



# Virginia Coastal Zone MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

## Coastal Policy Team

### Meeting Notes

Tuesday, September 30, 2014

Location: DEQ Central Office, 629 E. Main Street, Richmond VA

#### Climate Change Adaptation

##### State Efforts:

**Coastal Policy Clinic:** Roy Hoagland, Director of the Virginia Coastal Policy Clinic at W&M offered to help with state and local government coastal climate change issues. The Clinic is currently working with MPPDC and Sea Grant.

There will be a Climate Adaptation conference on Dec. 5 at the William & Mary Business School that will be a sequel to last year's conference and centered around the Governor's Commission on Climate Change. Some things addressed at the conference will be actions being taken for sea level rise and recurrent flooding and highlighting a report with recommendations from the Kaine Commission.

Issues the Clinic is looking at:

- Sea Grant - Social vulnerability – should local governments use social vulnerability indexes to influence policy?
- MPPDC - Property valuation with engineered septic systems.
- The impact of sea level rise on the Bay TMDL
- Local government liability for responding or not responding to sea level rise
- ODU and the military-legal ramifications and the legal authorities regarding looking at a “whole government response to climate change issues”

Next steps on climate change will depend on recommendations from CZM, the Climate Change Commission and the Clinic

**UVA:** Federal Grants of \$3.5M to study effects of climate change on communities & ways to prepare (includes \$2M from NSF to Karen McGlathery)

##### Local Efforts:

**ANPDC:** Curt Smith of ANPDC stated they would develop another strategic plan in 2015. In this plan they would incorporate new tools like the Coastal Change Archives Project, GIS maps on Coastal GEMS and a region-wide inundation vulnerability assessment. (Check this sentence for accuracy)

ANPDC is also comparing VDOT road levels with sea level rise projections to figure out what is being prioritized for moving or elevating.

ANPDC plans on having a stakeholder workshop in November sponsored by a TNC/NFWF grant to decide what scenarios they plan to use for a coastal resiliency tool (?? Ask Curt)

**HRPDC:** Ben McFarlane of HRPDC talked about how HRPDC is and will be approaching sea level rise (SLR) from a locality perspective:

- adjusting policies for sea level rise
- performing code review
- developing an outreach plan
- creating local maps on sea level rise and storm surge
- developing a comprehensive plan
- holding a citizen advocate academy about sea level rise and water quality
- having sea level rise outreach and maps
- creating a special committee on SLR and recurrent flooding
- including a subsidence monitoring system
- having a freeboard plan
- requiring disclosure about flood zones for real estate
- possibly holding an adaptation forum

#### **Regional Efforts:**

**MARCO Climate Change Action Team:** MARCO works to tackle climate adaptation regional issues such as sediment transport, resiliency to storms and migration of species. There is a need to identify state priorities to bring money back to Virginia.

#### **FY 14 PDC 306/306A Competitive Grants**

11 proposals were submitted for over \$300k. A review process was held to choose the awardees:

- HRPDC – Development and Implementation of Public Outreach and Adaptation Responses to Sea Level Rise
- MPPDC - Public Access Authority Private Land Giving Program Development for Enhancement of Public Water Access on the Middle Peninsula
- MPPDC - Captain Sinclair’s Recreational Area Water Access Improvement and Native Coastal Landscaping Project
- NNPDC - Phase 2 Implementation of the *Plant NNK (Northern Neck) Natives Campaign*
- RRPDC - Brown’s Island Dam Walk South Bank Habitat Restoration and Native Plant Demonstration

A discussion ensued about when CZM will run the PDC competitive process in the future. It was decided that CZM will do a January competition in the future to ensure an October 1 start date for the projects.

Some PDCs stated they wanted specifics about what criteria is being used to judge the PDC Competitive projects; to see what topics are considered higher ranking than others. John Kuriawa suggested using the 309 Assessment to focus topics for the PDC Competitive process in FY 2016.

