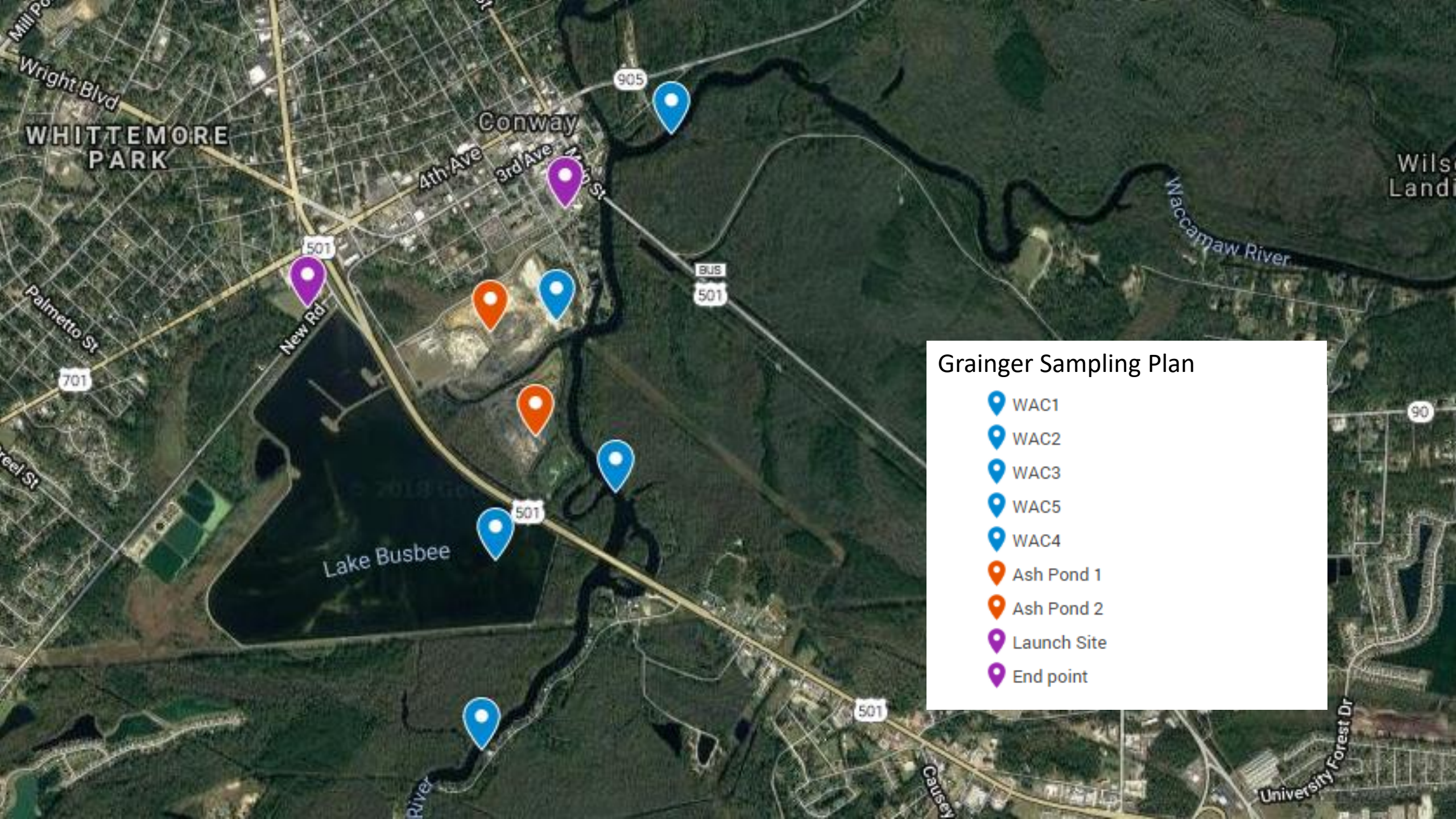
Pond 1

Pond 2












September 24th, 2018
River gage 21 ft





Grainger Sampling Plan

-  WAC1
-  WAC2
-  WAC3
-  WAC5
-  WAC4
-  Ash Pond 1
-  Ash Pond 2
-  Launch Site
-  End point

Waterkeeper responds to the threat of another coal ash pond failure in the wake of Hurricane Florence

by Donna Lisenby
Sep 24 2018

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South Carolina's state-owned electric an

Santee Cooper anticipates rising Waccamaw could overtop ash pond 2

Sep 24, 2018 3



Santee Cooper crews have been working all week hoping to prevent ash from two ash ponds at the old Grainger Sta Plant from seeping into the Waccamaw River.

Flooding isn't the only threat posed by the Waccamaw River. What's in the water?

observer.com

02:09 PM
r 19, 2018 04:52 PM

waiting to see how high the Waccamaw River will rise by this time next

WMBF NEWS WEATHER SPORTS INVESTIGATE CRIME SC WEEKEND

Santee Cooper working to prevent potential contamination in Waccamaw River



1:08 / 2:04

Speaker icon, Full screen icon, More options icon

Santee Cooper working to prevent potential contamination in Waccamaw River

In the News

September 26, 2018
River gage 21.16 ft



FLORENCE'S COAL ASH CONCERNS IMPACT



Meanwhile,
In North Carolina



Thank You!

