
PREFACE

The Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA), created in 1974, is designed to assist with planning at the local level for the protection of natural resources. The local level planning is based on state regulations of natural resources. The CAMA jurisdiction encompasses 20 coastal counties and each county is required to adopt a CAMA Land Use Plan. The plan is seen as the best method for addressing long-term general development issues for coastal communities. The Town of Shallotte prepared CAMA Land Use Plans in 1987 and 1992.

The planning process begins with understanding the community and determining how to care for it. Careful consideration must be given to decisions that affect the community's natural and manmade resources, and how the community's financial resources are appropriated.

The planning process also involves educating us about ourselves, our attitudes towards others, and our willingness to share a sense of community. Planning is often promoted as a means of community decision-making through public participation. Conflict may arise during the planning process, but sometimes conflict is a tool that stimulates us to consider the opinions of others.

Before engaging in the preparation of a land use plan, it is important to note that the plan should be comprehensive in setting goals and objectives for all aspects of the community, part of a continuous planning process that is timely and responsive to the needs and desires of the community, and the legal basis for land use regulations and a guide for capital improvement plans for city budgeting. After the plan is complete, the Town must strive to successfully implement the plan.

The Town of Shallotte CAMA Core Land Use Plan is organized to comply with the 15A NCAC 7B requirements. A Core Land Use Plan addresses all of the plan elements in Rule .0702 of Section 7B (Elements of CAMA Core and Advanced Core Land Use Plans) in a complete and thorough manner. This type of plan is the standard CAMA Land Use Plan required for all 20 coastal counties. A matrix follows the table of contents that indicates how and where the plan meets the requirements.