### **Reprogramming of CZM Funds**

Reprogramming of money from FY 12, FY 13, and FY 14 will go to purchase two parcels in Pickett's Harbor on the Eastern Shore in Northampton County. May use other FY 14 reprogramming money to either update VEVA or fund more PDC Competitive proposals that didn't get funded.

### **Fisheries/Land Use**

The Chesapeake Bay Fisheries Goal Implementation Team discovers similarities and dissimilarities used in the language of fisheries management plans and policy documents.

One of the research projects Virginia Sea Grant is carrying out is looking at how land use and fisheries science and fisheries management components are communicated. It was found there was not much interaction between Maryland and Virginia land use and fisheries management.

Another research project looked at the language in plans and ordinances and found that there was variability, but as plans and policies/ordinances got more specific there was smaller variability in the language used.

Sea Grant needs to write these findings up. And the next steps are to find out where land use and fisheries are on the same page.

### **FY 14 PDC Section 309 Competitive Land and Water Quality Grants**

\$140k is available, and only two proposals totaling \$80k were submitted. No review committee was needed.

MPPDC's approved proposal is: Drainage and Roadside Ditching Authority

NVRC's approved proposal is: Land and Water Quality Protection Northern Virginia Phase I: Municipal Policies for Managing Stormwater with Green Infrastructure

It was asked how VA CZM gets more engagement for the 309 Water Quality proposals. Shep Moon and John Kuriawa suggested broadening the possibilities for Section 309 proposals to include state level projects instead of just local level projects. Ben McFarlane suggested doing a session at the Coastal Partners' Workshop on 309 projects to give ideas to other grantees and suggested moving the start date up for the projects.

### **State Wildlife Action Plan Update**

A State Wildlife Action Plan is a plan to keep species from becoming endangered. The goal for the new action plan is to be more locally relevant, eminently actionable, easier to navigate and have a greater

emphasis on habitat loss. This document will not be regulatory. Local planners need to be a part of developing this plan. VDGIF wants to base it on the Virginia Outdoors Plan with a local emphasis. VDGIF has been working with many state partners and wants input from the CPT.

### **Virginia Offshore Oil & Gas Readiness Study**

(Need text here. My computer froze for this part. AB)

### **Program Changes**

#### **A. Inland Fisheries**

(Need text here, too.)

#### **B. State T&E Species**

A white paper was prepared on State T&E enforceable policies (by ELI??) and on October 10 CZM will get comments back from the CPT.

#### **C. Bay Act in non-Bay Watersheds of Virginia Beach and Eastern Shore**

This is not an issue of the state review process. It could be added as a separate ordinance or link it to the Bay Act; or it could be included as a SAMP.

#### **D. Non-point Source Pollution/Ches. Bay Preservation Act transfers to DEQ**

Joan Salvati stated that the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act is not designated on Federal lands; there is difficulty with ordinance language on federal lands. John Kuriawa said that Virginia can't use state ordinances on federal lands. John Kuriawa noted that NOAA can facilitate better cooperation between the feds and state, but thinks NOAA won't be able to push it. Ellie Irons and John Kuriawa stated that federal effects caused by actions can be reviewed. However, Virginia cannot zone Federal lands.

### **New Section 312 Program Evaluation Process**

The 312 Evaluation process is a pen and paper process now. The first 36 questions will be answered by Nov. 15. In May, stakeholders will be interviewed and a public meeting will be held. Three target areas will be decided upon by NOAA and VA CZM.

### **Planning for Next Section 309 Coastal Zone Enhancement Program Assessment and 5 Year Grant Strategy for 2016-2020 and Coastal Partners Workshop**

VA CZM will do the Phase I High Level Assessment in-house and present this at the Coastal Partners' Workshop. The topics will then be ranked at the workshop and 5-year grant strategies will be brainstormed. John Kuriawa stated that CZM needs to be specific with needs it is looking for and they don't have to be policy driven. Needs need to be gathered from the general public outside of the workshop also; maybe through a survey.

