

Cape Fear River Assembly and Stakeholder Survey

**Dr. Tom Hoban, Executive Director
Cape Fear River Assembly**

Cape Fear River Basin

- The Cape Fear River Basin is the largest river basin in North Carolina, covering about 17% of the total land area of the state.
- The Cape Fear River Basin contains one-third of the state's population, and all or part of 25 counties (most developed.)
- The headwaters (Haw River and Deep River) start in the northern Piedmont region near Greensboro.
- The Haw River flows through Jordan Lake and then combines with the Deep River to form the Cape Fear River.



CFRA History and Structure

- CFRA is a nonprofit organization, founded in 1973 by a group of committed individuals to raise awareness of the values and needs of the Cape Fear River.
- CFRA remains the only organization focused on the entire Cape Fear River Basin from the headwaters to the coast.
- CFRA's diverse membership and board of directors include governments, conservation groups, universities, water utilities, agriculture, industry, and citizens.

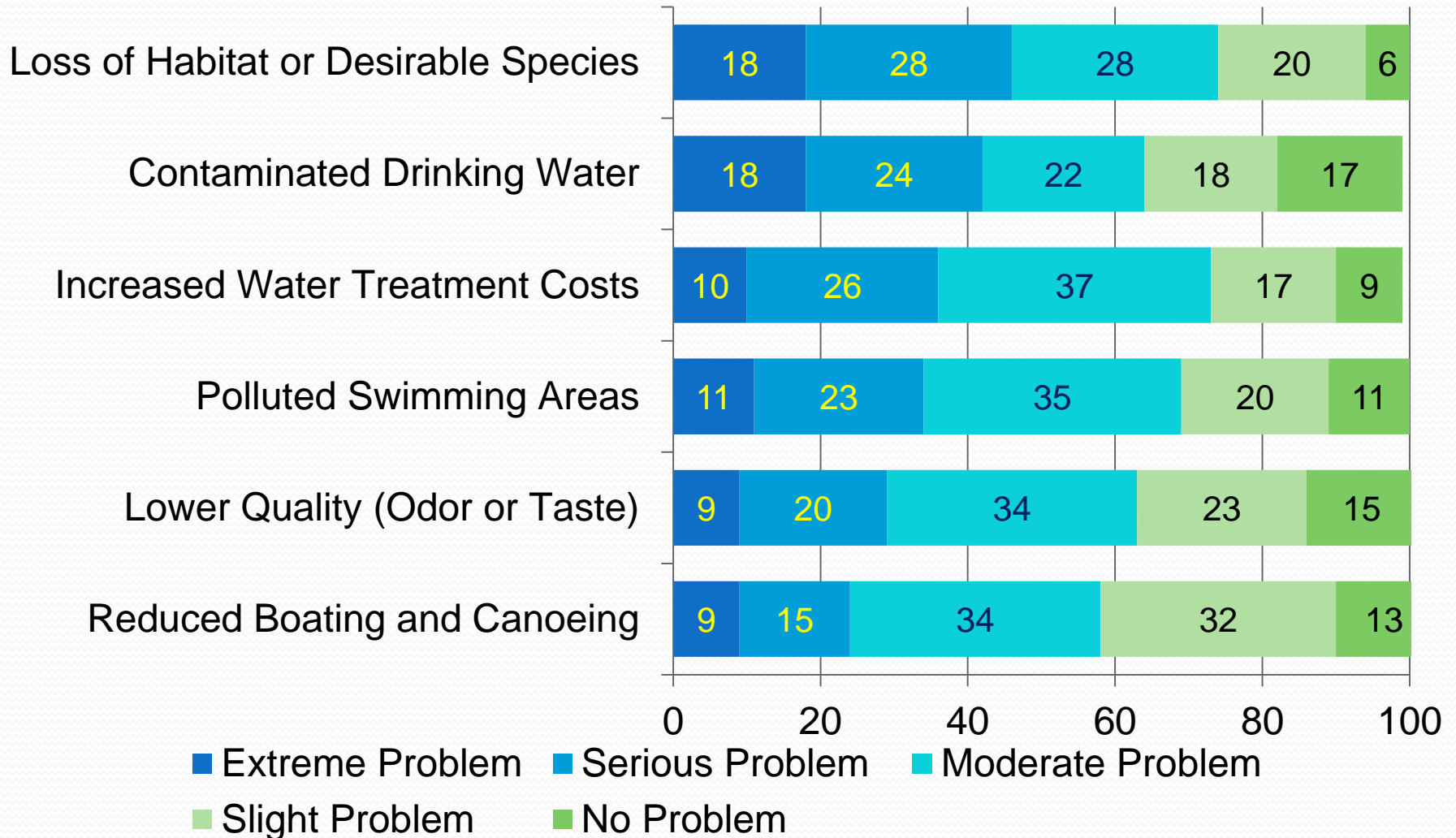
CFRA Goals and Strategies

- CFRA's goal is to educate and inform people about the important values provided by the Cape Fear River, for water supply, recreation, fisheries and manufacturing.
- CFRA aims to connect key stakeholders to one another and provide a forum for discussing and shaping the future of the Cape Fear River.
- CFRA engages in collaborative partnerships with communities and allied organizations. We seek common ground to solve problems.

