



- September 2018: Beaufort adopts Navigable Waters Ordinance to address abandoned/derelict vessels and illegal moorings within our waterways
- **September 2018:** Beaufort partners with Rachel Carson Reserve to begin clean-up efforts post-Florence
  - 8 vessels beached on Carrot island removed by Tow Boat U.S.
  - 6 sunk vessels raised from Taylor's Creek and Town Creek
  - 42 illegal mooring balls located and removed
- Fall 2018 costs: \$125,405.00
  - NOAA Grant plus "in-kind" contributions from Tow Boat US

- March 2019: Beaufort Police Vessel "Marine 1" becomes operational
  - 2 patrols per week\*
  - Average patrol of dedicated waterways lasts 3 hours

#### To Date:

- 75 hours spent patrolling
- 236 vessels contacted
- 46 vessels tagged for anchoring beyond allowable time
- 3 violators criminally charged with Felony Littering

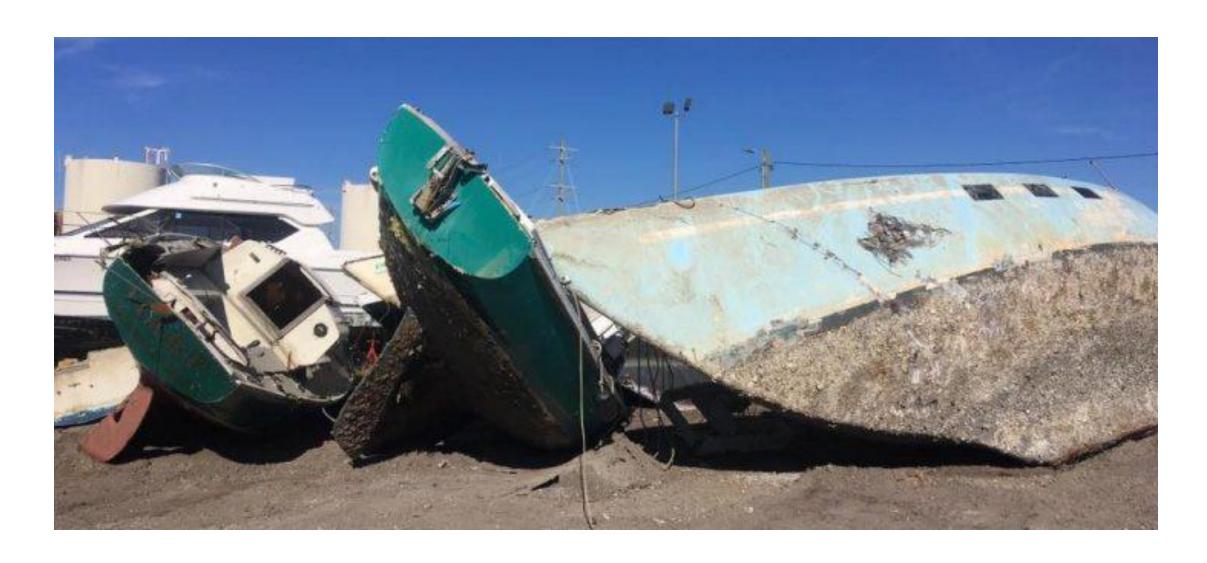












Taylor's Creek before Florence



Town Creek before Florence



- Enforcement Philosophy: Voluntary Compliance
  - Staff work with violators to get them into compliance
  - Communication is critical to ensure ordinance is adhered to
  - Most common violation is abandoned/derelict vessels

- When voluntary compliance fails:
  - Vessel is tagged as being in violation
  - Certified mail notifications are sent to owner (if known)
    - Letter outlines what must be done to come into compliance as well as outlines the accumulating civil penalties for being in violation of the ordinance (\$500.00/day)

- When voluntary compliance fails:
  - Failure to act requires intervention from Town Attorney to discuss removal options/associated fees with vendor
  - A small percentage of boaters want to dispute the legality of the Navigable Waters Ordinance
  - Example:
    - Vessel intentionally vandalized required extraordinary measures while ordinance timeline was being fulfilled. Fee for removal exceeded \$13,000.00

#### • Why this is important:

- Our image
- Clean water ways
- Less storm cleanup
- Reduce/Eliminate mischief on the harbor
- Tourism: More boaters visiting



#### Real World Impact...

A couple from Maine:

"We stopped coming to Beaufort years ago, but we heard that the harbor had been cleaned up..."

#### A couple from Florida:

"We heard down in Florida that Beaufort has cleaned up the derelict and abandoned boats. We will definitely be coming back to Beaufort..."

## Questions?

