Virginia FY11

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT FUNDING

Mission

The Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program develops solutions to coastal management issues to achieve more vital and sustainable coastal communities and ecosystems.

Program Goals and Objectives

The Virginia CZM Program links 11 state agencies, 8 coastal Planning District Commissions and 44 Tidewater cities and counties to:

- Protect and restore coastal resources, habitats and species; protect air quality; restore and maintain the quality of all coastal waters; and reduce or prevent losses of coastal habitat, life and property.
- Promote sustainable ecotourism, increase and improve public access; provide for sustainable wild fisheries and aquaculture; and, promote renewable energy production and appropriate extraction of minerals.
- Promote informed decisions by making available up-to-date technical advice/scientific data; avoid and minimize coastal resource use conflicts; ensure sustainable development on the coast and; support water dependent access.

Key Accomplishments

- Partnered with MD, DE, NJ and NY CZM Programs, through the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO), and launched the nation's first on-line regional ocean mapping and planning portal with 30+ data layers (www.midatlanticocean.org).
- Produced and marketed a comprehensive map of ecologically valuable lands and waters synthesized from partner agencies' datasets to aid Virginia's coastal localities and other conservation partners in targeting high value areas for blue-green infrastructure protection – natural features of water and land critical to coastal ecosystem health.
- Supported eight regional planning district commissions (PDCs) to promote adoption of local plans and ordinances to protect blue and green infrastructure and establish conservation corridors.
- Assessed the potential impacts of sea-level rise and severe storm events to both developed and natural areas in three coastal PDCs and supported regional efforts to establish a framework for local response to these issues.

Key Priorities

- Ocean planning for Virginia and the Mid-Atlantic region – enhancement of the MARCO Portal to incorporate additional new data (biological and human use data are high priorities) and decision support tools to support renewable energy siting and habitat protection. Continued funding is also needed to support a rigorous stakeholder engagement process.
- Climate change planning and adaptation at the state and local level, including the promotion of "living shorelines" to protect property and habitat in the face of rising sea levels.
- Increased funding to protect working waterfronts and stimulate job development in marine fisheries and aquaculture.
- Increased funding for land acquisition and public access construction to support Virginia's ecotourism industry and ensure that key habitats vulnerable to sea level rise have space to migrate inland.
- Continued funding for restoration of eelgrass, oysters and bay scallops on the seaside of Virginia's Eastern Shore to expand job growth in seafood production and ecotourism.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality serves as the lead agency and CZM staff are housed there.

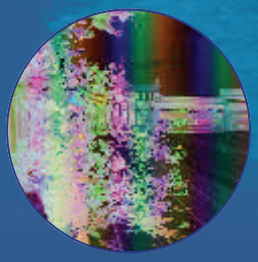
Coastal Population in 2010:
5,426,000

Miles of Coastline:
3,315

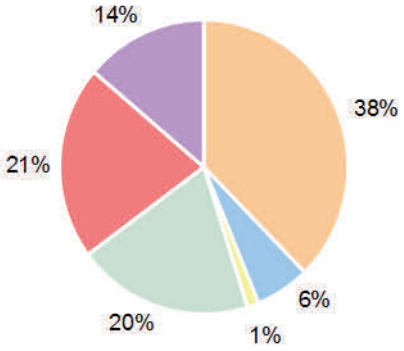
CZMA Funds:
$2,619,000

State and Other Matching Funds:
$2,083,000

Total:
$4,702,000



How was the money spent?



Total CZMA Funds
$4,702,000

Coordination and Public Involvement - $1,823,570 (39%)

Managed 37 FY11 grants, provided mid-Atlantic ocean and coastal policy development support, coordinated collaboration with more than 35 stakeholders, monitored core agency activities, and updated the program through Routine Program Changes and Amendments.

Reviewed 251 development projects for consistency with Virginia's CZM laws.

Completed the Mid-Atlantic Environmental Literacy plan.

Completed at least one certification through the Environmental Education Leader program by 12 educators, and recognized 35 watershed leaders.

Reviewed 912 projects for impacts to natural resources.