The draft Assessment and Strategies are due May 1, 2015. The final is due Sep 1, 2015.

### **Working Waterfronts Strategy**

The Economic Impact Assessment for Northampton County has recently been finished, and the report will be coming out soon.

Tom Murray states that Virginia wants to get to the economic impacts of the land use/fisheries nexus, i.e. the economic impact of the Seafood Wharf in Hampton, the Lancaster County railway, Aberdeen Creek redevelopment/dredging plan. Zoning and policies need to be looked at to keep these facilities and plans in place.

### **Ocean Planning Update**

- Ocean Action Plan; 5 different types of plans to give to the public for comment; Listening sessions will be held in November; RPB will meet in January to decide on it
- MARCO Portal is going through another redesign
- Where is the boundary – research and management for the Chesapeake Bay – teasing that out now
- Whale surveys - bioacoustics and visual data – synthesizing these two
- Trying to find out where important fishing data is. Curt Smith and Todd Janeski are groundtruthing the data from fishermen in the area
- Fine scale maps of important fishing areas around the wind area – VA CZM has a grant from DMME to do this
- Economic Analysis on Fisheries in the Wind Areas will be coming out from BOEM soon.
- Marine Debris Reduction Plan – VA CZM will have a social marketing campaign on balloon and other debris reduction; final plan will come at the end of October

### **Native Plants Campaign**

- 3 Social Marketing Campaigns – NVRC, NNPDC, ANPDC are still going on, and HRPDC is developing one
- The Native Plant Guide for NVRC has just been completed
- The VA Native Plant Marketing Partnership is drafting an Action Plan; establishing rapport with businesses; looking for funding opportunities now

### **Coastal GEMS**

- Nick Meade showed the state set-aside areas for SAV
- VMRC is going to try to capture those set-aside areas where the SAV can spread on the Eastern Shore
- The public scallop grounds that were there originally may be looked at again

## **Partner Agency Updates**

The FY 11 Task 58 Ecotour Guide Certification Video was shown.

Randy Keaton is the interim director at HRPDC. Jenny Tribo will be leaving HRPDC in November.

### **Attendees:**

April Bahen-VA CZM

Sharon Baxter-DEQ

Steve Begg-VDOT

Mark Bittner-Crater PDC

Arthur Butt-DEQ

Chris Burkett-DGIF

Sandra Erdle-CBNERRVA

Ray Fernald-DGIF

John Fisher-DEQ

Lewis Gillingham-VMRC

Becky Gwynn-DGIF

Scott Hardaway-VIMS??

Steve Hardwick-DEQ

Tracey Harmon-VDOT

Troy Hartley-VA Sea Grant

Michele Henicheck-DEQ??

Roy Hoagland-W&M

Ellie Irons-DEQ

Eric Jabs-ODU

Todd Janeski-VCU

Ken Jurman-DMME??

Roger Kirchen-DHR??

John Kuriawa-NOAA

Lewie Lawrence-MPPDC

Janit Lewellyn-Allen-DCR

Pam Mason-VIMS

Ben McFarlane-HRPDC

Laura McKay-VA CZM

Stuart McKenzie-NNPDC

Liz McKercher-DEQ??

Nick Meade-VA CZM

Corey Miles-NVRC

Shep Moon-VA CZM

Tom Murray-VIMS Advisory Services

Jennifer Murray-McClain-VA Sea Grant

Beth Polak-VA CZM  
Alex Renaud-VIMS  
Dan Salkovitz-DEQ  
Joan Salvati-DEQ  
Keith Skiles-VDH  
Curt Smith-ANPDC  
Tom Smith-DCR  
David Spears-DMME??  
Jeff Steers-DEQ  
Sarah Stewart-RRPDC  
Valerie Thomson-DEQ  
Scott Van der Hyde-W&M  
Lyle Varnell-VIMS??  
Tim Ware-GWRC  
Tony Watkinson-VMRC  
Julia Wellman-DEQ  
Virginia Witmer-VA CZM