

SOUNDSIDE LEARNING THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND



February 14, 2023

Core Sound Grieves Loss

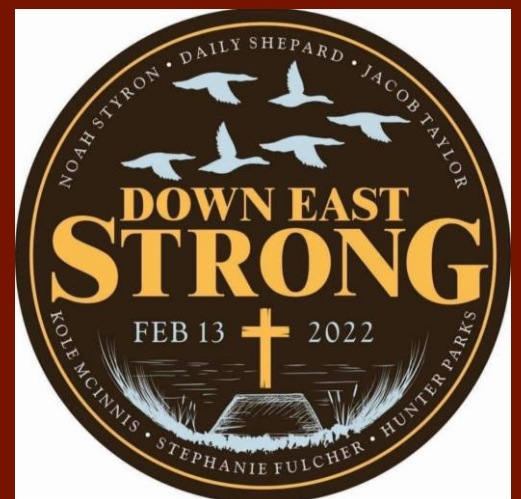
Written by Tanner Lynk & printed in the February 21, 2022, CSWM&HC Newsletter

For generations of children growing up in the communities of Down East, the waters of Core Sound have beckoned. An almost inexplicable magnetism exists with the sound's waters, marshes, and grass lumps for those whose families have plied these same waters for generations. This relationship has been forged by centuries of dependance on the sound's bounty as a life source.

Today's young Coresounders grow up in a much different world than their ancestors before them who fled the hurricane ravaged communities of Shackleford Banks to take refuge along the soundside communities that make up Down East today. Roads, bridges, and modern technologies now link the Down East communities with the outside world, putting an end to the days of isolation that marked the the first half of the 20th century. Still, the strength of tradition radiates through our young people.

More than a century after their ancestors settled along the shores of Core and Pamlico Sounds in communities like Cedar Island, Atlantic, Stacy, Williston, Marshallberg, and Harkers Island, their descendants still carry on their long-established traditions in a new millennia. Thus, Core Sound is still a place where our young will learn to steer, dock, and pull up a skiff long before learning to handle a car or truck. This is a place where rows of trucks with boat trailers will line the sides of the highway near the Salter's Creek bridge on a freezing January morning as scores of teenagers head out in pursuit of a mess of redheads to take home for grandma to stew. A place where the pride associated with a boatload of fall roe mullets far outweighs any financial gain to be had from it. This is still a place where centuries old traditions are still as exhilarating for today's youth as they were for their ancestors so many years ago. This was very much the case for the four young men that Core Sound devastatingly lost in the afternoon hours of Sunday, February 13th, 2022.

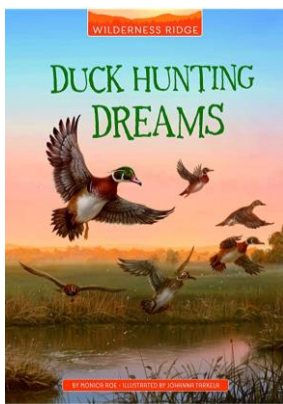
Returning from a youth hunting excursion in Hyde County, these young men were chasing redheads, black ducks, and wood ducks; *tradition*. They knew and had felt that inexplicable magnetism that draws the children of Core Sound *homeward*. These young men were the future of Core Sound, the next generation to carry the torch of heritage who would one day pass the baton to *their* children. To the parents, role models, community leaders who were sharing the traditions *they* so knew and loved with these young men that fateful day, your work was not in vain. We will forever cherish the photos of their smiling faces, teeming with excitement at the prospect of a bountiful hunt to close out the season.



JOIN US!

- **February 15:**
Soundside Science & Story Time for ages 3-5, 10 AM
- **February 16: Parlor Talk @ 806, 2 PM:**
Shannon Adams, "Promise Land"
- **February 24: Taste of Core Sound**

Sound Reading Material For You & Your Child



Duck Hunting Dreams

by Roe and Monica Tarkela

For twelve-year-old Hailey, the upcoming annual family duck hunt is a chance to prove that she's finally ready to join her family in the duck blind. She's also hoping that Cocoa, the excitable young dog she chose last fall against her parents' advice, has what it takes to make a great retriever. When hunt day arrives, Hailey is sure she and Cocoa have everything under control. But Cocoa's inexperience spoils several good shots for the rest of the family, and the young dog risks being sent home from the hunt. And Hailey soon learns that willing things to go right doesn't mean they will.

Pages: 72
Grades: 4-6

Sounds All Around

What is a sound? One type of sound is a passage of water between the mainland and an island that connects two other bodies of water. Due to the wind protection provided by the land, they contain sheltered wetlands. North Carolina has nearly 5,000 miles of inner waters and has more sounds than any other eastern state.

Back Sound connects Core and Bogue Sounds. It is 8.5 miles long and 2 miles wide at its widest point. Shackleford Banks protects this sound, and it is part of the Intracoastal waterway, a federally protected and maintained shipping route. Back Sound stretches from Cape Lookout to Beaufort Inlet.

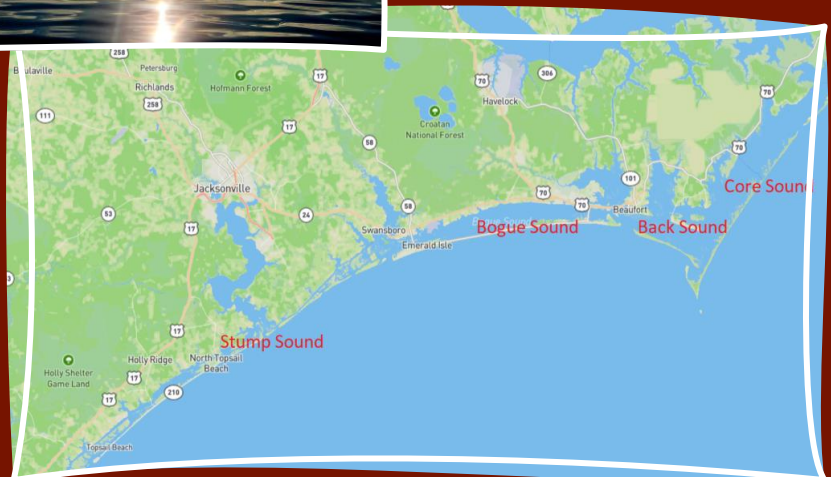
Bogue Sound flows along our coast from Back Sound to Bogue Inlet. It is 25 miles long and up to 3 miles wide. The barrier islands and the North Carolina mainland shelter this sound creating calm waters with slow currents.

Core Sound, my personal favorite, runs between Carteret County's mainland and Cape Lookout National Seashore. It connects Pamlico Sound to Back Sound.

I have always heard that long ago when a ship was caught on a stormy sea, captains would steer towards these harbors to make their way to calmer and safer waters; once there, crews considered themselves "safe and *sound*." I don't know if this is true, but I do like this explanation very much.



Core Sound photo taken by Kimberly Smith LeMay



map from coastalcarolinariverwatch.org