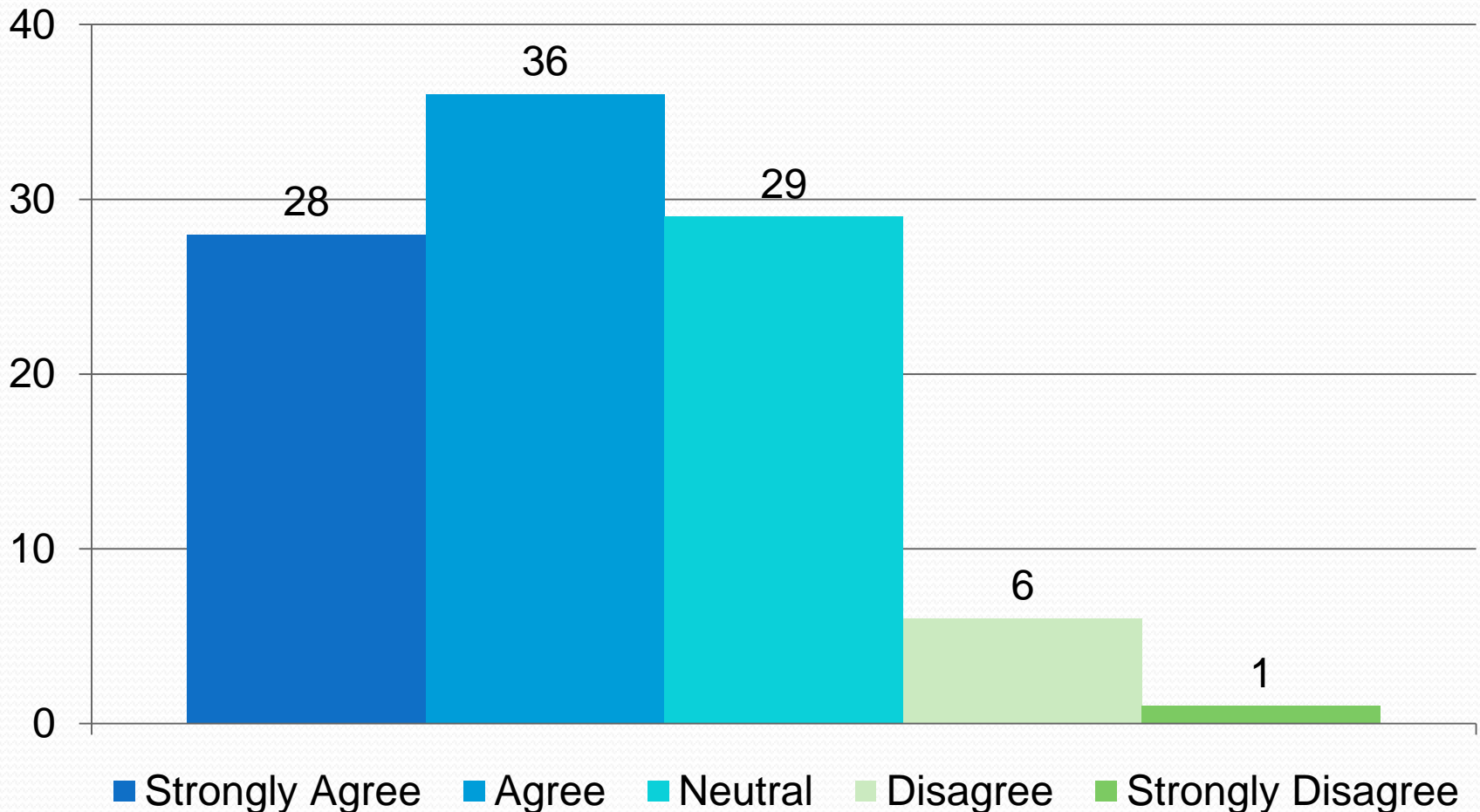
CFRA Stakeholder Survey

- Conducted on the Internet in 2016 to learn how stakeholders perceived water issues in the Cape Fear River and its watershed.
- Respondents included: government scientists and managers; environmental groups; and business interests. Almost 200 completed for about a 50% response rate.
