



Banquet & Auction  
Tag & Release Fishing Tournament  
Education Day

StriperFest 2014  
January 17 & 18, 2014  
Coastline Convention Center  
Wilmington, North Carolina

From our RIVERKEEPER® and Executive Director, Kemp Burdette:

On January 17 & 18, 2014, the Sixth Annual Cape Fear River Watch StriperFest will be held to support the restoration of the Cape Fear River fishery. StriperFest is a two day event filled with fun, exciting, and educational activities to raise awareness and celebrate the Cape Fear River fishery.

- Friday January 17<sup>th</sup> – Join us at the **StriperFest Banquet and Auction**. A wonderful meal and a dazzling auction filled with artwork, vacation packages, fishing trips & gear, and more!
- Saturday January 18<sup>th</sup> – Fish in the region's premier **tag & release striped bass tournament** with top guides!
- Saturday January 18<sup>th</sup> – Bring the whole family out to the **StriperFest Community Education Day extravaganza**. Learn about the river, water quality, fisheries, and more!
- Saturday January 18<sup>th</sup> – Stick around for the fun and informal **awards ceremony** to hear the results of the tournament...and some fish tales!

**Be part of the action!**  
**Sponsor StriperFest 2014 to support the critical work to restore the Cape Fear River and its fishery.**

One hundred years ago, fishermen made their living from the bountiful fisheries of the Cape Fear River. Striped bass, shad, and sturgeon were once plentiful as far upriver as Fayetteville. These magnificent migratory fish would return from the sea year after year to spawn in the upper reaches of the Cape Fear River. The seasonal return of the fish ensured the prosperity of fishermen who worked the river, as well as the enjoyment of countless recreational anglers.

As larger and larger boats used the Cape Fear River for commerce, locks and dams were constructed to ensure that these vessels could safely reach trade centers located upriver. Though not used for commercial vessels today, the dams now provide a secure source of drinking water for many communities along the Cape Fear, and while they are necessary, they block the annual spawning runs of migratory fish in the Cape Fear River. **Our fishery has declined precipitously due to the dams.**

**Our community has rallied for the river**, and thanks to widespread support from citizens, businesses, state & federal agencies, and other partners, we have made significant headway. A remarkable new fish passage (“rock ramp”) is now complete at Lock and Dam #1. This innovative design allows migratory fish—like American shad, river herring, the endangered Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon, and of course the majestic striped bass—to swim right over the dam using an enormous terraced ramp of granite boulders.

**Now, stripers and shad are once again swimming over Lock and Dam #1 on their own—toward their spawning grounds upriver.** What better measure of a river's health exists than a vibrant and profitable fishery? What better project to support than restoring our once abundant fishery? **The restoration of the striped bass fishery in the Cape Fear River Basin could be the greatest fishery restoration success story on the East Coast of the United States.**

The tide is turning, thanks to **support from people like you** who know how important our river is. We have started to bring back our fishery from the brink – but there is still much work to be done. Two more dams lie between the ocean and the natural spawning grounds of many migratory fish species.

**We know that fish passages work** – we have seen success in 2012-2013! A two-year tagging study, using advanced sonic tags which Cape Fear River Watch funded with StriperFest proceeds, shows migratory fish utilizing the rock ramp to swim upstream. We will continue to fund the tagging program, expanding it in 2014. Also with funds from StriperFest, we are funding critical water quality studies by UNC Wilmington scientists to better understand what future actions are needed to create a healthy habitat for migratory fish. We have created a partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers to open an Environmental Education Center at Lock and Dam #1. And NOAA-SARP has funded a project by Cape Fear River Watch to create spawning habitat above Lock and Dam #1. **We need to keep this momentum going!**

***Restoring migratory fish populations in North Carolina's largest river is an opportunity of a lifetime – that we hope to accomplish in our lifetime.***

*The environmental, economic and recreational benefits would be enormous.*

***We must keep working – but we can't do it alone.***

**Cape Fear River Watch invites you to be part of the team that will restore the Cape Fear River migratory fishery for our children and grandchildren.** Imagine the day when we realize that our efforts – together as a community – made our river whole again. **We hope you will sponsor StriperFest 2014 and be part of two days of celebration** with a wonderful banquet and auction, an exciting tag & release fishing tournament, and a fun community education day for all ages.

Your partner in restoring our fishery,

Kemp Burdette  
Cape Fear RIVERKEEPER®

*For more information about StriperFest 2014 and our Fishery Restoration efforts, please go online to:*

[www.CapeFearRiverWatch.org](http://www.CapeFearRiverWatch.org)  
> News & Events > StriperFest 2014  
> Advocacy > Fish Restoration



## Sponsorship Opportunities

StriperFest 2014  
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 Coastline Convention Center  
 Wilmington, North Carolina

**All sponsors receive membership in Cape Fear River Watch**, which includes:

- Fun gatherings with other members—monthly seminars, clean-ups, and paddles
- Rental access to our fleet of boats for monthly paddles
- Invitations to our annual meeting and other special members-only events
- Subscription to our eNewsletter "River Currents"

### **BRONZE SPONSOR**

\$250 - \$499

- Cape Fear River Watch Membership
- Your company's name and logo w/link on our StriperFest 2014 Sponsors webpage
- Logo displayed at StriperFest Auction & Banquet and Education Day
- Two (2) tickets to StriperFest Auction & Banquet

### **SILVER SPONSOR**

\$500 - \$999

- Bronze level benefits
- Company logo printed in the StriperFest Auction & Banquet program
- Two additional (4 total) tickets to StriperFest Auction & Banquet

### **GOLD SPONSOR**

\$1,000 - \$4,999

- Silver level benefits
- Special recognition in our eNewsletter "River Currents"
- Two additional (6 total) tickets to StriperFest Auction & Banquet

### **PLATINUM SPONSOR**

\$5,000+

- Gold level benefits
- Feature write-up in our eNewsletter "River Currents"
- Corporate logo on StriperFest T-shirts *if received by December 15, 2013*
- Two seats for anglers to fish in the tag & release tournament on Jan 18, 2014
- Two additional (8 total) tickets to StriperFest Auction & Banquet

**In-Kind Donations for our event** with retail value of \$250+ will be recognized as "in-kind sponsors". You may combine a cash donation with an in-kind donation to reach higher sponsorship levels.