Community Planning and Development - $349,118 (7%)

Established the Rural Chesapeake Bay/Seaside of Virginia Working Waterfront Coalition.

Compiling a list of working waterfronts infrastructure from four Planning District Commissions to develop a Coastal Zone Working Waterfronts plan.

Developed Shoreline Management Plans in Westmoreland County and the City of Virginia Beach.

Creating Recreational Use data layers for ocean planning in the MARCO portal (from five aerial surveys and a Participatory GIS workshop held on the Seaside of Virginia's Eastern Shorekeep in?).

Coastal Habitat Conservation and Restoration - $1,281,737 (27%)

Conducted 312 wetlands compliance Inspections, and impacted 29,140 square feet of tidal wetlands through action on 483 projects.

Responded to 1,913 information requests, conducted 24 field visits and 265 meetings, produced 55 advisory reports and logged 775 website hits regarding shoreline management in coastal Virginia.

Mapped 33,673 acres of submerged aquatic vegetation in Virginia's coastal waters.

Responded to 245 strandings of marine mammals and sea turtles in Virginia.

Public Access - $93,779 (2%)

Installed a kayak launch, trail system and interpretive signs along the James River in Richmond.

Coastal Hazards - $40,000 (1%)

Identified climate change impacts and adaptation strategies to incorporate into local plans in Hampton Roads.

Coastal Water Quality Protection - $1,113,796 (24%)

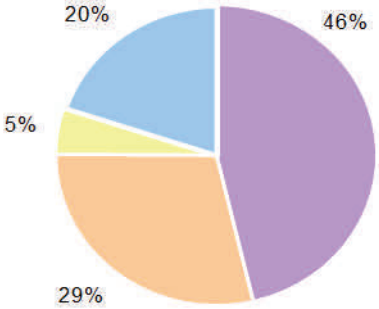
Reduced nitrogen load by 5,940 lbs/yr and phosphorus load by 915 lbs/yr by retrofitting Town of Cape Charles' wastewater treatment plant.

Evaluated the potential for redevelopment activities and private property BMPs to assist in attaining TMDL nutrient reduction goals for local governments.

Implemented an improved enforcement process for failing septic systems.

Developed legislation creating a local government led loan program enabling repair of failed septic systems.

Who received the Federal



Total Federal Funds
$2,619,000

Other Partners- $2,760 (1%)

Back Bay Restoration Foundation

State Partners - $1,139,871 (43%)

Department of Environmental Quality
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Virginia Marine Resources Commission

Academic Institutions - $795,122 (30%)

Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Community and Other Technical Assistance - $681,247 (26%)

Accomack-Northampton PDC
Crater PDC
George Washington RC
Hampton Roads PDC
Middle Peninsula PDC
Northern Neck PDC
Northern Virginia RC
Richmond Regional PDC

Additional Partners:

	U.S. DOI, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	VA Dept. of Transportation
VA Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Mid-Atlantic CZM Programs	NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office
VA Dept. of Forestry	VA Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries	VA Dept. of Health
VA Dept. of Historic Resources	VA Dept. of Mines, Minerals and Energy	Chesapeake Bay NERR, VA
VA Economic Development Partnership	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	VA Sea Grant

Return on Federal Investment A goal of the VACZM Seaside Restoration grant is to create a sustainable recreational bay scallop fishery and growing eelgrass acreage on the Seaside of VA's Eastern Shore. Toward that goal, in FY 2011,seagrass mapping in Virginia's Coastal Bays revealed 4,370 acres covered compared to 4,236 acres in 2010 and 13 million seagrass seeds were harvested for later broadcast to enhance seagrass acreage. Seagrass provides many ecological benefits – wave dampening, sediment retention, providing fish and shellfish habitat and carbon sequestration which produce economic benefits of enhancing recreational and commercial fisheries and better ecotourism opportunities. In addition, 2.02 million scallops were estimated in South Bay on VA's Eastern Shore in the summer of 2012, which are the offspring of caged scallops deployed in 2011 and 2012 during the scallop restoration effort. (These scallops are worth an estimated $10/lb in today's values.)

For More Information
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