- Not random sample of the general public.
- Analysis focuses on differences and similarities among upper, middle and lower sub-basin respondents.

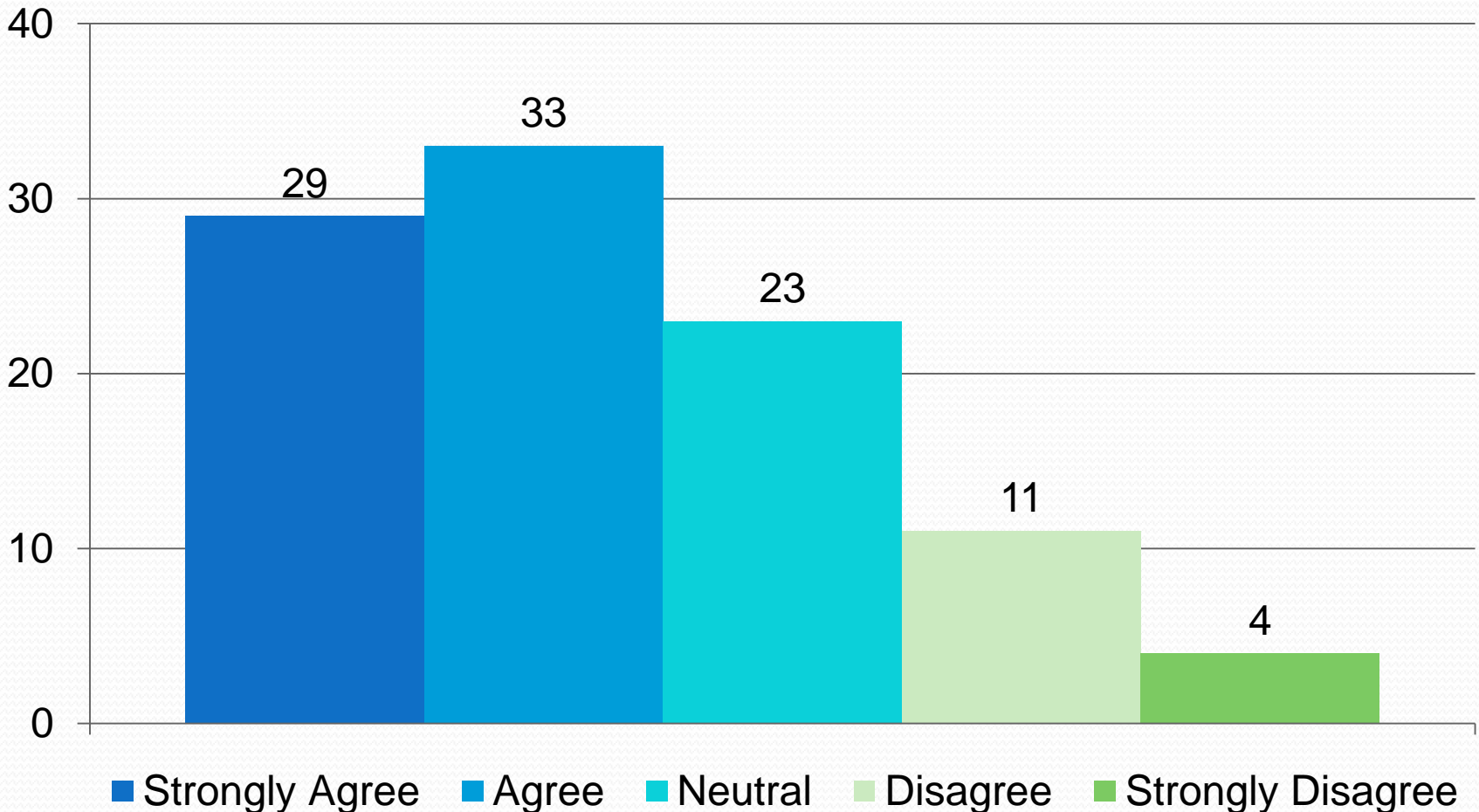
“How serious of a problem are each of the following water pollution impacts to people and communities in your area?”