### **BOAT SPONSOR**

\$1000

- Two angler entries to fish in the tag & release tournament
- Four (4) tickets to StriperFest Auction & Banquet
- Dinner buffet at the awards ceremony January 18, 2014
- Recognition in the StriperFest Auction & Banquet program

### **ANGLER SPONSOR**

\$500

- One angler entry to fish in the tag & release tournament
- Two (2) tickets to StriperFest Auction & Banquet
- Dinner buffet at the awards ceremony January 18, 2014
- Recognition in the StriperFest Auction & Banquet program

### **BANQUET TABLE**

\$350

- Eight (8) tickets to StriperFest 2014 Auction & Banquet

### **DONOR**

*We appreciate **all** cash donations to support StriperFest.* For monetary donations less than \$250, please indicate the amount in the "StriperFest Donor" category in the Commitment Form on the next page.



## Sponsorship Commitment Form

StriperFest 2014  
 January 17 & 18, 2014  
 Coastline Convention Center  
 Wilmington, North Carolina

     **Yes!** We support the restoration of a vibrant fishery and want to support Cape Fear River Watch's efforts to restore the Cape Fear River Fishery!

**Our sponsorship or supporting level is indicated below.**

Please fill out this form and mail with your check to:  
 Cape Fear River Watch • 617 Surry Street • Wilmington, NC 28401

     Platinum Sponsor (\$5000+)     \$ \_\_\_\_\_     In-Kind Item/Retail: \_\_\_\_\_

     Gold Sponsor (\$1000-\$4999)     \$ \_\_\_\_\_     In-Kind Item/Retail: \_\_\_\_\_

     Silver Sponsor (\$500-\$999)     \$ \_\_\_\_\_     In-Kind Item/Retail: \_\_\_\_\_

     Bronze Sponsor (\$250-\$499)     \$ \_\_\_\_\_     In-Kind Item/Retail: \_\_\_\_\_

     Boat Sponsor\*     \$1000

**\*Proceed to the Angler Commitment Form on the next page**

     Angler Sponsor\*     \$500

     Banquet Table     \$350

     StriperFest Donor     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsors, please fill out this contact form completely. Anglers, use the next page. Thank you.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Businesses:** Please email a hi-resolution company logo to [stephanie@cfrw.us](mailto:stephanie@cfrw.us) for the sponsor webpage

**Individuals:** Initial here if you would like your name added to the sponsor webpage. \_\_\_\_\_





Angler Commitment Form

Tag & Release Fishing Tournament  
 January 18, 2014  
 Coastline Convention Center  
 Wilmington, North Carolina

       **Yes!** I/we support the restoration of a vibrant fishery and want to support Cape Fear River Watch's efforts by participating in StriperFest 2014!

Please fill out this form and mail with your check to:  
 Cape Fear River Watch • 617 Surry Street • Wilmington, NC 28401  
**To pay by credit card, call Stephanie Borrett at 910-762-5606**

**Angler 1—Please fill out this contact form completely. Thank you.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size:    M    L    XL    XXL (circle one)

Will you bring a guest to social functions?    Y    N (circle one) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Experience Level:    Experienced    Intermediate    Beginner (circle one)

**Angler 2—Please fill out this contact form completely. Thank you.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size:    M    L    XL    XXL (circle one)

Will you bring a guest to social functions?    Y    N (circle one) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Experience Level:    Experienced    Intermediate    Beginner (circle one)

**PARTICIPANT WAIVER:**

All participants in the StriperFest Tag & Release Tournament enter at their own risk. Employees, board members, committee members and all persons connected directly or indirectly with the operation of the Cape Fear River Watch StriperFest shall be exempt from any liability suffered to any participant, entrant, sports fisherman, their companions, captains, vessels, and equipment which may occur during the tournament.

Participants may be photographed at the event and those photographs may be used in conjunction with promotion of the tournament and future events.

Any participant unable to attend the event without one month advance notice will not be eligible for a refund.

I understand and agree to the above paragraphs and agree to abide by the tournament rules.

By signing this commitment form, I/we have reserved our spot in the Cape Fear River Watch StriperFest 2014 at the Coastline Convention Center in Wilmington, NC on January 17 & 18, 2014.

Angler 1 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Angler 2 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this completed for with your entry fee for the fishing tournament. *Thanks!***





Auction Item Donation Form

Fundraising Auction  
 January 17, 2014  
 Coastline Convention Center  
 Wilmington, North Carolina

Please fill out this form completely and return with your donated item or certificate for services/trips. Thank you!

Name (as you would like to be credited in the program):

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Item/Service/Trip Description:

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DONOR SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Services/Trips:** Unless otherwise noted, have a 1 year expiration. Please provide a certificate for the trip or service with this auction item form.

**Artwork:** Please provide a brief biographical sketch of the artist and submit with the artwork.