



# Final Project Summary

Your final project summary is an important contribution to the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program's communication efforts and will be used to produce accomplishment reports, fact sheets and

**Virginia Coastal Zone Management Web Site** information.

Please submit this form electronically to: [april.bahen@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:april.bahen@deq.virginia.gov).

**YOU DO NOT NEED TO SUBMIT A HARD COPY**

NOAA Grant #:	NA08NOS4190466	Grant Year:	FY 2008	Task #:	93.02
Agency/Locality:	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation – Division of Natural Heritage				
Project Title:	Mapping Public Access in the Virginia Coastal Zone				
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**PROJECT SUMMARY:** Please confine your summary to the space provided below. Remember to:

- write for the public
- do not use first person
- include an abstract of project results
- provide a brief description, and titles, of publication(s) and/or dataset(s) produced
- describe how products will be distributed and if available on-line, please give the **Web address!**

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Natural Heritage developed a 2010 Virginia Coastal Zone-wide GIS layer of Public Access Lands (PAL). To develop this layer, all lands with general public access status were extracted from the larger Virginia Conservation Lands database. Data sources for pertinent PALs were contacted, and updates were made to boundaries and other attribute information to update data for PALs they manage in the Coastal Zone. These updates were applied to the great Conservation Lands database. Furthermore, the public access attribute from the Conservation Lands database was broadened in order to attribute PALs as either “Open”, “Open with Restrictions” or “Open with Permission.” These updated data and attributes were then assembled to develop a PAL layer for use on the DEQ’s Coastal GEMS interactive mapping website. GEMS users will be able to activate this PAL layer, click on a specific PAL and have a window pop up that identifies the PAL, indicates its public access level and points to a weblink where the user can find out more information. In addition to the GEMS layer, a factsheet and full FGDC metadata were also developed to support the use of the PAL layer on GEMS.

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