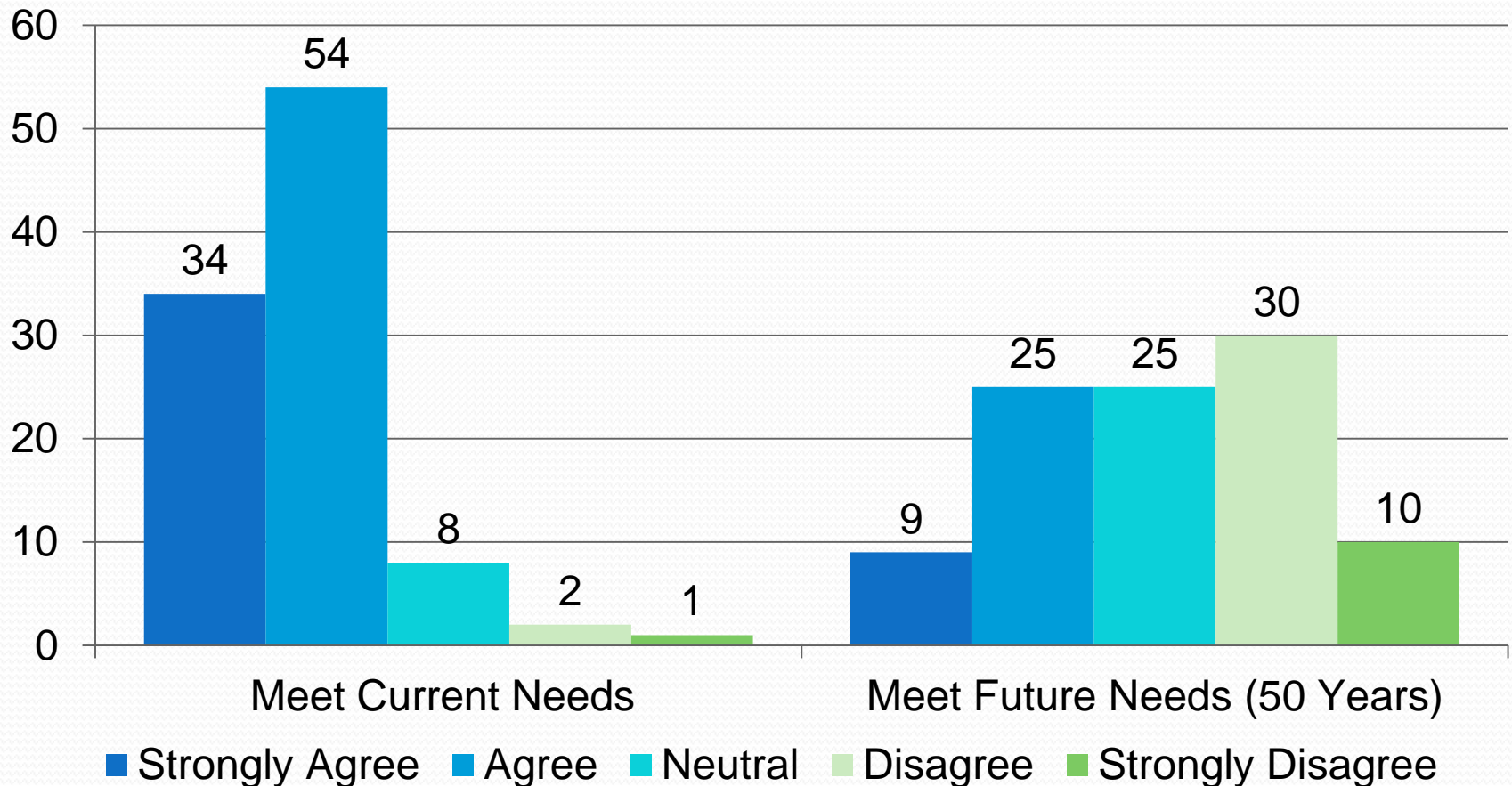
“Protection of our water supplies should be given priority, even at the risk of reducing economic growth.”



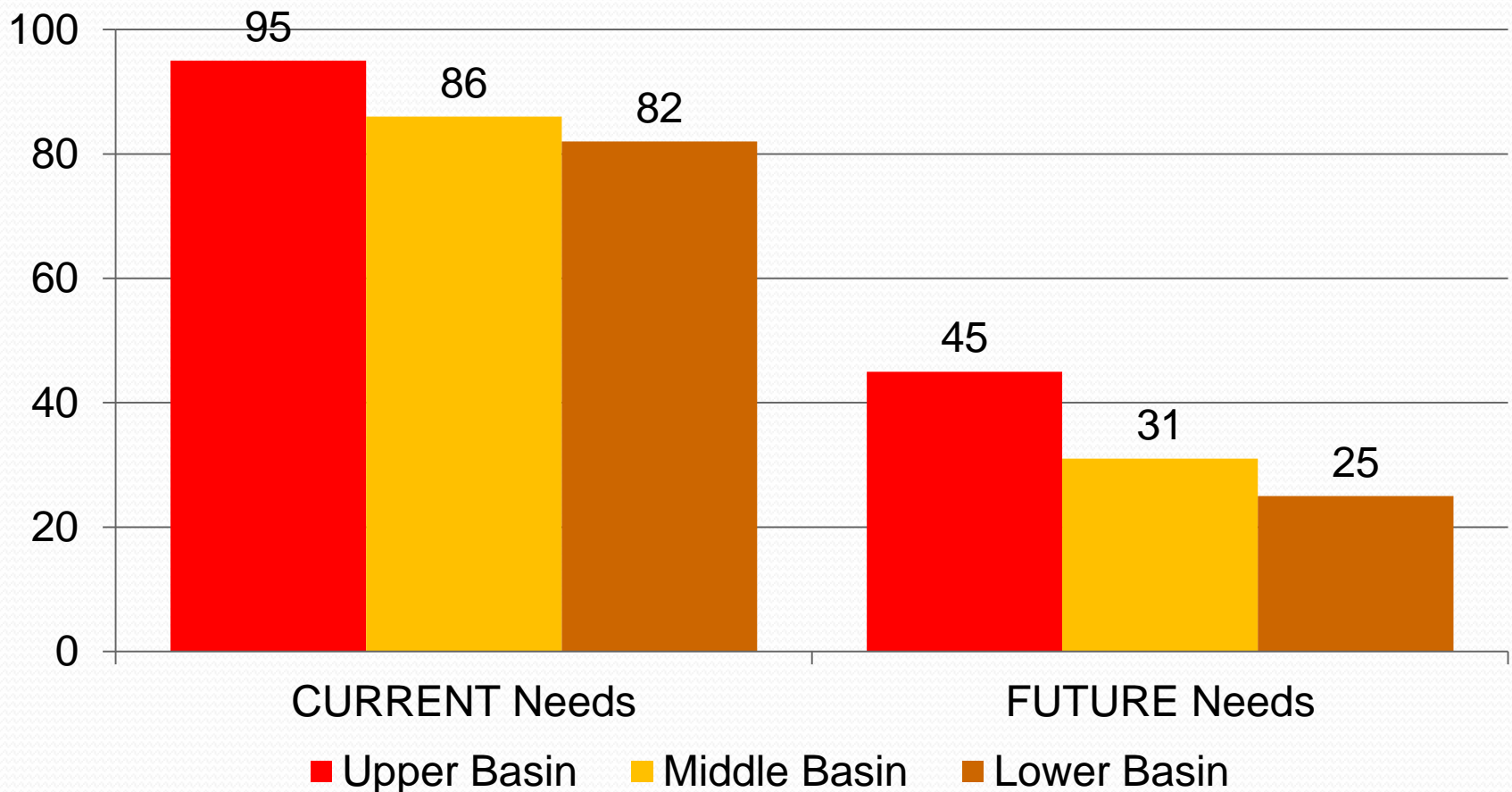
“Enforcement of existing regulations is not adequate to protect water quality.”



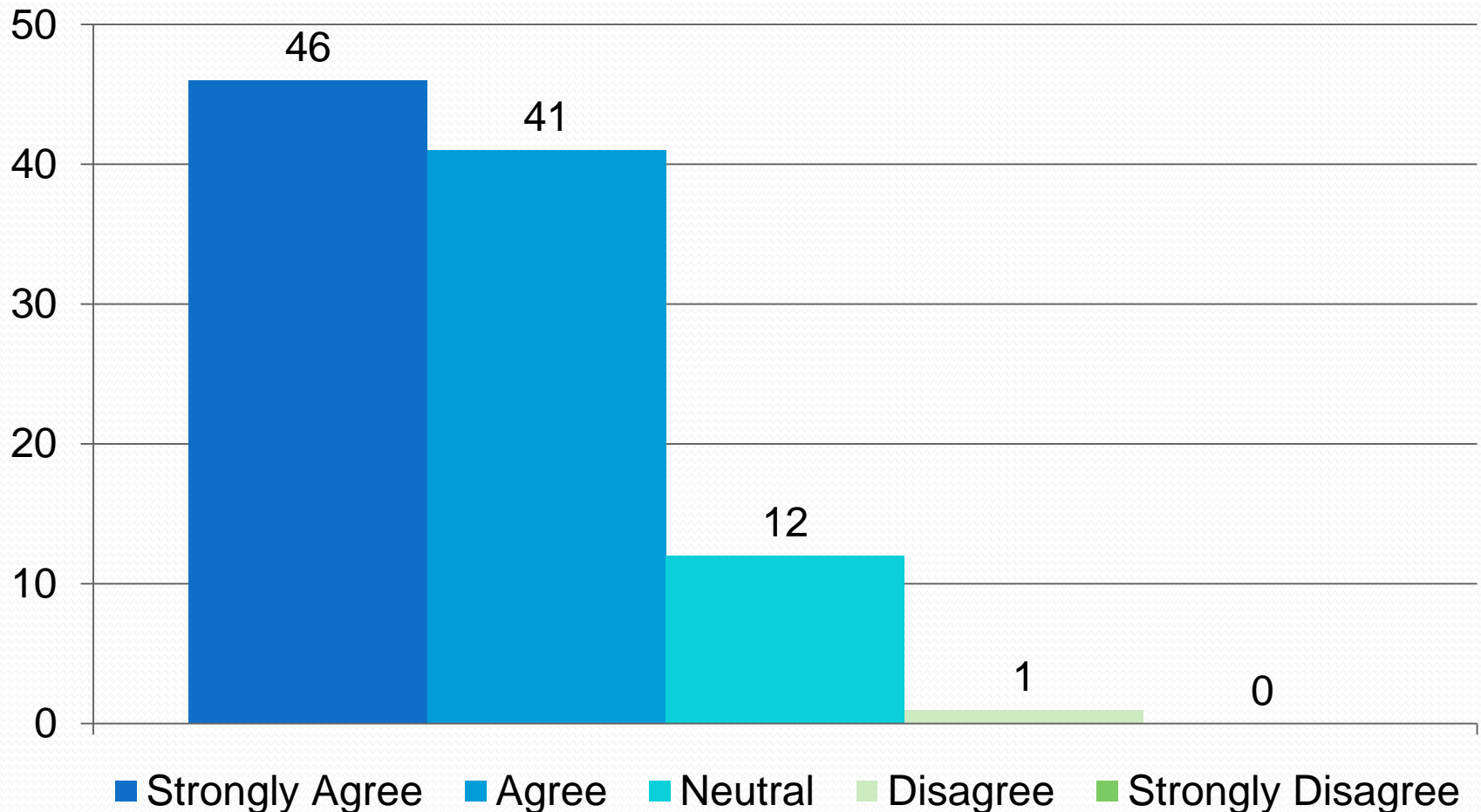
“There is enough water in our area to:



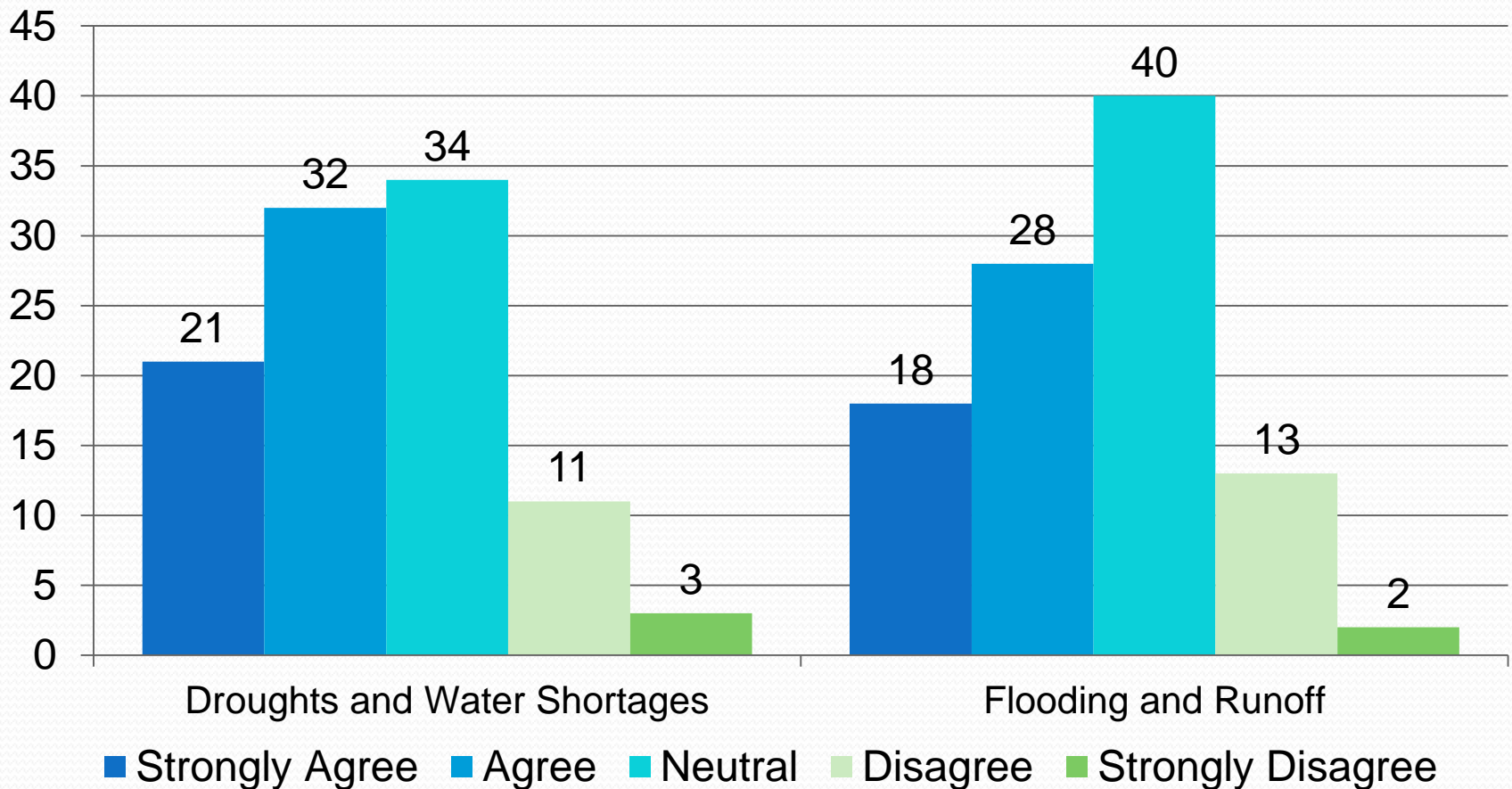
Sub-basin Comparison of “Agreement” That There is Enough Water to Meet



“Conflicts over water supply and availability will increase significantly over the next few decades.”



“Climate change over the next few decades will make _____ significantly worse in our area.”



Forum Locations and Goals

- Three regional forums will be held
 - *Elon University – September 26*
 - *Fayetteville State University –September 27*
 - *UNC Wilmington–September 28*
- Local government and public awareness, interest, and concern is increasing. Continuing growth, pollution, and competing demands for water make it important to hear from diverse stakeholders!
- Several opportunities will be given for participants to share their insights, including an on-site videographer and facilitated written activities.

A group of people are kayaking down a river. The kayakers are wearing life jackets and hats. The river is surrounded by lush green trees and vegetation. The water is clear and reflects the surrounding greenery. The kayakers are moving away from the camera, down the river.

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE CAPE FEAR RIVER

Water quality concerns, green growth and BMPs,
climate resilience, flooding and stormwater & more!
Visit www.cfra-nc.org for more information and to register!